

May You Be Incribed In The Book Of Life For Good



From the Virtual Reality film, "The Last Good Bye," Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter takes viewers inside a barracks at the Majdanek death camp in Poland.

Film reveals a new reality for Holocaust remembrance

The Florida Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg has been selected as one of only four in the nation to premiere a virtual reality film, *The Last Goodbye*, which enables viewers to virtually walk in the shoes of a Holocaust survivor as he retraces his steps from a railroad boxcar into a Nazi death camp.

The USC Shoah Foundation -The Institute for Visual History and Education, one of the co-producers of the film, selected Jewish museums in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York, as well as here to show the 17-minute film in its first museum exhibitions.

All four museums will simultaneously premiere the precedent-

setting film on Sunday, Sept. 16. The limited engagement exhibit is expected to remain at the Florida Holocaust Museum through mid-January.

The Last Goodbye features survivor Pinchas Gutter's visit to the site of the Nazi death camp Majdanek in Poland. Gutter, 86, is the only member of his family of four to have survived the Holocaust.

Viewers, wearing VR headsets, will get a fully immersive experience, visiting the site with Gutter as he travels in life-sized projections through the railway car, gas chamber, shower room and barracks of Majdanek seven decades later.

FILM continued on PAGE 7

JCCs and Federation announces Leadership Award recipients

The Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation will honor 19 people and one organization next month when it presents its annual Community Leadership Awards. An additional five people will receive awards from various Jewish organizations.

Award recipients are chosen based on their commitment and dedication to the Tampa JCCs and Federation and their beneficiary agencies. All honorees – seasoned and emerging lay leaders alike – are making a difference in advancing the values of an authentic and dynamic Judaism through their volunteer efforts, support services, resources and genius.

The awards ceremony will be held Thursday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Maureen and Douglas Cohn Jewish Community Campus, 13009 Community Campus Drive, Tampa.

Each award is named after a beloved community member that embodies the principles of leadership, *tikkun olam* and commitment to enriching the continuity of Jewish life.

AWARDS continued on PAGE 2

Theater in the Rye offers kosher slice of Broadway

J.D. Salinger gave us *Catcher in the Rye* and some unknown culinary genius came up with pastrami on rye, but it takes a rye sense of humor to come up with this one: Jo-El's Theater in the Rye.

Step right up and order your tickets quickly because there is seating for only 100 at St. Petersburg's latest entertainment venue on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 4:30 p.m. when Jo-El's Kosher Deli & Marketplace is transformed into the Theater in the Rye for a production of *Tops from Flops: An Exuberant Tour of Musical Theater*.

THEATER continued on PAGE 2



Compiled from news wires

In flip-flop, Paraguay's embassy is leaving Jerusalem for Tel Aviv

JERUSALEM — 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.

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.

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 moved its embassy.

Israeli on way to explosives detection seminar arrested for fake bomb at airport

An Israeli man heading to Florida for a police training seminar on X-ray detection of explosives was arrested at Newark Liberty Airport for carrying a realistic-looking fake homemade bomb.

Alon Felman, 50, was charged Sept. 4 with creating a false public alarm and interfering with transportation after a Transportation Security Administration officer at the airport saw the item in his carry-on and alerted a supervisor, according to local media reports.

TSA temporarily closed the third level of Terminal C at the busy international airport while it confirmed that the device was not a working bomb. A local bomb squad was called to the scene.

Feldman was headed to Panama City, for the training conference. He could face a civil fine of up to \$13,000 for the incident.



Photo by Julieta Cervantes

Rachel Freier, center, had the idea for the all-female Orthodox ambulance corps in Brooklyn.

Female Hasidic EMT corps gets movie treatment

By CURT SCHLEIER
JTA news service

Like many heavily Orthodox sections of Brooklyn, Borough Park has been served for decades by an all-male volunteer ambulance corps called Hatzalah.

The corps caters to a religious Jewish community with particular needs and customs – including one custom that can increase the tension

for patients in already stressful emergency situations. The strict boundaries between men and women are familiar to anyone who has attended an Orthodox synagogue or has read the stories of airplane flights being delayed because haredi Orthodox men refuse to sit next to women.

In the event of a medical emergency, the male Hatzalah volunteers may touch women – if, for example,

a woman needs to be moved to a stretcher or requires assistance while giving birth. But while Jewish law has its exemptions, women concerned about the rules of modesty have plenty of reasons to prefer treatment by a female EMT.

93Queen, Orthodox filmmaker Paula Eiselt's big-screen debut, documents one woman's attempt to create

EMT CORPS continued on PAGE 10

AWARDS

• CONTINUED from FRONT PAGE

The following awards will be presented by the Tampa JCCs and Federation:

Leo Levinson Award for Leadership Excellence: **Rabbi Richard Birnholz**

Bob Jacobson Memorial Award for Excellence: **Liam Brien**

Hope Cohen Barnett Young Leadership Award: **Luy Teitelroit**

Charles Adler Young Leadership Award: **Jason Kislak**

Leonore Kessler Women's Divi-

sion Leadership Excellence Award: **Deborah Rosenthal**

Steve Marx Innovation Award: **Hillels of the Florida Suncoast's Reverse Tashlich Program**

Alice Rosenthal "It's More Than Just a Job" Award: **Loni Lindsay**

Maril Jacobs Todah Rabah Awards: **Morris Behar, Michael Bloom, Vanessa Cohn, David Goodman, Ellis Norsoph, Lauren Prager, Susie Rice, Jack Ross, David Scher, Ella Shenhav, Kim Stebbings, Allison Stinson and Vicky Tullman**

In addition, the following individuals will be recognized by various Jewish community organizations:

Hillel Academy Outstanding Service Award: **Carolyn Fink**

Hillels of the Florida Suncoast Appreciation Award: **Arnie Ross**

TJFS Sofia Maisler Leadership Award: **Seth Dugan**

Tampa Orlando Pinellas Jewish Foundation Distinguished Trustee Award: **Les Barnett**

Weinberg Village Volunteer Service Award: **Samantha Cully**

THEATER

• CONTINUED from FRONT PAGE

"We will have theater-style seating and a backdrop on a wall for the performance," explained Sharon Goetz, daughter of Joel and Ellen Goetz, owners of Jo-El's. There will also be a raised platform, sound system, special lighting and a piano to accommodate a trio of cantors who will perform famous Broadway songs.

The event will include a wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres.

The Jewish Federation of Pinellas and Pasco Counties is assist-

ing with marketing for the event. "We like the idea of Jewish arts and entertainment and are happy to see things like this going on," said Maxine Kaufman, the Federation's director of arts, culture, and education.

It will be no mean feat to turn Jo-El's into a theater, navigating around shelves chock full of kosher food items and wine, a butcher shop and deli counter. Some tables, chairs and hot dog carts will definitely have to be moved, Sharon said. The store, at 2619 23rd Ave. N. in St. Petersburg, is tucked away in a district where warehouses are common, but the local Jewish community, as well as non-Jews, have been coming to the place for years to get their kosher fix, and yes, even a pastrami on rye.

The idea for the Theater in the Rye was conceived one day when Cantor Riselle Bain, formerly of Congregation Schaarai Zedek in Tampa and now spiritual leader at Temple Israel of Highlands County, stopped by Jo-El's, as she often does, for chopped liver.

Bain chatted about her *Tops from Flops* original production that she put on earlier in the summer in Sarasota.

"Sharon said, 'Can we do that here?'" Bain recalled. "They decided to make it the first Theater in the Rye production and I am very excited about it."

While Sharon says her dad, Joel, came up with the name Theater in the Rye, she takes credit for the concept of "doing fun things" at Jo-El's "as a way of giving back to the community."

She hopes this is just the beginning of events Jo-El's will host. "They will not all necessarily be theater. We have a musical group interested in performing, and we would like to do food tastings, wine tastings, poetry readings. We are looking to be more part of the community," she said. "Entertainment and food and alcohol and community. You can't ask for anything more."

During the *Tops from Flops* show, Bain will narrate and join Cantor Jonathan Schultz of Congregation B'nai Israel in St. Petersburg and Cantor Marci Vitkus of Venice in singing Broadway songs.

The tunes are by famous composers such as Irving Berlin, George and Ira Gershwin, Richard Rodgers and Lorenzo Hart, Harold Arlen, Cole Porter and George M. Cohan – all but the latter two Jewish.

"This is music that everybody knows and loves, but many do not know they were in some of Broadway's biggest financial or critical flops," Bain said. The narration will include information on the shows, who was in them and the reviews they got, she added.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Jo-El's or online at www.jewishpinellas.org. Complimentary refreshments will be served to all ticket holders. For more information, contact Sharon Goetz at (727) 321-3847.

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Genesis Prize funds groups looking to close Israel's stubborn gender gap

By SAM SOKOL
JTA news service

TEL AVIV – Hundreds of women, representing dozens of organizations, sat in the auditorium in this city's Yitzhak Rabin Center listening to speaker after speaker stand and deliver paeans to feminism. In response, the women clapped raucously.

Their enthusiasm was understandable. Representing some 37 organizations dedicated to the advancement of women, they were celebrating their shares of a \$1 million grant from the Genesis Prize Foundation and the Kahn Foundation.

Chosen by the Genesis Prize's 2018 laureate, actress Natalie Portman, the theme of "advancing women's equality" is shining a spotlight on the gains here in women's empowerment as well as the challenges still facing women in all sectors.

The announcement of the grantees on Tuesday morning, Sept. 4, acknowledged both sides of the issue.

In a recorded message, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who recently received a lifetime achievement award from the Genesis Prize Foundation, said she was "pleased and proud of contributions that will be made to organizations that are doing great things to improve the lives of women and girls, and particularly of bringing together communities – Arab Israelis, Jews, Bedouins – all Israeli women. I think women can contribute a great deal to achieving, some day, a lasting peace."

The organizations chosen focused variously on Jewish women; the Arab, Bedouin and Druze sectors; and the LGBT community.

Portman, citing her political differences with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, chose not to attend a ceremony earlier this year awarding the Genesis Prize, a partnership between the Israeli government and private sector that honors individuals for their commitment to Jewish values, heritage and Israel.

Following the Portman decision, Genesis said it remained committed to donating the \$1 million in prize money to the cause she had chosen. The foundation received 220 applications from Israeli NGOs; another \$2 million will be given away in the United States in a matching program offered by philanthropist Morris Kahn.

The Israeli grantees ranged from Ajeec Nisped, which guides Arab high school graduates toward university and the workforce, to Katef Le Katef, a support program for single mothers, to She Codes, the Organization for Gender Equality in Tech.

"Grants announced today cover all geographies, all social strata, and all ethnic and religious groups in Israel, including Jews, Arabs, Christians, Druze and Bedouin," Sana Britavsky, deputy CEO of the Genesis Prize Foundation, said in a statement. "This is a systemic, across-the-board effort to support the women's movement in Israel over the next two years."

The director of one of the grantees, the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute's Center for the Advancement of Women in the Public Sphere,

said that while superficially things appear to have become better for women in Israel, a closer look reveals persistent inequalities. Hadass Ben Eliyahu said gender inequality has persisted at similar levels since the early 2000s, when her center launched its Gender Index measuring 74 indicators in 12 areas of Israeli life.

The center aims to fill in gaps in gender research, such as comparing women's salaries with men's over time. Without such data, Ben Eliyahu said, there was a lack of context in women's studies research and a subsequent lack of reliable hard data for use by activists and policymakers.

"It's important because if you just see the situation of women, you will see great improvements over the years," she told JTA.

However, despite advances, women have yet to catch up with men – and in the case of the salary gap have actually fallen behind over the past two years.

While the rate of women earning university degrees has increased dramatically ("women are now more educated than men in Israel," Ben Eliyahu said), this has not translated into greater equality in the workplace.

"Look at the Cabinet," she said, referring to the government's circle of ministers. "There will never be more than four or five women ministers."

Other indicators have been more positive.

According to a 2015 Treasury report, Israeli women have entered the workforce at a faster rate than their counterparts in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. At the same time, the average monthly salary for an Israeli woman was 7,666 shekels (\$2,100) versus 11,219 (\$3,100) for men. Some 62,880 women were in senior managerial positions versus 100,835 men, according to the Gender Index, and men were five times more likely than women to be CEOs.

This is something that another of the grantees is trying to change. Jasmine trains women to serve as members of corporate, public and NGO boards. Only 21-23 percent of members of corporate boards in Israel are women, according to Smadar Tzalalichin-Sabo, who volunteers at the organization.

"Only 4 percent of small businesses are owned by women," she said, "and in the Arab sector it's even smaller."

While women have yet to reach full equality in the Cabinet, when it comes to national politics as a whole, "you can definitely see an improvement," said Chen Friedberg of the Israel Democracy Institute. Female representation in the Knesset has increased dramatically, from 12 woman legislators in the late 1980s to more than 30 today.

"It's not 50 percent yet, but it's a nice improvement," she said, adding that while the haredi Orthodox parties still ban females from their electoral lists, many other parties are now or have been headed by women.

One of the most discussed examples of gender inequality in Israel is the Chief Rabbinate's control over marriage and divorce issues. Women are unable to unilaterally divorce their husbands and require

a writ of divorce known as a get. Women are also prohibited from serving on rabbinical courts, creating a power imbalance.

Genesis awarded grants to a number of groups working in the haredi sector, including Kemach (Movilot) and Mati, which support haredi (and in the case of Meti, Arab) women in the workplace; We Power, offering advocacy training for underprivileged Orthodox and Arab women; and Women and Their Bodies, which educates Arab and Orthodox women on sexuality, reproductive health and reproductive rights.

"We have tremendous civil rights and women are achieving top positions, but individually there are areas where a woman does not have control over her life," said Shoshanna Keats Jaskoll, co-founder of Chochmat Nashim, an organization that "combats extremism and the erasing of women in Orthodox Jewish society." (It was not a grantee.) "You have a situation where a woman can be a Supreme Court justice but can't get a divorce. It's a big dichotomy."

However, she said, while it is happening slowly, change is occurring. While women cannot sit on religious courts, they have started appearing on the committees that appoint rabbinical judges and to appear in religious courts as advocates.

"It's a big change, but it's not enough yet," Keats Jaskoll said.

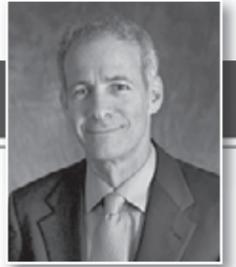
Overall, Ben Eliyahu cautioned that the situation is too complicated to be measured by one or even several yardsticks.

"There are different kinds of indicators that can show improvement, but the overall picture is very stable and that is the [index's] strongest finding," she said.

"People think that everything is much better now and we don't need all these feminists, but when we look at the hard data it's not true. The gap persists and remains stable."

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RABBINICALLY — SPEAKING —

The case for the 'High Holy Days'

By **RABBI CARLA FREEDMAN**
Congregation Beth Israel of Sun City Center

I recently talked with a woman who has just started a new job. She notified her supervisor that she would need time off in order to attend services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Since she works part-time, it should be possible to work around these two important occasions on the Jewish religious calendar. Her supervisor told her that the company policy specifically says that employees "must be available to work on all holidays," and that she would therefore be expected to work those days.



When I think of "holidays," I think of occasions like Thanksgiving and July 4th. I think of beaches and swimming pools, family gatherings and easy days of lounging around, doing very little.

When I think of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, I think of the sanctuary dressed in white, long services with a very serious tone, and deep reflection on the year just concluded and the one just beginning. So for many years, I have insisted that we characterize these occasions, including the 10 days between them as the "High Holy Days," not the "high holidays." Compared to the way our Western culture ushers in a new year, the Jewish new year is no holiday.

It is, of course, true that in places like New York State (where I worked for 23 years before coming to Florida) the public schools are closed for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, so the non-Jewish teachers and students do indeed have a school holiday. But the whole policy was based upon the notion that Jewish teachers and students would be otherwise engaged on those days, and should not be penalized for their religious observances.

For Jews, this is a very sacred season of the year, which was publicly reinforced by the decision of Hank Greenberg in 1934, not to play professional baseball on Yom Kippur, though he had played on Rosh HaShanah. Even more famous was Sandy Koufax's decision not to play on Yom Kippur in the World Series in 1965. And since Greenberg and Koufax, lots of Jewish baseball players have had to wrestle with this issue, with varying decisions and consequences. What these very public men did was to raise awareness amongst non-Jews that we Jews take these occasions seriously, and their choices made it possible for more and more Jews to take the same stand.

The High Holy Days are a time of reckoning. Whether you believe what the traditional liturgy says about God deciding, in this 10-day period, the fate of us all for the coming year, or you believe that we make those decisions ourselves by the way we live our lives in every moment, it is still a time to take stock of the choices we have made in 5778, and the goals we set for 5779.

Rosh HaShanah has a celebratory tone, for the most part. Yom Kippur, with its repeated confessions of sin, is somber and urgent. Taken seriously, these *Yamim Nora-im*, Days of Awe, are hard work. No time for lazing about, waiting for the fireworks display.

Words have meaning, and meaning conveys values. Therefore, I encourage you to identify the Days of Awe as "the High Holy Days," and to communicate the significance of this season to those who might not understand that. Doing so will also serve as a reminder to you, that we are entering a numinous period, when the sense of the Divine Presence among us is at its strongest.

I wish you a year of health, peace and joy.

Rabbinically Speaking is published as a public service by the Jewish Press in cooperation with the Tampa Rabbinical Association which assigns the column on a rotating basis.

Congregations

Cong. Kol Ami

Pizza in the Sukkah: A fun music program and services will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 6:30 p.m., followed by kosher pizza, salad and dessert in the Sukkah at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 4-12. Those 3 and under eat free. The maximum family price is \$25. Contact the Kol Ami office to RSVP at (813) 962-6338 by Sept. 20.

Sukkah social: Live music by Some Assembly Required will be provided as the social committee welcomes folks to the Kol Ami Sukkah Social on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome in the Sukkah for drinks and desserts under the stars.

Youth Sukkah party: All kids in third through fifth grade are invited to a Boneem Sukkah party at the synagogue on Sunday, Sept. 23 from 12:45-2:45 p.m. There will be games, art and food. The cost is \$10. RSVP to Rachel at youth@kolami.org. by Friday, Sept. 16.

Arcade outing: The Kadima group invites all middle schoolers to an outing at Dave & Busters, 10209 Estuary Lakes Drive, Tampa on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 1-3 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person and includes lunch. RSVP to Rachel at youth@kolami.org by Sept. 21.

Knitting time: The Sisterhood Needle Workers hold weekly knitting sessions on Tuesdays from 1:30 - 3 p.m. in the boardroom. The knitters make fabric quilt wall hangings and knitting and crocheting squares to make quilts that are donated to charity. A special Sunday session will be held on Sept. 23 from 10-11:30 a.m. For more information, call the Kol Ami office. The group will not meet on Sept. 18 and 25.

Cong. Beth Am

Family game night: Bring your favorite board game or learn a new one at Family Game Night on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 6:30-9 p.m. All ages welcome; bring a nosh or BYOB if you are so inclined. The evening will also include a Havdalah service to celebrate the end of Shabbat and the beginning of the new week. This event is free. For more information, contact **Victoria Cain** at Admin@BethAmTampa.org.

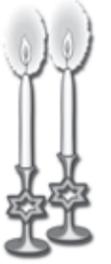
Talmud Study: Learn the ins and outs of the ancient Jewish legal system during a study of the Tractate Sanhedrin on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 9:30 a.m. Drop-ins and "just want to try it out's" are always welcome. For more information, contact Admin@BethAmTampa.org.

Cong. Schaarai Zedek

Introduction to Judaism: A 10-part Introduction (or re-introduction) to Judaism lecture series on the nature of Judaism, God, Torah, worship, life cycle observances, and holidays will be offered on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 3 through Dec. 19. This is for Jews, non-

Shabbat and Yom Tov Candle Lighting Times

Sept 18	•	7:13 pm
Sept 21	•	7:10 pm
Sept 23	•	7:08 pm
Sept 24	•	8:00 pm
Sept 28	•	7:02 pm
Sept 30	•	6:59 pm
Oct 1	•	7:52 pm



Jews, intermarried couples and singles and will be taught by **Rabbis Joel Simon and Nathan Farb**. It is required for anyone who is planning to convert. Call clergy assistant **Ming Brewer** to register at (813) 876-2377, ext. 202.

A taste of Hebrew: Hebrew for Adult Beginners, taught by **Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro**, will be offered on most Wednesdays from Oct. 10 through March 20 from 6-7 p.m. This 20-lesson course is designed for English-speaking adults who are primarily interested in learning how to read Hebrew prayers and blessings. It is a refresher course for adults who know some Hebrew and is appropriate for those with no Hebrew skills. The course textbook is available for purchase for \$13. This class is a prerequisite for an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Call **Sherry Stein**, director of membership and programing, at (813) 876-2377, ext. 212) to enroll.

Sukkot celebration: This celebration will take place on the west lawn at Armature Works, 1910 N. Ola Ave., Tampa, on Sunday, Sept. 23 at 3 p.m. Come for a Sukkah build, Sukkot entertainment and a Dutch-treat picnic (the Armature Works Food Court is open until 9 p.m.) Bring family and guests. RSVP online www.zedek.org/RSVP or call the Temple Office (813) 876-2377.

Sukkot Lunch & Learn: Celebrate the first day of Sukkot on Monday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join Rabbi Joel Simon for lunch and a special Sukkot study session in the Schaarai Zedek Sukkah. Wave the lulav and savor the Eetrog and fulfill a mitzvah by eating in the Sukkah. RSVP online www.zedek.org/RSVP or call the temple.

Campfire service: Celebrate Shabbat under the stars at a Sukkot Shabbat campfire service on Friday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. The service will be followed by a Sukkot oneg featuring homemade s'mores.

Simchat Torah: Celebrate the time when the congregation finishes reading the Torah and begins it all over again on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 10:15-11:15 a.m. This is the time to unroll the Torah and march and sing praises to thank God

• CONTINUED on NEXT PAGE

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Congregation BETH AM — 2030 W. Fletcher Ave, Tampa 33612 • Rabbi Jason Rosenberg • Joy Katzen-Guthrie, Cantorial Leader • Shabbat Services: 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays, 7:30 p.m.; 2nd and 4th Fridays, 6:30 p.m., potluck dinner to follow; Saturdays, 9 a.m. • Torah study 3rd Saturday, 10 a.m. • Telephone (813) 968-8511 • Website: www.bethamtampa.org. • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Congregation BETH SHALOM — 706 Bryan Road, Brandon, 33511 • Rabbi Bryan Mann • Cantor Moshe Friedler (visiting) • Shabbat Service: Friday 7 p.m., • Telephone: (813) 681-6547 • Website: <http://bethshalom-brandon.org>. • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Congregation SCHAARAI ZEDEK — 3303 W. Swann Ave., Tampa 33609 • Rabbi Joel Simon, Rabbi Nathan Farb • Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro • Services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Torah study, 9 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 876-2377 • Website: www.zedek.org. • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Conservative

Congregation KOL AMI — 3919 Moran Road, Tampa 33618 • Rabbi Howard Siegel • Cantor Beth Schlossberg • Services: Friday 6:30 p.m. (Family Service first Friday of the month); Saturday 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 9:15 a.m.; Monday-Thursday, 7:30 p.m. • Torah study every Saturday, 8:30 - 9:25 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 962-6338 • website: www.kolami.org. • Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Congregation MEKOR SHALOM — 14005A N. Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa, 33618 • Hazzan Jodi Sered-Lever, Spiritual Leader • Services: Friday 6:30 p.m., Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Telephone: (813) 963-1818 • Website: www.mekorshalom.org. • Unaffiliated

Congregation RODEPH SHOLOM — 2713 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa 33629 • Rabbi Josh Hearshen • Cantor Andres Kornworcel • Services: Friday, 6 p.m.; Saturday service, 9:30 a.m.; Mon. - Fri. 7:15 a.m., Sunday, 9:15 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 837-1911 • Website: www.rsholom.org. • Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

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BAIS (TEMPLE) DAVID CHABAD — 2001 W. Swann Ave., Tampa 33606 • Rabbi Lazer Rivkin • Shabbat Services and meal: Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday 9:45 a.m., 7:30 p.m. • Telephone: (813) 966-8770 • Website: www.chabadofcentralflorida.com. • Email: Drivkin52@gmail.com

CHABAD LUBAVITCH of TAMPA BAY — 14908 Pennington Road, Tampa

33624 • Rabbi Yossie Dubrowski, executive director • Telephone: (813) 963-2317 • Website: www.chabadoftampabay.com

CHABAD of BRANDON / JEWISH DISCOVERY CENTER — 1578 Bloomingdale Ave., Valrico, 33596 • Rabbi Mendel Rubashkin • Services: Saturday, 10 a.m. • Call for location, Telephone: (813) 571-8100 • Website: chabadbrandon.org.

CHABAD CHAI of SOUTH TAMPA — 2511 W. Swann Ave. #201, Tampa, FL 33606 • Rabbi Mendy Dubrowski • Services: 1st and 3rd Saturday of month, 10 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 922-1723 • Website: www.ChabadSouthTampa.com

BAIS MENACHEM CHABAD — 1319 North B. St., Tampa, 33606 • Rabbi Levi Rivkin • Shabbat dinner, 8 p.m. • Shacharit service: Mon. & Thurs., 8:15 a.m., Weinberg Village. Mincha service: Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m., • Telephone: (813) 375-9799, (813) 504-4432 • Website: www.bmchabad.com

Congregation BAIS TEFILLAH — 14908 Pennington Road, Tampa, 33624 • Rabbi Yossie Dubrowski • Shabbat Services: Friday, 8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. • Sunday Shachrit, 9 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 963-2317 • Website: www.chabadoftampabay.com

YOUNG ISRAEL of TAMPA - 13207 N. 52nd St., Tampa, 33617 • Rabbi Uriel Rivkin • Services: Monday - Friday 7 a.m., Friday, 7 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. • Sunday, 9:00 a.m. • Evening services every night at sunset • (813) 832-3018 • Website: www.youngisraeloftampa.org

MERKOS CHABAD LUBAVITCH of CENTRAL FLORIDA — 613 S. Melville Ave. Tampa, 33606 • Director: Rabbi Lazer Rivkin • Telephone: (813) 966-8770 • Website: www.ChabadOfCentralFlorida.com

Campus

CHABAD HOUSE JEWISH STUDENT CENTER at USF — 13287 Arbor Point Circle unit 102, Tampa, 33617, Mailing address: USF Marshall CTR. Box 310, Tampa, 33620. • Rabbi Levi Rivkin • Shabbat Services and meal: Friday 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. • Housing Available • Telephone: (813) 504-4432 • Website: www.chabadhouseusf.org • Email: bmchabad@gmail.com

CHABAD JEWISH STUDENT CENTER at UT — 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. Box P., Tampa 33606 • Rabbi Levi Rivkin • Telephone: (813) 504-4432 • Website: www.chabadut.org

HILLELS OF THE FLORIDA SUNCOAST— 13101 Sycamore Drive, Tampa, 33620 • Rabbi Ed Rosenthal • Shabbat Services: (during academic year) Friday 6:30 p.m. • Telephone: (813) 899-2788 • Website: www.suncoasthillels.org.

USF CHABAD on CAMPUS — 4506 Sweetwater Lake Drive, Tampa, 33620 • Rabbi Pinny Backman • Website: www.USFChabad.com • Telephone: (813) 978-8723

Jewish Renewal

Congregation OR AHAVAH — Rabbi Debrah Shenefelt, spiritual leader •

Monthly gathering — see website for more information • Telephone: 813-968-7850; email: D.shenefelt@att.net. • Website: www.Orhavah.org • Affiliated with Aleph.

CITRUS COUNTY Conservative

Congregation BETH SHOLOM — 102 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills • Mailing address: Beverly Hills Jewish Center, P. O. Box 640024, Beverly Hills, FL 34464-0024 • Shabbat services: Friday, 6 p.m., Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Telephone (352) 746-6258 • Website: www.bethsholomcitrus.org

PASCO COUNTY Orthodox

CHABAD JEWISH CENTRE at WIREGRASS — 2124 Ashley Oaks Circle, Wesley Chapel, 33544 • Rabbi Mendy Yarmush • Services: Saturday, 10:30 a.m. • Telephone: (813) 642-3244 • Website: www.ChabadatWiregrass.com.

Unaffiliated

Congregation BETH CHAVARIM — Shabbat services: third Friday at a member's home. Telephone: (813) 957-1269 • Email familyfriendlytemple@yahoo.com

NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY Reform

Temple AHAVAT SHALOM — 1575 Curlew Rd., Palm Harbor, 34683 • Rabbi Gary Klein • Cantorial soloist, Allison Rosoff • Services: First Friday: 6:00 p.m., All other Fridays: 7:30 p.m., call for Saturday service time • Telephone: (727) 785-8811 • Website: www.ahavatshalom.org. • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

POLK COUNTY Reform

Temple BETH SHALOM — 1029 Bradbury Road, P.O.B. 313 Winter Haven, 33882-0313 • Rabbi Garson Herzfeld • Shabbat evening services: (usually 2nd and 4th Shabbat of the month at 7:30 p.m.) Torah study-Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. • Telephone: (863) 292-0722. • Website: www.templebethshalompolk.org. • Affiliated with Union for Reform Judaism

Conservative

Temple EMANUEL — 600 Lake Hollingsworth Drive, Lakeland, 33803 • Rabbi David Goldstein • Shabbat Services: Friday 7:30 p.m.; Saturday 9:30 a.m. Telephone: (863) 682-8616. • Website: TempleEmanuelLakeland.com. • Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Orthodox

CHABAD JEWISH CENTER — 2270 Griffin Road, Lakeland, 33810 • Rabbi Moshe Lazaros • Shabbat Services: Saturday 10 a.m. • Telephone: (863) 937-5565 • Website: www.chabadlakeland.org.

Sweden to create its first Holocaust museum

(JTA) – Sweden has plans to build its first Holocaust museum with a focus on Holocaust survivors from the Scandinavian country and a center devoted to the diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. Announcing the decision to create the museum, Swedish Minister of Social Affairs and Sports Minister Annika Strandhäll said on Twitter that the news “feels more important than ever.”

The museum is likely to be built in Malmo, a city of approximately 350,000 where dozens of anti-Semitic incidents are recorded annually. It is tentatively slated to be ready to open in 2020, the

Dagen news website reported.

A center on Wallenberg, who saved tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during the Holocaust, is expected to attract international visitors.

The museum will focus on surviving Swedes and collect items, interviews and documents about their experiences. Many of these objects are now scattered at museums, archives and private homes.

In Malmo, first- and second-generation immigrants from the Middle East make up one-third of the population. Several hundred Jews live there.

New Israeli demographics released ahead of New Year

(JNS) – Since last Rosh Hashanah, Israel’s population has grown by 162,000 people, to 8.907 million citizens, according to data published by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

In the Jewish year 5778, the Jewish population numbered 6.625 million people (74.4 percent of the population) and 1.864 million Arabs (20.9 percent). Among the Jewish population, 10.2 percent classified themselves as ultra-Orthodox, 11.5 percent as religious, 12.3 percent as traditional characterized by religious practice, 21.4 percent as traditional, with 44.3 percent defining themselves as secular.

Almost 90 percent of Israelis expressed satisfaction with their lives and most Israelis (84

percent) described themselves as healthy or very healthy.

Israel’s fertility rate of 3.11 children per woman is the highest of all the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries. Israelis had 175,000 babies and there were 43,000 deaths in the last year, with 25,000 people making *aliyah*.

There were 52,809 marriages in Israel in 5778 and 14,819 divorces.

The most popular names for girls were: Tamar, Avigail, Miriam, Sarah, Adele, Yael, Noa, Shira, Noya and Lia. The popular names for boys were: Mohammad, Yosef, Ariel, Omer, Adam, David, Daniel, Lavi, Eitan and Ori.

Congregations

• CONTINUED from PREVIOUS PAGE

for giving us the Torah. RSVP online www.zedek.org/RSVP or call the temple.

TorahFest: Immediately following Simchat Torah service on Sunday, Sept. 30, TorahFest runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This fall festival celebration includes a hamburger/hot dog lunch at no charge. The afternoon will also feature face painting, balloon art and carnival games for all ages. RSVP online www.zedek.org/RSVP or call the temple.

Yizkor: Remember deceased loved ones by attending the traditional Sukkot Yizkor Service on Monday, Oct. 1 at 10:30 a.m.

Dinner for active adults: Active adults in the congregation are invited to share a dinner on Thursday, Sept. 27 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bahama Breeze, 3045 N. Rocky Point Dr. E, Tampa. Schaarai Zedek will provide appetizers and pay for your first drink. Other orders are Dutch-treat. RSVP at www.zedek.org/RSVP or call the temple at (813) 876-2377.

Cong. Rodeph Sholom

Sukkot services: Sukkot services will be held on Monday, Sept. 24 at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Sukkot dinner: Shabbat services will be held Friday, Sept. 28 at 6 p.m. with third grade consecration and sixth grade Siddur ceremony. This will be followed by a Sukkot dinner. To register for the dinner, go to www.rsholom.org. The cost for dinner is \$18 for those 14 and older and \$10 for those ages 4-13.

Shemini Atzeret: Services will be held Monday, Oct. 1 at 9:30 a.m. with a kiddush lunch and learn.

Simchat Torah: A community celebration/Simchat Torah program will be held on Monday, Oct 1 at 5:30 p.m. with a congregational dinner at 6:15 p.m. and erev Simchat Torah service at 7 p.m. Services also will be held Tuesday, Oct. 2 at 9:30 a.m.

Adult education: Rabbi Josh Hearshen will teach Torah study on Thursdays at 11 a.m. and Talmud study on Thursdays at noon. At 7 p.m. on Thursdays he teaches a class titled “Embracing Judaism.”

Cong. Or Ahavah

Sukkot party: The congregation will hold a Sukkot party on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 1 p.m. at the home of a congregant. Bring a side dairy, veggie or fish dish to share. For information on the location of the party and to RSVP, email Barry at shalinsky@hotmail.com.

Cong. Bais Menachem Chabad

Torah class: Join a weekly Torah class on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the University of Tampa. The class explores contemporary issues through a Torah perspective.

For more information, contact Rabbi Levi Rivkin at (813) 504-4432 or email bmchabad@gmail.com.

Practical kabbalah: Enrich the soul and mind with a touch of kabbalah. Learn practical spirituality for everyday life. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7 p.m.

Chabad at UT

Sukkot fair: The community is invited to a free Sukkot Fair on Thursday, Sept. 27 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Sukkah on the University of Tampa campus, located in the Vaughn courtyard, 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. There will be music, pizza, other refreshments and games for all. The event is sponsored by the Chabad Jewish Student Union at UT in partnership with NJOP, a national program that promotes Jewish engagement. For more information, contact Rabbi Levi Rivkin at (813) 405-5542 or bmchabad@gmail.com or Emily Azoalos at (561) 451-5896 or Emily.azoalos@spartans.ut.edu.

Cong. Mekor Shalom

Religious school: The first day of religious school will start on Sunday, Sept. 23 at 9:15 a.m.

Cong. Beth Israel Sun City Center

Sukkot service: The temple will hold its Sukkot service on Monday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m.

Simchat Torah: The temple will hold Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah, Yizkor on Monday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. For guest tickets, contact Janet Corin at (401) 524-0847 or Sandy Zains at (330) 509-0123.

Beatles bash: The temple invites the public to a Beatlemania concert on Sunday Oct. 7 at 2 p.m. at the South Campus Community Center, 1910 S. Pebble Beach

Blvd., Sun City Center. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the North Campus Community Center kiosk, 1009 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., from 9 a.m. to noon on Sept. 17, 21, 26, 28 and Oct. 3 and 5.

For more information, call Ilene Unruch at (973) 876-3531 or Marlene Hollander at (813) 331-3888.

Cong. Beth Shalom Brandon

Candidate forum: Local political candidates will make short presentations about themselves and their platforms at the synagogue on Sunday, Sept. 16 at 2 p.m. during a program put on by the Lifelong Learning Committee. There will also be a representative of the League of Women Voters on hand to explain the constitutional amendments on the ballot.

Temple Emanuel Lakeland

Sukkot: The temple will have erev Sukkot services on Sunday, Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. and on Monday, Sept. 24 at 9:30 a.m. there will be a complimentary breakfast with the rabbi, followed by services at 10 a.m.

On Friday, Sept. 28 there will be a Shabbat dinner at 6:15 p.m., followed by Sukkot services at 7 p.m. Cost for the dinner is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 12, with a maximum family cost of \$36. RSVP by Friday, Sept. 21 at (863) 682-8616 or pay online at <https://templeemanuellakeland.com/events/sukkot/>.

Shemini Atzeret: Services including Yizkor will be held on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m.

Simchat Torah: The temple will hold Simchat Torah services on Monday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m., followed by an ice cream social.

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Proceeds raised through the publication of the “Mazel Tov” recognition book will be directed to the Weinberg Village Facility Enhancement Fund and the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Endowment Fund.

If you would like to honor the recipients in the “Mazel Tov” recognition book and/or need additional information, please contact Dan Sultan at 813.969.1818 or dan.sultan@jewishtampa.com.

Save The Date

to recognize those who have dedicated their time, talents and lives to the Jewish community. All honorees will be inducted into the Weinberg Village Jewish Senior Hall of Fame at our 8 Over 80 Awards Reception.

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Teens and screen time subject of film, discussion

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.

To better understand the issues involved, the Jewish Federation of Pinellas and Pasco Counties and the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County will present the movie, *Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age*. Congregation Beth Shalom's Rabbi Danielle Upbin, a mother of four, will lead a discussion following the movie.

The free program will be held on Sunday, Oct. 14 at the mid-Pinellas location of Empath Health's Gathering Place, 5771 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater, beginning at 3 p.m.

Middle school and high school students and their parents are urged to attend. Attendees will enjoy a complimentary pizza dinner.

Screenagers has been screened more than 6,000 times to two million people in more than 50 countries around the world. Last year, the movie was shown at the Hillel Academy in Tampa.

It is the first feature documentary to explore the impact of screen technology on kids and offer families proven solutions that work to get teens to cutback on their screen time.

Some of the movie's surprising – or may be not so surprising – statistics show that kids spend on average 6.5 hours a day on screens not including classroom or homework and boys spend on average the equivalent of 1.5 days on video games every week.

Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston decided to make *Screenagers* when she found herself constantly struggling with her two kids about the issue. As a director, Ruston turned the camera on her own family and others – revealing stories of conflicts over



From the film, "Screenagers: Growing up in Digital World."

social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. The stories include Hannah, a 14-year old victim of social media bullying who tried to hide her social media use from her mom, and Andrew, whose love of video games, turned into an addiction taking him from earning straight As to flunking out of college.

Registration for the Oct. 14 program is required. For more information, or to register for this event, contact Maxine Kaufman, Federation's director of arts, culture, and education, at mkaufman@jewishpinellas.org.

For more information about the movie and educational programming, go to www.screenagersmovie.com.

Save dates for Festival of Jewish Books & Conversations

Tampa's 13th Festival of Jewish Books & Conversations, hosted by the Tampa JCCs, will begin Thursday, Nov. 1 and will run through Sunday, Nov. 18, during the National Jewish Book Month.

More than a dozen authors will be featured, many acclaimed award winners.

Featured topics include never-before-told stories of a mysterious Coney Island doctor who saved thousands of babies, another doctor who was one of our youngest and most visionary Founding Fathers, an Italian cycling legend and of a mom who helped save the Louvre and its treasures from the Nazis. Festival novels offer tales of a mystic's death predictions and a humorous look at a family wedding.

Events will take place at the JCC on the Cohn Campus, 13009 Community Campus Drive, Tampa, the Bryan Glazer Family JCC, 522 N. Howard, Tampa and other locations around the community.

The featured books are chosen each year by the Jewish Book Festival Committee, led by Debbie Doliner and Barbara Manners.

Tampa JCCs Arts and Culture Director Brandy Gold emphasizes that participants in festival events do not need to be book lovers or avid readers.

"Most attendees have not read the book prior to attending. Our festival is all about offering conversations about compelling top-

ics of interest," said Gold. "Come out, enjoy and support our Jewish community, while learning, listening, engaging in stimulating conversations while having lots of fun."

All programs are open to the entire community. Reservations are encouraged (required for a restaurant luncheon event) and can be made with your ticket purchases at jewishtampa.com/books, beginning Oct. 1 or at the door. Tickets range in price from \$5 to \$25. All events, excluding the Skype program, will conclude with a book signing by the featured author.

The Tampa JCC on the Cohn Campus will feature a festival bookstore throughout the two weeks where guests could purchase the featured books.

Additional festival authors will be presented January through May, 2019, through the popular Sip & Skype programs plus a bookstore author appearance is scheduled in April.

The Gemunder Family Foundation is the Jewish Books & Conversations presenting sponsor.

For more information about the authors, books, festival events, or sponsorships, contact Brandy Gold at brandy.gold@jewishtampa.com or (813) 769-4725.

More details and the schedule for the festival will be included in the next issue of the *Jewish Press*.

Letter to the Editor

The Jewish Press welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters are published on a space available basis with the Jewish Press reserving the right to edit or reject letters for clarity, brevity, legalities or taste. Letters must be signed and bear the writer's address and telephone number (which will not be published). The writer's name will be withheld on request.

JTA writer avoids the real story

The primary mission of the Jewish protest group IfNotNow (INN) is to end the West Bank occupation. Some like me would argue the group is radical, but their actions would require another article to explain. JTA writer Ben Sales described the protest of Birthright tours in the Jewish Press Aug. 10 issue. The story reported how tour participants spontaneously argued with tour guides explaining Israeli policy in the West Bank and then left the tours in protest. The truth is this was an organized campaign by INN that was openly promoted on their website all summer. INN targeted Birthright participants and invited them to attend workshops to encourage protest. Birthright donors were demonized as rich, right-wing extremists attempting to conceal evil motives. Of course, without a solid understanding of Israeli history, and the onslaught of anti-Israel nar-

ratives, some Jewish kids will be converted. What's unacceptable is that Ben Sales either ignored or concealed the reason behind the protests. The headline should have simply read: "IfNotNow Targets Birthright Tours."

I believe we're raising a generation of anti-intellectuals. A common observation after reviewing INN news stories is there's not a single constructive solution they offer; it's strictly protest-only. When they refused an invitation to meet with the ADL after protesting at their headquarters, INN leadership claimed enough talk, time for action. A critic of INN called their behavior "infantile." I would add "convenient."

One look at their website and it's clear why this group is impossible to nail down. How can one argue the merits if there are no specifics? How convenient to offer popular slogans without describing how to achieve them. One compliment I can give is I appreciate their history of peaceful protest. But I also hope they acknowledge it's morally wrong to accept a free trip to Israel and then insult the people who donated it. Two factual statements: 1. Israel is one of our greatest allies and an amazing country. 2. The reasons and solutions to the occupation are difficult and complex. Let's be open, honest, and teach that message to our youth.

Noah Jacobson
Tampa

FILM

• CONTINUED from FRONT PAGE

“We believe this new technology will enhance Holocaust learning in a world where fewer and fewer survivors still live to share their authentic experiences,” said Elizabeth Gelman, executive director of the Florida Holocaust Museum.

Calling the immersive experience of *The Last Goodbye* “a game changer for Holocaust education,” Gelman said, “Our goal is to connect one person to one person, bringing the focus away from incomprehensible numbers and to the actual people who were affected.”

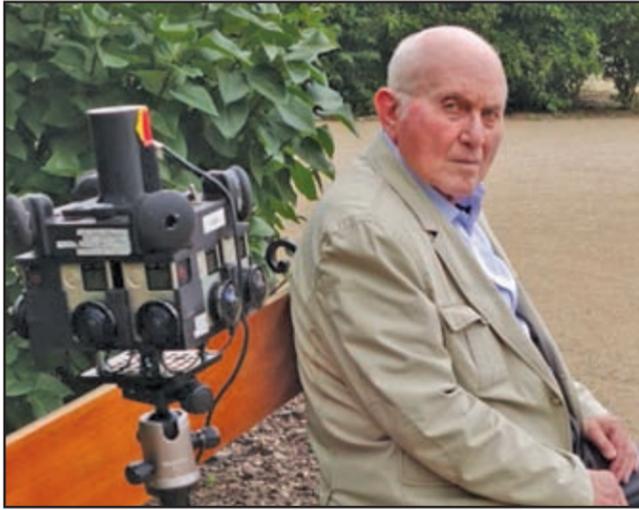
First screened at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival, the movie is exhibited within an installation created by David Korins, the renowned designer of Broadway hits *Hamilton* and *Dear Evan Hansen*. *The Last Goodbye* has achieved critical acclaim and received numerous prestigious awards, including two Webby Awards and the Creative Arts Award, VR - Documentary Jury Prize at the 2018 Lumiere Awards.

“Every generation needs to bear witness to these atrocities, but our tools for learning and preservation change. We felt that producing the first Holocaust survivor testimony in room-scale VR would engage audiences in understanding the nature of the Nazi concentration camp system where the SS authorities could murder targeted groups,” said USC Shoah Foundation Finci-Viterbi Executive Director Stephen Smith, who is also one of the film’s producers.

Through the use of VR technology, “We can give viewers the opportunity to explore the space side by side with Pinchas in order to truly understand what this experience was

like. It is a powerful way of understanding and emotionally connecting to history,” added Moving Picture Company (MPC) official Tim Dillon, another of the film’s producers.

Capturing Gutter’s testimony on-site and ensuring it was incorporated into the film was itself a feat of innovation. Thousands of photos were stitched together by an expert

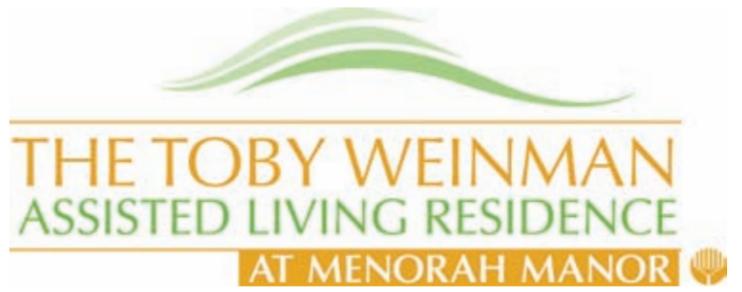


Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter’s visit to the Majdanek death camp in Poland is the subject of the Virtual Reality film, “The Last Goodbye.” Gutter was 10 when he was taken to the camp.

at MPC to create three-dimensional images of the interiors to scale. Gutter’s video testimony, taken in the same spaces, was then incorporated into the film, providing a vivid environment in which he recounts his heart-breaking story of suffering, loss and survival. It stands as a testament to the strength of the human heart and the enduring power of hope and perseverance.

The Last Goodbye virtual reality film experience is included with the cost of admission to the Florida Holocaust Museum. It is available to one person at a time, with only two time slots offered every hour. Tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The public may contact the museum after Thursday, Sept. 13 at (727) 820-0100, ext. 226, to schedule a viewing.

The museum is located at 55 Fifth St. S., St. Petersburg.



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Organizations

Hadassah

Save the date: The Tampa Ameet Hadassah Chapter is planning a gala dinner dance called "Catskills Revisited—A Night to Remember" for Sunday, Nov. 4 at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC. The evening will include special guests, a silent auction of goods and services, gourmet dining, a Catskills-style show, music, dancing and more. Sponsorships are available. Proceeds from the event will be earmarked for breast cancer research at Hadassah's Jerusalem hospitals. For more information, contact event co-chairs: **Michelle Norris** (813) 352-8765, michelen.hadassah@gmail.com or **Anita Greenberg** at (813) 254-3454 at anita33558@gmail.com.

Genealogical Society

Enhancing the family tree: The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay will host guest speakers **Jo Anne Spatz De Vargas** and **Marty Lazar** of Vu Documentaries on Sunday, Sept. 16 at 2 p.m. as they discuss "How Video Can Enhance a Family Tree." Those attending will learn about personal documentaries with videos that help you share your family story. The meeting will be at Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services; 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater. A pre-session social with refreshments and library access begins at 1:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. For more information, call **Bruce Hadburg** at (727) 796-7981

Young Adults

Break-the-Fast dinner: The 20s+30s group at Congregation Schaarai Zedek in Tampa invites others in that age group to a Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast at Metro Diner, 4011 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Appetizers are free but participants pay for their own dinner. RSVP by Sept. 17 at www.zedek.org/20s30s. You do not have to be a member of the temple to attend. For more information, contact **Lindsey Dewey** at ldewey@zedek.org or (813) 876-2377, ext. 221.

Bowling: Enjoy an afternoon of bowling at Pinarama, 5008 S. Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa, with #Gather on Sunday, Sept. 23 from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Trivia night: Test your trivia knowledge with Team #Gather at 81Bay Brewing,

Speaking out



(L-R) Susan Edgerly, Ellyne Myers, U.S. Rep. Kathy Castor, Luise Burman, David Burman (past president, national committee of Hadassah Associates), and Abby Blackburn. Hadassah Ameet Chapter met recently with Castor to lobby her for support of the Never Again Education Act which would require school districts to include lessons on the Holocaust in their Social Studies curricula. The group also voiced support for a medical research act.

4465 W. Gandy Blvd., Tampa on Wednesday, Oct. 10. Happy hour begins at 7 p.m. and trivia is at 8 p.m. This is a free event.

Bagel lovers unite: Enjoy your Sunday morning with a bagel brunch spread on Sunday, Oct. 21 from 10-11:30 a.m. This #Gather family event is at Ballast Point Park, 5300 Interbay Blvd., Tampa, which has playground facilities for the kids. Cost is \$5 for members and \$8 for guests. There will be bagels, lox, cream cheese, coffee and juice.

#Gather offers a mix of social and interactive activities for those in their 20s, 30s and 40s of all faiths and backgrounds. For more information or to RSVP for #Gather events, visit: www.bryanglazerfamilyjcc.com/gather or www.jcccohn-campus.com/programs/young-adults or contact **Lisa Robbins** at lisa.robbins@jewishtampa.com or (813) 769-4723.

Active Adults

All programs listed are either at the **Margaret & Douglas Cohn Jewish Community Campus, 13009 Community Campus Drive, or at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC, 522 N. Howard Ave.** To RSVP or for more information on programs at either center, contact **Pnina Levermore** at (813) 291-2253 or pnina.levermore@JewishTampa.com. All registrations should be completed before events begin.

Silver night out: Seniors are invited to the Silver Night Out Dance on Thursday, Sept. 20 from 6-10 p.m. at the Glazer JCC. The event will feature live music, a full dinner, a photo booth, cash bar and red carpet. The cost is \$25 per person.

Ghost tour: Tampa Theater at 711 N. Franklin St., Tampa, has a reputation as one of the most haunted buildings in Tampa and is offering Ghost Tours to share stories of the spirited former employees and patrons who still make their presence known. Take

the tour on Thursday, Oct. 4. There will be an optional lunch at Café Paninoteca, 519 N. Franklin St., at 12:30 p.m. and the tour at 2 p.m. Tour cost is \$5 for guests and \$10 for members. Register at either JCC campus for this tour.

Men's Club: This group will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Glazer JCC for card games, ping-pong, billiards and occasional outings.

Scrabble: Enjoy open play Scrabble on Sundays from 1-4 p.m. at the Glazer JCC. All levels are welcome. Cost is free for members and \$10 for guests.

Bridge lessons: Bridge lessons for players at all levels will continue on Fridays through Oct. 12 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Glazer JCC. Cost is \$50 for JCC members and \$60 for non-members for the six-session series. Pro-rating cost options are available.

Online life journal: Learn how to create an online journal of your memories, insights, photos, videos, special moments and share it with your loved ones. No technical knowledge is required. Volunteers will be on hand to help you out. The next workshop is on Wednesday, Oct. 17 from 4-5:30 p.m. at the Glazer JCC.

Broadway music: Take in a lecture on Wednesday, Oct. 10 from 1-2 p.m. by **Erin Horan** of the Florida Orchestra on some of the most popular composers of Broadway musicals, including Richard Rodgers, Lerner & Lowe and Andrew Lloyd Webber. The lecture will be held at the Glazer JCC.

Mah jongg: Folks can play at both JCCs. At the Glazer JCC, drop-in sessions are offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. This is free for all members. All levels of players are welcome. At the Cohn campus, there is free open play sessions every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

News talk: This discussion group, meeting at both JCCs, is led by **Pat Renfroe** and explores "hot button" issues of the day. Sessions at the Glazer JCC are on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. The group at the Cohn campus, meets the second and fourth Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

JetSetters: The Phyllis Borrell JetSetters social group for adults of all ages meets at the Cohn campus for an hourlong program followed by lunch. The next program will take place on Thursday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to noon and is a Sukkot special event. The lunch is free for members, though a donation of \$5 is suggested.

Yiddish nostalgia: Join **Ruth Weston** and her group of Yiddish enthusiasts at the Cohn Campus on Thursday, Sept. 27 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. as they chat and reminisce.

Chess lessons: Learn how to play chess on Mondays from 1:30-3 p.m. at the

Cohn campus.

Canasta: Meet in the senior lounge at the Cohn campus every Friday from 3-4:30 p.m. for friendly games of canasta.

Movie matinee: Enjoy a classic movie and popcorn on the first non-holiday Wednesday of the month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on the Cohn campus. There is no charge to attend. The Oct. 3 film will be *Music Man*.

Do the Dali: Sign up for a docent-led tour of the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at noon. The tour includes a lunch at Café Gala. The cost excluding lunch is \$19 and registration is required. The special exhibit of "Visions of Dali's Spain" by photographer **Clyde Butcher** will be on display.

Job-Links

Monday Morning Links: Free sessions of Monday Morning Links are offered at the Jack Roth Center for Career Development at TampaBay-Job-Links, 4100 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 206, Tampa from 9:30-11 a.m. On Sept. 17, the topic is "12 Keys to a Productive Career Transition." On Sept. 24, the topic will be "Self Care: Strategies to Replenish, Recharge, & Reboot." On Oct. 1, the topic will be "Demystifying Behavioral Interviewing."

Job-search aids: Success workshops to aid with job-search skills will be held on Thursday, Sept. 20, 27 and Oct. 4. On Sept. 20 from 9:30 a.m. to noon the topic is "Customize Your Résumé to Stand Out From the Crowd." On Sept. 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. the topic is "Preparing for Your Interview" and on Oct. 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the topic is "Financial Fundamentals for Now and the Future." The workshops are free for Job-Links program participants; \$15 for guests. Reservations required. To RSVP, call (813) 344-0200, email RSVP@TBJL.org.

Switching Gears: A four-part Switching Gears workshop series is taking place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, Oct. 3, 10, 17, and 24 at the Jack Roth Center for Career Development at TampaBay-Job-Links. TBJL's professional career coaches will present interactive content to enhance attendees' job-search skills - whether they are just beginning their career, returning to the workforce after an absence, or considering a career change. Topics include conducting self-assessments, developing a brand, enhancing interview skills, managing networking, strengthening résumés and LinkedIn profiles, targeting companies, and more. Participants can attend any or all workshops. The fee to attend is \$15 for individual sessions or \$50 for all four. Dinner is included. Seating is limited. To register call (813) 344-0200 or email rsvp@tbjl.org.

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Monica Lewinsky cuts short Jerusalem interview after question about Clinton apology

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Monica Lewinsky, an anti-bullying advocate who gained fame for her affair with Bill Clinton while serving as a White House intern, cut short a live interview in Jerusalem after the first question was about the former president.

Lewinsky, who will be the keynote speaker for the Congregation Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood's annual Star Event in Tampa on Oct. 15, appeared at a conference in the Israeli capital organized by the Israel Television News Company, where she delivered a speech and then sat on stage for a live interview with Israel Channel 2 news anchor Yonit Levi.

Levi asked Lewinsky if she was still expecting a personal apology from Clinton over the inappropriate relationship, for which Clinton was impeached, Channel 2 reported.

"I'm so sorry, I'm not going to be able to do this," Lewinsky said as she walked off stage following the question, according to reports.

Lewinsky said later in a tweet that she and Levi had discussed prior to the staged event what questions were fair game and what were off limits.

"The exact question the interviewer asked first, she had put to me when we met the day prior. I said that was off limits," Lewinsky said in the tweet. "When she asked me it on stage, with blatant disregard for our agreement, it became clear to me that I had been misled. I left because it is more important than ever for women to stand up for themselves and not allow others to control their narrative."

Lewinsky also apologized to the audience "that this talk had to end this way."

She did not publicly discuss her relationship with Clinton until 2014. In February, Lewinsky wrote a personal essay for Vanity Fair on the 20th anniversary of the investigation into the affair, in which she admitted that she suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder over the fallout from the investigation and publicity, and that the #MeToo movement had changed her perspective on the affair and its aftermath.

"I don't think I would have felt so isolated if what happened in 1998 happened in 2018," she told her Jerusalem audience. "By and large I had been alone. Publicly alone. Abandoned most by the main figure in this crisis, who knew me well and intimately."

Lewinsky also told the audience that after the news broke of her affair with Clinton, "I was shunned from almost every community which I belonged to, including my religious community. That led to some very dark times for me."

Clinton said in an interview in June with NBC's Today show correspondent Craig Melvin that he felt his public apologies for the relationship were enough.

Lewinsky's visit to Tampa next month is part of the temple Sisterhood's 17th annual Franci Goldman Rudolph Star event at the Renaissance Hotel in Tampa's International Plaza. For more information on the event, go to www.zedek.org/starevent or call the temple at (813) 876-2377.

Anti-Semitic online post says Jews are taking over Indiana U

(JTA) – An online post said a "bunch of hairy stink rude obnoxious jews" are overtaking the Indiana University campus.

The existence of the anonymous post was first reported by the alternative student publication *The Tab* on its Instagram account.

The Aug. 29 post had appeared on the Greekrank website about fraternities and sororities on campus. It has been deleted, but screenshots have circulated.

University officials denounced the post in a statement, *The Indiana Daily Student* reported. "The language used by these anonymous posters is hurtful and offensive," the statement said. It also said that "Hoosiers are better than this."

The post said: "OMG so first of all I don't want to sound racist or anything.. but like wtf why are there so many jews here at IU now wat happened?" the post said. "where being taken over by a bunch of hairy stink rude obnoxious jews... the girls acts so damn exclusive and if ur not jewish u can't hang out with them or even talk to them.. they give us looks like were below them and not worthy of talking too...this must end or this school is gonna go to ****!"

Responses included "UR not wrong but you can't do anything about it" and "Don't really have a problem with the guys or girls, just the JAPS," and "seriously there everywhere."

The editor of *The Tab* said on Instagram that "to hear that anti-Semitism is alive and well as a Jew on campus makes me mad. We are better than this. Now show it."

University officials also met with students at Hillel, *The Indiana Daily Student* reported, citing Hillel director Rabbi Sue Silberberg. "They're very upset and take it very, very seriously, and that's been very comforting for the students," Silberberg said of the university officials.

There are about 4,000 Jewish undergraduates on Indiana University's Bloomington campus, making up 11 percent of the undergraduate student population, according to the *Hillel Guide to Colleges*.

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For more information about the event or corporate/individual sponsorship opportunities, please contact Linda Wolf, Assistant Director, Hillels of the Florida Suncoast at (813) 899-2788 or shalom@suncoasthillels.org.

Presented By



EMT CORPS

• CONTINUED from FRONT PAGE

an all-female version of Hatzalah with only strictly observant Orthodox members. In a statement, Eiselt explains that over four years of filming, she essentially operated as a one-woman crew.

The film, which has had a limited theatrical release around the country this summer, will have its broadcast premiere as part of PBS's documentary POV series. It will air locally on WEDU on Monday, Sept. 17 at 10 p.m. (The program will be repeated on Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 1:30 a.m. and Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 4 a.m.)

The woman behind the female corps is Rachel "Ruchie" Freier, a lawyer and Borough Park native. In the film when she introduces the viewer to her Brooklyn Hasidic enclave, she acknowledges the community's prevailing view of a woman's role: "The focus of a woman is being a mother. Any profession, or extra schooling, is discouraged."

Nevertheless, Freier assembles a group of volunteers, albeit who are tentative at the start.

And, not surprisingly, her plan sets up a clash with the establishment Hatzalah and its supporters. Opponents threaten to boycott the hospital that is training the women and the companies that sell them medical supplies. They also post nasty comments on Twitter, such as "God have mercy if you wait for them to get their make-up and the right dress on."



Photo courtesy of Malka Films

Rachel Freier shown in the film with her husband.

But Freier's leadership and inner strength help the members of what they call Ezras Nashim ("helping women") persevere. "The worst thing you can tell me is that I can't do something because I'm a woman, a religious woman," she says.

Part of Freier's fortitude manifests itself in a my-way-or-the-highway manner. When she insists that only married women can join the team, some members object – including an experienced EMT who recently became religious – and others resign. "There's a whole host of issues that come up in a marriage that will give you that level of maturity," she says.

Though the film is gripping, the viewer is never entirely sure how it all works. The women on call respond from wherever they are to the scene of the emergency. However, it does not appear that Ezras Nashim owns its own ambulance. It contracts with a private company to provide patient transport.



Photo by Julieta Cervantes

Rachel Freier's Ezras Nashim idea triggered backlash in her observant Jewish community.

Who staffs that ambulance? Men? Do the women EMTs accompany patients in the ambulance?

There are other questions. At one point Freier says she refuses to let the project fail because that might blemish her image and hurt her plans to run for a judgeship. Was the ambulance fight just a way to build a political base, to get her name out there?

In fact, in 2016 Freier was elected as a judge in New York City's 5th Civil Court District, becoming what is believed to be the first Hasidic woman elected to public office in the United States.

Does it matter?

In the end, Freier must be doing some-

thing right: Last year, Ezras Nashim won the New York Basic Life Support Agency of the Year award, a high honor.

Eiselt also must be doing something right. Last year, the film was previewed at the Toronto Hot Docs Forum and pitch program and won the top prize of \$54,000.

She calls her film a story of "proud Hasidic women challenging the status quo of their own community and refusing to take no for an answer from the all-powerful patriarchy."

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Trump agreed Kushner should not serve in White House, Woodward's book claims

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

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

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

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

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

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

capacity. Nepotism laws existed for a reason," Woodward continued, paraphrasing Priebus.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The book means nothing," Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday, Sept. 5, when asked about a passage about Syria. "It's a work of fiction."

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Things you probably don't know about Yom Kippur

By MY JEWISH LEARNING STAFF

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

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

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

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

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

In 2015, the kapparot ritual, in which a chicken is symbolically invested with a person's sins, then slaughtered and given to the needy, spurred two lawsuits in the United States: one by traditional Jews claiming their right to perform it was being abridged by the government and another by animal-rights activists. Centuries earlier, the ritual drew criticism from notable sages like the Ramban (13th century) and Rabbi Joseph Caro (16th century), whose objections had less to do with animal welfare than with religious integrity. Some observant Jews today, unable or unwilling to gain possession of a live chicken, now swing money over their heads that then goes to charity.

3. Yom Kippur once was a big matchmaking day.

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

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

Other traditional no-nos on Yom Kippur include bathing, wearing perfume or lotions and having sexual relations. The less-than-attractive aroma resulting from the first two restrictions (not to mention the romantic restrictions imposed by the third) may explain why the day ceased to be an occasion for finding true love. Traditionalists also refrain from wearing leather. So the good news is that you can go to shul in comfy (non-leather) sneakers or flips flops.

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

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

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

Traditionally, the meal eaten before beginning the fast is supposed to be large and festive, following the Talmudic dictum that it is a mitzvah (commandment) to eat on the eve of Yom Kippur, just as it is a mitzvah to



Photo by Ilia Yefimovich/Getty Images

Orthodox Jewish girl performing the kapparot ceremony prior to Yom Kippur in Jerusalem in 2016.



Sarah Chandler, an ordained Kohenet (Hebrew priestess) and animal rights activist, suggests a twist on the kapparot ceremony – instead of grabbing the chicken and whipping it through the air, just give it a hug.

fast on Yom Kippur itself. However, eating extra food – particularly in one last-minute feast – does not help to keep you going for 24 hours, says Dr. Tzvi Dwolatzky of Israel's Rambam Health Care Campus. He suggests eating small amounts of carbohydrates (bread, potato, rice, pasta), some protein (fish, chicken) and fruit.

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

In the midst of the Battle of Britain, the relentless Nazi bombardment of London that began in September 1940, the city's synagogues went on with their Yom Kippur services. According to JTA, while air raid warnings “twice disturbed” the morning services on Oct. 12, 1940, “most synagogues carried on regardless” and a “large proportion of the men attending services wore uniforms of the various forces.”

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

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

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

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

View High Holy Day services on tv, online

Jewish Broadcasting Service will be broadcasting live services from Central Synagogue in New York City during the High Holy Days which can be viewed locally on various cable and streaming services.

- The schedule includes:
- Kol Nidre on Tuesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m.
 - Kol Nidre on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 8:30 p.m.
 - Yom Kippur family service on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 9 a.m.
 - Yom Kippur service on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 10:45 a.m.

- Erev Sukkot service on Sunday, Sept. 23 at 6 p.m.
- Sukkot service on Monday, Sept. 24 at 9:30 a.m.
- Erev Simchat Torah service on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 6 p.m.
- Simchat Torah service on Monday, Oct. 1 at 9:30 a.m.

For those with Spectrum cable the programming is on channel 166 SD and 1223 HD; for AT&T DirecTV viewers it is on channel 388; for Roku subscribers, look under “religion” and online it is at jbstv.org.

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SodaStream is behind this 20-foot Statue of Liberty replica drowning in plastic bottles



This SodaStream display was set up in New York City this month to raise awareness of the negative consequences of one-use plastic bottles.

By JOSEFIN DOLSTEN
JTA news service

NEW YORK – Tourists and locals wandering around Flatiron Plaza in downtown Manhattan were met with an unusual sight: a 20-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty standing in a steel cage filled with empty plastic bottles and metal cans.

On the other side of the eye-catching set-up, titled “Drowning Liberty,” were booths with people handing out glasses of seltzer. The installation, on display for three days last week, was organized by SodaStream, an Israeli company that sells at-home carbonation kits, together with the Oceanic Society.

Its goal is to raise awareness of the negative consequences of single-use plastic (and drum up business for the company while they’re at it). Passers-by were encouraged to sign SodaStream’s sustainability pledge, promising to eschew one-use bottles for reusable ones. The company claims that making soda at home in reusable bottles results in “less plastic manufactured, less plastic waste and less transport of bottled beverages.”

“We have no choice,” SodaStream CEO Daniel Birnbaum said in a statement. “We have to go reusable. Annual plastic production is skyrocketing and the U.S. is one of the biggest polluters in the world.”

Among those who stopped by to sign the pledge was Adrian Grenier, an actor known for his role on the TV series *Entourage*.

Passers-by who paused to take photos and have a drink of seltzer told JTA that the set-up resonated with them.

Henry Ortega, 24, said that seeing Lady Liberty up to her waist in plastic bottles reminded him of the importance of not littering. “As you know, the city of New York is dirty in the streets,” he said. “This can actually give us an open mind that we’ve got to wake up. It’s a wake-up call.”

Azinat Axorova, a 28-year-old visitor from Russia, said the statue made her think of what she had observed about Americans’ consumer habits. “Americans use a lot of things that they don’t need,” she said. “Consumption in this country is so vast that there is so much waste that you don’t even think about it.”

Last month, PepsiCo announced plans to acquire SodaStream for \$3.2 billion.

Obituaries

NAOMI R. KATZ, 82, of Tampa, died Aug. 25. Born in New York, she moved to Tampa in 1974 from Pennsylvania. She and her late husband Fred Katz owned the Travel Agency of Tampa, a travel and tour company. A member of numerous organizations, including the Town & Country Optimist Club of which she was past president, and also taught mah jongg. Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Steven Katz, Andrew and Lisa Katz, and Jamie and Deanna Katz; daughter, Stacie Segal; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. The family suggests memorials to Congregation Schaarai Zedek in Tampa. (Segal Funeral Home, Beth David Chapel)

MARGOT ELAINE LEVIN, 52, died Aug. 25. Born in Baltimore, MD, she moved to Tampa as a child, graduating from Tampa Preparatory School. She attended Princeton University and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. She had a successful career as a management consultant, was active in her alumnae associations and enjoyed and contributed to the cultural life of New York City where she lived for many years. Survivors include her mother Dr.

Shirley Borkowf. The family suggests memorials to Congregation Beth Am in Tampa. (Segal Funeral Home, Beth David Chapel)

SALLY MACK WARNER, 74, of Tampa, died Sept. 3. Originally from Boston, she was a longtime resident of Tampa moving here from Philadelphia. She was vice president of her family’s business, Self Service Shoe Stores, with locations throughout Florida where she worked for over 15 years alongside her brother and late father, Samuel Mack. She had diverse interests ranging from playing bridge to needlepoint and being a political enthusiast. She loved to travel and gamble, making cruises the perfect mode for her. Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law Lindsey and Billy Steen; brother and sister-in-law Warren and Brenda Mack; and two grandchildren. The family suggests memorials to the Hillel Academy. (Segal Funeral Home, Beth David Chapel)

OBITUARIES are published as a public service at no charge in the *Jewish Press of Pinellas County* based on information supplied by the family to the funeral home. However, the information contained in the free obituary is at the discretion of the *Jewish Press*.

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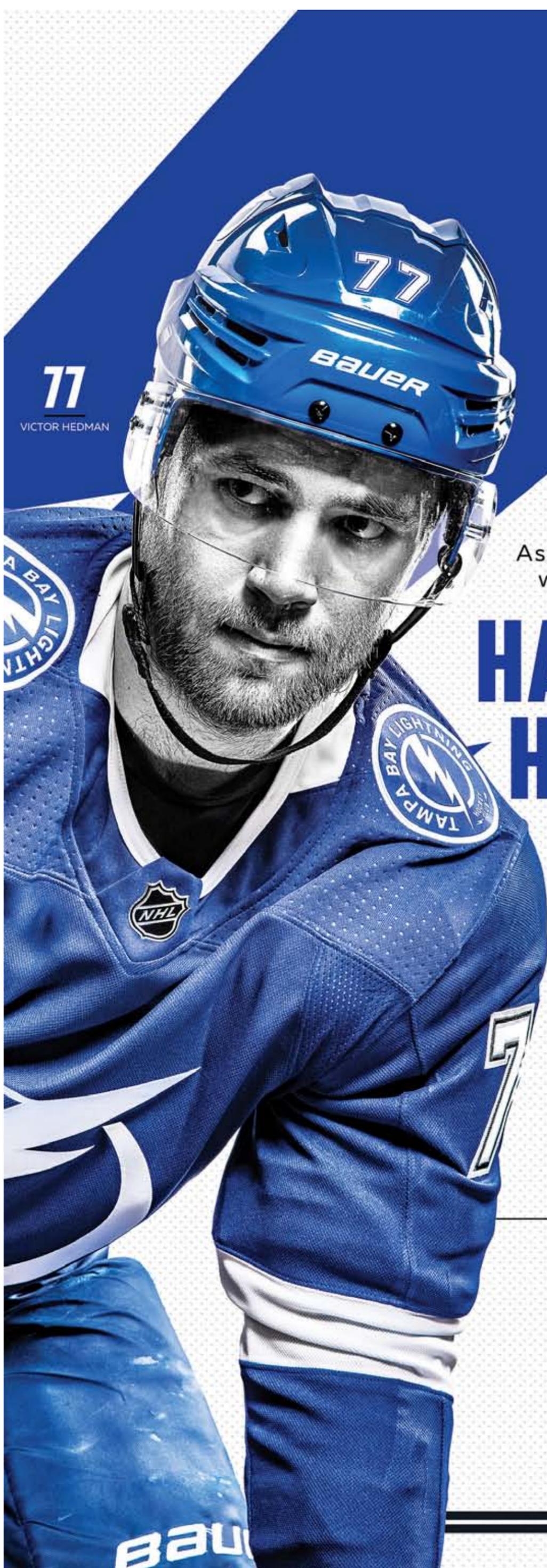
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Jewish American soldier buried for 74 years after going missing

(JTA) – A Jewish-American soldier from World War II who was listed as missing 74 years ago has finally been buried in California.

Staff Sgt. David Rosenkrantz was buried at the Riverside National Cemetery, where four of his brothers also are buried. In March, his remains were recovered and identified near the farm in the Netherlands where he was killed, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

More than 30 of his relatives, including nieces and nephews, great nieces and great nephews, and their children, attended the funeral, according to the *Times*.

Rosenkrantz became a hometown hero three months after being shipped out to Europe in 1943, when he and another paratrooper were mistakenly dropped into an Italian unit and all 200 of them surrendered to the two American soldiers.

He was killed at the age of 28 during Operation



Photo from the David Rosenkrantz memorial website

Recovered dogtags returned to the Rosenkrantz family in March 2012

Market Garden in the Netherlands, in a battle chronicled in the 1977 film *A Bridge Too Far*.

Rosenkrantz's dog tags, which were stamped with a "J" for Jewish, had been returned to the family in March 2012, according to a website in his memory maintained by his nephew Dr. Phillip Rosenkrantz. According to the website, the dog tags were found not long after the war by a farmer and turned over to the U.S. Army. They were then misplaced and found by the army in 2011 and released to the family.

The soldier's remains had been recovered by Canadian soldiers and buried in an American military grave in the southern part of the Netherlands. This was discovered by a Dutchman, Ben Overhand, who as a teenager began trying to find the remains of soldiers who helped liberate the Netherlands and saw the website dedicated to Rosenkrantz.

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

(JTA)– The U.S. pullout from the nuclear deal with Iran triggered a European desertion of that country that is threatening its regime's survival, President Donald Trump said.

Trump spoke about the issue Thursday, Sept. 6, during a Rosh Hashanah phone call with rabbis and Jewish leaders. Taking part in the 20-minute call were his son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner; U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman; the attorney and law professor Alan Dershowitz; and former U.S. Sen. Norm Coleman of Minnesota.

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

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

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

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

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

party in the deal, and other advocates said it was the best way to block Iran's path to developing a nuclear bomb.

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

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

"It turned out to have a much bigger impact than I thought. I did it primarily because of nuclear, but I knew it wouldn't be great for their economy. I had no idea how devastating it would be," he said.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Correction

The date of the closing reception for a photo exhibit titled *To Bear Witness*, by USF student Avi Davidson, is Friday, Sept. 14 from 7-9 p.m. at the Centra Gallery in the Marshall Student Center. An incorrect date for the reception was listed in the Aug. 24 edition of the Jewish Press.

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Hillel International launches MitzVote campaign

By JOSEFIN DOLSTEN
JTA news service

(JTA) – Joshua Malina and Lisa Edelstein are among the actors and comedians starring in a campaign launched by Hillel International to encourage college students to vote.

Malina, known for his roles on the TV series’ *The West Wing*, *Scandal*, and Edelstein, of *House*, portray parents congratulating their daughter, Hannah, on turning 18 and becoming a “MitzVote,” a play on the bar and bat mitzvah coming-of-age ceremony.

The comic video also features Israeli-American actress Odeya Rush, comedian Michael Ian Black, *Saturday Night Live* alumnus Tim Meadows and Scott Rogowsky, who hosts the popular smartphone game show HQTrivia.

The actors portray relatives and family friends of the teen, from Rush as a reluctant sister to Black and Meadows as family friends who refer to her as “the second favorite” child. In short clips, all congratulate Hannah on being able to vote. There’s even a “rabbi,” who explains that she considers voting, the 614th mitzvot.

The video, released Thursday,



Lisa Edelstein and Joshua Malina star in the launch video for Hillel International’s “MitzVote” campaign.

Screenshot via YouTube

Sept. 6, marks the launch of Hillel International’s MitzVote campaign, which aims to register and engage 100,000 young voters on over 100 college campuses across the United States. (www.mitz.vote)

The non-partisan campaign aims to give “college students an opportunity to become engaged citizens in the way that b’nai mitzvot recognizes young Jews as an adult in the Jewish community,” according to a statement.

“Long before American democracy was born, Jews have been celebrating their b’nai mitzvot. This campaign is creating a meaningful coming-of-age experience for all Americans who turn 18 and are eligible to vote,” said Sheila Katz, vice president for student engagement and leadership at Hillel Inter-

national.

The organization is partnering with Hillel chapters across the country, get-out-the-vote groups and Jewish fraternities and organizations as part of the campaign. The video was produced by Mik Moore, one of the creators of “The Great Schlep,” a Jewish initiative that promoted Barack Obama’s presidential run in 2008.

Katz told JTA that Moore’s past work did not affect the non-partisan nature of the campaign.

“We’re not endorsing any candidates, we’re not pushing out a particular agenda, other than voting is a Jewish value, and we were excited to hire a great creative agency that has a history of doing political campaigns and other types of campaigns,” she said.

Indie band Of Montreal joins Lana Del Rey, other acts in pulling out of music festival in Israel

JERUSALEM (JTA) – The American indie pop band Of Montreal from Athens, GA, is the latest artist or group to cancel its participation in the three-day Meteor Festival in Israel.

“After exhausting all of the different possible ways of justifying playing an Israeli party festival, while the political and military leaders of the country continue their murderous and brutal policies against the Palestinian people, we came to the realization that there is no actual appropriate move other than to cancel the show,” the band said in a statement.

The band’s decision comes days after headliner Lana Del Rey canceled her participation, saying it was because she was unable to arrange a second performance for her Palestinian fans.

A day after Del Rey canceled, the American electronic musician Shlohmo also announced on Twitter that he would not perform. He had decided initially that he would perform and donate his earnings to the people of Gaza.

In all, out of the more than 125 announced acts about 18 artists and groups have pulled out of the Meteor Festival in recent weeks, after coming under pressure from the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel.

Following Del Rey’s cancellation, Pink Floyd front-

man Roger Waters, who supports the BDS movement and contacted Del Rey directly to drop her participation, turned his public attention to American jazz saxophonist Kamasi Washington, despite contacting Washington and his publicist privately last month.

“Given that Lana Del Rey has now cancelled, you are the only notable standout. Please don’t play the Meteor Festival in Tel Aviv. To do so would be a betrayal of everyone who ever stood up for civil or human rights anywhere,” Waters wrote in a post on Facebook.

Among the other artists that have canceled are the South African duo Black Motion, American DJ Volvox, British DJ Leon Vynehall, Turkish singer Selda, Nazareth electronic duo Zenobia and Australian DJ Mall Grab.

Several other artists who were asked to perform cited BDS in declining the invitation, according to reports.

On its website, the festival organizers issued a statement responding to the BDS protest, saying it is “100 percent politics free,” receiving no money from the government or any political entity.

“No one will make us hate, that includes the BDS, which insanely politicized our event. no one,” the statement reads. “Music heals, politics kills.”



Jewish rapper Mac Miller dead at 26

(JTA) – Rapper Mac Miller was found dead of an apparent drug overdose on Friday, Sept. 7. TMZ reported.

Miller, 26, was born to a Christian father and Jewish mother in Pittsburgh. He has talked about having a bar mitzvah and celebrating Jewish holidays growing up. He also has a Star of David tattoo on his hand.

In his song “S.D.S.,” he describes himself as a “Jewish Buddhist tryna consume the views of Christianity.”

Miller struggled with substance abuse for years, including during a high-profile relationship with pop star Ariana Grande.

He was found by police at his home in California’s San Fernando Valley, and pronounced dead at the scene. He was about to start a concert tour next month.



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ANNUAL REPORT

2017-18



Tampa
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OUR MISSION

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OUR VISION

The Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation is the heart of a vibrant, harmonious and connected community that embraces everyone.

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We provide a warm, welcoming atmosphere for community gatherings and activities.

We reach out to encompass all Jewish constituencies and are the first stop for newcomers.

We actively support and build our connection with Israel and world Jewry.

We fund current needs for our community and the world and, through endowments, provide for the future.

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OUR VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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- Communication that is truthful and open
- Respect for others

By any and every objective indicator, the 2017-2018 program and fiscal year was incredibly exciting and our organization made many very significant strides forward in several key areas. The primary reason for the excitement this past year was that in addition to all of the important activities on the beautiful and dynamic Maureen and Douglas Cohn Jewish Community Center Campus, the spectacular Bryan Glazer Family JCC (BGFJCC) was open for its first full year and this truly extraordinary facility served our community in a variety of transformational ways.

The BGFJCC finished the program year (June 30th) with close to 5,500 individual members. Also, the event center at the BGFJCC hosted approximately 215 JCC, community and corporate events and did more than \$2 million of business this past year. The BGFJCC continues to be very busy every day with a vast array of educational, recreational, fitness, aquatic, arts and cultural programs for people of all ages.

The BGFJCC is also the home for the Tampa JCCs and Federation's most innovative project, the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA). FIBA continued to work closely with the eight fascinating Israeli companies from the previous year and also added eight very interesting new companies to its portfolio. One of the first eight companies, StemRad attracted an almost \$6 million investment from a group of local investors and was the first

FIBA company to hire local staff and set up its U.S. headquarters in Tampa. FIBA also started to generate revenue from one of its other original companies.

The BGFJCC may have captured a lot of attention, but so many other important initiatives that strive to serve and strengthen our community were part of our organization's story this past year, including the following:

- Ongoing beautification of the vibrant Cohn Campus. The facility continues to draw 1,000 people per day and the plan is to continue to enhance this flourishing campus on a continual basis. We're currently considering some exciting expansion plans.
- The financial support we offered to our local beneficiary agencies and to a variety of projects in Israel continued to make a meaningful difference in the lives of many people.
- The Tampa Orlando Pinellas (TOP) Jewish Foundation has established a leadership role within Jewish foundations. We believe the foundation's 'anti-terror' investment policy is unique among Jewish foundations across the country and it has positioned TOP for significant growth in the years ahead. For the first time ever, TOP has also expanded beyond the three-community region.
- Among other activities, the

Todah Rabah,

Gary Gould
Chief Executive Officer

Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) continued to work with other organizations in efforts to combat the 'Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions' campaign against Israel. The JCRC, in partnership with the Tampa Rabbinical Association, also played a role in working with the Hillsborough County School Board to ensure the Jewish community continues to have an effective relationship with the board.

- Weinberg Village continued to provide a superb living experience for its residents and the facility remains financially self-sufficient, with a near capacity census.
- Our most visible young adult program, our Jewish Leadership Training Institute graduated another crop of incredibly talented young leaders this past year and it's clear that our community will be in very good hands as the future unfolds.

This is just a small sampling of the things going on at the Tampa JCCs and Federation and we encourage everyone to get involved with our organization and our community in as many ways as possible. We also want to thank the approximately 400 dedicated volunteers, 275 staff members and the large number of generous donors who continue to help make our organization and our community very robust.

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Tampa JCCs & Federation

The Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation (TJCCF) is the umbrella organization that includes the Tampa Jewish Federation, the JCC on the Cohn Campus, the Bryan Glazer Family JCC and several strategic, community-based committees. TJCCF is governed by a volunteer board of directors that oversees the operation of the entire organization in concert with the professional management staff. The organization also owns the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Village Assisted Living Residences, which operates as a separate Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) and the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator. We are a binding force that unites Jews and non-Jews across Tampa Bay.

To learn more about the Tampa JCCs and Federation visit us online at www.jewishtampa.com or contact Alissa Fischel at 813-769-4726.

Tampa Jewish Federation

As the major instrument of Jewish philanthropy and engagement in the Tampa area, the Federation component of our organization is committed to taking care of the needs of the Jewish people and building a vibrant Jewish future across Tampa, in Israel and around the world. Our Annual Campaign was chaired this past year by Lauren Jaffe.

Through the efforts of our Annual Campaign and the generous support of our community and corporate partners, the Tampa Jewish Federation is able to provide critical assistance to a significant number of agencies that apply for funding.

During the 2017-18 allocations process, beneficiary agencies met with the allocations committee, chaired by Debbie Taub, to review each organization's financial health, their critical needs and accomplishments over the course of the last year. Each agency discussed their core programs and services and overall impact within the community, which helped to further educate and enlighten the committee and representatives from other agencies in attendance.



Strength in Numbers

- **Total Financial Resource Development for the year came in at nearly \$2.4 million, which allowed the organization to maintain its allocation distributions at the same level and provide additional support to increasing supplemental programs.**
- Thanks to the generosity of nearly 1,400 donors to the annual campaign and supplemental programs.
- In Women's Philanthropy, over \$633,000 was raised from 576 donors, and nine new Lions of Judah were welcomed.
- The Young Adult Division raised over \$43,000 and engaged singles, couples, and families with continued high-quality programs.



Tampa Jewish Community Centers

The 2017-2018 year was a year of shift for the Bryan Glazer Family JCC; going from the place people come to see because it's new, to the center people expect to go to for great programming, social and corporate events and fitness. This year also saw continued improvements to the JCC on the Cohn Campus, most notably the opening of the Judy Cohn Plaza and Jack Roth Garden which were commemorated with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Israel Independence Day celebration in April.

The Tampa JCCs continue to expand upon its extensive health and fitness offerings. Members range from infants and toddlers to active older adults who participate in a variety of wellness programming daily. Group exercise at both locations continue to influence usage and community, with over 80 classes at the BGFJCC and almost 30 at the Cohn Campus. Adult basketball leagues have expanded, adding

in a 40+ league and recorded almost 120 participants this year. Yoga & Brunch has become a staple at the JCC on the Cohn Campus for all members.

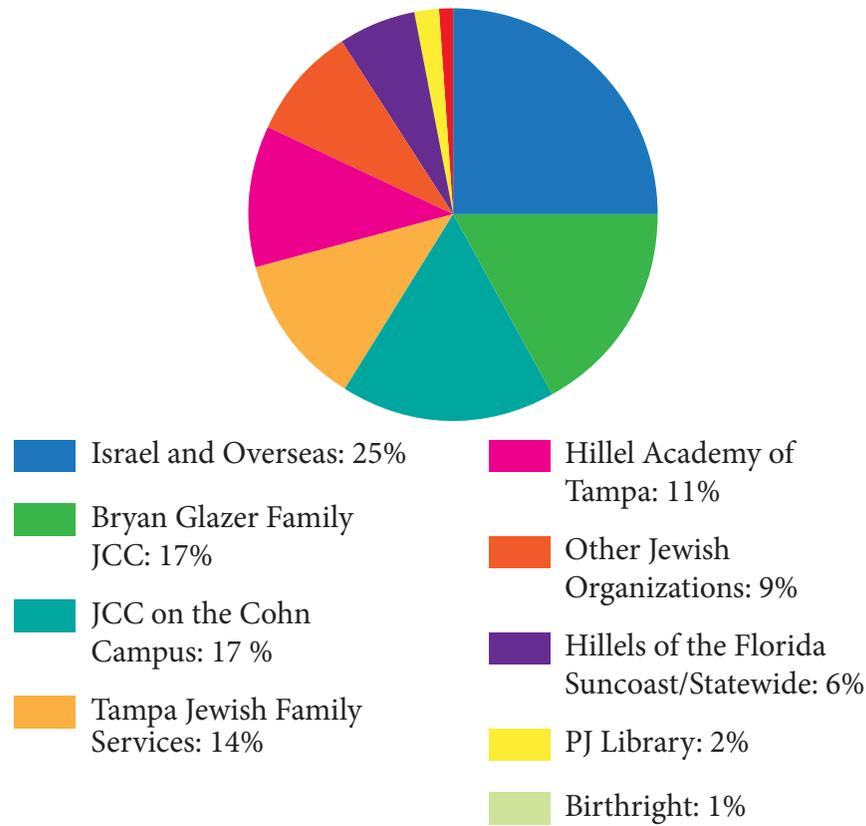
Our two JCCs had over 6,000 active members this past year.

We want the community to know how grateful we are for the hard work our staff dedicated to preparing our facilities as Hurricane Irma was looking like she was heading our way, and for quickly responding to get our doors re-opened for our members and preschool families. Many members used our Centers to enjoy the basics in life – running water, electricity and WiFi. We also opened quickly so those in need could come and collect the generous donations of food and supplies collected by the Tampa Jewish Federation and Tampa Jewish Family Services.

Beneficiary & Partner Agencies

- American Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)
- Birthright Israel
- Bryan Glazer Family JCC
- Ethiopian National Project (ENP)
- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)
- Hillel Academy of Tampa Bay
- Hillels of the Florida Suncoast
- Hillel Foundation Statewide
- Israel Trauma Coalition (ITC)
- JCC on the Cohn Campus
- Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI)
- Jewish Education Loan Fund (JELF)
- Tampa Jewish Family Services
- World ORT

Community Allocations 2017-18



Corporate Giving

During the 2017-18 year, over \$356,000 was raised from corporate partners by the Tampa Jewish Community Centers & Federation to support programs and activities.

Corporate sponsorships completely or partially funded the following programs:

- Annual President's Dinner
- Campaign Kickoff Event
- Cardozo/Montefiore Societies Event
- FIBA Innovation Fusion
- Golf Tournament
- Israel Independence Day Celebration
- Jewish Book Festival
- Maimonides Society Event
- PJ Library
- Professional Community Connection (PCC)
- Softball Tournament
- Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival
- Women of Distinction

Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a nationwide day of giving conceptualized to kickoff off the charitable season and end-of-year (tax year) giving. The Tampa Jewish Federation participated in this movement to promote charitable giving and celebrate philanthropy by hosting a phone-a-thon event and day of crowdfunding that raised just over \$100,000 for the Federation's Annual Campaign. Local lay leaders volunteered to make thousands of calls requesting the community's financial support to best serve the beneficiary agencies and partners of the Tampa JCCs and Federation.

Professional Societies

Cardozo and Montefiore Societies

The Cardozo Society is an honorary society for Jewish attorneys and other legal professionals in the Tampa Bay area. The society hosts programs featuring industry leaders and speakers to address Jewish and legal concerns and provide educational, leadership, social and networking opportunities for attorneys.

The Montefiore Society was newly created to augment the reach of the existing professional societies to provide an opportunity for community members to develop new professional relationships within the financial industry; including accountants, stockbrokers, bankers, financial planners and advisors, insurance brokers, investment consultants, wealth management advisors and others in financial services in the Tampa Bay area.

The Cardozo and Montefiore Societies hosted a joint event this past year in conjunction with the Jewish Federation of Pinellas and Pasco Counties. The event was sponsored by The Bank of Tampa and held at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC.

The Cardozo Leadership Award was presented to Barry Kanner of Pinellas and Sam Linsky was the Tampa recipient for the Montefiore Leadership Award. Both were honored for their outstanding commitment to Federation and the legal and financial community respectively. The event, chaired by Bonnie Wise and Hal Hershkowitz, included a panel discussion featuring local legal

and financial leaders on "Ethical Behavior Through a Jewish Lens: Contending with Economic, Social and Cultural Issues."

Maimonides Society

The Maimonides Society of Tampa is a fellowship of physicians and dentists and other health care professionals who seek to strengthen the bonds between themselves, Israel and the broader Jewish community.

Through this society, health care professionals are presented with a unique opportunity to network with their peers, while making a meaningful impact in our local and global communities through their involvement and financial contribution to the Tampa JCCs and Federation.

This past year, the Maimonides Society event was chaired by Dr. Stephen Kreitzer who honored Dr. Ron Pross with the Tampa Maimonides Leadership Award for his extensive involvements within the Jewish and medical communities. Dr. Charles Lockwood, Senior Vice President of USF and the Dean of USF Health Morsani College of Medicine gave an insightful presentation on how the Water Street Project in Channelside will revolutionize the medical field locally.

This event was generously sponsored by Valley National Bank.

The objective of each society is to support the activities of the Federation, assisting to maximize Federation gifts to preserve and enhance Jewish life in Tampa, the U.S. and worldwide.

Membership is open to any legal professional (Cardozo), financial professional (Montefiore), or medical professional (Maimonides), who contributes a minimum gift of \$1,000 to the Annual Campaign. Professionals age 35 and under must contribute a minimum of \$360 to the Annual Campaign. Events sponsored by the societies are open to all community members and their guests.

Community Leadership Awards

The Community Leadership Awards recognized and honored those who have and continue to dedicate their time, talents and efforts to advance the mission of our organization and the mission of other local Jewish community agencies. Recipients embody the principles of tikkun olam and commitment to enriching the continuity of Jewish life locally and worldwide.

The 2017-2018 Award Recipients included:

Leo Levinson Award for Leadership Excellence - Rochelle Walk
 The Bob Jacobson Memorial Award for Excellence - Judy Balber
 The Hope Cohen Barnett Young Leadership Award - Ashley Simon
 The Charles Adler Young Leadership Award - Kip Goulder
 Leonore Kessler Women's Division Leadership Excellence Award - Betty Shalett
 Steve Marx Innovation Award - The Hillel Academy MakerLab
 Alice Rosenthal "It's More Than Just a Job" Award - Pam Levenstone
 Maril Jacobs Todah Rabah Award - Detective Charlie George

In addition, community members were honored for their involvement within various local Jewish agencies including: the Hillel Academy Outstanding Service Award to the Hatfield Family; the Hillels of the Florida Suncoast Appreciation Award recipient was Jim Annarelli; Debbie Doliner was named the Tampa Jewish Family Services Sofia Maisler Leadership Award recipient; Dr. Abe Marcadis was the recipient of the Tampa Orlando Pinellas Jewish Foundation Distinguished Trustee Award and the Weinberg Village Volunteer Service Award was given to Jerome Messerman.

Campaign Kickoff

The Campaign Kickoff officially begins the Annual Campaign of the Tampa Jewish Federation to raise vital funds to support an abundance of dynamic programs and services. This past year's event was chaired by Laureen Jaffe, 2018 Campaign Chair. Renowned speaker and Rabbi, David Wolpe spoke on the topic of "What Judaism Has to Teach the World" at this year's event on Thursday, November 2nd at Congregation Schaarai Zedek. In addition to Wolpe's presentation, the program included a community appeal and was followed by a decorative dessert reception.

Professional Community Connection (PCC)

Professional Community Connection is a quarterly program designed to foster the development of networks and relationships between Jewish professionals and businesses in the Tampa Bay area. PCC provides a platform for Jewish business people to make new connections with the hope that it will lead to increased business opportunities, increased business professional involvement within the Jewish community and the Jewish Federation and raise awareness and understanding of the Tampa Jewish Federation. Three networking events were hosted this past year, engaging hundreds of professionals from a variety of industries.

Women's Philanthropy

Lion of Judah

The Lion of Judah Society is comprised of women who contribute \$5,000 or more to Federation's Annual Campaign. The Lion of Judah is a symbol of a Jewish woman's strength, a symbol of her caring about the organized Jewish world and a symbol of her financial commitment to repairing the world.

Bobbe Karpay Women of Distinction

The Bobbe Karpay (z"l) Women of Distinction Program bears Bobbe's name to honor and inspire women of the Tampa Jewish community to see the simple elements of the community and make life distinctively better. Each honoree exemplifies Jewish values and commitment to their organizations and the Jewish community.

Twenty women were honored this past year from Jewish organizations throughout Hillsborough County including: Deborah Barnes, Lynn Chernin, Denise Freedman, Maxine Gourse, Andrea Holper, Sara Ingber, Stacy Leeds, Alicia LeVine, Rachel Levy, Ricki Lewis, Beth Morris, Andi Parker, Kristin Schmidt, Talia Shuman, Vikki Silverman, Sheila Slavkin, Joanne Sudman, Bonnie Wise, Jan Wuliger, and Sandra Zians.

Following the presentation of awards, the evening featured a keynote address by an inspirational speaker and author, Amy Silverstein who told a beautiful story of how women rise up with the best, most giving of intentions, and care for others in times of need.

Annual President's Dinner

The Annual President's Dinner is our organization's premier event held to toast the vibrancy and success of our Jewish Federation. Bringing together community and civic leaders, this event is evidence of our community's shared commitment to tikkun olam (making the world a better place). Sue Schoenbaum was the recipient of our most prestigious honor, the Tikkun Olam Award. The Annual President's Dinner has celebrated fifteen years of tradition bringing prominent and nationally recognized speakers to address our community on the most pressing issues facing the Jewish people today.

The 15th Annual President's Dinner was chaired by Carol Jaffe and David Rosenbach and the evening's guest speaker was Dr. Frank Luntz. Dr. Luntz is considered to be one of the most honored communication professionals in America today and spoke on the most current of topics, "Combatting Anti-Semitism".

This year's dinner was held at the Bryan Glazer Family JCC and reached maximum capacity with just under 600 individuals in attendance and the event raised over \$250,000 towards the Federation's annual campaign.



Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC)

The Jewish Community Relations Council, under the strong leadership of Jonathan Ellis, continued to work to create consensus and lead advocacy efforts in the organized Jewish community, ensuring that our voices are amplified and heard. We build bridges with other faith, interest and ethnic based groups that share our passion for social justice, forging relationships based on the issues our community cares about most. Over the last year we have continued to cultivate our relationship with the Muslim community and have expanded our outreach efforts with the Turkish and African American communities.

The JCRC, with the direction of the Jewish Council of Public Affairs (JCPA), Israel Action Network (IAN) and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), is committed to monitoring and responding to anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activity within our local community. We provide financial support and guidance to the Hillels of the Florida Suncoast to effectively combat the BDS movement (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) on the USF Campus. By virtue of our allocation to Hillel, they are successfully mitigating a contentious climate through positive messaging on social media and through various social engagements with students of all faiths.

Young Adult Engagement Initiatives

This year, the Tampa JCCs & Federation introduced two initiatives to provide young adults an opportunity to get more connected to the community. In the Fall, we rolled out #Gather, a mix of social, interactive and hands-on activities designed to help young adults connect with friends, meet new people and make authentic connections. We offered more than 20 experiences throughout the year, including a Wiffleball tournament, an improv comedy workshop, game night, art classes, a BBQ and a poolside happy hour at the Bryan Glazer Family

JCC. #Gather is open to young adults ages 20s, 30s & 40s of all faiths and backgrounds.

We also introduced IMPACT. IMPACT is a community of young adults who share a commitment and passion for tikkun olam (repairing the world) and building a strong Jewish community with the Federation. IMPACT focuses on leadership training, volunteer and mentorship opportunities, and philanthropic projects. This year, IMPACT offered a wide variety of programming, including: the Jewish Leadership

Training Institute, a leadership development program for emerging leaders; a Birthright Israel Beach Bash, bringing together 18 years of Birthright participants from the Tampa Bay area; Cocktails with IMPACT, an exclusive get-together for young adults to learn more about the Jewish Federation from passionate community leaders; Newcomers Nosh, an event to welcome newcomers to the Tampa area; and the annual Vodka Latke, with more than 150 singles and couples gathering on December 24th.

We introduced many young adults to the Florida-Israel Business Accelerator through a bi-monthly initiative, “Meeting of the Minds,” to facilitate connections between young professionals and FIBA’s cohort of entrepreneurs. More than 125 young professionals have joined the initiative and have attended these interactive discussions to meet, help open doors, mentor and support the Israeli entrepreneurs who are working to grow their businesses in the United States.

National Young Leadership Summer Mission to Israel

Jewish Leadership Training Institute graduate Luy Teitelroit participated in the 2018 National Young Leadership Summer Mission to Israel with Jewish Federations of North America. Along with 70 other young adults from across the United States and Canada who are passionate about tikkun olam (repairing the world) and building Jewish community with other emerging young adult Federation leaders, Luy visited sites throughout Israel that have been directly impacted by the support and generosity of the Jewish Federations of North America, including the Tampa Jewish Federation. Luy’s first trip to Israel, which was subsidized by the Tampa Jewish Federation, made a deep and lasting impact on him personally.

When we asked Luy to tell us about his trip, he stated, “The NYL mission was instrumental in exposing me to the Federation’s work in Eretz Yisrael. While learning more about the programs first-hand left me with a sense of pride, it was being there and meeting the workers and beneficiaries that had the greatest impact on me. The memories created on this trip will last a life time.”

Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA)

The Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA) project continues to be one of the most exciting and innovative initiatives in the history of the Tampa JCCs and Federation. Housed within the Bryan Glazer Family JCC, FIBA seeks to engage a broad spectrum of interest and engagement from among both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

Specifically, FIBA is an innovative business development and community engagement program, which operates as a conduit for Israeli entrepreneurs to open a Tampa Bay based (US) headquarter responsible for sales, marketing, tech support, and customer service for their products and/or innovations for the North American market. The program’s mission is three-fold: first, to foster economic growth and stimulate innovation within the expanding business ecosystem in Tampa Bay by attracting high-growth Israeli tech ventures and facilitating their launch and expansion.

The second part of the mission is to engage the entire spectrum of the Tampa Jewish community including high school and college-age students as interns and budding entrepreneurs, millennials – young professionals

– adult professionals and serial entrepreneurs as mentors and potential investors, and seniors for mentoring, investing and other coaching services. In doing so, it is our hope that all of Tampa Bay will be exposed to one of Israel’s most renowned commodities – disruptive and life changing technological innovations – and will be better positioned to learn more about Israel and help combat the rising tide of anti-Semitism and disinformation emerging within the BDS movement, as well as the many misconceptions regarding Israel so often put forward in the media and on college campuses.

The final part of the mission is to potentially generate revenue for the Tampa JCCs and Federation to assist the organization in achieving other goals.

During the 2016-17 program/fiscal year FIBA operated on a \$1,000,000 grant from the State of Florida and some private contributions. During its first year, FIBA selected eight Israeli companies to participate in the first cohort of the FIBA program. The JCCs and Federation received equity in five of the companies and a percentage of sales revenue in all eight.



For 2017-18 fiscal year, FIBA received a \$400,000 grant from the State of Florida and a \$100,000 grant from Hillsborough County. FIBA also secured additional revenue from corporate sponsorships, individual donations, ticket sales for FIBA-sponsored events, and sales revenue from FIBA companies. In its second year, FIBA welcomed an additional eight Israeli companies to participate in the FIBA program and continued to work with a number of the companies from the first cohort in an effort to generate revenue and encourage the companies to establish a permanent physical presence in the Tampa Bay area.

During the past year, FIBA realized a number of successes. Among these successes, six of the companies have either created jobs in Florida or are actively recruiting talent in Florida. Over half of FIBA companies have concluded or are in the process of closing

their first pilot or proof of concept here in the Tampa Bay area. FIBA also held the second annual Innovation Fusion, featuring keynote speakers from two Israeli stand out companies, Waze and Wix. FIBA had approximately 500 attendees register for this incredible event. At Innovation Fusion, FIBA announced a partnership with Florida Funders which will allow FIBA to utilize Florida Funders’ innovative crowdfunding platform to share investment opportunities in FIBA companies with the community at large.

For 2018-2019 fiscal year, FIBA received a \$750,000 grant from the State of Florida and a \$100,000 grant from Hillsborough County. FIBA plans to sustain operations going forward by generating revenue from a number of different sources including a share of company-generated revenue, corporate sponsorships, private donations, events and other grants.

We value all of our donors for their generosity and support. Our donors make it possible for us to deliver hope, dignity and comfort to millions of people in Tampa, Israel and 70 countries around the world. Your generosity improves our world, one community, one family, one person at a time.

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Thank you to all that have made the Bryan Glazer Family JCC a reality. Donors that have made a minimum gift of \$25,000 to the Bryan Glazer Family JCC Capital Campaign are recognized below, in addition to donors that have made donations (of varying monetary amounts) to the Bryan Glazer Family JCC during our 2018 campaign year*.

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\$4,000,000

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JCC Preschools

The Tampa Jewish Community Centers and Federation Preschool provides the first steps into Jewish learning and community-building for many young families. At both the north and south locations, the Tampa JCC Preschool had another successful year, continuing a tradition of excellence highlighted by innovative programming. Both preschool branches are recognized nationally (NAC accreditation) and locally (Quality Counts for Kids). The JCC Preschool welcomed approximately 350 children in 2017-2018. This year, we opened an infant room at the JCC Preschool North Branch. We quickly filled the class and now have infants on a wait list.

Problem-solving and inquiry are the cornerstone of the Tampa JCC Preschool curriculum. There is a balance between individualized attention and learning cooperatively within a community. Children explore early literacy, math, social studies, science and fine arts in ways that are meaningful to them so that they can make connections to the world around them and form deeper understandings of concepts and relationships. Learning opportunities surround the children, from the intentional design of the classroom to the activities explored on the playground. Children learn values and character development through a Jewish lens, while embracing and welcoming the diversity of our community. Families are invited to attend our Shabbat and other holiday celebrations; this school-to-home connection is a powerful component of our preschool. In addition to the strong academic foundation, the JCC Preschool is a warm, nurturing, supportive community. From the caring, dedicated teachers to the amazing, active parents, the JCC Preschool is a welcoming place for all families. The JCC Preschool is the place to be for a great early childhood education, Jewish learning, and long-lasting relationships.



Camp J

Camp J at Bryan Glazer Family JCC

Camp J at the BGFJCC added an entering K – 1 grade camp, Keff, to the multitude of incredible specialty camps this summer. In Keff, campers enjoy specials throughout the week including music with our Israeli Schlichim, art and movement. Keff campers enjoy an instructional swim block as well as a free swim period each morning. We averaged 60 campers per week this summer, a 60% increase over last summer. We also added a tenth week of camp for non-public school children to accommodate their need for an extended summer experience.

Camp J on the Cohn Campus

In 2018, Camp J welcomed 346 campers and CITs over nine weeks for an unrivaled day camp experience on our beautiful 30+ acre campus.

This summer was filled with new encounters and adventures. Camp J added Rishon to “big camp.” Children entering kindergarten were able to be part of an authentic camp day experience within the safety of a nurturing group of their own. Eleven acres on the north side of the main campus was transformed into an amazing grass area where campers had the opportunity to participate in a variety of team building activities such as croquet, horse shoes and badminton for a traditional camp connection. Our lake front now has a beach entrance for boating experiences and a shaded pavilion to enjoy our nature and music activities. Each day campers enjoyed daily morning flag ceremonies with the Israeli and American flags, rock climbing, zip line, swimming, archery, arts & crafts, as well as playing Gaga (the Israeli version of dodge ball). Each week campers participated in activities that incorporated nine different values such as ruach (spirit), kaliah (community) and kavod (respect). In addition to numerous field trips, campers in grades 3-8 participated in overnights at the JCC, while 1st and 2nd graders stayed for “undernights,” extending their day until after dark.

NEW this summer! We had a combined orientation for all staff at both camps. Staff from both BGFJCC and the Cohn Campus came together for an intense orientation where the counselors learned all about Camp J and bonded with each other throughout the training. All our counselors consistently create a welcoming environment for all campers each and every day. Camp J campers enjoyed daily swimming, specialty activities and their free time in J Loft playing games. Our goal is for every child to have a meaningful experience at Camp J.

Club J Afternoon Enrichment Program

Our 2017-18 Club J after school program welcomed 44 children, grades K-5, to the JCC on the Cohn Campus. The program staff picked up the children at eight school locations throughout Hillsborough County and transported them to the Cohn Campus for afterschool programming. Their time included homework, study time, dance, soccer, yoga, art, engineering, football, culinary creations, Shabbat, holiday celebrations and much more. The program also included family participation in various events such as parent vs. children kickball games and a fitness challenge. The year culminated with an awards assembly and talent show.

PJ Library

Through the generosity of our continued partnership with PNC Bank and the ongoing support from the Tampa Jewish Community Centers & Federation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, the Tampa JCCs have participated in the nationally recognized and award winning program, PJ Library.

PJ Library provides a free book or CD that is mailed monthly to families with children ages six months through eight years. Learning programs include story time with PJ books, music and activities highlighting Jewish values that include unconditional love, comfort and the expression of gratitude. This past year the program enrolled and renewed over 100 children and serves 752 children in the Tampa area.

Due to an over 50% enrollment increase in the last two years, we have nearly doubled our program opportunities for the community. In addition to holding monthly programs, PJ Playdates now attract 30-40 PJ families at each gathering. The most memorable events of the season were the Hanukkah Hop, Challah Twisting and PJ Library Loves Disco! The signature event of the year, the family LEGO Build, had over 100 people that came together to build the city of Jerusalem out of LEGO blocks, including the Kotel, David's Tower, the gates going into the Old City and 80 buildings – all in a 400 square foot model in the gymnasium at Bryan Glazer Family JCC.

PJ Our Way

PJ Our Way is the next chapter of PJ Library, for kids ages nine to 11. This program is also offered by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and is supported by the Tampa JCCs and Federation. Rather than receiving a specific book in the mail, children enrolled in PJ Our Way can go online every month and select the book they want to receive.

There is also an interactive element to the program and kids may share feedback by taking polls, participating in quizzes, partake in monthly interviews and challenges, and comment on blog posts. With an enrollment of over 175 children and tweens, the program is rapidly expanding and seeks to engage new families in the coming year.



Bryan Glazer Family JCC Event Center

The Event Center continues to be one of the premier venues in Tampa. This year our venue hosted over 215 non-JCC events including weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, multi-day corporate conferences, sporting events, and nonprofit galas. Several of the nonprofit fundraisers we hosted raised more money this year than any other year in their history. We are proud to be part of their success. The Sales and Event Coordination team are dedicated to booking and carrying out our wonderful events. We love seeing our many repeat clients! Our kitchen works hard to deliver delicious food and takes pride in creating custom menus for our clients. As an organization we are committed to providing programs to our members and their guests, and as a result we use the event center and surrounding spaces an average of ten times per week. From ladies playing Mah Jongg to Movie Night to PJ Library events, people of all ages are at BGFJCC on a daily basis.

Teens

BBYO is a teen-led program, supervised by the Teen & Youth Department of the Bryan Glazer Family JCC, that is reaching Jewish teens in St. Petersburg, Tampa, Lakeland and everywhere in between. BBYO has officially received a charter for the BBG (girls) chapter in Tampa and the AZA (boys) chapter should receive their charter in the Fall of 2018. The Tampa chapters are offering Judaic, social, athletic and other educational programs for Jewish teens in the area. We look forward to the continued growth of our Tampa BBYO program.

The JCC Maccabi Games will now be an integral part of our teen programming at the Tampa JCCs. Jewish teens ages 13-16 have the opportunity to participate in an Olympic-style sporting competition held every summer with over 750 Jewish athletes from around the nation and the world. We are thrilled to have eight athletes representing us at the games in August in California.

12th Annual Softball Tournament

More than 200 people from across Tampa Bay formed eight community softball teams to compete at our 12th annual JCCs softball tournament. Teams included the Hebrew Hammers to the Beth Am Swinging Stars of David. Everyone enjoyed a good-spirited day of play at the Ed Radice Complex. After a very exciting playoff game, the Edwin Taylor Corporation team took home the first-prize trophy and the JCC Team (Tampa JCC Sluggers) came in second place.

Health & Wellness

The Tampa JCCs continue to expand upon its extensive health and fitness offerings. Members, ranging from toddlers and infants to active older adults, participate in a variety of wellness programming daily. Group exercise at both locations continue to greatly influence usage, with over 80 classes at the BGFJCC and almost 30 at the Cohn Campus. Adult basketball leagues have expanded, adding a 40+ league with almost 120 participants this year. The Mezrah Family Aquatic Center has continued to expand their offerings with new programs such as Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) and Youth Triathlon Club in-addition to tripling attendance in Developmental Swim Team. Yoga & Brunch has become a staple at the JCC on the Cohn Campus. Members continue to enjoy the community atmosphere and personal touch they receive with all fitness offerings, from personal training and Pilates Reformer to childcare and massage therapy.

Active Adults

This past year we introduced two new programs that have blossomed into vibrant hubs of involvement with the JCC for dozens of members of the community.

Active Adults Men's Club

The Active Adults Men's Club began as a request from a few JCC members to provide an opportunity for men to get together and socialize. It has grown into an energetic group with over 40 men gathering twice a month to socialize and have a good time. In addition to the meetings, which often include a guest speaker, the group also explored outside activities such as trips to the Rays baseball games, touring the Holocaust Museum and volunteering on Earth Day at EcoFest.

JCC Plugged-In

JCC Plugged-In tech meet-up is a setting where active adults can bring questions about their tech devices and applications that they wish to learn more about from tech-savvy professionals. JCC Plugged-In has offered a series of successful workshops, thanks to a group of young tech professionals who generously

volunteer their time and expertise.

Along with the new programs, we continued to grow our existing program offerings. Including the Rabbi's Lunch & Learn series, Arts About Town excursions (with trips to the Straz Center, the Holocaust Museum, Nielsen Media Center, John's Pass Dolphin Adventure), Movie Matinees and History Lecture series. Other offerings that the community continues to enjoy include the Phyllis Borell Jetsetters Program, News Talk, Bridge, Mah Jongg, Crochet and Biblical Literature. We have also continued our strong partnership with the USF Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Continuing Education.

Parkinson's Wellness Initiative

This past year, the number of participants in the Parkinson's Wellness Initiative grew by over 50%. The Wellness Initiative is a partnership between the Tampa JCCs and the University of South Florida Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center. This program is designed to offer hope, build community and expand opportunities to improve the quality of life for

individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their families.

The program includes group exercise classes, Tai Chi, Stretch and Strengthen, Water and Movement, Nia, and Cycling, all of which are designed specifically for people affected by Parkinson's and are led by experienced, Parkinson's trained staff. Rock Steady Boxing was also added this year, which is a non-contact boxing program that can reduce symptoms and help people feel and function better.

The program also offers a patient support group and a caregiver support group, both of which are led by a licensed social worker. In addition to daily programs, there are quarterly Lunch & Learns as well as an end-of-year Community Educational Event. This year we hosted a Poolside Mixer, to the delight of all those who attended. Over 50 people had a chance to relax at the Mezrah Family Aquatic Center while socializing and learning about the variety of resources available at the Tampa JCCs.

Tampa JCC Golf Tournament

The Tampa JCCs held its 7th annual golf tournament presented by TTS Outdoors Landscaping and Irrigation at the West Chase Golf Club. A shot gun start led 52 golfers off to a wonderful day on the greens. A Bloody Mary continental breakfast and buffet dinner were provided by Weinberg Village Assisted Living Catering. Our first place tournament winners were Robert Hopper, Michael DeSeta, Gary Jeffers and Tom Conley with an incredible score of 57. All players enjoyed a wonderful day of golf and many went home with great raffle items!

Cultural Arts Programs

The Cultural Arts Division rolled out a plethora of classes, workshops and entertaining experiences for the community and members to engage in.

Programs included:

Culinary Experience - Cooking with Chef Jim was a sold out crowd pleaser.

Adult Acting and Improvisation classes were fun and filled with creators.

ENCORE Movie Nights allowed members to see what they possibly missed at the Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival.

Reader's Theater and the Bryan Glazer Family JCC Book Club had guests thinking way out of the box.

Classes are open to the community and to members of the JCCs at a discounted rate.

Israel Independence Day Community Festival

Approximately 600 people attended this year's annual Israel Independence Day celebration at the JCC on the Cohn Campus. Tampa's celebration theme *Israel @70* offered activities over the seven days leading up to the celebration.

We showcased a multitude of experiences that included: Israeli food, a SKYPE session with award winning Israeli Randy Susan Meyers and Israeli music that played all afternoon spun by DJ John Wendleken. Attendees also had the opportunity to watch a Film Festival movie, *Israeli Cuisine*, create Israeli crafts, enjoy carnival rides, an Israeli wine tasting and bounce the afternoon away.

The 22nd Annual Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival

The Tampa JCCs & Federation and the Jewish Federation of Pinellas & Pasco Counties were thrilled to announce that the 22nd Annual Tampa Bay Jewish Film Festival (TBJFF) was featured as a partner with the Suncoast Federal Credit Union Gasparilla International Film Festival (GIFF). The inaugural partnership brought the broader community together as a showcase for feature films and documentaries from around the world on themes of Jewish culture and identity.

This year's festival included events paired with many of the films to create an enhanced experience, inspire dialog and provide meaningful moments of community engagement. TBJFF opened with the award winning film, *BYE BYE GERMANY*. This film was screened across US and internationally in over 50 film festivals and Tampa with a packed house of nearly 400 guests.

Other films featured in the program packed festival included:

HEATHER BOOTH: *CHANGING THE WORLD*, *LONGING*, SAMMY DAVIS JR.: *I'VE GOTTA BE ME*, *THE LAST SUIT*, BOMBSHELL: *THE HEDY LAMARR STORY*, *AND THEN SHE ARRIVED*, *THE CAKEMAKER*, *BUDAPEST NOIR*, *THE TESTAMENT*, *IN BETWEEN*, *AN ISRAELI LOVE STORY*, *SCANDAL IN IVANSK*, *DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS*, *ITZHAK*, *The SIGNATURE FAMILY & COMMUNITY FESTIVAL* *EVENT HEADING HOME: THE TALE OF TEAM ISRAEL*.

The festival finished up with award winning documentary and committee choice award recipient; *THE PEOPLE VS. FRITZ BAUER*. The closing night program was in partnership with the Florida Holocaust Museum.

Many of the films sold out this year. The increased moviegoers this 22nd season was due in part to the powerful marketing message about the collaboration between TBJFF and GIFF. Over 2300 tickets were purchased during the one-week festival, including events and talent/director talkbacks that were filled with in-depth conversation.

Holocaust Education For Schools

The Holocaust Education for Schools (HEFS) program was brought to community schools. Students at these schools embarked on an engaging and memorable in-school field trip to learn about the Holocaust, and hear a personal Holocaust survivor story from guest speaker and educator, Etta Donnell. During the program, Etta told stories, shared photographs, and posed questions that helped the students relate to her experiences while driving home important points about our history. After the presentation, students had opportunities to ask questions directed to the guest speaker. At one of these schools, the teacher who organized the presentation shared her gratitude: *"The students loved her presentation, and it was very meaningful to many of them. The timing, in the middle of our Anne Frank unit, was very powerful for them, and any year she would like to return, we would love to have her."*



Jewish Festival of Books and Conversations

The Tampa Jewish Community Centers & Federation, in partnership with The Gemunder Family Foundation, celebrated its annual Jewish Book Festival in the fall of 2017 with a series of community events designed to inspire and intrigue. Over 500 guests enjoyed the festival, which ran for one week. The Tampa JCCs and Federation is a member of the National Jewish Book Council, connecting our community with hundreds of Jewish authors who write on topics ranging from parenting to politics.

Tampa's Festival of Jewish Books & Conversations opened with an evening featuring author Stephen Tobolowsky, *My Adventures With God*. A quintessential character actor, Tobolowsky has appeared in over 100 movies and 200 TV shows, including unforgettable roles in *Mississippi Burning*, *Groundhog Day* and *Glee*. He turned the lens on himself when he debuted a serial podcast of personal stories, *The Tobolowsky Files*, which became a cult phenomenon. The festival continued on featuring the following guest Authors:

- Stephanie Arnold, *37 Seconds*, *Dying Revealed Heaven's Help*, *A Mother's Journey*
- Iris Ruth Pastor, *Tales of a Bulimic Babe – Simple Wisdom to Live the Life You Crave*
- Peter Gethers, *My Mother's Kitchen – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and the Meaning of Life*
- Scott Wachtler, *True Crime Experience*
- Donnie Kanter Winokur, *Chancer: How One Good Boy Saved Another – A Memoir of Family, Hope and a Service Dog*
- Author Bill Sefekar, *American Dreamer: A Look Into the Life of My Father, Joe Baby*
- Glenn Frankel, *High Noon*, *The Hollywood Blacklist and the Making of An American Classic*

The Jewish Book Festival continued its Books & Conversations with a series of book discussion/wine-tasting Sip & Skype programs in 2018.

- Lauren Belfer, *And After the Fire*
- Pam Jenoff, *The Orphan's Tale*
- Anita Mishook, *Helen*
- Randy Susan Meyers, *The Widow of Wall Street*