

# HERITAGE

## FLORIDA JEWISH NEWS

Editorials.....	4A
Op-Ed .....	5A
Calendar .....	6A
Scene Around .....	9A
Synagogue Directory .....	11A
JTA News Briefs.....	13A

WWW.HERITAGEFL.COM

YEAR 43, NO. 02

SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

5 TISHREI, 5778

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

SINGLE COPY 75¢



Israel children from the Gaza border region enjoy games, face-painting and balloon animals at a crisis-relief event in Jerusalem.

## Kids get a 'time out' from the unrest near Gaza

By Rachel Kontorovich

(JNS)—For five months now, since March 2018, Israeli communities bordering Gaza have sustained ongoing terrorism and arson from hundreds of rockets and incendiary devices, causing constant stress and chaos for the 50,000 people who call this region home. Residential and commercial damage, along with some 10,000 acres of land, including forests and agricultural plots, have been destroyed.

Just as the worst seemed to be over, this month more than 200 rockets struck

the Eshkol and Sha'ar HaNegev Regional Councils—a vast area sharing 37 miles of border with the Gaza Strip, also known as the “Gaza Envelope.” There was no mistaking that families and children were being targeted, as rockets landed within feet of the new JNF playground in Sderot, an Israeli town located less than a mile from Gaza that has been in the crosshairs for decades.

Jews from around the world have been sending prayers and thoughts to the families living amid the terror. But for Jewish National Fund-USA, the escalation of violence prompted a call to action.

“What can we do for these kids, right now?” asked JNF CEO Russell F. Robinson. In the span of a few hours, JNF took action by declaring a Yom Kef, or “day of fun,” for children in the Gaza-area communities.

Except that wasn't enough. JNF decided to turn one day of fun into two weeks, providing a much-needed respite for these kids—a chance just have fun, as all children should during their summer vacation.

Mobilizing its network of partners

Kids on page 15A

## Reform congregation wins landmark legal battle to build synagogue

Recently, JTA reported that a Reform congregation won a legal battle to build a synagogue building in the central Israeli city of Hod Hasharon, a wealthy city located several miles north of Tel Aviv. Former Orlando resident Lori Stein Erlich and her Israeli husband, Moshe

Erlich, are members of this congregation.

Back in 2014, the Erlichs visited the Heritage office to share their vision of having a building for their Reform/Conservative congregation, Kehilat Yonatan (see the article titled “They have come—it's time to build” in the Sept. 26, 2014 issue of Heritage). The couple was in town visiting Lori's parents, Arnold and Nira Stein. The trip wasn't meant to become a fund raising campaign. However, after talking with Rabbi Steven Engel, they decided to share their community's need for a building.

After four years, the Lod District Court ordered the municipality of Hod Hasharon to halt delays on the project and to allow the synagogue to build on the parcel of land initially allocate to it in 2013 after repeated requests for a parcel of land on which to build the synagogue and education center.

“The Court ruled in our favour! The Judge (an Orthodox Jew himself) criticized the mayor and the town council. In his ruling he stated: ‘I am saddened by the behavior of



Members of Kehilat Yonatan celebrating Simcha Torah last year.

the town's representatives, including that of the mayor, who tried to avoid fulfilling their duty, primarily that of behaving decently,” stated a congregant on Kehilat Yonatan's website.

The court also ordered the municipality to pay about \$8,500 in legal fees to the synagogue.

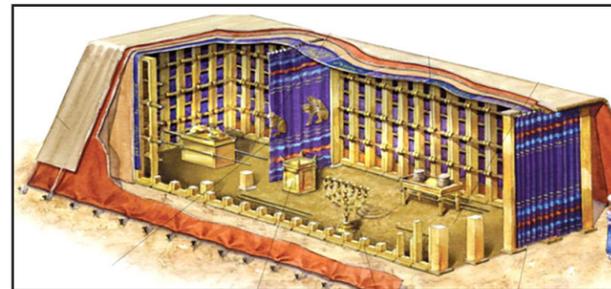
Kehilat Yonatan was founded in 2001 as an independent Progressive congregation. It is named after the son of its spiritual leader, Rabbi Michael Boyden, who moved with his family to Israel from England

in 1985. Israel Defense Forces paratrooper Yonatan Boyden was killed in 1993 in southern Lebanon.

The congregation was represented by the Israel Religious Action Center, the Israel advocacy arm of the Reform movement. It alleged that the project had been subjected to excessive red tape because it involved the Reform movement, according to Haaretz. It first submitted a request for land for a synagogue building 15 years ago.

Reform on page 14A

## Sukkot—a feast for all people



A depiction of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness.

By Christine DeSouza

More than 40 years ago a small group of Christians, under the leadership of Pastor Ken Garrison, chose to step away from traditional Baptist practices and began to learn about the biblical feasts found in Leviticus, and to be a support to Israel by following the calling to comfort His people.

Over the years, Fellowship Church in Winter Springs, has led Passover seders to teach fellow Christians about how Christian beliefs tie into the celebration that the Jewish people have observed for more than 2,000 years. Church members, now under the leadership of Pastor Roger Diaz, observe Shabbat and hold services on Friday nights as well as on Sunday—the first day of the week.

There are sprinklings of churches across the country that observe the festivals

in part, coming away from staunch Christian traditions. Organizations such as Christians United for Israel and the International Christian Embassy, Jerusalem have enlightened Christians about the importance of supporting Israel; and at Sukkot, millions of Christians flood Jerusalem to celebrate the feast.

This year, Fellowship Church will present the Feast of Tabernacles in a unique way in order to teach Christians the significance of Sukkot. The church members will erect a nearly-full-sized model of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness. Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 25, and running through Saturday, Sept. 29, tours of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness will be led by two men of the congregation dressed as Aaron the high priest. Elder Larry Dorcic,

Sukkot on page 14A

## No deal with Israel? No Palestinian aid

By World Israel News

On Thursday, U.S. President Donald Trump told Jewish leaders that the Palestinians would not receive any more aid from the U.S., unless they made a deal with Israel.

Trump made the remarks during a conference call placed in anticipation of the Jewish New Year in which the president communicated with a number of American Jewish leaders.

Trump's remarks arrive on the heels of his administration's decision to cut funds both to the Palestinians' dedicated UN agency, UNRWA, and direct aid to the Palestinians. To that end, Trump noted during the conference call that the funding would only be reinstated if the Palestinians reach an agreement with the Jewish state.

“What I will tell you is I stopped massive amounts of money that we were paying to the Palestinians and the Palestinian leaders,” Trump said in a recording of the call aired by Israel's Channel 10.

“The United States was paying them tremendous amounts of money. And I say, ‘You'll get money, but we're not paying until you make a deal. If you don't make a deal,

we're not paying,” Trump explained in the recording.

In response to a question posed by legal expert and Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz, Trump responded, “I don't think it's disrespectful at all” to use aid as a tool to incentivize the Palestinians to negotiate. “I think it's disrespectful when people don't come to the table,” he added, according to a transcript published by Jewish Insider.

When Dershowitz asked if the Jewish community should feel “optimistic that [Trump] could help bring about a peaceful resolution to the conflict that we all pray for all the time,” Trump replied, “I think the answer to that is a very strong yes. I really do believe we are going to make a deal. I hope so. It would be a great thing to do.”

On a personal note, Trump added, “I am a very proud father of a Jewish daughter, Ivanka,” in addition to referring to the call's host, his son-in-law Jared Kushner, a senior adviser.



## A weekend of Israel and leadership for teens at Emory University

The Atlanta-based Center for Israel Education and the Emory Institute for the Study of Modern Israel invite Jewish 10th- and 11th-graders to apply to attend the Teen Israel Leadership Institute during the weekend of Oct. 26 to 28.

The institute will feature a series of learning activities to expand students' knowledge and understanding of Israel and Zionism while they experience Jewish life on a college campus (Emory University) and forge friendships with peers from across the country.

The inaugural Teen Israel Leadership Institute was held in April and drew 24 Jewish teens from nine states plus Israel. The students learned about Israeli history, politics, innovation and culture, the Israeli-Arab conflict, and Zionism. They participated in Shabbat services and had Friday dinner at the Emory Hillel house. They visited the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. They discussed what Israel means to them and had a "Chopped"-style food competition with hummus.

Aliza Reinstein, 17, of Potomac, Md., now a senior at Wootton High School, said the hummus competition was her favorite part of a

weekend that enriched her understanding of modern Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"Hearing from both sides and different perspectives was one of the best things I got out of the program," she said, praising the impartial presentations and adding that the civil rights center provided an "overall human perspective."

Perhaps most important, the institute showed students how to apply their knowledge to the benefit of their home communities. The teens at the October retreat will work on educational projects they can bring back to their schools, synagogues or other organizations.

The cost of \$100 for the three-day program includes double-occupancy lodging and kosher food. Travel subsidies of up to \$200 are available.

The institute is part of a year-old, national CIE initiative to provide more impactful education on Israel to Jewish teens. Leading the program are CIE President and ISMI Director Ken Stein, who has taught the modern Middle East at Emory since 1977; CIE Vice President Rich Walter, a former director of Hebrew high schools in New



Participants in the Teen Israel Leadership Institute held last April.

Haven, Connecticut, and Providence, Rhode Island, who was the New England regional director of March of the Living for a decade; and Steve Kerbel, an educational consultant in the Washington area who spent 14 years as a synagogue education director.

Partners in the institute

include Emory Hillel and the North American Association of Community & Congregational Hebrew High Schools. A grant from the Legacy Heritage Fund is supporting the program.

The deadline to apply for the institute is Oct. 1. Each applicant must describe a proposed Israel learning

project—a course, a teen program for Yom HaAtzmaut, a film series, a website—and include a letter of support from a rabbi, an educator or another person who can explain why the student would be a good fit for the program.

More information and the online application can be found at [israeled.org/teens](http://israeled.org/teens).

"Everyone should apply," Aliza said. "I got so many awesome experiences out of it. It was amazing."

Find more comments from institute participants and their parents at [israeled.org/educators/youth-and-teen-israel-enrichment-programs/youth-program-comments](http://israeled.org/educators/youth-and-teen-israel-enrichment-programs/youth-program-comments).

## Jewish Pavilion provides pet therapy for residents



Oakmonte Village resident with a therapy dog.

Pet therapy is a widely used practice that helps a person overcome physical and mental challenges. Bonding with an animal can reduce blood pressure and release endorphins that calm, decrease stress, alleviate pain and improve one's overall psychological state.

The Jewish Pavilion provides opportunities for the residents living at Oakmonte Village to interact with small animals brought from Pet Rescue by Judy. Each month on the third Tuesday, Cheryl Zambrano, along with her helpers, Carol and Jackie, bring several dogs and cats to brighten up the day and bring smiles to the faces. The positive health benefits, as well as the pure joy from holding or petting a dog or cat, is obvious as we watch our seniors interacting with Judy's pets.

— Susan Bernstein, program director

## Temple Israel's Sisterhood & Sharsheret: Empowering Jewish Women

As part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, Temple Israel will be having a special Shabbat service, "Sisterhood & Sharsheret: Empowering Jewish Women," on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 9:30 a.m. in the Rein Sanctuary.

According to its mission statement, "Sharsheret is a national not-for-profit organization supporting young Jewish women and their families facing breast cancer. Our mission is to offer a community of support to women, of all Jewish backgrounds, diagnosed with breast cancer or at increased genetic risk, by fostering culturally-relevant individualized connections with networks of peers, health professionals, and related resources."

The special service will feature guest speaker and survivor Geanne Share. Temple Israel's Sisterhood will be donating proceeds to Sharsheret from the sales of an original "Pink Shabbat" T-shirt, which can be purchased for \$10 online at [www.tiflora.org/pink-shabbat-t-shirts/](http://www.tiflora.org/pink-shabbat-t-shirts/) or by calling 407-647-3055.

Shirts can be picked up



Léa Ahlers

Survivor Geanne Share, Temple Israel congregant and volunteer Comptroller.

at the Temple Israel office, 50 S. Moss Road in Winter Springs, from Wednesday, Oct. 3 to Friday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temple Israel hopes the greater community will

come together for this special Shabbat and show support by wearing the shirts at the service. More information on Sharsheret is available at [www.sharsheret.org](http://www.sharsheret.org).

## Holocaust Center hosts panel discussion on hatred and extremism

The Atlantic Institute and the Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center of Florida are partnering on a program titled "Responding to Hatred and Extremism: Solutions from Faith Traditions." This event will be held Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. at

the Holocaust Center at 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, Fla..

Through this panel, the Center aims to respond to hatred and extremism by examining solutions used through the different faith traditions. We hope to pro-

vide education to those who may be unfamiliar with these faiths and set an example of coexistence. Through this, we can break down the barriers that exist between us and build a better, more harmonious community together.

when "I DO" becomes  
"I'M DONE."

**MARK LANG & ASSOCIATES**

Divorce & Family Law | [LANGLAW.NET](http://LANGLAW.NET) | Offices: Winter Park

# Neil Simon, Broadway's giant of bickering, wise-cracking couples, dies at 91



Joseph Del Valle/NBC/NBCU Photo Bank via Getty Images

**Neil Simon on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson," June 26, 1980.**

**By JTA**

(JTA)—Playwright Neil Simon, known for such Broadway hits as "The Odd Couple," "Barefoot in the Park" and "Lost in Yonkers," has died.

Simon, who earned a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award, died Saturday, Aug. 26, at New York-Presbyterian Hospital in

New York City from complications with pneumonia at the age of 91.

No writer of non-musical comedies was more successful in the second half of the 20th century, and no one else so frequently, successfully nor wittily, plumbed the anxieties of middle-class American Jews and the family

issues that plagued them. The themes of his plays include romance, adultery, divorce, sibling rivalry, cancer and fear of aging—but with a knack for one-liners that kept audiences laughing through the pain.

Simon began his career in television, on the writing staff for Sid Caesar for "Your Show of Shows," working with future Jewish comedy legends Mel Brooks, Carl Reiner and Larry Gelbart. He later wrote for "The Phil Silvers Show."

In 1961, his first play, "Come Blow Your Horn," hit Broadway. It was a modest success, but was the start of something big. "The Odd Couple" would have a wildly successful run, would be adapted into a smash movie with Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon in the roles of a slovenly sportswriter and his fastidious roommate, and inspire a sitcom that ran for years on ABC. In 1966 he had four plays running on Broadway at the same time.

During his career he wrote more than 30 plays and about the same amount of movie screenplays, some original and most adaptations of his plays. "The Goodbye Girl" won an Academy Award for Richard Dreyfuss, playing the role of an incorrigible actor; "The Heartbreak Kid," starring Charles Grodin and Cybill Shepherd and directed by Elaine May, has been described as a worthy successor to Hollywood's classic screwball comedies and a disparaging, overly stereotypical portrayal of marital discord among suburban Jews.

"The Sunshine Boys" (1976), about another pair of bickering frenemies, earned an Oscar for the then-elderly George Burns, playing one half of a legendary, estranged and fatally dysfunctional vaudeville duo.

Simon gained additional fame in the 1980s with his semi-autobiographical trilogy—"Brighton Beach Memoirs" (1983), "Biloxi Blues" (1985), and "Broadway

Bound" (1986)—which critics agreed brought gravitas and fresh life to a career that had begun to flag after the huge hits of the '60s and '70s.

In 1991 he won both the Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize for "Lost in Yonkers," another autobiographical comedy.

Simon was born in New York to Irving Simon, a garment salesman, and Mamie (Levy) Simon, a homemaker. His parents had what he described as a "tempestuous marriage," in which his father left the family at least eight times. Simon said he took refuge in movie theaters to escape his troubles at home. Those troubles also inspired him to become a writer, which he said helped him to become independent of emotional family issues.

An interviewer once asked Simon what effect his being Jewish had on his humor. "That's a tough question," Simon replied. "Humor is a way of expressing your protest and being able to laugh,

too. What Jews do is laugh at their predicament, and it's what blacks do, too. I do my funniest writing when I'm in a predicament. If a play is out of town and needs work, I'll do my best work. When I'm in an elevator that's stuck, I can keep everyone laughing. The other thing about Jewish humor—I don't know if it was always this way; I don't know if the Jews in Egypt were making jokes about Pharaoh—is that it takes a great deal of intelligence. It takes an adventurous mind."

He and his older brother, Danny Simon, in addition to cranking out sketches for comedians like Caesar, Jerry Lewis and Jackie Gleason, wrote summer revues for the Tamiment resort located in the Pocono Mountains.

He was married five times: to dancer Joan Baim, who died of cancer (1953–1973), actress Marsha Mason (1973–1983), twice to actress Diane Lander (1987–1988 and 1990–1998), and to actress Elaine Joyce (1999–2018).

## Princeton Lyman, Jewish diplomat who helped plan Operation Moses, dies at 82

**By Ron Kampeas**

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Princeton Lyman, the Jewish American diplomat who played a critical role in organizing Operation Moses, the stunning 1984 airlift of Ethiopian Jews, has died at 82.

Lyman died Friday at his home in the Washington suburb of Silver Spring, Maryland, the Washington Post reported. He died of lung cancer.

The Post obituary celebrated the role of Lyman in helping to midwife the transition in South Africa from apartheid to democracy in the early 1990s when he was the U.S. ambassador to the country. Lyman had the trust of F. W. DeKlerk, the last apartheid president of the country, and Nelson Mandela, who led the African National Congress.

But he also played a critical behind-the-scenes role a decade earlier, when he was deputy assistant secretary of state for Africa, in organizing the airlift from Sudan to Israel of thousands of Ethiopian Jews who had fled their famine-ravished country only to face indifference and starvation in Sudan.

In a 1999 oral history for the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training, Lyman said he was one of only two U.S. diplomats who was fully apprised of the operation, in-

volving secret flights from Sudan to Israel. He helped coordinate logistics between Israel and Sudan, which did not have diplomatic relations, and strove to keep at bay Ethiopian Jewry advocacy groups in the United States who were scrambling for information, as well as the media.

"We had to keep the press quiet," he said in 1999. "The Boston Globe, the Washington Post, the New York Times, The Wall Street Journal all had the story. Peter Jennings at ABC had the story. I had to go to every single one of them to beg them to sit on the story. I told them that if the operation were to go public, the Ethiopians would be in serious danger. I must say that every one of the media outlets suppressed the information they had; I don't think that today that would be possible."

It was an Israeli official, Arieh Dulzin, the chairman of the Jewish Agency, who revealed the operation at a press conference, and it was Israeli media that made it public.

"Unfortunately, the Israeli media was not so disciplined" as the U.S. media, Lyman said. Once the word was out in Israel, a Washington Jewish newspaper reported the story—ignoring Lyman's pleas—and the U.S. media felt free to publish. Sudan suspended the operation

after 9,000 Jews had arrived, leaving 500 stranded. Vice President George H.W. Bush then got involved.

Bush "went to Khartoum to see [Sudanese President Gaafar] Nimeiri and to tell him that we wanted the last few hundred Ethiopians taken out," Lyman said. "Nimeiri agreed, but it too was to be a secret operation. So American C-130s were to fly from Europe to the Sudan, take them on board, fly them up through the Red Sea, avoiding Egyptian radar, and deliver them to Israel. That was done. It was a magnificent operation which I monitored from the Pentagon 'war room' listening to the radio broadcasts as the planes landed and took off."

In a 2007 account of the rescue, "Blacks, Jews and Other Heroes," Howard Lenhoff said other U.S. officials eagerly seized credit for the operation. "Lyman remained silent," Lenhoff reported. "Always the consummate professional, Princeton Lyman is an unsung hero of the Ethiopian Jews."

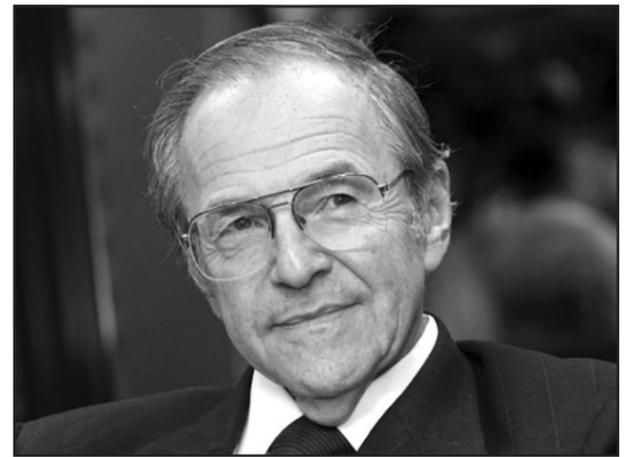
Lyman was born in 1935 to immigrant Jewish parents from Lithuania. Asked to explain his unusual first name, he explained in 1999 that he had brothers named Yale, Harvard and Stanford.

"I guess it was an extraordinary example of immigrant

parents determined that their children would go to universities," he said. "Of course, being very practical, we all ended up in the University of California, not the expensive schools we were named after."

He added: "My brother Elliott, who was the only son not named for a university, indeed did not go to college."

Lyman was married for 50 years to the former Helen Ermann, who died in 2008. He is survived by his second wife, Lois Hobson, and three daughters, Tova Brinn of Israel, and Sheri Laigle and Lori Bruun, both of Maryland.



Princeton Lyman



## HERITAGE offers The Financial Issue

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

**Publication Date: November 2, 2018**

**Deadline: October 24, 2018**

**For information — Call 407-834-8787**

## One dead, 17 sick from salmonella in Empire Kosher chicken

Salmonella in Empire Kosher chicken has led to one death and 17 illnesses, the Centers for Disease Control said. Eight people have been hospitalized.

The outbreak of the food-borne infection in the leading kosher chicken seller has shown up in Maryland, New York,

Pennsylvania and Virginia, according to a CDC notice Wednesday afternoon. The death occurred in New York.

JTA has reached out to Empire Kosher and to the CDC for comment.

The CDC began investigating after the New York state Department of Health re-

ported that several people who were sick said they had eaten kosher chicken. The illnesses began as early as September 2017; the most recent reported one was in June.

The CDC notice said that "some kosher chicken products are contaminated with Salmonella."



# The Good Word

By David Bornstein

## The empty nest

Eighteen and a half years ago, when our third and last child was born, I remember thinking, "I'm going to be 62 when he goes to college. That's so old!" Now that time has come, as has Rosh Hashanah, a new year, a pause, a moment to look back and evaluate who we are and where we've been. Our youngest child has left the nest for college, and we new empty nesters are moving into the inevitable next phase of life, not the last phase but a very different one, an older one, one that has long been expected and in many ways, dreaded. Nearly three decades of child rearing have come to an end. And I, for one, am sad to see them go.

Now for all those out there who are itching to say, "Wait a minute. Being an empty nester is great! You'll adjust. It gets better

and better," I'm asking you to swallow your placating, soothing remarks. They won't work. I've loved having our youngest around. The house feels big and empty without his up and down the stairs, his trumpet, his laughter shared with friends, and while I know there's no way around this hole, I'm allowing myself the time to mourn and look back on what has been the greatest adventure of my life: parenting. And our baby is off on a great adventure of his own: four years at a great university in a great college town.

I have no real concerns for him other than the standard "away from home for the first time." He's like many a special child: bright, mature, centered, and for those of you who know him, you know I speak the truth. My

## Who failed the Farrakhan test?

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS)—A demonstration last month in Washington consisting of two-dozen right-wing extremists set the world on its head. The event on the anniversary of last year's Charlottesville rally by neo-Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan was a pathetic flop, but it still generated massive coverage from the mainstream media. Many pundits, especially those from the Jewish community, urged us not to be deceived by the proof of their insignificance. After a year-and-a-half of touting the notion that the radical right was gaining influence, nothing could be allowed to distract from the narrative that these extremists posed a genuine threat to the American Jewish community.

But many of the same people barely noticed when one of the country's leading anti-Semites was on stage at the nationally televised funeral service for music legend Aretha Franklin.

The honoring of the Nation of Islam's Louis Farrakhan in this fashion generated virtually no coverage in the mainstream media. The fact that a man who leads an extremist hate group with a mass following—and who has spewed hate against Jews throughout his career—sat on the stage as cameras rolled largely escaped notice on the networks that either broadcast the service/concert or played excerpts later. Nor was there much commentary about why former President Bill Clinton thought there was nothing wrong with sharing the stage and shaking hands with Farrakhan, who was seated alongside Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, two prominent political activists with their own histories of anti-Jewish incitement.

Many loved Franklin, and the event served as a feast for music lovers of a variety of genres. But the fact that few thought it odd or inappropriate for Farrakhan to be there next to music stars and political luminaries was more than just a misjudgment by the organizers and a bizarre faux pas on the part of President Clinton. It illustrates the double standards about anti-Semitism in this country, as well as the foolish complacency about certain kinds of Jew-hatred by those who sound the alarm about far more insignificant threats because their partisan loyalties blinds them to other problems.

The torchlight parade of right-wing extremists in Charlottesville chanting anti-Semitic slogans last year deeply frightened Jews and seemed straight out of our nightmares from the Nazi past. But as deplorable as that event, which led to the death of a counter-demonstrator, wound up being, it was still a mistake to treat the extremists as if they were a mass movement that represented a significant trend in American politics or culture. President Trump erred greatly with his ambivalent reaction when he conflated those who opposed the removal of Confederate statues with Nazis. But the idea that their views had any influence in his administration or that we are living in the moral equivalent of the last days of the Weimar Republic was an absurd and profoundly mistaken analysis of events.

Yet while so many Jews, as well as much of the mainstream media, are straining to connect the dots between Trump and hate-mongers that have no real connection, open Jew-hatred from another far more popular and potent source doesn't seem to bother the same people very much.

Unlike the Nazis and the Klan, Farrakhan's Nation of Islam is not an isolated or tiny band of nutcases. It has a mass following in the African-American community that, when you count his many sympathizers, may number in the hundreds of thousands.

Moreover, as the Franklin funeral demonstrated, Farrakhan's fans are not—as is the case with the alt-right—isolated. Their leader is feted and applauded by members of Congress, the leaders of the anti-Trump resistance Women's March group and other sectors of society, and treated as a celebrity by many in the arts. A documentary about Farrakhan that was made by his son and which celebrated him as an amateur musician included appearances by many prominent musicians, including Chaka Khan and Stevie Wonder, both of whom sang at the service for Franklin.

When a man who speaks about the "synagogue of satan" and who routinely spews hate against Jews is treated as not merely a celebrity but one worthy of honor, there is something seriously wrong about American society.

Tobin on page 15A

concerns, shallowly and selfishly, are for myself. I am in the position many housewives have found themselves in over the years—raising the kids and then suddenly finding that responsibility, that purpose, gone. I work out of our house, and my wife (who works full time in an office) has wondered if I'm semi-retired (to which I've said no). I have been the point person for our kids. I've made the lunches, scheduled the doctor appointments, and made sure life proceeded as it should. That is past, and a future with more free time, less kid management, looms ahead.

I'm pretty good at filling that time with personal interests—writing, music, working out, but nothing, I've realized, is as satisfying as a smile from my boy. And what I've also realized is this: life isn't a circle. There's nothing neat and tidy about it, with the ends meeting and completing in a perfect shiny gold ring. If anything, life is more like a double helix, a twisting ladder spiraling upward as it narrows and expands, changing and forcing us to deal more with goodbyes than hellos, more with letting go than holding onto, more with coming to grips with the hard fact that the more we love the more we undoubtedly hurt. And that's the rub.

We're born crying and isolated into a strange world, separated from a mother's heartbeat, trying to figure out how to manage this solitary shell, and if we're lucky we find ourselves in a nurturing family surrounded by love. And our world expands. But one by

one we leave and are alone and on our own until we find someone to share our lives. We grow our own family, increasing in numbers and love, until our children take flight and we are reduced once again. If we're lucky there will be other phases—grandchildren, second careers, a child who moves nearby. And maybe we even start to enjoy that empty nest. And maybe we don't. I think most of us never completely do.

He's only called home once (at our insistence) and that's a good sign. And he's already making friends, learning the town, settling into classes, a new life, a new sense of excitement and discovery. And I am looking ahead to a new year, trying to figure out what comes next even as I realize I can't possibly know or predict what that will be. And that, my friends, is really what life is all about, isn't it? Not beginnings or endings but changes. Not the tidy package we're told about, but a messy, sloppy pile of heartbreak and love, inextricably linked, inexplicably thrown our way one day and taken away the next. It's about what we feel, how we heal, and how we deal with and reconcile ourselves to that next surprising phase.

May the coming New Year be one of deep feeling, healing, and above all, love in all its mysterious forms for you and your ever-expanding, ever contracting world.

And that's the good word.

Feel free to pass your thoughts and comments on to the Heritage or email me at dsb328@gmail.com.

## Kol Nidre and Jabotinsky: The season for Jewish unity

By Moshe Phillips and Joshua Goldstein

It can be claimed that no single day in the Jewish liturgical calendar is clearly meant to showcase the unity of the Jewish People than Yom Kippur. And during Yom Kippur no single service symbolizes that unity more than the famous Kol Nidre. A short declaration made with a call that we all stand together is made near the start of the service:

"By the authority of the Court on High and by authority of the court down here, by the permission of One Who Is Everywhere and by the permission of this congregation, we hold it lawful to pray with sinners."

So, all Jews, regardless of the religiosity and regardless of their mistakes are all to stand together, in prayer together, as one united congregation at Kol Nidre.

And if that is not clearly a goal of the day than why are so many of the pronouns used in the liturgy in the plural? "We" and "Our" including the well-known, and beloved, Avinu, Malkenu (Our Father, Our King) prayer. We are each praying for ourselves and for each other: for all Jews, everywhere in the world.

Also on Kol Nidre night we plead: "May all the people of Israel be forgiven, including all the strangers who live in their midst..."

We in Herut North America, as part of the Herut World Movement, conduct a "Jewish Unity Challenge" that comes to mind again as we celebrate the High Holidays. This "Challenge" is a personal call to all Jews, including you, to start reaching out across the aisle—to create one united Jewish people. Just because Jews come from many different backgrounds and hold different beliefs, doesn't mean that we cannot show love and respect for one another.

Our diverse types, colors, and traditions should be seen as a strength for all of us, rather than foster exclusivity, elitism, selectiveness and even superiority.

Ahavat Yisrael—the unconditional love of our fellow Jews—should not be seen as some unattainable dream. In our time, we can make it a reality. We should not have to rely on the threat of anti-Semitism and impending dangers affecting Israel as the only things.

The lack of love and unity was considered by the ancient Jewish sages of the era of the Mishnah to be the root cause of the destruction of the Second Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple that we plead with G-d to allow us to rebuild throughout the High Holidays. If we can re-introduce ourselves and start the process of accepting one another, in the spirit of Ahavat Yisrael, we can again grow as individuals—and as a collective nation.

The Jewish Unity Challenge is designed to spark a conversation between the diverse types of Jews, so that we can achieve greater things for the State of Israel and the Jewish People.

It is time to put aside differences that we may have with other Jews, and focus on the

wonderful, time-honored things that unite us as Jews. This is your individual challenge. And this is our collective challenge as a community.

What we are talking about is simple, yet we call it a challenge because it is not so easy. When it comes down to it, many of us have a knee-jerk reaction to leaving our comfort zone. It is time to look at the bigger picture, to let go a little, and to reach across the table.

The High Holidays force us to re-examine our biases and to change our thinking.

The Herut World Movement is dedicated to the values of Ze'ev Jabotinsky (1880-1940), who was a key leader of world Zionism before World War Two; he was a mentor of Menachem Begin, and a champion of Jewish unity. And in Jabotinsky's honor, we conduct this campaign.

Let us discuss what we believe may be best for Israel and the Jewish People. Let us argue, but as we discuss these opinions and we must remember that all Jews are responsible one for another—no matter our backgrounds, beliefs, colors, etc.

Late last year we marked the 30th anniversary Freedom Sunday for Soviet Jews. That Dec. 6, 1987 rally saw more than a quarter million American Jews unite on the National Mall in Washington, to stand up for Soviet Jews at what was the single largest gathering of Jews in U.S. history.

In decades past U.S. Jews instinctively knew that High Holiday period was the time to concentrate on Jewish unity.

On Oct. 6, 1943, three days before Yom Kippur, 400 rabbis marched in Washington, D.C. to call for Allied action to save European Jews. Organized by Jabotinsky movement activist leader Hillel Kook (under his pseudonym Peter Bergson) it was the only effort of its type during the Holocaust in America.

Later in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s an annual "Simchat Torah Rally for Soviet Jewry" was organized throughout the U.S. including in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. For example, in 1968 and 1971 rallies were held at the Washington Monument. In 1973 a memorable rally was held in Philadelphia. Natan Sharansky's Philadelphia speech at the rally in 1986, just half a year or so after his release from the Soviets, was a remarkable highlight of these rallies.

Let us show that we can all love each other in Jewish unity during this High Holiday season and always. The Talmud Bavli introduces the Aramaic phrase, Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh, meaning all of the People of Israel are responsible for each other in Shevuot 39a. Let each of us meditate on that idea, grow from it, and take action.

The authors are leaders of Herut North America. Moshe Phillips is national director of Herut North America's U.S. section and Joshua Goldstein is chairman of Herut North America. Herut is an international movement for Zionist pride and education.

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

☆ ☆ ☆ CENTRAL FLORIDA'S INDEPENDENT JEWISH VOICE ☆ ☆ ☆  
ISSN 0199-0721 Winner of 46 Press Awards

**HERITAGE**  
FLORIDA JEWISH NEWS

HERITAGE Florida Jewish News (ISSN 0199-0721) is published weekly for \$37.95 per year to Florida addresses (\$46.95 for the rest of the U.S.) by HERITAGE Central Florida Jewish News, Inc., 207 O'Brien Road, Suite 101, Fern Park, FL 32730. Periodicals postage paid at Fern Park and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and other correspondence to: HERITAGE, P.O. Box 300742, Fern Park, FL 32730.

MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 300742  
Fern Park, FL 32730  
email: news@orlandoheritage.com

PHONE NUMBER (407) 834-8787  
FAX (407) 831-0507

Editor/Publisher  
Jeffrey Gaeser

Editor Emeritus Gene Starn Associate Editor Kim Fischer News Editor Christine DeSouza

Society Editor Gloria Yousha Office Manager Paulette Alfonso

Account Executives  
Kim Fischer • Marci Gaeser

Contributing Columnists  
Jim Shipley • Mel Pearlman  
David Bornstein • Ed Ziegler

Production Department  
David Lehman • Gil Dombrosky  
Joyce Gore

# The sparkling waters of the West Bank

By Clifford D. May

(JNS)—In this topsy-turvy world, if you'd like to see Palestinians living in peace, gainfully employed, with access to quality medical care and reason to believe tomorrow will be brighter than today, you're denounced as anti-Palestinian.

If, by contrast, you prefer that Palestinians remain impoverished and on the dole of America and other "donor nations," hating their next-door neighbor and bequeathing that hatred to their children, viewing themselves as victims while aspiring to "martyrdom" in an endless war, you get to call yourself a champion of the Palestinian cause.

I share this observation because last week PepsiCo announced plans to buy SodaS-

tream for \$3.2 billion. Perhaps I need to explain.

SodaStream makes devices for making sparkling water at home—no plastic bottles to schlep home and then throw away or send for recycling.

Its CEO, Daniel Birnbaum, is an Israeli entrepreneur and visionary who came up with a wild idea: Open a factory on the West Bank and hire Palestinians. Give them "Israeli wages," which are about four times higher than the average in the territories. Provide them and their extended families with medical insurance, a benefit few employers in the West Bank provide.

Also, hire Israeli Arabs and Israeli Jews and let them all work together, learn about each other, maybe develop mutual respect and even friendships. What an achieve-

ment it would be if the experiment succeeded!

Succeed it did. By 2014, with more than 500 workers, SodaStream was among the largest private employers on the West Bank.

Unsurprisingly, champions of the Palestinian cause denounced Birnbaum as anti-Palestinian. In particular, advocates for BDS (the campaign to delegitimize and demonize Israel through boycotts, divestment and sanctions) accused him of stealing Palestinian land, profiting from the "occupation," and exploiting Palestinian workers.

"Suddenly," Birnbaum recounted to me over dinner in Tel Aviv three years ago, "I'm a walking war criminal!"

BDS lobbyists were particularly effective in Europe. They

persuaded retailers in Sweden to tell Birnbaum not to send them SodaStream products from the West Bank. Those retailers had no problem receiving merchandise made in China, a country where about a million Muslims are right now incarcerated in "re-education camps"; that occupies Tibet (offering no "two-state solution"); and where persecution of Christians and other minorities continues to worsen.

When Birnbaum needed a new and bigger factory, he decided not to build in the West Bank but instead to relocate to the Negev Desert, well within the "armistice lines," the temporary borders drawn in 1949 when the war between the fledgling Jewish state and the Arab nations surrounding it came to a halt.

The new factory employs 1,400 Bedouins, many of whom have never before had regular jobs with regular paychecks. BDS social warriors began attacking Birnbaum again, this time accusing him of exploiting the Bedouins. The local Bedouin sheikh told them to pound desert sand.

The news of PepsiCo's purchase of SodaStream makes one thing abundantly clear: While the BDS campaign managed to deprive Palestinians of good jobs, it failed to prevent the company that had provided those jobs from becoming an enormous international success.

Also significant is the fact that PepsiCo is the buyer: Years ago, it was one of the companies complying with the Arab League boycott against Israel.

Omar Barghouti, a co-founder of the BDS campaign, is livid. He issued a statement declaring that the PepsiCo purchase notwithstanding, SodaStream "is still subject to boycott," and claiming that the factory in the Negev is "displacing the indigenous Bedouin-Palestinian citizens of Israel."

How employing people can be interpreted as replacing people, he didn't explain. No matter: On NPR's "Here & Now" and other left/progressive media outlets, SodaStream was portrayed as the villain in this drama, with no hint that there might be another side to the story.

BDS has lost other significant battles. Hannah Brown, movie critic of The Jerusalem

*West Bank* on page 15A

## Sacrificing Israel's long-term interests for short-term gains

By Evelyn Gordon

(JNS)—With the Trump Administration reportedly planning various steps against UNRWA—the U.N. aid agency devoted solely to Palestinian refugees—Israeli defense officials have leaped to UNRWA's defense. A rapid cutback of U.S. funding would create a vacuum in basic services, especially in Gaza, that Hamas might fill, and could even spark violence, they warned.

But their argument is wrong on at least three counts. First, U.S. cutbacks won't actually cause a financial crisis. Second, forcing Hamas to provide basic services in UNRWA's stead would be a plus, not a minus. Third, their policy would sacrifice

long-term strategic interests for minuscule tactical gains.

As I've written before, I'd support plunging UNRWA into financial crisis, since that might force it to reform. But Washington can't cut its donations much more than it already has—from \$360 million last year to just \$60 million this year. And judging by the results, it hasn't caused a crisis at all.

Admittedly, you wouldn't guess this from listening to UNRWA Commissioner-General Pierre Kraehenbuehl or from reading the numerous media reports that uncritically parrot his claims. Kraehenbuehl has repeatedly said the organization faces "its worst crisis ever," a genuinely "existential" danger. He even threatened not to open

UNRWA schools this year, though he later backtracked.

But in real life, the agency has laid off 113 workers in Gaza, 154 in the West Bank and around 100 in Jordan—about 370 in total. If that sounds like a lot, then you haven't read UNRWA's website, which proudly declares the agency "one of the largest United Nations programs, with over 30,000 personnel." In short, these "extensive" cutbacks, as one media report termed them, total a little more than 1 percent of UNRWA's enormous staff. That's not something most organizations would label a crisis.

Moreover, UNRWA wouldn't have any crisis at all if it weren't outrageously over-staffed. It has almost three

times as many employees as the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, though the latter agency, which cares for all non-Palestinian refugees and displaced people worldwide, serves 12 times as many people. In other words, UNRWA has one employee for every 167 "refugees," while UNHCR has one for every 5,200.

Nor would UNRWA have any problem if it didn't endlessly expand its refugee rolls by including every refugee's descendant for all eternity, even though most aren't refugees at all, since they're either citizens of other countries or residents of the West Bank and Gaza, which the United Nations itself deems the "State of Palestine." The agency doesn't even bother delisting many who are dead. In short,

it has many ways to cut costs without causing a crisis.

Defense officials' second fallacy is that Hamas providing services in UNRWA's stead would somehow be bad. In reality, if Hamas had to provide services to the people it governs, it would have less money to spend on its endless military build-up, which would improve Israel's security.

That's exactly what happened last year, when the Palestinian Authority, which had previously financed all civilian services in Hamas-run Gaza not provided by UNRWA, stopped doing so. For the first time, Hamas had to pay for civilian needs like fuel for Gaza's only power plant out of its own pocket. Consequently, according to Israeli intelligence, it slashed

its annual military budget from \$200 million in 2014 (the year of the last Hamas-Israel war) to \$50 million last year. Even \$70 million in military aid from Iran, then still flush with cash from the 2015 nuclear deal, couldn't make up that shortfall.

UNRWA cutbacks would force Hamas to spend even more on civilian needs in order to preserve its rule in Gaza. And that would further reduce its ability to invest in rockets and cross-border tunnels.

Granted, Hamas-run schools and summer camps would indoctrinate children in anti-Israel propaganda. But so do UNRWA-run schools and summer camps. UNRWA text-

*Gains* on page 15A

## Gaza needs a new solution

By Richard D. Heideman

(JNS)—Perhaps more than any other issue in the Middle East today, the situation in Gaza under the control of Hamas—a designated foreign terrorist organization dedicated to the destruction of Israel and aspiring to the genocide of world Jewry—is one of the greatest obstacles to regional peace, security and prosperity.

Since Israel's unilateral withdrawal from Gaza in 2005, and after Hamas brutally seized control from its Palestinian rival Fatah in 2007, conditions for residents have dramatically worsened. Hamas has stolen vast amounts of money, humanitarian goods and building supplies designed to aid Gaza and repurposed them for weapons like rockets, terror tunnels and kite bombs that Hamas has used to terrorize Israeli civilians, and burn lands, nature preserves and forests.

Rightly so, current proposals from the White House focus on "Gaza First." U.S. President Donald Trump's senior adviser Jared Kushner, special envoy to the Middle East Jason Greenblatt and U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman wrote a July 19 op-ed in The Washington Post, condemning Hamas for needlessly prolonging the

suffering of the Palestinian people in Gaza and calling for Hamas's leadership to renounce terrorism or relinquish control of Gaza.

Hamas responded to the White House: Hamas (which is the Islamic Resistance Movement) ramped up its terror attacks, launching hundreds of rockets at Israel from Gaza, many of which landed in or near kindergartens, summer camps and homes in southern Israel. Yet the world focused on Israel's response rather than Hamas' terror. Little attention was paid to the plight of those living in Gaza or Israel, who are subjected to Hamas's reign of terror. The world must stop treating Hamas, which uses residents of Gaza, including children, as human shields, differently than it treats other terrorists. No country would tolerate hundreds of rockets being launched into its sovereign territory. Israeli families were again forced to huddle in bomb shelters, an unacceptable and unconscionable condition ignored by the world media.

Although Hamas and Israel have agreed on a one-year ceasefire that will allow humanitarian relief to flow into Gaza, the question must be asked: Will Hamas use the money and aid for the people of Gaza, or will they continue syphoning resources to rebuild

their arsenal for their next round of terror launchings against the Israeli people? It must be remembered that Hamas is dedicated to the destruction of Israel and the continued rejection of Israel as a member of the family of nations.

In spite of these factors, the Jewish state appears ready to begrudgingly accept Hamas as the de facto leaders of Gaza, but only as long as Hamas terrorism can be constrained.

The Kushner, Greenblatt and Friedman op-ed called for Hamas to stand down and for the Palestinian Authority to resume control over the administration of Gaza. Gaza needs a governing body dedicated to a better future. It is questionable if the P.A. can, or even has the will, to do so.

At the United Nations, UNRWA, which utilizes bloated numbers to classify Palestinian refugees, has failed in its educational responsibilities, and can no longer be vested or trusted with the authority to monitor education to ensure the children of Gaza are taught a hate-free curriculum.

It is essential to establish a terror-free government for Gaza that can assume responsibility for education while helping create jobs and providing welfare to those who are desperately in need,

giving the people of Gaza the chance for a new future. Israel can be an important ally to a terror-free Gaza by sharing its desert conversion technology—not only to make the desert bloom, but also to ensure a 24/7 flow of stable electricity, gas, clean water, irrigation and economic development.

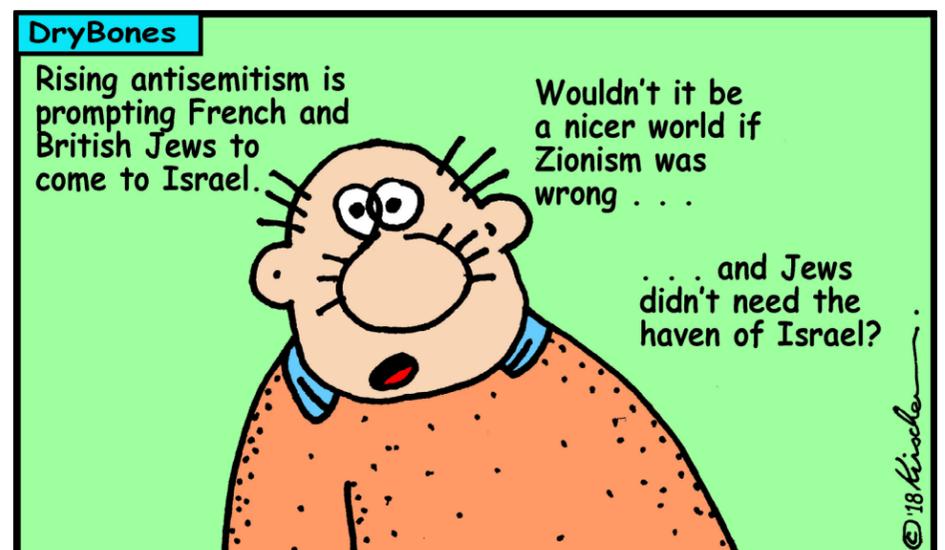
Moreover, as Gaza is located on the Mediterranean between Israel and Egypt with its southern border adjacent to Egypt's sparsely populated Sinai Peninsula, parts of the Sinai could be leased or acquired from Egypt to alleviate the population density in the coastal strip. This land could be used for new construction

of housing and community institutions for the people of Gaza as a terror-free government works to rebuild Gaza's crumbling infrastructure. Justly compensating and supporting Egypt, while ensuring that radicals do not expand into that country, is crucial to enabling the international community to begin rebuilding neighborhoods and perhaps even a New Gaza City as they work towards helping Gaza become governable, democratic, free and no longer a terror threat to any of its neighbors.

Expanding Gaza into the Sinai and establishing a government supported by democratic countries—free of

Hamas terror and control—could help push Gaza into being part of the solution in truly establishing a terror-free region and achieving a durable peace, stability and economic development.

*Richard D. Heideman is senior counsel of Heideman Nudelman & Kalik, P.C., which represents American Victims of Terror; author of The Hague Odyssey: Israel's Struggle for Security on the Front Lines of Terror and Her Battle for Justice at the United Nations; and is president of the American Zionist Movement. The opinions expressed in this article are his own and not attributable to any organization.*



# What's Happening

## A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT

SEPT. 14  
7:12 p.m.  
SEPT. 21  
7:07 p.m.

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

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

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

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Torah Portion—Vayelech: Deuteronomy 31:1-30; Haftarah: Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

The Holocaust Memorial, Resource & Education Center—Exhibit: Heroes of Warsaw, illustrations of Bill Farnsworth that highlight the courage of Irena Sendler and Janusz Korczak. On exhibit through Dec. 28.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Israeli Folk Dancing—7:30-8:15 p.m. instruction, 8:15-10 p.m., requests. Cost: Free for JCC members, \$7 nonmembers. Info: 407-645-5933.  
 Congregation Beth Am—Mommy and Me class with Cantor Nina Fine, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. \$7 per family; free for CBA members Info: 407-862-3505.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

#### Erev Yom Kippur

Congregation Beth Am—Pages & Pastries Book Club, 7 p.m. at Panera Bread on 434 across from Publix at Springs Plaza. Info: 407-862-3505.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

#### Yom Kippur

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Grief Support—JFS Orlando and The Jewish Pavilion, in cooperation with The Hospice of the Comforter and VITAS Healthcare, host a grief support group, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Congregation Ohev Shalom, 613 Concourse Pkwy S., Maitland. Registration: call 407-644-7593, ext. 247. \$5 per session contribution suggested.

A Nosh of Yiddish—Classes in Yiddish the third Thursday of each month sponsored by the Jewish Pavilion, held at Brookdale Island Lake, 160 Islander Circle in Longwood 10:30 a.m. Info: 407-678-9363. Coffee and refreshments served.

Holocaust Center—Responding to Hatred and Extremism: Solutions from Faith Traditions panel discussion, 6 p.m. at the Center. Free and open to the public.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

## KCOA launches new website

The Kinneret Council on Aging, a nonprofit agency that provides ongoing programs and services to residents of Kinneret Apartments, has launched their new, redesigned website, www.KinneretLiving.org.

"We are thrilled to launch our new website which has a new look and feel," said Sharon F. Weil, director of Programming and Development, KCOA. "The website is clean, bright and much more easily navigated," she continued.

The idea to update the site was brought forward at a board meeting when members

noticed that as the needs of the Kinneret residents have changed, so had the functionality and content of the website. A team of board members including Carol Feuerman and Ronda Pearlman met numerous times to discuss the overall look of the website as well as content and navigation.

The new site has larger fonts to better serve the aging population as well as updated content to reflect new programming and major fundraising events, the 8 over 80 Gala and the Senior Health Fair. The newsite also includes

additional information on Kinneret's history and the support from KCOA which continues to fund the twice food pantry, onsite activities including a continental breakfast and exercise classes as well as offsite excursions to local grocery stores and cultural activities.

Kinneret Apartments, located in downtown Orlando, provides subsidized housing to 280 independent seniors. For information on the facility or to find out how you can donate to KCOA, please go to www.KinneretLiving.org or contact Sharon Weil at 407-425-4537.

## Quote of the Week

"Just to be is a blessing. Just to live is holy."

—Heschel

# HERITAGE FLORIDA JEWISH NEWS

"I'm lost without it!"

"It's inexcusable!"

"My week is not complete without it!"

"I can't live without it!"

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

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

What are you missing out on?... Subscribe today!

YES! I want to be informed. Start my subscription at once.

Please:  enter  extend my subscription for:

- 1 year at \$37.95 52 issues
- 2 years at \$69.95 104 issues
- 1 year out-of-state at \$46.95 or  2 years out-of-state at \$87.95

### MAIL SUBSCRIPTION TO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

  # \_\_\_\_\_

expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out coupon and mail, with check or credit card information to:

HERITAGE Florida Jewish News  
P.O. Box 300742  
Fern Park, FL 32730

(407) 834-8787

If different from above, fill in your:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Manageable puzzle "Yom Kippur Cinema" by Yoni Glatt koshercrosswords@gmail.com

#### Across

1. It started on a Sat. this year
5. Prefix with phone or bytes
9. Venture
14. Not according to plan, in a bad way
15. Uncles, in Acapulco
16. Absurd
17. Ben Stiller movie about those observing Yom Kippur?
20. Old-fashioned contraction
21. Hooting hunter
22. Old French coin
23. With 52-Across, Vin Diesel movie about Yom Kippur and angry people observing it?
26. See to
27. "\_\_\_ serious?"
28. Law that might not go over well in Israel
30. Joseph's lil bro, in the Bible
31. \_\_\_ Verde National Park
35. Jyn and Galen in "Rogue One"
36. Keira Knightley movie about a goal of Yom Kippur?
39. "Macbeth" title
42. Rock's Clapton
43. Kind of pupil
46. Belonging to a particularly wicked Persian
48. Bashed into
51. Periods
52. See 23-Across
56. Put two and two together
57. Poet Shemer
58. "Down on the Corner" band, to fans
59. Edward Norton movie about the end of Yom Kippur?
64. Baseball Hall of Famer Edd
65. Parasitic leaping insect
66. Not manual
67. Follow as a result
68. AAA part: Abbr.
69. 180 is its max. score

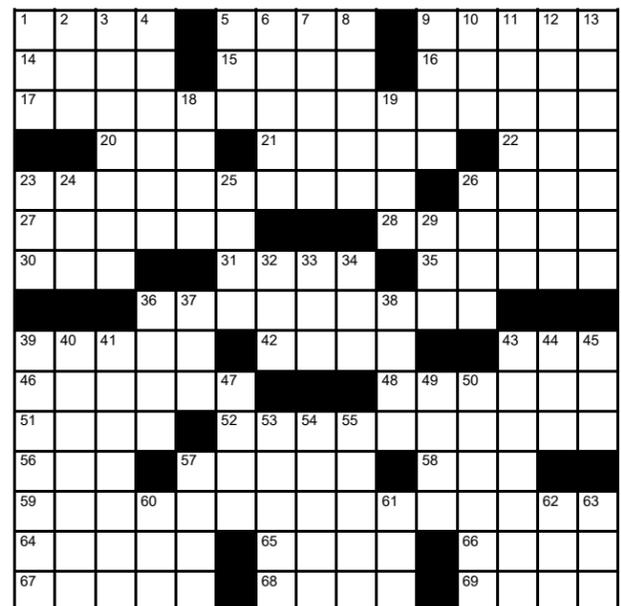
#### Down

1. Hefty Cinch \_\_\_ bags
2. Flock member
3. 12-year-old, but not for long

#### 4. Epitomize

5. Kilimanjaro, for one: Abbr.
6. Passover days, in America
7. Prankster's cry
8. Pale with fright
9. Scandal ridden sports org.
10. Out \_\_\_ limb
11. Poker-pot increasers
12. Title character in "The Merchant of Venice"
13. Avner and Amichai
18. World Golf Hall of Famer Aoki
19. Completes
23. One might be opened in a bar
24. Realm that issued a "Charter of Protection" to Jews in 825: Abbr.
25. Kind of wrestling
26. Like a citron
29. Ex-egg, perhaps
32. Jaffa to Tiberias dir.
33. Rabbi's speech: Abbr.

34. Comrade, in Quebec
36. Santa \_\_\_ (hot winds)
37. Minyan amount
38. Hosiery shade
39. London's Globe, for one
40. Like a victory in triple over-time, probably
41. Wolfgang \_\_\_ Mozart
43. Like Pepé Le Pew
44. Few, to Pepé Le Pew
45. 6s, in the NFL
47. Remain
49. St. Louis landmark
50. King David's first wife
53. Former Teamsters president Jimmy
54. Artist Nolde and actor Jannings
55. Marching band flutes
57. "Boyz \_\_\_ Hood"
60. Sch. in eastern Virginia
61. Summer shade?
62. Tony-winning Hagen
63. Make a stink?



See answers on page 14A.

## Jewish Academy of Orlando teachers participate in year-long fine arts initiative



Ten Jewish Day schools from around the country, as well as the leaders, mentors and teachers from the Teacher Institute for the Arts at Camp Ramah in Ojai, California. Representing Jewish Academy of Orlando are Alan Rusonik, head of school, Fanny Sernik, Judaic Studies teacher, and Penny Goldstein, Art teacher.

The fine arts program continues to grow at Jewish Academy of Orlando. This summer, JAO was one of 10 schools selected to participate in a grant by the highly prestigious Teacher Institute for the Arts program, sponsored by Kol HaOt Art Institute of Jerusalem. This program is run under the auspices of American/Israeli artist David Moss. Teachers were trained to utilize cutting-edge techniques to integrate art and Judaic studies.

“Exploring Jewish texts and values through the vi-

sual arts is one of the most effective ways to cultivate creativity and to instill in-depth connections to Judaism,” said Alan Rusonik, head of school. The Teacher Institute for the Arts was established to train and empower day schools to integrate the visual arts into formal Jewish education.

The program consists of a summer Institute followed by a year of mentoring and practical implementation. Teams of 1-2 Jewish Studies teachers along with 1-2 art teachers from day schools across North America are provided with the

tools to integrate the arts into the Jewish Studies curricula at their schools. Each school team is assigned a mentor to work with them throughout the program to create and implement a creative arts based project.

“The training to integrate fine arts with Jewish Studies was an incredible and transformational experience,” added Morah Penny Goldstein, Jewish Academy of Orlando Art teacher. “We have grown our toolbox exponentially and we are very excited to implement these new strategies,” said Goldstein.

Jewish Academy of Orlando’s mentor is Rabbi Matt Berkowitz, a cofounder of Kol HaOt. Rabbi Matt has synthesized his diverse roles as rabbi, educator and artist. Formally trained in Jewish scribal art, he is a ketubah illuminator, and has created the limited-edition artist portfolio *Passover Landscapes: Illuminations on the Exodus*, which is part of major library collections.

David Moss, the founder of the program, has implemented his inspired, visionary approach to Jewish studies in schools, camps, and Fed-

erations across the US. His projects—which range from creating imaginative books, prints, ritual objects, and educational programs, to designing communal buildings—are all deeply based in Jewish texts and traditions. Moss’s work has been displayed throughout the world, but he is probably best known for his Hagaddah, which was originally created in 1983 as a unique private commission that took three years to produce. He is a much sought after lecturer and artist-in-residence.

Rusonik attended the train-

ing. “It was a remarkable and once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study with David Moss and to collaborate with colleagues around the country,” said Rusonik.

“We are delighted to offer our students yet another unique opportunity to integrate multiple disciplines to augment their love of learning,” added Rusonik.

To learn more about the Jewish Academy of Orlando, please visit <https://www.jewishacademyorlando.org> or follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/JewishAcademyOrlando>.

# Crayola Experience

## Discover 26 Unique Hands-On Attractions!

Name & wrap your own crayon!



Mold a melted wax souvenir!



Watch your paper dance in the spotlight!



NEW

Use your magic tablet to save the day!



See the World's LARGEST Crayola Crayon!

Now on display



Buy tickets online and save

### \$4 OFF ADMISSION

Tickets.CrayolaExperience.com | Enter Code: HeritageFL

The Florida Mall | 407.757.1700

# Susie Stone brings seniors the joy of the shofar



Susie Stone blows the shofar at a Jewish Pavilion High Holidays program.

area senior living facilities and is always in need of volunteers who have the rare skill of shofar blowing.

Now, depending on scheduling, Stone blows shofar at four to six Jewish Pavilion High Holiday events every year. Most of the Jewish residents she serves have no other opportunity to observe the holidays and hear the sound of the shofar.

"It brings tears to a lot of people's eyes," Stone said. It is especially moving to see the reactions of seniors who may be ailing or memory-impaired. "It brings them a touch, knowing that the High Holidays are here, and it's something that they remember."

Stone, an Orlando resident since 1984, volunteers year round at Westchester and several other facilities the Pavilion serves. She has an upbeat and warm presence and quickly wins the hearts of the people she meets, and the seniors look forward to her visits.

As a Friends of the Pavilion member Stone has co-chaired several Pavilion galas, and she and Mark have been past gala honorees. The couple is originally from Baltimore, Md., where they met when Susie was on Thanksgiving break as a student at University of Maryland.

Her father-in-law, Sy Stone, passed away several years ago, but her mother-in-law, Sylvia Stone, is still at Westchester and is nearing 92. Stone makes sure that she brings her shofar each year to the Pavilion's High Holiday celebration at Westchester so Sylvia has an opportunity to hear its sounds.

Said Stone, "I can remember my mother-in-law, when she first heard it, I saw tears coming out of her eyes. To me, to do that, and touch them, and bring that happiness to them for the High Holidays, it's pure joy."

Volunteers—with and without shofar-blowing skills—are always needed during the Jewish Pavilion's busy High Holiday season. And your generous donation will help the Pavilion make the holidays special for Jewish seniors in living facilities. For more information, call the Jewish Pavilion at 407-678-9369 or go online at JewishPavilion.org.

By Lisa Levine

Each year for the High Holidays, the plaintive, soul-stirring sound of the shofar rings out in synagogues all over the world, and congregants are moved by that ancient tie to their ancestors. For the past several years, Jewish Pavilion volunteer Susie Stone has made sure that Jews in area senior living facilities are not left out.

In many Jewish homes, a shofar is proudly displayed on a shelf or mantle, more an object of Judaica than an instrument used during High

Holiday prayer. Maybe once or twice a family member picks it up and tries to get a sound from it. It isn't easy to do, and most people soon give up. Then it goes back to its place, moving only when it's time to dust.

Stone had a shofar like that in her Longwood home, a long and gracefully twisted kudu horn from the Yemenite tradition. Many years ago, she had asked Cantor Allan Robuck of Congregation Ohev Shalom to bring her back a shofar from a trip to Israel and was surprised and pleased by the beauty of the one he chose.

Stone gave her new shofar a place of prominence in her home for all to see. And there it sat for years. Then one day about seven years ago, for reasons she can't quite explain, Stone picked up the shofar and tried to get a sound from it. To her amazement, a sound came out, much like the soulful shofar sounds she knew so well from decades of High Holiday services.

"I could never play an instrument in my whole life other than a little bit of piano," Stone recalled. "I said, 'Wow! I can do this!'" So she got out her High Holidays prayer book and started practicing the various calls: Tekiah! Teruah! Shevarim! And the extended blast of Tekiah Gedolah!

Then she showed her new skill to Mark, her husband of 46 years, and to others. "I was astounded, because Mark tried to do it and he couldn't do it, and I tried giving it to my friends and nobody could do it," said Stone, "And I said, 'This is easy! There's nothing to it!'"

Stone knew that she could use her newfound skill to do some good in the world. She had been volunteering with the Jewish Pavilion since Mark's parents moved to Westchester of Winter Park Assisted Living in 2010. She joined the Friends of the Jewish Pavilion soon after, so she was well aware that the Pavilion hosts High Holidays events in about 30 Orlando-



Engagement Announcement

Stephanie Flax and Craig Oppenheim

Nina and Ron Oppenheim of Maitland announce with pleasure the engagement of their son Craig Oppenheim to Stephanie Flax, daughter of Jill Flax of Potomac, Maryland, and the late Howie Flax.

Stephanie is a graduate of Emory University and is employed in production and marketing by radio stations WTOP and Federal News Radio in Washington, D.C.

Craig is a graduate of Northeastern University and holds a master's degree from The George Washington University. He is employed at the United States Treasury Department.

A spring wedding is planned.



## DeGusipe

FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

### Jewish Graveside Package:

- Service of Funeral Director and Staff
- Sacred Burial Shroud
- Filing all Necessary Paperwork
- \$200.00 to Chevra Kaddish Society donation for washing
- Traditional Jewish Flat Top Pine Casket
- Staff Supervision of Service at Graveside
- Transportation to Cemetery

## \$4595.00



Call us to receive your free Final Wishes Organizer!

407-695-CARE (2273)

www.DeGusipeFuneralHome.com

**Maitland**  
9001 N. Orlando Avenue  
Maitland, FL 32751

**Sanford**  
905 Laurel Avenue  
Sanford, FL 32771

**West Orange**  
1400 Matthew Paris Blvd  
Ocoee, FL 34761




Custom Printing  
Digital & Offset Printing  
Direct Mail Services  
Envelopes

Invitations & Announcements  
Brochures & Booklets  
Forms & Letterheads  
Business Cards

407-767-7110

205 North Street • Longwood, FL 32750  
www.elegantprinting.net  
Bring in this ad and receive 18% Discount



PENDING

250 MINORCA BEACH WAY UNIT 705 | NEW SMYRNA BEACH  
3 BR | 2 BA | 1,655 SF




KELLY PRICE  
& COMPANY

243 West Park Avenue  
Winter Park, Florida 32789  
www.KellyPriceandCompany.com



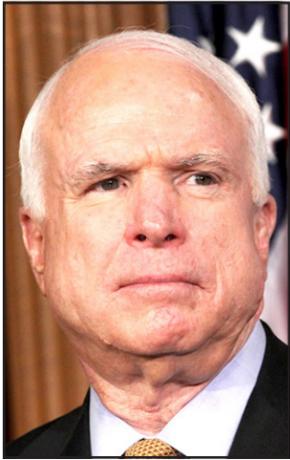
LOU SUOWITZ, GKC  
REALTOR

DIRECT: 407.415.0338  
OFFICE: 407.645.4321



# Scene Around

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



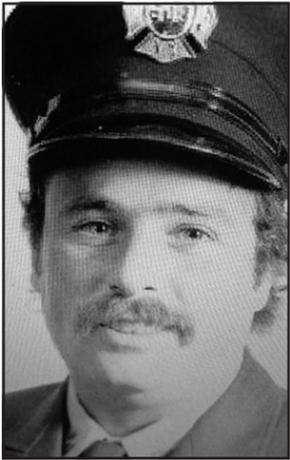
Senator John McCain

### He was loved and respected...

I wrote briefly about the late Senator John McCain in last week's column when I first heard about his passing. (I write well in advance of publication). What I want to add is that he was a true hero and I want him to be remembered in history as Winston Churchill, Presidents Teddy and Franklin Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson, etc., are remembered. I want my grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, etc., to learn about him. Though a life-long Republican, I still admired his service to our country and his honesty. I want him never to be forgotten.

### Also, never to be forgotten by my family...

Cousin Alan Feinberg who died in the collapse of one of the Twin Towers in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001. He was a firefighter, a devoted husband, wonderful father and a hero!



Alan Feinberg

### A country full of Nazis and infidels?...

I read this recently in the World Jewish Congress (WJC) digest High Holiday edition: "Ninety percent of Argentinian Jewish leaders, and 65 percent of Latin American Jewish leaders overall, fear their community could be targeted in another terrorist attack, according to a survey conducted on behalf of the Latin American Jewish Congress, a WJC affiliate.

Argentina has already suffered two terrorist attacks: in 1992 on the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires, which killed 29 and injured 242, and in 1994 on the AMIA Jewish Center in Buenos Aires, which killed 84 and injured more than 300."

And in spite of that disturbing news, I think I should bring you greetings from Ambassador RONALD S. LAUDER, president of WJC.

He wishes everyone "L'Shanah Tovah." And adds, "May the New Year bring you and your loved ones happiness, health and peace."

That is his wish for all the Jewish people around the world and he is hoping for a much better year as this one was marked by too much tragedy, violence, fear and continued uncertainty for the global Jewish community.

### A Jewish Pavilion Mensch...

A real mensch, JASON MENDELSON is a Jewish Pavilion board member who has done a remarkable job in spreading the word about all the good the Pavilion does.

Raised in Altamonte Springs with his brother and twin sisters, and married for almost 22 years to RONNI (who also grew up in the area... they met as kids at Temple Israel!)

Jason is a tireless "Ambassador" for the Pavilion's mission and accomplishments. "I love the concept of the Pavilion," said Jason. "It's volunteers giving of their time to care for people who otherwise could be forgotten. They bring these seniors the Jewish experience."

Jason will be honored at the Jewish Pavilion's Gems & Jeans 2018 Gala on Oct. 28 at the Hilton Orlando North along with outgoing board president and longtime board member and volunteer, PAUL STENZLER.

Come celebrate their achievements and help support the Jewish Pavilion by attending the Gala.

Phone 407-678-9363 or go to <JewishPavilion.org> for more information.

### Wiggle and Giggle...

(I can't help it. That's the way I walk!) On Sunday, Sept. 16, 2018 from 10 a.m.—11:30 a.m., there will be a free concert for babies, toddlers, young children, and their families. It is called "Wiggle and Giggle." It is sponsored by the Jewish Academy of Orlando and will be held at the Roth Family Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando, 851, N. Maitland Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751

Please contact KAREN DUNCAN at 407-645-0923 for details. (Babies, toddlers, young children? What about old ladies?????)

### JCC 39ers Meet & Mingle Mondays...

On Sept. 17 at 1 p.m. in the Maitland JCC in the Senior Lounge, there will be daily exercise for seniors presented by BRENDA BOYD.

(Oooh, that sounds more like it, especially because they follow the exercise with tasty refreshments and social time. All 39ers and JCC members are welcome. (The chocolate cake is mine!)

### A nice surprise!...

The other day in the mail I received a terrific magazine that I had never seen nor heard of before. It's called "Challah Connection" and it's filled with High Holiday ideas and gifts, etc.

You can receive one too. Just phone 866-242-5524 or on the internet, go to <CHALLAHCONNECTION.COM>.

### One for the road...

Shlomo and Moshe are out hunting in the woods of New Jersey when Moshe suddenly collapses. Shlomo rushes over to him but he doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are all glazed. Shlomo is in a panic. He takes out his phone, calls emergency services and shouts, "Help, please help me. My friend Moshe is dead! What on earth should I do?" The operator tells Shlomo, "Sir, please calm down. I can help you. First of all, let's make sure he's really dead." After a short silence, the operator hears a shot. Then Shlomo gets back on the phone, "OK, now what?"



Jason Mendelsohn

## HERITAGE FLORIDA JEWISH NEWS

can be purchased at the following locations:

### ORANGE COUNTY

JCC, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland • JCC South, 11184 South Apopka-Vineland Rd., Orlando • Kinneret, 515 South Delaney Ave., Orlando • SOJC, 11200 S. Apopka Vineland Rd., Orlando • Brown's New York Deli, 156 Lake Ave., Maitland • Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets

### SEMINOLE COUNTY

Heritage News, 207 O'Brien Rd., Fern Park • Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 451 E. Altamonte Dr. Suite 2317, Altamonte Springs & 1260 Oviedo Marketplace Blvd., Oviedo • Bagel King, 1472 Semoran Blvd., Casselberry • Kosher Kats, 744 W. S.R. 434, Longwood • Central Florida Hillel, 4250 Alafaya Trail, Ste. 212-363, Oviedo Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets

### VOLUSIA COUNTY

Federation of Volusia/Flagler, 470 Andalusia Ave., Ormond Beach • Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets • Barnes & Noble, 1900 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach • Perrys Ocean Edge Resort, 2209 South Atlantic Ave. Daytona Beach • Debary City Hall • Debary Library • Vienna Coffee House, 275 Charles Richard Beall Bl • Starbucks, 2575 Enterprise Rd • Orange City City Hall • Orange City Library • Dunkin Donuts, 1296 S Woodland • Stetson University Carlton Union • Deland Chamber of Commerce • Sterling House, 1210 Stone St • Temple Israel, 1001 E New York Ave • Beth Shalom, 1310 Maximilian St • Deltona City Hall • Deltona Library • Temple Shalom, 1785 Elkam Dr. • Temple Israel, 1001 E New York Ave, Deland • College Arms Apt, 101 Amelia Ave, Deland • Boston Gourmet Coffee House, 109 E. New York Ave, Deland • Stetson University Carlton Union, 421 N Woodland Ave, Deland • Family Bookstore, 1301 N Woodland Ave, Deland • Deland Chamber of Commerce, 336 Woodland Ave, Deland • Deland City Hall, 120 S Florida Ave, Deland • Beth Shalom, 206 S. Sprng Garden Ave, Deland • Orange City Library, 148 Albertus Way, Orange City • Boston Gourmet Coffee House, 1105 Saxon Blvd, Deltona • Deltona Library, 2150 Eustace Ave, Deltona • Temple Shalom, 1785 Elkam Dr., Deltona • Deltona Community Center, 980 Lakeshore Dr, Deltona • Debary City Hall, 16 Coloma Rd, Debary • Debary Library, 200 Florence K. Little, Debary

### OSCEOLA COUNTY

Cindy M. Rothfield, P.A., 822 W. Bryan St., Kissimmee • Most Publix Supermarkets • Verandah Place Realty, 504 Celebration Ave., Celebration • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets • St. Cloud City Hall, 1300 9th St, St. Cloud • St. Cloud Library, 810 13th St, St. Cloud • Southern Oaks, 3865 Old Canoe Creek Rd, St. Cloud • Plantation Bay, 4641 Old Canoe Creek Rd, St. Cloud • Osceola Chamber of Commerce, 1425 Hwy 192, St. Cloud • Valencia College, 1800 Denn John Ln, Kissimmee • Kissimmee City Hall, 101 Church St, Kissimmee • Kissimmee Library, 211 E. Dakin, Kissimmee • Robinson's Coffee Shop, 114 Broadway, Kissimmee • Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Sq, Kissimmee • Barnies, 3236 John Young Pwy, Kissimmee • Reily's Gourmet Coffee, 3831 Vine St, Kissimmee • Shalom Aleichem, 3501 Oak Pointe Blvd, Kissimmee • Books-A-Million, 2605 W. Osceola Pwy (522), Kissimmee • Lower East Side Deli, 8548 Palm Parkway, Lake Buena

### Sudoku (see page 14A for solution)

### SUDOKU

The support you need to find quality  
**SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS**

A Place for Mom has helped over one million families find senior living solutions that meet their unique needs.

There's no cost to you!

CALL (855) 439-6734

! We're paid by our partner communities



		7			9			8
		9		8				2
1		8					9	5
			6		8			
		3				6		
			3		1			
7	4					2		9
9				7		8		
8			2			4		

© StatePoint Media

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

## Abbas says Israel-Hamas deal 'over my dead body'

### By World Israel News

Israel's Channel 10 News published a report on Tuesday based on comments from a senior Fatah official demonstrating Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' intense hostility toward any potential deal between Israel and the Hamas terror group in the Gaza Strip.

According to the report, the Fatah official told Channel 10 that Abbas was furious with the Egyptians for mediating the agreement, which the PA chief referred to as "treachery and defiance against the leadership."

The official also claimed that Abbas acknowledged that the supposed reconciliation process between his party and Hamas was disintegrating.

Abbas apparently made his position on the ceasefire

clear, commenting "An agreement between Hamas and Israel, over my dead body!"

Among Abbas' complaints with regard to any future agreement involving Hamas is the illegitimacy of the terror group's rule over the Gaza Strip, which was achieved via a violent coup through which the PA was ousted from the coastal enclave.

Regardless of Abbas' comments, senior Hamas officials claimed that the ceasefire agreement could be concluded in the near future, after a break in negotiations due to the Eid al-Adha holiday.

With Hamas officials issuing statements regarding the terror group's intention to maintain its arsenal and militaristic capabilities, and their contention that prisoner exchanges would be addressed separately, the ultimate fate of the ceasefire remains to be seen.



AP/Majdi Mohammed

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas



Construction, Remodels, Additions, Handyman  
does most anything

**Ricardo Torres — Handyman**

407-221-5482

Available in Central Florida Area • References Available

# The Jewish year in review: #MeToo, the embassy move, and a growing gap between Israel and the Diaspora

By Ben Harris

(JTA)—For North American Jews, the Jewish year 5778 began with tensions between Israel and the Diaspora over egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall and ended with more tension over a controversial nationality law. In between, North American Jews grappled with the impact of the #MeToo movement, the Trump administration relocated the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv and actress Natalie Portman made headlines for turning down a chance to collect a top prize in Israel.

## September 2017

Edie Windsor, whose landmark Supreme Court case paved the way for gay marriage in the United States, dies at 88. Windsor's 2013 lawsuit resulted in the court's overturning part of the Defense of Marriage Act that had defined marriage for federal purposes as the union between a man and a woman.

Rabbi Ari Berman is installed as the fifth president of Yeshiva University. A graduate of the university and its rabbinical seminary, Berman succeeds Richard Joel, who had led the Modern Orthodox institution through a turbulent economic period.

Disgraced former congressman Anthony Weiner is sentenced to 21 months in prison for transferring obscene material to a teenage girl. The former House of Representatives member from New York had pleaded guilty in the case, which followed multiple instances of sharing sexually explicit material online.

## October 2017

The United States announces its intention to withdraw from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization over its anti-Israel bias. The decision, which will go into effect at the end of 2019, reflects concerns about the general need for reform of the organization as well as "continuing anti-Israel bias at UNESCO," the State Department says.

Harvey Weinstein is fired from the film production company he founded in the wake of multiple allegations of sexual misconduct against him. Weinstein, who co-founded Miramax (later The Weinstein Company) with his brother Bob, also is expelled from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the organization that awards the Oscars. The Weinstein revelations spur similar allegations against numerous powerful men, leading to the #MeToo movement.

S.I. Newhouse Jr., the billionaire media mogul who ran dozens of magazines and newspapers, dies at 89 in New York. The grandson of Russian immigrants, whose initials stand for Samuel Irving, since 1975 had run the magazine division of Advance Publications, known as Conde Nast, which publishes Vogue, GQ, Vanity Fair and The New Yorker.

Monty Hall, host of the long-running television game show "Let's Make a Deal," dies at 96 in Los Angeles. Born Monte Halperin in Winnipeg, Canada, Hall hosted thousands of episodes of the show over more than two decades.

## November 2017

Alex Bregman stars as his Houston Astros win their first World Series championship. The Jewish infielder hits two home runs and in Game 5 becomes the first Jewish player to win a Series game with a walk-off hit. On the losing side, outfielder Joc Pederson of the Los Angeles Dodgers breaks the record for most homers in a Series by a Jewish player with three, beating the mark of two set by Hall of Famer Hank Greenberg in 1934. Eight months later, Bregman is named the All-Star Game MVP for slugging the tie-breaking homer in the American League's victory.

The umbrella group of North American Jewish federations demands Israel reverse its "divisive and damaging" steps to freeze an agreement on egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall, warning that ignoring the concerns of non-Orthodox Jews could undermine the Zionist vision. A resolution slamming Israel's moves on pluralism is adopted by the board of trustees of the Jewish Federations of North America at its annual General Assembly in Los Angeles.

Israeli actress Gal Gadot is named GQ magazine's 2017

Woman of the Year. Gadot soared to international celebrity as the star of the blockbuster film "Wonder Woman."

Stephen Bannon, the former chief strategist for Donald Trump, calls himself a "Christian Zionist" in an appearance at the Zionist Organization of America's annual dinner. Bannon had long been the target of liberal Jewish protests due to links between the "alt-right" movement and Breitbart, the right-wing news website that Bannon led before joining Trump's presidential campaign and rejoined after leaving the White House. Bannon received a standing ovation at the ZOA dinner.

The U.S. Department of Justice begins distributing \$772.5 million in recovered funds to some victims of Bernie Madoff's Ponzi scheme. The sum, which was returned eight years after the Jewish investment adviser pleaded guilty to committing one of the largest fraud schemes in U.S. history, represents only a fraction of the more than \$4 billion in assets that U.S. law enforcement is able to recover for Madoff's victims.

Far-right marchers in Warsaw, Poland, shout "Jews out" and other racist slogans at an Independence Day march by 60,000 people, constituting one of the largest nationalist gatherings anywhere in Europe.

## December 2017

President Trump commutes the sentence of the former chief executive of the kosher meatpacker Agriprocessors, who had been convicted of bank fraud and money laundering. Sholom Rubashkin had served eight years of a 27-year sentence. In making the move, Trump cites appeals from across the political spectrum as well as former top-ranked Justice Department officials.

Sen. Al Franken announces he will resign from Congress following accusations of sexual misconduct by several women. The Minnesota Democrat had faced increasing calls to step down by leading members of his own party.

Trump signs a proclamation recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and directing the State Department to begin planning for a U.S. Embassy in the city. Soon after, the president signs a waiver delaying the embassy move for another six months.

Billionaire philanthropist Barry Sherman and his wife, Honey, are found murdered in their Toronto-area home. Sherman, chairman of the drug maker Apotex, was the 15th richest Canadian with an estimated net worth of over \$4 billion. The Shermans gave tens of millions of dollars to Jewish causes and sat on the boards of several Jewish groups.

A Brooklyn woman and three of her children are killed in a house fire sparked by a Chanukah menorah. Aliza Azan, 39, and children Moshe, 11; Yitzah, 7; and Henrietta, 3, are buried in Israel. Yosi, three other children and a cousin sustain injuries in the blaze.

## January 2018

A Pew Research Center poll finds that the split between Democrats and Republicans over Israel is the greatest since 1978. The survey reports that 79 percent of Republicans and 27 percent of Democrats sympathize with Israel over the Palestinians.

Singer Neil Diamond announces he will cease touring following a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease. The Jewish singer and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee has 10 No. 1 singles to his credit and starred in the 1980 remake of "The Jazz Singer," in which he played a synagogue cantor who pursues a pop music career.

A photograph of former President Barack Obama with the Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan surfaces, prompting the Anti-Defamation League to ask Obama to again denounce Farrakhan, who has drawn regular criticism for anti-Semitic rhetoric. The photo was taken in 2005 during a Congressional Black Caucus meeting in Washington, D.C., when Obama was a senator representing Illinois.

Poland's parliament passes a controversial law that criminalizes blaming the Polish nation for Nazi crimes. The law triggers a diplomatic row with Israel, prompting the law's amendment to remove criminal charges against would-be offenders.

Anti-Semitic incidents reach a record high in Britain and Ukraine.

## February 2018

The Anti-Defamation League reports a spike in anti-Semitic incidents in the United States in 2017. The 1,986 acts recorded in the U.S. that year represents a 57 percent increase over the 1,267 in 2016, representing the largest one-year rise ever. The ADL says the jump is due in part to an increase in people reporting incidents of anti-Semitism.

Ten Jewish organizations urge the Trump administration not to reinstate a question about citizenship in the 2020 Census, saying it will raise fears among immigrants. Among the signers of a letter sent to Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross are the Anti-Defamation League, the Union for Reform Judaism, Jewish Federations of North America, Hadassah and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

Iceland and Denmark each draft precedent-setting legislation proposing a ban on nonmedical circumcision of boys under 18. Amid protests and intense lobbying by international Jewish organizations, politicians from the ruling parties in each country express opposition to both projects.

## March 2018

The president of the World Jewish Congress issues a rare rebuke of Israeli government policies. In an op-ed in The New York Times, Ronald Lauder excoriates Israeli actions that threaten the two-state solution and enshrine Orthodox control of various aspects of Israeli life, including marriage and organized prayer at the Western Wall.

The Canadian House of Commons unanimously passes legislation establishing the month of May as Canadian Jewish

Heritage Month. The bill had previously passed the Senate.

The heads of 139 Jewish day schools sign an open letter urging Trump and federal and state legislators to take action on gun violence following a deadly shooting at a Florida high school. The letter calls for "common sense legislation that addresses all factors contributing to a safe and secure educational community, including restrictions and safeguards related to guns."

Tens of thousands of Gaza demonstrators approach the Israeli border in the so-called March of Return, launching months of protests on successive Fridays that turn violent and result in the deaths of some 156 Palestinians and one Israeli soldier shot dead by a sniper. In one protest in May, 62 protesters are killed; Hamas claims 50 as members. Israel's actions prompt international outrage, with the U.N. General Assembly condemning Israel for an "excessive use of force." Gaza Palestinians later turn to sending incendiary airborne objects into Israel, resulting in the destruction of thousands of acres of farmland and natural forest.

## April 2018

B'nai Brith Canada reports a record number of anti-Semitic incidents in 2017. Its annual audit shows 1,752 incidents of harassment, vandalism and violence, which is a 1.4 percent increase over the 1,728 from the previous year. The vast majority take place in Ontario and Quebec, the nation's two largest provinces.

Dov Hikind, an outspoken New York state assemblyman who has represented Jewish neighborhoods in Brooklyn for more than three decades, announces his retirement. A former follower of the right-wing Rabbi Meir Kahane, Hikind, a conservative Democrat, was first elected in 1983. Hikind did not give a reason for his retirement.

Josef Schuster, president of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, publicly advises Jews to avoid wearing kippahs in some urban settings following the assault of an Arab-Israeli man who is trying to prove to his friend that wearing a yarmulke is safe in Germany.

## May 2018



Yonatan Sindel/Flash90

Jared Kushner speaking while U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman looks on at the opening ceremony of the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem, May 14, 2018.



Tomer Neuberger/Flash90

Netta Barzilai, the winner of this year's Eurovision contest, performing at Rabin Square in Tel Aviv, May 14, 2018.

In a speech he deems a "history lesson," Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas says that Jews caused the Holocaust with their "social behavior," including money lending, prompting swift condemnation from both liberal and conservative groups in Israel and across the Diaspora.

President Trump declares he will not waive sanctions on Iran, effectively pulling out of the 2015 nuclear deal reached by his predecessor, Barack Obama. Israel had been pressing Trump to withdraw from the agreement, which trades the removal of economic sanctions for a rollback of Iran's nuclear program. Germany, France and the United Kingdom all urge Trump to remain in the deal.

Philip Roth, the towering literary figure and legendary chronicler of the American Jewish experience, dies at 85 in New York. An immensely celebrated novelist, Roth won virtually every major literary accolade, including two National Book Awards, two National Book Critics Circle awards, three



Keivork Djansezian/Getty Images

Alex Bregman makes a play in Game 7 of the World Series at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, Nov. 1, 2017.

# 9 things you didn't know about Yom Kippur

By MJL Staff

(My Jewish Learning via JTA)—Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, starts at sundown on Tuesday, Sept. 18. Traditionally one of the most somber days on the Jewish calendar, it's known for fasting and repentance—not to mention killer caffeine withdrawal headaches.

However, the holiday has some lesser-known associations as well.

1. The word “scapegoat” originates in an ancient Yom Kippur ritual.

Jews historically have been popular scapegoats—blamed for an array of ills not of their creation. But, and we're not kid-ding, they really do deserve blame (or credit) for the term scapegoat. In Leviticus 16:8 (in the Torah portion Achrei Mot), the High Priest is instructed on Yom Kippur to lay his hands upon a goat while confessing the sins of the entire community—and then to throw the animal off a cliff.

2. Another animal ritual, swinging a chicken around one's head, has sparked considerable controversy, and not just from animal-rights activists.

In 2015, the kapparot ritual, in which a chicken is symbolically invested with a person's sins and then slaughtered, spurred two lawsuits in the United States: one by traditional Jews claiming their right to perform it was being abridged by the government and another by animal-rights activists. Centuries earlier, the ritual drew criticism from notable sages like the Ramban (13th century) and Rabbi Joseph Caro (16th century), whose objections had less to do with animal welfare than with religious integrity.

3. Yom Kippur once was a big matchmaking day.

The Talmud states that both Yom Kippur and Tu b'Av (often described as the Jewish Valentine's Day) were the most joyous days of the year, when women would wear white gowns and dance in the vineyards chanting “Young man, lift up your eyes and see what you choose for yourself. Do not set your eyes on beauty, but set your eyes on a good family.” Given the aforementioned caffeine headaches and the difficulty of making a decision on an empty stomach, we're glad this particular tradition is no more.

4. Food and drink are not the only things Jews abstain from on Yom Kippur.

Other traditional no-nos on



Ilia Yefimovich/Getty Images

**Orthodox Jewish girls performing the kapparot ceremony in Jerusalem, Oct. 10, 2016.**

Yom Kippur include bathing, wearing perfume or lotions, having sexual relations and wearing leather shoes. The less-than-attractive aroma resulting from the first two restrictions (not to mention the romantic restrictions imposed by the third) may explain why the day ceased to be an occasion for finding true love.

5. In Israel, Yom Kippur is the most bike-friendly day of the year.

Although many Israelis are secular, and there is no law on the books forbidding driving on Yom Kippur, virtually all the country's Jews avoid their cars on this day. With only the occasional emergency vehicle on the road, bikers of all ages can be seen pedaling, even on major highways.

6. Eating a big meal before the holiday begins will make your fast harder rather than easier.

Traditionally, the meal eaten before beginning the fast is supposed to be large and festive, following the Talmudic dictum that it is a mitzvah (commandment) to eat on the eve of Yom Kippur, just as it is a mitzvah to fast on Yom Kippur itself. However, eating extra food—particularly in one last-minute feast—does not help to keep you going for 24 hours, says Dr. Tzvi Dwolatzky of Israel's Rambam Health Care Campus. He suggests eating small amounts of carbohydrates (bread, potato, rice, pasta), some protein (fish, chicken) and fruit.

7. On Yom Kippur in 1940, London's Jews kept calm and carried on.

In the midst of the Battle of Britain, the relentless Nazi bombardment of London that began in September 1940, the city's synagogues went on with their Yom Kippur services. According to JTA, while air raid warnings “twice

disturbed” the morning services on Oct. 12, 1940, “most synagogues carried on regardless” and a “large proportion of the men attending services wore uniforms of the various forces.”

8. Yom Kippur's Kol Nidre services are the only night of the entire Jewish calendar when a prayer shawl is worn for evening prayers.

According to the late Rabbi Louis Jacobs, the tallit (prayer shawl) is worn during Kol Nidre as “a token of special reverence for the holy day.” It is traditional to wear a tallit or a white garment for the entire holiday, with the color white symbolizing both our spiritual purity and our removing ourselves from the vanities of the material world. Many people actually wear a white robe called a kittel.

9. A Virginia rabbi's pro-civil rights movement sermon on Yom Kippur in 1958 riled up local segregationists and sparked fears of an anti-Semitic backlash.

JTA reported that Virginia's Defenders of State Sovereignty group demanded that local Jews “move quickly to refute and condemn” Rabbi Emmet Frank of Alexandria's Temple Beth El for his sermon criticizing the state's “massive resistance” to school desegregation and said that if he had intended to destroy Christian-Jewish relations, “he could not have been more effective.” While a “leading member” of the Reform temple reportedly said a “considerable” number of congregants worried Frank's stand “might result in increased anti-Semitism,” others “sided with the rabbi, holding that he held a spiritual and moral duty to speak out for social justice.” The congregation stood by Frank, and The Washington Post published an editorial calling him a “courageous clergyman.”

## OBITUARY

### PAUL A. GROSSMAN

Submitted by Paul Grossman's family

Paul A. Grossman of Longwood passed away Sunday, July 29, 2018, at the age of 83. He was born in Jersey City, New Jersey. He was predeceased by his mother, Sylvia Schluger Grossman, who died when he was six years old, and his parents, Henry and Sylvia Schwartz Grossman, who raised him.

After graduating from

Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., he moved to Plainview, N.Y., where he pursued a career in sales. In 1969, he relocated to Maitland, Fla.

Paul was a strong supporter of Jewish Family Services, as well as his temple, Congregation of Reform Judaism, where he served two terms as president.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Grossman; children, Sandy Grossman (Richard Berkowitz) of Miami, Felecia

(Brent) Ziegler of Orlando, Jennifer Kahn of North Andover, Mass., and Jeremy Kahn (Jennifer Marin) of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and 10 grandchildren—Bari Pasternack; Louis and Hannah Berkowitz; Eli and Brian Ziegler; Michael, Naomi and Owen Raizin; and Aaron and Sophie Kahn, all of whom will miss their “Poppie.”

He also will be missed by his family and friends and everyone in the community who knew him.

## 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)**, 181 E. Mitchell Hammock, Oviedo, 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 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

# SYNAGOGUE SERVICE SCHEDULE

The following synagogues provided information about their High Holiday services to the Heritage by press time. For information about services at other local synagogues, contact the individual congregations. Most synagogues require tickets for admission, and their cost varies from congregation to congregation. Some may open one or more of their holiday services to the community. For tickets or information, contact the individual synagogue.

## Celebration Jewish Congregation (Reform)

Celebration Jewish Congregation members have received an invitation from Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz of Congregation Beth Emeth to attend High Holy Days Services this year. Congregation Beth Emeth is a Reform congregation that conducts High Holy Days services at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819. Rabbi Lefkowitz has graciously invited CJC congregants to worship with Beth Emeth without the formality of paying annual dues. Like CJC, attendees should consider an appropriate donation to help defray costs of conducting services. Please go to Beth Emeth's website at [www.congregationbethemeth.com](http://www.congregationbethemeth.com) for specific service schedule and other information.

## Chabad House, Center for Jewish Life (Orthodox)

Rabbi Yossi Hecht

All services take place at

13030 CR 103

Oxford, Fla. 352-330-4466

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

Services are free of charge. Please RSVP

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 7:15 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning services 10 a.m.; Torah reading, 12:30 p.m.; Yizkor, 1 p.m.; Mincha, 6 p.m.; Neilah, 6:45 p.m.; Fast ends 8:04 p.m. Breakfast and refreshments, ~ 8:04

## Chabad-Lubavitch of North Orlando (Orthodox)

Rabbi Yanky Majesky

All services held at Noah's Even Venue, 720 Currency Circle, Lake Mary, Fla. 406-636-5994

[www.jewishnorthorlando.com](http://www.jewishnorthorlando.com)

At Chabad, no one is turned away due to lack of funds. Reservations are appreciated.

Tues. Sept. 18, Yom Kippur eve, Kol Nidrei, children's program, 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning service/children's program, 9:30 a.m.; Mincha, 5:30; Neilah/children's service/BreakFast, starting 6:45 p.m.

## Chabad of South Orlando (Orthodox)

Rabbi Yosef Konikov

Services will be held at:

The Sheraton Lake Buena Vista

12205 Apopka-Vineland Rd.

Orlando, FL 32836

[www.jewishorlando.com](http://www.jewishorlando.com)

No membership fees or tickets required. Donations recommended.

Tues. Sept. 18, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 7:10 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning service, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, 11 a.m.; Mincha, 5:30 p.m.; Neilah, 6:30 p.m.; Fast ends, 8 p.m.

## Congregation Ahavas Yisrael/Chabad (Orthodox)

Rabbi Sholom Dubov

Chabad Jewish Center

708 Lake Howell Road

Maitland, Fla. 407-644-2500

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Yizkor, noon; Neilah, 6:30 p.m.; Fast ends, 8:01 p.m.

## Congregation B'nai Torah (Progressive Conservative)

Rabbi S. David Kane

403 N. Nova Rd.

Ormond Beach, Fla. 386-672-6834

[www.mybnaitorah.com](http://www.mybnaitorah.com)

No tickets required.

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur service, 9 a.m.; Jonah & the Whale, Neilah, 5:30 p.m., followed by Break Fast

## Congregation Bet Chaim (Reform)

Cantorial soloist, Jillian Marini

Services will be held at:

The Figland Event Center

220 Alafaya Woods Blvd. #1004

Oviedo, FL 32765

407-830-7211

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Erev Yom Kippur 8 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning service, 10 a.m.; Afternoon service, 2:30 p.m.; Yizkor, 4:30 p.m.

## Congregation Beth Am (Conservative)

3899 Sand Lake Rd.

Longwood, Fla. 407-862-3505

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

Services are open to the community

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9:30 a.m.; Family Neilah, 6:30 p.m.; Glowstick Havdalah and shofar, 7:58 p.m.

## Congregation Beth Israel (Progressive)

Rabbi Goldie Milgram (via a live, interactive streaming broadcast)

Services to be held at:

Brentwood Assisted Living Facility

4511 48th ave.

Ocala, Fla.

352-307-3662

[www.mybethshalom.com](http://www.mybethshalom.com)

Tues. Sept. 18, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 10 a.m.; Study session, 4 p.m.; Yizkor, 4:30 p.m.; Neilah, 5 p.m.; Break Fast, 7 p.m.

Congregation Beth Shalom (Progressive Conservation)

Rabbi Winston Weilheimer

1308 E. Normandy Blvd, Deltona 32725

Deltona, Fla. 386-804-8283

[www.mybethshalom.com](http://www.mybethshalom.com)

Tues. Sept. 18, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, noon; Neilah, 6:30 p.m.; Break Fast, 7 p.m.

## Congregation Beth Shalom of Leesburg (Reform/Conservative)

Rabbi Karen Allen

315 North 13th St.

Leesburg Fla. 352-326-3692

[Bethshalomflorida.org](http://Bethshalomflorida.org)

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Children's service, 10 a.m.; morning service, 10:30 a.m.; Yizkor, noon; Afternoon service and Neilah, 5:15 p.m.

## Congregation of Reform Judaism (Reform)

Rabbi Steven W. Engel

Cantor Jacqueline Rawiszser

928 Malone Dr.

Orlando, Fla. 407-645-0444

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 8 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur morning service, Youth service and Babysitting 9:30 a.m.; Meditation service, 12:45 p.m.; Family service, 2 p.m.; Yizkor, 3:45 p.m.; Healing service, 5 p.m.; Neilah, 6 p.m. Break Fast, 6:15 p.m.

## Congregation Ohev Shalom (Conservative)

Senior Rabbi David Kay

Cantor Allan Robuck

613 Concourse Pkwy. S.,

Maitland, Fla. 407-298-4650

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Mincha, 6:30 p.m.; Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, 1:30 p.m.; Mincha, 5:30 p.m.; Neilah, 6:45 p.m.

## Congregation Shalom Aleichem (Reform)

Rabbi Rafi Cohen

3501 Oak Pointe Blvd.

Kissimmee, FL 34746

407-935-0064

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 8 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 10 a.m.; Neilah, 5 p.m.

Congregation Sinai of Minneola (Conservative/Reform)

Spiritual leader Joseph Goldovitz and Lynn Goldovitz

1200 West Broad St.

Groveland, Fla., 34736

352-243-5353

[www.congregaton-sinai.org](http://www.congregaton-sinai.org)

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9:45 a.m.; Yizkor, noon; Closing service, 5 p.m.; Break Fast following closing service

## Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation (Conservative)

Rabbi Hillel Skolnik

Cantor Doug Ramsay

11200 S. Apopka Vineland Rd.

Orlando Fla. 407-239-5444

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur service, 9 a.m.; Afternoon services, 5 p.m.

## Temple Israel (Conservative)

Rabbi Joshua Neely

Cantorial soloist Debbie Meitin

50 S. Moss Rd.

Winter Springs, Fla. 407-647-3055

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

Tues. Sept. 18 Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, 11:50 a.m.; Mincha, 5 p.m.; Neilah, 7 p.m.; Ma'ariv, 7:50 p.m., Shofar, 8:15 p.m.

## Temple Shir Shalom (Reform)

Rabbi Kim Singer

All services held at the First United Methodist Church of Oviedo. 263 King St.

Oviedo, Fla. 406-366-3556

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 10 a.m.; Family service, 3 p.m.; Yizkor, 4:30 p.m.; Neilah, 5:30 p.m.; Break Fast, 6:30 p.m.

Traditional Congregation of Mount Dora (Traditional)

Rabbi Hayyim Solomon

848 North Donnelly

Mount Dora, Fla. 352-735-4774

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

Tues. Sept. 18, Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.

Wed. Sept. 19, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Mincha, 2 p.m.; Neilah, 7 p.m.; 8:02 fast ends.

## J.K. Rowling calls out writer over Jeremy Corbyn and anti-Semitism



J.K. Rowling

(JTA)—J.K. Rowling went head to head with a fellow British writer on Twitter over his criticism of Jewish complaints about anti-Semitism in the Labour Party.

Simon Maginn, who has

written five thrillers under his own name and satirical comedies under the name Simon Nolan, on Sunday in a tweet called Jewish outrage over Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's 2013 comments indicating that "Zionists" do not understand British culture "patently synthetic outrage," and called on a Jewish tweeter to "Explain your deep and wounding sense of injury."

Rowling, who is not Jewish, tweeted in response: "How dare you tell a Jew that their outrage is 'patently synthetic'? How dare you demand that they lay bare their pain and fear on demand, for your personal evaluation? What other minority would you speak to this way?"

Maginn then called on Rowling to explain, noting that Corbyn has said that

his comments did not refer to Jews but was "a rather complicated joke about the Palestinian ambassador's fluency in English."

The opening salvos set up a back and forth that lasted throughout Sunday. Rowling tweeted several quotes from Jean-Paul Sartre's "Anti-Semite and Jew," a famous essay on anti-Semitism by the philosopher, and lambasted him for demanding that a British Jew explain how he feels under anti-Semitic attack "when there are literally hundreds of accounts currently online explaining how British Jews currently feel?"

Maginn accused Rowling of "libel" for publicly calling him an anti-Semite in one of her tweets, but tweeted that "I'm not going to mount a legal action against you because I haven't got any money and

you've got a lot, but false + defamatory = libellous. What a class act you are. What a nasty vicious little bully. Blocked."

Early Monday morning he continued his harangue, opening with a tweet reading: "BREAKING NEWS: From today, any statement by Jeremy Corbyn or his supporters is now \*automatically antisemitic\*, unless cleared by a panel comprising Dan Hodges, JK Rowling, Stephen Pollard and (wild card entry) David Baddiel."

Dan Hodges is a columnist for the Daily Mail who has accused Corbyn supporters of overt anti-Semitism. Pollard is the editor of London's Jewish Chronicle newspaper, and Baddiel is a British comedian and activist who campaigns against anti-Semitism in British soccer matches.

Maginn called on Rowling

to apologize for "a sickening personal accusation against a complete stranger who disagrees with you politically," also tweeting that "your followers surely deserve better than this kind of behaviour from you. So do I. I deserve an apology."

Rowling, who has 14.4 million followers on Twitter, did not respond.

Maginn has tweeted against Jews in the past. In July, in response to the Labour Party rejecting the complete international definition of anti-Semitism, he wrote: "As-tounding isn't it, that a group which claims to be silenced, oppressed, powerless manages to keep the story running day after day, week after week, month after month, in every Tory paper and on the Tory BBC. Must be terrible to be so oppressed, so silenced."

It is not the first time that Rowling has debated anti-Semitism on Twitter. In April, she posted a screen grab of a non-Jew attempting to explain what Judaism is—"Judaism is a religion not a race"—and explained why this is hardly relevant to defining anti-Jewish bias.

She tweeted: "Most UK Jews in my timeline are currently having to field this kind of crap, so perhaps some of us non-Jews should start shouldering the burden," she said. "Anti-Semites think this is a clever argument, so tell us, do: were atheist Jews exempted from wearing the yellow star? #antisemitism."

She also responded when someone argued that Arabs can't be anti-Semitic because they are Semites. "The 'Arabs are semitic too' hot takes have arrived," she tweeted.

# Weekly roundup of world briefs from JTA

## Trump said Jared Kushner should not serve in White House

(JTA)—President Donald Trump last year agreed with a former aide that Jared Kushner should not serve in the White House due to potential complications involving Kushner's business dealings, the new book by journalist Bob Woodward claims.

According to a story in Newsweek, "Fear: Trump in the White House" says that Trump contemplated the liability posed to him by Kushner, his son-in-law and senior adviser, following reports that Kushner's business interests were being looked into by U.S. special counsel Robert Mueller.

Mueller is heading an investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and any involvement by Trump and his campaign.

The Washington Post reported that Mueller had requested more of Kushner's business records and that Kushner had hired a top Washington criminal defense lawyer.

Then-White House chief of staff Reince Priebus "decided to escalate, make a big play" of the June 15, 2017, Washington Post story headlined "Special Counsel Is Investigating Jared Kushner's Business Dealings," according to the book, which is scheduled for release next week.

"Priebus could see the fires building around a string of troubled investments Jared was involved in," Woodward writes. "He told Trump that Jared should not be in the White House in an official capacity. Nepotism laws existed for a reason," Woodward continued, paraphrasing Priebus.

"The Mueller investigation was going deeply into Jared's finances. And it will jump to your finances if it hasn't already," Priebus told Trump, according to the book.

Trump would normally ignore or dismiss such attacks on Kushner, Woodward wrote.

"This time he paused, slowed down, and became reflective. He looked at his chief of staff," the book says. "The response was jarring, so different."

"You're right," Trump is quoted as saying.

Priebus apparently continued to tell the president that Kushner should not hold an official position in the White House or have an office.

"But this suggestion would ricochet right back and get him in trouble with Jared, who wanted to stay," Woodward writes. "Jared remained a mission Priebus failed to accomplish."

The president did nothing to remove his son-in-law. Just over a month later, it was Priebus whom Trump ousted, replacing him with John Kelly, who had been serving as secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

"The book means nothing," Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday, when asked about a passage about Syria. "It's a work of fiction."

## 'Iran fighting to survive,' Trump says on Rosh Hashanah greeting call

(JTA)—The U.S. pullout from the nuclear deal with Iran triggered a European desertion of that country that

is threatening its regime's survival, President Donald Trump said.

Trump spoke about the issue Thursday during a Rosh Hashanah phone call with rabbis and Jewish leaders. Taking part in the 20-minute call were his son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner; U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman; the attorney and law professor Alan Dershowitz; and former U.S. Sen. Norm Coleman of Minnesota.

Trump did not invite questions from listeners, although Coleman and Dershowitz both asked questions. Last year, leaders of the Reconstructionist, Reform and Conservative streams declined to organize the annual pre-Rosh Hashanah call in the wake of Trump's comments surrounding the Charlottesville white supremacist rally. This year's invitation list leaned heavily toward Orthodox and hawkish pro-Israel groups, the Forward reported.

"Now the Europeans are finally leaving. They're finally saying, 'All right, look, this is just not working.' You know, they tried to play hardball for a little while, but they're now leaving and they're doing the right thing," Trump said about Iran.

In June, the French automaker Peugeot-Citroen said it intended to leave the Iranian market for fear of U.S. sanctions. Other European corporations that said they would leave Iran following the deal's termination in May include the French energy firm Total; the Danish shipping giant Maersk; the German conglomerate Siemens; and the Russian energy firm Lukoil.

American corporations including General Electric, Honeywell and Boeing also announced that they were leaving Iran following the U.S. pullout from the deal. The Asian conglomerates Reliance, Mazda and Hyundai suspended contracts with Iran.

Trump has said that Iran did not live up to the spirit of the deal it reached with the United States and six other powers under former president Barack Obama in 2015. It offered Iran sanctions relief in return for its scaling back of parts of its nuclear program. Israel and Saudi Arabia opposed the deal, arguing it was too soft and that its 10-year time limitation period meant Iran could build nuclear weapons once it expires. But Obama, leaders of the European Union, which was a party in the deal, and other advocates said it was the best way to block Iran's path to developing a nuclear bomb.

When the United States pulled out, it exposed European and other firms that do business with Iran to U.S. sanctions, forcing several of the firms to leave Iran. These developments, compounded by low oil prices, sent the Iranian currency into a free-fall. The rial hit a record low this week of around 150,000 against the dollar, compared to about 3,500 rial for one dollar in September 2016.

In the phone call Thursday, Trump said he did not anticipate the full scope of his actions on Iran.

"It turned out to have a much bigger impact than

I thought. I did it primarily because of nuclear, but I knew it wouldn't be great for their economy. I had no idea how devastating it would be," he said.

In 2016, Trump said, "It was a question of when will they [Iran] take over the entire Middle East. And that probably includes Israel, in the mind of a lot of people." Yet today, "they are now really looking to survive."

He said the United States would be prepared to negotiate a new agreement with Iran if the latter seeks talks.

Trump also said that his former secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, "didn't like terminating" the deal.

"I played the game for a while; I wish I did it sooner," the president said. "But I played that little game for a while, and then ultimately I decided I'm just doing it. And I did it."

In the talk, Trump and his interlocutors revisited major policy changes vis-à-vis Israel since he took office, including moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. The speakers thanked Trump for making the move. Trump said he encountered so much resistance from world leaders that he stopped taking their calls over the issue.

He also noted the U.S. announcement that it would pull out of the United Nations Human Rights Council over its anti-Israel bias and the decision to permanently stop making contributions to UNRWA, the U.N. aid agency for Palestinians.

Trump reiterated his belief that moving the embassy to Jerusalem took the subject "off the table," clearing a path to peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. The Palestinian Authority has said it will not engage in such talks, saying the United States is not an honest broker.

"I think it's disrespectful when people don't come to the table," Trump said about the issue.

Regarding Rosh Hashanah, Trump said: "I send my warmest wishes to the Jewish people in the United States and around the world as we approach the High Holy Days. I want to express my deep admiration and gratitude for the extraordinary contributions of the Jewish people to the United States and to the world."

Over the centuries, he said, "The Jewish people have suffered unthinkable persecution, yet you have not only endured, you have thrived and flourished as an example of humankind."

His own "connection to Judaism is also personal," Trump said. "I am the very proud father of a Jewish daughter, Ivanka, and my son-in-law, who I'm very proud of also—I will say that very loudly—Jared, and my several Jewish grandchildren, namely three beautiful Jewish grandchildren that I love."

## Twitter permanently bans Alex Jones

(JTA)—Twitter has permanently banned right-wing conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and his "Infowars" show for abusive behavior.

Twitter says Jones won't be able to create new accounts on Twitter or take over any existing ones, The Associated Press

reported Thursday. Jones posted a video on Wednesday that is in violation of the company's policy against "abusive behavior," the firm said. The video in question shows Jones shouting at and berating CNN journalist Oliver Darcy for some 10 minutes during congressional hearings about social media.

Jones, a Dallas-born radio show host, had about 900,000 followers on Twitter. "Infowars" had about 430,000.

Twitter had suspended Jones for a week, but until now had resisted further muzzling him. Other tech companies have limited Jones by suspending him for longer periods, as Facebook did, and by taking down his pages and radio stations.

Jones has promoted numerous conspiracy theorists, including that the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting attack never happened and that the U.S. government was involved in the 9/11 terror attacks. The parents of Jewish Sandy Hook victim Noah Pozner, 6, sued Jones for denying that the attack took place.

Some of Jones' conspiracy theories involve Jews, such as that "leftist Jews" may have impersonated Nazis to discredit white supremacist protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia, in August 2017 and that there is a "Jewish mafia" run by George Soros. In the past, Jones has denied that he is anti-Semitic, saying he reserves his attacks for Jewish liberals.

In December 2015, Donald Trump appeared on "The Alex Jones Show," where the then-candidate for the Republican presidential nomination told the host that "your reputation is amazing" and promised he would "not let you down."

## Moe Berg, catcher who became a spy, gets an exhibit in Baseball Hall of Fame

(JTA)—Moe Berg is going into the Baseball Hall of Fame—as a spy, not a catcher.

The shrine to the national pastime in Cooperstown, New York, recently opened an exhibit on the Jewish player, who gained more attention for his espionage than a 15-year career in which he finished with a batting average of .243 and six home runs.

Berg, following his baseball days in the 1920s and '30s, worked for the Office of Strategic Services, or OSS—a precursor to the CIA. He went on missions in then-Yugoslavia, where he tracked resistance groups, and Italy, where he interviewed physicists about the German nuclear program.

The Cooperstown exhibit, titled "Moe Berg: Big League Spy," looks at his exploits in both worlds through baseball artifacts and wartime documents.

A New Yorker who spoke more than 10 languages (seven fluently) and graduated from Princeton, Berg was the subject of the film "The Catcher Was a Spy," released in June. Jewish actor Paul Rudd portrayed Berg, who died in 1972 at 70.

## Budapest synagogue reopens after centuries of disuse

(JTA)—A former synagogue in Hungary's capital city that had not been used as a place of worship in centuries reopened as a Jewish house of worship

in a ceremony attended by the country's president.

President János Áder attended the rededication and opening ceremony of Buda Castle Synagogue on Thursday as a guest of the Chabad-affiliated EMIH federation of Jewish communities, the organization said in a statement.

The synagogue on Táncsics Street, which used to be a Jewish museum, was opened especially in time for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.

Budapest, whose name is a mashup of the two parts of the city comprising the metropolis, has dozens of synagogues. But a vast majority of them are in Pest, which is the bustling part of the city east of the Danube River. Placid and hilly Buda, by contrast, contains most of the city's foreign embassies, many churches and museums. But it has only a handful of synagogues.

Buda had many more Jews before the Holocaust, but those who survived the genocide were all moved to Pest, with few returning to Buda. Some 100,000 Jews live today in Hungary, mostly in Budapest.

"Seeing this place 70 years after the Holocaust, seeing hundreds of people celebrating this special event in the Buda Castle with their heads held high, in the presence of the honorable president, I can hear the footsteps of Israel's final redemption," Rabbi Shlomo Koves, who heads EMIH, said in a speech at the ceremony.

A Budapest-born rabbi, Asher Faith, will lead the synagogue, which sits near one of the main city gates built in the Middle Ages and is still known as the Jewish Gate. It is also near the Hungarian National Gallery inside the Buda Castle Palace—an imposing 13th-century structure.

Others attending the ceremony included Dutch Chief Rabbi Binyomin Jacobs, who represented the Rabbinical Centre of Europe, an Orthodox umbrella body.

## Chabad Hungary joins Holocaust museum project boycotted by other Jewish groups

(JTA)—Hungary's controversial Holocaust museum will open next year despite opposition by some in the Jewish community to its premise and staff, according to a government statement.

Gergely Gulyás, the head of the Prime Minister's Office, said Friday at a news conference that the House of Fates will open in Budapest in 2019, four years after the building for the new institution was completed. The local Chabad community has replaced the country's other Jewish federation of communities as a partner in the museum, according to the report.

"The horrors of the Nazi and communist dictatorships of the 20th century must never be forgotten," Gulyás said, according to the MTI news agency. "The fact that Hungary's Jews were shipped off to death camps after the German invasion of March 19, 1944 doesn't absolve the state... of the crime of failing to protect its citizens. There's no collective guilt, only state responsibility."

The Simon Wiesenthal Center and other Jewish groups consider equating

Nazism and communism a form of Holocaust distortion. Hungarian troops and officials under Nazi collaborators Miklos Horthy and later Ferenc Szálasi actively hunted hundreds of thousands of Jews during the Holocaust, at times killing them brutally without German involvement.

The museum cost the Hungarian government \$22 million. It will add another \$6.1 million for its opening, Gulyás said.

Part of the reason for the delay in opening is the refusal of the Mazsihisz federation of Jewish communities and the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum in Jerusalem to cooperate with the museum, according to an expose published last year by the news site 444.

The two organizations criticized the appointment of historian Maria Schmidt to head the House of Fates. Schmidt has said Nazism was no worse than Soviet communism—a narrative favored by nationalists across Eastern Europe.

But the state museum will work in cooperation with another Jewish Hungarian federation, Gulyás said, naming the Chabad-affiliated EMIH umbrella group, the MTI news agency reported.

Relations between Mazsihisz and EMIH have deteriorated in recent years amid tensions over relations with the right-wing government of Prime Minister Viktor Orban.

Mazsihisz broke its ties with the government over the unveiling in 2014 of a sculpture commemorating the victims of Nazi occupation that shows an eagle attacking an angel. Mazsihisz said this suggested, falsely, that Hungary was a victim of Nazi Germany rather than a collaborator. EMIH, however, maintained its relations with the government.

Mazsihisz has also accused the government of fomenting anti-Semitism with its billboard campaign against George Soros, a Hungary-born Jewish billionaire with whom the government clashed over his plan to increase immigration to Europe. EMIH said there was nothing anti-Semitic about the billboards, which featured a picture of Soros laughing and the slogan "don't let him have the last laugh."

Rabbi Slomo Koves, who runs EMIH, addressed Mazsihisz's criticism at the news conference.

"Some chose the easier path, to protest and to get offended," whereas others chose to work together toward a common goal, he said.

"We have to look at what is being established and not who's establishing it," Koves said. "The gesture by the state to build a Holocaust museum which it will entrust to the Jewish community is a call to cooperate."

In a statement, Mazsihisz wrote that EMIH "does not represent" Hungarian Jewry.

"The government's decision brought us disappointment," the statement said. "This was not the promise made neither for us nor for the Israeli government. We want to make it clear irrespectively of the House of Fates that no governments in the world decide who shall represent a religious community."

# Faith and fasting: A look at the practice ahead of Yom Kippur



Flash90

**An Ultra Orthodox Jewish man prays at the Western Wall in Jerusalem's Old City, at the end of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, and the holiest of Jewish holidays. Israel came to a standstill for 25-hours during the high holiday of Yom Kippur when observant Jews fast and Israelis are prohibited from driving.**

**By Maayan Jaffe-Hoffman**

(JNS)—Fasting is the most commonly known Yom Kippur ritual. According to a 2016 Pew survey, 40 percent of American Jews and 60 percent of Israeli Jews fast on the Day of Atonement. Of course, fasting is not exclusive to Judaism. It is an ancient practice whose purpose and benefit span across the three Abrahamic faiths—Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Fasting is mentioned in the Bible and the Koran, and although its practices differ across these religions, they each use food restriction and/or abstinence as a means of growing closer to God through repentance, increased gratitude, mourning and study.

Fasting is broadly defined as the partial or total abstinence from food. In Judaism, one refrains entirely from eating or drinking on major

fast days (Yom Kippur and Tisha B'Av) and on the four minor fast days (the Fast of Gedaliah, the Fast of the 10th of Tevet, the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz and the Fast of Esther, right before Purim).

Aliza Bulow, a Colorado-based Jewish educator, and the author and founder of WICK (Women in Chizuk and Kiruv), told JNS that fasting in Judaism generally centers around atonement for previous wrongdoings, mourning or gratitude, in that by abstaining from food, one realizes his/her dependence on God and appreciates the sustenance God provides.

"Fasting that is not on Yom Kippur is so we will feel a sense of lacking," she explained. "The lacking of food will lead us to feel we are lacking a closeness to Hashem, and we want to get it back."

She said that the Jewish people see the physical as "a gateway to the spiritual."

"On Shabbat, we wear pret-

ty clothes, clean the house, enjoy delicious food... because we want to create a physical environment that helps shift our spiritual perceptions," she said. "Fasting is no different."

Except on Yom Kippur. This 25-hour fast from sunset to nightfall is solemn, humbling and repentant, but also happy in that repentance brings redemption, said Bulow. On Yom Kippur, which is spent mostly in prayer, fasting aims to elevate Jewish souls to the exalted level of mal'achay hasharait, or "ministering angels."

"Yom Kippur is our aesthetic day," said Bulow. "On Yom Kippur, we suffer physically to achieve a spiritual height."

**Fasting in Islam**  
Islam's Ramadan, though 30 days, is akin to Yom Kippur, according to Khalil Albaz, the imam of Tel Sheva in southern Israel.

Ramadan is mandatory for every Muslim man and woman above the age of puberty. Albaz added that if a person is sick, elderly, pregnant or nursing, he or she can have permission not to fast, but will need to make it up later

Wednesday and Good Friday, though voluntary fasting is encouraged and practiced.

The late American evangelist Bill Bright, who is considered a major catalyst for the modern-day resurgence of the discipline of fasting in the Christian church, said fasting is "a way to align our hearts."

"I am convinced that when God's people fast with a proper biblical motive—seeking God's face, not His hand—with a broken, repentant and contrite spirit, God will hear from heaven," Bright wrote in his guide to fasting and prayer. "He will heal our lives, our churches, our communities, our nation and world."

In the Eastern Orthodox tradition, fasting is an important discipline to protect oneself from gluttony, and is generally defined as avoiding meat, dairy products, oil and alcoholic beverages. It is accompanied by almsgiving and prayers; without such acts, it is considered worthless.

Both Catholics and Orthodox Christians observe the Lenten season, which lasts 40 days, starting on Ash Wednesday and ending about six weeks later before Easter Sunday. Lent remembers the fasting of Jesus in the wilderness, and involves atoning in preparation for his death and resurrection at Easter.

In the past, Protestants frowned on fasting, but now it is acknowledged and encouraged as an important spiritual experience among Protestant churches, according to Richard Bloomer, director of the School of Health Studies at the University of Memphis and co-author of *The Daniel Cure*, a restricted 21-day vegan diet based on a fast in the biblical book of Daniel.

He told JNS that in Christianity, the purpose of fasting is to achieve mastery of spirit over body. Today, many churches are integrating it into their worship, especially in January, to begin the new

year through fasting and prayer.

The "Daniel Fast" involves dietary modifications like a purified vegan diet—eating unlimited fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, nuts, seeds and oil while eliminating refined foods, white flour, preservatives, additives, sweeteners, flavorings, caffeine and alcohol. It is derived from the biblical story of Daniel (1:8-14) in which he resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and requested permission to consume nothing but vegetables and water for 10 days. Later in the book (10:2-3), Daniel again observed a 21-day period of fasting, during which time he had no meat or wine.

"Because individuals traditionally follow the 'Daniel Fast' for strict religious purposes to become closer to God during a time of extended prayer, findings have indicated excellent compliance," said Bloomer.

Bloomer believes that while fasting is often a time of spiritual growth, it can also improve one's physical health. He said investigations examining the health-related effects of religiously motivated fasts have found favorable health outcomes, including weight and body fat loss, reductions in blood pressure and improvement of fasting blood sugar and insulin levels, which are important for metabolic health.

The author said it remains unclear whether the people of the Bible knew of the health benefits of fasting, but that in the book of Daniel, it is noted that those who did not eat the food from the king's table performed and looked better, and were healthier.

"Fasting, first and foremost, it should be about spiritual growth and not necessarily about health," he said. "But getting in great physical condition... is a wonderful side effect."

1	S	E	P	T	5	M	E	G	A	9	F	O	R	A	Y				
14	A	W	R	Y	15	T	I	O	S	16	I	N	A	N	E				
17	K	E	E	P	18	I	N	G	T	H	19	E	F	A	I	T	H		
			20	T	I	S		21	H	Y	E	N	A		22	S	O	U	
23		24	T	H	E	F	A	S	T	A	N	D		26	T	E	N	D	
27	A	R	E	Y	O	U		28	S	29	H	A	R	I	A				
30	B	E	N				31	M	32	E	S	A		35	E	R	S	O	S
			36	A	T	O	N	E	M	38	E	N	T						
39	T	H	A	N	E		42	E	R	I	C		43	A	P	T			
46	H	A	M	A	N	47	S		48	R	49	A	50	M	M	E	D		
51	E	R	A	S		52	T	H	E	53	F	54	U	R	I	O	U	S	
56	A	D	D		57	N	A	O	M		58	C	C	R					
59	T	W	E	N	T	Y	F	I	F	61	T	H	H	O	62	U	R		
64	R	O	U	S	H		65	F	L	E	A		66	A	U	T	O		
67	E	N	S	U	E		68	A	S	S	N		69	L	S	A	T		

4	2	7	5	1	9	3	6	8
3	5	9	7	8	6	1	4	2
1	6	8	4	3	2	7	9	5
2	7	1	6	5	8	9	3	4
5	8	3	9	4	7	6	2	1
6	9	4	3	2	1	5	8	7
7	4	5	8	6	3	2	1	9
9	3	2	1	7	4	8	5	6
8	1	6	2	9	5	4	7	3

## Reform

From page 1A

Hundreds of area residents attend High Holiday services at the synagogue and thousands attend lectures and other programs throughout the year, Haaretz reported.

## Sukkot

From page 1A

dressed as Moses, will give introductions.

Explaining the purpose of the tours, Dorcik said, "The purpose of this program is

to first, be biblical. Fellowship church serves the G-d of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and we make no distinction between Torah, prophets and the Christian gospels and letters. Our position and actions

attracts Israelis not only from Hod Hasharon but from all over the region. Through our creative approach we have been successful in connecting old and young, families and singles with their heritage,"

the congregation says on its website. It says that it has raised \$1 million of the \$2 million needed to build and furnish the 13,000 square-foot synagogue.

*Christine DeSouza contributed to this article.*

are based on whole biblical truth, not long-standing church teachings, doctrine or structure. G-d has shown His great plan of redemption for the whole earth through all of the biblical writings. Jesus, Paul and the early church observed all of G-d's festivals and we count it as a joyful service to G-d to observe them as well."

In addition to the tours, Fellowship will offer a wide range of activities: a special Friday evening service followed by an outdoor celebration complete with food, fellowship around a campfire and camping; a special brunch on Saturday followed by tabernacle tours and other Sukkot-themed activities, ending with a special dinner, procession and worship service.

Why does Fellowship want to do this? "We want to share the truth and joy of

celebrating G-d's festivals with other local churches and the Jewish community," Dorcik stated, explaining that there is a real need, in the church at large, "to recapture our Hebraic roots and align ourselves with G-dly, biblical principles."

Dorcik explained that through this Sukkot festival the church will draw closer to G-d and learn to properly identify with the people of Israel and local Jewish communities so that His great purposes will be fulfilled.

Although Fellowship Church's Sukkot 2018 is geared toward teaching Christians about the festival, this event is open to everyone.

Reservations are required for the camp-out, Saturday brunch, dinner buffet and celebration in the Tent of David. For information about costs, please call the church office at 407-699-1011.

**HEALTHY EYES WEAR SUNGLASSES**

Every day that you're outside, you're exposed to dangerous, but invisible, ultraviolet (UV) sunlight. Left unprotected, prolonged exposure to UV radiation can seriously damage the eye, leading to cataracts, skin cancer around the eyelid and other eye disorders. Protecting your eyes is important to maintaining eye health now and in the future.

Shield your eyes (and your family's eyes) from harmful UV rays. Wear sunglasses with maximum UV protection.

For more information, visit [www.thevisioncouncil.org/consumers/sunglasses](http://www.thevisioncouncil.org/consumers/sunglasses).  
A public service message from The Vision Council.

THE VISION COUNCIL

## Kids

From page 1A

across Israel, more than 1,000 children and parents from the Gaza Envelope were bused to Ammunition Hill in Jerusalem to kick off the events. A renowned historical site, the area boasts sprawling green lawns and a built-in recreational campus.

“It’s just such a gift to us” “This summer has been especially challenging,” said Einat Eliyashir, a mother of three from Moshav Yesha. “To go out from the Gaza Envelope, suddenly these

concerns fade away. It warms our hearts to know that there are so many JNF supporters who are thinking about us and helping us to have such an incredible day of fun for the whole family. I don’t have enough words to explain how much this means to us.”

For Eliyashir’s 11-year-old daughter, Meitar, this break made all the difference in the world.

“This summer has been a little scary,” she said. “This is our summer vacation, and if I want to go outside to play, I always have to be close to the bomb shelters.

“It is so important to all of

us to be able to get out and have fun during our summer break, and it is amazing that there are people who care about us to give us this opportunity and understand our situation,” continued Meitar. “It is so much fun to be able to come to a safe place and enjoy ourselves for a day.”

Clowns, balloons, games, climbing walls, obstacle courses, zip lines, live music, food and drink, and many other activities served as a way to relieve the stress these families face. Kids were also offered a VIP tour through the site by Israel Defense Forces’ veteran soldiers who

fought in the Ammunition Hill battle during the 1967 Six-Day War.

With their faces covered in face paint and hands grasping balloon animals, the children had time to be ... children.

“It’s fun to come out to a place like this,” said Shay Sagiv, one of the girls from Kibbutz Sufa. “I’ve known about donors supporting us in the past, but not like this. It’s just such a gift to us to have a day like today.”

Gal Beinart, a mom from Moshav Sde Nitzan, explained that she has four boys between 5 and 14, and moved to the region 12 years ago for its strong

sense of community. “The only thing is that life can be stressful,” she acknowledges, “but we are so lucky to be out here on this beautiful day with our boys, and participating in all the activities and sports.”

Her 12-year old son, Roi, said, “Our summer has been fun, but there were a lot of alarms and bombs that have made it very difficult. We appreciated being able to come out to places like this to just have fun. This feels normal, and it’s awesome.”

Maayan Nochomovitz, a mother from Moshav Ein Hasof, said it’s not good for the kids “to hear the rockets

all the time and to run for the shelters. The kids always ask if they are able to go outside or what to do in an emergency; it’s not an easy situation at all.”

Amid stories of what the families endured back home, the smiles on so many faces didn’t go unnoticed by the executives, staff and volunteers managing the event.

“This right here is the spirit of the Jewish people, of the Jewish nation,” said Eric Michaelson, JNF chief Israel officer, as he looked across the field packed with children. “In good times and bad, we are there to stand with and support them.”

## Tobin

From page 4A

Normalizing or excusing hate diminishes everyone. That applies not just to Clinton, who should have known better, but for every artist who consented to appear with him on the same stage.

Farrakhan is no different from former KKK leader David Duke, except for the

fact that he has many more followers. Still, you don’t need much of an imagination to know what the reaction would be (and rightly so) from the same media that ignored Farrakhan at the Franklin funeral if Duke were embraced by prominent figures in another music genre or wound up sharing the stage with a former president. The

outrage would be immense and immediate, as well as completely justified.

Anti-Semitism of any kind is not to be ignored. But the fact that so many prominent cultural and political figures, including the mainstream media, failed the Farrakhan test while going overboard about marginal figures on the right illustrates a serious

problem with our thinking about the issue.

Ours is a time when Farrakhan is treated as a legitimate leader, and anti-Semitism disguised as anti-Zionism and hate for Israel has become an endemic problem on American college campuses. It is also starting to be tolerated by some on the left wing of

our political spectrum. Yet mainstream media talking heads and many in the Jewish community still prefer to obsess about a tiny right-wing movement with no influence because they think they can establish a false connection to Trump. We can and should oppose hate whether it comes from the right, the left or a minority commu-

nity. But inflating one threat while ignoring another far more important one is not merely foolish, it’s a dangerous game whose potential consequences shouldn’t be underestimated.

*Jonathan S. Tobin is editor in chief of JNS—Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter at: @jonathans\_tobin.*

## West Bank

From page 5A

Post, reports in the current issue of Commentary that Israel has become a global force in television, “one of the world’s most prolific exporters of ‘formats’—industry jargon for concepts and programs.”

BDS warriors recently attempted to persuade Netflix

to cancel plans to broadcast a second season of “Fauda,” a series about an Israeli special-forces unit operating on the West Bank. Featuring sympathetic characters on both sides of the conflict, it’s become what Brown calls “a guilty pleasure” for Palestinian viewers.

In March, a BDS group sent Netflix a letter threat-

ening “nonviolent grassroots pressure and possible legal accountability.” Among the responses that evoked: A Hollywood organization called the Creative Community for Peace urged Netflix to reject this “blatant attempt at artistic censorship.” The show’s second season was released in May as planned. (Mini-

review: It’s spectacularly good TV.)

For all that, the menace BDS poses remains. The Nazi slogan of the 1930s that presaged the Holocaust was “Don’t buy from Jews!” BDS proponents have updated that to “Don’t buy from the Jewish state!” Leaders of the campaign do not hide their own exterminationist inten-

tions. If that means innocent, peaceable and hardworking Palestinians end up as collateral damage, c’est la guerre.

Meanwhile, anti-Israelism and anti-Semitism are on the rise throughout much of Europe. And on American campuses, where left/progressive doctrines dominate, BDS sophists convince credulous undergraduates that

the freest and most tolerant nation in the Middle East is singularly oppressive.

By doing so, they get to call themselves champions of the Palestinian cause. As I said, we live in a topsy-turvy world.

*Clifford D. May is president of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and a columnist for “The Washington Times.”*

## Gains

From page 5A

books teach that Jews have no right even to pre-1967 Israel, that all Jewish holy sites are actually Muslim, that Molotov cocktail attacks on Jewish civilians are a “barbecue party.” UNRWA summer camps teach that even pre-1967 Israel belongs to the Palestinians, and they should seek to “liberate” it through force of arms. Thus on this score, Israel would be no worse off than it is now.

The final fallacy is defense officials’ desire to postpone conflict at any cost. Obviously, preventing war is usually desirable. But war with Hamas isn’t an existential threat, and in any case, virtually all Israeli analysts consider it inevitable at some point.

The refugee crisis, in contrast, remains a potentially existential threat. Should the Palestinians ever succeed in mobilizing international support behind their

demand that all 5 million “refugees” relocate to Israel, this would eradicate the Jewish state.

Hence Israel has a major interest in defusing this crisis by taking most of these “refugees” off the rolls—where, as noted, they don’t belong in any case—and permanently shuttering UNRWA, whose main mission in life is to endlessly expand those rolls. Since no previous U.S. administration has ever been

willing to address this issue, Israel would be foolish not to take advantage of the Trump administration’s apparent desire to do so, even at the price of war with Hamas.

But that’s especially true given that defense officials think war will happen anyway. They merely seek to postpone it so that Israel can finish building its anti-tunnel barrier. And for a few months (or even years) of delay and the minor tactical advantage of

an anti-tunnel barrier, they’re willing to sacrifice an existential Israeli interest.

It’s foolish beyond belief. But unfortunately, it’s not surprising. As Einat Wilf and Adi Schwartz argue in a new book, the defense establishment has been UNRWA’s top lobbyist for decades.

All this merely proves a point I’ve made before: Military men are good at solving militarily problems, but they’re no better than

anyone else, and often worse, at understanding political problems. Yet their facade of expertise often cows politicians into deferring to them.

Let’s hope Israel’s current government resists this temptation and takes full advantage of the Trump administration’s plan. It’s an opportunity that may not recur for a very long time.

*Evelyn Gordon is a journalist and commentator living in Israel.*

## Year

From page 10A

PEN/Faulkner Awards, a Pulitzer Prize and the Man Booker International Prize.

Israel wins the Eurovision song contest, with the song “Toy” by Netta Barzilai securing the victory in the finals in Portugal. “You have brought the State of Israel a lot of pride. Next year in Jerusalem!” Netanyahu writes on Twitter, referencing Israel’s duty as the previous year’s winner to host the 2019 competition. It is Israel’s fourth Eurovision victory.

The United States dedicates its newly established embassy in Jerusalem in a high-profile ceremony attended by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Trump’s daughter and son-in-law, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner. The embassy move, mandated by a 1995 law but delayed on national security grounds by successive presidential administrations, is widely condemned by other world leaders.

Shoshana Cardin, the first woman to chair the powerful Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, dies at 91. Cardin, a Baltimore philanthropist, also was the first female president of her city’s federation and the first woman to lead the national umbrella body of Jewish federations.

Rabbi Aaron Panken, the president of the Reform movement’s rabbinical seminary, dies while piloting a small aircraft in upstate New York. Panken, a licensed commercial pilot, was 53 and had led the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion since 2014.

Ken Livingstone, a former mayor of London and harsh critic of Israel, resigns from Britain’s Labour Party amid a review of his claims that Adolf Hitler supported Zionism. Livingstone’s membership exposed the party to allegations that it tolerates anti-Semitism under the leadership of its hard-left leader, Jeremy Corbyn.

### June 2018

Twenty-six Jewish groups sign a letter calling the U.S. policy of separating children from their migrant parents “unconscionable.” The signatories included three major Jewish religious movements—Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist—as

well as the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League, HIAS, Jewish Women’s International, the Jewish Council for Public Affairs and Uri L’Tzedek, an Orthodox social justice organization.

“The Band’s Visit,” a musical based on an Israeli film about an Egyptian band stranded in a hardscrabble Negev town, dominates the 72nd annual Tony Awards, winning 10 awards, including best musical. The play also takes home trophies for best actor in a musical, best direction of a musical and best original score.

An Israeli court convicts a 19-year-old American Israeli of making hundreds of bomb threats against Jewish community centers and schools across the United States. Michael Kadar is convicted on several counts, including extortion, conspiracy to commit a crime, money laundering and assaulting a police officer. Kadar’s threats in the first three months of 2017—along with eight made by a St. Louis man—had forced widespread evacuations of American Jewish institutions and sparked fear of resurgent anti-Semitism.

The United States withdraws from the U.N. Human Rights Council, citing the body’s bias against Israel. Nikki Haley, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, says the council is “not worthy of its name” and that the decision to withdraw had come after a “good faith” effort to reform the body had failed.

Czech President Milos Zeman announces that he will work to move his country’s embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem—the first such public pledge by a European head of state.

### July 2018

Continued incendiary kites and balloons launched from Gaza by Palestinian protesters ignite countless fires in Israel, with one of the largest burning in southern Israel’s Kibbutz Or Haner.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu travels to Moscow to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin. The leaders discuss Syria, Iran, Israel’s security needs, and the 2018 World Cup.

The Knesset passes a controversial nationality law that



Alexey Nikolsky/AFP/Getty Images

**Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, greets Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center in Moscow, Jan. 29, 2018.**

cements Israel as the “nation-state of the Jewish people” and recognizes Hebrew as the sole official language, among other proclamations. The measure prompts anger from Jewish and Arab groups in Israel and Jewish groups in the Diaspora that view the bill as discriminatory.

Israeli police detain a Conservative rabbi in Haifa for performing a non-Orthodox wedding under a 2013 law that deems all weddings performed outside of the haredi Orthodox-dominated Chief Rabbinate. Rabbi Dov Haiyun tells JTA that he is disappointed “that this is what’s happening in my country.”

*JTA’s Europe correspondent Cnaan Liphshiz and editorial fellow Charles Dunst also contributed to this report.*

**IAC** ISRAELI AMERICAN COUNCIL  
**NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2018**  
 NOV. 29th – DEC. 2nd  
 SOUTH FLORIDA

**PLUG-IN TO YOUR ISRAEL**  
*Can't help falling in love*  
 להתאהב בך כל פעם מחדש

**REGISTER NOW**  
 WWW.IACKENES.ORG

### BETH SHALOM MEMORIAL CHAPEL

*Dedicated to Serving Our Jewish Community for Over 34 Years*

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHOM WE HAVE SERVED SINCE ROSH HA-SHANAH 5778

SHIRLEY GOLD  
 GRACE MINCER  
 HELEN MINCER  
 HAROLD STEPHEN LANDEY  
 CAROLINE SPRUNG  
 DAVID FITZER  
 RUTH KATZ ARONSON  
 RONALD R BERMAN  
 RITA F GELLER  
 BERNICE HECHT  
 JUNE BLOOM SOLOMON  
 BARBARA LEE HERMAN  
 RUTH KOHN BIRMAN  
 KAREN LEE LIPKIND  
 CECILIA ROTH WEISSBERGER  
 DORIS MAZER  
 BRENT HAROLD WEINMAN  
 ADAM BENJAMIN WERSHIL  
 PEARL KATZ  
 CELLE MARY BASCH  
 HELAYNE SCHREIBER  
 FRANCES BERCOV  
 SUSAN MURFIN GREENE  
 GOLDA DANSKER  
 BETTY L KOHN  
 JULIUS A HABERMAN  
 ALAN BRUCE MOGUL  
 BERNARD RUBIN  
 MAXINE LESLIE HAYT  
 SHEILA MARIE SORKIN  
 JOSEPH J. HERMAN  
 ELAINE R. MARKOWITZ  
 NETTIE NEWBURGER  
 JOSEPH HARA  
 BARRY J KAPLAN, DO

IRA KIRSCH  
 HOWARD MARK GOLDSTEIN  
 JONATHAN GREENBERG, MD JD  
 OPAL CLAIRE BENSON  
 LISA ANNE BLACK  
 NORMAN SALINSKY  
 SEEMA RIFKIN ZIMMERMAN  
 CAROLE RUTH HARRIS, PhD  
 HERMAN M DISLER  
 JACK B GOLDMAN  
 BETTE LOU LEWIS  
 LEAH CODRON  
 ALVIN M. SARNOFF, DDS  
 JOSEPH DENBERG  
 HAROLD FORMAN  
 MARC M FELDMAN, MD  
 INEZ MISHLER-BERG  
 ROSALIE GLENN  
 IRA NEIL DAITZMAN  
 ARNOLD H TRAVITSKY  
 JOSEPH DAVIDS  
 ETTA GOLDSTEIN  
 IRA MURRAY GRELL  
 CHARLOTTE FRIEDMAN  
 NATHAN  
 THERESA FRANKEL BERNSTEIN  
 BERNY RAFF  
 RUTH BEN-ZEEV STOCKNOPF  
 NOLAN HARRIS SHERRY  
 BERNARD TAYMAN  
 EVELYN C WEINGARTEN  
 ELLY G. SOSKI  
 HOWARD H. CARASIK  
 SARAH "SHIRLEY" FINER  
 LEAH T. GOLDSMITH

HENRI LANDWIRTH  
 IRA SILVER  
 ROSELLA STEIN COHEN  
 ANITA L. HARA  
 JOEL M. SISKIND  
 NINA REBECCA KARLINSKY  
 ROBERTA DORFMAN  
 BERNSTEIN  
 HERTA SYLVIA RAPP  
 ROSE KELLMAN  
 KELLI L. TRAUB  
 SHARON "SHERRY" EISEN  
 WRIGHT  
 BERTHA WEINSTEIN  
 LORRAINE BUXBAUM  
 RUTH ABELS  
 HARRIETT LAKE  
 RAE LOUISE LAWRENCE  
 NANETTE P. BABENZIEN  
 MELVYN RONALD GOLDSTEIN  
 NANCY RAE BEHRMAN  
 PAUL ALBEE GROSSMAN  
 ALBERT ELMAN  
 CELIA FELDMAN  
 LOIS G. PARNES  
 PHYLLIS M. ROSENFELD  
 LAURA J WINTON  
 ALAN B. BERMAN  
 ZACHARY LEONARD FARBEN  
 JOAN GALIN  
 MYRTLE REBECCA SKOP  
 RUTBERG  
 LEWIS N. GOLDMAN  
 MACENE L. ZUSMANN

**407-599-1180**

640 Lee Road • Orlando, Florida 32810

W.E. "Manny" Adams, LFD • Samuel P. (Sammy) Goldstein, Executive Director

**CARDINAL MEMORIALS**

## A Jewish atonement ritual gets an eco-friendly makeover

By Penny Schwartz

SOMERVILLE, Mass. (JTA)—On the first afternoon of Rosh Hashanah, Rabbi Eliana Jacobowitz led her congregation on a walk to the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse on the Mystic River for tashlich, a centuries-old ritual when Jews symbolically discard their sins from the past year into a moving body of water.

But instead of the customary bits of stale bread, breadcrumbs or even bits of matzah saved from last Passover, congregants tossed small pebbles.

Members of Temple B'nai Brith, a non-affiliated congregation in this Boston suburb with historic ties to the Conservative movement, have likely been tossing bits of bread into the Mystic during tashlich for well over a century.

The congregation, which has been this reporter's Jewish home for more than a quarter-century, was founded in 1904 by immigrants from Eastern Europe who settled in Somerville's Winter Hill neighborhood, less than one mile uphill from the river.

The recent shift in the tashlich practice from bread to pebbles follows the city's new environmentally friendly rules that no longer allow bread to be tossed into the river, a measure to protect river wildlife and address other concerns.

"Yes, our congregation is environmentally conscious and this was an appealing reason [to change] something we care about on a social justice level," Jacobowitz said.

The challenge of creating an environmentally friendly tashlich is emerging beyond this city. An article in Reform Judaism magazine last year highlighted newer practices, including one congregation in Ontario using untreated wood chips instead of bread.

Whatever they use, congregants aren't meant to think that the ritual is a substitute for the hard work of teshuvah, or repentance, which extends from Rosh Hashanah (it starts this year on Sunday night) to Yom Kippur (Sept. 18-19).

In Somerville, the subject was first raised three years ago when its Parks and Recreation Department notified the synagogue that tossing bread violated guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and local efforts to protect the environment. The city said feeding wildlife is harmful to their nutrition, leads to poor water quality and disrupts the ecosystem.

In addition to the potential harm to birds, feeding animals brought "an unintended invitation for animals around the boathouse, including issues with geese on the docks," Jill Lathan, the Parks and Recreation director, wrote in a recent email to JTA.

At the time, efforts to clean up the river from decades of relentless pollution from industry, development and storm drainage were paying off. In 2017, the river scored an A-minus for water quality from the EPA, up from a D 11 years earlier. The success



Sharon Jacobs

**2015 was the last year that Temple B'nai Brith families were allowed to use bread at the traditional tashlich ceremony at the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse in Somerville, Mass.**

story was the result of years of collaboration between Somerville and other local communities, the EPA, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the nonprofit Mystic River Watershed Association. The 7-mile-long Mystic River flows through 22 towns just north and west of Boston. From Somerville, it goes downstream through the Amelia Earhart dam through Everett, Charlestown and into Boston Harbor.

The appropriately named Blessing of the Bay boathouse where Temple B'nai Brith holds tashlich services is named after a 17th-century wooden ship, the first ocean-going vessel built in Massachusetts, according to the Mystic River Association.

In September 2015, before the start of the High Holidays, the city granted a one-year waiver to the synagogue, acknowledging its longstanding tradition of using bread during the tashlich ceremony. The congregation assured the city that it would educate members about the issue and evaluate environmentally acceptable options ranging from birdseed to earthworms to small pebbles.

After some rabbinical consideration, Jacobowitz concluded that for tashlich, small pebbles had greater resonance than birdseed. Pebbles will sink to the bottom of the river, an echo of the last verses of the prophet Micah (7:19), that is the textual basis for the tashlich ritual, she explained: "God will take us back in love; God will cover up our iniquities. You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

The change brought mixed emotions.

"There was a bit of communal grief," acknowledged Jacobowitz, who was ordained in 2010 at the pluralistic Hebrew College rabbinical school.

Many people had a strong attachment to the bread tossing, she said, and a few synagogue members have a tradition of saving bits of

matzah from Passover for tashlich.

"There was this element of planning" long in advance, the rabbi said.

In a touch of irony, Jacobowitz pointed out that in her native Israel, bread is not used during tashlich. She said Israelis more commonly stroll to the sea or other body of water and turn their empty pockets inside-out, reflecting the idea that "you are not bringing your sins with you" into the new year.

As a resident of Somerville, Jacobowitz said the environmental improvements along the river in the past few years are noteworthy.

"It's lovely. The water is better," she said. Sometimes she visits the area to think about her High Holiday sermons and "I see that it is being transformed."

Amid the challenge to create an environmentally friendly tashlich, Jacobowitz has created a new tradition for Temple B'nai Brith's younger tashlich-goers: She brings a bed sheet to the river and invites them to write something that they are sorry for and hope to change in the new year. They use pens with ink that dissolves after 24 hours. She returns the sheet to the synagogue on Yom Kippur and the kids see that their regrets have disappeared.

"From the perspective of modeling what we want to see in the world, I do feel proud of our community for taking that step, especially in the [High Holiday] season when we are thinking of how we can do better in the world," Jacobowitz said.

After much reflection, the rabbi had concluded that "This is not about bread versus pebbles," but rather about exchanging a ritual that has content with another that is just as compelling. Over time, she anticipates the newer ritual will take hold in a meaningful way.

"It's about replacing the spiritual experience with another practice that will feel equally spiritual," she said.