



From left: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, U.S. President Bill Clinton and Palestine Liberation Organization head Yasser Arafat at the signing of the Oslo Accords on Sept. 13, 1993.

Vince Musi/The White House

Deconstructing the Oslo Accords 25 years later: Was it a gift or a curse?

By Josh Hasten

(JNS)—It's hard to believe that it's been a quarter of a century: Sept. 13 marked the 25th anniversary of the 1993 signing of the U.S.-brokered Declaration of Principles between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Known also as the Oslo Accords, the deal signed between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO head Yasser Arafat recognized the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinian people.

With peace between the two sides the ultimate goal, Israel gradually handed over the governing and security functions

of life for the Arabs in Judea, Samaria and Gaza to the newly formed Palestinian Authority, or P.A.

Although the accords themselves didn't call for the creation of an official Palestinian state west of the Jordan River, subsequent Israeli proposals over the years did, in fact, allow for such an entity to come into being. All of those offers, however, were rejected by the P.A. leadership.

The accords were meant to foster peace, but that didn't turn out to be the case at all. According to the Israel Government Press office, more Israelis were murdered by Palestinian terrorists

in the five years following the first Oslo agreement than in the preceding 15 years. In addition, according to statistics provided by the online Jewish Virtual Library, more than 1,600 Israel civilians and soldiers were killed from the accords' signing until now.

Many wonder if the Oslo Accords are still alive, or have they been cast into the dustbin of history? JNS spoke to five leaders from all walks of life within Israel and the P.A. to get their take on where the situation stands between Israelis and Palestinians 25 years after those well-

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Students fight hate as interns with SWU

By Christine DeSouza

Last year, Sami Kuperberg, a student at Oviedo High School, planned a program

to address anti-Semitism with the support of JOIN Orlando and StandWithUs, titled "One Day Starts Today," that was held in the Oviedo High School auditorium. The event, which hosted two Holocaust survivors, was an overwhelming success with more than 600 students, faculty and parents in attendance. The purpose of the program was to educate students how to effectively respond to hate.

StandWithUs, an international, nonprofit Israel education organization founded in 2001, recently selected Kuperberg and Noa Lotringer of Lake Brantley for the StandWithUs High School Internship program 2018-2019. Ethan Legum was selected as SWU's Emerson Fellow at UCF.

Kuperberg, Lotringer and Legum attended the SWU training conferences in Los Angeles last August. The StandWithUs High School Internship Program is a high



(L-r): Rayna Rose Exelbierd, Southeast high school coordinator, with SWU Interns Sami Kuperberg and Noa Lotringer.

school leadership program that prepares students for the challenges they may face regarding Israel in college and in their communities. Students participate in a year-long program that includes two national conferences, ongoing educational online workshops, and they receive guidance and funding to run programming in their high schools and youth groups. Students are

encouraged to participate in positive campaigns that inspire their peers and educate people about Israel. Upon completion of the program, participants will be prepared to comfortably take the reins of leadership the moment they start college and they will be automatically part of the StandWithUs alumni network.

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Trump shutter PLO office in D.C.

By Jackson Richman

(JNS)—Amid tensions between the Trump administration and the Palestinian Authority, the former announced on Sept. 10 that the Washington offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization will close in the same week as the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Oslo Accords on the White House lawn is being marked by politicians and the press.

"We have permitted the PLO office to conduct operations that support the objective of achieving a lasting, comprehensive peace between Israelis and the Palestinians since the expiration of a previous waiver in November 2017," said State Department spokesperson Heather Nauert. "However, the PLO has not taken steps to advance the start of direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel. To the contrary, PLO leadership has condemned a U.S. peace plan they have not yet seen and refused to engage with the U.S. government with respect to peace efforts and otherwise."

"The United States con-

tinues to believe that direct negotiations between the two parties are the only way forward," she added. "This action should not be exploited by those who seek to act as spoilers to distract from the imperative of reaching a peace agreement. We are not retreating from our efforts to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace."

The PLO was created in 1964 during the Arab League Boycott against Israel with a mission to annihilate the State of Israel, serving as an umbrella organization for other U.S.-designated terrorist groups such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Palestine Liberation Front. Congress labeled the PLO itself as a terrorist organization in a provision in 1987 legislation, which called for its D.C. office to be closed.

However, that provision has been repeatedly waived by Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama, who in 2010 upgraded the PLO's office to diplomatic status.

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Chabad helped in wake of Florence



Hurricane Florence and the eye of the storm, shown as it approached the U.S. East Coast.

By Faygie Levy Holt

(Chabad.org/News via JNS)—For the last 11 years, the Lieblich family of Wilmington, N.C., have always held Rosh Hashanah services on both days of the holiday.

This year, for the first time ever, they did not have a minyan for the second day because of a looming catastrophic weather threat: Hurricane Florence, which made landfall along the South Carolina, bringing with it massive storm surges and between 30 and 40 inches of rain in some places.

"There's a sense of urgency here that I haven't felt before," said Rabbi Moshe Lieblich, co-director of Chabad of Wilmington with his wife, Chana. "People are scared. Some have

been crying. On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, people were adamant that they were going to stay in their homes, but by the second day, they had changed their minds."

Wednesday morning found the rabbi driving around town trying to secure additional supplies, including gas and nonperishable food.

"It seems the whole of Wilmington is shut down," he recounted. "Ninety-five percent of stores are closed. Only a handful of gas stations have gas. I need propane for

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Touro yearlong Learning Series continues in Orlando with 'College Life: 1998 vs. 2018'



Dr. Marian Stoltz-Loike

NEW YORK—The New York-based Touro College and University System is pleased to announce the second lecture in the yearlong series it is bringing to Orlando in partnership with The Roth Family JCC.

On Oct. 23, Dr. Marian Stoltz-Loike, dean, Lander College for Women/The

Anna Ruth and Mark Hasten School and vice president of Online Education at Touro College in Manhattan, will be presenting "College Life: 1998 vs. 2018." The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. at The Roth Family JCC, located at 851 N. Maitland Ave. in Maitland, Fla.

Dr. Stoltz-Loike will discuss both the dramatic changes that have taken place since 1998 and some of the arenas that make college education a challenge for today's students.

"2018 is an exciting time for higher education," said Stoltz-Loike. "Technology is driving the development of new educational fields, such as cybersecurity. An aging population will create many opportunities in health care management. Online education enables students to create educational schedules that are flexible. Yet colleges and college life may be challenging for students and Jew-

ish students, in particular."

The inaugural lecture, "Hope in the Midst of Despair," was delivered by Rabbi Alan G. Ciner, vice president of Community Engagement at TCUS, in May.

"This lecture series and other such programs reflect Touro's sharing its academic and religious resources with communities throughout the United States and Canada," said Rabbi Ciner. "By going beyond the classroom, Touro offers individuals outside of the Touro orbit the benefit of learning and studying with Touro faculty and deans, thereby becoming part of the Touro family."

Added Keith Dvorchik, chief executive officer of The Roth Family JCC, "We are so excited about our partnership with Touro College. Bringing high-level lecturers to The Roth Family JCC to speak on interesting and timely topics is a benefit to the entire Central Florida community."

Touro is America's largest not-for-profit independent institution of higher and professional education under Jewish auspices. Touro's schools provide diverse, innovative and engaging course offerings, from medicine and pharmacy to law; business to education; and speech pathology to Jewish studies—all reflecting the Jewish commitment to values and respect for applied knowledge and discovery.

Founded in 1970 by Dr. Bernard Lander, of blessed memory, TCUS has over 19,000 students spanning four states and four countries, pursuing graduate, professional and undergraduate degrees at over 30 campuses and locations.

"At Touro, Jewish and universal values are aligned to educate thoughtful citizens dedicated to building a responsive and responsible society," said TCUS President Dr. Alan Kadish.

"Touro was established to follow the Jewish ideal of strengthening Jewish continuity while serving the global community," noted Rabbi Ciner. "We, at Touro, are most excited about this program and look forward to its success."

Dr. Stoltz-Loike's lecture on Oct. 23 will be followed by seven others through May 2019 in an effort to share Touro's values and resources on other topics with the Central Florida community. The upcoming study and learning sessions include:

- Nov. 6—Dr. Steven Huberman, founding dean, Touro College Graduate School of Social Work, "Rebuilding Jewish Bridges: Alliances with the Hispanic and African American Communities"

- Dec. 11—Dr. Dana Fishkin, assistant professor Humanities, Lander College for Women/The Anna Ruth and Mark Hasten School, "Medi-

eval Hebrew Poets: Heroes or Villains"

- Jan. 24—Dr. Alan Kadish, president, Touro College and University System, "Quantum Mechanics and How God Might Run the Universe"

- Feb. 13—Rabbi Alan G. Ciner, vice president of Community Engagement, Touro College and University System, "Biblical Profiles in Courage: Bringing About a More Perfect World"

- March 14—Matthew Bonilla, M.S., vice president of Student Administrative Services, Touro College and University System, "Contemporary College Life as a Venue for Future Success"

- April 2—Dr. Henry Abramson, academic dean, Lander College of Arts and Sciences, "Jews Discover Politics"

- May 15—Dr. Steven Huberman, Founding Dean, Touro College Graduate School of Social Work, "Extremism in America."

Time to reserve tickets to the Gems and Jeans 2018 Gala

By Lisa Levine

Step out for a night on the town in your favorite pair of jeans, jazzed up with some glam accessories, at the Jewish Pavilion's Gems and Jeans 2018 Gala. The Oct. 28 affair will be a fun and festive evening of great food, live jazz, and enticing items to bid on in a silent auction.

The slogan for the mile-

stone 18th—chai—anniversary gala is "To Life!" It will be a celebration of the spark of Jewish life and culture that the Jewish Pavilion brings to more than 1,000 seniors living in elder care and independent living facilities in Central Florida. The Pavilion's staff and hundreds of volunteers visit individual seniors, celebrate holidays, and conduct engaging programs that

draw active participation of residents from all religious traditions.

The Gems and Jeans Gala will be held this year at Hilton Orlando North in Altamonte Springs. The evening will begin with a cocktail hour with appetizer stations and passed gourmet hors d'oeuvres, while guests can view and bid on silent auction items. The dinner will include an array of options

to please every palate, plus desserts and coffee. Michael Kramer's Swing State with special guest Michael Andrew will entertain, so wear your dancing shoes.

New this year will be a "wine pull": an opportunity to choose a wrapped bottle of fine wine (at least 90 points on a recognized wine rating scale) for a modest donation. Also being offered are a 50/50 raffle and a very special raffle to win a gift certificate for \$1,800 worth of jewelry from Addeo Jewelers of Lake Mary.

Shirley Schoenberger, who is co-chairing the gala with Susan Livingstone, is looking forward to a memorable evening. "It's just fun, and a great way for you to spend your time and your money!" she said. "The Pavilion brings special programs to seniors all over town, and that is a good cause, because they really need that connection."

Each year, the Jewish Pa-



Paul Stenzler



Jason Mendelsohn

vilion honors two exemplary volunteers for their dedication in supporting the organization's mission. Honored at this year's gala will be Paul Stenzler and Jason Mendelsohn.

Stenzler is the Pavilion Board of Directors' immediate past president and served on the board for several years

prior. Born on Manhattan's Lower East Side and raised in the New York metro area, Stenzler moved to Orlando in 1980. He and his wife, Terri Fine, are active in Orlando's Jewish community. The former vice president of sales for

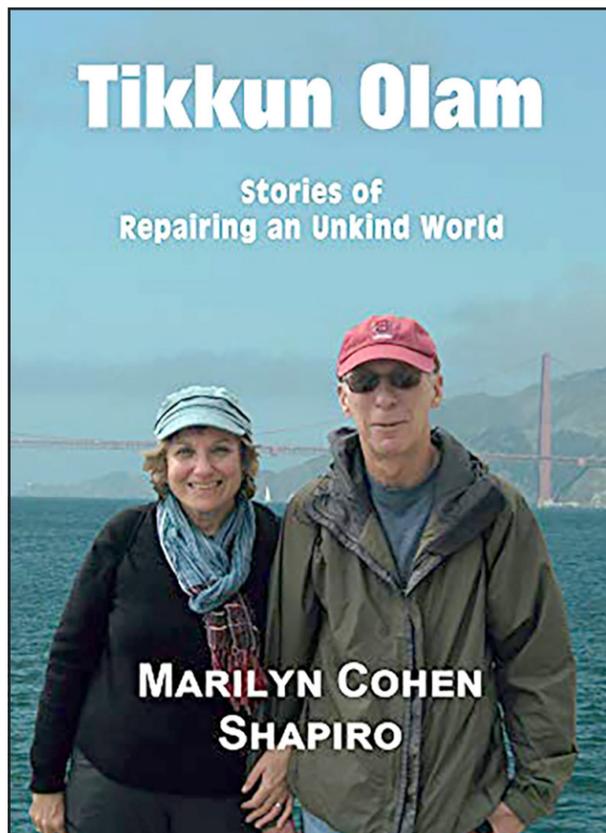
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Marilyn Shapiro, local author, releases second book

Heritage readers have been reading Marilyn Shapiro's warm and nostalgic stories for several months. In addition to the Heritage, her stories also are published in The Jewish World newspaper. She has written illuminating stories about her life and travels for many years, enough to compile a first book, "There Goes My Heart," published in 2016, and she also has a following on her blog theregoesmyheart.me.

Now, she is thrilled that her second book, "Tikkun Olam: Stories of Repairing an Unkind World," has just released. The Hebrew moral principle that every person should leave the world a better place than he or she found it is what tikkun olam is all about. Anyone who knows Shapiro or has read her stories, knows that she never loses her unwavering beliefs in truth, kindness and community service—and her ability to see humor and compassion in all circumstances.

"'Tikkun Olam' is a collection of essays that were originally published in the (Capital Region) Jewish World and more recently the (Orlando) Heritage Florida Jewish News," said Shapiro. "Many reflect my own life: growing up in a very close knit family in a small town on Lake Champlain in Upstate New York, getting married



to Larry and raising our children Adam and Julie, spending my career in adult education, and volunteering in my community. Since retiring, I have had the opportunity not only to share my stories but also to capture the heartwarming accounts of others who, through their actions, are helping to make the world a better place."

Samuel Johnson wrote, "A writer only begins a book. A reader finishes it," and with that, Shapiro would love for all Heritage readers to 'complete' her book by ordering a copy of it from Amazon in either paperback or Kindle edition.

Feel free to share comments and stories with Shapiro at shapcomp18@me.com.

Erlich responds to reform synagogue legal battle win

By Christine DeSouza

Last week, Heritage ran a story about Kehilat Yonatan, a Reform congregation in Israel, winning a legal battle to build their synagogue. Heritage attempted to contact Lori Stein Erlich for comment. However, because of the High Holidays and the time difference between Israel and the States, a response wasn't received until the Sept. 14 issue went to press (we received her response about 10 minutes after the paper went to the printers).

Erlich is a founder of Kehilat Yonatan and an immediate past president of the synagogue and shared with our Jewish community back in 2014 the uphill battle they were fighting to build a Reform synagogue in Israel. She is also the daughter of Nira



Lori Stein Erlich

and Arnold Stein, members of Congregation of Reform Judaism.

"How nice of you to remember me and us at Kehilat Yonatan! And how exciting that you saw our news on JTA

regarding our court appeal for the building of a synagogue for Kehilat Yonatan in Hod Hasharon," she said in email.

"We are very relieved that the Court ruled in our favor, as the City of Hod Hasharon was not processing our request for building the only non-orthodox synagogue in a lawful manner."

Erlich went on to explain that there are now 62 Orthodox synagogues in Hod Hasharon on public land, and not a single Reform/Progressive synagogue.

"Yes, it has truly been a very long journey, and we won't 'truly' believe it until we actually have our first prayers/services in our new synagogue," she said.

The congregation hopes to break ground and begin the first stages of their building very soon.

Israeli hero Ari Fuld, father of 4, stabbed to death in Gush Etzion

Ari Fuld, 45, was stabbed to death by a Palestinian terrorist outside the Gush Etzion shopping mall on Sunday.

Fuld was standing in the parking lot when the terrorist stabbed him from behind. Fuld drew his weapon and gave chase after the terrorist, who ran toward the entrance of the mall.

Fuld and another civilian shot and wounded the terrorist before he collapsed. Through their courageous actions, they prevented a much larger attack.

He was taken to Shaare Zedek hospital in Jerusalem in critical condition, where he was pronounced dead after about an hour.

"In the name of every

citizen of Israel, I send my condolences to the family of Ari Fuld, who was murdered today in a terrorist attack in Gush Etzion," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated on social media.

"With his last strength, Ari fought heroically against the terrorist and prevented a greater tragedy. Ari was a wonderful father to four children. He was an advocate for Israel who fought to spread the truth about Israel. May his memory be a blessing."

Ambassador Friedman: 'America grieves'

Fuld, a resident of Efrat and a U.S. citizen, was a well-known figure in the pro-Israel advocacy world and a member

of Efrat's counter-terrorism Rapid Response Team.

"America grieves as one of its citizens was brutally murdered by a Palestinian terrorist. Ari Fuld was a passionate defender of Israel & an American patriot. He represented the best of both countries & will be deeply missed. May his family be comforted & his memory be blessed," U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman tweeted.

Fuld's friend Lior Shurka told Tazpit Press Service that Ari "was very involved in explaining and defending the good reputation of the State of Israel."

"Ari was about to have launched in a new Hasbara website in English. He was

a good friend who you knew would stand by you and protect you in any situation," Shurka said.

'A hero of Israel'

"A lowly terrorist came up behind him, and in a cowardly way stabbed him. Ari was one of the fighters in the Efrat emergency squad. We didn't expect anything less of him. Even after he was wounded, Ari engaged with the terrorist and chased him as he was bleeding, and managed to respond and shoot at the terrorist.

"We are confident that his death will not be in vain, and his activity will grow and intensify. We expect the government to immediately demolish the house of the

terrorist and expel his family to the Gaza Strip as soon as possible," Shurka added.

Minister of Education Naf-tali Bennett tweeted that Fuld was "a hero of Israel. In his death he saved lives. Ari Fuld, who was murdered today in the stabbing attack in Gush Etzion, did not stop until he neutralized the terrorist. With a stabbing in the back, he ran, pulled out a gun and shot before he collapsed, as long as the terrorist could not continue to hurt others."

"The Jewish nation salutes the Fuld family and embraces it," he stated.

"My heart is with the Etzion Bloc. My condolences to the victim's family. We will continue to fight against terror



Ari Fuld

with an iron fist," Minister of Defense Avigdor Liberman tweeted.

Tufts students say 'Colonizing Palestine' class demonizes Israel

By Penny Schwartz

MEDFORD, Mass. (JTA)—Pro-Israel students at Tufts University say a new course on Palestine is one-sided and demonizes Israel, and violates the university's own policies on taking political stances.

The course, taught by Thomas Abowd, a faculty member in the American Studies program, was first reported by Jewish News Syndicate. The JNS story sparked a flurry of criticism and concern from the Anti-Defamation League and pro-Israel campus organizations.

Titled "Colonizing Palestine," the course is offered through the liberal arts school's Colonialism Studies program and is cross listed with Women's, Gender and Sexuality studies. A course description says it will "explore the history and culture of modern Palestine and the centrality of colonialism in the making of this contested and symbolically potent territory."

The description also says that students "will address crucial questions relating to this embattled nation, the Israeli state which illegally occupies Palestine, and the broader global forces that impinge on Palestinians and Israelis."

In a statement shared with JTA, the Hillel chapter at Tufts said that while it supports academic freedom, it characterized the course description as "prejudicial and unnecessarily provocative."

Tufts Friends of Israel, a student group, wrote in a statement to the university's president, Anthony Monaco, that the course as described prejudices the Israeli-Palestinian debate.

"A course must aid a student's pursuit of knowledge and provide...the information and tools to arrive at their own conclusions," the group wrote.

Ben Shapiro, a junior from Los Angeles and co-president of Tufts Friends of Israel, says the group is still waiting for a response.

"Our main issue [is that the course] denies Jewish indigeneity to Israel and presents a one-sided narrative as truth," Shapiro said.

Tufts Friends of Israel also said that the course breaches a 2017 statement by the Office of the President that reads: "While members of our community vigorously debate international politics, Tufts University does not adopt institutional positions with respect to specific geopolitical issues."

The statement, however, came in a letter by the president rejecting a resolution by the university's undergraduate student government calling on Tufts to divest from entities doing business with the Israeli government.

It is not clear whether offering a course, however one-sided, suggests that a university has adopted an "institutional position" on the subject being taught.

The university sees the course as one among many options that offer students an opportunity to "become familiar with a variety of perspectives on important and complex issues facing our global society," according to a statement provided to JTA from Patrick Collins, the school's executive director of public relations.

"University-facilitated discussion of these issues does not imply endorsement of a particular view, and we anticipate and welcome the Tufts' community's vigorous discussion of varying viewpoints and beliefs," the statement says.

By midweek, fewer than five students had signed up for the course, Shapiro said, reviewing online course registrations.

Collins was unable to confirm how many students had enrolled or pin down whether there is a minimum number required for a class to be offered.

Founded in 1852, Tufts, some six miles north of Boston, has more than 5,500 undergraduates and 6,000 graduate students, with a faculty of just over 1,500.

In an email, Collins provided descriptions of several university courses that address a range of perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including one at its prestigious graduate program at the Fletcher School that is open to undergraduates. He also cited an array of courses in Judaic

studies and political science that address Israeli politics and culture.

Abowd is the author of the 2014 book "Colonial Jerusalem." He supports the academic boycott against Israel and signed a boycott statement by Anthropologists for the Boycott of Israeli Academic Institutions.

In an email, Abowd declined a request from JTA to discuss his course and a response to the objections raised.

"I'm going to have to decline an interview with you due mostly to the sheer volume of requests I've been receiving of late," Abowd wrote.

News about the course drew an immediate rebuke from Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti Defamation League and a Tufts alum.

"We support academic freedom but @TuftsUniversity must ensure that classes examining the complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict are not one sided platform for propaganda that demonize Israel and empower anti-Israeli activists," Greenblatt wrote in an Aug. 16 Twitter post.

Shapiro was not persuaded by the administration's re-

sponse that the school offers numerous options that examine the contemporary Middle East. Judaic Studies courses are often about religion, history or cultural topics.

They "do not have to do with modern Israel," he said.

The current Judaic Studies catalog offers a course on Israeli film "dealing with Israeli and Palestinian history and daily life from the late 19th century to the present." The Fletcher School is offering a course this fall titled "Negotiation and Mediation in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Past Lessons And Future Opportunities" that promises to "explore the Israeli and Palestinian narratives."

Tufts Friends of Israel is not trying to shut down Abowd's course and will not mount a protest, Shapiro said, since classes won't begin until after Labor Day and he has yet to see a syllabus. Instead, the group is turning its attention to the question of how new courses win approval.

The group is also gathering signatures online for a letter calling on the Tufts administration to reaffirm its opposition to academic boycotts against Israel.

The school has taken a stance against academic and economic boycotts against Israel dating back to 2013, when it issued a statement strongly opposing the American Studies Association's resolution for an academic boycott, and most recently in 2017.

Robert Trestan, the executive director of the Anti-Defamation League's Boston office, said the controversy raises an important question about the college's process for course approval—especially the way the school promotes and advertises its classes.

"No one is saying that this is a forbidden topic or restricting a professor's ability to teach about the subject matter," Trestan told JTA in a phone conversation.

But, he said, the course description "states as fact that Israel is committing illegal acts," and draws judgments and conclusions "before the first class is in session."

"It's important to insure that when [Tufts] does advertise a class, it's inviting for all students and sends a message that all views and perspectives are welcome for discussion," Trestan said. "This course seems to do the opposite."

US Congress votes \$38 billion defense aid to Israel into law

By Ariel Kahana, Erez Linn and Israel Hayom Staff

(JNS)—A bipartisan bill that would cement U.S. military aid to Israel into law has passed a major hurdle on Wednesday night.

The U.S. House of Representatives approved the measure, known as the Ileana Ros-Lehtinen U.S.-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act of 2018, several weeks after it passed the Senate. It will now head for the president's desk.

Under the proposed legislation, the \$38 billion in military aid over 10 years spelled out under the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding would be funded through a special mechanism that would be separate from the annual budget.

The bill's official name was changed to honor Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.), as the outspokenly pro-Israel con-

gresswoman is not running for re-election this fall.

"[She] has been a stalwart friend of Israel throughout her time in Congress, and it is a fitting honor that this bill to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship bears her name," said Rep. Ted Deutch (D-Fla.). "Israel is under constant threat from every direction. A threat to Israel, our strategic ally in a turbulent region, is also a threat to our national security."

The bill would give Israel increased access to sophisticated U.S. technology to ensure it maintains its qualitative edge in the region through the U.S. war-reserve stockpile in Israel, which Israeli forces can use under certain conditions.

It also authorizes the president to bolster the stockpile with \$1 billion worth of weaponry, as well as with precision-guided munitions to use against the Hezbollah terror group based in Lebanon. The bill further allows

the president to establish a collaborative U.S.-Israel counter-drone program.

The law ensures that U.S. aid would not be cut as long as the memorandum comes into effect starting in 2019, ensuring that the funds would not be influenced by the budget wars between Congress and the White House. It also means that presidents would not be able to suspend U.S. aid as a means of pressuring Israel.

"With this measure, we are codifying the assistance levels in the latest 10-year U.S.-Israel memorandum of understanding, which aims to strengthen our already robust relationship, especially on defense matters," chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Ed Royce (R-Calif.) said on Wednesday. "This bill also works to build on the United States' and Israel's successful history of

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Paraguay's embassy is leaving Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israel closed its embassy in Paraguay following an announcement by the South American country that it was relocating its embassy back to Tel Aviv four months after moving to Jerusalem.

The move comes as Paraguay joins the effort to bring peace to the Middle East.

"Paraguay wants to contribute to an intensification of regional diplomatic efforts to achieve a broad, fair and lasting peace in the Middle East," Foreign Minister Luis Alberto Castiglioni told reporters on Wednesday.

Shortly after the announcement of the return

to Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recalled his country's ambassador to Paraguay and then ordered the Israeli embassy closed. Netanyahu also holds the foreign minister's portfolio.

"Israel views with great severity the unusual decision of Paraguay, which will cloud bilateral relations," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Paraguay opened its new embassy in Jerusalem in May, a week after the United States moved its embassy to the capital from Tel Aviv and days after Guatemala. A previous embassy in a Jerusalem

suburb was closed in 2012 in retaliation for Israel shuttering its diplomatic mission in the Paraguayan capital of Asuncion as part of a round of budget cuts. A new Paraguayan embassy opened a year later near Tel Aviv.

Then-President Horacio Cartes, who left office in mid-August when the government of Mario Abdo Benitez took over, announced in late April during an event in Asuncion marking Israel's 70th Independence Day that he planned to move the embassy before the end of his term. It is not known if Cartes consulted with Benitez before announcing the move.



The Good Word

By David Bornstein

The 100 Hour Jew

Every year my wife and I are invited to our cousin's house for a second day of Rosh Hashanah lunch. It's something we enjoy and count on—the good food, the camaraderie, the interesting commentary on services. Over the past two years friends have made comments to me that stuck, though not for the intended reasons. Last year, as our synagogue took the first steps into a new era, a friend told me that he would view the changes as a success based on the response and membership of young families because, after all, young families are our future. And this year, when I commented on the meaning (or lack thereof) of services, another friend said, "Well, you can't expect

a spiritual awakening when you only come to shul twice a year."

I wish I had responded at the time both lines came my way. I didn't. It took me awhile to figure out why they hit me wrong. This is what I realized:

First, while continuity is important, and young families are our future (they're the future of the world, pointedly and obviously), the next generation is not the only one that counts. In fact, we all count equally—young, old, singles, couples without kids, alternative families. The success of a synagogue can't be based solely on how young families respond to a new direction or change. That's one component. At the point a religious institution

Should Clinton have shared a stage with Farrakhan?

By Charles Dunst

NEW YORK (JTA)—Former presidents recently served as eulogizers for Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul, and U.S. Sen. John McCain, the "maverick."

Barack Obama and George Bush spoke for McCain, a former rival of both, while Bill Clinton did the same for Franklin, who performed at his 1993 inauguration.

Neither funeral escaped controversy.

Liberals quickly rebutted the notion that for all the high-minded rhetoric about bipartisanship, McCain's memorial represented a rebuke of Donald Trump. Conservatives, and Jews of various political stripes, slammed Clinton's willingness to share the stage with the anti-Semitic Louis Farrakhan, a guest of the Franklin family.

Although his Nation of Islam has been praised for promoting self-reliance and instilling pride within the black community for years, Farrakhan is a vicious anti-Semite, not to mention anti-LGBTQ. In 1984 he called Adolf Hitler a "very great man"; his now de-verified Twitter profile is bannered with a pinned tweet in which he boasts of "Thoroughly and completely unmasking the Satanic Jew and the Synagogue of Satan."

Farrakhan at an event in February deemed Jews to be "the mother and father of apartheid" and "have control" over some agencies of government. He argued that Jews have induced black male homosexuality through the "weaponization" of marijuana, portraying Jews as opponents of black masculinity. Among those on hand were progressive Women's March leader Tamika Mallory, who refused to apologize for her attendance or repudiate Farrakhan.

Clinton did not comment on sharing a stage with Farrakhan, although his daughter, Chelsea, defended him on Twitter. After condemning Farrakhan's anti-Semitism, Chelsea argued that "Aretha's family had every right to invite whomever they wanted to celebrate her life."

But would the former president be as comfortable sharing a stage, if requested by the mourners of a similarly respected figure,

with an unalloyed bigot like David Duke or Richard Spencer?

Several figures on the left appear to tolerate and tacitly endorse the Nation of Islam leader—an ideological inconsistency that enables anti-Semitism to be tolerated even when other forms of bias, including anti-black racism, are roundly condemned.

The Congressional Black Caucus still maintains ties with Farrakhan. According to The Daily Caller, the caucus held a secret meeting with him in 2005. Contacted recently, all 21 current members of the caucus who met the minister in 2005 declined to denounce him. Some, including Barbara Lee and Gregory Meeks, eventually did so. The popular firebrand congresswoman Maxine Waters, who has long embraced Farrakhan and still does, did not.

There may be simple calculus in this: Politicians don't want to alienate constituents for whom Farrakhan is still a hero. And minority groups, including the Jews, are reluctant to take marching orders from the establishment about whom they should and shouldn't condemn.

Yet for many progressives, and increasingly the left at large, anti-Semitism is fundamentally different from and less serious than anti-black racism or Islamophobia, among other forms of bias.

As I reported in early August, progressives and liberals from Melissa Harris-Perry to Linda Sarsour embrace a hierarchical definition of racism that places importance on power. According to this formula, only the powerful can be racist and powerful people cannot have racism wielded against them. Within this paradigm, white-on-black bias, due to the power gap, is racism; black-on-Jew bias, anti-Semitism, in which the weak attack the strong, becomes simple bias rather than racism.

Without a power gap, anti-Semitism becomes less concerning than anti-black and other racism.

"The thing I'm always worried about in the world is power, and how power is wielded in ways that cause inequity," Harris-Perry,

Clinton on page 14A

(or most institutions, for that matter) forget a constituency, they stand on a cliff teetering toward failure.

And second, while a twice-a-year Jew shouldn't expect a spiritual rebirth when they attend High Holy Day services, we can all expect... something. A nugget to gnaw on. A kernel of truth. A morsel of meaning. It's not too much to ask for a smidgeon of significance. And that's where I find myself, once again, in a titanic struggle with part of my being, part of what I'm told makes me a Jew.

I'm a little bit more than a twice-a-year Jew. Not much, but a little. I attend services a few times a year besides Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, usually for special events like a bar or bat mitzvah or a yahrzeit. Let's say that adds up to about 16 hours of attendance, High Holy Days included. I celebrate other holidays outside the synagogue—Chanukah and Pesach—so add on another 10 hours. We sporadically celebrate Shabbat. This makes me feel particularly guilty, since I grew up lighting candles every Friday night, and now we are lax in our commitment, but let's say we're good half the time. Another 25 hours. Then there are the funerals, the minyans, the fundraisers (yes, I think even fundraisers for important Jewish causes have religious significance, sometimes profoundly so). Add 20 hours. And I think about my Jewishness and my Judaism. I read current Jewish commentary. I write Jewish commentary (though some of

you might argue that). And I ask myself who I am, what it means to be a Jew on a regular basis. Call it all 100 hours, give or take, a year. That's not a lot.

It is, however, enough for me to say that being a Jew is important, even central to my being. And because it is, I do expect to find meaning, to find spiritual sustenance, to find at least a tiny bit of inspiration from my studies, my shul, and my religious leaders. I discover meaning when I read, occasionally when I write, when I feel deeply, when I am awed by nature. But I struggle to find it in our services, when the Hebrew flies by without comprehension and I entertain myself by finding my place in the prayer book and successfully following along, when more than half the liturgy seems hell-bent on praising God for EVERYTHING, and that on that basis all will be good. I wonder what services would be like if we took out all praise of God and filled it with something else? If we didn't repeat the service multiple times? If we asked ourselves how we provide meaning and inspiration, even in the smallest ways, to as many people as we possibly can? That sounds like a path that might possibly turn a twice a year Jew, a 100 hour Jew, into something more: a modern Jew with a passion for their religious core.

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.

25 years of illusions about Oslo

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS)—When the Trump administration announced that it was ending its funding of the United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA) last week, the protests from the foreign-policy establishment were loud and anguished. As a New York Times op-ed that masqueraded as a news story sought to explain, UNRWA "matters" because the experts say it does.

UNRWA has perpetuated the refugee problem it was established to solve and has become one of the chief obstacles to peace. It has served to keep the 1948 refugees and their descendants in place as a weapon to use against Israel and to give hope to those who wish to destroy it. But uttering these painfully obvious facts and drawing the proper conclusions from them is just something the "experts" about the Middle East don't do. They don't because doing so would be to admit that they've been wrong about the conflict for a very long time. Coming to grips with this means admitting what amounts to foreign-policy malpractice.

That's an important point to remember this week as we commemorate a more recent but no less consequential act of folly: the 1993 Oslo Accords. The Oslo process was supposed to serve as a mechanism to end the conflict, and it was celebrated as the answer to the prayers of generations of Israelis who had known nothing but war since the day their state was born.

The celebration on the White House Lawn as President Bill Clinton presided over a historic handshake between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat set off a period of euphoria among most Israelis and their foreign supporters.

The formula by which Arafat and the terrorists of the Palestine Liberation Organization were to be transformed into the responsible bureaucrats and peacemakers of the Palestinian Authority promised an end to violence and the war that Arabs had been waging on the Jews, as well as their return to their ancient homeland since the early 20th century.

Rabin had a clear idea of what would happen. There would be a border, he liked to say. On the one side would be Israel. On the other would be Arafat and his P.A., which would fight Hamas and any other terrorists and, as Rabin never tired of pointing out, without interference from the Israeli Supreme Court and the human-rights groups that sought to hamper his security services.

But Arafat had no intention of fighting terrorists. He was, in fact, fomenting, planning and paying for terrorism. All he had done was to sign a piece of paper and pocketed extensive Israeli concessions that set the Palestinians on the path to statehood. The foreign-policy experts—both in the United States and Israel—were wrong. But it took years before some of them would admit it, and even then they sought to evade blame for the slaughter that came in Oslo's wake by claiming that Israel hadn't been forthcoming enough.

Later, with Clinton again there, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered Arafat the independent state he wanted at Camp David in

the summer of 2000, the Palestinian answer was still "no." Arafat answered the offer of peace with a terrorist war of attrition known as the Second Intifada, which cost the lives of more than 1,000 Israelis and many more Palestinians.

That conflict literally blew up any remaining hope for peace in the minds of most Israelis. Subsequent refusals of even more generous offers that included almost all of the West Bank, Gaza and a share of Jerusalem brought the same response from Arafat's successor, Mahmoud Abbas. The Palestinians can complain about Israeli settlements, but a clear majority of Israelis understand that what they had done in 1993 was to trade land for more terror, not peace. That conclusion was reinforced in 2005 when Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon withdrew from Gaza. That set in motion the chain of events that created an independent Palestinian terrorist state ruled by Hamas. These events convinced Israel's voters, who have elected Oslo skeptic Benjamin Netanyahu prime minister three times in the last decade, not to make the same mistake again.

Yet that is exactly what some on the left, and especially among the experts who have decried Trump's decision to stop pretending as if the mistakes of the past never happened, want Israel to do. Just as some did 25 years ago, they seize on isolated pro-peace statements from Abbas that are continually contradicted by other statements—in addition to actions such as his continued incitement of hate, and subsidies and pensions for convicted terrorists and their families—that make it clear he has no more interest in actually signing another agreement than Hamas. Just like its Islamist rivals, the P.A. still won't recognize the legitimacy of a Jewish state, no matter where its borders might be drawn; to do so would effectively be an admission that the long war on Zionism is over.

But the point of remembering the anniversary of Oslo is not just to think on those failed hopes or the lives lost to terror. It is to understand that thinking seriously about the last 25 years of history requires us to stop regarding the peace process as a kind of religious belief, rather than as a policy that can be proved or, as happened in this case, disproved by objective facts and events.

What is needed now is a willingness to discard the sort of conventional wisdom that led to Oslo in the first place. But while the same tired debates about the need to trade land for peace continue, what both Oslo skeptics and its supporters need to understand is that the arguments for this formula were a lot stronger before September 1993. Two states might someday provide a viable solution to the conflict, but only after the Palestinians finally do what Arafat and now Abbas, as well as Hamas, have continually refused to do: give up their long war against Zionism. Until then, we should mark this anniversary by giving up on the illusions that were paid for in blood and crushed hopes.

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

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 PHONE NUMBER: (407) 834-8787
 FAX: (407) 831-0507
 email: news@orlandoheritage.com

Editor/Publisher: Jeffrey Gaeser
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Eastern Europe is changing, so must care to Jewish elderly

By David Schizer

NEW YORK (JTA)—In business, an effective planning process is essential for success. During the High Holidays, Jews are urged to engage in this sort of process for our own lives. We reflect on the past year, seeking lessons to help us in the coming year. Are we committed to the right ideals? Are we living up to them? When others need us, do we answer the call?

As we look for opportunities to help others in the new year, and consider the best way to do so, we should remember a group that too often is forgotten: elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union.

They have lived unimaginably difficult lives. Most endured the devastation of World War II, and nearly half survived the Holocaust. All lived under a communist regime that discriminated relentlessly against Jews and dismantled Jewish institutions.

They are also the world's poorest Jews, unable to buy basic necessities. Even retired engineers and doctors have government pensions as low as \$2 per day.

While the elderly population of post-Soviet states generally rely on their children for care, elderly Jews often are alone. Many of their relatives left the region decades ago when more than 1.5 million Jews immigrated to Israel, Western Europe and the United States following the fall of communism.

For almost three decades, my organization has mounted a historic humanitarian effort to provide life-saving care to these elderly Jews. The impact of this support is incalculable. It is no exaggeration to say that thousands would die without it.

To save over 90,000 lives, we are spending approximately \$115 million this year on food, medicine, winter relief and home care. The Claims Conference provides approximately \$90 million for Holocaust survivors, and another \$25 million comes from the Jewish Federations of North America, the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, World Jewish Relief, the Maurice and Vivienne Wohl Charitable Foundation and other partners.

Although these sums are large in the aggregate, the cost per person is astonishingly low. On average, for clients who do not receive Holocaust restitution, \$21 pays for food and medicine for an entire month. On average, \$4 pays for an hour of home care.

Unfortunately, providing this care is becoming more difficult. Our costs are rising. Inflation in Ukraine is 9 percent, and wages for care workers have increased significantly.

We also face a major long-term challenge: the end of Holocaust restitution. This year, restitution covers approximately 80 percent of the program's budget. But this funding is available only for Holocaust survivors. Even though restitution dollars increased in 2018—since survivors need more care as they age—this funding level will decline inevitably over the coming decade as survivors pass away.

But after this funding is gone, elderly Jews who are not survivors will still need life-saving care, and we have over 45,000 of those clients

today. Caring for them will be much more difficult, since restitution has helped fund our infrastructure: a network of welfare centers to provide supervision, training, financial oversight, and places for elderly and others to gather.

In the spirit of the High Holidays, my organization has responded to these challenges with an extended period of self-reflection and analysis over the past two years. We know we cannot abandon these elderly Jews. We are committed to maintaining life-saving care. But we cannot keep providing it in the same way that we have before.

So we have resolved to modernize and streamline our operations to get the most out of every dollar. For example, instead of delivering food, we provide bank cards to those who can buy food themselves.

We also are consolidating welfare centers in places where the number of elderly we care for has declined significantly.

To be clear: Clients are continuing to receive the individual care that has sustained them all these years, but the

supervisory and administrative functions are taken up by larger welfare centers in the region.

Heartbreakingly, the elderly we serve in these places have to adjust to changes that can take an emotional toll, ones we are trying to alleviate as best we can. Such changes have attracted attention in the media recently when we closed large buildings—expensive to maintain and often where community gatherings traditionally take place—to ensure ongoing care for those who remain.

To alleviate this stress on people who have already suffered so much, we are making accommodations where we can to continue the same or similar activities. Indeed, for Rosh Hashanah this year, thousands of elderly will still celebrate the holidays in a series of festive lectures and concerts, cooking workshops and cultural performances. They will also be visited in their homes by volunteers delivering apples and honey.

By dispatching more volunteers like these around the region—especially young people—we will combat lone-

liness, a critical issue facing these elderly. In addition to comforting lonely seniors, this program builds a sense of obligation among the volunteers themselves. Over time, these future communal leaders will help shoulder more of the responsibility of providing care.

In Ukraine recently, an elderly woman called the help she received from us “the sunshine in my window.”

In the coming years, there will be tens of thousands of seniors just like her, desperate for the warmth of that same sunshine. But it's only together that we can provide this aid.

In doing so, we elevate our concept of community to a global scale. By helping those most in need, we're being true to our best selves, not just in 5779 but for future generations.

David M. Schizer is the CEO of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.

Oslo failed. Long live Oslo

By Kenneth Jacobson

NEW YORK (JTA)—It has become conventional wisdom in certain circles that the Oslo agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, which was signed 25 years ago Sept. 13, 1993, on the White House lawn, was simply a failure.

There is no doubt that the great hopes of Israeli-Palestinian peace and reconciliation engendered by Oslo have not been realized. Twenty-five years later not only is there no peace, but the parties are not even talking to each other and the Palestinians themselves remain irreconcilably divided.

Moreover, not only was peace not accomplished, but soon after Oslo was signed, Palestinian terrorism surged, leading many on the right to argue that ceding territory to the Palestinians and the

general show of perceived weakness by Israel at Oslo had emboldened the terrorists.

While this reading of the cause of terrorism was too monolithic—there have been surges of terrorism during periods of stagnation and frustration with the status quo—it did speak to the uncertainties surrounding Palestinian extremism and terrorism and the simplification by some on the left about Palestinian behavior and thinking.

At the same time, in certain left-wing circles, it is assumed the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by a right-wing extremist opposed to the peace process was the main reason the hopes of Oslo never came to fruition. If only Rabin had lived, the argument goes, there would be Israeli-Palestinian peace.

There is no doubt that

Rabin's unique credibility as a defender of Israel's security, together with his willingness to take a bold initiative with Israel's longtime enemy, the PLO, was not easily replicated. The loss of Rabin at that critical moment not only was one of the saddest days in the history of the nation, but also hurt the chances for peace.

Rabin's death was a disaster in many ways, but whether it was the major factor in the stalling of peace efforts remains questionable. Indeed, in addition to the outbreak of suicide terrorist attacks at that time, there is no real evidence that had Rabin lived there might have been peace. The Palestinians had not made the qualitative leap toward accepting Israel's legitimacy that was necessary for an agreement. When twice later on, at Camp David in 2000 and at Annapolis in 2008, Israeli

leaders offered far more than Oslo for the actual creation of an independent Palestinian state and the dismantlement of many settlements, the Palestinians couldn't bring themselves to say “yes.”

Still, there is reason to look back at Oslo as an important step forward in the painfully slow process of legitimizing Israel in the Arab world and in establishing a framework for Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation.

Let's remember that before Oslo, Palestinians of all stripes simply spoke the language of rejectionism, of denial of the right of Israel to exist. It's not to say by any stretch of the imagination that that way of thinking has disappeared— Hamas is the most blatant example of this—but Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas himself and other members of the

P.A. engage at times in such rhetoric.

But it is vital to recognize that since Oslo, with all the disappointments that have followed, there is an alternative narrative, reflected in the words of Abbas, but also in public opinion polls among Palestinians. This is a language, however grudging, of accepting Israel's existence and the need to find a solution based on two states.

One can question Abbas' sincerity when he talks about two states for two peoples, or when he condemns terrorism, or when he cooperates with Israeli security forces, but at least it is now part of the public dialogue and rhetoric—something that was not true before Oslo.

And from the Israeli side, Oslo concretized the concept of Palestinian self-government, through the estab-

lishment of the Palestinian Authority and the aspiration of a two-state solution, which until that point had been considered purely theoretical or unrealistic. There is enduring cynicism among the Palestinian leadership and its structures, and polls today show little drive for or expectation of a two-state solution among both the Israeli leadership and public. However, the framework established at Oslo remains to be built upon or adjusted at a time when conditions are more conducive for direct Israeli-Palestinian engagement.

The challenge going forward is not simply to reject Oslo but to move its conceptual breakthroughs into the practical realm. In this regard, there are responsibilities on all sides. After the terrorism

Oslo on page 14A

Jordan doesn't want a confederation

By Yoni Ben Menachem

(The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs via JNS)—The statement from the Jordanian government spokeswoman Jumana Ghunaimat about Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas's comments on a new U.S. proposal for a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation was short and to the point: “The matter is not an option. Jordan supports a two-state solution and an independent Palestinian state along the 1967 borders.”

According to senior Fatah officials, Abbas shared the proposal, which came from U.S. President Donald Trump, with a group of Peace Now activists with the goal of causing a public furor in Israel by demanding that Israel, too, be part of said confederation. He knows that Israel is afraid of becoming a Jewish minority among Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as the Palestinians

in Jordan, particularly after the passing of the nation-state law.

The Jordanian royal family has never forgotten the events of Black September in 1970, when Palestinian groups belonging to the PLO tried to seize the Hashemite kingdom and assassinate King Hussein, who was forced to declare war on them. As a result, 3,400 Palestinians were killed and tens of thousands wounded. The Jordanian security forces lost 537 people but successfully ousted the terrorist groups from the kingdom, securing the continued rule of King Hussein, the father of the reigning king, Abdullah II.

Those events are still seared into Abdullah's memory. Make no mistake: His current alliance with Abbas stems from vested interest. He knows very well that the PLO has wanted to take over the Hashemite kingdom and oust the royal family from power for years, but he needs his

Palestinian ally because he fears that Trump's “deal of the century” will hurt Jordan's special status as guardian of Islamic holy sites in eastern Jerusalem.

A confederation is a government alliance between two or more independent states, and a confederation of Jordan and the Palestinian Authority would require the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank. It's unclear whether this was Trump's intention when his envoy floated the confederation idea. Apparently, he meant a Palestinian state in the West Bank that would exclude the Gaza Strip and would comprise isolated, demilitarized administrative areas with ties to Jordan, which would be responsible for defending the confederation and its borders.

But the Jordanians are worried that the Trump administration's confederation idea is an Israeli idea in Ameri-

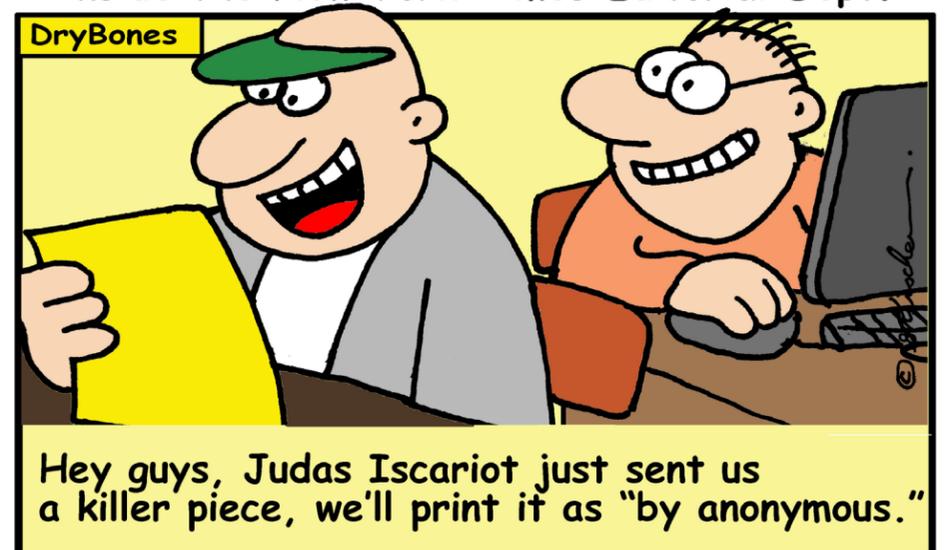
can wrappings, designed to remove Israel's demographic concerns, cancel the “right of return” demanded by Palestinian refugees and foist responsibility for fighting Palestinian terrorism onto Jordan.

In 1988, Jordan made the strategic decision to cut itself off from the West Bank. It's no coincidence that Abdullah is keeping away from the idea of a confederation like poison; he wants to keep Jordan's borders as they are,

and fears that if the idea is implemented, the Palestinians will take his country and depose the Hashemite royal house.

Yoni Ben-Menachem is a fellow at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs.

Inside the New York Times Editorial Dept.



Hey guys, Judas Iscariot just sent us a killer piece, we'll print it as "by anonymous."

What's Happening

A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT

SEPT. 21
7:04 p.m.
SEPT. 28
6:56 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 21

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Torah Portion—Ha'azinu: Deuteronomy 32:1-52; Haftarah: Samuel II 22:1-51.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Erev Sukkot

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 24

Sukkot

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 25

Sukkot

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.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Sukkot

Grief Support—JFS Orlando and The Jewish Pavilion, in cooperation with The Hospice of the Comforter and VITAS Healthcare, host a grid 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.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Sukkot

Ahavas Yisrael—Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

“My week is not complete without it!”

“I can't live without it!”

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

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

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US ambassador believes Golan will be 'part of Israel forever'



U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman

By Ariel Kahana

(Israel Hayom via JNS)—U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman believes that the Golan Heights will remain under Israeli sovereignty, and certainly won't be placed back in the hands of Syria's current leader, President Bashar Assad.

In an exclusive interview with Israel Hayom, which will be published in full on Friday, Friedman says that “I can't imagine a circumstance where the Golan Heights will be returned to Syria.

I cannot imagine, frankly, a circumstance where the Golan Heights is not a part of Israel forever. There's not even an indigenous population in the Golan Heights seeking autonomy.”

“So I think you'd put Israel at a great security disadvantage by giving up the high ground of the Golan Heights,” he continued. “Needless to say, I can't think of a less deserving person to receive this kind of reward than Bashar Assad. So there are a whole host of reasons why I

would expect the status quo to remain.”

Friedman stressed that the Trump administration may consider official recognition of the Golan Heights as Israeli territory in the future.

Two weeks ago, during a visit to Israel, National Security Advisor John Bolton remarked that the Trump administration is not discussing possible U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights. Responding to this remark, Friedman said that “it is certainly possible” that the United States would recognize Israeli sovereignty, explaining that Bolton's remark “was simply a statement of fact. It's simply not on the list of things that are happening right now.”

Friedman also dismissed any possibility that any future U.S. administrations would reverse President Donald Trump's official recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital late last year.

Golan on page 14A

Quote of the Week

“No longer is the U.S. going to turn a blind eye to the Palestinian Authority's glorification of terrorism, its despicable practice of incentivizing murder and mayhem by paying terrorists and their families, and its anti-Israel machinations at the ICC.”

—National Council of Young Israel

Medium puzzle “Spring Time?” by Yoni Glatt koshercrosswords@gmail.com

Across

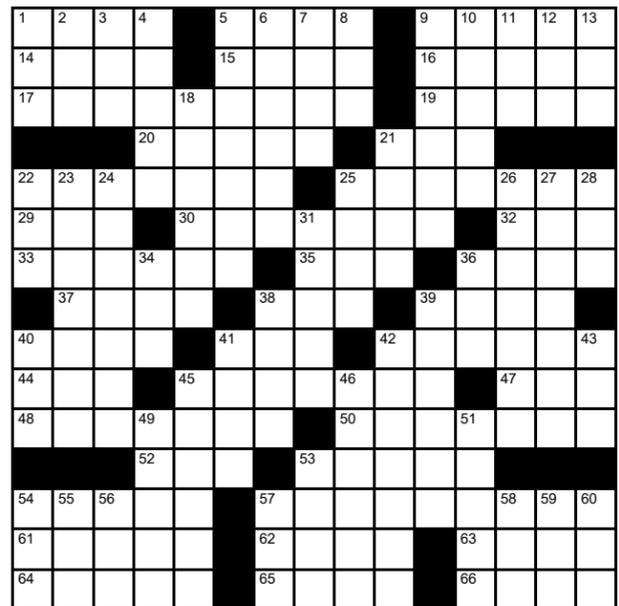
1. Foe of Wonder Woman
5. Anastasio of Phish
9. Huge hit
14. Old City (with 59-Down)
15. Part of a play?
16. Prickly plants
17. *Häagen-Dazs and Edys, e.g.
19. Ready for drawing?
20. Toss call
21. I-95, e.g.: Abbr.
22. Like a best friend
25. He killed Macbeth
29. Pluralized “y”, often
30. Scholarly
32. Shabbat wear, for many men
33. Kind of guitar
35. Gym unit
36. Made like a stereotypical politician
37. *One that often goes missing
38. Sukkah activity... or a word that can connect to the starred clues in this puzzle
39. *Liberty, for one
40. Doctor Zhivago
41. Trump imposed a travel one
42. Mamet and Larry
44. One might be filled before Shabbat
45. Syria, in 1948
47. Middle of a calzone?
48. Kind of diving
50. Titanic hazard
52. Muhammad whose grandson had a Bar Mitzvah
53. Come in second
54. Adopted mom of Moshe
57. *Hannukah treats
61. Film's most prolific (living) writer-director
62. Enthusiastic about
63. Biblical king who slew Joram
64. Went on and on about
65. Starting point?
66. “Makes sense”

Down

1. The ___ (great Tsfat kab-

- balist)
2. “Arabian Nights” bird
3. Resident of 65-Across
4. Goldman's partner
5. Arnold committed it
6. “___ Perdition” (Hanks-Newman film)
7. Stately trees
8. Ken, in Israel
9. *Chivas Regal, e.g.
10. Like lions
11. Make like David Mazouz as Bruce Wayne
12. “Come ___?” (Italian greeting)
13. *Cool
18. Pump brand
21. Talk like Harvey Fierstein
22. Cancer causer, often
23. What Shabbat should be for
24. “One of Us” singer Joan
25. Gies who protected Anne Frank
26. Make use of
27. Cecil or Prince of baseball
28. Made like a quintessential bubbly

31. Dough in Iceland
34. Geol., e.g.
36. O.T. book before Num.
38. ___ Negila
39. It comes between Tzafun and Hallel
40. 10, in gematria
41. Israel preceder?
42. 10-sided figure
43. Line part: Abbr.
45. *Solomon part
46. Make wine lighter
49. One getting a check
51. Name derived from Jacob's twelfth
53. Duck's home
54. *Kind of Mitzvah?
55. ___ mode
56. Where many Jews have kissed the ground; Abbr.
57. What Moses did on Mount Nevo
58. Where KJ can be found in NYC
59. See 14-Across
60. WNBA great Bird with Israeli citizenship



See answers on page 14A.

How to celebrate Sukkot without a sukkah



The signs of Sukkot: a lulav, etrog and an etrog box.

By Sara Shapiro-Plevan

(My Jewish Learning via JTA)—The central mitzvah of Sukkot is found in Leviticus 23:42, where Jews are commanded to dwell in a sukkah, a temporary hut, for seven days and nights. We do this in order to remember the experiences of our ancestors, both on the journey from Egypt to the Land of Israel and in a later era, when farmers brought offerings to the ancient Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the harvest.

But many people live in climates, neighborhoods or buildings that preclude constructing and living in a sukkah. A local synagogue, campus Hillel or even kosher restaurant will likely have one that you can use to fulfill the mitzvah of sitting in a sukkah. Yet everyone, with or without

a personal sukkah, can turn to creative interpretations of “dwelling” and focus on the aspects of Sukkot that are oriented toward other rituals and customs to enrich the holiday experience.

At home in a hut

In the Torah, the children of Israel used sukkot (plural of sukkah) as their temporary homes while traveling through the desert. Instead of constructing your own temporary space—or in addition to it—you can help someone else acquire a permanent home. Habitat for Humanity, a Christian organization, runs building projects in many urban areas. There are also many Jewish organizations that address homelessness and poverty, such as the numerous groups that are part of the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable.

Other service programs in your community may help individuals transition from homeless shelters into homes by collecting housewares and other necessary items. The acknowledgement that there are those in our communities who have no shelter at all can bring a meaningful awareness to your celebration.

A temporary dwelling

A sukkah is a transitional shelter meant to provide only the basic structure of a building. In fact, Jewish law requires a minimum of 2 1/2 walls, and the ceiling, covered in tree branches and leaves, must be open enough so that the stars are visible.

One alternative is to build a sukkah-like structure indoors. For children, the act of building forts and tents is the creation of a personal play space. Adults can build a

canopy over the dining room table using a tablecloth, or even over the bed—perhaps to look like a huppah, or wedding canopy—to enjoy the temporary shelter and reminder of transition that it evokes.

Harvest holiday

In the Bible, Sukkot marked the time of the fruit and grape harvests. It is also harvest time in North America, and the produce of the season is readily available. You can visit a farmer’s market or even a farm to buy or help harvest seasonal fruits and vegetables. Go apple picking or just visit the park to collect fallen leaves and twigs to use as decorations. Create centerpieces for the home with fruits and vegetables, and plan meals that incorporate a wide selection of local produce. Look for the variety of produce imported from Israel during this time of year, as well.

The four species

The lulav and etrog are made up of four kinds of plants (citron/etrog, palm/lulav, myrtle/hadas and willow/arava) and are often called the four species, or “arba minim.” They function as one unit, and we say one blessing over them together: Their purpose is to gather and enjoy the plants of the land. Anyone can shake a lulav at home, in a synagogue or wherever you find yourself, even out in the natural world. A lulav and etrog can be found online or in a local Judaica store.

The four are often referred to under the inclusive term lulav, since the lulav is the largest and most prominent

of the species. Thus, while the mitzvah is to wave the lulav, this actually refers to waving all four species: palm, willow, myrtle and etrog. Also, when people refer to the lulav and etrog, they are referring to all four species, including the willow and myrtle.

Ushpizin

Welcoming guests is a Jewish value expressed all year by the mitzvah of “hachnasat orhim” (welcoming guests). Invite guests to your home for a sukkah party or a meal and serve harvest-themed treats. You might also host a picnic in a local park.

At Sukkot we specifically welcome ushpizin, traditionally one of seven exalted men of Israel to take up residence in the sukkah with us: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron and David. Be creative and encourage your guests to welcome their own ushpizin—famous personalities and heroes, ancient or modern, Jewish or not Jewish, who lived exemplary lives and continue to inspire.

The time of our joy

In Jewish liturgy, Sukkot is

referred to as the time of our joy, “zman simchateinu.” Take time off to spend with family or friends, or make lots of phone calls to wish a “chagsameach,” a happy holiday, to loved ones who are too far to visit.

Make your home a joyful place with decorations in the spirit of the holiday: Decorate your front door with a harvest theme, hang paper chains from your ceilings or build a mini-sukkah out of graham crackers, pretzels and icing to serve as a fun treat. Sukkot in Israel are often decorated with what Americans would refer to as “Christmas lights,” so grab a box and string them around your windows and walls to transform your home into a sukkah.

The space and financial investment needed to build a sukkah can be very real, but finding ways to celebrate the holiday only takes some creative thinking.

Sara Shapiro-Plevan serves as the coordinator of congregational education for New York City for the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York.



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Had enough sweet stuff at the New Year? Here's some savory for Sukkot.

By Megan Wolf

(JTA)—So much at the Jewish New Year is sweet: first fruits, honey, honey cake. By the time Sukkot rolls around, we're often looking for something savory to offset it all.

Regardless of the time of year, we have some favorites in our house. One is smoked salmon with cream cheese and vegetables on an everything bagel. This menu is a riff on that very dish, but with a lighter and healthier take on the very foods that make the flavors so delicious.

For a time saver, the fish can be crusted ahead of time and set, covered, in the fridge. This salmon is also delicious served cold the next day.

Everything bagel spices are now sold commercially, but they are also very easy to make at home.

Everything bagel crusted salmon

Ingredients:

1 teaspoon poppy seeds

1 teaspoon sesame seeds

1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
1 1/2 teaspoons dried garlic
1 1/2 teaspoons dried onion
1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes, optional
4 5- to 6-ounce salmon filets
2 tablespoons olive oil

Directions:

Mix the spice ingredients together in a small bowl and crust each piece of salmon with the spice mix.

Heat half the olive oil in a skillet over medium heat, then cook 2 pieces of salmon skin-side down for about 3 minutes, flip and cook on the seeded side another 5 minutes or so until cooked through to your liking. Repeat with the other 2 pieces of fish. Set aside.

Creamy Tahini salad

Ingredients:

1/4 cup tahini

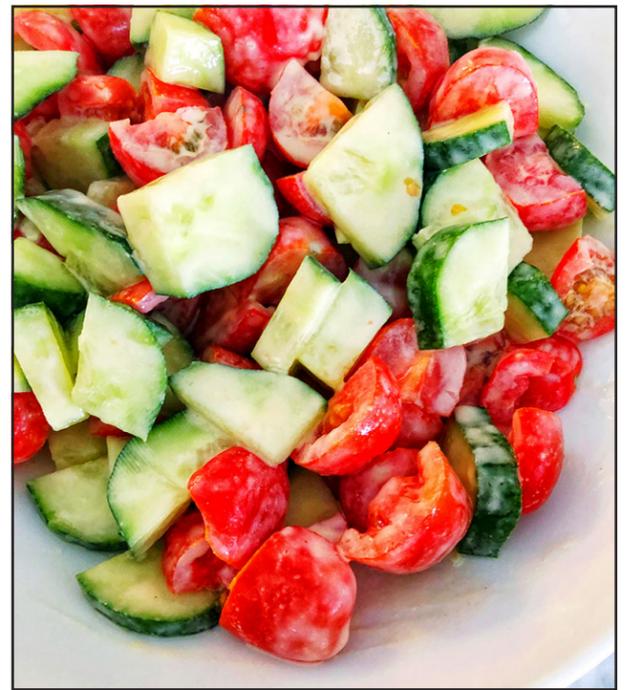
2 lemons, juiced

2 tablespoons hot water



Everything bagel crusted salmon.

Megan Wolf



Creamy Tahini salad.

Megan Wolf



10 garlic broccoli rabe.

Megan Wolf

Salt to taste

2 English cucumbers, washed and quartered

2 cups cherry tomatoes, washed and quartered

Directions:

In a small bowl, whisk tahini, lemon juice and hot water, season to taste with salt.

In a large bowl, combine vegetables and toss to mix the tahini mixture. Plate the tahini salad first followed by a piece of salmon. Top each plate with leftover everything bagel mix.

10 Garlic broccoli rabe

Ingredients:

10 cloves garlic, peeled

3 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons hot water

2 large bunch broccoli, washed with ends removed

Kosher salt to taste

Directions:

In a blender, combine garlic with olive oil and hot water until well mixed and the garlic chopped.

Place broccoli in a large sauté pan over medium heat, then pour garlic oil mixture on top. Cook until the broccoli is just cooked through and tender, but still bright green, about 4-5 minutes. (You may loosely cover the pan to help the steaming process.) The liquid will have evaporated.

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Scene Around

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

Another great move...

I read this recently and pass it along to you: "Speaking at a meeting of the Israel Council on Foreign Relations in Jerusalem, which operates under the auspices of the World Jewish Congress, Paraguayan President HORACIO CARTES expressed satisfaction over the moving of his country's embassy to Jerusalem.

If anyone had any doubt about the appropriateness of the embassy move, Cartes said, 'just read the Bible.'

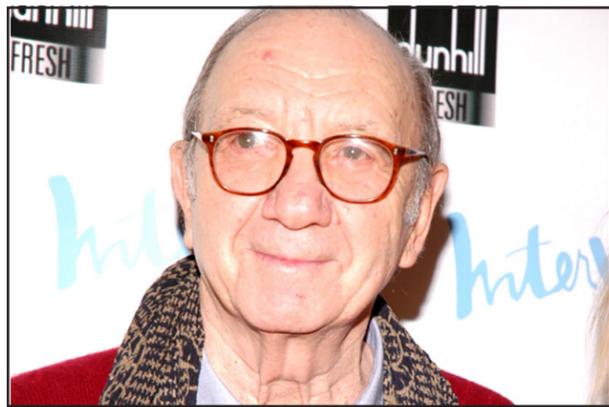
Cartes added that this would be his final trip to Israel, as his term of office is ending, and called the visit 'very emotional. I see Israel and Paraguay being very close in the future.'

The visit was the president's second to Israel: in July 2016, Cartes paid an official visit to Israel, the first Paraguayan president to do so.

Paraguayan Foreign Minister ELADIO LOIZAGA called the embassy move a 'great moment' and noted Paraguay's links to Israel dating back to its support for the Partition Plan in 1947. He added that Israel and Paraguay share common values such as 'defending human rights, free press, democracy and the rule of law,' and as such, Paraguay feels an obligation to support Israel in international arenas such as the United Nations.

Tough losses...

Fabulous playwright Neil Simon passed away on Sunday, Aug. 26th. He and his work will never be forgotten. I consider him a genius.



Neil Simon

I also heard that the world lost a wonderful actor (and when he was younger, Hollywood's hottest heartthrob!), Burt Reynolds. He was a native Floridian and a gifted performer. Both will be missed by me and all those of my generation.

Winter Park Playhouse Mainstage...

From Sept. 21st through Oct. 14th, Irving Berlin's "I Love A Piano" will be performed at the Winter Park Playhouse, 711-C Orange Avenue, Winter Park.

For times and other information, phone the box office at 407-645-0145 or contact their website www.winterparkplayhouse.org.

Jewish Pavilion...

I received word that the Jewish Pavilion and Senior Help Desk are touting the wonderful care given to the residents of the beautiful Mayflower, Aloma Avenue, Winter Park. (As I get older, that's good to know!)

Congregation Ohev Shalom Seniors...

On Sunday, Oct. 7th, beginning at 2 p.m., the members and



Irving Berlin

friends of the COS Seniors are holding an opening event. The featured performers are J.T. & JEN, doing a tribute to the golden oldies... a tribute to Buddy Holly, George Strait, Connie Francis, Whitney Houston, Etta James & Patsy Cline. (WOW!)

J.T. is a talented guitar player and singer. Jennifer is an accomplished vocalist and keyboard player.

This is the free paid up membership opening event. (Just pay your \$10 annual membership fee.) Bring your friends. Everyone is welcome.

After the musical performance, there will be complimentary desserts. (This is the annual "Ice Cream" social but other desserts will be available.)

Oh yes, I almost forgot! They ask that we bring our dancing shoes... I was a professional dancer at 19. I think my feet are too big to wear them now!

Shout-Out...

The other day my friend and I dropped in to the Olive Garden Restaurant on Colonial Drive, Orlando. Our server was KRYSTAL BORKOWSKI, a beautiful, blond sweetheart and a terrific waitress. (The food was good too and Krystal said she took out all the calories for me so I could really enjoy!)

JCC 39ers...

On Meet & Mingle Monday, Sept. 24th, beginning at 1 p.m., SHELDON BROOK will present a bio on Jack Benny. And, of course, refreshments will be served afterwards! (Calories??)

And on Thursday, Sept. 27th at 1 p.m., "Dine Around Town" will be held at the Imperial Dynasty in Longwood.

For further details and to RSVP, phone FLO GOLDMAN at 407-859-5982.

One for the road...

Monty meets up with his friend Cyril in the Altamonte Mall. "Nu, Cyril, why the glum face?" asks Monty. "It's not like you to look so sad."

"Oy Vay iz meer, do I have a problem," replies Cyril. "The Credit Crunch is killing me—I just have to raise \$200,000 in the next fortnight or else my 20-year-old business is doomed."

"Don't worry, my friend," says Monty, "You can easily overcome your problem."

"How can I do that?" asks Cyril. "Here's what you do," replies Monty. "Go out into the streets and sell 200,000 shoe-laces for \$1 each."

"But I don't have any shoe-laces," says Cyril. "Oy, then you have a problem," says Monty.



Jack Benny

Jewish Academy of Orlando students observe Tashlich



Jewish Academy of Orlando students cast their bread upon the waters of Lake Lily in observation of Tashlich.

On Monday, September 17, students at Jewish Academy of Orlando observed Tashlich. While kindergarten, first, and second graders attended a service on campus, the third through fifth grade students

observed Tashlich at Lake Lily. The program, attended by students and their families, included a service with inspirational readings from Jewish sources and concluded with the blowing of the shofar.

Afterwards, the students symbolically cast their sins into the water to help usher in new beginnings for the New Year. The student event concluded with a Mitzvah project of cleaning up the park.

"The wonderful thing about Jewish day school education is the opportunity to 'live' Jewishly on a daily basis, to participate in our customs and traditions in a meaningful way," Alan Rusonik, head of School, stated.

"Community is a big part of what this school is about. I love joining my daughter and other families to participate in this beautiful tradition," said Melanie Brenner, a fifth-grade parent.

Rusonik continued, "I am delighted that our kids have the opportunity to get outside of the classroom, to learn, and to engage in making the world a better place."

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

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Sudoku (see page 14A for solution)

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

Georgian-Style Stuffed Tomatoes Recipe

By Sonya Sanford

(The Nosh via JTA)—There can never be too many tomatoes. August's heat is always made more bearable for me by peak tomato season. I love to eat them cut into thick rounds and topped on crusty well-buttered toasted bread, or chopped small in a simple Israeli salad alongside cucumber and herbs.

Stuffed vegetables of all kinds were regularly made and eaten in our home, just as they are in many other Russian Jewish kitchens. Stuffed cabbage, stuffed peppers and stuffed mushrooms are regional staples.

As I've explored and learned to cook the food of the former Soviet Union and of my family, Georgian cuisine has always stood out for its uniqueness. Georgia's food is an intersection of cuisines from the Caucasus, Eastern Europe and the Middle East, due to Georgia's location on the eastern edge of the Black Sea, north of Turkey, and south of Russia. Ingredients like hot peppers and Ajika (a hot sauce made out of them), fenugreek and pomegranate molasses appear in Georgian dishes alongside more familiar Eastern European staples such as beets, cabbage, dil, and mushrooms.

One of my favorite books on Georgian cooking is Carla Capalbo's "Tasting Georgia, A Food And Wine Journey in the Caucasus." Capalbo offers an encyclopedic account of Georgian cuisine filled with detailed history and delicious recipes. I especially love her recipe for stuffed tomatoes.

With her recipe as a guide, and inspired by a few other Georgian stuffed tomato recipes, over time I've adapted the dish to my taste and simplified some of the steps.

What makes this stuffed tomato unique is the addition of the herb fenugreek, which adds a complex and almost curry-like flavor to the tomatoes. You can find fenugreek at most Middle Eastern and Persian markets, or online. The stuffing is made of earthy garlicky sauteed mushrooms, rice, and fresh parsley and dill. The tomatoes are nestled into a simple aromatic sauce, and then each one is topped with mozzarella that gets melty and burnished in the oven.

This dish is substantial enough to be served as a vegetarian main course, but it is not too rich and could easily be served

as a side dish to a heartier meal. Like any good stuffed food, these taste even better when they are reheated the next day.

Ingredients:

8 large firm tomatoes
Olive oil or sunflower oil, as needed
1 medium yellow or white onion, diced fine
1/2 teaspoon dried fenugreek
1/2 teaspoon ground coriander
1/2 teaspoon dried red hot pepper or red pepper flakes, or to taste
1/2 cup water, or as needed
14-16 ounces crimini/oyster/maitake mushrooms, diced small
2 large cloves garlic, minced fine
Salt and pepper, to taste
1 cup cooked rice
3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
4 ounces mozzarella, sliced to cover the top of the tomatoes, about 1/2-inch thick

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F
2. Start by hollowing out the tomatoes: Cut off the top fifth, then run a small knife around the interior of the tomato. Carefully scoop out the inside. Finely chop up the remaining tops and what has been scooped out of them. Reserve.
3. To make the sauce: Add 2 tablespoons of oil to a large pan over medium heat. Add the diced onions to the oil and saute until softened and translucent. Add the fenugreek, coriander and hot pepper to the onions and saute for 1-2 minutes, or until fragrant. Add the reserved scooped-out and chopped-up tomato mixture to the pan and 1/2 cup of water and bring the mixture to a simmer. Depending on how much liquid you have from your tomatoes, you may need to add more or less water. You want the sauce to resemble a thick tomato sauce in consistency. Simmer on low for 10-15 minutes to allow the sauce to reduce slightly while you prepare the filling. If desired, you can blend the sauce with an immersion blender or blender, although I prefer to keep it with its small pieces of tomato intact.



4. To make the filling: Add 2 tablespoons of oil to a large pan over medium high heat. Add the mushrooms to the pan and season with salt and pepper. Saute the mushrooms until their liquid has been fully released and the mushrooms have begun to brown. During the last 2 minutes of cooking, add the minced garlic to the pan and saute until the garlic is fragrant. Transfer the mixture to a medium bowl. Add a cup of cooked rice, the chopped parsley and the chopped dill to the mushroom mixture. Taste and season with salt and pepper, if needed.

5. To assemble: Add the sauce to a baking or casserole dish that can snugly fit all of the tomatoes. On top of the sauce, place the hollowed out tomatoes. Generously fill each tomato with the mushroom mixture, and top with slices of mozzarella.

6. Bake the tomatoes for 30-40 minutes, or until hot, bubbly and with the cheese beginning to brown. Serve warm. Leftover tomatoes can be reheated in either an oven or microwave the next day. Serves 6-8.

Sonya Sanford is a chef, food stylist and writer based out of Los Angeles.

The Nosh blog offers a dazzling array of new and classic Jewish recipes and food news, from Europe to Yemen, from challah to shakshuka and beyond. Check it out at www.TheNosh.com.

Why Sukkot is actually the best holiday for kids

By Rebecca Rosenthal

(Kveller via JTA)—If you leave your kids home on the High Holidays so you can have grownup praying

time, bring your kids on Sukkot. If you bring your kids to the High Holidays, then bring them back on Sukkot.

Sukkot is the best kids

holiday. You just might not know it yet.

Sukkot is particularly awesome for kids who love building, engineering or arts and crafts (so, most kids). You get



Anita Gould/Flickr

Children love the sukkah—they get to decorate it.

to build a sukkah at your home or synagogue, or if you don't have access to those, build one out of a cardboard box in your living room.

Once you have a structure, you get to design and decorate it. A sukkah is a great place to hang all that artwork that comes home from school, or to encourage fine motor skills by cutting and creating paper chains. Then you get to hang out and admire your handiwork, or even add to it, for a whole week.

Sukkot is a holiday that encourages movement during services. Instead of all the sitting and standing, and more sitting and standing, that characterizes most services, on Sukkot you get to both shake the lulav and walk around the sanctuary with it. As a bonus, the lulav is a great sensory tool for your kids to look and interact with if they are in services and looking for something to do.

Sukkot is a holiday when we get to be outside. After the

hours of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur inside a building, Sukkot is a literal breath of fresh air, as we eat our meals in the sukkah. And for kids (and adults) who enjoy being outdoors, we are encouraged to do as many of our regular indoor activities outside. Sukkot is a time when we can draw, do homework, chat with our friends and even sleep outdoors, making it Judaism's official camping holiday.

Finally, the messages of Sukkot are very powerful: First, there's the message of welcoming. The sukkah is open, welcoming in anyone who wants to join.

Second, in a tradition called ushpizin, we symbolically welcome characters from the Torah to join each day, but your family could discuss other people you want to invite to join you, whether it be a grandparent who is far away or a refugee family. Each day you can welcome someone else, and even hang up photos

or drawings of that person as a reminder of their presence.

Sukkot also reminds us to think about our vulnerability, as we sit outside in a temporary structure exposed to the elements. We are reminded of the blessings of having a roof over our heads.

Sukkot is a perfect time to contribute good deeds or tzedakah to a community in need, volunteer at a homeless shelter or even buy someone on the street a sandwich. Sukkot asks us to remember that at any moment, we could no longer be protected by physical space—so we walk through this holiday trying to leave the world a little better than it was before.

Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal is the director of youth and family education at Central Synagogue in New York City where she gets to spend her time dreaming about ways to engage families with children. She and her husband live in New York City with their three children.

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CARDINAL MONUMENTS

OBITUARIES

SHELDON GREENE

Written by his family

Sheldon Greene of Orlando passed away Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018, at the age of 92. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was preceded by his first wife Ruth, who passed away in November 1987, and his second wife Susan Murfin last November 2017. Sheldon attended Temple University and following his service in the United States Air Force, Sheldon graduated from the University of Miami with a degree in accounting. In 1951 Sheldon married Ruth and in 1954 they moved to Orlando where he went into the building and construction industry.

Sheldon was a strong supporter of Temple Israel where he was treasurer and an active member of the Cemetery Committee.

His two daughters, Fran Reisfeld (Edison, New Jersey) and Marcy Greene (Aurora, Colorado), his son-in-law Donald, grandson Daryl and his wife Jennifer (Greenwich, Connecticut) and two great-grandchildren, Drew and Carly, survive Sheldon. His sister Marilyn Friedman (Jacksonville Beach, Florida) also survives him.

His family and friends and everyone in the community who knew him will miss Sheldon dearly.

A graveside funeral was held at Temple Israel Cemetery, Gotha. Rabbi Joshua Neely officiated. Contributions can be made to: Temple Israel Cemetery Fund or Give Kids the World Village <http://www.gktw.org> in loving memory of Sheldon Greene.

Arrangements entrusted to Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel, 640 Lee Road, Orlando FL 32810. 407-599-1180.

DAVID BRUCE HAYT

David B. Hayt, age 87, of Lake Mary, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2018, at Florida Hospital Altamonte Springs. A son of the late Emanuel and Lillian Greenwald Hayt, David was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on June 14, 1931. David was a captain in the United States Air Force and graduated from Cornell University and the Cornell University Medical School. He

was a radiologist. He and his late wife, Maxine, who passed away in December 2017, relocated to the Orlando area in 2013 from New York.

He is survived by his sons, Dr. Michael (Nancy) Hayt of Lake Mary and Paul (Jacque) Hayt of Port Washington, N.Y.; and his daughter, Elizabeth (Robert) Atkins of New York. He is also survived by his brother, John (Emily) Hayt of Tucson; and his grandchildren—Hunter, Juliette, Ben, Brian and Jessica.

A funeral service was held at Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel with Rabbi David Kay officiating. Interment, with full military honors, was held at Beth David Cemetery in Elmont, New York.

In memory of David B. Hayt, the family requests contributions to Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc., PO Box 97166, Washington, D.C., 20090-7166 or www.ppfa.org.

Arrangements entrusted to Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel, 640 Lee Road, Orlando FL 32810. 407-599-1180.

SONDRA KARESH PRITCHARD

Sondra K. Pritchard, age 81, of Apopka, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, at Westminster Towers in Winter Park. Born in Augusta, Georgia, she was a daughter of the late Mose and Ida Shapiro Karesch. A widow, she was a hospital radiology technician, and is survived by her daughter, Marsha Stein of Apopka.

Funeral services and interment were held in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Arrangements entrusted to Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel, 640 Lee Road, Orlando FL 32810. 407-599-1180.

MADELINE WOLLY

Madeline Kurzrock Phillips Wolly, of Longwood, Fla., passed away on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, at age 93. Madeline was born in New York City to Bertha and Michael Kurzrock. She attended NYU for college and then went on to earn two masters degrees in elementary education, and reading and special education. She was an avid volunteer in many organizations throughout the years including: Public schools' Addictions, the Green Circle tolerance program in

the schools, Orlando Science Center docents, March of Dimes Committee, American Heart Association, Holocaust Committee for annual fundraisers, Hadassah, and since 1985 actively devoted to Jewish Family Services in which she served as president. She received the "8 over 80 award" in 2013 along with numerous other awards and accolades for all of her service to the community. She was admired and loved by many and will be missed by all.

She was a beloved wife to the late George Wolly; and devoted sister to the late Helen (Philip) Esterman. Madeline is survived by her children, Robert (Sharon) Phillips and Rickey (Steve) Art both of Manhasset Hills, N.Y.; grandchildren—Michael (Jaymie), Larry (Jen), Seth (Emily), Steven (Heather), Dan, and Ali (James); and 10 great grandchildren.

According to Eric Geboff, executive director of Jewish Family Services Orlando, Village on the Green is planning a "celebration of life" during the first weekend of October (date not set).

For those who would like to send condolence cards, please send to Madeline's daughter, Rickey Art at 110 Monterey Drive, New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040.

The funeral took place at the Sanctuary of Abraham and Sarah Mausoleum, Cedar Park Cemetery in New Jersey on Friday, Sept. 14 at 10:45 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Jewish Family Services of Orlando in her memory.



Madeline Wolly

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.bethsholomflorida.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.crorlando.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.

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A 1939 phone book could be the key to unlocking millions in Polish Holocaust restitution payments

By Cnaan Liphshiz

WARSAW (JTA)—In the small park behind the only synagogue in this city to have survived World War II, Yoram Szytkgold looks around with a perplexed expression.

An 82-year-old retired architect, Szytkgold immigrated to Israel after surviving the Holocaust in Poland. He tries in vain to recognize something from what used to be his childhood home.

"It's no use," he says after a while. "To me this could be anywhere."

Szytkgold's unfamiliarity with the part of Grzybowska Street where he spent his earliest years is not due to any memory loss. Like most of Warsaw, his parents' apartment building was completely bombed out during the war and leveled, along with the rest of the street. His former home is now a placid park that is a favorite hangout for mothers pushing baby carriages and pensioners his age.

The dramatic changes in Warsaw's landscape have bedeviled efforts for decades to obtain restitution for

privately owned properties like Szytkgold's childhood home, making it difficult for survivors like him to identify assets that may have belonged to their families.

But for many restitution claimants in the capital, identifying assets will become easier thanks to a recent breakthrough with an unlikely source: the establishment of a first-of-its-kind searchable database. Users need only type in the name of their family to obtain a complete overview of all the assets they may claim under a new restitution drive in Warsaw.

It's a high-tech tool only made possible thanks to the recent discovery of an unpublished phone book from 1939

The World Jewish Restitution Organization, or WJRO, set up the database in December 2016. It allowed a relative of Szytkgold to get the first definitive list of the assets the family had in Warsaw before the war, when they headed a real-estate empire.

The database allows users to check whether their family owned any of the 2,613 properties that the City of Warsaw said that year it would reopen for restitution claims.

Especially in Szytkgold's case, the database had "a huge role," he said, because the only adult from his family who survived the genocide was his mother, who "had only partial knowledge of what her family owned."



Cnaan Liphshiz

Yoram Szytkgold examines the unpublished registry from 1939 that helped him locate his family's assets at a military library in Warsaw, Sept. 4, 2018.

"Bits and pieces, really," Szytkgold told JTA on Monday during a restitution-related visit to his place of birth.

During the visit, Szytkgold also got a rare chance to examine the key that led to the groundbreaking database: a yellowing proofing copy of a phone book of sorts from 1939. It was never published because the directory was being prepared when the Germans invaded Poland.

Crucially, the phone book, or registry, contained information that allowed genealogist Logan Kleinwaks of Washington, D.C., to find the names of the owners of thousands of assets, including approximately half of those 2,613 properties that Warsaw said it would reopen to claims.

Poland, where 3.3 million Jews lived before the Holocaust, is the only major country in Europe that has not passed national legislation for the restitution of property unjustly seized from private owners by the Nazis or nationalized by the communist regime, according to the WJRO. Instead of passing legislation, Polish authorities and courts handle restitution claims on a per-case basis.

Dozens of such cases have been resolved in recent years. Several Polish property attorneys told JTA that there is no way of knowing how many of the claims are by Jews.

As it carries out its controversial new restitution drive announced in 2016, Warsaw periodically releases a few dozen addresses of properties from its list that had been claimed during communism but whose status has never been resolved. The city does not release owners' names, although it presumably has at least some of them from stalled restitution claims filed for each of the 2,613 assets. Critics of this practice say it deprives claimants of crucial information necessary to gain compensation. Advocates say it is designed to minimize fraud.

Once a property is reopened for restitution, claimants have six months to file a second claim. It is an unreasonably short period of time, according to WJRO. But for people like Szytkgold, who don't even know which addresses their families used to own, the entire 2016 process is irrelevant.

Or, at least, it used to be until Kleinwaks "matched addresses announced in 2016 with the names of the owners" who are indicated in the 1939 registry, he said.

Today, the copy is kept in the vaults of the Central Military Library, which in 2014 bought it for about \$3,000 from a book collector at an auction. The library then scanned the book and published the scans online. Kleinwaks, who had heard about the auction and was eagerly awaiting access to the book's content, then used software he developed to build an owners' database from the phone book, matching it with the 2,613 addresses.

So far, the City of Warsaw has reopened only about 300 of the restitution claims from the list of 2,613, and not one of the claimants has received compensation. Kleinwaks said he does not know how many people are using his database to mount claims. He has reached out personally to more than a dozen families whose names he found, he said, and some of them have subsequently initiated restitution work.

None of the Szytkgold family's assets—there are over a dozen of them—have been reopened for restitution. But the Szytkgold family is already doing the footwork—locating birth certificates, building a family tree, proving they are the only heirs and many other bureaucratic chores—so that when their assets are reopened, they would have a hope of making the six-month deadline.

Gideon Taylor, WJRO's chair of operations, said it was "a very positive step" by Polish authorities to purchase and make available online the 1939 registry.

"But Poland has to now follow through and make that information actionable for heirs, instead of introducing procedure that make it more difficult to reclaim properties," he said.

Unlike her husband, Liora Szytkgold, 77, can't even use the WJRO database to find out whether her parents had any assets that are being reopened for restitution. An orphan who was left in the care of a Catholic convent, she knows neither her birth name nor her date of birth.

"It's not about money," said Liora, who has two children with Yoram. "Of course, we'd like to leave more to the grandchildren. It's about achieving a measure of justice."

Poland has returned communally owned properties worth many millions of dollars to Jewish and Christian organizations, among others. But it has resisted calls to pass legislation on privately owned properties.

In Warsaw, attempts to achieve justice on restitution are complicated, messy and feature many non-Jewish claimants.

About half of the 2,613 assets on the list being reopened were probably owned by non-Jewish Poles, according to Kleinwaks.

But "there is a general unwillingness to touch the issue," according to Konstanty Gebert, a Jewish journalist for the *Gazeta Wyborcza* daily. This is largely because of corruption scandals plaguing it, he said, but additionally, "Many Poles feel the entire nation suffered under Nazism and communism, and that it's wrong for only a few to get restitution."

Then there are cases like that of Krystyna Danko, a non-Jewish woman who risked her life to save Jews during the Holocaust. She was forced out of her home at the age of 100 after the building where she had been living for decades on the ground floor was returned in 2016 to restitution claimants from Paris. (The claimant, Emilia Radziun, who owns a supermarket in the French capital, has told the Polish media that she is not Jewish. She did not reply to JTA's attempts to reach her.)

Now Danko lives in a public housing building on the sixth floor, where her wheelchair barely fits the rickety elevator. Her son, Wojciech, says that his mother, who is nearly 102, went blind during the weeks of the move from the stress involved.

"What happened to my mother wasn't just, but I understand the Jewish perspective of seeking justice through restitution," he said. "I think we need legislation and a compromise because the way this is going isn't good for too many people."



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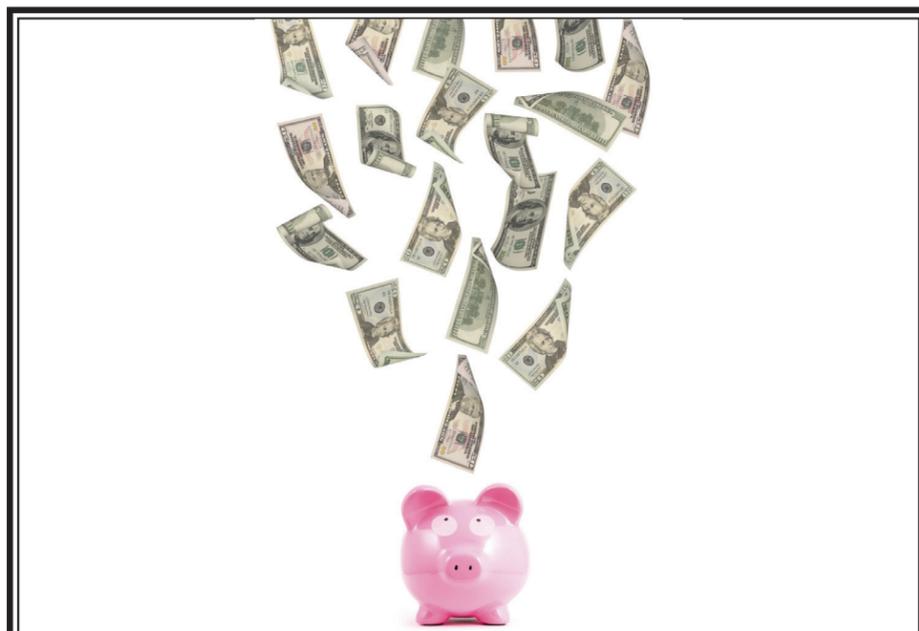
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Weekly roundup of world briefs from JTA

Thousands mourn Ari Fuld, prominent Israel activist stabbed to death by Palestinian

JERUSALEM (JTA)—For more than four hours, thousands mourned at a West Bank cemetery for Ari Fuld, the victim of a terrorist stabbing who is being called a hero and “a lion of Israel,” a play on his name, which means lion. Many waved Israeli flags during and after the funeral for the U.S.-born Israel activist killed outside a shopping mall near Efrat, the Etzion bloc town where he lived.

The funeral for Fuld, a 45-year-old father of four, began close to midnight Sunday, less than a day after he was attacked by a teenage Palestinian assailant. The mourners wouldn't leave until the wee hours of Monday.

Fuld's widow, Miriam, delivered one of many eulogies by family members.

“I don't know how I will go on without you,” she said. “We were born 24 hours apart from one another. We didn't know it would end like this. You fought for what you believed in. I promise to take care of the children. Your job is to look after us from above.”

“You were always running towards danger instead of away from it, and you never backed down from a fight because you knew you were in the right. You fought for what you believed in. You've left behind a legacy for the entire world to savor, videos and stories that we will be telling for many years to come.”

Fuld's father, Rabbi Yonah Fuld, called his son a “true hero.”

“Zion cries and the land of Israel cries. Ari influenced thousands of people all over the world,” his father said. “He was so strong, he was so full of life. He celebrated every moment, every breath. How that voice can be silent?”

“He gave his life to sanctify God, to sanctify the land. If you would have asked him,

that's way he would have said he wanted to go.”

Fuld, a dual American-Israeli citizen, chased after his attacker and shot him before falling to the ground. He was declared dead at a Jerusalem hospital.

He worked for Standing Together, a nongovernmental organization that provides support for Israeli soldiers. Fuld was well known for his social media posts defending Israel and its military. He was scheduled to leave in the coming weeks on a speaking tour in the United States. In addition, he reportedly was about to launch a new Israel advocacy website in English.

Several lawmakers and government ministers attended the funeral, many of whom had visited the family during the day prior to the funeral. He was a member of the National Union Party, which is part of the Jewish Home Knesset faction.

He also was eulogized on social media and in newspapers in Israel.

“Israel lost a great hero today but not really. We didn't lose him. He's just been moved to a new position,” blogger Paula R. Stern wrote in a post on Facebook. “Maybe you could say he's been promoted. He's now a Guardian. He was always one who guarded Israel, now he watches over us from above.”

Former Knesset member Dov Lipman wrote an appreciation of Fuld in *The Jerusalem Post*.

“Ari and I had our disagreements, and he would argue his points with firmness, clarity and strength,” Lipman wrote.

“He believed that he had to convince me to change my mind, and did not want to finish the debate with a ‘let's agree to disagree’ In certain cases, he believed that my stance was dangerous for the state and people of Israel, and he would continue pressing to win me over—Ari would not let me get away without

answering his pointed and poignant questions.”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a tweet Sunday before the funeral called Fuld a “great Israeli hero” and said he met with his parents and brothers.

“I hugged them in the name of the entire nation in this time of terrible grief,” Netanyahu wrote. “We are alive thanks to heroes like Ari. We will remember him forever.”

Israeli soldiers on Monday raided the home of the assailant Khalil Jabarin, 17, in the village of Yatta near Hebron, and measured it in preparation for demolition—standard practice for the homes of terrorists who murder Israelis. The home reportedly is slated to be razed even though Jabarin's parents told Palestinian and Israeli security forces about their son's plans to commit a terror attack.

Haaretz cited a source close to the Jabarin family as saying that the teen informed his parents that he planned to carry out an attack at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron. He was not found near the tomb, and then carried out the attack near Efrat.

Woody Allen's wife Soon Yi Previn defends him against accusations of child sexual abuse

(JTA)—Soon-Yi Previn, the wife of filmmaker Woody Allen, defended her husband of 25 years against charges that he sexually abused his adopted daughter when she was 7.

“What's happened to Woody is so upsetting, so unjust,” Previn, 47, told *New York Magazine* in an interview published in the Sept. 17 issue and posted on the magazine's Vulture website late last week. “[Mia] has taken advantage of the #MeToo movement and paraded Dylan as a victim. And a whole new generation is hearing about it when they shouldn't.”

Previn is the adopted daughter of Mia Farrow and her ex-husband Andre

Previn. She met Allen when the filmmaker was Farrow's boyfriend. Allen and Farrow have a biological son and also adopted two children.

In May, in the wake of accusations by dozens of women against movie producer Harvey Weinstein and the launch of the #MeToo movement, Allen's adopted daughter Dylan Farrow revived her accusation that the acclaimed director had molested her in Farrow's home when she was 7 years old in 1992. Allen has denied that he ever molested his adopted daughter, and an investigation in 1993 determined that Dylan Farrow was coached to make the accusation, which she denies.

The *New York* article was written by Daphne Merkin, who said in the piece that she has been friends with Allen for more than 40 years. The revelation has led to accusations of bad journalism policies against the magazine.

These are the first comments that Previn has made on her relationship with Allen and the accusations against him in their years together.

Allen and Previn began their relationship in 1991, when Allen still had some kind of relationship with Farrow, and when Previn was a freshman in college studying art. They had planned to keep their relationship a secret and guessed that it would end quickly. Upon discovering the relationship, Farrow called it a virtual case of incest because of the complicated relationship between Allen and the women.

Previn said that Farrow was abusive and considered her to be “retarded,” but that she and Allen did not start a relationship to punish Farrow.

“I wasn't the one who went after Woody—where would I get the nerve? He pursued me,” she told Merkin. “That's why the relationship has worked: I felt valued. It's quite flattering for me. He's usually a meek person, and he took a big leap.”

Allen's adopted son Moses has defended him, saying most recently in a blogpost in May that he was present when the molestation of Dylan Farrow is said to have taken place, and that no such assault occurred. His biological son Ronan Farrow, who goes by his middle name after growing up as Satchel, has defended his sister in the controversy. Ronan Farrow is the author of several groundbreaking articles in the *New Yorker* on high-profile men accused of sexually abusing women.

Several stars of Allen movies have repudiated him in recent months or donated their earnings from Allen films to organizations that support women who have been sexually abused or marginalized. **New York couple die in crash of small plane near Boston**

(JTA)—A married couple from New York were killed when their small plane crashed near Boston.

Dr. Michael Graver, 65, and Jodi Cohen, 52, of Long Island, were killed Saturday morning when the plane crashed into the woods in Woburn, Massachusetts.

Graver, an experienced pilot, was flying the plane when it crashed about seven miles from the airport and minutes before it was scheduled to land, NBC *New York* reported.

No one on the ground was injured in the crash and no homes in the residential area were damaged, according to reports.

The couple were scheduled to meet Graver's son, Adam, 33, of Washington state, for lunch in Boston, where he was attending a conference.

Graver was the chief of adult cardiac surgery at North Shore University Hospital. Cohen was a certified public accountant and worked as a real estate agent. They were married in September 2010.

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the crash.

Republican Jewish Coalition launches \$1 million ad campaign against senator who backed Iran deal

(JTA)—The Republican Jewish Coalition launched a \$1 million television and digital advertising campaign in North Dakota against its incumbent senator over her support for the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

The campaign targeting Heidi Heitkamp, a Democrat, was launched last week and will air throughout September in the Fargo and Minot markets.

Titled “Roots,” the ad says that Heitkamp abandoned her “North Dakota values” by “siding with liberals and her party to support the disastrous Iran deal.”

“Those are not our values, they are their values,” the ad continues, showing photos of Heitkamp and three key Democratic supporters of the agreement.

“Heidi Heitkamp voted for the Iran deal, putting party loyalty above American security and the desires of her constituents,” RJC director Matt Brooks said in a statement. “She knew the deal was a dangerous risk that would give Iran access to some \$100 billion, money that Iran has used to support terrorists like Hezbollah and the cruel Assad regime in Syria. The deal has made America less safe.”

“Now the voters of North Dakota can finally make Heitkamp answerable for her votes in Washington, especially her support for the dangerous Iran deal.”

President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the nuclear agreement in May.

In June, the RJC said it planned to spend more than \$500,000 to target Scott Wallace, a Democratic congressional candidate in a Philadelphia-area district whose charity has given to anti-Israel groups.

Trump

From page 1A

“The PLO is not a state with which we have diplomatic relations, and therefore it has no right to a mission in Washington. That privilege was granted to advance peace negotiations,” former Deputy National Security Adviser Elliot Abrams told JNS. “Because the PLO has refused to negotiate since 2008, imposing this penalty is quite sensible. In fact, it is overdue.”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu applauded the announcement, stating at the start of the weekly cabinet meeting, that “The U.S. made the correct decision when it decided to close the PLO offices in Washington. The Palestinians refuse to enter negotiations with Israel even as they attack Israel with false claims in international forums. Israel very much appreciates the Trump administration decision and supports American actions that are designed to make it clear to the Palestinians that the refusal to enter into negotiations with Israel and the unbridled attacks against Israel will not

only not advance peace but will certainly not make things better for the Palestinians.”

‘Helps to properly rebalance the scales’

Reactions from Jewish and Israel-related organizations have been mostly positive.

“The Jewish Policy Center strongly applauds President Donald Trump's decision to close the PLO office in Washington,” Shoshana Bryen, senior director of the Jewish Policy Center, told JNS. “For too long, it had operated as an embassy and operated in violation of the rules of its establishment. For too long, the Palestinians had believed the United States was neutral between the PLO and our democratic ally, Israel. It is assuredly not. This action, with others the president has taken, helps to properly rebalance the scales.”

The Zionist Organization of America long advocated for this “long overdue action” and “repeatedly pleaded, to no avail, with the Obama and Bush administrations to close the PLO/P.A. offices because they were still a terrorist group promoting hatred and violence against Israel in their

schools, media and speeches, and naming schools, streets and sports teams after Jew-killers while refusing to negotiate,” ZOA president Mort Klein told JNS. “Closing the PLO offices makes clear that the U.S. will no longer tolerate the lie that the PLO/P.A. has any interest in peace but, in fact, only wants Israel's destruction.”

Groups opposed to the decision include J Street. “The record makes clear that any ‘peace’ proposal coming from this administration is nothing more than a sham,” said J Street president Jeremy Ben-Ami, according to *The Jerusalem Post*. “This is the latest in a series of moves explicitly intended to pressure and undermine the only government among the U.S., Israel and the Palestinians that currently endorses a two-state solution.”

The Endowment for Middle East Truth and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee echoed the JPC and ZOA's sentiment.

“President Trump has yet again given not only the Jewish people, the State of Israel, the United States and

the international community a gift by the closing of the P.A. office in Washington,” EMET founder and president Sarah Stern told JNS. “[This week] marks 25 years since the signing of the Oslo Accords, which the parties were supposed to have developed a sense of mutual trust in order to go to final-status agreements. For 25 years, we have watched as the Palestinian Authority continued its relentless campaign to demonize Jews using every means possible, to teach that one day all of Israel will eventually become Palestine, and to extol the virtues of jihad and martyrdom.”

“The Palestinian Authority keeps promising over and over again the same pledges that they had made 25 years ago on the White House lawn,” she added.

“The Trump administration once again demonstrated its commitment to a negotiated peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. President [Donald Trump] has made it clear that he is willing to exert maximum pressure on both sides in order to bring them to the table because a deal negotiated by the two

sides is the only chance for peace,” the Republican Jewish Coalition said in a statement to JNS. “The decision to close the PLO office in Washington was designed specifically to bring the Palestinians to the negotiation table. It was done with the singular intention to bring peace to the region.”

“While the Israelis have demonstrated time and again that they are willing to negotiate a peace deal and stick with it, we need to find a way to get the Palestinians to make the same kind of commitment. Where others have tried to coddle the Palestinians, to no avail, President Trump is bringing new ideas and tactics to the process,” added the RJC.

‘Cease its efforts to delegitimize Israel in international forums’

In a statement, AIPAC says that “for years, the PLO has placed obstacles in the path of peace and has now refused to enter negotiations with the Israelis or meet with American officials. We urge the Palestinian leadership to return to the negotiating table with the Israelis and cease its efforts to delegitimize Israel in international forums.”

Such forums include the International Criminal Court, where the Palestinian Authority has called on it to investigate, as P.A. spokesperson Saeb Erekat has claimed, “Israeli crimes.”

U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton praised the decision and slammed the ICC. “If the court comes after us, Israel or other U.S. allies, we will not sit quietly,” he told the *Federalist Society* in Washington. “The United States will use any means necessary to protect our citizens and those of our allies from unjust prosecution by this illegitimate court.”

“The Trump administration's decisions to cut aid to the P.A. and close the PLO Mission are steps in the right direction and clearly demonstrate that it is no longer business as usual,” the National Council of Young Israel said in a statement. “No longer is the U.S. going to turn a blind eye to the Palestinian Authority's glorification of terrorism, its despicable practice of incentivizing murder and mayhem by paying terrorists and their families, and its anti-Israel machinations at the ICC.”

Chabad

From page 1A

our generator and had to go to seven or eight places before I could get any."

Preparations for assistance are underway

As Hurricane Florence approached, Chabad-Lubavitch centers outside the range of the storm began

preparing to help victims in every way

Just a year ago, Chabad brought relief to victims of Hurricane Harvey, trucking in supplies as 50 rabbis from a dozen states joined the clean-up and aid efforts. Soon after, Hurricanes Irma and Maria cut a swath of devastation through the Caribbean islands and the southeastern United States.

In the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Florida Keys, Chabad emissaries picked up the pieces, organizing much-needed relief efforts and leading High Holidays services in the most trying of circumstances.

As North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper warned about this year's first major hurricane: "Disaster is on the doorstep, and it's coming in."

In the coastal, tourist town of Myrtle Beach, S.C., where there was mandatory evacuation orders in place, the Aizenman family left their home and head inland to ride out the storm with family members. They took with them the community's five Torah scrolls.

Rabbi Doron Aizenman, director of Chabad of Myrtle Beach with his wife, Leah, not-

ed that everything in the town was closed—the shops, the businesses and the schools, including the Chabad Jewish Academy. They said they kept in touch with congregants as the storm developed.

"We just installed new windows and a new roof, and it's a strong structure, so we are hopeful there won't be any damage," he said, noting that "20 years ago, we had a

roof fall off when we were in the middle of Shabbat prayers during another hurricane, but since then the roof has been sturdy and we've had other storms."

Said the rabbi: "We have a job to do, and as long as people are here and we can help out, if it's safe to do so, we will be there."

This story originally appeared on Chabad.org/News.

Gala

From page 2A

Cues, Inc., an Orlando firm that designs robotic systems for maintaining pipelines, Stenzler is now retired, studies guitar, and is an active runner and soft martial arts practitioner in addition to his extensive volunteer work with the Pavilion.

Stenzler became aware of the Jewish Pavilion when volunteers visited his mother and then followed her to several facilities over the years as her care needs changed. He started bringing his guitar to the Pavilion's Sabbath services at his mother's residences, and his involvement increased from there.

"I love this organization," Stenzler said. "It is a true outreach at the grassroots level. And sooner or later, all of us, if we're local, will

need the services of the Jewish Pavilion in one way or another."

Nancy Ludin, the Pavilion's executive director, commends Stenzler's effective board leadership over the last two years, noting that he has also served the Pavilion in a number of capacities over many years. "He has been an active volunteer leader for years leading Sabbath services, memorial programs and musicales," said Ludin. "His band, Rhythm Release, has performed gratis at most of the Jewish Pavilion galas."

Mendelsohn is a Jewish Pavilion board member and a strong voice for the Pavilion in the Orlando community. An almost lifelong Central Florida resident, Mendelsohn moved to Orlando with his parents, Herb and Toby, and

brother, Jon, in 1972 from Washington, D.C. His twin sisters, Jamie and Jill, were born here.

The family became very involved in Orlando's Jewish community, and Mendelsohn met his future wife, Ronni, as teens when they were members of United Synagogue Youth, where he served as president and Ronni succeeded him. Ronni's family, the Farbers, are also longtime Central Floridians. The couple has three children: Ryan and Lauren, 17, are seniors at

Edgewater High and Adam, 11, is a Maitland Middle student.

Mendelsohn is president of Ashar Group, a family-owned national life settlement brokerage firm. He started the business with his father, an area dermatologist, and brother almost 16 years ago. Mendelsohn's sister Jamie also joined the firm.

His involvement with the Pavilion stems in part from seeing what the visits and programs meant to his father-in-law, a resident

of Life Care Center of Altamonte Springs who passed away this summer. "I love the idea of caring for people that need to be cared for," said Mendelsohn. "The Pavilion helps Jewish residents of these facilities maintain their dignity and maintain their connection to Judaism when it's easy for them to be forgotten."

Ludin praises Mendelsohn's deep commitment to the organization. Said Ludin, "Jason Mendelsohn is full of ideas. He has served diligently on the

Jewish Pavilion Board for the past two years. He has gotten many younger people involved with the organization, and he and his wife are hosting our annual board get together in November."

The Gems and Jeans 2018 Gala will be held Oct. 28, 2018, beginning at 5 p.m., at Hilton Orlando North, 350 S. Northlake Blvd., Altamonte Springs. Tickets are \$118/person prior to Oct. 15; \$136/person after Oct. 15; call 407-678-9363 to make reservations.

Aid

From page 3A

cooperation on technology development."

The American-Israel Public Affairs Committee praised the House for following in the Senate's footsteps, saying it "applauds the U.S. House of Representatives for adopting the Ileana Ros-Lehtinen U.S.-Israel Security Assistance Authorization Act of 2018."

According to AIPAC, "This

key legislation seeks to ensure that Israel has the means to defend itself, by itself, against growing threats—most significantly Iran's presence on its northern border. This bipartisan bill authorizes agreed-upon increases in Israel's security assistance. It encourages expanding U.S. weapons stockpiles in Israel and advancing U.S.-Israel cooperation in anti-drone technologies and space."

Clinton

From page 4A

explaining why she declined to condemn Farrakhan, said earlier this year. "So if you can show me that Minister Farrakhan has taken his position and used his position to create inequity and inequality for Jewish people, then I will denounce that tomorrow."

By embracing this definition of racism and relegating anti-Semitism to some lesser form of bias, the left has enabled the continued normalization of bigots like Farrakhan within their ranks.

"If Jews are seen as 'white' (which, in this permutation of progressivism, they are), and 'whites' cannot be subjected to racist attacks, then anti-Semitism becomes a trivial

concern," K.C. Johnson, a history professor at Brooklyn College, former Fulbright instructor at Tel Aviv University and regular Washington Post contributor, told me in August.

Jews in Great Britain have had a taste of that dynamic this year amid accusations that the Labour Party has crossed the line from deeply critical of Israel to outright anti-Semitic. Jews who have cried foul over party leader Jeremy Corbyn's cozy relationship with Palestinian terrorists and heated anti-Israel rhetoric have been told that they are both too powerful and too comfortable to have any real complaint.

"Astounding, isn't it," British novelist Simon Maginn tweeted in July, "that a group

which claims to be silenced, oppressed, powerless manages to keep the [Labour anti-Semitism] 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."

While the Trump White House has been and should be excoriated for encouraging white supremacist and far-right groups in the pursuit of far-right votes, it goes without saying that the left should be similarly condemned for fraternizing with and continuing to legitimize Farrakhan and his ilk seemingly in the pursuit of black votes.

Of course, Aretha Franklin's family had every right to invite whomever they saw fit to her funeral. Nobody,

however, forced Clinton to appear on the stage itself. Clinton could and should have opted not to attend without a change in the dais, thereby refusing to share a stage with, and implicitly elevating, a bigot.

Charles Dunst will soon begin as an intern reporter at Southeast Asia Globe in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He is a former editorial fellow at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and his writing has appeared in The Washington Post, The American Prospect and The Hill, among other publications.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.

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Oslo

From page 5A

following the failure of the July 2000 Camp David summit and the conflict following the withdrawal from Gaza, Israelis have every right to be concerned about security. These concerns, however profound, need not stifle conversations and initiatives by

Israel that could strengthen forces within the Palestinian community toward actualizing the concept of Israel's legitimacy.

Nor should steps be taken that would make an ultimate two-state solution a practical impossibility. And Palestinians, following in the path of Salam Fayyad, the former

Palestinian prime minister, need to take practical steps to build up Palestinian institutions and infrastructure to help convince Israelis that the ideas embodied in Oslo are not dead.

Twenty-five years after the White House lawn ceremony, cynicism about Oslo is understandable. However,

it could still be celebrated as a watershed moment in the eternal conflict if its conceptual breakthroughs are reinvigorated and translated into steps that could create movement for a secure peace on both sides.

Kenneth Jacobson is deputy national director of the Anti-Defamation League.

Golan

From page 6A

"I really can't see that happening, no matter what party is in control," he said. "In order for an administration to reverse this, they would have to conclude that Jerusalem is not the capital of Israel and Tel Aviv is. I think that would be a far more controversial thing to do than what the president did. It would be completely at odds with reality and I don't believe

that there is any American politician of any party—of no party—who would take a position that is completely contrary to reality. So I don't think that's going to happen."

Attempting to explain Trump's deep affection for Israel, Friedman revealed that Israeli intelligence had helped prevent terrorist attacks on American soil, and spoke about the president's appreciation for Israel's success.

"He likes to win," Friedman said of Trump. "He's very good at winning, he likes people who win, he thinks that success breeds more success and he knows how difficult it is to succeed, so I think he has greater admiration for what Israel has accomplished, maybe even more than some Israelis."

In the interview, Friedman also addressed the recent U.S. administration decision

to defund UNRWA, the U.N. agency that supports Palestinian refugees.

"UNRWA is a critically flawed organization," he said. "It doesn't advance regional peace and actually perpetuates the conditions that make peace even harder to achieve. As such, the U.S. doesn't see how any additional investment in the agency will yield a worthy return for the American taxpayers."

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Oslo

From page 1A

documented handshakes on the White House lawn.

Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein: 'Oslo never stood a chance'

Likud Party MK and current Speaker of the Knesset Yuli Edelstein recalls exactly where he was when the Oslo ceremony took place in Washington. "I was driving through Beit Lechem [Bethlehem] when a group of Palestinians surrounded my car waving pictures of Yasser Arafat. It wasn't a pleasant experience. I felt that this was a celebration of victory over us [Israel], not one of peace."

Edelstein, who at the time was an adviser to then opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu, says that "the Oslo accords failed because of the way they were built; it never stood a chance. It was a fatal mistake from the first moment."

He explains that "it was called Gaza and Jericho first [control over those areas were quickly turned over to the P.A.]. How you can you start by giving away land and calling it a peace process? As I explained to a senior State Department Official when I was a cabinet minister in the first Netanyahu government [in 1996], it's like the joke about the guy who jumps from the 20th floor, and when he passes the 10th floor, his friends asks him how it's going, and he says, 'So far, so good.' With Oslo, we jumped to the end without first laying the foundations. We shouldn't go into the business of shaking hands with terrorist leaders and pretending that now we have a comprehensive peace agreement."

Edelstein says that for 25 years, nobody has had the courage to officially admit that this is a "dead end," and to "stop pretending that we are in the middle of a process. There is no Oslo; it's gone."

He says that "as the Knesset speaker, I can say loud and clear that there is no solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. But still we shouldn't sit on our hands. We should build coexistence in different ways—build a foundation for peace. It's not about two leaders shaking hands; it's about collaboration with our neighbors, like Jordan and others in the region who know Israel is part of the solution, not the problem. There won't be ceremonies, but there can be cooperation on issues involving water, agriculture and in other fields."

So while Edelstein says Oslo is dead, he remains optimistic in the long term.

"For me, one of the main lessons is that there are no shortcuts to peace. It's a long and painful process with ups and downs. In Judea and Samaria, we can take one industrial zone with Arabs and Jews working together, and see more peace than the whole Oslo process together."

Knesset member Nachman Shai: 'It feels like it's all stuck' Zionist Union Party MK Nachman Shai, who serves as the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset from the opposition, says that under Oslo things got "better and worse." Better, he says, because "it created a framework and helped Israelis finally accept the paradigm of 'two-states for two people.'" He

added that it also was an opportunity for the Palestinians to compromise.

However, the situation got worse he says because "it didn't go anywhere. Twenty-five years later, the process is dead; nothing happened. It feels like it's all stuck. In retrospect, it was the right thing to do, no doubt [signing the accords], but while there was hope, optimism and Nobel Prizes, everything vanished."

Shai says that both sides share in the blame. "The blame is mutual. In Israel, there was significant political change that brought parties to power which were unwilling to compromise, like the government today."

Even though Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan that he was in favor of two states, relates Shai, "it just remains 'a speech.'"

He says that "on the other hand with the Palestinians, first Arafat initiated the Second Intifada, which destroyed [Oslo] totally, and Palestinian Authority leader Abu Mazen [Mahmoud Abbas] is too hesitant. So now, we are unable to move anywhere. This was a missed opportunity."

In regard to a potential U.S.-backed peace plan, Shai says he doesn't know what the Trump plan entails, but overall doesn't see anything realistic. "There is always a chance because this administration and president are unpredictable. But at this stage, it's hard to imagine [something positive]."

He concludes with "today I am pessimistic. I would like to be optimistic at this stage, but I don't see any reason for hope. Maybe things will change. I would like to see this government, even Netanyahu, who has the power, to go further [for peace]. And if he does, we [in the opposition] will give him a safety net if he decides to renew negotiations and open a political process again, but so far he hasn't chosen this path."

Professor Khalil Shikaki: 'U.S. must behave like an honest broker'

Professor Khalil Shikaki is the well-respected director of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research, based in Ramallah. His center releases in-depth studies on a regular basis about Palestinian attitudes, including their thoughts on peace with Israel.

In regard to Oslo, Shikaki says "there is doubt that this was a huge disappointment on all levels. This was supposed to be the beginning of something that would be incredible for Israelis and Palestinians, and ended up being another road to further violence and war."

Shikaki says that Israel shares most of the blame for Oslo's failure by not fulfilling its obligations under the agreement. "Israel did not transfer areas to the P.A. in accordance with Oslo." He adds that "Israel continued to build settlements and failed to negotiate permanent status issues in accordance with the agreement." As a result, he says that "the interim nature of Oslo became permanent," while agreements on those final-status issues were postponed.

"Although it is not inevitable, the next 25 years will probably be years of conflict, rather than years of peace," adds Shikaki. "I doubt very much, based on the lessons of the past 25 years, that the



Flash90

Thousands of right-wing Israelis in Jerusalem protest the Oslo Accords, Oct. 5, 1995.

two sides will have common ground. So there will be on and off periods of conflict."

When asked whether it was a good idea for Israel to revitalize the PLO and allow its representatives to serve as Israel's address for peace talks, he says: "Guessing what might have happened if the PLO remained outside is highly speculative. Most likely, it would not have made a difference: It was Rabin who was assassinated, not Arafat; it was Netanyahu—soon after his election in 1996—and not Arafat who froze the implementation of Oslo."

Shikaki believes that America can play a significant and positive role in the peace process, but only if it acts as what he dubs a "fair mediator."

"During the past 50 years, the United States played a constructive role in bringing peace to the region," he relates. "But the U.S. contribution was not enough to overcome domestic [Israeli] constraints," such as "a lack of incentive on the part of Israel to move forward in ending the occupation, and giving the Palestinians the freedom and independence they desired."

In other words Shikaki feels that "the U.S. didn't use equal leverage on Israel at it did on the Palestinians."

He says that if he could speak to U.S. President Donald Trump, he would "ask for an effective mediator. At the moment, the Trump administration is siding with Israel. It is not simply the lawyer for Israel it is gone beyond that. Trump is strengthening right-wing tendencies in Israeli society and sustaining more extreme elements, rather than resolving the conflict. A mediator has to remove itself from internal politics and be an honest broker. The U.S. is doing anything in its power to destroy peacemaking. The U.S. must stop and behave as any honest broker would do."

Shikaki's most recent research shows that the Palestinians also feel that Oslo is finished. He says that 2/3 of Palestinians say the P.A. should dismantle Oslo and instead create a sovereign entity without an agreement. A frightening statistic he says also reveals that while the majority of Palestinians don't support the use of violence at this juncture against Israel to achieve statehood, he says that number is increasing.

"We are getting close," he says, to a majority that favors violence.

Matan Peleg: 'They chose war, terror and corruption'

Matan Peleg is CEO of the right-wing Im Tirzu Movement, which according to its website is the largest grassroots Zionist movement in Israel. He believes that while Oslo was meant to solve the conflict, it started as "a dream which became a nightmare"—one he says continues to the present, as "our leaders still didn't wake up."

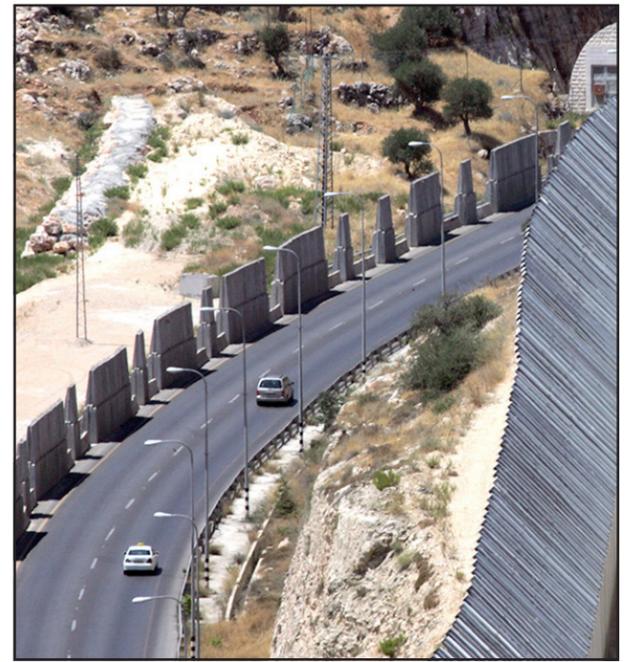
Peleg says that Israel must adopt an approach of "victory." Israel's slogan under Oslo was "You make peace with your enemies." That approach is flawed because your enemy will always want to kill you. Peace you only make with your enemies after they are defeated."

He adds that Israel needs to destroy the terror organizations that seek to annihilate Israeli Jews, while at the same time help implement a new educational curriculum for the next generation of Palestinian children—one that doesn't call for the destruction of Israel.

Peleg believes that the Oslo "experiment" flopped because of the creation of the Palestinian Authority. "The P.A. is a corrupt organization that failed in building a promising future for the Arabs in Judea and Samaria. They didn't have a vision for life. Instead, they chose war, terror and corruption."

He says that if the Palestinians had decided to choose a "normal reality" instead, "we could have had a better life on both sides."

In addition to cracking down on terror, Peleg says Israel has to expose the corruption of the P.A. if it is to work towards a better future for its



Nati Shohat/Flash90

View of Route 60 near Jerusalem, the north-south inter-city road in Israel and the West Bank that stretches from Beersheva to Nazareth. Before Oslo, Palestinians lived under Israeli authority and could travel freely on the road. After the Palestinian Authority assumed control over various cities, Israel established checkpoints on areas of the route that entered Palestinian jurisdiction. New routes of highway were paved so that Israeli traffic could bypass the Palestinian towns in order to reduce friction, July 26, 2009.

people. "The E.U. and the U.S. invested billions for the Arabs in Judea and Samaria. But where is the infrastructure? The roads? Hospitals? All the money went to terror and corruption. The problem is the Palestinians are trapped in a false narrative. They think Israel will disappear. We [Israel] need to see who the real Arab leaders are who value peace and life, and we should strengthen them."

Yariv Oppenheimer: 'Oslo is still alive and kicking'

Yariv Oppenheimer is the former director of the left-wing Peace Now organization and currently an active board member of that group.

Oppenheimer says Oslo failed because of the extremists on both sides who were fighting against its implementation. "The Oslo agreements were like an ill patient transported into the surgery room so that he could be healed. However, people [kept] coming into the room trying to unplug all the machines."

He says that groups like Hamas and the Israeli right-wing were the ones fighting Oslo, both through democratic means and through non-democratic ones, citing the murder of Rabin and the killing spree carried out by Israeli Baruch Goldstein, which claimed the lives of 29 Palestinians.

While Oppenheimer sees that in the current reality Oslo remains frozen, he says that "we have made some progress towards a two-state solution. The Palestinians are running their own lives in the West Bank; on the other hand, there is no peace on the horizon."

Oppenheimer blames both Israel and the Palestinians for not being ready to move towards a final agreement. But ironically, that's why he believes that "Oslo is still alive and kicking."

He explains that today's "reality is closer to what was written in Oslo, so it is a successful agreement. It was supposed to be temporary—for a period of five years—and only then were permanent status issues to be discussed."

However, Oppenheimer says that "Israel's current leadership is still not ready for a permanent status agreement. They are OK with the status quo and not ready to move towards a final agreement."

Fresh off a meeting between Peace Now and Abbas, Oppenheimer says "there is now a willingness on the Palestinian side for a peace treaty, which most Israelis would support. However, there isn't that same willingness on the Israeli side. What has to change is the leadership in Israel."



Yossi Zamir/Flash90

Palestinian police celebrate on their entrance to the city of Jericho, Friday May 13 1994. It was one of the first cities handed over to Palestinian Authority control in 1994, in accordance with the Oslo Accords.

Europe is going bananas over this Israeli guy's avocados

By Cnaan Liphshiz

AMSTERDAM (JTA)—Last year, Ron Simpson was still managing talent for a living.

But within just a few months Simpson, a 34-year-old Jewish marketing professional and producer from Amsterdam with no experience in running a restaurant, launched an international chain of eateries with a partner. It is so wildly popular and innovative that seasoned food critics are celebrating it as a cultural symbol and zeitgeist indicator.

As it turns out, all Simpson and partner Julien Zaal needed to take this Dutch capital city's oversaturated restaurant sector by storm was a small space, a good concept and an Instagram account.

Oh, and avocados. Lots of avocados. About 10,000 succulent, Hass avocados each week, to be exact.

Each item on the menu at their line of restaurants, The Avocado Show (there are two in Amsterdam and another opening in Brussels) is pretty much based on the creamy fruit from Central America.

In addition to avocado salads, avocado pancakes, egg dishes and smoothies, there's an avocado burger: The meat is sandwiched between two peeled halves sprinkled with sesame to resemble buns. The cocktail department features Guaca Mary and Avo Daiquiri. And for dessert, you can have ice cream, mousse and waffle (take a wild guess as to what flavors are on offer.)

At about noon each day, dozens of patrons—many but not all millennials—queue up at the entrance to The Avocado Show's main restaurant near the bustling Albert Cuyp market in south-central Amsterdam. On a quiet side street, the mix of locals and tourists patiently wait for a table.

There are only 50 seats, including some on a bright pink velvet couch. Large plants and shiny tables balance out the gray concrete walls. On a wall are three shelves sporting 12 brightly illuminated glass



The poke bowl dish at The Avocado Show in Amsterdam is among the many images patrons share on social media.

tubes containing avocado seedlings.

Despite the humble setting, The Avocado Show generated a media frenzy in Holland and beyond. It was featured in hundreds of articles in dozens of languages, with mainstream newspapers in places as far flung as New Zealand reporting about its opening.

The Avocado Show's success stunned experienced observers of the local restaurant sector.

"Had someone told me last year that he's opening a restaurant based on avocado, I would have declared him insane," Mac van Dinther, the food critic of the highbrow Volkskrant daily, told JTA. "Maybe that's part of the reason for The Avocado Show's success: It makes people curious about it."

The restaurant drab decor seems to only sharpen the focus on the actual dishes. Some feature elaborate flower-shaped structures, with thin avocado slices acting as petals and bright purple beet strips simulating the styles. In others, layered avocado rectangles forming elaborate patterns reminiscent of paintings by the Dutch illusionist artist M.C. Escher hedge seaweed and salmon salads sprinkled with crispy fried sesame.

"This is why we call ourselves The Avocado Show, man," Simpson told JTA last week. "The show is on your plate."

Even when it follows the same pattern, each dish is

different, distinguishing itself from other creations in subtle or drastic ways. Many patrons and critics praise the dish's culinary virtues.

Booker Jennings, a recent high school graduate from Denver, Colorado, said his stack of avocado pancakes was the healthiest he's ever had and "not something you can get at home." His travel buddy, Mark Gardner, said the lean bacon at The Avocado Show "is so fresh, so good. The best I've had."

Of course, not everyone is as positive about the menu. Van Dinther, the Volkskrant's food critic, said that "from a culinary perspective, The Avocado Show has little to offer. It's basically pieces of avocado with something on the side." He gave the place 6 points out of 10, "which is not really a recommendation," he said.

Simpson said the work that goes into making the dishes' aesthetic, however, is more than a gimmick. It is an integral element of the firm's marketing strategy, which occurs almost entirely organically on social media.

"The way it works, you give people a spectacular dish, they're going to take a picture of it and probably share it on Instagram. If it looks good, their friends will come, too," he said. "That's basically our advertising strategy in a nutshell."

In that sense, The Avocado Show's success "is a direct result of social media," Simpson said.



Cnaan Liphshiz

Ron Simpson, looking at camera, at his Amsterdam restaurant The Avocado Show, Aug 6, 2018.

The Avocado chain has more than 100,000 followers on Instagram and 63,000 on Facebook—a formidable following in European terms. (For example, the successful and established Belgian EXKI chain of 70 health food restaurants has just over 7,000 followers on Instagram and 43,000 on Facebook.)

Simpson, a native of the Tel Aviv suburb of Petach Tikvah, is the son of a British father and an Israeli mother. He moved with his two siblings and parents to Holland at the age of 4 because his dad took a job there with AT&T.

Later he would attend college; Simpson says most of his friends from there ended up "very successful, very famous or both." But for many years he was "kind of figuring out what to do in life," working in parallel as a journalist and talent agent as well as a barista, waiter "and just about any job you can imagine."

Being Jewish, Simpson said, "meant that my friends would make fun of how, of course, I'm going to become some famous producer or businessman because there's this stigma that Jews are good with money, right?"

And while the expectations placed some pressure on Simpson, he said "it also gave

me a sort of confidence, I think that, yeah, sure, I can make it in business if I wanted. All I had to do was start."

From social media, The Avocado Show began making a splash in mainstream media across Europe and beyond. Along with all the articles, the restaurant has been featured on Netherlands TV.

And whereas it may well have been the world's first all-avocado restaurant, Simpson's chain is no longer the only one. A month after the opening in Amsterdam, Avocaderia came to Brooklyn—and another location opened this spring in Manhattan. The concept's popularity is part and parcel of the broader monofood trend, which focuses on one versatile product for a full diet.

Millennials' passion for avocados was also mocked, and celebrated, last year when an Australian millionaire, Tim Gurner, told an interviewer that young people would be in better financial shape if they spent less money on indulgences like avocado toast.

Simpson said he was moved by instinct, not the trends. He recalled that he and Zaal were talking about opening a restaurant and each made a list of favorite foods.

"Avocado was on both lists, so we went with that," Simpson said.

The partners came up with the concept and model in under a week in 2016.

"Then we announced it on Facebook and it just took off from there at a speed that, frankly, none of us were prepared for," he said.

Six months after opening their first restaurant in March 2017, the partners found an investor for going international in Shawn Harris, founder of the leading European exotic fruit and vegetable importer Nature's Pride. She fronted The Avocado Show \$5.7 million, allowing it to open in Brussels and in other cities soon.

Israel, which provides The Avocado Show with some of its fruits next to South America, is high on the chain's shortlist for non-European destinations, along with Australia and South Africa, Simpson told the Volkskrant daily in September. But in the immediate future, The Avocado Show will focus on European destinations.

"To me," he said, "it's a story about two guys who wanted to do something they love and just didn't spend too much time wondering if it's actually a good idea."

SWU

From page 1A

These students are already taking the reins of leadership. Noa Lotringer's brother Dor, who also graduated from Lake Brantley High School and is a former SWU intern, launched a campaign to show support for the families under fire: the #15SecondChallenge. The goal of the program is to raise awareness about Tzeva Adom—how much can you accomplish in the 15 seconds

it takes to find shelter from an incoming bomb? (Dor received a full-ride scholarship to USF for organizing this challenge.)

The challenge was instituted again at the high school and college training conferences. Here is Dor and Noa's challenge:

What can you do in only 15 seconds? Record a video of yourself taking the #15SecondChallenge and upload it to social media using the hashtag. In only one month's time,

over 200 rockets and mortars were. When rockets are fired at Israelis in the south they have only 15 seconds to get to a bomb shelter. Don't forget to challenge your friends and family members! To support the families of the south under fire click here: <https://my.israelgives.org/en/campaign/IsraelFires2018>

For more information about the internship program, please email highschool@standwithus.com.



Talia Lerner, Southern campus coordinator, with UCF SWU's Emerson Fellow Ethan Legum.

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