



Central Florida Hillel students turn out in force for AIPAC

Students from Central Florida Hillel attend the AIPAC annual event with Senator Joe Lieberman, who graciously spent time with the students afterwards entertaining their questions and sharing stories. The event brought out over 270 Orlandoan AIPAC supporters.

Holocaust Center launches ad campaign to 'Make Hate History'

This week, the Holocaust Center, located in Maitland, launched the first media campaign in the organization's 30-year history to raise awareness of its mission to combat racism, bigotry and bullying.

While the Center has run ads in the past, the campaign, Make Hate History, aims to increase the Center's profile and attract new visitors and supporters. It uses provocative messages that highlight recent incidents across the nation, and right in our own backyard, to inspire activism.

Ads will run for six months in newspapers, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and outdoor boards throughout Central Florida and feature bold headlines set against a bright

yellow background. They are the first wave of a multi-media effort which the organization hopes will grow to include television spots, YouTube videos and user-generated content on social media.

The Center is responding to disturbing acts of hatred such as the violent protests in Charlottesville, bomb threats to Jewish community centers and increased bullying on school campuses.

"One needs only to turn on the TV or scroll through Facebook to feel overwhelmed by the rise of hate speech and the targeting of minorities—even in our own community," said Pam Kancher, executive director of the Holocaust Center. "We don't have to feel afraid or angry or defeated. We can raise our voices and make a difference."

Last January, Kancher discovered a swastika at her front door. Last fall, Lake Brantley High School in Seminole County found a rash of the Nazi symbols painted on its campus. This month, the KKK sent out recruitment flyers in nearby Flagler Beach.

"We want our community, and those beyond our region, to not only be aware that we are a long-standing resource and beacon, but to join us," said Mark Freid, president of the Holocaust Center board. "This isn't a Jewish issue. This isn't a minority issue. This isn't a school issue. Hatred affects us all. This campaign is a call to action for everyone in this great, inclusive community to continue to offer hope, healing and acceptance."

In addition to the cam-



Pam Kancher

paign, the Holocaust Center is launching a fundraising effort that will support community programming and exhibits that carry out its mission.

The ads were created pro-

duced by the award-winning Orlando creative agency, Push, which also created #KeepDancingOrlando last year after its team members were deeply affected by the Pulse tragedy.

According to John Ludwig, Push CEO, "We are always looking to use the endless talent here at the agency to become involved in the daily conversations and concerns that affect our city and the world. To truly Make Hate History, we knew we had to join the Holocaust Center in its mission and use those same talents to drive their message home."

For more information about the Holocaust Center and the campaign, go to MakeHateHistory.com or contact Pam Kancher, executive director of the Holocaust Center, 407-628-0555.

Joe Wittenstein honored

Joseph Wittenstein, Z"L, (1914-2008) had a remarkable grasp of the Orlando-area history and an ability to recall details from most of the 20th century that proved invaluable in understanding the city's past. Wittenstein also enriched Central Florida through his wide civic and philanthropic involvement. For these reasons and more, the Orange County Regional History Center is honoring Wittenstein posthumously with the Donald A. Cheney Award on Nov. 30 at the Center.

The Donald A. Cheney Award recognizes the "champions" of the Central Florida community, who embody a love, reverence and unfailing dedication for the area's history. It celebrates its namesake, Judge Donald A. Cheney (1889-1983), founder of the Orange County Historical Society and the History Center.

During the nation's Bicentennial celebration, 1975-1976, Wittenstein researched and wrote a history about Jewish settlers in Orange



Joe Wittenstein, Z"L

County that became an essential document in the Historical Society's research collection. It is on display during Kehillah: A History of Jewish Life in Greater Orlando through Feb. 20, 2018.

The event to honor Wittenstein will be held Nov. 30 at the History Center, 65 E. Central Blvd., from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. RSVP to Amanda Henry, 407-836-7046.

What about the Temple Mount?

Fellowship Church in Winter Springs presents Rabbi Eliezer Waldman on Tuesday evening, Nov. 28. He will be sharing the most current information regarding the Temple Mount and the world's solidarity against Israel.

Rabbi Eliezer Waldman is the founder and Rabbi Emeritus of the Nir College of Judaic Studies, a Hesder Yeshiva located in Kiryat Arba, Israel. (Kiryat Arba was the first community to be established in Biblical Israel after the 1967 war and one which Rabbi Waldman and his family helped pioneer.) Born in Israel and educated in the United States, he is a former Knesset member and a widely sought religious and political analyst. His writings have appeared in The Jewish

Press, Arutz Sheva, The Jerusalem Post and numerous other publications and blog sites. His teachings on such topics as the Biblical Festivals, Jewish Philosophy and G-d's coming redemption of the world through His People, Israel, are always faith building and encouraging. These are extremely precarious times in the Land, so please plan on joining us to bless Rabbi Waldman in his endeavor.

The meeting will be held at Fellowship Church, 5340 Red Bug Lake Road, Winter Springs, FL 32708 from 7:30—9 p.m. in the fellowship hall (Oneg Room). Light refreshments will be served following the meeting. Any questions please contact the church office at 407-699-1011.

Palestinians threaten to cut ties

JERUSALEM (JTA)—The Palestinian Authority has threatened to suspend communications with the United States if moves ahead with closing the Palestine Liberation Organization's office in Washington, D.C.

Senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said in a statement posted on social media that the Palestinians would "put on hold all our communications with this American administration."

The State Department has

refused to renew permission for the PLO to operate its office in Washington, D.C., for the first time since in about three decades. The decision can be overturned if President Donald Trump determines that the Palestinians "have entered into direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel."

MakeHateHistory.com

Holocaust
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JP Connections honoree, Dolores Indek, puts smiles on people's faces

By Christine DeSouza

The theme for this year's JP Connections should be smiles, because the lyrics "Who can turn the world on with her smile?" (theme song for the "Mary Tyler Moore" TV show) can be applied to JP honoree Shirley Schoenberger; and honoree Dolores Indek's daily goal is to put a smile on people's faces.

The annual Jewish Pavilion luncheon recognizes two volunteers who have gone above the call of duty in volunteer work. However, it isn't a "duty" to either of these women but

truly their heart's desire to help people.

The gift of making people happy is ingrained in Indek. When she was a little girl, she would go with her grandmother to visit her great-grandmother in a nursing home. "My grandma used to go every day. She'd fill her bags with her cookies and Challah and all, and I had my dolls and stuff and she'd say, 'What are we going to do today, Dolores?' and I'd say, 'We're going to put a smile on people's faces.'"

Indek likes to visit with people who never have someone visit them, and she still

takes her dolls and bears that talk and sing and dance with her to visit the ones who seem to be forgotten.

This is what she does at the Pavilion—visits one-on-one with people. Currently, she isn't visiting one particular person, so she is also the "go-for" person if anyone at the agency needs something. "Hey—whatever you need, I'll get it" is her attitude. And when Program Director Julie Levitt calls her and tells her of someone new, she will be there with her bears to make that person smile.

Although Indek does not

volunteer to receive awards, she has had many awards throughout her life. When she worked at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, she was the first recipient of the Dolores R. Indek community service award—that's right—the award was named after her. She was also the first recipient honored by Lockheed Martin Corporation with its highest community service award.

Indek started at Martin as a typist and studied finance at Rollins College at night. While working her regular job, she also handled all the community service projects at the corporation.

Young and old, Indek has helped them all. She was involved with Junior Achievement for 43 years. Working with the Orange County School System, she tutored children one-on-one in the Read to Succeed program. Indek also taught the economics of staying in school to young men in the 33rd Street Orange County jail. She inspired the young men to be successful in life, and once brought in the Olympic torch she was selected to carry for a half mile down Orange Ave. in 1996. She told them that she wasn't a popular kid in school. She was just "someone no one would remember," but here she was a torch carrier for the Olympics.

Saying these encouraging words is one thing, getting young men to listen is another. Indek was smart. She asked if she could let the men teach her basketball. "I love basketball, so I said to the guys, 'Listen, my free shot is really bad, can you give me some pointers?'"

They taught her, and she won their confidence.



Dolores Indek enjoys dessert after her Heritage interview.

Indek loves volunteering at the Jewish Pavilion, but her first love is JFS Orlando's Pearlman Emergency Pantry where she hands out bags of food on Tuesdays and babysits during classes for parents.

Helping the poor and homeless is a part of Indek's life. Her grandfather had a restaurant in Miami and he hired the homeless to work for him. She saw so many things as she waited tables for him.

Once a family came—a husband, his wife and four children. They ordered hot water and then put ketchup in the water. She went to her grandfather and said, "I think those people are poor."

"Why do you think that?" he asked. "They put ketchup in their water to make soup," she replied.

"Give them a menu and tell them to order whatever they want, and tell them to order something to take home later."

Indek never forgot that kindness.

In addition to volunteering at Jewish Pavilion and JFS Orlando, Indek works in Congregation Ohev Shalom's gift shop on Wednesdays, and she recently viewed 100 films to help whittle the selections down to six for the Jewish Film Festival.

Dolores Indek is someone to be remembered. After all, putting a smile on someone's face is what it is all about.

The Jewish Pavilion's JP Connections luncheon honoring these two fabulous ladies will be held Thursday, Nov. 30, at 11 a.m. at Maison & Jardin Event Center, 430 Wymore Rd. in Altamonte Springs. The paid-up membership luncheon (join for just \$36) includes the Volunteer Appreciation event and holiday shopping bazaar. Couvert is \$28. Register online at www.jewishpavilion.org or call 407-678-9363.

JSU event at Oviedo High School rescheduled for Dec. 11



Gerald Biegel and Genia Kutner, with Missy.

Holocaust survivors Genia Kutner and Gerald Biegel will share their stores with high school students (and anyone else) at Oviedo High School on Dec. 11. This program was originally scheduled for Sept. 12, but thanks to Hurricane Irma, it was postponed.

The program, dedicated to unity, is titled "One Day Starts Today," and is presented by the Jewish Student Union, JOIN Orlando and StandWithUs.

JSU is an after-school club, run by teenagers, that strives to build a community where unity is the priority.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Oviedo High School is located at 601 King St., Oviedo.

For more information, contact Daniel Nabatian at dnabatian@joinorlando.org or call 516-426-8484.

Hadassah hosts a luncheon with author Ellen Brazer

The Orlando Chapter of Hadassah is pleased to announce that author Ellen Brazer will make an exclusive appearance for Orlando Hadassah on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 11:30 a.m. at Congregation Ohev Shalom to present her latest work, "The Wondering Jew: My Journey into Judaism." "It all began with a promise: a promise I made to my father, a promise that led me on a journey into the heart and soul of Judaism. The result is this book, filled with intensely personal stories that helped me unlock some of the complicated teachings that make Judaism such a difficult religion to understand. The reader will learn, in a very unique way, the basics of the Jewish religion: Torah,

Hebrew Bible, the holidays and the traditions. You will laugh, you will cry, you will question as you are challenged to contemplate the mysteries of Judaism: angels and reincarnation, reward and punishment, good and evil. I hope you will join me on this journey of discovery and wonder."

Brazer is an award-winning author, and the recipient of Hadassah's prestigious Myrtle Wreath Award, an award previously presented to the late Mia Angelou. Her book "Clouds Across the Sun" has been listed on Amazon under the best Holocaust related novels.

"And So It Was Written" premiered as a bestseller under Jewish Literature on Amazon. In the past three

years Brazer has spoken to over 6,000 people at venues throughout the country. Two of her short stories appeared in the Carnegie Melon Anthology.

She has recently had the honor of being invited to join the Jewish National Fund Speakers Bureau and The Jewish Federation Speakers Bureau.

Even though Brazer has written three very different kinds of books: one Holocaust related, one ancient Jewish history and one nonfiction, one thing remains constant in her books; a deep and abiding love for Israel and the Jewish people.

Brazer resides in South Beach with her husband, Mel. Between them they have six children and 13 grandchildren plus, plus, plus! She is active in the community and particularly in Jewish affairs and organizations.

Join Hadassah for "Lunch with Ellen Brazer" on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Congregation Ohev Shalom at 11:30 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Reservations are required. Couvert is \$14.

RSVP to Nancy Greenfield, email; nancyg@yahoo.com or call 407-415-3892.

'The Profound Effect' art event presented by Hadassah



Judith Dazzio

On Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017, The Orlando Chapter of Hadassah will host a private showing of Holocaust Art by Judith Dazzio at The Holocaust Center in Maitland beginning at 1 p.m.

Dazzio will personally present and discuss her paintings followed by an afternoon tea catered by Arthur's Orlando Catering.

Judith Dazzio is the owner and lead instructor at Dazzio Art Experience School of Art. She is also the proprietor

of Dazzio Art Gallery in St. Petersburg, Florida. She received her B. S. degree in art education from the University of New Hampshire. Her graduate work was completed at the Massachusetts College of Art and Boston University.

Dazzio lived several years in Louisiana where she taught art and eventually became the State director of Art Education. After moving to Florida, she continued to teach and paint. She has exhibited in many one-person, gallery and museum shows in both the United States and the United Kingdom. Dazzio has been painting most of her life, and her work can be found in many collections throughout the world. Her style is considered expressionistic and in most cases includes people.

Dazzio has never forgotten the story of the Holocaust Survivor who spoke to her sixth-grade class. She recalls, "I can still see her holding up those faded pictures of her children that had been killed, and remember how she started crying when she talked about them..."

She doesn't remember her

name, nor has she been able to find out who she was, but as a 12-year-old schoolgirl, Dazzio made a promise: one day, she was going to honor the extraordinary woman whose story cannot be forgotten.

Over the course of 10 years, this St. Petersburg, Fla.-based artist fulfilled her promise. "The Profound Effect" visually represents the testimony of this Holocaust Survivor through intense color and vivid, deeply emotional imagery. Equal parts beautiful and haunting, this exhibit will have a "profound effect" on you, too.

Make your reservations today to take advantage of this is a wonderful opportunity to meet the artist and hear her account of what led her, a non-Jewish woman, to become emotionally invested in the Holocaust.

The couvert is \$10 per person and full donor credit is offered to all members.

This very special event is open to the public.

RSVP to Nancy Greenfield at Nancyg357@yahoo.com or 407-415-6892.

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Jewish National Fund announces new projects at its National Conference

At its 2017 National Conference in South Florida, the Jewish National Fund announced plans to expand its Alexander Muss High School in Israel and build a state-of-the-art park in Be'er Sheva. These new projects will further transform Be'er Sheva as a part of JNF's goal to revitalize Southern Israel through its Blueprint Negev initiative.

While Be'er Sheva is Israel's second largest city, twice the size of Tel Aviv, it ranks sixth in terms of population. Today, the city is in the midst of a renaissance as it becomes Israel's "water city" in the desert. JNF's projects are changing Be'er Sheva's image

among both residents and tourists. In fact, Be'er Sheva is easily the most likely Israeli city to become known on an international scale, thanks to its public works and bustling city streets.

"I am so grateful to be here in Florida with Jewish National Fund's donors," said Be'er Sheva Mayor Ruvik Danilovich. "JNF is transforming our city, and we owe everything, all of our successes, to Jewish National Fund for Russell F. Robinson's [JNF's CEO] forward-thinking strategy and Blueprint Negev initiative to bring 500,000 people here. I can tell you it's going to happen."

Be'er Sheva, often referred

to as the capital of the Negev, is the crown jewel of Jewish National Fund's Blueprint Negev initiative which aims to improve quality of life for all residents of the region and encourage a population shift away from crowded, expensive central Israel. Danilovich is working with JNF to construct a new park that will increase the quality of life for the city's residents while also attracting new residents and tourists, providing a boost to the local economy.

Previously, JNF has worked with Danilovich on several projects for the city including a 15,000 seat amphitheater, new infrastructure, a bridge that crosses the Be'er Sheva

River, and the destination site Abraham's Well. In addition, the centerpiece of JNF's efforts in the city is the development of the 1,300 acres Be'er Sheva River Park, a world-class \$300 million urban revitalization initiative that has turned what was once a massive junkyard into a lush greenway for pedestrians and bicyclist and, as importantly, a space for family celebrations and community festivals.

Jewish National Fund's National Board president, Dr. Sol Lizerbram, announced plans to open a new campus in Be'er Sheva for AMHSI-JNF. In addition to its campus in Hod HaSharon, located just 20 minutes outside of Tel Aviv, this new campus will make it possible for AMHSI-JNF to bring some 5,000 students annually to Israel to take part in a choice of six-, eight-, or 16-week sessions—currently, AMHSI-JNF has roughly 1,200 students matriculating annually. The campus is expected to cost between \$50-60 million and will bring new jobs to the community

while also enabling additional high school students from U.S. to experience Israel in an impactful way.

"The addition of a Be'er Sheva campus is a double victory for Alexander Muss High School in Israel," said Joseph Wolfson, President of the AMHSI-JNF Board and Jewish National Fund's National Board Assistant Vice President. "We remain committed to a significant and continued growth in the student body, with teens coming to learn with us from the United States, Australia and beyond, and this new location will allow us to facilitate that increase. Furthermore, we are proud to do our part in supporting the development of Be'er Sheva, a city that our parent organization, Jewish National Fund, has been dedicated to for many years."

Since 1972, AMHSI-JNF has been pioneering the academic and experiential study of Israel and Jewish history at the high school level. Students are inspired to live outside their books, encounter new ideas and challenge themselves to find

their own link within the chain of Jewish continuity. Studying abroad isn't just for college students, time spent abroad during high school is the perfect way to enhance student's resumes and help stand out when applying to top colleges.

Throughout Jewish National Fund's three-day National Conference in South Florida, more than 1,200 people participated and heard some of the most dynamic speakers in Jewish philanthropy today share their inspiring stories to continue building on the organization's strong connection to Israel. In addition, the gathering also welcomed 250 students from over 100 campuses to attend JNF's College Summit, making this the largest gathering of college students in Jewish National Fund's history.

Jewish National Fund's 2018 National Conference will take place in Phoenix, Arizona, on Oct. 26-29. For more information and to register for the 2018 JNF National Conference, please visit jnf.org/events-landing-pages/2018-national-conference.

Mexico to stop supporting Palestinians

By JNS.org and United with Israel Staff

Mexico has reportedly announced that it will change its voting strategy at the United Nations (UN) and other international bodies by stopping to vote in favor of the Palestinians.

According to Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth daily, Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Figari contacted Israeli Ambassador to Mexico Yoni Pelad and told him of the shift in strategy for all upcoming voting procedures related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The report said that Mexico will change from voting in favor of the Palestinians to abstaining or voting for Israel's interests.

The report comes as Mexico

earlier this month sided with Israel in a UNESCO vote.

In mid-September, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made his first-ever official visit to Mexico.

During his historic visit to Latin America, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto in Mexico City and signed several agreements that bolster the ties and cooperation between the two countries.

During the same month, Israel provided humanitarian aid to the country following a powerful earthquake there.

Mexico will not forget the aid it received from Israel following the earthquake that left over 300 people dead and thousand injured and displaced, Mexican Amba-

sador to Israel Pablo Macedo Riba said as he greeted the IDF aid delegation upon their to Israel.

"Right after the earthquake, the prime minister ordered this amazing delegation be dispatched, and all of this happened during Rosh Hashana (Jewish New Year), and we appreciate it very much. With the good of your hearts, you conquered the heart of Mexico and of the Mexican People," the ambassador said as he teared up.

The delegation, which consisted of nearly 70 paramedics, rescue workers, and engineers, was sent out on the eve of Rosh Hashana to assist in the relief efforts in Mexico amid the destruction caused by a 7.1 quake.

Jersey town sued over laws deterring Orthodox Jews

(JNS.org)—A complaint filed by New Jersey's Attorney General Christopher Porrino this week alleges that the New Jersey township of Mahwah has introduced laws that openly discriminate against Orthodox Jews, aimed at deterring them from moving into the area.

A nine-count complaint filed on Tuesday accuses the town's public officials of using methods implemented by "white flight" suburbanites in the 1950s "to keep African-Americans from moving into their neighborhoods."

The lawsuit centers on two laws, introduced in the town last summer, that were purportedly created to deter religious Jews from moving to Mahwah from New York.

The first ordinance, which became law in July, bans out-of-state residents from utilizing the town's public parks and recreational facilities.

The second ordinance, which did not become law, extended a prohibition on placing signs on utility polls to include any "device," in an attempt to ban religiously

observant Jews from using the poles to create an eruv that would enable them to carry items and push strollers on Shabbat.

"The complaint also challenges actions the township has taken to have an existing eruv removed," reads Porrino's complaint.

The complaint, filed in Bergen County Superior Court, seeks to block the two edicts and the return of more than \$3.4 million that the town received in Green Acres Grants from the state of New Jersey.

Statement on passing the Taylor Force Act

Washington, D.C.—The RJC released the following statement from Executive Director Matt Brooks:

Today, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs took a big step to enhance the security of Americans and Israelis. Sponsored by Representatives Doug Lamborn and Lee Zeldin, the Taylor Force Act takes the steps nec-

essary to cut off American taxpayer money from going to the Palestinian Authority while the PA continues to encourage and incentivize the murder and injury of Israelis and Americans. The passage of the Taylor Force Act by the House Foreign Affairs Committee now paves the way for passage of the bill by the full House of

Representatives. This bill, spearheaded by Republicans in the House and Senate, is in line with our party's rock solid commitment to our great ally, Israel.

The RJC is very proud to have been the first and strongest supporter of the Taylor Force Act, and we promise to continue our dogged work to pass the bill.

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Hopes betrayed: the Russian Revolution and the Jews

By Ben Cohen
JNS.org

Another week, another centennial. Following the Balfour Declaration's milestone, it's now time to look back on the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, where a communist insurrection in St. Petersburg, then known as Petrograd, gave birth to a state that caused untold misery to millions for almost the remainder of the 20th century.

Led by Vladimir Lenin, the Bolsheviks—the “majority” faction of the Russian communists—were a tight-knit, fiercely revolutionary group. Its core members had shared the experience of exile in grand cities like London, Zurich, New York and Paris, as well as the brutalities and loneliness of imprisonment or deportation by the Tsarist authorities. Their

organizing principle of “democratic centralism” left little room for any dissent, as Lenin's literary eviscerations of his opponents attest.

Had it all remained polemical, history would have been different. In its Russian setting, though, Bolshevik rule meant famine, death and an ever-intrusive police state. To begin with, Russia was hardly a natural candidate for a Marxist revolution, given its lack of industry, and its large mass of semi-literate peasants steeped in pre-modern superstitions—particularly about Jews.

And Jews were a big presence in the Bolshevik Party; about one-third of its leadership, in fact. But these leaders did not act for Jewish communal interests, nor did they consider themselves particularly Jewish. It is true that Lenin's nationalities policy enabled Jewish equality and a flowering of Yiddish newspapers,

theater and literature, but it is equally true that he opposed any form of Jewish political self-determination, denouncing with equal fervor the separatism of the Zionist movement, which included Marxist factions like Poale Zion, and that of the anti-Zionist, Jewish socialist Bund. Thus Jewish hopes were betrayed.

As the revolution consolidated, the Jewish section of the Bolshevik Party, known as the “Yevseksiya,” enthusiastically purged Jewish dissenters, clamped down on the Jewish religion and banned the teaching of Hebrew at a time when there were 300,000 registered Zionists among Russia's Jews. In tandem, the party itself was undergoing dramatic change, expanding its membership to the point where some of the Jewish Bolsheviks began feeling rather like the Jewish Christians in the time of St. Paul—uncertain about where the revolution they had played such a decisive role in launching would take them. As the late historian Robert Wistrich observed in his fine study of Leon Trotsky, the Red Army's Jewish commander viewed the growth of the revolution's bureaucracy as “the revenge of Russian backwardness on a revolution that had been isolated from the more advanced capitalist countries in Europe.” Continued Wistrich, “The bureaucratization of the Soviet

state was rendered almost inevitable by such factors as crushing material want, cultural backwardness and the inherited burdens of the Russian past.”

Trotsky's biographer, Isaac Deutscher, also noted how the incorporation of large numbers of ordinary Russians into the Bolshevik Party—a good portion of them completely baffled by the finer points of Marxist theory, and often bearing crude social prejudices like anti-Semitism—left the Bolshevik Old Guard more and more isolated. But none of this ennuie gave pause to the party's rapacious brutality, on full display when a rebellion of workers and sailors in the naval fortress of Kronstadt was unceremoniously crushed. The centenary of that atrocity falls in March 1921.

Throughout these early revolutionary years, anti-Semitism remained a social force in the Soviet Union, and therefore ripe for use as a political instrument should the need arise. Few would doubt Lenin's sincerity in taking the view that it is—as one of his British followers memorably put it—“the nature of the capitalist trap that lies behind the stinking bait of anti-Jew propaganda.” But this Leninist critique of the pogromists' delusion did not

Cohen on page 15A

Trump's Mideast peace plan takes shape—and it's not good

By Stephen M. Flatow
JNS.org

Senior Trump administration officials reportedly are crafting a plan for Middle East peace. Based on the details that are available so far, friends of Israel have good reason for concern.

According to a front-page New York Times report on Nov. 12, the administration is preparing what it considers to be an “ultimate deal” between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs. There appear to be two phases to the plan.

Phase one will consist of “confidence-building provisions” by each side. The problem is that Israel will be expected to make new concessions, while the Palestinians will be asked to do things that they already committed to do in the Oslo Accords 24 years ago.

In other words, Israel will be forced to pay yet again for the same rug that it bought more than two decades ago.

According to the Times, the “confidence-building” measures Israel will be pressed to take will include halting Jewish construction in most of Judea and Samaria, publicly committing to creation of a Palestinian state, and handing over additional parts of the territories to the Palestinian Authority. All three of those actions go way beyond what the Oslo Accords obligate Israel to do.

And what “confidence-building” gestures will the PA be asked to undertake? “Resuming full security cooperation with Israel”—which the Oslo Accords already required it to do; “holding off seeking further international recognition”—which the Oslo Accords also required it to do; and “ending payments” to families of Palestinian terrorists—which is likewise an Oslo obligation, since the accords prohibit the PA from doing anything to encourage or incite terrorism. Giving out financial rewards for terrorism obviously encourages terrorism.

That's just phase one of Trump's “ultimate plan.” Phase two is even worse. The Trump plan, according to the Times, will “be built around the so-called two state solution that has been the core of peacemaking efforts for years.”

Just when friends of Israel were feeling hopeful about the Trump administration's refusal to publicly endorse Palestinian statehood, it appears that our hopes were misplaced.

To judge by the Times article, the current administration is laboring under the same delusion as its predecessor—the idea that

creating a Palestinian state is the key to achieving peace.

Here's what that means. Israel would be forced back to approximately the pre-1967 lines—so that the middle of the country would be just nine miles wide. Planes landing and taking off from Ben Gurion Airport would be within striking distance of any terrorist with a shoulder-launched missile, standing inside the borders of “Palestine.”

A sovereign Palestinian state would be able to import whatever weapons it wants. It could also invite in foreign “volunteers”—that is, Iranian troops—and there would be nothing Israel could do about it.

In addition, a Palestinian state would mean that the central part of the historic Jewish homeland will be torn away from the Jewish people. Sometimes we lose sight of the fact that cities such as Shiloh, Shechem (Nablus) and Hebron are the ones mentioned in the Torah, not Tel Aviv or Haifa. Of course, creating a Palestinian state there would mean the mass expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Jews from their homes in those regions.

What would Israel get in exchange? A piece of paper with essentially the same worthless promises that the Palestinian leadership made when the Oslo agreement was signed.

No wonder the PA's envoy to Washington, Husam Zomlot, was quoted in the Times as heaping praise on the Trump initiative. If the Israel-haters of the PA love the plan, you can bet that spells trouble for Israel.

The fact is that American “peace plans” have never led to peace between Israel and the Arabs, and never will. What's needed to make peace is for the Arab world to stop making war. When the leaders of Egypt and Jordan decided, for their own reasons—not because of any U.S. plan—that it would be in their interest to stop waging war against Israel, peace treaties soon followed.

The Palestinian Arabs, however, are still addicted to the strategy of signing peace accords (Oslo, Gaza-Jericho, Oslo II, Wye River) while continuing to wage war. The Trump administration should focus on getting the PA to honor the agreements it has already signed. That would advance peace a lot further than circulating yet another pie-in-the-sky peace plan.

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

The unmasked question about anti-Semitism in America

By Steve Feldman, Lee Bender and Kevin Ross
JNS.org

We were heartened to learn that a Philadelphia synagogue is offering an adult education course about anti-Semitism, a timeless scourge that every generation must combat. But why is the course seemingly prompted, as its website suggests, solely by Christian sources of Jew-hatred and August's despicable anti-Jewish events in Charlottesville—rather than July's equally despicable calls in two California mosques for Jews to be slaughtered, or even the continuous despicable Jew-hatred from Nation of Islam leaders?

Are Jew-hatred and threats from some Muslims in America less vile, less threatening and less problematic than the same actions from white supremacists?

To some in the Jewish community: yes, apparently.

In a brief description of the course on the Society Hill Synagogue's website, these are among the questions posed: “What is the role of Christianity and the Church in anti-Semitism? How has anti-Semitism morphed over the centuries? In the shadow of Charlottesville we must ask, to what extent does anti-Semitism threaten the Jewish people in this country? Is it confined to isolated, albeit frightening and horrific, incidents? Is it a larger threat?”

While acts of anti-Semitism have been and continue to be perpetrated by some Christians, there seems to be a tendency by many Jews to brush aside, downplay or even ignore Jew-hatred from some Muslims motivated by aggressive mosques or interpretations of Islam.

The white supremacist rally in Charlottesville received tremendous media coverage, with video footage of torch-bearing neo-Nazis chanting “Jews will not replace us” and reports of armed goons menacing synagogue congregants. It was an example of the worst that America has to offer. But nobody who monitors Jew-hatred in America suspected that Klansmen and their ilk had moderated or disappeared.

Equally virulent Jew-hatred from some segments of Islam is under-reported and seldom condemned. Could it be that pre-emptive accusations of “Islamophobia” have put a chill on addressing Jew-hatred from that group? Or is there a misguided belief that Jew-hatred is exclusive to Christians?

Some examples from this year:

- “The Prophet Muhammad says that the time will come, the Last Hour will not take place until the Muslims fight the Jews. We don't say if it is in Palestine or another place,” said Sheikh Ammar Shahin from the pulpit of the Islamic Center of Davis, Calif., in July, according to a video obtained by the Middle East Media and Research Institute. A translation from MEMRI states that Shahin prayed, “Oh Allah, liberate the Al-Aqsa mosque from the filth of the Jews. Oh Allah, destroy those who

closed the Al-Aqsa mosque. Oh Allah, show us the black day that You inflict upon them, and the wonders of Your ability. Oh Allah, count them one by one and annihilate them down to the very last one. Do not spare any of them.”

- That same day at the Islamic Center of Riverside, Calif., according to MEMRI, Sheikh Mahmoud Harmoush prayed, “Oh Allah, liberate the Al-Aqsa mosque and all the Muslim lands from the unjust tyrants and the occupiers. Oh Allah, destroy them, they are no match for You. Oh Allah, disperse them, and rend them asunder. Turn them into booty in the hands of the Muslims.”

- In February, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan said in Detroit, “I want to disabuse the Jews today of the false claim that you are the chosen of God and that Israel or Palestine belongs to you. I want to disabuse you of that. I want to make it so clear. And I'm going to tell you about your future. You that think you have power to frighten and dominate the peoples of the world: I'm here to announce the end of your time.”

- Asked sarcastically at an event in New Orleans in May why Farrakhan attacks Jews, the Nation of Islam's Ava Muhammad replied, “The only time the Jews have ever been present among us is to open their outposts, their retail stores to sell us damaged, cheap goods, marked up against the price...we will be free of this bloodsucking parasite so they will no longer be able to sell us alcohol, drugs, depraved sex and every other type of low-life thing that is keeping us from a hereafter.”

We don't assume that these sentiments are representative of all or the majority of American Muslims. To the contrary, despite the prevalence of such views in Muslim-majority nations, we would hope that, as is the case with the vast majority of other Americans, anti-Semitism would be confined to a minority. But it is curious that one of the most influential pollsters in the country was reluctant to find out the answer to that question.

The Pew Research Center had an opportunity to shed some light on those legitimate concerns. Pew conducted a survey of American Muslims this year. It asked them many questions, but according to a copy of the questionnaire on its website, Pew did not ask about their attitudes toward Jews or Israel—despite the fact that the topic is a potential flashpoint. Yet earlier in the year, in another survey, Pew did ask people of other faiths to weigh in on Muslims.

Unfortunately, Jew-hatred comes from a variety of corners today—including among some American Muslims—and it is dangerous to focus on only one element. American Jewry must become aware of the gamut of Jew-hatred that sadly exists and be prepared to fight it regardless of the source.

Steve Feldman is executive director of the Zionist Organization of America's Greater Philadelphia chapter. Lee Bender and Kevin Ross are its co-presidents.

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

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Federations rally around pluralism—but wish they didn't have to

By Andrew Silow-Carroll

LOS ANGELES (JTA)—Leaders of North America's Jewish federation movement kicked off their annual conference here Sunday with a tribute to the 1987 march on Washington that brought out hundreds of thousands of people in support of Soviet Jews.

The film and testimonials by refuseniks were moving, but felt a little like those perennial tributes by the New York Mets to their 1986 championship team: a reminder not only of what was, but what's gone.

The rescue of Soviet Jews and their resettlement here and in Israel was a high point

for the network of Jewish philanthropies and advocacy groups represented by the Jewish Federations of North America, whose annual General Assembly was to conclude Tuesday afternoon.

As Mark Wilf, chair of the JFNA's National Holocaust Survivor Initiative, said in introducing the 30th anniversary tribute, it represented "what we can accomplish when we unite."

But its very success posed a dilemma to the Jewish fundraising class: In the three decades since, organized Jewry has looked, often in vain, for a similarly galvanizing cause around which to rally. With the resettlement of the Soviet and Ethiopian Jews, there are

almost no imperiled Jewish communities left to rescue. And Israel has been no help: As it has grown more prosperous, and more politically divisive among American Jews, the urgency of uniting around her, outside of wartime, has waned. A system built on fear, rescue and crisis needs a new organizing principle.

Throughout this year's G.A., there were reminders of what the network of 148 local federations can do when they act in concert. The movement raised and delivered \$15 million for victims of Hurricane Harvey in Houston in days. Speaker after speaker noted the movement's support for such high-profile efforts as Birthright Israel (free trips

to Israel for young people); Masa (long-term experiences in Israel for the same cohort); Moishe House (group living for, you guessed it, young people); and PJ Library (free Jewish books for families with young children).

But even as they touted these successes, and a string of relatively healthy fundraising years, a note of anxiety crept into the proceedings. There were small-group "breakout" sessions on differentiating the umbrella philanthropies like federation in a crowded Jewish charitable marketplace and turning elusive millennials into philanthropists. And the speakers' repeated emphasis on "unity" and the "power of the collective" suggested that

both were, if not slipping away, then under siege.

JFNA CEO Jerry Silverman was blunt in describing the challenges in his address Sunday.

"You see, it is not that there is no longer the desire and need for community," he said to the 3,000 delegates gathered at the JW Marriott Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. "It is how people define community—or how people choose to engage—that has changed."

Silverman described a number of areas around which a diverse community could rally: lowering the enormous cost of Jewish day school education; helping the less fortunate; engaging young

people; and, as he put it, meeting the "unfulfilled promise of Israel being the home for all Jews—regardless of religious affiliation."

It was this last point—discussed under the rubric of "pluralism in Israel"—that seemed to dominate this G.A., or at least the public discussions. It proved an inspiring rallying cry and sure applause line.

But it is also an issue that the federation movement wishes would go away.

In a nutshell, America's non-Orthodox Jewish majority wants Israel to be a more welcoming place for Reform, Conservative and other non-

Pluralism on page 15A

The Nuclear Deal has spurred Iranian aggression

By David Gerstman

Defenders of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, as the Iran nuclear deal is known, have argued that Iran's aggression was intentionally not addressed by the deal.

For example this week, Federica Mogherini, the high representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy said, "The Iran deal has been designed to address one thing only: the Iranian nuclear issue."

One problem with this argument is that it isn't true. The agreement addressed a number of other issues between Tehran and the rest of the world, and when it did, it went easy on Iran.

For example, in UN Security Council Resolution

1747, passed in 2007, Iran was categorically prohibited from importing or exporting arms. However, in UN Security Council Resolution 2231, which endorsed the JCPOA, Iran was allowed to export weapons with prior approval from the Security Council.

Before the nuclear deal, Iran was categorically prohibited from developing ballistic missiles. However, resolution 2231 weakened the language and ended all restrictions on Iran's ballistic missile development after eight years.

Contrary to Mogherini's assertion, the JCPOA did indeed address Iran's other challenges, unfortunately it did it by loosening restrictions on Iran.

The argument that the deal

was only about Iran's nuclear program is a dodge. That the deal would embolden Iran was predictable and, indeed, was predicted by numerous experts in 2015.

For example, former State Department official Aaron David Miller wrote in a commentary for CNN in April 2015:

Sanctions relief will make the mullahs more secure and give them the resources to buck up, not tamp down, their regional aspirations... A nuclear deal will avert a crisis over the nuclear issue for now. But unless it really does change Iran's behavior, we've only bought ourselves a bigger one down the road.

In a similar vein the editors of *The Washington Post* noted in March of that year that

the Obama administration's behavior during negotiations was encouraging Iranian aggression:

While the nuclear negotiations have continued, Mr. Obama has refused to support military action against the Assad regime in Syria, in accord with his letter's reported promise, and his administration has tacitly blessed an ongoing, Iranian-led offensive in Iraq's Sunni heartland. It took no action to stop the ouster by an Iranian-backed militia of a pro-U.S. Yemeni regime. Nor has it reacted to Iran's deployment of thousands of Shiite fighters to southern Syria, near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The nuclear deal has encouraged even more Iranian aggression: by weakening

restrictions that had earlier been imposed on Tehran, by giving Iran billions, and by turning a blind eye toward Iranian aggression.

Iran's increasing boldness in recent weeks cannot be separated from the JCPOA no matter how much its supporters wish to.

On Oct. 15, Iraqi troops backed by Iranian-backed Shiite militias attacked and captured the city of Kirkuk in the Kurdish autonomous area. The city had been in Kurdish hands since the Kurdish Peshmerga had chased ISIS out in 2014. (Regular Iraqi troops fled instead of fighting). The capture of Kirkuk was a blow to Kurdish hopes for independence and further strengthened Iran's control over Iraq.

Last week, Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen fired a ballistic missile towards the King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, marking an escalation of the Houthis against Saudi Arabia, leading to the creation of a coalition to fight Houthis and restore the internationally recognized government of Yemen.

Also last week, Prime Minister Saad Hariri of Lebanon fled to Saudi Arabia and announced his resignation, blasting Iran for controlling Lebanon through its proxy, the terrorist group Hezbollah, and suggested that his life was in danger. Hariri's father had been assassinated in 2005, and an international tribunal has indicted five members of

Aggression on page 15A

Who's shutting down the debate on Israel?

By Jonathan S. Tobin
JNS.org

One of the complaints about the organized Jewish community is that it is silencing criticism of Israel. Left-wingers paint a dismal picture of a Jewish community in denial about Israel's sins and determined to squelch debate about the peace process or controversial issues like settlements.

So it probably came as quite a shock to many American Jews to read what happened at Princeton University this past week when the Center for Jewish Life—as the campus Hillel is called—cancelled a speech by Tzipi Hotovely, Israel's deputy foreign minister.

The Alliance for Jewish Progressives—a campus left-wing group—objected to the presence of Hotovely, an outspoken member of the Likud party and a key figure in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government. They ginned up an indictment of her as some sort of extremist because she had dared to call out the Palestinian Authority for its attempt to erase Jewish history and ties to Jerusalem. They claim anyone who supports the Jewish presence across the Green Line or in parts of Jerusalem is, by definition, a racist. They were also upset that the Hillel chapter had refused to sponsor appearances by anti-Zionists or those whose presentation

consisted of slanders of the IDF for its efforts to halt Palestinian terror.

Yet rather than dismissing this complaint, the Princeton Hillel branch cancelled Hotovely's appearance. Princeton's Hillel director, Rabbi Julie Roth, who eight years ago shut down plans to host a critic of radical Islam, defended the move by disingenuously claiming that although the event had been planned some time ago and was part of a tour of U.S. campuses, Hotovely's speech had not been properly approved.

To its credit, the campus Chabad House stepped in and hosted Hotovely instead. But Roth didn't count on the storm of criticism that followed. Eric Fingerhut, the president of Hillel International, personally apologized to Hotovely for the slight and then wrote an op-ed admitting the group's error published in *The Jerusalem Post*. Roth was listed as a co-author, though it's doubtful that she did so willingly.

Let's hope other Hillel chapters heed Fingerhut's charge and never repeat this fiasco. But there's more to this than an Ivy League kerfuffle. The lesson here is that the conventional wisdom about the plight of critics of Zionism is a myth. On campuses, it is those who speak up for the Jewish state who are often the ones being shut up.

The atmosphere at many, if not most institutions of

higher learning is one of intense hostility to pro-Israel advocates. Part of it may be ascribed to intolerance for all who are opposed by any group that can pose as a downtrodden minority. The notion of intersectionality—in which various causes like Black Lives Matter are seen as connected with Palestinian opposition to Israel's existence—has allowed leftist demagogues to label any conservative racist or a white supremacist. Under this banner, groups like Students for Justice in Palestine, which is funded by pro-Hamas sources and which promotes the BDS movement against Israel, are welcomed and even liberals, like legal expert Alan Dershowitz, are attacked with anti-Semitic invective, simply for supporting Israel. In this way, American campuses have become beachheads for the kind of Jew-hatred that has become commonplace in Europe.

In this climate in which any expression of support for Israel is slammed as racist, Jewish students are finding it increasingly difficult to openly express their identity. They look to places like Hillel houses as safe havens from verbal and sometimes even physical attacks. The notion that Jewish institutions should be providing platforms for those like the Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) group, which not only supports efforts to eradicate the Jewish state but also is now promoting

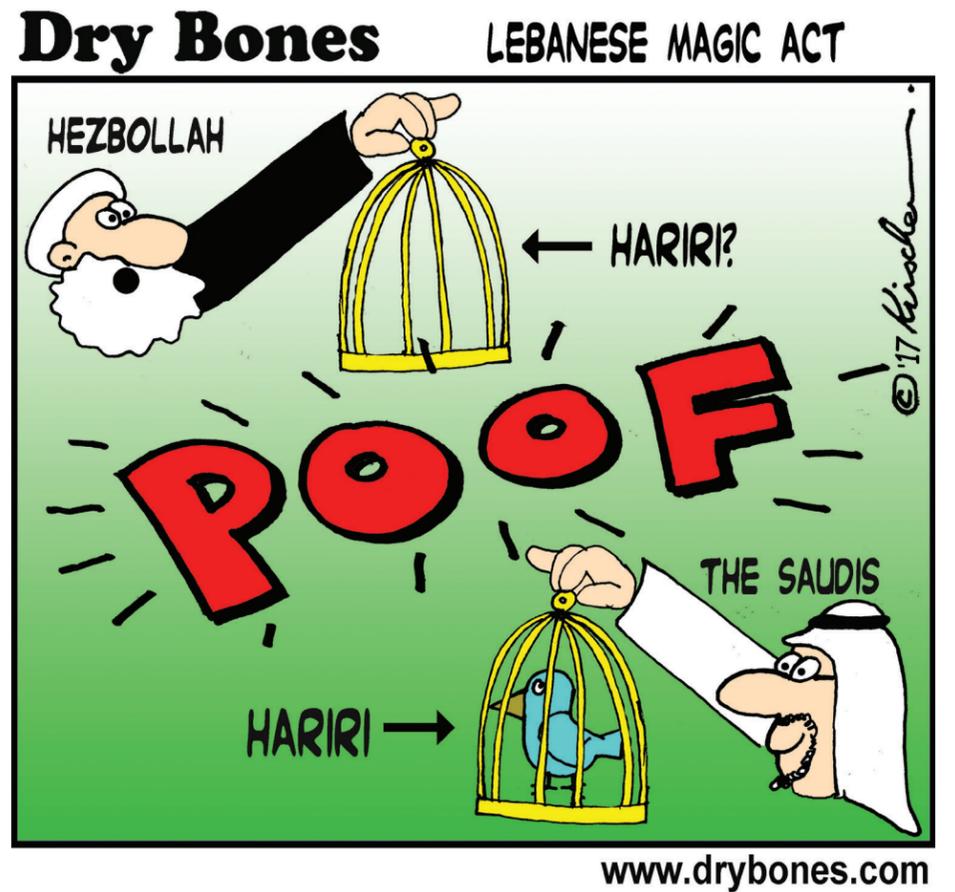
anti-Semitic blood libels, while denying a platform to a democratically elected government of Israel, is a product of this kind of upside-down thinking.

As in the case in Israel's lively democracy, where settlements and other topics are hotly debated, there needs to be room for a discussion of the issues. But the legitimacy

of the campaign to deny the right of the Jewish people to their homeland is not something decent people should agree to disagree about. Yet that is what many on the left are demanding as defenders of Israel are treated like pariahs and groups like JVP are lauded. Instead of crying crocodile tears about Israel-haters being silenced, it's time for Jews to

face up to the way the rising tide of anti-Semitism sweeping across the globe has spread to our shores. That is a grim reality about which we dare not be silent.

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



What's Happening

A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT

NOV. 24
5:10 p.m.
DEC. 1
5:10 p.m.

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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, NOVEMBER 24

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Kehillah: A History of Jewish Life in Greater Orlando—Ongoing exhibit at the Orange County Regional History Center, 65 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, and will continue through Feb. 20, 2018.
 JCC 39ers—Cinema Sunday. "Murphy's War" in the Senior Lounge, 2 p.m. Refreshments available.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

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.
 JCC 39ers—Meet & Mingle Mondays, featuring "Safety on the JCC campus" by campus police. Refreshments.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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.
 Grief Support through the Jewish Lens—Grief support group led by Rabbi Moe Kaprow, VITAS Healthcare Chaplain, 10:30 a.m.- noon at Oakmonte Village, Valencia Building, 1021 Royal Gardens Cir., Lake Mary. RSVP to Emily Newman at emilyjewishpavilion@gmail.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Jewish Pavilion—JP Connections honoring Shirley Schoenberger and Dolores Indek, 11 a.m. at Maison & Jardin Event Center, 430 Wymore Road, Altamonte Springs. Couvert, \$28 Info: 407-678-9363

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

Quote of the Week

"Without memory, there is no culture. Without memory, there would be no civilization, no society, no future."

—Eli Wiesel

"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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Iran turned down Israeli aid offer after earthquake



An earthquake survivor sits on debris in front of his house.

By United with Israel staff

Israel offered aid to the Islamic republic after it was hit by a powerful earthquake but was turned down, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said. Addressing the Jewish Federations of North America's (JFNA) annual General Assembly in Los Angeles via videoconference on Tuesday, Netanyahu said that Israel had offered the aid via the Red Cross. "I just saw the pictures of the destruction in Iran

and Iraq from this week's earthquake. And I saw these heartbreaking images of men and women and children buried under the rubble. So I am proud to announce tonight that a few hours ago I directed that we offer the Red Cross medical assistance for the Iraqi and Iranian victims of this disaster," Netanyahu said, according to the Times of Israel. At least 530 people were killed and 7,700 more were injured when a 7.3-magnitude earthquake shook a mountainous Iranian border town in the West on Sunday,

triggering landslides that hindered rescue efforts and left hundreds of houses damaged. Israel is world-renowned for the IDF's crack search and rescue unit, which recently returned from a recovery mission in quake-struck Mexico. "I've said many times that we have no quarrel with the people of Iran," he underscored. "Our quarrel is only with the tyrannical regime that holds them hostage and threatens our destruction. But our humanity is greater than their hatred. Israel continues to be a light unto the nations and this is what I am proud of. And all of you can be proud of Israel's morals, and Israel's might."

As expected, the offer was immediately rejected. "This shows the true face of the Iranian regime," an official in Netanyahu's office said. Iran does not recognize Israel right to exist and often threatens to destroy it. In 2003, Tehran rejected a similar Israeli offer of assistance after a quake in the southeastern Iranian city of Bam killed more than 26,000 people. In 2012, when two quakes hit the Iranian province of East Azerbaijan, killing more than 300 people and injuring 3,000, Israel did not offer assistance, citing the rejected offer.

Challenging puzzle "40" by Yoni Glatt
 koshercrosswords@gmail.com

Across

1. King for 40 years
6. Home on the range
11. Ashcroft and Holder, for short
14. ___ in the hole
15. Husband's chayil
16. Kosher charger
17. Where Jews wandered for 40 years
19. Oscar winner Mahershala
20. Jewish leader, once
21. Blessing ender
22. Monastery man
24. No-goodnik
26. Easter's beginning?
28. Organization that spreads "ha Torah"
29. Judge for 40 years
33. They need 40 se'ahs of water
35. Portfolio part, in brief
36. Knowing, as a secret
38. Expected
39. "Lav ___" (approximately)
41. Judge for 40 years
43. Doughnut finish
47. Opposite of a ques.
49. Sported
51. "Winnie-the-Pooh" baby
52. Navi who didn't eat or drink for 40 days
56. King for 40 years
58. Robe for Caesar
59. Kwik-E-Mart clerk
61. 90's show "seaQuest ___"
62. He played Sully
64. Olympics blade
66. Stone who recently played King
70. Shanah, in Spain
71. Noah experienced 40 days of it
74. ___ Yisroel
75. Cosmetician Elizabeth
76. Particular parah
77. "Able was I ___"
78. It can be a pizza alternative or a pizza topping
79. He spends 40 day intervals with G-d

Down

1. "The ___ Curse" (Dashiell Hammett novel)
2. Tolstoy's Karenina
3. Distillery items
4. Baseball great often referred to mononymously
5. Wallace of "E.T."
6. Be rife (with)
7. Eppes follower
8. Connor McDavid of the Stars, e.g.
9. Always, to a poet
10. James of jazz
11. Lawrence's land
12. Half of wet-weather wear
13. Horse workers
18. He died with Korach
23. Gemara locale
25. Grande of song
27. Free (of)
29. Carried out
30. Stat. for Scott Feldman
31. Tu ___
32. Furrow maker

34. Shabbat side dishes
37. Dodgers' div.
40. Option for flight options
42. Apple letters
44. Give an uzi to
45. Jerusalem has a Biblical one
46. Many, many years
48. "Shecket!"
50. Where to get a quick buck?
52. Fuel gas
53. Rental car
54. Snub, in a way
55. Knocks over
57. Burn the 34-Down
60. Outcome of many a Maccabee battle
63. A cereal elf
65. 11,000-foot Italian peak
67. Spiegelman classic
68. Marceau, e.g.
69. Santa ___ (hot winds)
72. Girl's "light" name
73. Adlon of "Better Things", for short

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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74				75					76				
77				78					79				

See answers on page 14.

Excited crowd attends Kehillah Exhibit opening



Left to right, Rachel Heimovics Braun, script editor; Sara Stern, script editor, Roz Fuch, exhibit chair; Marcia Jo Zerivitz, exhibit curator; Lisa Schwartz, IT collections database and photo editor.



A family reunion: Front L-R: Julian Meitin, Debra Wittenstein, Neil Wittenstein, Bernie Kahn, Mardi Shader, David Wittenstein, Pam Wittenstein, Nancy Wittenstein, and Ron Shader.



Kehillah Branch chairs: L-R Neil Webman, Stan Roberts, Laurence Morrell.



Susan and Jerry Roth found themselves on the display of philanthropists.

On Nov. 12, more than 400 people crowded into the second floor of the Orange County Regional History Center for the long awaited opening of the exhibition Kehillah: A History of Jewish Life in Greater Orlando. This exhibit covers 150 years of local Jewish history, and not only shows how the Jewish community organized but also the many diverse ways Jews have contributed to the growth and enrichment of Central Florida for all of its citizens.

The spirit of community was alive and well as people viewed the 500+ images and artifacts. Smiles, laughter and even some tears were shed as guests moved from theme to theme trying to take it all in.

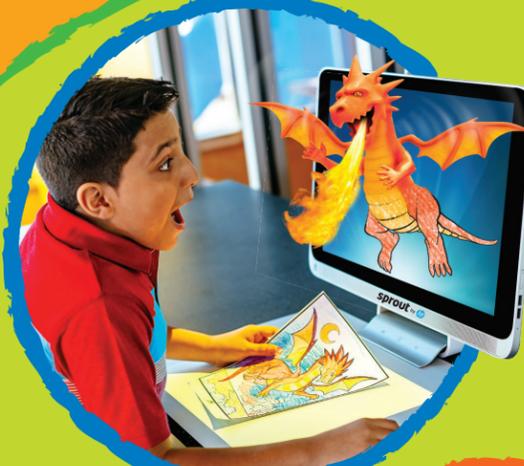
"I can't believe I got choked

up, but it is just so wonderful to see what our community started from and how much has been accomplished," said Barbara Chasnov. "The individuals highlighted in the Blossoms theme have done so many amazing things, many that I never even knew about."

The entire exhibit has been published in a catalog, available for sale in the History Center gift shop, along with other Kehillah specialty items. The income from the sale of the catalog and merchandise will benefit the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando. The History Center, located at 65 E. Central Blvd., is open Monday thru Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 12-5. The Kehillah exhibit will be on display until Feb. 20, 2018.



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India and Israel—two democracies in the Middle East find common ground



Consul General Nagesh Singh, Jeff Colman and Dr. Terri Susan Fine.

By Christine DeSouza

When India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Israel last July and waded in the ocean with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, that historic meeting not only paved the way for a stronger relationship between the countries, it spurred local doctors, Jewish and Indian, to have an informative, networking event together.

Drs. Amish Parikh and Daniel Layish, friends who are members of the Central Florida Association of Physicians from the Indian Subcontinent and the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando Maimonides Medical Society respectively, agreed that now was the time to bring community awareness to the growing relationship between Israel and India, and build bridges between the two countries.

And why not? Both countries gained their independence from British rule a mere year apart—India in 1947 and Israel in 1948. Both are democracies in a sea of Arab-ruled countries, and were partitioned into two-states—India with Pakistan; Israel with the Palestinians—and these issues are still not fully

resolved for both countries.

But the relationship goes deeper than historical similarities.

"Being Indian isn't a nationality, it is a way of life," said Dr. Parikh's wife, Beena. The Indian people are hardworking and devoted to family. They are a peaceful people. True for Jewish people as well. Being Jewish, or Israeli, isn't a nationality. It is a way of life, and whenever possible, they choose peace.

So Layish and Parikh worked to bring together the two groups, with the organizational talents of Dr. Jamin Brahmbhatt, who served as lead co-ordinator of the event. "I wanted to see people come together who usually don't, but have a common mission to do good," said Brahmbhatt.

Dr. Archana Shah had the same feelings. "Modi's visit made a big impact, and we physicians work closely with the Jewish physicians. Thus networking brings us closer together."

Shah also said that there is already discussion of planning tours to each other's countries.

Guest speakers included two experts in relationship building—Consul General of India in Atlanta Nagesh



A group of those attending the India/Israel event. Second from left is Dr. Daniel Layish; fifth from left is Dr. Amish Parikh; seventh from left is Consul General Nagesh Singh; and sixth from right is Jeff Colman.

Singh and Deputy Director of Policy and Government Affairs for AIPAC Jeff Colman. To keep the evening running smoothly, Dr. Terri Fine moderated the discussion.

After an Indian meal, the group of about 60 people listened intently about India. It was noted that the ratio was unbalanced with more Indians than Jews at the meeting. Brahmbhatt easily rationalized it. "There are 1.3 billion Indians and only 8 million Israelis!"

Still, the listeners learned common interests of both countries.

Today, the two countries have a thriving economic, military and strategic relationship.

"This was eye-opening!" said Rabbi Michael Rennert. "It took them (India) a long time to get comfortable and stand up for Israel, but they're getting there. The consul was excited and unreserved about Israel. These two democracies are fighting for similar values—to have that standard to have a free society."

It did take India a long time to start supporting Israel, and the issue was addressed at the meeting. In 1947, India voted against the partitioning of Palestine and also voted against Israel's admission to the United Nations in 1949. India officially recognized the State of Israel in 1950. At that time, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru explained,

"We refrained because of our desire not to offend the sentiments of our friends in the Arab countries."

India is home to 14 percent of the world's Muslim population—about 172 million Muslims. It is the world's third largest Muslim population. Amazingly, India has no anti-Semitism and no problem with "homegrown terrorism." India is also a very inclusive society.

Because of the lack of anti-Semitism, India is the No. 1 place where IDF soldiers go to take their six-months vacation.

However, until recently, India was not voting in the UN like a friend of Israel. That is changing, according to Singh.

"One thing that struck me was that India was aligned with the USSR during the '70s and '80s whereas Israel was on our side during the Cold War," said David Moldau who attended the meeting with his wife, Harriet. "With the downfall of the USSR, the old alliances disintegrated and now the two countries are exchanging ideas and are trading partners."

"India moved closer to Israel when Israel clandestinely sold weapons to India back in the '50s," said Rennert.

The weapons deals are no longer done in secret. Today,

India is the largest buyer of Israeli military equipment, and Israel is the second largest defense supplier to India (after Russia).

Another problem Israel is helping India solve is water management. Israel introduced the water-drip irrigation system to India and now has 18-20 different agricultural centers, according to Singh. Water usage went down about 50 percent and productivity went up.

"Water management and conservation is something India needs because of their huge population and Israel has the best expertise in the world," stated Moldau.

Colman sees all that is happening between the two countries as a double blessing. He sees no challenges, only more cooperation.

On a poignant note, the group discussed the terrorist attack on the Chabad House in Mumbai in November 2008. Terrorists brutally massacred Rabbi Gabriel Holtzberg, his 5-months pregnant wife, Rivka, and two young sons. Their two-year-old son Moshe survived the attack after being rescued by his Indian nanny, Sandra Samuel.

Rabbi Yosef Konikov of South Orlando Chabad spoke about this at the meeting. He and his wife Chani have six

children. They named their youngest son Gabriel (Gabby) in memory of the rabbi.

Moshe and his nanny moved to Israel. During his visit, Modi met and embraced the now 11-year-old Moshe. Netanyahu then invited the young boy to go with him when he visits Mumbai. Young Moshe, whose family was murdered in India, only had kind words to say to Modi. "Dear Mr. Modi, I love you," he stated, "and your people in India." He later expressed that he would like to be the rabbi of a Chabad House in India one day. Watch the YouTube video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ge9I-Ue4CIA>.

Konikov expressed the general consensus of everyone who attended the meeting, that Modi's trip to Israel has taken things in a positive direction.

"We still have differences, but we are looking past these to see commonalities. [The two countries] have a higher purpose—both countries are working for common goals."

Parikh was pleased with the meeting. "It was more than fulfilling and accomplished what I hoped for. This will lead to a relationship that will extend beyond my time," he said. "The feedback has been excellent and we hope to have follow-up events."

Federation: 'Empower the Jew in You'

Fifty Central Florida teens in grades 8 to 12 gathered Oct. 30 for "Empower the Jew in You," a Community-wide Teen Education Evening organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando (JFGO). Congregation of Reform Judaism hosted the event.

This peer-lead educational program by JFGO's Jewish Teen Education Network (JTEN) was designed to provide insight and resources for local teens to identify and stand up to anti-Semitism. JTEN educators moderated the discussions with curriculum created by the Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council. The program included clergy and Jewish professionals from Congregation Beth Am, Congregation of Reform Judaism, BBYO North Florida Region, Chabad of Greater Orlando, Congregation Ohev Shalom, Temple Israel and Temple Shir Shalom.

With anti-Semitism on the rise in schools, teens came away from the discussion with a better understanding of the assistance and resources available to them right now in the community and through the Federation.

Jennifer Cohen, JFGO's director of outreach and engagement, said it was "inspiring to see all of the clergy and Jewish professionals attending the program and ready to provide help and support."

Attending and participating in some aspect of the program included, Rabbi Hillel Skolnik (Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation), Rabbi Joshua Neely (Temple Israel), Cantor Kim Singer (Temple Shir Shalom), Amy Geboff (Congregation Ohev Shalom), Cantor Nina Fine (Congregation Beth Am), Jayme Epstein (BBYO North Florida Region), Dr. Sheryl Sacharoff (Congregation of Reform Judaism), Lauren Oback (Congregation of Reform Judaism), Rabbi Steven Engel (Congregation of Reform Judaism), Cantor Jacqueline Rawiszer (Congregation of Reform Judaism), Rabbi Ed and Bracha Leibowitz (Chabad of Greater Orlando) and Daniel Nabatian (Jewish Student Union/JOIN Orlando).

At the conclusion of the evening, teens completed a survey gauging their interest in future JTEN/Federation programming and topics that are important to them. More

than 40 percent of those who attended expressed an interest in serving in a leadership role a future JTEN program.

"It was amazing to be in solidarity," one teen said of the Oct. 30 event. "It was very helpful in understanding what it means to be a Jewish teen, and how to speak up," said another.

Cohen said the Federation looks forward to using the survey results "to provide deeper and more meaningful experiences for all local Jewish teens."

This was the fifth Community-wide Teen Education event organized by the Federation.

JTEN provides opportunities for Central Florida teens to come together for shared learning and educational experiences, regardless of synagogue affiliation. JTEN offers grants to synagogues for Jewish educational opportunities, resources and networking opportunities for Jewish educators, and grants for organized teen Israel trips made possible by the Ronald Colman Israel Scholarship Fund. To learn more, contact Jennifer Cohen at jcohen@jfgo.org.



Students show support for installation of Bruce Gould at JNF

Central Florida Hillel brought the largest student delegation in the country with over 28 students to come and celebrate the installation of Orlando's own Bruce Gould as the new president-elect of JNF. Pictured next to Bruce is JNF's president and CEO, Russell Robinson.



Scene Around

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

Salute to all who are willing to sacrifice for our country...

I am writing this column in advance. It is Veteran's Day and I am the proud mother of a Lt. Commander Navy, former Army vet who served in Iraq, and former sailor who served on a minesweeper in the Persian Gulf.

I am also the widow of a Korean War Army veteran. (I never served, but wow, how I worried!)

Speaking of Veteran's...

I received this letter from AARP Fraud Watch Network. It began, "They protected us. Now it's time to protect them."

It continues, "We're thrilled to officially launch Operation Protect Veterans, in partnership with the United States Postal Service, to protect American's military veterans and their families from identity theft and fraud."

Vigilance against scammers is our number one weapon in the fight against fraud. And now, we've got the proven tools and resources to help veterans and their families to be on guard for common scams. Check out <aarp.org/protectveterans>, to find a report on the top trends targeting veterans and their family, along with tips and resources to prevent becoming a target. You'll be able to learn more about common scams like:

The update your military file scam: A caller claims to be from the Department of Veterans Affairs and asks to "update" your information to be used to steal your credit.

The cash for benefits scam: Scammers target veterans in need of money by offering cash in exchange for their future disability or pension payments. These buyouts are typically a fraction of the value of the benefit.

Charity scams: A caller claims to be raising money for disabled veterans or veterans with cancer or a similar sounding name. But often, the so-called charity is not registered with the government and/or uses most of the money to raise more funds and pay their salaries.

VA loan modification: The scammers contact military families offering to help refinance their VA loans and then ask for upfront fees. They never provide the promised loan.

Please feel free to reach out to the AARP Fraud Watch Network directly at ProtectVeterans@aarp.org or call the Fraud Watch Network helpline at 1-800-908-3360 if you have any questions about scams targeting veterans. (Be wise! Beware!)

JCC 39ers...

On Cinema Sunday, Nov. 26th, the movie "Murphy's War" starring Peter O'Toole will be featured in the Senior Lounge at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

The next day, Monday, Nov. 27th, "Meet & Mingle Mondays" will feature "Safety on the JCC campus by campus police. Refreshments follow.

A reminder...

On Sunday, Nov. 26th, the Altamonte Chapel Jazz Jam, emceed by ALAN ROCK, will present STEVEN SMITH and his group, featuring Steve on Trombone. The super-talented group consists of Steve, MARK MCKEE on piano, GERALD



Peter O'Toole

STOCKTON on bass and WALT HUBBARD on drums.

The Altamonte Chapel is located at 825 East SR 436, Altamonte Springs. The phone number is 407-339-5208. The music starts at 12:30 p.m.

And speaking of good music...

On Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 2 pm, SCOTT BERRY, singer, pianist, will be the featured performer at the Congregation Ohev Shalom Seniors Day. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The cost is \$5 for COS Senior members; \$8 all others. Refreshments follow. (Yeah! My favorite cookies!)

Shout-out...

Ok, I'm NOT a cougar, but I come off sounding like one when I tell you that, not only was FOSTER NOBLE STRONG's service sublime, but the waiter himself was sublime. (Movie star looks!) In fact the entire wait staff at the Outback Restaurant on Aloma Avenue, Winter Park, is sublime.

(I repeat... I AM NOT A COUGAR!)

One for the road...

Freda and her friend Ruth were having a chat about their sons. "So Ruth," asks Freda, "I hear that your Paul has just been made a director of Shmultz PLC. Is he a good businessman, then?" "Is he a good businessman?" replies Ruth. "Oy! He's a brilliant businessman, Freda. In fact mine Paul is so dedicated to his company that every night he takes his secretary to bed with him—just in case he comes up with a brilliant idea."



Scott Berry

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Men's Night Out hit it outta the park

By Christine DeSouza

More than 160 men from around Central Florida came together on Nov. 2 for an evening of camaraderie with all that "men stuff," you know—steak, drinks, and a great comedian. The event, co-sponsored by the Men's Clubs and Brotherhoods of Congregation Ohev Shalom, Temple Israel, Congregation Beth Am, Congregation of Reform Judaism and Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation, in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando, was profitable, netting about \$12,000 for local Jewish youth educational programs.

The Men's Night Out committee all agreed that this is worth doing every year and even have a (tentative) date—Nov. 8, 2018, mark it on the calendar!

"I had men asking if we could have this event two or three times a year," said planning committee member Bart Neuman. "But they don't know we started last February to get this act together!"

"This was a first-time happening with men in the Jewish community," said Jeff Gaeser, publisher of the



Avi Abramowitz, Arnold Bierman and Alan Ginsburg enjoy the fun at Men's Night Out.

Heritage Florida Jewish News. "It should be an annual event. The comedian was funny, the food was good and I saw so many people I hadn't seen in years."

One of the goals the com-

mittee had was to reach "unaffiliated" Jewish men in the community, and they were successful—about 40 men not actively involved in a synagogue attended the event.

The committee learned a lot about pulling together an event, and are going to send out follow-up surveys to all the attendees for suggestions on how to make the Men's Night Out even better next year.

Sudoku (see page 14 for solution)

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Stephen Bannon: 'I'm proud to be a Christian Zionist'



Stephen Bannon

By Ben Sales

NEW YORK (JTA)—Stephen Bannon, the former chief strategist for President Donald Trump, called himself a “Christian Zionist” at the Zionist Organization of America’s annual dinner.

He also praised Republican Jewish megadonor Sheldon Adelson for his help in guiding Trump through a sexual assault scandal.

Bannon, at what may have been his first speech at a Jewish event since becoming associated with Trump last year, received a standing ovation and loud applause throughout his speech on Sunday in New York. He was one of many current and former Trump administration officials to

attend the event, including Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, who also spoke, former press secretary Sean Spicer and Sebastian Gorka, a former adviser to Trump who has ties to the Hungarian far right.

“I am not a moderate, I’m a fighter,” Bannon said. “And that’s why I’m proud to stand with the State of Israel. That’s why I’m proud to be a Christian Zionist.”

The ZOA, which takes hawkish positions on Israel, has been outspoken in its support of Trump, as compared to other large Jewish organizations. Its lineup of speakers Sunday included several Republicans, including Arkansas Sen. Tom Cotton, and a couple of centrist Democrats: legal scholar Alan Dershowitz and former Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut.

Bannon shepherded the final months of Trump’s presidential campaign and served as one of his chief advisers until August. He supports what he calls “economic nationalist” policies, including limits on immigration and wariness of international agreements. He is the chairman of Breitbart News, a hardline right-wing publication.

Speaking to the ZOA, Bannon said Trump’s election victory “would not have come without one other person

besides Donald Trump—Sheldon Adelson.”

In particular, he said Adelson’s advice helped Trump overcome the release of the “Access Hollywood” tape in which Trump boasted about sexually assaulting a woman.

“Sheldon Adelson didn’t cut and run,” Bannon said, regarding the time after the scandal broke. “Sheldon Adelson had Donald Trump’s back. Sheldon Adelson offered guidance and counsel and wisdom of how to get through it. He was there for Donald Trump about how to comport oneself and how to dig down deep, and it was his guidance and his wisdom that helped get us through it.”

Liberal Jewish groups protested Bannon’s appointment to the Trump White House last year because of Breitbart’s links to the “alt-right,” a loose network that includes white supremacists. Bannon has called Breitbart “the platform for the alt-right.” But he has disavowed white supremacists on a few occasions and said he is not a white nationalist.

A group of protesters from IfNotNow, a Jewish group that opposes Israel’s West Bank occupation, demonstrated against Bannon’s speech outside the dinner, which took place at the Grand Hyatt. The group also protested the event last year,

when Bannon was invited but did not come.

The crowd at the dinner warmly welcomed the Trump advisers, and they touted the president’s record on Israel. In his address, Friedman harshly criticized the Obama administration’s Israel record while praising Trump’s. In particular, he lambasted the U.N. Security Council resolution in December that condemned Israeli West Bank settlements. The United States abstained, declining to veto the measure.

“We came into office on the heels of perhaps the greatest betrayal of Israel by a sitting president in American history,” Friedman said. “I hope you agree with me that we have turned a page since the dark days of last December. Gone are the days when the United Nations bashes Israel with impunity.”

Friedman also said Trump sees eye to eye with Israel’s government on opposing the 2015 agreement on Iran’s nuclear program, which Israel views as dangerous for its security. Referencing a terror attack this year in the West Bank, he said Trump is more sympathetic to Israeli settlements than previous administrations—though he avoided using the word “settlement.” And he said Trump’s peace plan, which is still being formulated, will prioritize Israeli security.

“The president recognizes the critical importance that Judea and Samaria never become the failed experiment that we saw in the Gaza Strip,” Friedman said, using a term for the West Bank favored by Israel’s right. “And perhaps most importantly, you will never hear the president make the case, as his predecessor did, that there is some symmetrical relationship between, let’s say, building a house in the Samaritan village of Halamish and the brutal murder of a father, son and a daughter in Halamish at a Shabbat table.”

Speaking at a news conference before the dinner, ZOA President Morton Klein criticized the Trump peace plan, saying that he feels negotiations are useless because the Palestinian Authority is not interested in peace. He compared the P.A. to Nazis and slammed it for providing stipends to families of terrorists.

“The goal is not statehood, the goal is Israel’s destruction,” Klein said. “They’re nothing but a bunch of Arab Nazis who want to murder Jews.”

Bannon in his speech framed Trump’s Israel record as part of fighting Islamic terrorism in the Middle East. He said two of Trump’s top priorities coming into the White House were moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to

Jerusalem from Tel Aviv—a promise Trump repeatedly made but has yet to fulfill—and decertifying the agreement on Iran’s nuclear program, which Trump did last month.

“He said, ‘Destroy the physical caliphate of ISIS, designate the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, decertify or renegotiate the Iran deal and move the embassy to Jerusalem,’” Bannon said of Trump.

Later, he called Trump “the strongest supporter of Israel since Ronald Reagan,” though Reagan as president was not unequivocally supportive of Israel.

Bannon also repeated some of his trademark phrases. He called the media the “opposition party” three times while gesturing at the press tables in the back of the room. Near the beginning of the speech, he listed a string of exit poll results, state by state, from the 2016 presidential election. And he spoke in militant terms about his fight against establishment politicians and the “global class.”

“We’re leading an insurgency movement against the Republican establishment, against the permanent global class in Washington, D.C.,” he said.

That line did not receive applause from the mostly Jewish crowd.

Experts: international community ‘pretending not to see’ Iran’s nuke deal violations

By Ariel Ben Solomon
JNS.org

Earlier this year, President Donald Trump said that Iran was violating the “spirit” of its nuclear deal with the P5+1 powers. Now, it is clear that the Islamic Republic is disregarding the letter of the accord, but the international community is ignoring and denying that reality, experts say.

“It is mind-boggling that the violations are occurring in the open and all the parties to the agreement are pretending not to see it, and instead are dealing with issues that are important, but are not connected to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (the nuclear deal’s formal name),”

Yigal Carmon, president and founder of the Middle East Media Research Institute, told JNS.org.

In mid-October, Trump announced his refusal to recertify Iran’s compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal. Yukiya Amano, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the nuclear watchdog of the United Nations, is campaigning to counter Trump’s objections to the agreement.

On Nov. 7, Amano told the Financial Times that nuclear inspectors have accessed Iranian military sites and that the agency “has had access to all the locations that we needed to visit.” Yet Iran itself has rejected the U.S. demand for inspectors to visit its military bases.

Former weapons inspector David Albright, founder and president of the Institute for Science and International Security, told JNS.org that contrary to the Financial Times report, Amano said in a presentation to the Wilson Center think tank on Nov. 6 that Iran is not fully implementing the nuclear deal. The IAEA chief made a clear distinction between Iran working to implement the deal and full implementation, saying he is pushing Tehran to do the latter.

Albright said it is unclear what Amano means by “full implementation,” but that his comments to the Wilson Center are significant because they would “be another reason not to certify the Iran

Nuclear Agreement Review Act,” which gives the president authority to decide every 90 days whether Iran is complying with the deal. Trump used that legislation as the basis for refusing to recertify the agreement last month.

Amano had also insisted last week that the Iranians are complying with the deal, saying that “they are discharging their responsibility without problem,” Reuters reported.

“Who is correct, the IAEA head or Trump?” asked MEMRI’s Carmon, while noting that the IAEA had “been turned by President [Barack] Obama into a political body to serve his wish to achieve the nuclear deal no matter what the cost.”

Carmon noted that the nuclear deal established a political body made up of all parties to the agreement—including Iran, Russia and China—called the Joint Commission, which can overrule the IAEA’s professional judgment. Amano “willingly collaborated with all that,” Carmon said.

Carmon pointed to Iran’s refusal to allow inspectors to oversee Section T of the agreement—namely, that Iran is forbidden to develop capabilities of detonating a nuclear explosive device. Amano describes this refusal to allow inspectors as a “problem” to be discussed by the Joint Commission, not a violation of the nuclear deal, Carmon explained.

“This shows the degree of collaboration between Amano, Iran and Russia,”

said Carmon, a former Middle East adviser to Israeli Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Yitzhak Shamir.

Albright said that an Iranian declaration on its activities relating to Section T of the nuclear deal “is long overdue...Iran may be violating Section T.” Verifying a declaration from Iran would “undoubtedly require visits to military sites where certain controlled equipment would be utilized,” he said.

Amano, in his interview with the Financial Times, did acknowledge that “greater clarity relating to Section T will be helpful.” Yet Albright said he “did not hear Amano say they (inspectors) have gone to any military sites since implementation day” of the nuclear deal.

“Unfortunately, the structure of the Iran deal ironically creates a disincentive for the IAEA to ask to go to military sites, since a denial by Iran would likely bring the deal down,” he said.

Another problem, he said, is “the refusal of the IAEA to release specific compliance-related information in its reports.”

Carmon and Ayelet Savyon, head of the Iran desk at MEMRI, have called attention to congressional testimony by the Obama administration State Department’s coordinator on Iran, Stephen Mull, that a shipment of 8.5 tons of enriched uranium sent from Iran to Russia has disappeared and is not being monitored by the IAEA.

“How can the agreement be working when this amount

of uranium has disappeared?” asked Carmon, adding, “Theoretically, it could be that the 8.5 tons of enriched uranium were returned to Iran if nobody knows where it is.”

“And where are the inspections of the military bases, and how come Iran, which has been turned by the JCPOA into an exporter of heavy water, is not subjected to the protocol of other exporting countries like Canada?” he said.

According to MEMRI’s research, Iran is building more advanced centrifuges than what the nuclear agreement allows for, and the Islamic Republic’s “actual heavy water quota exceeds the quantity permitted” while the Iranians are storing some heavy water in Oman.

Oman “has become the warehouse for Iran’s surplus heavy water and enriched uranium” and is covering up for Iran’s nuclear deal violations, Carmon and Savyon wrote.

According to a report by Albright’s organization, Iran has modified its Arak heavy water reactor in a way that the nuclear agreement does not authorize.

Deliberate distortions by Iran deal advocates such as former Secretary of State John Kerry, the Ploughshares Fund, EU foreign affairs chief Federica Mogherini and others “muddy the debate” about the agreement, said Albright.

Asked what the next step should be regarding the deal, Carmon responded, “Congress should not only investigate the compliance to the deal, but also the cover-up by the IAEA.”

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Rivlin urges 'unity,' 'engagement' to North American Jews



Israeli President Reuven Rivlin

Israeli President Reuven Rivlin urged cooperation and mutual understanding in a speech Monday night (Nov. 13) to the Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly in Los Angeles. Rivlin addressed major issues confronting Jews and Israel, including prayer at Jerusalem's Western Wall, regional security in the Middle East and divides in Israeli society. Rivlin took on the controversy over the Israeli government's renegeing on its commitment to allow egalitarian worship at the Western Wall, telling the crowd: "It causes such pain that the symbol of unity, the

wall of our tears and joy, has become a symbol of division and disagreement. I hope that in the future we can return to the table together, and reach an understanding on this important issue. It is our mutual responsibility."

In his speech, Rivlin praised Israel for its behemoth high-tech industry, warned about the dangers of Iran's actions in the Middle East, and called for reconciliation between the different religious and ethnic groups that make up Israeli society.

Central to his speech was a challenge to Jews in Israel and the Diaspora to talk across differences and affirm their

belonging to one people. He stressed that North American Jews are important partners in building up the state of Israel and in crafting the global Jewish future. "The State of Israel was, and will always be, the home of every Jew; Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, secular, traditional, Ashkenazi, Sephardi. Jews. We are all one people, and Israel is dear to all of us," he said.

As his first major address to a Jewish audience outside Israel and came amid concern in the Diaspora about the Israeli government's decision on the Western Wall, his speech was highly anticipated

Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror group vows revenge

(JNS.org)—The Gaza-based terror group Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) vowed Sunday to take revenge on Israel following the IDF's recent destruction of a cross-border attack tunnel. The Israeli operation killed 10 PIJ operatives, including two senior commanders.

The "threats to target the movement's leadership is a declaration of war, which we will confront," the terror group said in statement disseminated by its media affiliate, Palestine Today News Agency.

The PIJ threat was issued after Israel's Maj. Gen. Yoav Mordechai warned the terror group not to retaliate for the tunnel's destruction, stating that PIJ would be "held responsible" for an attack on Israel and that "any attack by the Islamic Jihad will be met with a powerful and determined Israeli response, not only against the Jihad, but also against Hamas," which controls Gaza.

In response to Mordechai, the terror group reaffirmed its "right to respond to the

crime of aggression on the resistance tunnel."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at Israel's weekly cabinet meeting on Sunday, "There are those who still amuse themselves these days by trying to renew attacks against Israel. We will take a very firm stance against anyone who tries to attack us or attacks us from any area. I mean any source: rogue factions, organizations—anyone. In any event, we see Hamas responsible for any attack launched or organized from the Gaza Strip against us."

OBITUARY

PEARL KATZ

Pearl Katz, age 79, of Kissimmee, passed away on Friday, Nov. 10, 2017, at Brookdale Assisted Living Facility—Dr. Phillips in Orlando.

A native of New York, Mrs. Katz was born on May 14, 1938, to the late Benjamin and Feida Gamson. Following

high school she entered the workforce, ultimately working in the banking industry. On May 6, 1978, in the Bronx, she married Stanley C. Katz, her husband for over 37 years when he passed away in July 2015. Following their retirement in 1998, they relocated to Central Florida.

Mrs. Katz is survived by her nephew, Jason (Phyllis) Gamson of Clover, S.C. Burial was at New Montefiore Cemetery in Farmingdale, N.Y.

Arrangements entrusted to Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel, 640 Lee Road, Orlando. 407-599-1180.



HEALTHY EYES



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For more information, visit www.thevisioncouncil.org/consumers/sunglasses. A public service message from The Vision Council.

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, 407-222-6393; 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 Elkcam 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

'No loyal American need apologize for loving Israel,' Ambassador David Friedman states

By Shiryn Solny
JNS.org

Speaking exclusively with JNS.org, U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman on Sunday night confirmed a report that a team from the Trump administration is drafting an Israeli-Palestinian peace plan.

"We're working very hard on it," Friedman said of the Mideast peace proposal, in an interview at the Zionist Organization of America's (ZOA) annual awards dinner in New York City. "It's hard to comment on it while we're in the middle, because it's delicate." He added that more information about the plan will be publicized in "a few months."

Friedman is on the four-person team drafting the proposal, along with President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, Special Representative for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt, and Deputy National Security Advisor Dina Powell. The New York Times reported Saturday that the team is consulting with U.S. Consul General in Jerusalem Donald Blome, as well as others from the State Department and the National Security Council.

The ambassador was among

the honorees at Sunday's ZOA event. Friedman told the crowd that while the U.S. is "the nation of my birth, the nation of my citizenship," Israel "is the nation of my faith [and] no loyal American need apologize for loving Israel and urging our government to support it. Support for Israel is a quintessential American value."

He added, "The United States government treats Israel the way it deserves to be treated: as a critical strategic and trusted ally in one of the world's toughest neighborhoods. Prime Minister [Benjamin] Netanyahu and I agree that we have turned a page on the relationship between Israel and the United States. It is a change for the better."

Following his remarks on stage, Friedman told JNS.org that American support for Israel is "becoming too tilted to one party (the GOP) and it's got to get back to where everybody supports Israel."

Former White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer offered a different take, saying that the "great commitment" characterizing current U.S. support for the Jewish state is "not necessarily a partisan thing."

"The more the Middle East becomes a hotbed of activity, the more that the

United States recognizes the importance of Israel and that we need to, on both sides of the aisle, stand strong with them," Spicer told JNS.org. "At the end of the day, when you look at the position of the U.S. government on both sides of the aisle, I think you continue to see a steadfast support for what we need to do as a government to help and support Israel."

Bannon 'proud to be a Christian Zionist'

Former White House senior counselor and current Breitbart.com CEO Steve Bannon was also honored at the ZOA event. He spoke of "an insurgency movement against the Republican establishment," lamenting how fellow Republicans have not acknowledged the ousted strategist's accomplishments during his tenure in the administration.

"In the first nine or 10 months of [Trump's] administration, [the U.S.] destroyed the physical caliphate of ISIS. People forget," a furious Bannon told the audience. "The opposition party will never tell you. [They'll say] 'Oh, President Trump is just following through on Barack Obama's plan.' Yeah, I don't remember ISIS being eradicated on his watch. In 2014, ISIS had 8 million people under their reign

and in the first nine months of President Trump's administration, it's eradicated."

He continued, "There are so many games being played by the establishment. They lower the bar of what they are supposed to be. You get dulled down all the time. That's how you get the Iran deal. That's how we still allow the American government to finance people who have blood on their hands of innocent Jewish civilians... It's time for us to act, and I believe the only way to act is not through moderation. I am not a moderate, I'm a fighter, and that's why I'm proud to stand with the state of Israel. That's why I'm proud to be a Christian Zionist."

Bannon said the "radical left" is trying to "nullify" the 2016 presidential election, adding, "President Trump needs our back because we're a nation at war, and this war is only going to be won if we bind together and work as partners."

Israel's priorities: 'Iran, Iran and Iran'

Iran's nuclear program was another major theme at the ZOA dinner. Ambassador Friedman said that if Netanyahu were asked for his three top foreign policy objectives, "he will tell you it is Iran, Iran and Iran."



Shiryn Solny
U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman (center) attends the Zionist Organization of America's annual awards dinner.

"This is not the same as saying 'location, location, location' when talking about real estate," Friedman said. "In Iran, there are three independent things to be concerned about: Iran as a nuclear power that threatens to annihilate Israel; Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism through Hezbollah and other proxies; and Iran as regional superpower expanding through Iraq, Syria and Yemen and filling the vacuum created by the defeat of ISIS."

Upon accepting his own ZOA award, Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) told the star-studded room of guests that Israel

"must never stand alone" in its fight against a nuclear-armed Iran.

"Red, white and blue must stand beside blue and white," Cotton said, referencing the colors of the American and Israeli flags. "We are in this fight together, all the way until the end. Remember the ayatollah's chant, 'Death to Israel' and 'Death to America'... Our two nations have never ducked a challenge."

The senator added that if forced to act, the U.S. can "totally destroy" Iran's nuclear arsenal, and if the Iranians "choose to rebuild it, we can destroy it again until they get the picture."

This organization has trained 4,000 Jewish volunteers to keep synagogues safe



CSS has trained over 4,000 volunteers across the country to protect Jewish organizations.

By Josefina Dolsten

NEW YORK (JTA)—On a typical Shabbat in Teaneck, New Jersey, streets are blocked off outside of major synagogues. Uniformed off-duty police officers, paid by the synagogues for the morning, stand near a cruiser parked nearby or direct traffic on the main street.

Volunteers, walkie-talkie earpieces disappearing beneath their lapels, stand at strategic points outside the synagogues keeping an eye on foot traffic. A few may have swept through the synagogue before services checking for suspicious objects.

The volunteers are among the over 4,000 volunteers in New York, New Jersey, Washington, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania and California who have been trained by Community Security Service, or CSS, to keep synagogues, day schools and other Jewish institutions across the country safe.

The group is trying to be the gold standard for synagogue self-defense—a goal that became even more relevant following Sunday's massacre at a Texas church that left at least 26 people dead. Police say a 26-year-old man, Devin Patrick Kelley, opened fire with a military-style assault

weapon before being shot himself by a neighbor and dying of his wounds.

"If the Jewish community is supposed to be an example for the rest of the world, then in the times we are living in, we should show other communities how to organize and how to help law enforcement help us," Jason Friedman, Community Security Service's executive director, told JTA on Monday.

CSS focuses on training community members to spot suspicious behavior and thus avert potential attacks.

"Our primary focus is to get volunteers from synagogues training in situational aware-

ness and basic security theory, so this would mean how to conduct security at their synagogue, where to stand, what to look for, how to communicate," Friedman said.

Volunteers take a basic course that lasts a few evenings. Then they can take additional courses in more advanced topics. CSS also provides basic training in self-defense.

CSS was founded in 2007 by David Dabscheck, now CEO of the consulting agency GIANT Innovation, and Adam Sager, an Israeli army veteran who now heads the security company Canary. They recruited Friedman, a U.S. Navy officer who has served in Afghanistan, as their first volunteer. Last year, Friedman became the first executive director of CSS, a nonprofit that runs on donations and foundation support.

Friedman says a "boots-on-the-ground" approach to security has been underutilized by Jewish organizations.

"I believe that the members of the Jewish community have not been engaged enough when it comes to Jewish security," he said, "and without their participation, security initiatives are not sustainable."

Friedman says Jewish organizations face multiple types of threats, including from far-right nationalists and neo-Nazis, radical Islamists and far-left anti-Israel activists. Some synagogues have reported shooting incidents, like the

synagogue in Evansville, Indiana, that reported a bullet hole in a Hebrew school classroom window in March.

And then there are less spectacular threats, like unwelcome intruders or disruptive guests. Deena Seelenfreund, regional manager for CSS in New Jersey, said CSS-trained volunteers have helped prevent minor security incidents locally.

Events such as the shooting in Texas show the need for CSS volunteers, she said.

"People say we're out in the middle of nowhere, we're suburban, nothing is really going to happen, but we do this for the 1 percent chance that something is going to happen," Seelenfreund said.

At Congregation Keter Torah, the Orthodox synagogue in Teaneck where Seelenfreund is a member, team members stand outside to serve as a deterrent against possible attack. Off-duty volunteers are also present inside the sanctuary.

"It's the fine balance between being hospitable and greeting people and also being careful and discerning," she said. And it is a positive experience not only for the 55 members who serve on the security team, but the congregation as a whole.

"The entire shul is more alert and [situationally] aware, and we will have non-security team members, just regular congregants, alerting the team to suspicious individuals or vehicles that they see on their way to shul," Seelenfreund said.

At Ramath Orah, an Orthodox synagogue on Manhattan's Upper West Side, some members initially were against CSS-style security measures.

"There were people who would push back and say 'Why is there security out front? This isn't Israel, this isn't Europe,'" recalled Samuel Block, a co-manager of the synagogue's security team. Synagogues in Europe often have armed security, including military personnel.

Block said security team members are there to ensure safety, not keep people out.

"We always tell our volunteers and the people that are coming, we're not there as bouncers, we're there to make sure that people are coming for the right reasons, and we ask people not to be offended if someone starts talking to you," Block said.

Adam Hirsch, head of the security team at Congregation Bnai Yeshurun, another Orthodox synagogue in Teaneck, said volunteers there take a similar approach.

"We're not checking membership cards, we're not checking every person. We're looking at people who look out of line, or don't belong or are acting suspiciously," Hirsch said.

Hirsch said his synagogue has benefited from receiving training by a larger organization.

"You're not coming up with it out of the blue," he said. "It's actually following methodology that is consistent and is proven effective."

Weekly roundup of world briefs from JTA

'Transparent' star Jeffrey Tambor denies second sexual harassment accusation

(JTA)—Jeffrey Tambor, the star of the Emmy-winning television comedy "Transparent," denied sexual harassment allegations made by a female member of the show's cast a week after denying similar charges by his former assistant.

Tambor issued the denial in a statement Friday in response to claims made earlier in the week by Trace Lysette, who has played the recurring character Shea on the Amazon series since its first season, MNE reported.

Lysette wrote on Twitter that Tambor had made "sexual advances and comments" toward her and "one time it got physical."

Tambor, who is Jewish, plays the transgender head of dysfunctional Jewish family in the series.

He said in his statement: "I know I haven't always been the easiest person to work with. I can be volatile and ill-tempered, and too often I express my opinions harshly and without tact. But I have never been a predator—ever."

The claims against Tambor, which are the subject of an internal probe launched by Amazon, are the latest in a string of complaints made against celebrities in the wake of a New York Times article last month about the alleged harassment by Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein, who was fired from the company he founded over the allegations.

Tambor's former assistant, Van Barnes, a transgender woman, made the allegations in a private Facebook post on Nov. 8 that was not widely circulated in the media. Tambor dismissed them as "baseless" charges coming from a "disgruntled former assistant."

Lysette said Tambor sexualized her in front of co-star Alexandra Billings during a break on set. The actress said she laughed off the comments because "it was so absurd" and she thought "surely it had to be a joke." But she claimed the harassment turned physical later that day.

"In between takes, I stood in a corner on the set as the crew reset for a wide shot. My back was against the wall in a corner as Jeffrey approached me," Lysette tweeted. "He came in close, put his bare feet on top of mine so I could not move, leaned his body against me, and began quick, discreet thrusts back and forth against my body. I felt his penis on my hip through his thin pajamas and I pushed him off of me."

Amazon launched an investigation into the sexual harassment claims made by Barnes earlier this month, and the company said it is aware of Lysette's accusation and is now looking into it as well.

According to Deadline, the writers of "Transparent" are contemplating writing Tambor out of the fifth season of the show.

Jared Kushner was contacted about WikiLeaks and Russia ahead of election, senators say

(JTA)—White House senior adviser Jared Kushner exchanged emails about WikiLeaks in the lead-up to the 2016 presidential elec-

tion, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee said.

The assertion, which comes amid a probe of alleged Russian intervention in the election, came Thursday in a letter sent by the committee's chairman, Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, and ranking member Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., to Kushner's lawyer.

Prior to the election, WikiLeaks published emails, widely thought to have been hacked by the Russian government, damaging to Hillary Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta and the Democratic National Committee.

In the letter, Grassley and Feinstein say Kushner received an email about WikiLeaks in September 2016 and passed it on to an official within Trump's campaign, along with a message about a "Russian backdoor overture and dinner invite." The Hill reported.

The two senators demanded additional documents from Kushner, who is Trump's son-in-law, as part of the committee's ongoing investigation of Russia's election interference.

There was also evidence that Kushner received copies of communications between unnamed others and Sergei Millian, a Belarusian-American businessman who gave authorities information about alleged Russian intervention in American politics.

Reports about the senators' letter did not include precise information about the content of the emails they are seeking.

Kushner, who said he would cooperate with authorities probing the affair and has divulged some information, did not provide the emails in question, the senators wrote. "You also have not produced any phone records that we presume exist and would relate to Mr. Kushner's communications regarding several requests," they added in the letter to Kushner's lawyer, Abbe Lowell.

The letter says the documents provided to the Senate Judiciary Committee are "incomplete," and gives Lowell until Nov. 27 to comply with the request.

"It appears that your search may have overlooked several documents," the letter says.

Lowell said Thursday that Kushner and his legal representation have replied to all the requests they have received and will continue to cooperate with the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"We provided the Judiciary Committee with all relevant documents that had to do with Mr. Kushner's calls, contacts or meetings with Russians during the campaign and transition, which was the request," Lowell said in a statement.

The revelation that Kushner received communication about WikiLeaks prior to the November 2016 election comes several days after Donald Trump Jr., the president's son, confirmed his correspondence with WikiLeaks leading up to the vote.

Genesis Prize co-founder denies report that award to Ruth Bader Ginsburg was 'consolation prize'

(JTA)—The co-founder of the foundation that awards the Genesis Prize, known as

the "Jewish Nobel," denied a report that Ruth Bader Ginsburg was intended to be the award's 2018 laureate but instead was given a lifetime achievement award as "a consolation prize."

Stan Polovets denied the veracity of an article published Friday in Haaretz, which quoted unnamed sources saying that the \$1 million award given last week to actress Natalie Portman was originally going to the Jewish Supreme Court justice.

The foundation then created a new prize, a lifetime achievement award, to give Ginsburg as "a consolation prize," the article said. The awards were announced a week apart.

The unnamed sources gave Haaretz varying reasons for the alleged change of plans, including that Ginsburg had been an outspoken critic of President Donald Trump and that the Supreme Court does not allow justices to accept such monetary awards.

Polovets, who also serves as the Genesis Prize Foundation's chairman and CEO, told JTA on Friday that Ginsburg was never on the final shortlist for the award. She had been among a group of 15 people who were told that they were being considered for the award, so she contacted a women's rights group in Israel to which she was considering giving the money if she were to win. However, the foundation was told by a Supreme Court legal counsel that justices are barred from accepting monetary awards, so Ginsburg was not on the final shortlist, Polovets said.

He denied claims made by Haaretz that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office had been involved in the decision making. The Genesis Prize was established as a partnership between Russian-Jewish philanthropists and the Israeli government.

"The prime minister in the five years of the Genesis Prize has never interfered or injected himself," Polovets said. "He's not even aware of the laureate's name until the press release is issued."

Polovets said the lifetime award was created to honor worthy individuals who could not accept the prize due to work or time limitations.

"This year when we began discussions with Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and it turned out that she would not be able to accept the award, we thought it would be very important to honor her," he said. "We consulted with the first five laureates and came up with idea for the lifetime achievement award, which they unanimously agreed should go to Ruth Bader Ginsburg."

The foundation is considering awarding the lifetime award on a yearly basis, Polovets said.

The Genesis Prize was founded in 2012. Along with Portman, the other laureates are former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, actor Michael Douglas, violinist Itzhak Perlman and sculptor Anish Kapoor.

House passes tax reform that critics warn could politicize houses of worship

(JTA)—The U.S. House of Representatives passed major

tax reform legislation along party lines that critics said effectively repeals an amendment designed to keep houses of worship nonpartisan.

The vote Thursday was 227-205, with 13 House Republicans joining all Democrats to oppose the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Its passage represents the advancement of a key agenda item for President Donald Trump and congressional Republicans, CNN reported.

The Anti-Defamation League said the bill constitutes a repeal of the Johnson Amendment, which bars tax-exempt nonprofits from endorsing or opposing candidates. For decades, the ADL said, the amendment "has protected the integrity of houses of worship and other non-profit organizations by prohibiting them from endorsing or opposing political candidates."

ADL's national director, Jonathan Greenblatt, warned that "undermining the Johnson Amendment's critical protections will politicize the pews and foster inappropriate religious entanglement with politics." ADL "is deeply troubled and disappointed" by the development, the group said in a statement.

Noting that the Senate's current version of the tax bill does not contain a similar repeal, ADL added that the Senate "must be resolute on this issue by taking a stand to keep divisive politics out of our houses of worship."

While the bill's passage in the Republican-controlled House was largely drama free, the prospects for the measure are more unclear in the Senate, where Republicans hold only a two-seat majority, CNN noted.

The House Republican tax plan, released Nov. 2, condenses the current seven tax brackets to three, nearly doubles the standard deduction and caps the amount taxpayers can write off in state taxes at \$10,000. The Senate Republican plan, released Nov. 8, eliminates the state and local tax deduction and keeps the current seven brackets but lowers rates.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to vote its version out of committee on Friday, according to The New York Times, with a full Senate vote expected after Thanksgiving.

Dozens of Jewish nonprofits, charitable organizations and religious institutions last week urged Congress to refrain from passing legislation that compromises the Johnson Amendment.

A letter signed by 55 Jewish groups was sent last week to the chairman and ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

"Charitable nonprofits and houses of worship can only be successful if we maintain public trust in our integrity and commitment to mission," the letter reads. "Politicizing them for the benefit of politicians and partisan donors would destroy that trust. Every charitable dollar spent on partisan campaign politics is one less dollar spent on the public good."

In addition to ADL, groups representing all streams of Judaism except the Orthodox community signed the letter,

as did Jewish community relations councils and the Jewish federations of several cities. The Jewish Federations of North America and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs also signed the letter, as did the American Jewish Committee and B'nai B'rith International.

2 Israelis wounded, one severely, in West Bank car-ramming attack

(JTA)—Two Israelis were

wounded, one seriously, in a West Bank car-ramming attack allegedly by a Palestinian teenager who later was shot.

Even Ezer Holaring, a 35-year-old father of five, suffered a serious head injury Friday in what police are calling a terrorist attack. David Ramati, 70, was moderately wounded in the attack at the Efrat South junction near Jerusalem. Both live in the Kiryat Arba settlement outside Hebron.

The driver—Izz al-Din Ali Abu Rmeishan Karajeh, 17, from the Hebron area—was shot while attempting to stab soldiers near the scene of the initial attack, Army Radio reported.

"The assailant was severely injured and treated at the scene by Israeli forces" before being evacuated along with the victims for further treatment in Jerusalem, an Israeli army spokesman told the Maan news agency.

Holaring immigrated to Israel in 2006 from India and is a member of the Bnei Menashe community.

Jewish family's adopted son accused of scrawling Hitler slur on Chabad preschool

(JTA)—A Florida teenager who was adopted by a Jewish family is accused of trashing a Jewish preschool and scrawling a statement mentioning Hitler.

Michael Dami, 19, is accused of breaking in the Naples Preschool of the Arts, part of the Chabad Jewish Center, on Oct. 18, causing thousands of dollars' worth of damage and writing with a red lipstick on a wall inside: "YOU JEWS NEVER! LEARN!! HEIL HITLER!" NBC-2 reported Friday. Police said he was caught on surveillance video.

"Once inside, it appears that he used a fire extinguisher to start smashing televisions and bookshelves and other equipment," according to Lt. Seth Finman of the Naples Police Department.

Dami struggles with drugs and mental health, his adopted father said.

On Wednesday, detectives arresting Dami on a separate warrant found several credit cards and checks that were stolen from the preschool, according to CNBC. In court the following day, Dami was not allowed to post bond for two of his charges, which are both first-degree felonies.

Police said the State Attorney's Office could increase Dami's charges because the incident could potentially be treated as a hate crime.

British Labour Party re-admits member accused of Holocaust revisionism, bars another

(JTA)—The British Labour Party punished an activist for making an anti-Semitic remark about Adolf Hitler after reinstating a member accused of Holocaust revisionism.

Labour activist Nasreen Khan was passed over this week from representing Labour at a municipal election over her 2012 Facebook post about Jews in which she said teachers are "brainwashing us and our children into thinking the bad guy was Hitler," according to the Jewish News Khan said she regretted the text, which also read, "What have the Jews done good in this world?"

Separately, philosopher Moshe Machover was readmitted after writing that Nazism and Zionism had a "basic agreement."

The developments are the latest in a two-year saga involving anti-Semitism in Labour under Jeremy Corbyn, who was elected party leader in 2015 and this year led his opposition movement to a major electoral feat despite accusations by British Jewish groups that he is responsible for whitewashing and tolerating the hatred of Jews.

Earlier this month Corbyn, who last year said he regretted in 2009 calling Hezbollah and Hamas his "friends," said he was "glad" about the reinstatement of Machover, an Israel-born anti-Zionist Jew who in September published an article alleging that the Nazis had been supporters of Zionism before they began murdering Jews in Europe and the Middle East.

Machover was briefly suspended from Labour over the article, in which he quotes a document by Reinhard Heydrich, an architect of the Holocaust, making "a friendly mention of Zionism, indicating an area of basic agreement it shared with Nazism," as Machover described it.

The Campaign Against Antisemitism accused Machover of Holocaust revisionism for the article, in which the author quoted a 1935 essay by Heydrich saying that the Nazi government "finds itself in complete agreement with the great spiritual movement within Jewry itself, so-called Zionism."

Ken Livingstone, a former mayor of London, was suspended for one year earlier this year from Labour over similar claims.

David Hirsh, a senior lecturer at Goldsmiths, University of London, accused Machover of disingenuously "monstrosity of Jews and of Israel" with the Heydrich quote. Hirsh said this is evident from a passage demonizing Zionism in "Mein Kampf," written by Adolf Hitler.

"There should be no place in democratic Labour politics" for Machover's misrepresentation of history, Hirsh wrote last month.

Corbyn has vowed to kick out members caught making statements that Labour deems to be hateful, and has sanctioned dozens of them. But Labour has not defined what it deems hateful language, ignoring or condoning rhetoric considered racist and offensive by the main representative organs of British Jewry.

French courts punish promoters of anti-Semitic hate speech

(JTA)—Amid vocal protests by leaders of French Jewry on

60,000 joined a Polish nationalist march—should Jews be worried?



Jakob Ratz/Pacific Press/LightRocket via Getty Images

Some of the tens of thousands of nationalists marching through Warsaw, Nov. 11, 2017.

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA)—The sight of far-right activists waving racist banners and shouting anti-Semitic slogans during a nationalist march in the capital of Poland over the weekend shocked many around the world.

It was an understandable reaction to witnessing tens of thousands in Warsaw marching near what used to be the largest Jewish ghetto during the Holocaust amid shouts of “Jews out” and “Remove Jewry from power.”

The march, an annual event that began in 2009 with 500 participants on Poland’s national day, Nov. 11, was not necessarily the largest so far. Similar numbers of marchers showed up last year. But it did showcase the rising strength

of Polish nationalists who are feeling emboldened by the conservative government in Warsaw—and to some extent by the election of Donald Trump as U.S. president.

Despite its size, the Warsaw gathering was neither unusual nor even particularly toxic compared to similar gatherings in other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Similar or worse displays have occurred regularly in other post-communist countries—including in Ukraine earlier this year and annually in the Baltic states—where the far right is far more powerful and violent than in Poland.

In the aftermath of the march, JTA posed five questions on the situation to some of Poland’s leading experts on the issue and a former leader of its Jewish community.

Does Poland have a fascist problem?

Despite their growing visibility, ultranationalist Poles have neither the prominence nor acceptance they seem to enjoy in Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary and Ukraine.

Still, their popularity among young people is seen as a worrisome sign, according to Rafal Pankowski, co-founder of the Polish anti-racism group Never Again, who cited a 2013 survey of high school students showing that 44 percent would rather not have Jewish neighbors and more than 60 percent would not want to have a Jewish boyfriend or girlfriend.

“The sociological data shows us that the younger generation is more prone to xenophobia than that of their parents, which is perhaps the most alarming aspect of the phenomenon,” Pankowski said.

Though there were certainly racists at Saturday’s march, there were also “ordinary people, families who just wanted to do a patriotic act, which to them is just to march with the Polish flag,” said Piotr Kadlcik, the former president of the Union of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland.

And while some shouted offensive slogans about Jews, there were no known anti-Semitic banners on display, nor was there rioting or violence.

“In a way this is scary, too, because it shows the far right have their act together and can demonstrate the discipline of a political movement rather than a bunch of hooligans,” Kadlcik said. “But there was very little intimidation.”

Polish Jews are split on whether anti-Semitism has increased under the conservative Law and Justice party, which rose to power in 2015.

President Andrzej Duda in a post Monday on Twitter wrote: “In our country, there is no room, nor is there consent, to xenophobia, to insane nationalism, there is no room in our country to anti-Semitism.”

Polish Jews agree that racist violence in their country is relatively rare. Only a few dozen anti-Semitic incidents are recorded annually, most of them verbal, though several anti-Semitic statements were made by Polish politicians.

Those are crucial differences, Kadlcik said, between Poland and other countries in the region.

In Hungary, activists from the ultranationalist Jobbik party, the country’s second largest, rally regularly in the thousands and sometimes terrorize Jews, as well as Roma and gays. In Ukraine, synagogues and Jewish cemeteries are routinely targeted and activists for the xenophobic Svoboda party call for chasing “Jews out.”

In Latvia, veterans of the Nazi Waffen SS march every year. In Bulgaria, the Lukov March, named for a Nazi ally, also draws thousand of participants. And in Lithuania, nationalist marches often feature swastikas and other fascist symbols.

“Things are bad, but they’re not as bad as many people think, at least not yet,” Kadlcik said of Poland.

Why is the far right growing in Poland?

Spared the political instability of war-torn Ukraine and the financial crisis gripping Hungary, Polish voters have not displayed the same penchant for raw nationalism as some of their neighbors. Law and Justice is decidedly right wing in that it opposes immigration from the Middle East, seeks to limit access to abortion and increase its control over the media. But the ruling party also has scrapped its plans for asserting greater control over the judiciary and vocally opposes anti-Semitism. It also celebrates rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust.

Pankowski cites a number of factors in explaining the rise of Polish nationalism. As citizens of a key NATO ally with bitter memories of Russian domination, many Poles have been driven to nationalism in response to Russian expansionism under

President Vladimir Putin. The rise of the far right elsewhere in Europe, and the election of Trump, is also “creating a feeling of solidarity,” Pankowski said.

“The U.S. election is an important factor,” said Pankowski, who noted that the official banner of the Warsaw march—“We Want God”—was taken from a Polish poem Trump quoted during his July visit to Poland.

Do Jews have anything to do with it?

Anti-Semitism was neither a central theme of the Polish far right, nor was it very prominent at the Warsaw march, observers said. Most of the focus at Saturday’s rally was Muslim immigration, Pankowski said. Among the banners on display was an anti-Muslim caricature drawn by a Danish cartoonist in 2005 carrying the slogan “Mohammed not welcome.”

Nonetheless, Jonny Daniels, founder of From the Depths, which promotes Holocaust commemoration in Poland, filed a complaint on Monday accusing marchers of incitement to hate and calling on the government to identify and punish them to the full extent of the law. Marchers found guilty could face up to three years in prison.

“Hatred of Jews remains an element of the identity of the far right in Poland even though it has no large Jewish community, and that’s what was on display at the march,” Pankowski said.

What do Polish Jews say?

The issue of anti-Semitism in Poland is a contentious one among its Jews and led to a public row among community leaders in August.

Leslaw Piszewski, president of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland, and Anna Chipczynska, head of the Warsaw Jewish community, sent a letter to Law and Justice leader Jaroslaw Kaczynski saying that Polish Jews are increasingly fearful due to government inaction in the face of rising anti-Semitism.

But Artur Hofman, who runs the country’s largest Jewish cultural organization, TSKZ, dismissed the letter as “stupid” and scheduled a meeting with Kaczynski. Daniels and two Chabad rabbis also attended.

Hofman and the rabbis then accused Piszewski and Chipczynska of exaggerating Poland’s anti-Semitism problem as part of a “political war” against Law and Jus-

tics. Piszewski and Chipczynska dismissed that charge and claimed the accusing groups are not legitimate representatives of Polish Jewry.

Sergiusz Kowalski, a leader of a Polish branch of B’nai B’rith and an ally of Piszewski and Chipczynska, called the four men who met Kaczynski “court Jews.” And Michael Schudrich, the chief rabbi of Poland, said in an interview with the Forward that Daniels “has become a supporter of the ultra-right wing.”

Daniels, a frequent target of the far-right online who has criticized ultranationalism in Poland and Holocaust denial, has denied this, adding his organization is willing to participate in intercultural dialogue with a wide range of partners.

What about Israel?

For the most part, Israel has remained silent about Holocaust revisionism and incidents of anti-Semitism in countries that have friendly ties to the Jewish state. But on Monday, a spokesman for its Foreign Ministry called the Warsaw event “a dangerous march of extreme and racist elements,” and urged Polish authorities to act against the organizers.

Last year, Israel’s ambassador to Poland, Anna Azari, hosted Tadeusz Rydzik, a Catholic priest who runs a radio station that the U.S. State Department has called a main purveyor of anti-Semitism. She defended the move as important outreach even as Never Again, Pankowski’s group, called it a “big mistake.”

Azari did speak out last month against proposed legislation on restitution, arguing its preclusion of claims by distant relatives and non-citizens discriminates against Jews whose families lost property in Poland during or after the Holocaust. An Israeli restitution official told JTA, referring to the proposed law: “First the Nazis seized private property and then the communist authorities of Poland seized it, when most Polish Jews were already dead.”

Ultimately, however, Israel’s attitude seems to be guided by comments Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made in 2013 during the visit by Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski to Jerusalem. Noting the suffering of non-Jewish Poles and Jews under Nazi occupation, Netanyahu observed that “Poland and Israel have to support each other.”

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Cohen

From page 4A

immunize the communists themselves from anti-Semitism. Once the Yevseksiya finished its job of crushing Jewish self-expression, it too was designated as a reactionary manifestation of Jewish separatism and shut down.

Until 1991, when the Soviet Union finally dissolved

following a bitter Cold War of half a century, the seeds planted by the Bolsheviks' Jewish policy continued to bear their bitter fruit. Jews were banned from emigrating, and those who wanted to emigrate to Israel were singled out for special punishment. The anti-Semitic crescendo reached its peak in 1953, with the infamous "Doctors' Plot" of Joseph Stalin's final year; the crescendo

never fully dissipated, with Jews subjected to government quotas in education and jobs. Viciously anti-Semitic propaganda, depicting "Zionists" as hook-nosed bankers, was presented as progressive anti-Zionist solidarity with the oppressed, dispossessed Palestinians. In the grim years of communist leaders like Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov, anti-Zionist Soviet "academicians" be-

came even louder and more outlandish with their conspiracy theories, while the KGB offered generous support to Palestinian terrorists as well as an assortment of German, Japanese, Italian and other armed revolutionary groups.

For anyone over age 20, there will be a Bolshevik centenary to anticipate every year, sometimes more than once. For example, next

year, the centenary of the Yevseksiya's 1918 founding will be an occasion to commiserate on the terrible fate of Soviet Jews under their own regime, many years before millions of them were hunted down by the invading Nazis. The overriding point is, hardly any of these occasions will be an opportunity for celebration. That is a reminder of how scarred the Jewish people were by

the twin Soviet and Nazi experiments in totalitarianism, and why we need to remain vigilant about our liberties in our own troubled century.

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.

Pluralism

From page 5A

Orthodox Jewish expressions. On Monday morning, the JFNA board issued an unusual resolution criticizing Israel for freezing a deal on non-Orthodox prayer at the Western Wall and for its support for a bill that would give Orthodox authorities in Israel a monopoly on religious conversions to Judaism.

Both issues demonstrate to the non-Orthodox establishment that their rabbis and religious practices—strongly connected to egalitarian religious roles for

women and men—have second-class standing in the Jewish state.

But federations are set up to support Israel and inspire donors with its vision as a home for all Jews, not tussle with its leadership. The official program for the convention described what it called "one of the most vexing issues facing Federations today: How do we balance Federations' philanthropic mission with our role as the community's central address when we're increasingly drawn into controversial political issues?"

Pluralism isn't the only such issue—a panel discussion Monday sought to heal internal communal wounds over the bruising Iran nuclear deal fight of a few years back. But it's an issue that not only creates antagonism between the Diaspora and Jerusalem (in his address Monday, Israeli President Reuven Rivlin implored the delegates to have patience with Israel's messy democracy, which gives religious parties an outsized say in religion and state issues) but one that divides Jews here as well: Orthodox Jews are far less likely to care about the

issue, and have made that known.

Federations are much more comfortable, and unifying, when they stick to what they do best: Richard Sandler, chair of the JFNA board of trustees, described that threefold mission as relief for the needy, support for Jewish education and identity, and inspiring a connection to Israel.

You could sense the release when the public sessions turned to inspiration, not division. Delegates were wowed by a "millennial roundtable" featuring three young social entrepreneurs who served up

advice on how to reach their generation.

"If you want to engage millennials," said Rachel Samekh, founder and CEO of Swipe Away Hunger, "you have to be curious about who we are."

There was ecstatic applause for Mohammed Al Samawi, a Muslim advocate for interfaith relations who escaped the civil war in his native Yemen with the help of three young Jewish people he met online.

The convention was roused by a little old-time religion from Rabbi David Wolpe of

this city's Sinai Temple, who warned that too many Jews are "strangers and immigrants to our own tradition. We don't teach our children what made our people our people."

But it was another Los Angeles rabbi who captured the hope and anxiety of this year's G.A.

"You can't build ... Jewish identity with crisis and fear," said Rabbi Ed Feinstein of Valley Beth Shalom. "It's the wrong language."

If nothing else, this year's G.A. was a search for that new language.

Aggression

From page 5A

Hzbollah in his killing. David Daoud wrote that Hariri left Lebanon after meeting with Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign policy adviser of Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, and expressed that Iran was responsible for Lebanon's stability.

In addition to asserting even greater control over Iraq, Yemen, and Lebanon since the nuclear deal was agreed to two years ago, Iran has stepped up its support with the help of Russia and of Bashar al-Assad in Syria. That has included the capture of Aleppo, Syria's largest urban area, late last year.

As time goes on, Iran is

working toward capturing the necessary territory in Syria to establish a land link to the Mediterranean Sea, and be in a position to attack Israel directly.

Iran's destabilizing regional behavior has increased since the agreement on the JCPOA. This is something that President Donald Trump noted in his Oct. 13 speech announcing his administration's new strategy towards Iran:

The nuclear deal threw Iran's dictatorship a political and economic lifeline, providing urgently needed relief from the intense domestic pressure the sanctions had created. It also gave the regime an immediate financial

boost and over \$100 billion dollars its government could use to fund terrorism.

Overall, Trump, unlike his predecessor, understands the need to confront Iran across all of its threats. And while Trump's instincts appear to be sound, his actions, so far have not matched his words.

The capture of Kirkuk came just two days after Trump's speech. The United States did nothing to help the Kurds resulting in "the Iranians laughing off their faces in Tehran while the Kurds are humiliated and defeated," The Israel Project's Senior Fellow Julie Lenarz said when assessing the situation.

The U.S. has done little against Iran since then, though it has backed up both Hariri and Saudi Arabia. Still, that's not enough.

John Hannah, a senior counselor at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, warned this week that Iran is on the verge of establishing a land link to the Mediterranean and if it is successful in doing so, Trump's "Iran strategy will be stillborn, embarrassingly consigned to history's ash heap within a few short months of its unveiling."

Hannah said it won't be easy, and highlighted that it will be necessary for the U.S. to stand behind the Syrian

Democratic Forces—a Kurdish and Arab group—even after the battle with ISIS is over.

Hannah recommends:

If Trump nevertheless decides that Iran's hegemonic designs must be foiled in eastern Syria, he can still do so. With the support of U.S. air power and Special Forces, the SDF remains an extremely capable combat force. Its tens of thousands of Sunni Arab fighters are an especially valuable asset in Sunni-dominated Deir Ezzor. From that vantage, it's entirely within the U.S. coalition's capabilities to decide that they—not the pro-Iranian forces—will seize Abu Kamal and the Syria-

Iraq border from the Islamic State. Washington can assure its SDF partners that it will remain in Syria even after the Islamic State is defeated to assist them in holding strategic terrain and assets that they have liberated—even in the face of intimidation, threats, and attacks from the Syrian regime and its backers.

Iran's hegemonic appetite was whetted by the JCPOA. If Trump chooses, he stands a chance to deny Iran one of the strategic gains it has been working to achieve.

It's not too late to do the right thing. Yet.

David Gerstman is senior editor and policy analyst at The Israel Project.

JTA

From page 13A

the judiciary's handling of anti-Semitic crimes, French courts made a series of tough rulings on inciters to hatred of Jews.

In three separate rulings last week, French judges rejected the appeal of the far-right Holocaust denier Alain Soral against his prison sentence, affirmed the eviction of his associate and career anti-Semite Dieudonne M'bala M'bala from his Paris headquarters and slapped a \$1,700 fine on a teacher who inveighed against Israel and the Jews.

The rulings came amid unprecedented criticism by CRIF, the umbrella group of French Jewish communities, and other French Jewish groups on judicial actions and decision that it said were too soft on anti-Semites, encouraged terrorism or amounted to a cover-up of hate crimes against Jews.

The National Bureau for Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism, which earlier this month heavily criticized the acquittal from murder charges of an accomplice of the killer of four Jews in Toulouse in 2012, applauded the Nov. 9 verdict against Soral, who

in 2012 co-founded the Anti-Zionist Party with Dieudonne, a comedian with multiple convictions for inciting hatred against Jews whom former Prime Minister Manuel Valls called "a professional anti-Semite."

Soral, who also has multiple convictions—including for saying Adolf Hitler "should have finished the job"—was sentenced to three months in jail in March. He also was fined approximately \$16,000. French courts rarely impose heavy fines for hate speech and seldom send individuals found guilty of this offense to prison. Earlier this year, CRIF

and the National Bureau for Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism mounted a vocal protest campaign over the absence of hate crime charges from an initial indictment against Kobili Traore, who confessed to killing his Jewish neighbor, Sarah Halimi. Traore, who reportedly had called Halimi's daughter a "dirty Jew," screamed about Allah and killing Satan while he pummeled Halimi in her Paris apartment in April.

In September, prosecutors included the hate crime charges in a revised indictment that followed intense

lobbying and vocal protests by CRIF, including to President Emmanuel Macron.

The Nov. 8 sentence against Dieudonne comes two years after a lower court ordered him to leave the building that has housed his Main D'Or theater since 2002. The eviction order follows failed safety inspections and a motion to nullify the rental contract for the theater by the owners.

Dieudonne, whom tax authorities say is deliberately insolvent to avoid paying fines for his multiple hate speech convictions, on Nov. 8 also was ordered to pay nearly \$6,000 to anti-racism groups that sued

him for comparing on stage in 2014 the treatment of blacks by Jewish slave owners to how the Nazis treated Jews.

Separately, the Correctional Tribunal of Paris fined a former English teacher at the prestigious Janson-de-Sailly High School some \$1,500 on Nov. 9. Le Parisien reported, over her posting on Facebook last year that "the American Jewish lobby" supports Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and that then-French President Francois Hollande "is a Jew who benefited from his belonging to that community to ascend in politics and who now denies this."

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Harvard honors a professor who helped its Jewish life flourish



Henry Rosovsky is flanked by David Sackstein, left, and Sackstein's father, Robert. The younger Sackstein is a Harvard alumnus and now a first-year student at Harvard Law School who has lunch dates with Rosovsky, his mentor. Robert Sackstein is a doctor who teaches at Harvard Medical School.

By Penny Schwartz

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (JTA)—When Henry Rosovsky first arrived at Harvard University in 1949, a newly minted graduate of the College of William and Mary, the young Jewish refugee could hardly have imagined that a building associated with the Harvard Jewish community would be named in his honor more than four decades later.

Born in 1927 in what is now Gdansk, Poland, Rosovsky had immigrated with his parents to the United States when he was 13. Harvard's quota capping the number of Jewish students was dying out, but the Jews on campus were not exactly out and loud.

"If you go back to the 1950s and 1960s, it was not taken for granted that in the forefront of a university would be a leader so forthright and unapologetically Jewish," said Rabbi Jonah Steinberg, the Harvard chaplain and executive director of its Hillel.

But within the next decade and a half—during which Rosovsky served in the U.S. military, completed

his doctorate and taught at the University of California, Berkeley, returning in 1965 to Harvard as an economics professor—he set in motion a flourishing of Jewish life on campus.

In 1978, Rosovsky shepherded the establishment of the Center for Jewish Studies, which was led for decades by Harry Wolfson, the first chairman of a Judaic studies center at an American college. The first Jew to serve on the board of the Harvard Corp., the school's governing body, Rosovsky was a key player in paving the way for Hillel's move from cramped quarters on the outskirts of campus to a location near the center of student life.

"He didn't set out to trumpet his own Jewish identity," but "by being very honestly who they are, they were an example to others," Steinberg said about Rosovsky and his wife, Nitza, a former long-time curator of the Semitic Museum at Harvard.

In 1993, Harvard Hillel broke ground on Rosovsky Hall, a handsome, light-filled building designed for the Jew-

ish student organization by the renowned Israeli architect Moshe Safdie.

On Wednesday, Harvard Hillel will celebrate a dual milestone—Rosovsky's 90th birthday, on Sept. 1, and the building's upcoming 25th anniversary. Harvard President Drew Gilpin Faust and former presidents Derek Bok and Neil Rudenstine are scheduled to attend. Lawrence Summers, who preceded Faust as Harvard's first Jewish president, will participate via video.

The celebration kicks off a new campaign to secure the future of Rosovsky Hall and Jewish life on campus, according to a statement by the Harvard Hillel.

"Henry Rosovsky has truly been a towering figure at Harvard," Faust said in an email to JTA. "As a student, alumnus, University Professor, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and, twice, as acting president of the University, it's hard to imagine a vantage point from which Henry hasn't seen—and improved—the institution we all love so much."

In an interview with JTA,



Rosovsky Hall is near the Harvard campus.

Rosovsky—whose fields of expertise are economic history, Japanese economic growth and higher education—recalled how Rabbi Ben-Zion Gold, who led Hillel for 30 years beginning in 1958, would often talk about his desire to relocate.

"I asked him, 'Why aren't you happy where you are?'" Rosovsky recalled.

Gold insisted that without being closer to campus, Hillel would never gain vitality and influence.

With Rosovsky's support, Hillel moved in 1979 to a new location on Mount Auburn Street, a block south of the main campus.

"He was absolutely right. I was wrong. It's made a tremendous difference in terms of activity, usage and influence," Rosovsky told JTA.

Hillel moved again, a block away, to the 19,500-square-foot Safdie building, which was dedicated in 1994. It consists of three vaulted wings surrounding a circular courtyard. The courtyard is open to the street and is designed to accommodate a sukkah.

As the building would include Orthodox, Conservative and Reform services, Safdie told JTA that he designed the

glass-walled prayer spaces to be open to each other.

"Praying east, they can see each other," he said in a phone conversation. "They might be in separate halls, but symbolically they are one."

It's a potent symbol that resonates with Elena Hoffenberg, a 2016 alumna and former Hillel student leader. Sitting in the student lounge, it's possible to see all three worship services at the same time.

"It's a beautiful way the building exemplifies Hillel's commitment to pluralism," said Hoffenberg, who now works for the Boston-based Jewish Women's Archive. "After graduation, it's harder to find such a thing."

In his decades-long Harvard career, Rosovsky served as dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and several brief appointments as acting president in the 1980s.

Rosovsky's influence is evident beyond Jewish studies, according to Steinberg and Jonathan Sarna, a professor of American Jewish history at Brandeis University. Both pointed to his leadership in recruiting Henry Louis Gates Jr in 1991 to lead what is now Harvard's Department of African and African American Studies.

In 1986, on the occasion of Harvard's 350th anniversary, Nitza Rosovsky wrote "The Jewish Experience at Harvard and Radcliffe," a catalog that accompanied an exhibit at the museum. It traces Jewish presence on campus dating back to Judah Monis, who in the 1720s became the first Jew and first Jewish instructor of Hebrew at the college. At the time, Harvard required its instructors to be Christian; Monis converted to Christianity in a public ceremony.

The catalog also notes the formation of the Menorah Society, the Jewish student group that was a precursor to Hillel.

It's a history that includes a well-known period of discrimination in the 1920s, when Harvard used the quota system to restrict admissions for Jewish students. But Rosovsky puts that in historical perspective and points out that Harvard was not alone among higher education institutions in imposing the quota. According to Hillel

International, Harvard currently has 803 Jewish students among 4,326 undergrads, nearly 20 percent, and more than two-thirds of its 4,326 graduate students are Jewish.

Steinberg said the Harvard Hillel is sponsoring a new printing of the catalog. A timeline of Jewish life on the campus based on the catalog has been created for the anniversary event with updated material gathered by Hoffenberg, who worked with Nitza Rosovsky and dug deep into the Harvard archives to find posters and other archival records of Harvard Hillel.

On a walk around Harvard Yard, Hoffenberg pointed out a large linden tree planted in 1990 in honor of Harvard's German Refugee Scholars who had come to the campus as part of the college's program to aid German students during the Nazi era.

On Friday night, hundreds of freshmen and their parents mingled in Rosovsky Hall for the freshmen family Shabbat gathering. Following the three separate religious services, students and guests shared a meal in the kosher dining hall, with an overflow crowd seated at tables in the student lounge.

Among those at the gathering was David Sackstein, a 2014 Harvard graduate who is now at the university's law school. Sackstein has developed a close relationship with Rosovsky, who he fondly calls his "Harvard zayde," or grandfather.

As an active member of the Harvard Hillel's board of directors, Rosovsky has provided Hillel student leaders perspective on an array of issues that at times can be controversial, Sackstein told JTA, including navigating the often contentious Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Rosovsky taught him and others to focus on their mission and values.

Rosovsky Hall reflects its namesake, Sackstein said, as an embassy for the Jewish community at Harvard, open to a diverse cross-section of Jewish students and faculty. "To have that space," he said, "the dining hall that is open to all, and to have programs that are far reaching means that we have cross-cultural dialogue and educational opportunities in everything we do"

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