

Lightning honor Holocaust survivor advocate

On his first date with Irene Berger, the woman who would become his wife of 61 years, Carl Glassberg learned that Irene had evaded death at the hands of Nazis twice, and from the day he heard her story, he committed himself to making life better for Holocaust survivors.

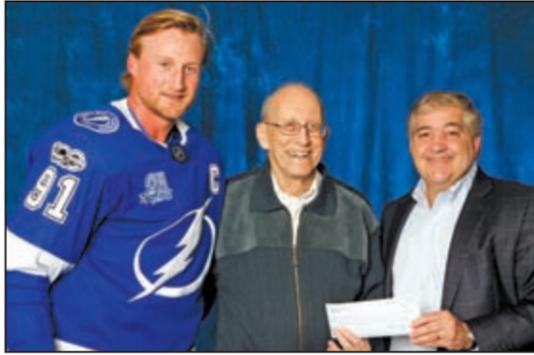
For his work on behalf of Holocaust survivors, Glassberg was honored as the Lightning Community Hero on Monday, Oct. 9, at the Tampa Bay Lightning's second home game. He directed his \$50,000 award from the

Lightning and Vinik Family Foundation to the Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services Holocaust Survivor Program, which serves the whole Tampa Bay area.

Since 2011, the Lightning have given more than \$13.75 million to more than 300 different charities through the Community Hero program.

Glassberg, who was the 273rd "hero," said he was "overwhelmed" by the generosity of the Lightning organization and enjoyed getting his

LIGHTNING continued on PAGE 5



(L-R) Lightning captain Steven Stamkos, Community hero Carl Glassberg and team owner Jeff Vinik.

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VOL. 32, NO. 7

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA ☆ OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 2, 2017

12 PAGES

Serving the Jewish communities of Pinellas County:
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Compiled from JTA news service



Photo URJ Camp Newman Facebook page

Surrounded by blackened vegetation, Camp Newman's iconic hillside Star of David survived a wildfire in Northern California.

Officials spot 'miracles' amid ashes of Jewish camp in No. California

By ROB GLOSTER

J. Jewish News of Northern California via JTA

SAN FRANCISCO — Administrators of a Jewish summer camp destroyed by a wildfire in Northern California toured the site for the first time, finding "miracles" amid the devastation.

Although most of Camp Newman's buildings were lost in the North Bay Area wildfires, camp officials said an entrance gate, prayer books and tallit survived the flames, along with an iconic wooden Star of David that overlooks the Union for Reform Judaism camp from a rocky perch.

Each summer, about 1,400 children attend Camp Newman, located on 480 acres east of Santa Rosa.

The camp's executive director, Ruben Arquilevich, and other camp officials vis-

ited the fire-ravaged site for the first time on Friday, Oct. 13, and were shocked by the scene even before they arrived.

In an interview afterward, Arquilevich said the road to the camp had featured "scenery filled with blue skies and green trees and grass, and the first part has always been a neighborhood with a couple of hundred homes. But as we drove through that neighborhood, all we saw were homes burned to the ground. This used to be a color scene, and it was black and white. It just haunted me."

Arquilevich's spirits were raised, however, when he saw that the giant gate to the camp, inscribed with the words "May you be blessed as you go on your way," was standing. Grapes dangled from some vines

MIRACLES continued on PAGE 11

What happens now with the Iran deal

By RON KAMPEAS
JTA news service

WASHINGTON— President Donald Trump has said what he wants Congress to do with the Iran nuclear deal, which he has called the worst in the world: Make it better. How does that happen? Is it possible to "fix" the deal without breaking it?

Here's a breakdown of what Trump wants, what might happen and where the Jewish organizations, many who were fierce opponents of the original deal, are on the issue.

What Trump wants

The 2015 deal negotiated by the Obama administration, the European Union, Britain, Germany, France, Russia and China with Iran traded sanctions relief for a rollback of Iran's nuclear program. Trump can leave the deal whenever he wants: All he has to do is stop waiving — that is, restore — the sanctions removed by the deal.

Top security advisers have talked Trump out of that option, saying it could damage the U.S. reputation. Instead, they have counseled him to decertify Iranian compliance with the agreement under a 2015 law passed by Congress as a means of overseeing the deal: the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, or INARA.

Now that Trump has done that in a White House speech on Friday, Oct. 13, Congress has 60 days to reimpose sanctions.

But the White House is not asking Congress to reimpose the sanctions. Rather the president wants new legislation, through an amended INARA or through a new law, that would effectively reshape the deal.

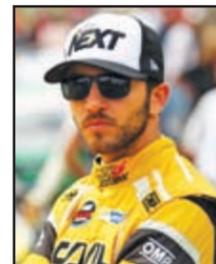
IRAN DEAL continued on PAGE 11

Israeli driver Alon Day races to first NASCAR championship

Israeli race car driver Alon Day has won his first NASCAR championship. Day finished first in the standings in the auto racing group's European series, which ended Oct. 15 with a race in Belgium. The Israeli was fourth in the race — he needed only to complete the first lap to take home the title after being well ahead in the rankings, *The Times of Israel* reported.

Day, the first ever Israeli professional race car driver, had finished second and third in the European series standings the past two seasons.

Day, 25, who grew up in Ashdod, began competing in go-kart races at age 10. He has done the bulk of his training on computer-screen simulators because Israel did not have a motor sport race track until this year.



Alon Day

Jewish coach leads Colombia national soccer team into World Cup

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Led by its Jewish Argentine coach, Jose Pekerman, Colombia's national soccer team will play in the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

Pekerman was born in Villa Dominguez in the Argentine countryside, one of the main centers of Jewish immigration to the country. His grandparents came from Ukraine.

A former midfielder with the Argentine national team, Pekerman took over as Colombia's coach in January 2012 and led the nation's return to the World Cup in 2014 following a 16-year absence from the world championship. In June 2016, he led Colombia to a third place in the prestigious Copa America, which was held in the U.S. In more than five years as the coach of "the cafeteros," or coffee makers, Pekerman has led the squad to a record of 38 wins, 17 losses and 15 ties.

Pekerman is the only Jewish member of a team participating in the FIFA World Cup for the second year in a row, albeit from the bench.

Israeli man, receives kidney from daughter who died in accident

JERUSALEM — A 66-year-old Israeli man received a kidney transplant from his daughter who died in a horseback riding accident while vacationing in Georgia.

Moshe Shimmoni came out of surgery on Tuesday, Oct. 17, as his daughter, Orit Gur, 44, was being buried in Israel, the Israeli Hebrew-language daily newspaper *Yediot Acharonot* reported.

She was flown back to Israel after the accident for treatment but died there. Her heart, second kidney and liver were transplanted into other patients.

Gur had signed an organ donor card several years ago, according to reports.

"We promised each other a few years ago that if something happened to one of us, we'd donate our organs," her husband, Lior, said in his eulogy, *The Times of Israel* reported. "Orit, you did exactly as you'd wanted, giving life to other people."

The couple have two children, aged 20 and 16.



Allison B. Oakes, Hillel's new head of school.

Hillel Academy chooses new head of school

After a year-long national search to find a new head of school, Hillel Academy has hired Allison B. Oakes, a 20-year educator in both Jewish day schools and the public school system.

Oakes will join Hillel on Oct. 30.

Most recently, she served as the head of the Sandra E. Lerner

Jewish Community Day School in Durham, NC, where she cultivated faculty and developed partnerships with parents and community leaders. One of her most rewarding achievements there was creating an environment in which learning and caring go hand-in-hand.

"I am so impressed with the thoughtfulness and dedication

that has gone into finding the right leader for Hillel Academy," Oakes said. "The many members of the Hillel family with whom I have already met have shared with me their hopes and dreams for their children and for the future for Hillel Academy."

She said she also looks forward

HILLEL continued on PAGE 7

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Did you know?

The average age of our Jewish community is 62 and nearly 10% of our area's total households are comprised of single men over 65 years old. Hungry for more numbers? See Emilie's column on page 3.

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Demographic Study Results

Earlier this year, 550 households participated in a study on our Jewish community. Join us to learn about the fascinating results!

- Sunday, November 5**
10a - 12p South County Presentation
4 - 6p North County Presentation
- Monday, November 6**
9 - 11a North County Presentation
7 - 9p South County Presentation

Please visit www.jewishpinellas.org for full details.

SAVE THESE DATES!

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Oct 26. 3rd Annual Mega Challah Bake | Nov 9. Kristallnacht Commemoration at Florida Holocaust Museum | Feb 10. Florida Holocaust Museum's Annual "To Life" Gala |
| Oct 28. Catalyst 2018: An Evening with Ben & Jerry | Dec 3. CBI Chase the Dreidel 5K | Feb 25. TBI Food Festival & Purim Carnival |
| Oct 29. Federation's Super Sunday | Dec 12. Chabad of Clearwater Chanukah Extravaganza | Mar 11. CBI Chaivana Nights Gala |
| Nov 8. Menorah Manor Annual Meeting | Dec 17. PJ Library Teddy Bear Tea | Mar 24. Gulf Coast Golf Like a Rock Star |
| Nov 9. Gulf Coast's Annual Faces Gala | Dec 24. Young Adult Division Vodka Latke | Apr 15. Jewish Heritage Festival Israel@70 |
| | Jan 27-29. TBE Art Festival | Apr 29. Sonya Miller Women of Distinction |

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The Jewish Press is a subscriber to JTA, The Global Jewish News Source.

PUBLICATION & DEADLINE DATES

NOVEMBER 3
Press ReleaseOct 20
Advertising.....Oct 24

NOVEMBER 17
Press Release Nov 3
Advertising..... Nov 7

DECEMBER 1
HANUKKAH EDITION
Press Release Nov 17
Advertising..... Nov 21

Jewish Press

of PINELLAS COUNTY • Established in 1986

An independent, bi-weekly newspaper owned by
THE JEWISH PRESS GROUP of TAMPA BAY, INC.
Also publisher of the Jewish Press of Tampa
www.jewishpresspinellas.com

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The Jewish Press of Pinellas County is a privately owned, community newspaper published in cooperation with the Jewish Federation of Pinellas & Pasco Counties. The Federation underwrites home delivery to every identified Jewish household in Pinellas County (approx.4,500), to promote Jewish community cohesiveness and identity.

THE FEDERATION MAINTAINS THE MAILING LIST FOR THE JEWISH PRESS.

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A study in superlatives

PERSPECTIVE

Emilie Socash
Executive Director, Jewish Federation
of Pinellas & Pasco Counties



“We are all Jewish by choice.”
Ira Sheskin’s words hung in the air over lunch on Oct. 15, the first day of his two-day visit in which he was presenting the results from our community’s demographic study. He went on to explain that in a philo-Semitic (Jewish-liking) nation like ours, we have the choice to be as Jewish as we like...and also have the choice to abstain from Jewish identity should we wish.

The study’s results are a portrait of a community that is older than we thought, that is following and bucking national trends in a number of ways, and that loves Israel and our local Jewish organizations. There are a few surprises as well: kosher homes are on the rise, intermarriage and declining synagogue affiliation are not unique to the young, and we have a tremendous number of kids who have been to Israel before graduating high school.

You can hear first hand about the results of the survey on Nov. 5 and 6 when Dr. Sheskin returns to town (see the schedule in our ad on page 2), but to address many of the questions you’ve asked me over the past couple months, I thought I’d give my takeaways from the survey in the form of our superlatives: the bests and worsts, the mosts and leasts, the biggest and the smallest.

To start, fully 98 percent of us feel proud to be Jewish (higher than the national average) and 81 percent of us have done something Jewish in the past year (but only 33 percent of us did that in a synagogue). Nearly half connect with the community through organized social and cultural events. Very few of us have experienced anti-Semitism, and we feel more and more connected to Israel and responsible for each other (all better than the national averages).

Households with kids at home make up just 10 percent of our community, and we have the lowest-in-the-nation percentage of kids (at just 8 percent of our total population, or about 3,000 kids). We have the lowest percentage of kids living in single-family households at just 1 percent, despite having the highest percentage of adults who were currently divorced at the time of the survey. Blended and step-family arrangements run high at 33 percent of our total family households.

We are highest in the nation for single male households age 65 and over (9 percent), nearly the same number as households with kids.

The highest percentage in the nation of households with kids who have special needs (18 percent, or about 170) and the lowest number of kids who have experienced anti-Semitism (just 3 percent).

Only half of our households always or usually participate in a Passover Seder.

Only 15 percent of our community is formally affiliated with a synagogue, although one-third have participated in synagogue activities in the past year.

Nearly 40 percent of the community—the second highest in the nation!—have an excellent perception of the *Jewish Press*, and 73 percent reported not being asked to give a gift to the Federation. Similarly, we have the second lowest percentage in the nation (27 percent) of community households who actually get the local Jewish newspaper.

Only 14 percent of our community volunteered for a Jewish organization—the lowest in the nation.

Over one-quarter of the community has lived at their current address for over 20 years. Since 1994 (at the time of our last study), the median age increased from 46 years to 62 years.

So what do we do with all of this info? Do we launch an after-school program because nearly half

of our kids (up to age 12) have two working parents? Do we establish a center that helps those with special needs participate fully in Jewish life since almost 1 in 5 kids (and a large number of non-senior adults) have this type of need? Should we host a community-wide Passover Seder since fully half of our community does not regularly participate in one?

One in about 14 friends in our community are LGBT, 1 in 10 are Jews-by-choice, 2 in 5 married Jewish adults have a non-Jewish spouse, and 1 in 3 households with kids are in blended or stepfamily situations: how can we expand our programs to serve and welcome this dynamic and diverse composition of families, structures and identities?

When pressed for important take-aways during his presentations, Dr. Sheskin noted that our community largely doesn’t feel like this is their home community. Only 7 percent of the community (just 2,400 adults) were born in Pinellas or Pasco Counties (twice that were born outside the United States!), yet 56 percent of the community have lived here for 20 or more years. Over one-quarter of the community has lived at the same address for 20 years. With all of this in mind, why doesn’t this place feel like home?

Part of the challenge is that we don’t have a Jewish community “center,” in all senses of the word. We’re spread out: 35 percent live in North Pinellas, 39 percent in South Pinellas, 11 percent in Central Pinellas, and 15 percent in Pasco. And we love it here: 82 percent of us have no intention of moving in the next three years (or, if you’re like me, ever!).

The late Chabad Lubavitch Rebbe Menachem Schneerson once said, “The home should be perceived as the microcosm of the universe.” Our home, here in our beautiful, sometimes stormy, often hip, and always casual Pinellas and Pasco area, is a microcosm of the Jewish universe at large. My question is, can we recreate our universe so our microcosm is truly home?

I tend to believe we can, otherwise I wouldn’t get up in the morning and continue to work with all of you on creating community. I encourage all of you to engage in the process with me, with community leadership, with others who live in this place we call home.

Liked it? Loathed it? Want to react? I would welcome your feedback and can be reached at emilie@jewishpinellas.org.

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The happiest place on Earth

By RABBI LEVI HODAKOV
Chabad Center of Clearwater

Wow. What an awesome month. Having celebrated holidays that suit any personality, the Days of Awe (Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur) and the Days of Joy (Sukkot and Simchat Torah), I surely hope that the new year, 5778, is off to a great start for you and your family.

If you've ever spent time traveling for business or pleasure, you have most likely come across a copy of the Bible in your hotel room. I'm unaware of the statistics, but I do not believe I've ever come across a hotel room that did not have one. In fact, even when my family and I got away for a few days during a summer stay-cation a couple of years ago at Disney's Fort Wilderness Resort & Campground in Orlando, I found one there too. In the middle of "The Happiest Place on Earth" there was a copy of the Bible.

My dear friends, we most recently celebrated the holiday of Simchat Torah. The way we celebrate this holiday is unique. We didn't take the Torah out and begin testing everyone in Shul, or even studying or teaching. Rather, as one and equals, we all danced with the Torah; the young and the old, the college student and the grandparent. That is how we celebrated.

But immediately thereafter, the next day, on Shabbat, we read the Parsha, the Torah portion of Bereishis, chronicling how G-d created the world in 6 days



RABBINICALLY SPEAKING

and rested on the seventh. The learning continues.

After a month filled with holidays, we now find ourselves forging ahead in a month without any holidays. Lest one feel that this is anti-climactic, I hereby present you with the antidote. However, it can only work if you use the original — accept no imitation. I'm talking about the Torah, specifically the 5 Books of Moses, AKA a "Chumash." If you don't own one, please check out your Shul's Judaica shop or go online to get your very own copy. As part of a Jewish library, every Jewish home should have a Chumash, as well as a prayer book too.

Many have the custom to make a resolution for the new year. And for the Jewish new year, well, it's got to be something Jewish. So, I'd like to suggest that this year you commit to a few minutes of daily Torah study. The study of Torah can help us tap into the spirit of the high holidays, and connect us with the Source.

If you do so, I can guarantee you that you will see amazing results in your life. Never mind the hotel, with a book of Torah in your own home, you won't have to travel far, because your home will become the happiest place on earth.

The Rabbinically Speaking column is provided as a public service by the Jewish Press. Columns are assigned on a rotating basis by the Pinellas County Board of Rabbis. The views expressed in this guest column are those of the rabbi and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Jewish Press or the Board of Rabbis.

Congregations

Cong. Beth Shalom Gulfport

Honoring veterans: The congregation will honor all veterans of all wars on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. Those scheduled to attend include State Rep. **Ben Diamond**, U.S. Rep. **Charlie Crist**, VFW Post 10174 Commander **Tony Howard**, along with a four-person honor guard and Gulfport Councilman **Michael Fridovich**, a Vietnam War veteran. This event is open to the public.

Cong. B'nai Israel St. Petersburg

Global Judaism: Explore the history of Jewish Bulgaria and learn who really saved the Bulgarian Jewish community during the Shoah at the first event in this year's Global Judaism series. The program will be held on Sunday, Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. and will include a light dessert reception. RSVP by calling **Maureen Sechan** in the synagogue office at (727) 381-4900, ext. 1011 or email dll@cbistpete.org. This event is free and open to the community.

Musical Shabbat: There will be a special musical Friday night service featuring the music of Debbie Friedman, z"l, on Friday, Nov. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Friedman was one of the most prolific and influential Jewish songwriters of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. She is best known for her versions of "Mi Shebeirach," the prayer for healing, and "Oseh Shalom."

Adoption awareness Shabbat: Join Congregation B'nai Israel in recognizing National Adoption Month at an adoption awareness Shabbat on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 9 a.m. Learn about adoption in Jewish tradition and how Jews as a community can continue to support the needs of our foster-adoptive community.

Family Mitzvah Day: Registration is open for this year's Mitzvah Day on Sunday, Nov. 5 beginning at 8:30 a.m. For more information about the congregation's Mitzvah Corps or to sign up for Family Mitzvah Day, visit www.cbistpete.org/mitzvahcorps/

Veteran's Shabbat: Veterans will be honored with a musical tribute during Shabbat services on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 9 a.m. Guest Speaker **David Shapiro** will speak about the military career and experiences of his father, Marine Sgt. Ed Shapiro, at Iwo Jima.

Cong. Beth Shalom Clearwater

Scholar in residence: Musician **Sam Glaser** will be the artist/scholar-in-residence at the synagogue on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3-4. Named one of the top 10 Jewish artists in the United States by *Moment* magazine, Glaser will both sing and teach during the Shabbat weekend events. On Friday, Nov. 3, he will sing during the synagogue's Kabbalat Shabbat service, which will be followed by a dinner and program featuring Glaser. The cost for the dinner is \$18 for adults and \$10 for children. On Saturday, Nov. 4, Glaser will be at the Shabbat morning services at 9 a.m., as well as at a kiddush luncheon and an after-lunch learning session. There will also be a late-afternoon and evening musical program on Saturday. Included will be Mincha, Havdalah and a light meal. The evening should appeal to people of all ages and the public is invited.

Glaser performs in an average of 50 cities a year and his energetic style and passionate delivery never fails to ignite the *ruach* - spirit - of audiences of all ages. While he typically performs in synagogues and Jewish Community Centers, he has appeared at such venues as L.A.'s Greek Theater, Staples Center and Dodger Stadium as well as on Broadway and at the White House.

All events are open to the community. RSVPs are requested and reservations for dinner are required by Oct. 30 by calling (727) 531-1418.

Living a Jewish Year: An adult education course on "Living a Jewish Year" was to begin on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. and continue into next year. The course is dedicated to studying and experiencing the holidays contained within the Jewish calendar and attempting to make a case for their continued relevancy in our present day and age. The course will

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times



Oct. 27	•	6:32 pm
Nov. 3	•	6:27 pm
Nov. 10	•	5:22 pm
Nov. 17	•	5:19 pm

evolve around the book, *My Jewish Year - 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew*, by Abigail Pogrebin. This series continues on Wednesday evenings, all beginning at 7 p.m., on Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 29 and Dec. 6.

Jewish spirituality: **Rabbi Danielle Upbin** will lead a series of lectures on Jewish spirituality, on Thursdays from 12:30 - 2 p.m. in the synagogue library. The next lecture is on Thursday, Nov. 2, and the series continues through Dec. 21. In this course, the class will explore the foundations of Mussar as it relates to the weekly Torah portion and one's own inner development. The lectures will draw upon texts from the Jewish Spirituality Institute, including related texts and Torah commentary. Each session will incorporate time for meditation and other mindfulness practices.

Talmud classes: On Mondays, explore ancient legal tradition with **Dr. Priscilla Nathanson**. The class, open to all levels of knowledge, is held after minyan from 10 - 11:15 a.m. Nathanson also leads a Talmud study on most Wednesdays, at 7 p.m. Contact the synagogue office to confirm when classes will be held.

Hafarot study: Join **Johanna Bromberg** for Hafarot study in the synagogue library on Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 10 a.m.

Poker tourney: The Men's Club is hosting a fundraiser poker tournament, on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 7:15 p.m. This will be a Texas Hold'em style event. Sign up and find more information at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e44aaa92ca13-2017> or call **Jeff Brown** at (727) 743-8323.

Temple B'nai Israel Clearwater

Casino night: Tickets are on sale for Casino Night, an annual temple fundraiser, which will be held on Saturday evening, Nov. 18. Play the night away at professional gaming tables and win prizes. The cost is \$65 per person. Ticket includes food, two drinks and game. Tickets for winning a choice of vacation options are available for \$50. All tickets are available at the temple office.

Bible study: Explore the Second Book of Samuel and discover a unique period of Jewish history. **Rabbi Daniel Treiser** will lead the classes on Wednesdays from 7-8 pm. There is no fee for members; \$30 for non-members for the year.

Playtime: There will be a playtime for preschoolers and parents on Sunday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. This is an opportunity for families with young children to meet each other and engage in activities to play, learn and grow together. Call the temple office for pricing information.

Senior get together: On Thursdays at 1 p.m., join other seniors and play mah jongg, Mexican train dominoes or bridge at the temple. Coffee and cake will be served.

Israel trip meeting: **Rabbi Treiser** is leading a trip to Israel next summer from June 9-19. It will include a special journey to Jordan to visit the ancient city of Petra. Get the details and answers to questions about the trip at an informational meeting at the temple on Thursday Nov. 2 at 7 p.m.

Theater troupe comedy: Tickets are on sale now for *Committed*, the new S.A.G.E.S. (Senior Actors Guild & Education Services) comedy, written by **Linda Goldman** and directed by **Judy Landis**. The shows will be on Saturday Nov. 4 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and available at the temple office (727) 531-5829

• CONTINUED on NEXT PAGE

Religious Directory

PINELLAS COUNTY Reform

Temple AHAVAT SHALOM — 1575 Curlew Rd., Palm Harbor, 34683 • Rabbi Gary Klein • Services: Friday: 7:30 p.m., First Friday: 6 p.m., Saturday: traditional service third week of the month, 9 a.m., call for other service times • Telephone: (727) 785-8811 • Website: www.ahavatshalom.org • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Temple BETH CHAI DAVID — 39330 U.S. 19 N., Bradley Plaza, Tarpon Springs • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 535, New Port Richey, 34653 • Rabbi David Levin • Shabbat Services: Friday: 7:30 p.m. • Telephone: (352) 428-2280 • Unaffiliated

Temple BETH-EL — 400 S. Pasadena Ave., St. Petersburg 33707 • Rabbi Michael Torop • Services: Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday, service and Torah study, 10 a.m. • Telephone: (727) 347-6136 • Website: www.templebeth-el.com • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Congregation B'NAI EMMUNAH — 57 Read St., Tarpon Springs, 34689 • Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1312, Tarpon Springs, 34688 • Rabbi Lynn Goldstein • Services: Friday: 7:30 p.m. • Torah study Saturday, 10:30 a.m. • Telephone: (727) 938-9000 • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Temple B'NAI ISRAEL — 1685 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater, 33764 • Rabbi Daniel Treiser • cantorial soloist, Laura Berkson • Services: Friday 7:30 p.m. • Telephone: (727) 531-5829 • Website: www.TBIClearwater.org • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Conservative

Congregation BETH SHALOM — 1325 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater 33764 • Rabbi David Weizman • Rabbi Danielle Upbin, associate • Services: Friday: 6:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m., Sunday 9 a.m., Mon. & Thurs 8:30 a.m. • Telephone: (727) 531-1418 • Website: www.cbclearwater.org • Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Congregation BETH SHOLOM — 1844 54th St. S., Gulfport 33707 • Cantor David Wicentowski • Services: Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. • Telephone: (727) 321-3380 • Website: sholomgulfport.org • Unaffiliated.

Congregation B'NAI ISRAEL — 300 58th St. N., St. Petersburg 33710 • Rabbi Jacob Luski • Cantor

Jonathan Schultz • Services: Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m., Mon. - Fri. 7:45 a.m., Sun. 9 a.m.; evening minyan, 6:30 p.m. • Telephone: (727) 381-4900 • Website: www.cbistpete.org • Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Orthodox

CHABAD of CLEARWATER — 2280 Belleair Road, Clearwater, 33764 • Rabbi Levi Hodakov • Services: Call for information on Friday service times, Sunday, 9:30 a.m., men only • Telephone: (727) 265-2770 • Website: www.JewishClearwater.com • email: rabbi18@gmail.com.

CHABAD JEWISH CENTER OF GREATER ST. PETERSBURG — 4010 Park St. N., St. Petersburg 33709 • Rabbi Alter Korf • Services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Shacharit, Mon.-Thurs., 7:15 a.m., Torah study at 10:30 a.m. on Sturday, Sun., 8 a.m.; • Telephone: (727) 344-4900 • Website: www.chabadsp.com.

CHABAD of PINELLAS COUNTY — 3696 Fisher Road, Palm Harbor, 34683 • Rabbi Pinchas Adler • Services: Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m. and one hour before sunset • Telephone: (727) 789-0408 • Website: Yichabad.com.

PASCO COUNTY Conservative

BETH TEFILAH/JCC OF WEST PASCO — 9841 Scenic Drive, Port Richey, 34668 • Ron Becker and Elliot Shapiro, spiritual leaders • Services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. • Telephone: (727) 847-3814 • website: jewishcommunity-centerofwestpasco.com • Email at: Eileenhochstadt13005@gmail.com • Unaffiliated

Orthodox

CHABAD OF WEST PASCO — Rabbi Yossi Eber • 10733 Maple Creek Dr., Suite 101, Trinity, FL 34655 • Services: Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; class: 10 a.m., • Telephone: (727) 376-3366 • Website: www.ChabadWP.org • email: info@chabadwp.org

HERNANDO COUNTY Reform

Temple BETH DAVID — 13158 Antelope St., Spring Hill • Rabbi Paul Schreiber • Shabbat Services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., third Friday traditional service, 7:30 p.m. • Saturday, 10 a.m. • Telephone: (352) 686-7034 • Website: www.tbdf.org. Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism.

LIGHTNING

• CONTINUED from FRONT PAGE

picture taken with Jeff Vinik and Steven Stamkos and receiving a Lightning jersey even though it was too big.

A retired accounting executive, Glassberg will be honored again as Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services Community Volunteer of the year on Thursday, Nov. 9 at Faces, the social service agency's annual fundraiser gala. His generosity and his oversight of the agency's Holocaust Survivor Program will be recognized alongside others who have overcome hardships with the help of Gulf Coast programs.

Glassberg was born in 1930 and grew up in Manchester, NH. His grandparents owned a furniture manufacturing business where his father worked as sales manager. Glassberg studied mathematics and economics at Dartmouth and continued with graduate studies in accounting at the Tuck School of Business. He earned a law degree from Fordham University and qualified as a Certified Public Accountant. That led to a partnership at Peat, Marwick and Mitchell, a prestigious accounting firm headquartered in New York. He served five years on the executive committee of the tax division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

But he found his real life's passion— helping those who survived the Holocaust – and the love of his life, Irene, when they met in 1952 and he heard her life story:

Irene Berger was born in Lodz, Poland, in 1930. At the age of 9, Irene and her mother were transported to Auschwitz by train. A faulty mechanism in the gas chamber prevented the Nazis from executing Irene, her mother and 1,000 other women. Instead, they were forced into slave labor. In 1945, Irene was sent to the Mauthausen



Carl and Irene Glassberg, 1970

death camp in Austria. Once again, Nazi plans to exterminate the prisoners were foiled when Gen. George Patton liberated the camp on the last day of the war.

"She somehow managed to be a social butterfly," said Glassberg. "She played tennis, she'd do things. She was not a typical survivor. She would speak to other survivors and always wanted to help them."

The Glassbergs first found out about Gulf Coast's program 20 years ago when Irene expressed an interest in meeting other survivors. Those who have survived the Holocaust often find reassurance by spending time with others who went through similar experiences. Interaction among survivors enhances their quality of life and provides the emotional strength necessary to stay positive.

Irene joined one of the Chavurah groups and Carl quickly was tapped to serve on Gulf Coast's Holocaust Survivor Program Advisory Committee. In addition to socialization, the Holocaust Survivor Program offers assistance with victim restitution, homecare so survivors can remain in their own homes as long as possible, and emergency funds for low-income clients to help cover costs of medicine, food,

transportation and other essential services.

Upon Irene's passing three years ago, the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. honored her contributions to survivors over the years.

For his part, Carl remains a member of Holocaust Survivor Program Advisory Committee among his many volunteer efforts through the years to make life better for Holocaust survivors, whether helping them with their income tax calculations or volunteering at the Florida Holocaust Museum. He recently assisted in raising funds that helped meet the needs of 60 Holocaust survivors who live on income considered below poverty level. With this funding, Gulf Coast JFCS could provide hearing aids, glasses, emergency medical and pharmacy expenses, and dental care for the survivors.

To Glassberg, the best part of receiving the Lightning Hero award was bringing more awareness to the fact a lot of survivors remain and require financial support.

He never misses an opportunity to point out the need for funds. "As Holocaust survivors age, their needs grow and expenses increase. Our goal is to make sure survivors live out their lives in peace and with dignity. Never again should they worry about their next meal."

"Carl's example benefits us all," said Dr. Sandra Braham, Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services CEO. "He inspires us with his selflessness, motivates us with his enthusiasm, and holds us accountable with his high standards."

The Faces gala will be held at the Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park, on Nov. 9, beginning at 6 p.m. with a welcome reception followed by dinner and the program honoring Glassberg and three other program beneficiaries.

For more information and to RSVP, go to www.gcjfc.org/faces2017.

Congregations

• CONTINUED from PREVIOUS PAGE

Chabad of Clearwater

Torah and tea: Rebbetzin Miriam Hodakov leads a "Torah and Tea" exclusively for women on Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. There is no charge to attend. RSVP to MiriamHodakov@gmail.com or (727) 265-2770.

Temple Beth-El St. Petersburg

Camp Coleman talk: Learn about summer camp at Camp Coleman during an informational meeting on Sunday, Oct. 29 at 9:30 a.m. in the all-purpose room.

Camping weekend: The congregation will hold its annual camping trip on Friday through Sunday, Nov. 3-5, at the KOA Campgrounds in Madeira Beach, 5400 95th St. N. This is an event for the whole family. Register at info@templebeth-el.com.

Brotherhood schmooze: Families are invited to hang out and relax while children attend religious school classes on Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon in the social hall. Enjoy a bagel and a cup of coffee and read the newspaper.

Chabad of St. Petersburg

Human psyche explored: A 4-week course, Soul Maps, introduces participants to the Tanya, a 200-year-old text with a revolutionary look at human psychology. It provides kabbalah-based tools to help people understand the source of guilt, conflict and confusion, and find useful strategies for develop-

ing joy, purpose and direction.

The course begins on Monday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. and will continue Mondays through Nov. 27. Cost is \$36 per person for all four weeks. To RSVP, go to Info@ChabadSP.com or call Chabad.

TGI Shabbat: There will be melody and song, conversation and Kosher cuisine, all seasoned with just the right amount of Torah, during a TGI Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 3 at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge but reservations are appreciated. To RSVP, email info@chabadsp.com or call (727) 344-4900.

Kids Havdalah party: Light up family game night with a Havdalah ceremony and rocket balloon light show on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. at a CKids event. Those attending can make gourmet popcorn and play today's most popular games with a Jewish twist. There is no charge but reservations are appreciated. To RSVP, email Info@ChabadSP.com or call the Chabad center.

Lunch and Learn: Women are invited to share an hour of

camaraderie, inspiration and lunch at a Lunch and Learn session on Thursday, Nov. 16 at noon. There is no charge for the event. RSVP's are appreciated but not necessary. To RSVP, email Chaya@ChabadSP.com or call the Chabad center.

Temple Ahavat Shalom Palm Harbor

Human trafficking: Temple Ahavat Shalom's Social Action Committee will present a talk on human trafficking by St. Petersburg Chief of Police Tony Holloway on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m., at the temple. No RSVP is required.

Cong. Beth Tefillah/ JCC of West Pasco Port Richey

Adult education: A class to study Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Ancestors) and its relevance to Jewish life in the 21st century will be offered on Sundays from 10 - 11 a.m. The class is free, but donations are welcome.

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California cantor turns prime-time rabbi with appearances on 'Curb' and 'Law and Order'

By ANDREW TOBIN
JTA news service

Kenny Ellis isn't a rabbi. But it wasn't much of a stretch for him to play one on TV. Ellis is a veteran cantor at Temple Beth Ami, a Reform Jewish synagogue in Santa Clarita, CA.

After 27 years on the pulpit, he is breaking into prime-time TV with not one, but two, roles as the officiant of a fictional Jewish funeral. He will lead the Mourner's Kaddish on HBO's *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and then again on NBC's "Law and Order True Crime: The Menendez Murders." Both episodes were scheduled to debut this month.

A former aspiring actor and comedian, Ellis has a history with *Curb* creator and star Larry David. The two Jews met on the New York comedy circuit in the 1970s, where they honed their routines at clubs like The Improv and Catch a Rising Star. They reunited during filming of the third episode of the ninth

season of the hit comedy series.

"I was wondering if after all these years, he would remember me," Ellis said of David in a statement, "and he did!"

Although the men's careers took very different paths, they both ended up being Jewish performers of sorts. In addition to his day job as a cantor, Ellis takes his standup comedy show "The Man Behind the Matzoh Ball" on tour and last year released an album called *Hanukkah Swings*.

For his part, David co-created the legendary 1990s NBC comedy "Seinfeld," which a Jewish exec at first dismissed as "too Jewish." *Curb*, on which he plays a curmudgeonly version of himself, makes no apologies for its "Jewiness." In the first two episodes of this season, David has already rekindled his love-hate romance with the owner of a Los Angeles Palestinian chicken restaurant in hopes of escaping a fatwa declared against him by the ayatollah, and orchestrated what

is dubbed the "hooker mitzvah."

Edie Falco is playing a more serious Jewish role as the star of the *Menendez Murders* true-crime miniseries. She is Leslie Abramson, the defense attorney for brothers Erik and Lyle Menendez, who were in real life famously convicted of murder for the brutal 1989 killing of their parents in Beverley Hills. Ellison will appear at the funeral of Falco's character's mother.

Despite the dark subject matter, he was thrilled to meet the *Oz*, *The Sopranos* and *Nurse Jackie* star. "It was so wonderful to 'hang out' with Edie for the day," Ellison said. "She was not only an amazing actress, but also, as sweet as can be. She didn't hide in her trailer between takes, instead, she hung out with us and *kibitzed*."

After decades of studying and auditioning for acting roles, Ellis is as surprised as anyone



Photo courtesy of Kenny Ellis
Cantor Kenny Ellis with 'Curb Your Enthusiasm' creator and star Larry David

that his first appearances alongside Emmy-award winners will draw on his synagogue experience.

"So, after all the years of acting classes, who would have thought that I would break into television doing the Kaddish memorial prayer?" he said.

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Holocaust scholar to discuss responses of various faiths to rise of Nazism

The Saint Leo University Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies will host two speaking appearances by noted Holocaust historian and author Victoria Barnett, PhD. on Nov. 9. Barnett is a scholar at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., where she directs the museum's programs on ethics, religion and the Holocaust.



Victoria Barnett

Barnett's appearances — one on the St. Leo campus and the other in Tampa — have been timed to commemorate the anniversary of Kristallnacht, or the "Night of Broken Glass." On Nov. 9 and 10, 1938, a series of violent attacks were carried out on Jewish temples, stores, businesses and homes in Germany, Austria, and part of what was Czechoslovakia. The pogrom left cities with streets littered with shards of glass from the store windows that were shattered. Many consider the state-sanctioned, anti-Jewish crimes of vandalism, arson, personal assaults, theft, and punitive taxation of the victims, the starting point of the years-long Holocaust.

Studies annually marks the date by offering events devoted to education, reflection and peace building.

At the Saint Leo University campus in central Pasco County, Barnett is scheduled to present a talk, "Theologian against the Nazis: New Questions, New Findings about Dietrich Bonhoeffer," from 2 - 3:30 p.m., in the Student Community Center, 33701 SR 52, St. Leo. Bonhoeffer emerged at a young age as an influential Christian thinker, author and an operative in a covert resistance movement against the Third Reich. His resistance activities were eventually discovered and he was executed by the Nazis.

In Tampa, Barnett will present "From Silence to Protest: Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant Responses during the Holocaust" from 7- 9 p.m. in the McLoughlin Center, 821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy. in Tampa, directly behind Christ the King Catholic Church. Rabbi James Rudin, former senior interreligious advisor for the American Jewish Committee and a co-founder of the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies, will offer a response.

Barnett's two lectures are free and open to the public. Because of limited seating, an RSVP for this event is required by Nov. 1 to jennifer.orendorf@saintleo.edu. For more information about the center, contact Director Matthew Tapie, PhD, at matthew.tapie@saintleo.edu.

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"The patter in between songs made the music come alive as Sam took the audience on a journey through Torah, Jewish history, the Land of Israel, the Holocaust and a Jewish wedding thrown in for good measure." - Jewish Image Magazine

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Hillel to present film, discussion on raising children in digital age

Raising children in the age of the internet and smart phones can be a challenge, and many parents struggle to understand the effects of this technology and how to set limits on screen time. After all, this is the first generation to be raised since the invention of the smart phone, and its influence can be felt everywhere.

To better understand the issues involved, Hillel Academy invites youths in fifth grade and older and their parents to a free showing of the award-winning film *Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age* on Tuesday, Nov. 14. Light refreshments will be offered at 6 p.m. at the school, 2020 W. Fletcher Ave., Tampa. The movie will be shown next door at Congregation Beth Am at 6:30 p.m. The evening will also include a discussion session, with parents and youths invited to participate.

This event was originally scheduled for Sept. 12, but was postponed due to Hurricane Irma.



Hillel sixth grader David Caine is a typical technological teen, able to juggle more than one tech device at a time.

Reservations are required by registering at <https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-hillel-academy-of-tampa-3801>. For more information, call Cosmo Kunzelmann at (813) 963-2242.

Israeli educator to speak on anti-Semitic rhetoric

The community is invited to hear Rabbi Leor Sinai, co-executive director of Alexander Muss High School in Israel, speak on how teenagers and their families should prepare to respond to anti-Israel and anti-Semitic rhetoric. All Jewish teens are strongly encouraged to participate in this free, casual, interactive program.



Rabbi Leor Sinai

The program will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Israel, 300 58th St. N., St. Petersburg. The event is sponsored by Jewish National Fund.

Rabbi Sinai will speak on why it is criti-

cal for youths to be educated and grounded with a strong Jewish and pro-Israel background.

Originally from New York, Rabbi Sinai made *aliyah*, moving with his family to Israel in June 2011. He began his tenure as co-executive director at the international Alexander Muss High School two years later.

As a young adult, he was involved in New York City's night life as a club producer and MC (Master of Ceremonies), but in 1995 that all changed while he spent the academic year abroad studying at Haifa University. On his return, he completed his bachelor's degree in Jewish Studies at New York's Hunter College and continued his education at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, receiving ordination and a master's in Hebrew Letters in 2009.

HILLEL

• CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

to working with other local organizations "to make Hillel Academy the premier institution of Jewish life and learning in the Tampa Bay region."

Oakes, whose three children will attend Hillel Academy, is a graduate of the Akiba Hebrew Academy in Philadelphia and has a master's degree in education from the University of Florida.

"After extensive consideration, we have elected a very special person with whom to partner in the adventure to prepare our children for a future world that has not yet even been envisioned," said Solomon. Her vision and enthusiasm will enable Hillel Academy to reach new heights in innovative learning and Jewish living, said Sandy Solomon, president of the board of trustees.

The board is certain Oakes will be a valuable partner and participant in Tampa's Jewish community, as the school continues to

pursue excellence on every front.

More than 80 highly qualified candidates nationwide were considered for the leadership position, with guidance from the top educational search firm, Carney Sandoe.

When Oakes joins Hillel Academy, she will dedicate her first few months to creating and cultivating bonds with students, faculty, staff, parents, and community leaders. Her first order of business will be to assess every component of the school to facilitate the development of short-term and long-range plans to promote its journey onward and upward.

With about 200 students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade, Hillel Academy is the only accredited Jewish Day School in the Tampa Bay area. It offers both Judaic and general academic studies. The school is located at 2020 W. Fletcher Ave. in Tampa. For more information, go to www.hillelacademytampa.com or call (813) 963-2242.



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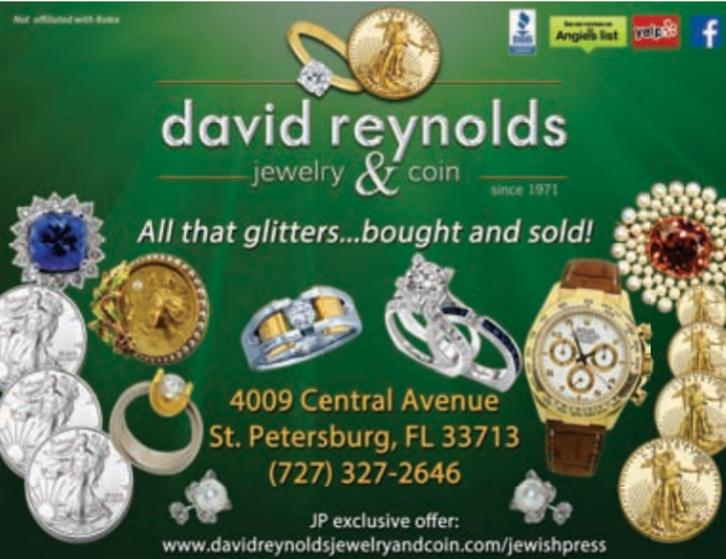
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Conservative movement reaffirms intermarriage ban, but urges communities to welcome couples

NEW YORK (JTA) – The Conservative movement will maintain its ban on rabbis performing interfaith marriages while seeking to welcome couples who are already intermarried, according to a new letter signed by the movement's four leaders. The letter addressed to the movement's clergy, educators and leaders, follows a summer when a few prominent Conservative rabbis announced that they would begin officiating at intermarriages. It does not represent a change in the movement's policy or practice of Jewish law.

"We affirm the traditional practice of reserving rabbinic officiation to two Jews," the letter reads.

But the movement's leaders continued they "are equally adamant that our clergy and communities go out of their way to create multiple opportunities for deep and caring relationships between the couple and the rabbi, the couple and the community, all in the context of welcome and love that extends well before the moment of the wedding and well beyond it too."

The letter was written by Rabbi Bradley Artson, dean of the Ziegler

School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, and co-signed by Arnold Eisen, the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary; Rabbi Julie Schonfeld, CEO of the Conservative Rabbinical Seminary; and Rabbi Steven Wernick, CEO of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Since 2000, more than 70 percent of non-Orthodox Jews have married non-Jewish partners, according to the Pew Research Center's 2013 study of American Jewry. The other major Jewish denominations in the United States are split on the issue: the Reform movement allows intermarriage and the Orthodox prohibits it.

Conservative Judaism aims to maintain fealty to traditional Jewish law while remaining relevant to the modern world. Its rabbis are prohibited from officiating at or attending intermarriages, but recently the movement has taken steps to welcome intermarried couples both before and after the wedding. This year, the movement's synagogues voted to allow non-Jews as members.

But several of the movement's rabbis have begun officiating at intermarriages, arguing that the

movement has not gone far enough in embracing the spouses of many young Jews. Last December, Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom of Philadelphia was expelled from the Rabbinical Assembly umbrella group for performing intermarriages.

In June, the Conservative-ordained clergy at B'nai Jeshurun, an influential, nondenominational New York synagogue, announced that they would begin performing intermarriages. So did Rabbi Amichai Lau-Lavie, who heads the experimental congregation Lab/Shul in New York.

Conservative leaders responded at the time by reaffirming their opposition to intermarriage while pledging to respect and welcome intermarried couples. The new letter echoes that sentiment.

"We all know that intermarriage is a loving choice people make in an open and accepting society," Rabbi Wernick told JTA. "As rabbis and leaders, we also have a commitment to Jewish law and Jewish marriage. How do we create a language that acknowledges both of these realities as well as a commitment to welcome those Jews and families to journey Jewishly on this path?"

Julian Edelman's children's book gets a Jewish makeover

By PENNY SCHWARTZ
JTA news service

BOSTON – If New England Patriots star Julian Edelman retires from the NFL anytime soon, he clearly has a promising second career as a Jewish children's book writer.

In front of about 400 children and their families at the Newton Centre, flagship of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, the 31-year-old wide receiver and Super Bowl hero read a special edition of a children's book he co-wrote last year.

Unsurprisingly Edelman, who has Jewish ancestry on his father's side and has identified as Jewish in recent years, was treated like a rock star.

"He's a really good receiver and I hope I like his book," Ilan Sherman Kadish, one of Edelman's many young fans in attendance, said before the player spoke.

The event was organized by PJ Library, the Massachusetts-based global Jewish children's book giveaway program supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in partnership with other philanthropists and local Jewish community organizations.

Twenty-five thousand copies of Edelman's book, *Flying High*, a semi-autobiographical story about an endearing squirrel named Jules who is determined to play football, were mailed this month to 5-year-olds in Jewish homes across North America through the PJ Library program.

Before Edelman read his book, the audience was shown a video with footage from his visit to Israel in 2015 (which was co-sponsored by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston). The crowd cheered loudly after the video as Edelman, wearing a brace from a preseason knee injury that has kept him from playing this season, made his way onto the stage.

Edelman said onstage that the story of Israel reminded him of his own struggles to push past those who overlooked him. He was picked in the seventh and final round of the 2009 draft by the Patriots and was not projected to succeed in the league. But he has notched over 400 career receptions, helped the team win two Super Bowls and become quarterback Tom Brady's favorite target.

"I fell in love with the people of Israel," Edelman said, noting his admiration for how the small country thrives despite being surrounded by unfriendly countries.

It's a theme he said he wanted to convey in a children's book, especially after the birth of his daughter, Lily, last November, to whom he dedicated the book.

The new PJ Library edition of *Flying High* includes extra material on the front and back flaps that emphasizes the story's Jewish content and values.



photo by Etan Harmelech/Harold Grinspoon Foundation

One lucky fan had a fun encounter with Julian Edelman at a private reading of his book at the JCC of Greater Boston before the main event, Oct. 10, 2017.

There is also a new reference to Theodor Herzl, the founder of modern Zionism. The dedication page includes one of Herzl's most famous quotes: "If you will it, it is no dream."

The quote shows up in illustrations throughout the story as its young squirrel protagonist trains hard and perseveres against his detractors — a group of animals that includes an eagle, a buffalo and a bear who ridicule him for being too weak, slow and small.

The idea for the quote came from the Israeli-born Assaf Swissa, Edelman's co-author. Edelman told JTA after the event that while the quote was not central to the original book, it turned out to be a good fit.

"It definitely has meaning for me," he said of the Herzl quote.

A second *Flying High* book is due out in time for Hanukkah, Swissa told JTA.

Edelman has become an object of Jewish fascination since he publicly identified himself as a member of the tribe in a 2013 interview on the NFL Network. He has tweeted about Jewish holidays, wore an Israel pin during a game in 2014 and was named one of the best Jewish football players of all time by the American Jewish Historical Society last year.

PJ Library's founder, Jewish businessman Harold Grinspoon, and his wife, Diane Troderman, both philanthropists, attended the event with Edelman along with their grandchildren and other members of their family.

Edelman is "an amazing guy. He's a *heimische* guy. He's so real," Grinspoon told JTA, using a Yiddish term meaning friendly and down to earth. "I love the [*Flying High*] story because it's so true to who he is."

How Mark Zuckerberg embraced his Judaism

By BEN SALES
JTA news service

Mark Zuckerberg wrote last December on Facebook that for him, “religion is very important.” Looks like he meant it.

The Facebook co-founder has been invoking Judaism a lot lately. In May, he quoted a Jewish prayer at Harvard’s commencement. A few weeks ago he posted a picture of his daughter with a family kiddush cup. And on Saturday night, Sept. 30, he posted a public apology at the end of Yom Kippur.

It’s quite a transformation for a public figure who once defined himself as an atheist.

Although he was a member of the Jewish fraternity AEPi before he dropped out of Harvard, Zuckerberg didn’t discuss his Judaism much before 2015. Replying to a comment last year, Zuckerberg wrote that he “went through a period where I questioned things, but now I believe religion is very important.”

Zuckerberg’s recent string of Jewish affirmations began nearly two years ago following then-presidential candidate Donald Trump’s call for a ban on Muslims entering the United States. Being raised as a Jew, Zuckerberg wrote, made him sensitive to attacks on all minorities.

“After the Paris attacks and hate this week, I can only imagine the fear Muslims feel that they will be persecuted for the actions of others,” Zuckerberg wrote, referring to that year’s terror attack in the French capital. “As a Jew, my parents taught me that we must stand up against attacks on all communities. Even if an attack isn’t against you today, in time attacks on freedom for anyone will hurt everyone.”

Zuckerberg invoked his Judaism again after the August white supremacist rally in Charlottesville.

“It’s a disgrace that we still need to say that neo-Nazis and white supremacists are wrong – as if this is somehow not obvious,” he wrote.

But judging from his Facebook profile (and in his case, shouldn’t we?), Zuckerberg has reconnected with his Judaism not just as a national figure but as a person and a father. His post featuring a collage of a kiddush cup, Shabbat candlesticks and homemade challah waxed about passing the cup from generation to generation.

“For shabbat tonight, we gave Max a kiddush cup that has been in our family for almost 100 years,” he wrote, referring to his eldest daughter who turns 2 in December. (The couple welcomed a second child in August). “Her great-great-grandfather Max got it after our family immigrated here and it has been passed down through our family ever since.”

At the Harvard commencement, Zuckerberg told graduates that he sings an adaptation of the *Mi Shebeirach* – the traditional Jewish prayer for the sick – when he tucks her in at night.

“And it goes, ‘May the source of strength, who’s blessed the ones before us, help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing,’” he told the graduates in May, quoting a version of the prayer by the late Jewish songwriter Debbie Friedman and lyricist Rabbi Drorah Setel. “I hope you find the courage to make your life a blessing.”

While the mogul’s newfound piety may be attracting attention, he is doing what any young Jewish parent might, said Rabbi Brad Hirschfeld, director of CLAL-the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership. Plenty of Jews lose interest in their religion, then reconnect to it after having kids.

“There are a million people in his age cohort who are deeply proud of being Jewish and are trying to figure out what it means,” Rabbi Hirschfeld said.



Photo by Paul Marotta/Getty Images

Mark Zuckerberg delivering a 2017 commencement speech at Harvard University in which he quoted the Mi Shebeirach prayer.

“You marry and partner and have a family, and it’s not surprising that the questions of ‘How do I have a more meaningful life and build a better future’ become more important and powerful and imminent.”

InterfaithFamily.com was especially pleased that Zuckerberg, whose wife, Priscilla Chan, is not Jewish, has posted about his family’s Jewish rituals.

“The fact that such a super-influential couple clearly are making Jewish choices for their family is the best news with which to start the new year,” wrote Ed Case, founder of InterfaithFamily.com. “Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan could really change the course of Jewish history if they got involved in efforts to engage interfaith families in Jewish life.”

Zuckerberg got Jewishly personal again when he asked for forgiveness at the end of Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of repentance. His critics might say he has a lot to atone for.

During the 2016 presidential campaign, Facebook was accused of allowing Russian hackers to post thousands of ads influencing the election. And users also were allowed to target ads based on phrases like “Jew hater” and “how to burn Jews.” (Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, who also is Jewish, said the company would address the problem.)

“For those I hurt this year, I ask forgiveness and I will try to be better,” he wrote Saturday night. “For the ways my work was used to divide people rather than bring us together, I ask forgiveness and I will work to do better.”

It isn’t the first time that Zuckerberg has encountered trouble because of the content published on his site. In 2015, some 20,000 Israelis filed a class-action lawsuit against Facebook for ignoring incitement to terrorism on the network and enabling terrorists to find sympathizers. The case was dismissed this year.

While Zuckerberg may not have always talked publicly about his Judaism, he has surrounded himself with people who do. His college roommate moved to Israel and became a Conservative rabbi. Sandberg has spoken frequently about how Jewish rituals helped her cope following her husband’s untimely death in 2015. And his sister, Randi, is open about her Jewish observances. She says her family unplugs for a “digital Shabbat” each weekend, and sang “Jerusalem of Gold,” a classic Israeli song, at the Davos World Economic Forum.

Davos also occasioned the first JTA clip about Zuckerberg, published in 2008. While he attended the forum that year, Israel’s delegation invited him to visit the country.

He has yet to accept. But after giving his daughter a kiddush cup and atoning on Yom Kippur, maybe this is the year.

Hadassah speaker to focus on 20th century NYC Jewish artists

Tina Solomon Kronenfeld, art educator and historian, will present “New York! New York! Jewish artists in the Big Apple (1949-2000)” on Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 7-9 p.m. as a program sponsored by the St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah.



Tina Solomon Kronenfeld

The program, which provides an overview on how New York became the world’s center for art, will be presented at Congregation B’nai Israel, 300 58th St., N., St. Petersburg. This event is open to the public.

A lover of art since childhood, Solomon Kronenfeld received her BA in art education from the University of Maryland and a master of visual arts from Georgia State University.

She taught at various high

schools throughout DeKalb County, GA, and finished her career at the historic Druid Hills High School – home of Jewish playwright Alfred Uhry and NY Yankees player Ron Blomberg. The school also served as backdrop for the

classic movie *Remember the Titans*.

Reflecting on her teaching career, Solomon Kronenfeld said, “One of the things I am most proud of is the fact that many of my former students became art educators or artists, including Kara Walker, renowned artist and recipient of the MacArthur Genius Grant.

To RSVP, call or email Renee Lipman at (727) 698-0171 or renee@lipman.net.

Obituaries

PAMELA S. BARRON, 62, of New Port Richey, died Oct. 10. She was born in Boston and worked for many years as an employment recruiter. (David C. Gross Funeral Homes, Clearwater Chapel)

mother-in-law Marie Herman; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Brenda and Gerry Krug; two grandchildren. The family suggests memorials to Suncoast Hospice. (David C. Gross Funeral Homes, St. Petersburg Chapel)

JOEL S. PRAWER, MD, 66, of St. Petersburg, died Oct. 11. He was born in St. Paul, MN, and was a family physician at Point Brittany Medical Center for 35 years. He earned his medical degree at the University of Minnesota and completed a three-year Family Practice residency at Bayfront Medical Center, where he continued to teach since his graduation. In June, he was awarded the outstanding preceptor award. His son, Adam, joined him in practice in 2012. Survivors include his wife of 37 years, Cathy; son and daughter-in-law Adam and Catie Prawer; daughter and son-in-law Sarah and Ryan Lipton; brother and sister-in-law, Kenneth and Bonnie Prawer;

ROY S. SIEGLE, 96, of St. Pete Beach, died Oct. 8. Born in Philadelphia, he was a veteran of World War II, serving as a fighter pilot in the Army Air Corps. He was a recipient of a Purple Heart and was honored by the French Foreign Service. He served as a 30-year board member of the Menorah Manor Foundation, holding positions as vice chair, treasurer, secretary and trustee. Survivors include his son, James Siegle (Michael Crawford); sisters-in-law, Margie Slott and Ellyn Mullin. The family suggests memorials to the Menorah Manor Foundation. (David C. Gross Funeral Homes, St. Petersburg Chapel)

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Organizations

Genealogical Society

Explore Largo Library: The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay will meet on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Largo Library, 120 Central Park Drive, Largo, for an introduction and tour of the library's genealogical holdings, with an emphasis on its subscription databases. The Largo Public Library has one of the most extensive genealogical collections in the Tampa Bay region including a large collection of books on Jewish Genealogy. Volunteers will remain after the tour to help interested persons with guided assistance. Those attending are asked to bring library cards if you have one for easy access to online genealogical resources.

Young Adults

Games and brews: #Gather, a new social group for young adults ages 20s, 30s and 40s sponsored by the JCCs in Tampa, will host an event at the Lowry Arcade & Tavern, 1213 W. Waters Ave., Tampa, on Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The tavern features arcade games and specialty beers. The event is free to attend; drinks, food and games are available for purchase.

Baking class: On Sunday, Nov. 19, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., chefs from Petit Piquant, 1704 North Howard Ave., Tampa, will conduct a lesson in how to make babka, an Eastern-European sweet, filled and rolled coffee cake pastry. Wine, coffee, tea and hors d'oeuvres will be served throughout the afternoon. The event is sponsored by #Gather. Cost: \$25 for JCC members; \$30 for guests. Space is limited to 20 people. For more information or to RSVP, contact: Lisa Robbins, director of Young Adult Engagement for the Tampa JCCs & Federation, lisa.robbs@jewishtampa.com or (813) 769-4723.

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Job-Links

Career counseling: Free motivational Monday Morning Links sessions are held from 9:30 - 11 a.m. at the Jack Roth Center for Career Development at TampaBay-Job-Links, 4100 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 206, Tampa. Upcoming sessions are: Oct. 30, "Introvert or Extrovert - Who's the Best Candidate?;" and Nov. 6, "The Holidays - A World of Opportunity." Monday Morning Links is supported by the Vinik Family Foundation.

There are also Success workshops on select Thursdays to aid with job-search skills. On Nov. 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the workshop topic will be "Transferring Your Skills and Re-Careering." The workshop is free for TampaBay Job-Links full program participants and \$15 for guests. Reservations required for all programs. To RSVP, call (813) 344-0200, email RSVP@TBJL.org, or visit www.TBJL.org.

Support groups

Alzheimer's caregiver group: Menorah Manor offers a support group meeting in the Samson Nursing Center at Menorah Manor, 255 59th St. N., St. Petersburg, on the first Thursday of the month from 3:30-5 p.m. For more information, call Gwendolyn Kaldenberg at (727) 302-3750.

Governor proposes \$1 million for Jewish day schools statewide to improve security

Florida Gov. Rick Scott has proposed \$1 million in security funding for Jewish day schools across the state in his 2018-2019 budget.

The funding is intended to be used by the schools to provide security and counterterrorism upgrades such as video cameras, fencing, bullet-proof glass, alarm systems and other safety equipment.

Scott made the announcement during a visit to the Katz Day School of Boca Raton.

The \$1 million is an increase in the \$654,000 Scott signed off on in the 2017-2018 budget, passed by the legislature earlier in the year.

"The funding in the current year budget was designated by the Legislature for use specifically in nine counties including Palm Beach, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Broward, Duval, Hillsborough, Volusia, Lee and Orange," said McKinley P. Lewis, deputy communications director for the office of the governor.

The proposed increase is meant to cover all Jewish day schools in the state. This amount is included in the \$10 million increase for security proposed for Florida schools overall.

Security funding for religious schools is not usually part of the budget, said Educa-

tion Department Press Secretary Audrey Walden, but Gov. Scott made a request to earmark those funds specifically for Jewish day schools.

"Every Florida student deserves to have the opportunity to learn in a safe and comfortable setting," Scott told attendees at the press conference in Boca Raton. "After Florida's Jewish community received hateful threats, we saw the need to provide additional security so the children that attend Jewish Day Schools can learn without having to worry about feeling threatened."

In early 2017, more than 100 bomb threats were called into Jewish institutions, mostly day schools, preschools and JCCs around the country. In Florida, Tampa facilities were among the targets of the threats for which an 19-year-old Israeli-American has been charged.

"While last year's investment will make a huge difference, we must continue to do more. I look forward to working with the Legislature to provide this important funding and will continue to work with our federal partners and members of Florida's Jewish community to ensure the safety of families and students," Scott said.

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MIRACLES

• Continued from FRONT PAGE

in the camp's vineyard, which was undisturbed.

He was further relieved when the visitors found that a pair of Torah arks created by former camp artist-in-residence Helen Burke had survived. One had been dubbed the "Little Ambassador."

At least 41 people have been killed as the result of 15 major wildfires across California. Over 217,000 acres and 5,700 structures have been destroyed.

The group made the 15-minute hike to the 6-foot Star of David, at which campers traditionally scream "I love being Jewish!" The wooden symbol "was completely untouched, surrounded by hundreds of yards of blackened brush," Arquilevich told J.

The bimah of an amphitheater was heavily damaged, and all the nearby sheds were charred — "except for this one shed that contains our sacred texts and our prayer books and the tallitot," Arquilevich said.

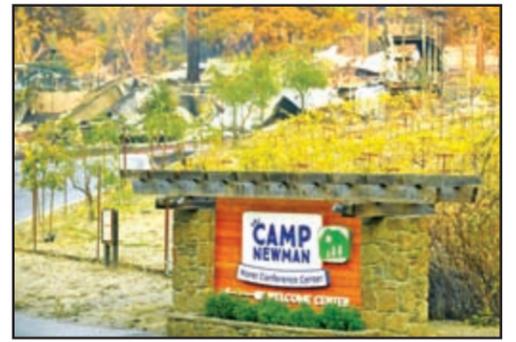
"It was completely intact," he said. "We all just about broke into tears there because the tallitot were safe. That was just another

miracle and just so moving. It pointed in the direction we're going, with the idea that Camp Newman will continue."

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, joined Arquilevich for the tour of the site. He said officials are determined to hold camp in 2018.

"We will have camp this summer," Jacobs said. "I can't tell you exactly where or how."

Anyone wishing to make a donation to help rebuild the camp, should go to <https://campnewman.org/support-newman/newmanstrong>.



While the Welcome Center sign remains, the wildfire destroyed the Welcome Center building, in background.

IRAN DEAL

• CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Trump wants the new laws to override provisions of the deal, including the so-called sunset clauses that lift restrictions and allow Iran to enrich fissile material beginning within the next decade. Trump wants a law that would keep U.S. sanctions in place should Iran remove the restrictions, even though the sunset clauses allow them to do so.

In another instance, the deal includes a complex and relatively lengthy procedure for International Atomic Energy Agency nuclear inspectors to visit sites not covered by the deal. Trump wants a law that would reimpose sanctions unless Iran agrees to simplify the procedure.

Trump said in outlining the policy that if he's not happy with the outcome, he would pull out of the deal.

"In the event we are not able to reach a solution working with Congress and our allies, then the agreement will be terminated," he said. "It is under continuous review, and our participation can be canceled by me, as president, at any time."

Where are the pro-Israel camps?

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is enthusiastic about Trump's proposal, especially the prospect of killing the deal outright should the Iranians not play ball. Among international leaders, only the Saudis share Netanyahu's enthusiasm.

"I believe that any responsible government, and whoever seeks to promote peace and security in the world, needs to take advantage of the opportunity that President Trump's decision has created in order to improve the agreement or abrogate it and, of course, stop Iran's aggression," the Israeli leader said in remarks opening his weekly Cabinet meeting.

The centrist pro-Israel community is less sanguine. Like Schumer and other Democrats who opposed the original deal, there is a sense among pro-Israel groups that breaching the deal would damage America's ability to affect Iranian behavior by reducing U.S. credibility among allies.

Instead, the major groups urged collaboration by Congress, the administration and U.S. allies to address flaws while keeping the deal intact.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee welcomed Trump's speech, but emphasized that he was not proposing ending the deal, at least for now.

"The president made clear his view of the deficiencies in the JCPOA, but he also indicated that the United States is not withdrawing from the accord at this time," AIPAC said in a statement. "Instead, he called upon Congress and our allies to work together to address the deal's problematic sunset clauses, the lack of sufficient inspections, and the danger posed by Iran's ballistic missile program."

An AIPAC official told JTA that it was too early to assess whether the group would back the Corker-Cotton bill, as a final version was not yet released.

David Harris, the American Jewish Committee's executive director, said in a post on the group's site that it wasn't useful to relitigate earlier political battles over the deal.

"At this point in time, whatever earlier views were, it is absolutely essential that the Administration, Congress, and our key allies in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia work as collaboratively as possible on the Iran threat," Harris said.

Jonathan Greenblatt, the Anti-Defamation League's national director, said rupturing the agreement now could destabilize the region. His group, like the AJC, opposed the deal.

"A reimposition of sanctions and an unraveling of the deal would not only have a negative impact on America's international leadership and foreign affairs priorities, but could bring immediate threats from Iran," Greenblatt wrote on Medium. "But there is an opportunity now to reset the terms of this debate."

J Street, the liberal Jewish Middle East policy group, urged Congress to reject any attempt to amend the deal.

"Congress does not need to be an accomplice in Trump's plan to unravel the Iran deal," the group said in a statement. "They can stand up against a course of action that could lead to an unconstrained Iranian nuclear program or another war in the Middle East."

On the right, the Zionist Organization of America, in a post by its president, Morton Klein, in advance of Trump's speech, opposed keeping the deal in place.

"The only things likely to slow Iran is pressure, including and especially renewed sanctions," Klein wrote. Decertifying the JCPOA but keeping the United States "in this deeply flawed agreement," he added, "is illogical and useless."

What happens next, Congressional version

Two prominent Republicans in the U.S. Senate, Tom Cotton of Arkansas and Bob Corker of Tennessee, are shaping legislation according to Trump's specifications. The legislation is still being drafted, but Corker last week released a summary of the proposal.

"The legislation automatically reimposes sanctions if Iran's nuclear program violates certain restrictions," the summary said. "These restrictions remain in force indefinitely, effectively ridding the JCPOA of its sunset provisions as they apply to U.S. sanctions; bolster IAEA verification powers; and limit Iran's advanced centrifuge program."

Enacting the bill as it stands now is unlikely. Advancing the legislation requires 60 backers in the Senate, as none of the 48 Democrats in the body of 100 are likely to get on board. Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N., said as much, re-

ferring to statements by Trump's top military advisers, who oppose killing the deal despite its flaws.

"We won't allow the Iran deal to be undone," Schumer said on Twitter after Trump announced his decision.

What happens next, international version

A likelier way forward would involve not Congress but U.S. allies who signed on to the deal. This would involve increasing pressure on Iran outside the context of the nuclear deal, which Trump could claim as an improvement.

The three European governments that signed the deal released a statement saying they opposed rupturing the pact, but were eager to squeeze Iran for its other malign activities, including missile testing and military adventurism.

"We stand ready to take further appropriate measures to address these issues in close cooperation with the U.S. and all relevant partners," the statement from the governments of Britain, Germany and France said.

Trump in his own remarks suggested he was open to that route.

"I urge our allies to join us in taking strong actions to curb Iran's continued dangerous and destabilizing behavior, including thorough sanctions outside the Iran Deal that target the regime's ballistic missile program, in support for terrorism, and all of its destructive activities, of which there are many," he said.

Trump could then legitimately claim that the international community was focused more holistically on Iran's overall bad behavior and not narrowly on the nuclear program.

Robert Satloff, the director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, said in a conference call organized by the Jewish Federations of North America and the

Jewish Council for Public Affairs that this could offer a win-win: Keeping the deal in place for those who favor doing so while allowing Trump the opportunity to say it was improved.

"The main focus is trying to get our allies to get together with the United States and reach improvements, and then the president will say 'good enough,'" he said.

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Tampa shul to welcome Israeli Orthodox rabbi known for promoting inclusiveness for women

According to Modern Orthodox Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, chief rabbi of the West Bank settlement town of Efrat, finding common ground with non-Orthodox Jews is more important than ever.

The rupture in the relationship between Israel and the Diaspora relating to non-Orthodox prayer – particularly egalitarian services – at Robinson’s Arch near the Kotel underscores the need to unify Jews of all backgrounds.

Rabbi Riskin – described as a charismatic, “liberal” Orthodox spiritual leader and educator – will discuss his philosophy for bridging the gap in Judaism between Orthodox and non-Orthodox as guest speaker of Kol Ami’s third annual Am Yisrael Chai Lecture Tuesday, Nov. 14. There is no charge to attend and the community is welcome.

Long a champion of the need to work across denominational lines, and maintaining Reform and Conservative Jews are his partners, not enemies, Rabbi Riskin will share his experiences in interdenominational efforts and offer a vision of future cooperation.

The 77-year-old rabbi has pushed the boundaries in Israel on several fronts including seeking more inclusiveness of women in traditional Judaism and advocating for easing the Orthodox’s strict conversion system in Israel. Although he has supported Israel’s religious establishment, his stances got him called before Israel’s Rabbinical Council in 2015. Still, he kept his title as chief rabbi of Efrat.

Prior to making *aliyah*, Rabbi Riskin was the founding rabbi of Lincoln Square Synagogue in New York City. He served as a role model for religious social action through his involvement in civil rights and the plight of Soviet Jewry, and he became a major spokesperson for Modern Orthodoxy by pioneering the first women’s Advanced Talmud Study program and the first synagogue service conducted for women by women in the early 1970s.

In 1983, the rabbi left a thriving career in Manhattan to pioneer the West Bank settlement of Efrat, located south of Jerusalem

between Hebron and Bethlehem. With a population of about 8,500, the settlement is made up mostly of religious Zionists and like Rabbi Riskin, Modern Orthodox Jews who made *aliyah* from the U.S., according to Israel’s official tourism website.

The rabbi founded a boys’ high school in Efrat, which would soon become Ohr Torah Stone (OTS), a Modern Orthodox school, teaching Judaism to men and women across the globe from junior high to graduate programs.

For the past 10 years, OTS has been giving Orthodox women in Israel the equivalent of rabbinic training at its Susi Bradfield Women’s Institute of Halakhic Leadership. Women receive the same curriculum as Orthodox Israeli men studying for rabbinical ordination.

The women, Rabbi Riskin told the JTA news service recently, graduate with the ability to “teach and direct Jewish law, just like a rabbi.”

“Studying Torah and developing leadership within Torah is part of every human being,” he said. “Men and women equally are created in God’s image, and one of the miracles of our generation is Torah learning for women.”

He announced earlier this month plans to step down next year as chancellor of OTS.

Originally from Brooklyn, Rabbi Riskin graduated valedictorian, summa cum laude from Yeshiva University in 1960. He went on to receive *semicha* (rabbinical ordination) from the eminent Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, z”l, a master’s degree in Jewish history and a Ph.D from New York University’s department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature.

Rabbi Riskin is the author of 11 books and monographs chronicling and analyzing topical issues. His syndicated weekly columns have appeared in the *Jerusalem Post* as well as in newspapers throughout the world, and his parshat hashavua (portion of the week) article is emailed weekly to more than 3,000 subscribers.

The event, sponsored by Harvey Mackler, will take place at Kol Ami, 3919 Moran Road, Tampa. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m., with a dessert reception to follow.

Rabbi Riskin’s book *Listening to God* will also be available for purchase for \$30. To RSVP or for more information, email frontoffice@kolami.org or call (813) 962-6338.



Rabbi Shlomo Riskin

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