Help get the message out

By Brian Simon, Federation President

Each fall, the Federation board meets for a retreat. It’s an opportunity to plan for the year ahead and have longer discussions about what we do.

This year, we discussed three big-picture issues: programming, fundraising and messaging. The discussions were lively and productive. My first thought coming out of the retreat was, “That was wonderful!” My next thought was, “Man, we’ve got a lot of work to do!”

One of the interesting themes that came out of the discussions was how much messaging affects programming and fundraising. By messaging, I mean the way people hear (or don’t hear) about what we’re doing. In other words, our job is not only to put on great programs but also to make sure everyone in the community knows about them. My perception is that our programming is great, and not enough people know that.

L’CHAYIM is our main form of communication. We also have a very good website, and we’re growing our social media presence (please like us on Facebook!). We will continue to try to reach more of the Jewish community on a more consistent basis. A really important part of that is through word of mouth. The next time you’re planning to come to a Jewish Federation event, please invite a friend.

Come to the Community Breakfast in December. Bring a friend. Know someone who is new to Southwest Florida? Invite them to meet others in our community.

We’re aware that the world has changed. People don’t support an organization just because they’ve done it in the past. They support organizations that believe what they believe.

We believe that we can do good work to do!”

And the Jewish Federation believes that our community deserves the best programming and social services that we can provide.

The fourth quarter is also a period during which many of our long-time and prospective supporters respond to the needs of the Federation. All one has to do is look over this publication to appreciate the full scope of what we do and whom we serve. During the following months, if you have not made your pledge already, you will be approached for your 2018 pledge to support our programming and services. Please respond as generously as you can.

A reminder: Starting after age 70½, traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) holders must take Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from their IRAs. Holders can use the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) – associated with the Required Minimum Distribution – to efficiently contribute money to the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties.

This strategy will exempt the QCD from taxation, thereby reducing the donor’s Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). Because the AGI number is the one used for many tax calculations, having a lower number may allow the donor to stay in a lower tax bracket, reduce or eliminate the taxation of Social Security or other income, and remain eligible for deductions and credits that might be lost if the taxpayer had to declare the RMD amount as income.

Please consult your tax advisor to establish whether you are eligible to take advantage of this strategy.

Have an item you’d like to share? Need to reach the editor of L’CHAYIM? Send an email to LChayim36@gmail.com.

The fourth quarter

By Alan Isaacs, Federation’s Senior Executive Director

The fourth quarter of the Jewish Federation’s financial and budget year also marks the last 90 days of our 2018 Annual Campaign. The last three months of the year is a period during which the leadership and staff of the Federation reflect on what we have been able to accomplish during the year, and what it will take to raise the quality of our programs and services and increase our relevance.

As Brian Simon, our president, states in his article this month, “People don’t support an organization like the Federation just because they’ve done it in the past. They support organizations that believe what they believe.”

And the Jewish Federation believes that our community deserves to reach more of the Jewish community. Our vision is a Jewish community that’s based on Jewish values, such as tikkun olam (healing the world), t’khin olam (repairing the world), and kedusha Yisrael (taking responsibility for one another).

We’re doing good work. We have a lot more work to do. We appreciate your support.”

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Have an item you’d like to share? Need to reach the editor of L’CHAYIM? Send an email to LChayim36@gmail.com.
Program notes
By Debbie Sanford, Program Director

The Jewish Federation of Southwest Florida will begin on Sunday, January 13 with our opening day event. Films will be shown every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 7:15 p.m. through February 12. We will once again be at the Regal Bellower Stadium 20 in Fort Myers.

Joining us opening night, the film, *The Graduate*, on Sunday, January 13 is special guest, au-thor Bette Midler. Her novel, *Bette Midler* by Mrs. Rabin-son, celebrates the golden anniversary of the film with a spirited account of how it all came together and why its legacy endures.

MARCIA CAN HELP fund update
By Jodi Cohen, Senior Outreach & Food Pantry Coordinator

What’s true is that no one ever schedules an emergency on the calendar of his or her life. Things happen - illness, weather, ac-cidents – and then we do the best we can to respond, react and move forward, although not everyone has the available resources to do so.

In the 16 months that I’ve been working for Jewish Family Services, the calls from people in Lee and Charlotte counties requesting financial assistance have steadily increased. In September, an elderly couple called asking for any assistance we could pro-vide to help pay one of five bills that were due. The husband is recovering from cancer surgery and their medical bills have been steep. Another client, who is a food server on Fort Myers Beach, hardly worked this summer due to the red tide situation and asked for help paying part of her utilities bill. A veteran called asking for help with rent, due to a hefty increase that came along with a change in ownership of his apart-ment building. The calls come in, as can be expected, every day.

In September 2017, Jack Cohen and the Jewish Federation founded the MARCIA CAN HELP fund as a tribute to his late wife Marcia, as well as a way to continue supporting the Federation and Jewish Family Services' ability to assist the neediest in our community. The fund provides crisis grants to pre-vent utility cut-offs, evictions, loss of transportation, and other essential services without which none of us can live.

Through your generous donations to the MARCIA CAN HELP fund, the Federation is able to con-continue assisting people like this. I was talking to a client on the phone a few weeks ago, letting her know we would pay her utility bill that month, when she became very quiet. At first, I thought we’d gotten disconnected because of the silence, only to realize that she was overcome with emotion and was unable to speak for a few moments. The Federation’s ability to help people in difficult times provides relief at so many levels, and the grati-tude of those who are able to serve is palpable.

Marcia Cohen was an example for all of us. Jack is continuing the tradition. Please join us.
A huge heartfelt “thank you” to everyone who donated to the food pantry as part of the High Holy Days food drive. It does indeed take a village and you should all be proud of our community’s response to the call for donations to provide food for those in need, including two people who read about the woman who didn’t have enough gas to get to the Federation and offered to drive any client who might be in that situation in the future.

We are especially grateful to Temple Beth El for the gift cards, checks and all of the food delivered by Fabian Ruiz, Russ Bogen, Laurie Morris and Barbara Grbin; to Rabbi Sack for delivering Temple Judea donations; and to Ruthie and Barry Belkin and Sharon Berry for Temple Beth Shalom donations.

We now have 11 food pantry volunteers: Judith Yevick, Carolyn Gora, Barbara Grbin, Donna Cotler, Suzanne Orkin, Karen Whitman, Laurie Morris, Laurie McConnville, Susan Cohen, Lois Jacobson and Larry Epstein. It took quite a few days to organize all of the food donated and I am grateful to Judith, Barbara, Suzanne and both of the Lauries for their muscle, dedication and hard work.

The Federation is required to provide a monthly summary of those we serve to the Harry Chapin Food Bank (HCBF). In September we helped 12 households for a total of 53 people, 29 of whom were children under the age of 18. For the most part, we were able to provide one bag of food per person, per household. Consider that each bag of food contains the main staples of two cans of beans and vegetables each, one box of pasta, one jar of sauce, two cans of meat, one bag of rice and one jar of peanut butter. Multiply each item listed above by 53 to understand how quickly our inventory flies off the shelf.

I am getting to know our regular food pantry clients who come each month, including Miss B. who picks up food for a household of six and is being treated for leukemia and Mr. C. who has a household of eight and had two deaths in his family last month.

I met Miss K. two months ago when she came in to get food for her family of four. She shared part of her story, telling me that both she and her husband are on disability. I offered her a Publix gift card, she just started crying. I’m educating clients about the HCBF mobile food pantry, which travels to five different counties and has fresh food. I told one client when the mobile pantry would be in her area and she said, “Oh wow...oh wow.”

Besides our regular clients, there are people who need food in emergency situations, like the sisters who called, came in during a downpour, and needed food for 13 people, or the pregnant woman with three children who needed help.

The Federation goes to the Midwest Food Bank - Florida Division (MFB) on the first Tuesday of every month to pick up free food for the pantry. All of the MFB food is donated and ranges from crackers to juice boxes to hair conditioner. Federation volunteer Larry Epstein meets me there every month and drives his roomy seven-seat car right into the warehouse where the MFB volunteers load all of the items I’ve selected for the Federation food pantry right into Larry’s car. We drive back to the Federation and Larry helps me unload and organize the food.

Our small food pantry is stocked and run by so many of you. Your thoughtfulness and generosity enable the Federation to provide a resource that is so desperately needed.

Food pantry update
By Jodi Cohen, Senior Outreach & Food Pantry Coordinator

The Alliance for the Arts
Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties

UPCOMING FEDERATION EVENTS 2018/19

NOV, 14 - Pacesetters/Major Gifts - An Evening with Alon Ben-Gurion, grandson of the late Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.
DEC, 9 - Community Breakfast - “A Musical Journey” featuring your favorite music from Jewish Artists.
DEC, 19 - Read the Book; Skype the Author - Author Peter Golden, “Nothing is Forgotten” Free and open to the community. A light daily dinner will be served.

2019


JAN, 15 - Jewish Film Festival Showings are Tuesdays & Thursdays. 

FEB, 12 - FEB, 18 - PJ Library - Presidents Day Fun Day
FEB, 20 - Read the Book; Skype the Author - “TBD” Free and open to the community. A light daily dinner will be served.

FEB, 26 - Author Event - Alyson Richman, Lakes Library
MAR, 5 - Jews of Judah - Program and Speaker TBD
MAR, 16 - Queen Esther (Adults Only) Masquerade Ball
MAR, 28 - Author Event - B.A. Shapiro, “The Collector’s Apprentice” The Alliance for the Arts

APR, 14 - PJ Library - Pre-Pesach Party
APR, 28 - Yom HaShoah Event
MAY 8 - Annual Meeting
The Jewish Federation Annual Campaign provides the resources to strengthen and enrich our Jewish community locally, in Israel and around the world.

TRIBUTES

The Board of Directors and staff of the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties extend condolences to Lee Warshaw, whose husband Stanley passed away on September 18. The Board of Directors and staff of the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties extend their condolences to John Osterman, whose father William passed away on October 8. In recent years, William was very involved with the Jewish Federation of Palm Springs, the Barbara Sinatra Children’s Center, and the Eisenhower Medical Center Foundation. And they loved him back for not only his generosity, but his time as an executive board member of these and numerous other organizations. An avid golfer, bridge player and history buff... Bill’s love of friends and family was ever present in the way he conducted his life.

Each month, L’CHAYIM will list your Tributes. Please send them to Lori Ramos at the Federation at loriramos@jfedlcc.org.

Like us on Facebook!

CONNECT with your Jewish Community

www.facebook.com/JewishFederationLCC

The Jewish Federation thanks our GENEROUS DONORS

INDIGENT FUND
Shalom Danoors
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Jack & Ellen Estornes
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John & Rozzi Osterman
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Diane Kaiman
Art Funk
Jodi Cohen
Howard Silverman
Betty & Jim Rubenstein
Don & Sandy Komoto
Joan & Richard Davis
Temple Beth Shalom
Ruth Leiberg
Clair Goldhagen

How the Jewish Federation of Lee & Charlotte Counties Serves

Local Jewish Education and Culture
- Community-wide Jewish Education and Culture Programs for all ages including the Jewish Film Festival, Jewish Author Events, Israel Celebration, Jewish genealogy, Israeli folk dancing, social groups, etc.
- L’CHAYIM published monthly to keep the Jewish community informed about local, national and international Jewish issues.
- Community Relations activities include monitoring anti-Semitism and issues of separation of church and state in the community.
- Israel Advocacy and Initiatives to strengthen local Jewish community ties with Israel. Holocaust Education through the Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida to middle and high school students in the community.

Overseas
- Funding to the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) for full spectrum social services to Israel and Jewish communities in 60+ countries around the world.
- Partnership 2nd Beth relationship with the Hadera-Eron Region in Israel.

Local Seniors Services
- Holiday baskets and teen visits to seniors and senior facilities for Rosh Hashanah, Hanukkah and Passover.
- Senior & Volunteers Lunch Program.
- Emerging and pressing needs related to senior housing, health and socialization.

Local Case Management Services
- Non-sectarian, individual and family outreach, information and referral services.
- Individual life coaching and support services.

Local Emergency Services
- Food Pantry
- Emergency financial assistance.
- Education and aid associated with natural disasters.

Local Community Services
- Support families of children with special needs.
- SAT preparatory classes for high school students.
- Volunteering.
- Organizational Collaboration.
- Assessment and Planning.

Jewish Community Foundation
- An endowment that ensures the long-term financial base of charitable, social and educational programs in our community.
- Needs-based college scholarships and study scholarships in Israel.
- Projects and programs aimed at Jewish community enrichment.

Joseph Horowitz
Israel Travel Grants Available

The Joseph Horowitz Israel Travel Grant is available through the Community Foundation of the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties.

Our hope is that these programs will enhance Jewish knowledge and identity in preparation for participation in American Jewish life.

This Grant is for Jewish residents of either county who are 25 years old or younger and can demonstrate a financial need. Academic standing and community involvement may also be considered.

Like us on Facebook!
Senior Lunch Bunch update
By Jodi Cohen, Senior Outreach & Food Pantry Coordinator

The Federation’s ongoing efforts to build partnerships with various senior resources and around Lee County continued in September when the senior luncheon was hosted by Grand Villa of Fort Myers. We were delighted to have Sheila Labados as our guest speaker to share her stories about the early days of the Fort Myers Jewish community, including her service as the Federation’s first president. Sixty-five people attended a delicious lunch and entered their names into a raffle for various prizes. We are grateful to Tom Watson and Kelly Jenkinson, as well as all of the staff at Grand Villa for taking such good care of us. Tom and Kelly wanted to honor the Jewish New Year and so Grand Villa had apples and honey on every table.

The senior lunch is a free monthly luncheon for Jewish seniors that serves as a chance for people to get together, eat a little something, visit with each other, and learn. The vibe is casual and friendly, the food is always good, the service is contagious, we would like to highlight your generosity in L’CHAYIM and notify personally those whom you honor.

NEXT SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH:
Thursday, November 8 at noon
Temple Judea, 14486 A and W Bulb Rd. Fort Myers
RSVP by November 5 to Jodi Cohen at 239.481.4449 x2 or jodicohen@jfedcc.org

This month’s advertisers

This publication is brought to you each month thanks to the support of our advertisers. Please be sure to use their products and services, and mention that you saw them in L’CHAYIM.

END OF LIFE and JEWISH MEDICAL ETHICS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH, 3:00—5:00 P.M.
Jewish Federation of Lee & Charlotte Counties
9701 Commons Center Court, Fort Myers 33908

PRESENTERS:
Stephen Wilczynski, MD, FCCP
Co-Chair, Gulf Coast Medical Center Ethics Committee
Rabbi Dr. Michael J. Schorin, MAPC, BCC
Co-Chair, Gulf Coast Medical Center Ethics Committee

Sponsored By The Lee County Rabbinic Council
Rabbi Sol Agin, Rabbi Stephen L. Fuchs, Rabbi Nicole Luna, Rabbi A. James Rudin
Rabbi Marc Sack, Rabbi Michael J. Schorin

Call Debbie Sanford 481.4449 to add your name to the phone list. Each month we will call to confirm the mailing date and you can let us know if you are available to help label L’CHAYIM.

Time: 9:30 A.M.
Friday, November 16, 2018
Wednesday, December 26, 2018
Community Free Synagogue screens Rosenstrasse

It is commemoration of Kristallnacht, The Community Free Synagogue will screen Rosenstrasse at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 11 in its Community Hall, 10686 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers.

The film dramatizes the 1943 Rosenstrasse Protests in Berlin, when Christian wives protested for a week during the winter in front of a Gestapo jail where their Jewish husbands had been rounded up for deportation to concentration camps. In the face of S.S. machine guns, the women’s protest was astonishingly successful, even as the “Final Solution” was underway, and their husbands were released.

German historian Konrad Kwiet noted that “the successful outcome of this late protest suggests that if similar actions at an earlier stage had been carried out throughout Germany, they might have halted the increasingly destructive course of the German anti-Jewish policy.”

Admission is free and open to the public. Pack a dinner; soft drinks are also complimentary.

NACHES

Mazel Tov and Yeyasher Ko’ah to Charlotte Akins, daughter of Chad Akins and Debra Antzis, who was the Community Free Synagogue’s Kallah Devarim at this year’s Simchat Torah celebration, chanting the final verses of Deuteronomy. After her bat mitzvah celebration four years ago, Charlotte continued studying as a budding Ba’alit Qorah, a master Torah chanter. Congratulations also to her coach, Aux. Rabbi Thomas Mieses.

Collier/Lee Chapter of Hadassah presents The Swinging Sixties

Be sure to mark your calendars and save the date of Saturday, January 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Did you know that in 1960, nearly half of America’s population was under 18 years old? And that it was the most affluent generation in U.S. history?

That was then, this is now, and we are planning a fabulous musical evening that will not only take you back to the pop culture of the time, but recreate the essence of the sights and sounds that so many of us remember so well.

In reality, we will be at the Heritage Bay Golf and Country Club in Naples, but our imaginations will take us to wherever we wish to be – perhaps at a Beatles concert, or maybe performances by The Shirelles or The Supremes. Or maybe watching The Beverly Hillbillies or Batman in your living on your very first color TV.

Whatever your preference, and whatever you do, be sure to plan on bringing your friends and being in attendance for this evening to remember. From the scrumptious meal, to the music reminiscent of the time, to the dancing and entertainment you thought you had forgotten, and for the opportunity to be the recipient of some amazing prizes, you will not be disappointed! Stay tuned for more information. Be there or be square.

For a continuously updated calendar of events, visit www.JewishFederationLCC.org.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING IS BACK

SUNDAYS AT 4:00 P.M.
9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/4 AND 11/11

JEWISH FEDERATION COMMUNITY ROOM
9701 Commerce Center Ct., Fort Myers 33908

All ages & levels of dance experience are welcome. Wear comfortable shoes, bring a water bottle AND A FRIEND!

RSVP A MUST to Marsha Kistler
marshatemple2012@gmail.com

Japanese folk dancing

For more information, please contact marshatemple2012@gmail.com. Visit www.fortmyersmemorial.com for a complete calendar of events and to purchase a book about the history of the hospital and its long history of compassion and care.

Photos are appreciated; please e-mail as JPGs at 300dpi.

Conference for child survivors and their descendants to be held in Florida

The World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust & Descendants will hold its 30th Annual International Conference of Child Survivors, Second and Third Generations, Spouses and Families in Cooperation with the Kindertransport, and Generations of the Shoah, in West Palm Beach this year. The 2018 conference will be held from Friday, November 9 to Monday, November 12. For conference information and registration, visit www.holocaustchild.org or call Susan at 818.606.0793.

Each month, L’CHAYIM will list your Life Cycle events – births, B’nai Mitzvah, engagements, weddings, anniversaries and obituaries. For B’nai Mitzvah, please include up to 150 words about your child.

Submit your events to LChayim36@gmail.com. Photos are appreciated; please e-mail as JPGs at 300dpi.

Sarah Elizabeth Glass will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on Saturday, November 3. Sarah is the daughter of Tiffany and Matthew Glass and sister to Catie. The grandparents are Marilyn and Arnold Glass of Delray Beach, Florida, and Sheri and John Whitt of Gahanna, Ohio. The Glass family are long-standing members of Temple Beth El.

An eighth grader at Three Oaks Middle School, Sarah has been an honor roll student every year. Sarah participated in Duke University’s TIP seventh grade program, where she took the SATs and earned achievement awards. Sarah has been inducted into the Junior National Honor Society. Sarah enjoys being in the school’s Rotary Club and Girl Scouts.

Sarah’s bat mitzvah project was to assist in fostering dogs for elderly folks who were no longer able to care for their pets.

The Glass family thanks friends and family for celebrating the bat mitzvah either in spirit or presence. They also extend gratitude to Temple Beth El Religious School Director Morah Dale Cohen and Rabbi Nicole Luna, as well as the staff, religious school teachers, and Temple Beth El community for assisting in preparation for Sarah’s bat mitzvah and enriching their Jewish identity.

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Hhere at the Holocaust Museum, we are excited about our upcoming coming move to the Janet G. and Harvey D. Cohen Education Center! This November and December we are honored to present several special events associated with the world-famous Violins of Hope Project. The project was founded by Michael and Amnon Weinstein. Over the years, people turned to their skills to restore and play the violin to发音Survived the Holocaust and WWII. Many of the violins were built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They are among the precious possessions deported to concentration camps and ghettos across Europe.

The Violins of Hope Series, which includes our annual event, The Violins of Hope: Instruments and Ghettoes Across Europe, will be on display during this November and December. It provides an overview of the project and profiles several of the restored violins. Through a special loan, a restored klezmer violin, built circa 1888, will be on display during the exhibit. The 2018 Violins of Hope Series, which includes our annual event, The Violins of Hope: Instruments and Liberation in Mankind’s Darkest Hour. On December 13 at The Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort in Naples, a Mimosa Reception will be held from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m., followed by The Luncheon event from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Mimosa Reception will feature Avshalom Weinstein, son of Amnon Weinstein. Mr. Weinstein is bringing several restored violins from Israel to Naples for our Series. He will discuss how the project locates and restores string instruments with a past connection to the Holocaust, and recount the stories behind them. During The Luncheon, there will be a special music performance using these violins. For information on Series ticket and Sponsorship opportunities, please visit https://www.holocaustmuseumswfl.org/calendar-item/the-violins-of-hope-series-2018-12-13/. We hope you will join us for these memorable events. Tickets sold out early last year, so please make your reservations now.

November will be a very busy month, with the following events and programs:

**Thursday, November 1:** “Violins That Matter” Series – Freedom to Marry at 7:00 p.m. at Temple Shalom. RSVP required and free of charge. RSVP at https://www.holocaustmuseumswfl.org/calendar-item/movies-that-matter-violins-swfl-freedom-to-marry/

**Sunday, November 4:** Kristallnacht Commemoration at 2:30 p.m. at Temple Shalom. The event is open to the public and free of charge. No reservations required.

**Monday, November 5:** Museum’s Volunteer Welcome Back event from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Skillets Restaurant in the Bed Bath & Beyond Plaza, 5461 Airport Rd. North, Naples. RSVP to info@HolocaustMuseumSWFL.org.

**Sunday, November 11:** Veterans Day – in honor of their service, veterans and active duty military will receive complimentary Museum admission.

Tuesday, November 13: “Movies That Matter” Series – John Lewis - Get in the Way! at 7:00 p.m. at Sheffield Theatre, Moorings Park, 120 Moorings Park Drive, Naples. RSVP required and free of charge. RSVP at https://www.holocaustmuseumswfl.org/calendar-item/movies-that-matter-violins-swfl-get-in-the-way/

Two other dates in November are important to non-profit organizations like ours. Friday, November 23 is Black Friday, when certain purchases on AmazonSmile benefit our Education programs; and Tuesday, November 27 is the annual Giving Tuesday event. If you plan to shop AmazonSmile on Black Friday, just click on this link: smile.amazon.com/ch/59-3740883 and specify your charity as Southwest Florida Holocaust Museum Inc.

We are grateful for the generous support of all our supporters and donors throughout the years. You have enabled our programs to reach over 200,000 students, teachers and visitors who have learned they have the power to act against bigotry, hatred and violence in their communities. For more on the variety of opportunities available for you to support our mission and programs, please contact me at Susan@HolocaustMuseumSWFL.org or 239.263.9200.

We at the Museum wish you and your family a very happy Thanksgiving. We are always thankful for you!
Who are we without our memories?

Book review by Philip K. Jason, Special to L’CHAYIM


Returning is an extraordinary and challenging book on many levels. It attempts to make the intangible as close to tangible as possible. It engages readers in a kind of time travel that has nothing to do with science fiction. It might remind some of paranormal romance, but the stakes are much higher.

What genre does it belong to? Author Yael Shahar once thought of calling it “fiction-memoir,” but that doesn’t capture enough of its essence.

The workings of dreams are central to the book’s technique and meaning, but what if you dream someone else’s dreams? What if someone else dreams yours and remembers your memories? Shahar’s artistry is to make these “what-ifs” credible and meaningful; in fact, inevitable and necessary. She imbeds these actualized possibilities in a theological – or, at least, a biblical – context.

It’s inevitable and necessary. She imbeds “ifs” credible and meaningful; in fact, Shahar’s artistry is to make these “what-ifs” credible and meaningful; in fact, inevitable and necessary. She imbeds these actualized possibilities in a theological – or, at least, a biblical – context.

But this is not a feel-good journey. It is filled with harrowing confrontations with death, Alex’s young self. The rabbi insists, through a series of questions and refutations of Alex’s answers, that there are times when the giving of one’s own life may be the moral choice.

Alex’s resistance to his job of making room for those lives, but that defense is slowly taken away during his conversations with the rabbi.

As Alex releases his memories, first by writing them down and later by speaking them aloud, he undergoes renewal and revelation that properly elevate his sense of self. He can take back his given name because he earns his right to it.

Yael Shahar, as a character in her book, is an intermediary between Alex and Rabbi Ish-Shalom. She draws readers to sophisticated understandings of Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome and appropriate therapies.

Part of the book, then, is the author’s memoir – one in which she is the subordinate character.

In terms of Jewish concepts, the book is poised on the relationships among the acts of returning, remembering and teshuvah, usually translated as repentance. Laced through the narrative are references to, and quotations from, the prophetic books that deal with the destruction of ancient Israel and the promised messianic age of restoration. The place of modern Israel in this scheme is given measured attention.

The graphic dimension of Shahar’s book is a typographer’s field day (or nightmare). Various sizes of various fonts are employed to signal the relationships among the box of returning and concerns. There are also typographical distinctions in headings and subheadings that suggest hierarchical and other

relationships of the contents. These devices are a bit unsettling at first, but effective once one gets used to them.

Though Holocaust memory is the major concern of this dazzling exploration, presented in the age of a dwindling number of survivors, it has wider application on the more general level of addressing the importance, power and utility of memory. This is especially useful in an age in which history and memory are often considered opposing constructs.

The book asks: Who are we without our memories? Who are we without our children’s memories of us? To help us answer, this inspiring narrative is supplemented by a glossary of Hebrew terms, a Q&A section, and a helpful commentary as afterword by Rabbi Dr. Nathan Lopes Cardozo.


What do you think?

Read the Book; Skype the Author

Featuring author Peter Golden for a Q&A Session

Wednesday, December 19, 2018
6:00-7:30 P.M.
9701 Commerce Center Ct,
Port Myers, FL 33908
RSVP is required; debbie@lindsey@fedcorner.org or 239.461.4449

Peter Golden, a historian/novelist has interviewed Presidents Nixan, Ford, Reagan and Bush as well as Henry Kissinger and Prime Ministers Rabin, Peres and Shamm. Free and open to the community! A light dairy dinner will be served. Thank you to our generous sponsor.

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JEWISH INTEREST

FINEMARK NATIONAL BANK & TRUST
British diplomats confront Kristallnacht

By Paul R. Bartrop, PhD

K

nown as the “Night of Broken Glass,” the Kristallnacht of November 9-10, 1938, eighty years ago this month, was a sudden and widespread assault on Jews and their property in Germany prior to World War II. It legitimated vio-

lence against Jews by the Nazi state and foreshadowed Adolf Hitler’s later attempts to exterminate Euro-

pean Jews through the Final Solution. Reactions in Britain to the pogrom were swift. Arguably the first official
call to arrive at the British For-

eign Office came in during the morn-
ing of Thursday, November 10. With the Ambassador to Berlin, Sir Neville Henderson, in London on medical leave,

the Embassy was left in the hands of the Chargé d’Affaires, Sir George Ogilvie-

Forbes. On November 10 he sent a telegram to the Foreign Secretary, Vis-

count Halifax, reporting that “anti-Jew-
iastic rioting on an unprecedented scale” had broken out late the night before in

Berlin. Similar reports, he wrote, were “coming in from all over the provinces.”

On November 14 he reported that “many” Jews were “wandering about in

the streets and parks afraid to return to their homes,” while measures were being introduced intended to “deprive all Jews of [the] means of earning [a] livelihood.” He could not contain his indignation at what he was witnessing, writing that “I can find no words strong
eough in condemnation of the dis-

gracing treatment of so many innocent people, and the civilized world is faced with [the] appalling sight of 500,000 people about to rot away in starvation.”

The next day came the first inti-

mation that Kristallnacht might not have been an isolated event, when Ogilvie-Forbes wrote about a “grave apprehension here amongst Jews that there will be further excesses,” with the prospect of a second Kristallnacht being suggested.

In a long letter to Halifax on No-

dember 16, Ogilvie-Forbes concluded

the “present position of the Jews is indeed tragic,” in which “They dwell in the grip and at the mercy of a brutal

ity against Jews by

Germany’s behavior. All future reports from the Embassy, they were instructed, “would be in strict accordance” with Henderson’s personal opinions. Two
days later he sent a letter to Viscount Halifax, stating “that Hitler person-

ally had disappeared from the campaign against the Jews.”

What might have been the British
diplomatic response to Kristallnacht had Henderson been present in November 1938? We can only surmise. The reality

was that his brave deputy in Berlin, his first act was to rebuke the

acquiescing to every one of Hitler’s de-

mands, his management of the Embassy staff upon his return in February 1939 provides us with a clue as to how dif-

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What’s up with Washington?!

By The Wine Whisperer

A typical wine lover’s vacation usually involves traveling to some vineyard region and spending a few days wandering (or stumbling) from one tasting room to another. Fortunately, most winegrowing regions are set up to allow you to do just that. Most, but not all.

Napa Valley is. Just get on Route 29 in the city of Napa and make your way north. The wineries are close together as mini-mansions on Bonita Beach, and you can hit a whole bunch of them each day. Sonoma, not so much. It’s more rural, and you need to drive a bit more, so it’s important to be judicious in your consumption.

Oregon is, for the most part. In the Willamette area, many wineries are on a main road, and weaving from one to the other isn’t all that tough. Then there’s Washington state. The good news is that the area is producing a lot of very satisfying value wines, mostly reds and a few Rieslings. In fact, the state is second in wine production after California. The bad news is that the wineries are all way out in the eastern part of the state over the Cascade Mountains, while the tasting rooms are in the big cities in the west, close to the Pacific. Too bad, because part of wine appreciation is drinking it where it’s made, and tasting rooms in some downtown area just don’t have the charm. Anyway.

The Columbia Valley and the several vineyard regions around it (Walla Walla, Horse Heaven Hills, Rattlesnake Hills, etc.) get about eight inches of rain a year, which makes irrigation absolutely vital. There’s lots of sun in the summer, and early onset of cold weather. It’s a terrible place to grow grapes. It’s a heck of a drive to get out there. It may not be worth the trip to eastern Washington, but the state’s wines are definitely worth a trip to the supermarket or your favorite store. First of all, in addition to some nice Chardonnays and elegant Rieslings, the area’s long suit is big, mouthwatering reds. They grow over 80 types of grapes up there, but you should look mainly for Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah and (if you can find them) wines made from Cabernet Franc and even Nebbiolo, which is the primary grape in the big expensive Barolos from northern Italy.

There are two big names in Washington wines—one is Chateau Ste. Michelle and the other is Columbia Crest. Both of them make wines in several price ranges (starting around $5-56), but the ones you should look for are these:

**Chateau Ste. Michelle Indian Wells**—There’s a Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon. They’re both terrific and cost under $13 a bottle. WW 89-90

**Columbia Crest Grand Estates and Horse Heaven Hills**—Both these labels offer excellent quality. The H3 style has a Cab and a red blend called Les Chevaux, which is big, bold and fruity. Excellent.

Jerry Greenfield is The Wine Whisperer. His second wine book, *Ask the Wine Whisperer,* is now available on his website at www.winewhisperer.com

**Mellow Mah Jongg**

Each Tuesday afternoon, an open session of Mah Jongg is held at the Jewish Federation. Players must be at least advanced beginners, as no lessons are given.

**DAY:** Tuesdays, 12:30~3:30 P.M.
**FEE:** $1 per week

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Stars of David

By Nate Bloom, Contributing Columnist

Editor’s note: Persons in BOLD CAPS are deemed by Nate Bloom to be Jewish for the purpose of the column. Persons identified as Jewish have at least one Jewish parent and were not raised in a faith other than Judaism — and don’t identify with a faith other than Judaism as an adult. Converts to Judaism, of course, are also identified as Jewish.

New TV Season: Catch-Up and Look Ahead

The first, 8-episode season of Forever is now streaming on Amazon. It stars Fred Armisen and Maya Rudolph, 46, as a long-married couple. They love each other but are caught in a rut. They try to shake things up a little and that “little” has an unexpected effect on their whole existence. I agree with the critics who gave Forever very good reviews.

But, I’d ruin the really unexpected plot twists if I say more. NOAH ROBBINS, 27, co-stars in the last six episodes as Mark, a 17-year-old skateboarder. Wanderlust in a “steamy” 6-episode BBC series that began streaming on Netflix on October 19, Joy, a therapist (Toni Collette) and Alan, a teacher, find that their marriage is in a rut, sexually. Brit actress EMMA THOMAS, 50, plays Angela, Joy’s therapist. Okonowo was raised by her white, Jewish mother and identifies as Jewish. Her father is Nigerian.

Tell Me a Story begins streaming on CBS All-Access on Wednesday, October 31. The publicity release says, “Set in modern day New York...” However, I have to wonder if New Yorkers would consider this a “modern day” New York story.

It leaked out in October that musician EZRA KOENIG, 33 (her mother, Celeste and Jesse Forever), 50, plays Angela, Joy’s therapist. Okonowo was raised by her white, Jewish mother and identifies as Jewish. Her father is Nigerian. MEYER TROW, a comedy/TV producer at the facility.

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Klezmer music

By Arlene Stolnitz

On Monday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m., Sarasota will be privileged with the appearance of renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman in an evening devoted to klezmer music. The program, entitled “In the Fiddler’s House (A Night of Klezmer),” will be presented at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and will feature special guest artists, including the Klezmer Conservatory Band. The Perlman Music Program has invited well-known Sarasota-Venice lecturer Baila Miller to present a program on “History of Klezmer Music to Modern Jazz” on Thursday, November 1 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on The Larry Greenspun Family Campus for Jewish Life, 580 McIntosh Road, Sarasota.

Coincidentally, during the past summer, I traveled to Upstate New York for a family reunion. I always knew I had come from a family of musicians but, until that weekend, I hadn’t realized my European-born grandparents and their children were a family of klezmor musicians. In an early column, I wrote about klezmer music as an art form. My intention to write about klezmer music again came at a particularly opportune time.

The term “klezmer” comes from the Hebrew words “klei” (vessel) and “zemer” (song). “Klezmer” literally means “instrument of song.” In Eastern Europe, the word “klezmer” referred to the traditional instrumental music of Yiddish-speaking people of Eastern Europe, the word “klezmer” referred to the traditional instrumental music of Yiddish-speaking people of Eastern whose origins can be traced back to the Middle Ages.

Often played at weddings, bar mitzvahs and other joyous occasions, klezmer had its origins in the countries of Eastern Europe that focused on dissemination of democratic ideals.”

Klezmer can be enjoyed as the folk music of the Jewish people, but its unique sound in the mid-1880s reflected cultural changes surfacing in Europe that focused on dissemination of democratic ideals.”

Miller, a lecturer in the Humanities in the Sarasota area, started her career as a social worker. In later years she pursued her interest in Art Appreciation and today presents college-level courses exploring the role of literature, painting, architecture, sculpture, cinema as well as orchestral and operatic influences.

Born in Poland in the 1950s, her family immigrated to Israel when she was six. At the age of nine, her family moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where they were sponsored by a wealthy family member.

Miller has taught at Road Scholar International, Longboat Key Education Center, Venice Art Center, Historic Spanish Point, Venice Performing Arts Center and the Ringling College of Art and Design. Under the name “Miller Music and Fine Arts Programs,” her lectures are received with great acclaim in the community.

Our community is indeed fortunate to have this great artist and well-known lecturer expand our appreciation and enjoyment of this unique art form. Arlene Stolnitz, founder of the Sarasota Jewish Chorale, has sung in choral groups for over 25 years. A retired educator, she is a graduate of the Gulf Coast Community Leadership Foundation. A member of the Jewish Congregation of Venice, the Venice Chorale and the Sarasota Jewish Chorale, her interest in choral music has led to this series of articles on Jewish Folk Music in the Diaspora.
T

thanksgiving and Jewish holidays share two themes: gratitude for
surviving great hardship (Pass-
over) and a welcoming table (Rosh
Hashanah). When I arrived in the U.S.
from Israel, my first Thanksgiving was like
an “American Passover.” In keeping
with the spirit of the Jewish holiday, I
adapted the most emblematic dishes to
celebrate the similar day I discovered
in America.

So, when you’re setting a
Thanksgiving menu, think about making
your meal more “Jewish this year by
including recipes from some iconic Jewish
food tastes that enhance traditional
Thanksgiving flavors. ב Cyrus (“bon
appétit” in Hebrew)!

Thanksgiving with a Jewish twist –
recipes by Dalia Hemed

JEWISH INTEREST

Ingredients:
• 2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley
• 1 tsp ground sumac
• ¼ cup honey
• 2 tbsp olive oil
• 1 (13 pound) kosher turkey
and bag of giblets)

Preheat oven to 450 F and place
Rinse turkey and dry it well.
Spread out the vegetables on a large

Challah Stuffing / Dressing
My Jewish stuffing with the ulti-
mate Jewish bread – challah!
Ingredients:
• 1 large challah
• 6 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
• 1 large yellow onion, chopped
• 2 cloves garlic, minced
• 1 lb carrots, peeled and chopped
• 1 lb celery, peeled and chopped
• 1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped
• 1 tsp dried sage
• ½ tsp tdp dried marjoram
• 1 tsp tdp oregano
• 4 cups chicken broth
• 1 lb sliced white mushrooms
• 2 eggs, beaten
• Salt and pepper

Preheat the oven to 350 F.
Cut the challah into
¾-inch cubes. Spread the cubes out across two bak-
ing sheets.
Place the trays in the oven
for about 12 minutes. Remo-
ove from oven and allow
cooling.
Heat 4 tbsp of olive oil in a large sauté pan over
medium high. Add the on-
ions, carrots and celery to the saucepan and sauté for
5-6 minutes. Add garlic and sauté for an additional 2 minutes.
Pour 2/3 cups of chicken broth into the pan along with 1 tsp of salt and
½ tsp of black pepper. Remove from
heat. Reserve remaining chicken broth.

Pumpkin Kugel
How does one combine traditional
Thanksgiving flavors with a Jewish food
flavor? Pumpkin Kugel! While kugel is
generally a dish served during the High
Holidays and Passover, it has endless
potential in flavor combinations that can
make it appropriate for Thanksgiving.
Ingredients:
• ¼ cup (non-dairy) butter
• ½ cup flour
• 1 cup coconut milk
• 4 eggs, separated
• 3½ cups pumpkin puree
• 1 cup brown sugar
• 1 tsp cinnamon
• ½ tsp nutmeg
• ½ tsp cloves
• ½ teaspoon salt

Pumpkin Puree Preparation:
• Take a canned pumpkin and cut it
in half, remove seeds and then cut
the pumpkin into smaller pieces and
arrange on a sheet pan. Bake at 350 F for 2 hours until cooked
thoroughly. After the pumpkin has
cooled enough to handle, cut away the skin. Using a grider or food
mill reduce the pumpkin to a mash
and then place it in a strainer over
night to drain. Ideally you want the
pumpkin as dry as possible to control
the moisture content of the custard.

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Butternut Squash Tzimmes
with Tahini and Silan
Ingredients:
• 1 large butternut squash cut into
3/4 by 2/3-inch wedges
• 2 red onions, cut into 1/4-inch
wedges
• 3 tbsp olive oil
• 3 tbsp light tahini paste
• 1 tbsp lemon juice
• 2 tbsp water
• 1 small clove garlic, crushed
• ½ cup pitted prunes (optional)
• ½ cup raisins
• ½ cup honey or silan (date honey)
• 3 tbsp pine nuts
• Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 475 F.
Put the squash and onion in a large mixing bowl, add 1 1/2 teaspoons
of the oil, 1 teaspoon salt and some
black pepper and toss well. Spread on a baking sheet with the skin facing
down and roast in the oven for
40 minutes. Remove from the oven and leave to
cool.

Tahini sauce:
Place the tahini in a small bowl along with the lemon
juice, water, garlic and 1/4 teaspoon
salt. Whisk until the sauce is the consistency of honey.

Pine nuts and prunes:
Pour the remaining 1/2 teaspoons oil into a small frying pan and place over
medium-low heat.
Add the prunes (optional), raisins and butternut squash along with 1/2 teaspoon
salt and cook for 2 minutes, stir-
ring often, until the nuts are golden brown.

Let's cook for about 5 minutes, stirring
partly until mixture thickens.

In a separate bowl, beat egg yolks
and add slowly to the saucepan.

Add pumpkin and all seasonings.

Beat egg whites to a stiff peak in
a separate bowl. Fold in egg whites
into the pumpkin mixture.

Pour into greased 9 by 13 casserole
pan. Sprinkle with cinnamon.

Bake at 350 F for 45 minutes until
firm and golden.

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Fort Myers
RSVP by December 3

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jodicohen@jfedlcc.org

Personal Chef Dalia Hemed
can be reached at
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NETANYAHU AT UN: ISRAEL WILL DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST IRAN’S AGGRESSION

On September 27:

Israel openly opposed the nuclear deal with Iran. We oppose it because it threatens our future, even our very survival. We oppose it because the deal paved Iran’s path to a nuclear arsenal. And by lifting the sanctions, it fueled Iran’s campaign of carnage and conquest throughout the Middle East.

Israel has another secret facility in Tehran – a secret atomic warehouse for storing massive amounts of equipment and materiel from Iran’s secret nuclear weapons program... The reason Iran didn’t do this immediately was to destroy both the programs, the first secret archive and a secret atomic warehouse... This site contains as much as 300 tons of nuclear-related equipment and material...

Why did Iran keep a secret atomic warehouse and a secret atomic warehouse from Iran’s secret nuclear weapons program... in the Turquioo-abad district of Tehran, Iran...and with the International Atomic Energy Agency... Months have passed. The IAEA has still not taken any action... It has not demanded to inspect a single new site discovered in that secret archive...

Israel will do whatever it must to defend itself against Iran’s aggression. We will continue to act against you in Syria. We will act against you in Lebanon. We will act against you in Iraq. We will act against you whenever and wherever we must act to defend our state and defend our people. (Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

“Have a message to the head of the IAEA. Mr. Yukiya Amano... inspect this atomic warehouse, immediately, before the Iranians finish clearing it out. Do you remember when we were promised that inspections could take place anytime, anywhere?... Well, how about inspections right here, right now. And Mr. Amano, while you’re at it, inspect the other secret sites we told you about. Once and for all, tell the world the truth about Iran.

“Israel will do whatever it must to defend itself against Iran’s aggression. We will continue to act against you in Syria. We will act against you in Lebanon. We will act against you in Iraq. We will act against you whenever and wherever we must act to defend our state and defend our people.” (Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

“Dozens of events will take place throughout the city on top of the main events, turning the city into one big Eurovision celebration,” said Gidi Schmerling, project director of the 2019 Eurovision on behalf of the Tel Aviv-Yafo municipality.

This will be the third time Israel will host Eurovision. The other two times – 1979 and 1999 – the event was held in Jerusalem’s International Convention Center. (ISRAEL21c)

TOP 15 PERCENT OF ITS ENERGY BILL FROM NATURAL GAS FROM JORDAN

Jordan will import 8.5 million cubic meters of natural gas from Israel every day, Ammar Azizam, secretary general of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, said recently.

Jordan’s daily needs of natural gas stand at 9.9 million cubic meters. A 65-km. pipeline will transfer $10 billion worth of natural gas from Israel into Jordan for 15 years, with supplies expected to begin in 2020.

The gas will be distributed to the country’s power plants for electricity generation.

The deal is expected to save around 700 million Jordanian dinars (nearly $51 billion) annually from the country’s energy bill.

Egyptian gas supply to the kingdooom halted in 2013 following terrorist attacks that destroyed the pipeline that brought cheap gas to Jordan. (Mohammad Ghazal, Jordan Times)

“I have a message to the head of the IAEA. Mr. Yukiya Amano... Go inspect this atomic warehouse, immediately, before the Iranians finish clearing it out. Do you remember when we were promised that inspections could take place anytime, anywhere?... Well, how about inspections right here, right now. And Mr. Amano, while you’re at it, inspect the other secret sites we told you about. Once and for all, tell the world the truth about Iran.

“Israel will do whatever it must to defend itself against Iran’s aggression. We will continue to act against you in Syria. We will act against you in Lebanon. We will act against you in Iraq. We will act against you whenever and wherever we must act to defend our state and defend our people.” (Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
SHUTTING DOWN THE PLO

The Palestine Liberation Organization was allowed to open an office in Washing- ton in 1974, and in 1988, after the Oslo accords produced hope for a new era of reconciliation between the PLO and Israel. That hope has never been ful- filled, nearly as Yasser Arafat be- gan the second intifada after walking away from the generous Israeli peace offer brokered by Bill Clinton in 2000. Long-term indulgence of the PLO’s recalcitrance has allowed a toxic and reflexive anti-Israel sentiment to build in international institutions and on U.S. campuses.

The U.S. Congress said in 2015 – before Donald Trump became Presi- dent – that the Secretary of State was to constrain the United States. “The United States will use any means necessary to protect our citi- zens and those of our allies from unjust persecution by this illegitimate court. We will not cooperate with the ICC…” We will let the ICC die on its own. After all, for all intents and purposes, the ICC is already dead to us… The International Criminal Court’s authority lies, we will not sit quietly.” (Lawfare

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT constituted an assault on the constitu- tional rights of the American people and the sovereignty of the United States… In November of 2017, the ICC prosecutor requested authorization to investigate alleged war crimes com- mitted by U.S. service members and civilian contractors during the Afghanistan war. Any day now, the

“After all, for all intents and purposes, the ICC is already dead to us… The International Criminal Court’s authority lies, we will not sit quietly.” (Lawfare

For daily news stories related to Israel & the Jewish world, visit the Federation’s website at www.JewishFederationLCC.org.

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The Palestine Liberation Organization was allowed to open an office in Washing- ton in 1974, and in 1988, after the Oslo accords produced hope for a new era of reconciliation between the PLO and Israel. That hope has never been ful- filled, nearly as Yasser Arafat be- gan the second intifada after walking away from the generous Israeli peace offer brokered by Bill Clinton in 2000. Long-term indulgence of the PLO’s recalcitrance has allowed a toxic and reflexive anti-Israel sentiment to build in international institutions and on U.S. campuses.

The U.S. Congress said in 2015 – before Donald Trump became Presi- dent – that the Secretary of State was to constrain the United States. “The United States will use any means necessary to protect our citi- zens and those of our allies from unjust persecution by this illegitimate court. We will not cooperate with the ICC…” We will let the ICC die on its own. After all, for all intents and purposes, the ICC is already dead to us… The International Criminal Court’s authority lies, we will not sit quietly.” (Lawfare

For daily news stories related to Israel & the Jewish world, visit the Federation’s website at www.JewishFederationLCC.org.

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David M. Heiligman, M.D.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mi Doctorate of Medicine Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center Chicago, IL

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Oslo at 25: What might have been?

By Mitchell Bard, September 5, 2018

September 13 will mark the 25th anniversary of the Oslo agreement. Most commentators see it as something between a well-intentioned failure and a catastrophe that provoked more Palestinian terrorism, and gave the Palestinians roughly 40 percent of the West Bank and 80 percent of Gaza in exchange for nothing.

Though skeptics never believed in the Oslo process and now delight in saying, “I told you so,” the approach was based on a successful precedent that could, in theory, still work.

Those who were quick to criticize Oslo ignored the precedent of negotiations with Egypt. Like Oslo, those negotiations began with incremental territorial compromises after the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Israel tested Anwar Sadat to see how he would behave after each withdrawal. When he kept the peace, Israel saw that it could afford to make additional compromises. Sadat did not get all he wanted when he wanted it, but rather than return to war or terrorism, he continued to negotiate. Had he responded differently, Israel would have gone no further.

It took 14 years before Egypt was completely satisfied (when Israel withdrew from Taba in 1988), but even before then, Sadat signaled the peace Israel was seeking. Like Anwar Sadat, Yitzhak Rabin understood the demographic dilemma that Israel faced and had no interest in “Greater Israel.” He wanted out of the territories and was therefore willing to ignore Palestinian violations of the Declarations of Principles and sign the Oslo II agreement just weeks after two suicide bombings killed 10 Israelis.

Had Rabin lived and completed the withdrawal from all of Gaza and most of the West Bank, the Palestinians and their supporters could no longer claim to be under “occupation.” More important, Israel would no longer face the choice of democracy or remaining a Jewish state. Rabin knew that the Palestinians would still demand full sovereignty, a capital in Jerusalem, and would dream of liberating the rest of “Palestine.”

Rabin was also aware of the danger of a Palestinian state, and never agreed to create one, but he was willing to give up sparsely populated territory of little or no significance to the Jews for the establishment of a Palestinian “entity.” Rabin knew that Israel was strong enough to defend itself against any Palestinian threat. Meanwhile, he made no concessions on Jerusalem, never accepted Palestinian demands regarding refugees, and did not agree to stop building settlements.

Many people have forgotten the optimism of Oslo. I had Israeli friends talking about not having to send their young children to the army when they grew up. But the Palestinians literally blew up the peace process. Shimon Peres likely would have continued the unilateral withdrawal, but the terror attacks preceding the 1996 elections led to the victory of Benjamin Netanyahu, who had no intention of pursuing the Rabin/Peres policy.

Nevertheless, the supposedly anti-peace, right-wing fanatic did not abandon the Oslo framework, which he said he would never do, agreed to the redeployment of Israeli forces in Hebron, and was prepared to withdraw from an additional 13 percent of the West Bank, albeit under pressure from the Clinton administration.

Yet neither the compromises of Oslo nor the offers of statehood (and the evacuation of nearly the entire West Bank and all of Gaza) by Ehud Barak and Ehud Olmert placated the Palestinian sovereignists. Violence escalated after Israel’s unilateral withdrawal from Gaza.

Many Palestinians and people on the left blame Israel’s expansion of settlements for the collapse of Oslo, but the agreements placed no restrictions on settlement construction. When Oslo was signed, approximately 130,000 Jews lived in the territories.

Had the Palestinians kept the peace and negotiated a final deal, that number would have been frozen and ultimately reduced after Israel evacuated the communities outside the large blocs. Instead, thanks to Palestinian irredentism, the Jewish population of the West Bank has increased in the last 25 years by 300,000.

Despite this history, some people are angry that Netanyahus is not begging to talk to Mahmoud Abbas, and does not extol the virtues of a two-state solution that the Palestinians have proven to have no interest in achieving. Hamas openly calls for Israel’s destruction, while Abbas has refused to negotiate for nearly a decade, giving up all pretense of a desire for peace. But Abbas has his faith in the fantasy that the international community will coerce Israel to capitulate to his demands. But that strategy has no more chance of success than the Palestinians’ previous hope that the Arab states would drive the Jews into the sea, or that terrorism would force them to leave their homeland.

Could a new Oslo approach change the dynamic? Not likely.

The only chance would be for a Palestinian leader, with a clear mandate
I believe this Palestinian teenager

By Stephen M. Flatow, October 5, 2018

A

hed Tamimi, the Palestinian teenager jailed for assaulting an Israeli soldier, says that she supports violence against Jews and seeks the destruction of Israel.

I believe her.

And I believe that groups such as 5 Street, which have defended Tamimi and claimed that she is non-violently resisting “the Israeli occupation of the West Bank,” owe the Jewish community an apology for refusing to believe her.

When Tamimi was arrested last December for assaulting an Israeli soldier, some on the Jewish left leaped to her defense. J Street president Jeremy- Ben Ami opined an argument that Israel has “illegally taken over the land of her village, and that her assault of the Israeli soldier “results quite naturally … from the human impulse to resist injustice against one’s community and family.”

The J Street website posted an essay by a Washington, D.C., rabbi named Hannah Goldstein, declaring that she could “understand why” Tamimi’s father sent her and her siblings to throw rocks at Jews since “under occupation, their opportunities are limited” and “putting children [or allowing them to put themselves] in harm’s way for the sake of greater change seems worth the risk.”

But as soon as Tamimi finished her jail sentence, she began issuing statements making it clear that for her, the issue is not the village’s land, but rather the very existence of Israel. And far from being some kind of Palestinian defender to believe her words and intentions.

I call on Ahmed Tamimi’s Jewish defenders to believe her words and apologize to the Jewish community for trying to deceive us about her beliefs and intentions.

Stephen M. Flatow is an attorney in the United States. (Adam Reuter, Globes)
Sav ing the transatlantic partnership
By David Harris, CEO of the American Jewish Committee (AJC), September 24, 2018

These days, I consider myself an engaged citizen. I am a committed transatlanticist. Until just a few years back, that was rather unconventional. No longer.

The gap is widening, mutual suspicion is growing, accusations are being leveled, and calls for unilateralism are being heard, especially coming from Washington.

Call me hopelessly, irredeemably naïve, but as a son of America and grandson of Europe, I remain convinced that Americans and Europeans are joined at the hip by common foundational values and common existential threats, and thus by a common agenda.

Our shared values emanate from the building blocks of our respective societies: democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human dignity.

The ties that link this transatlantic, ever-so-fragile community of freedom-loving nations must never be permitted to fray; they represent the best hope for the ultimate realization of a genuinely peaceful and prosperous world.

After all, these countries have renounced war as an instrument of resolving disputes among themselves. The weapons of choice when disagreements arise are diplomats and lawyers, not armies and suicide bombers.

Take Europe, historically, perhaps, the most blood-soaked continent on the planet. Since the inventive genius of the most ambitious and successful peace project in modern history, and, at its core, is not about the standardization of light bulbs but the protection of democratic values and mutual dependence.

In the same spirit, NATO has been the most effective collective defense pact in history. Given the charges leveled against it in Washington, it is important to remember that the only time Article V was invoked to support a member state under attack was immediately following 9/11. That member state was the United States.

The challenges facing us are, an ever-increasing degree, transnational in nature—from terrorism to proliferation, from failing states to fanaticism in the name of faith, from climate change to mass migration, from pandemics to cyberattacks.

None of these challenges is unique to any one nation. Rather, they are as often not overarching, requiring maximum intelligence-sharing, coordination and cooperation.

And none of these challenges is likely to be solved by any one nation or bloc going it alone, no matter how large or powerful. It may have become a cliché to speak of an interconnected world, but that’s our present—and foreseeable condition.

An economic crisis in Greece reverberates in the United States. The 9/11 jihadists wreaked havoc in America, but some of them spent a lot of time moving around Europe beforehand and a number of the victims on that fateful day were European (and other foreign) nationals.

Russia interferes with elections through negotiations is what it matters. We know all too well the terrible price that has been paid when these principles were not respected and protected.

Foreign fighters flock to Syria and Iraq from both sides of the Atlantic. To be sure, there are, and always will be, differences between Europe and the United States rooted in political rivalry, economic competition and divergent assessments, including today regarding Iran, Israeli-Palestinian issues and NATO.

In the larger scheme of things, however, and with a measure of goodwill rather than rancor and recrimination, these differences ought to be quite manageable. They certainly should not be permitted to overshadow our commonalities.

That’s why the American Jewish Committee launched a new transatlantic initiative—a pledge of unity and resolve—that notable European and American leaders have endorsed.

To quote from the text: “We rise in defense of the precious alliance of democracies—and its treaties, institutions and norms—that has sustained peace and generated prosperity from the Cold War to the present day. As students of history, we know all too well the terrible price that has been paid when these principles were not respected and protected. We are united in reaffirming our commitment to the rules-based international order... our confidence in NATO... our respect for the European Union... our determination to assure the integrity of the West’s intelligence, law enforcement and security agencies... our defense of democracy.”

In the initial signatories include former presidents, vice presidents, prime ministers, national security advisers, secretaries of state, and ministers of defense and foreign affairs—among them former Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State George Shultz, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls and German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer.

Some would argue that the transatlantic partnership served another era and should be seen as a time-specific alliance that largely has outlived its usefulness. I beg to differ. The partnership’s future is not behind us. It needs to be very much in front of us.

Mitchell Bard...continued from page 17...from his people, traveled to Jerusalem and stood before the Knesset and said in Arabic that he recognizes Israel as the Jewish state, is prepared to live in peace, and does not seek to divide Israel’s capital or overran the country with millions of refugees. Those words would have to be followed by action: ending all incitement in textbooks and the media, and dismantling all terror groups. That and a determination to resolve all differences through negotiations is what it would take for the Oslo model to have any chance of revival or success.

Mitchell Bard, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee, has written 34 books, including The Arab Lobby, Death to the Infidels: Radical Islam’s War Against the Jews and After Anatevka: Tevye in Palestine.

Opinions and letters printed in L’CHAYIM do not necessarily reflect the views of the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties, its Board of Directors or staff, or its advertisers.
n order to make many services especially meaningful, especially during the High Holy Days, Suk- kot and Simchat Torah, you probably heard Rabbi Jon Kaban-Zinn chant from the Torah, spoken from the pulpit or read in English translation: “Thou shalt be… mindful?”

COMMENTARY / FROM THE BIMAH

Jon Kabat-Zinn is a professor emeritus of medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. As a student during the Vietnam and Watergate days, he did a lot of Buddhist meditation. Influenced by his teachers and meditation, he came up with a great idea. By combining meditation and yoga, and by keeping the Jewish identity, he developed a program called Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR). MBSR is a program with the goal of helping your moment-to-moment awareness. By doing this, you will lower your stress, pain and suffering.

In 1993, his MBSR program was profiled on a Bill Moyers PBS special called Healing and the Mind. From then on, the idea has become very popular. Kabat-Zinn has also written several books detailing his program, including his best seller: Where You Are. If you have heard the term “kavanah” or intention, which is often used to help us be more mindful of our moment, our intention is to help us about or say the mitzvah we are about to enact. Throughout the day, Kabat-Zinn has also heard much of a term called “teshuvah.” Most often, it is translated as repentance or return. But according to the Hassidic leader, Rebbe Nachman of Breslov (1775-1810), teshuvah can be seen in a different light. Instead of reading teshuvah literally as a return or repentance, he says Hebrew letters standing for a salient term or concept are very much the essence of our faith. But this is not the concept of repentance or return. Most often, it is translated as repentance or return. But according to the Hassidic leader, Rebbe Nachman of Breslov (1775-1810), teshuvah can be seen in a different light. Instead of reading teshuvah literally as a return or repentance, he says Hebrew letters standing for a salient term or concept are very much the essence of our faith. But this is not the concept of repentance or return. Instead, it is a concept of mindfulness, awareness, and thus closer to Hashem. Sounds to me like “Reb” Jon Kabat-Zinn is on to something!

“Thou shalt be mindful?”

The beauty of our Southwest Florida home

On Sunday, September 23, as the Jewish festival of Sukkot was about to begin, our congregation joined hands, and we decended from the new sanctuary, joined our host congregation, Sanibel Congrega- tion Beth Yam, for a special service pastored by Dr. John Danner, for an extraordinary morning praying and sharing hospitality.

Sukkot is the Jewish harvest festi- val. Its celebration lies the roots of our American Thanksgiving.

On Sukkot we celebrate that the earth has yielded food for us to eat in the Jewish year just begun. But this year, we have decreed it for the earth that God has entrusted to our care.

When Vickie and I came to Sani- bel for the first time in the spring of 2017, the waters were beautiful. Fish jumped, dolphins swam, and the dolphin blossom pod watched us from the surface. Birds of every size and color decorated the air.

When we arrived this year in late August, there were no dolphins, fish or manatees to be seen. No pelicans dive-bombed into the Gulf for their daily sustenance.

We are shocked by the devastation that pollution, red tide and green algae have wrought on Sanibel and the surrounding area. We want the earth to continue to yield food. We want our Southwest Florida home to be a place of beauty and harmony for all people and creatures once again. We want those who depend on tourism to earn their living once again.

Sukkot is over. We have taken down our booths, but the struggle to save our Southwest Florida home from devastation must continue.

When, a Midrash teaches, God fin- ished creating the world, the Eternal

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Letters Policy

Letters must include the writer’s full name, full address and daytime phone. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. We reserve the right to edit for length and/or accuracy. Letters do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of L’CHAYIM, its advertisers, nor its advertisers. We cannot acknowledge or publish every letter received.
Lighting Shabbat candles

I heard a new Jewish story recently. It was so beautiful, so true.

A Chabad rabbi goes to a town in far western Alaska. He is looking for Jews. The rabbi visits the mayor of the town and asks if he knows of anyone Jewish in the area. The mayor says he does not, but as long as the rabbi is in the area, it would be nice to have a multicultural event. The rabbi could teach people about Jews and Judaism, and he could learn about Eskimo culture.

The rabbi visits a fifth-grade class in a public school and asks if anyone had met a Jew before. One girl raised her hand. The rabbi asked, “Who?”

And the girl said, “My mother.” The rabbi, taken aback, asked, “Where’s your mother?”

And the girl said, “My mother.” The rabbi said, “I would like to teach your teacher of the classroom, “My mother is the teacher!”

It is true. I often tell people, “If you can only do one Jewish thing, make sure you light Shabbat candles, say a blessing with your husband, and have a kiddush together. Make Shabbat in your home.”

Except for books with God’s name in them, we Jews don’t have sacred places, like Jerusalem and the Kotel, not all Jews can be there together. What ties us Jews together is sacred time and the rites we use to mark Jewishness. What ties us Jews together is the fire of the candles, the power of Jewish tradition, even God’s presence, is the first place in the world where Shabbat can be.
Chabad of Charlotte County Hebraic School is in full swing. We have friendly, caring teachers; affordable tuition; and fun, hands-on lessons. No synagogue membership is required.

Join us for a Children’s Shabbat Dinner on Friday, November 9. The event is open to all community children. RSVP required to sheinapp@gmail.com. For more information, call 941.258.0188.

Candle lighting times:
- November 2: 6:26
- November 9: 5:22
- November 16: 5:19
- November 23: 5:17
- November 30: 5:17

Read the current and recent issues of L’CHAYIM online at www.JewishFederationLC.org.

The Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties is interested in hearing from teenagers in high school who might like to earn CAS credits through various work in the Jewish community.

If you are interested, please send the following information to debbiesanford@jfedcc.org:
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- Grade
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PB CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL 
Charlotte County

Discussion with Neena Kushner: Students decorate Jewish stars, Torahs and Hebrew letters

Rabbi Nicole Luna with students holding up a chuppah

David M. Cohen, R.J.E. - M.A. Ed.
Religious School Director

Dear Parents of the Religious School:

This is what is trending at Temple Beth El Religious School. It is 9:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning. Students and their parents enter a warm and welcoming sanctuary where Rabbi Luna is ready to engage our families in a 20-minute tefillah (prayer program). Everyone is alert and ready to start the day. The tefillah is engaging and interactive. The Shema and the Barachu and blessings of every day are meaningful and every participant is encouraged to share all of the things they are thankful for in their lives. Rabbi Luna concludes with the parents blessing their children. I could not think of a better way to start the day.

We then move to our classrooms and Hebrew is studied in a variety of interactive ways – and not just from a textbook. Students use a variety of materials to learn their Aleph Bet. For example: magnetic letters on a board as the students put letters in order and so forth. A plethora of resources are used to enhance the Hebrew learning. This has generated so much enthusiasm for our teachers as well as our students.

Snack time is another great chance for our students to develop camaraderie with each other. Each week we have special snacks that are healthy and good for us. However, this is another educational opportunity for our students to practice reciting berachot over different foods and to appreciate the gifts we have received from G-d.

We then move back to our classrooms to study Jakash. This month I will focus on kindergarten and grade one. Morah Turisky uses A Child’s Garden of Torah, which teaches and explores the Torah portion for every week. It is a great synopsis and developmentally appropriate for this age group. Morah Turisky makes the Torah come to life.

We have electives this year. We offer cooking with Neena Kushner, who has graciously offered to help us out every week. We are eternally grateful and blessed for her dedication and support of Temple Beth El Religious School. Neena will share recipes with our students to imbue them with Jewish culture and traditions.

We also offer music, which will be taught by Randy Kashi and me. Our traditional music, as well as modern Israeli music, will be taught from a variety of genres. We will also use a variety of instruments and hand motions to become more interactive with the music.

Our final elective will be art. We will have a special guest teacher, Sallie Hirshberg, who will teach periodically. Since Sallie is in the art business, we are excited for her to share her expertise with us. On other days, classroom teachers Amy Shimbaum, Barbara Turisky, Hilary Stone and I will teach art to our classes as well.

Our electives will rotate every three weeks, so every student will be able to experience a variety of Jewish opportunities to be exposed to for their wonderful Jewish education.

We consecrated seven new students into the Religious School during our Simchat Torah celebration. Rabbi Luna performed a wonderful ceremony for the children and their families. There is nothing better than seeing all of the enthusiasm from our students and their Temple Beth El family.

Our next Junior Congregation will be held on Saturday, November 17 from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary with Morah Dale. This is a mandatory part of our curriculum for grades 4-7.

On November 3, Sarah Glass will be called up to the Torah as a bar mitzvah.

On November 10, Colin Tashner will be called up to the Torah as a bar mitzvah.

We are so proud of our students and their tremendous accomplishments on this most special day.

Please note: The Religious School will not be in session on Sunday, November 25.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the children and their families a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving holiday (Von Ha Hoda Ah).

Copy Editors: Elisa Sharone, Hilary Stone, and Amy Shimbaum.

High School Students: Earn CAS Credits!
Rabbi Nicole Luna with students holding up a chuppah on this most special day. and their tremendous accomplishments mitzvah. 4-7. for the children and their families. There is nothing better than seeing all Luna performed a wonderful ceremony with Morah Dale. This is a mandatory part of our curriculum for grades 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. Our Simchat Torah celebration. Rabbi will be held on Saturday, November 17 and their Temple Beth El family. Our next Junior Congregation will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. Some time after these elections with us. On other days, classroom opportunities to be exposed to different Jewish culture and traditions. The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets. The children are excited for her to share her experiences with us. On other days, classroom opportunities to be exposed to different Jewish culture and traditions. The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets.

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Another activity, playfully called “Teshuvah Texts,” put real-life events into preprinted “screens” allowing the children to read the impact of their choices and choices among a range of possible messages to “send” in return. Additionally, our 4th and 5th grade students acted out Shabbat for the younger students and families who had gathered to conclude the morning. In true Tem- was a jubilant fashion, the children returned later that evening for their moment to parade in front of the congregation to finish Ne’ilah. I can’t count how many people shared their joy in having the children join the congregation to con- clude the evening.

Before I could turn the calendar page we celebrated Sukkot Shabbat and consecration of several students on September 28. Our 6th and 7th grade students joined Rabbi Sack to lead parts of the service. The evening concluded in the sukkah with a delicious Israeli falafel dinner prepared by Zohar ben Hamu. It was a delight to see so many families under the lights of the sukkah enjoying Shabbat dinner together. I could barely turn around before we hosted another dinner for Erev Simchat Torah. The procession of Si- mchat Torah was led by 1st grade student Asher Moon. Just when I thought it was safe to go back in the water, it became b’nai mitzvah season at Temple Judea. (The similarities to shark week are uncanny.) On October 6, Benjamin Manekin, son of Jennifer and Larry Manekin, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. The following week, on October 20, Emily Polk, daughter of Carin and Michael Polk, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. Some time after these elections, we finally took a moment to in- tegrate the viral baby shark video. A fun time was had by all. Looking forward, I am most exci- ted about getting our youth minyan and family Shabbat services started. This will give our students a more kid- friendly Shabbat service that allows them to take ownership of leading the service at their level in a family-friendly setting. I am hopeful that these new opportunities will help serve the needs of our growing congrega- tion.

Joann Goldman, Temple Judea Preschool Director We love November as we smell the popcorn, listen to the sounds of drums, touch the soft feathers, taste the stone soup and see our Native American vil- lage. During November, we will con- centrate on food, nutrition and Thanks- giving. The children will be involved in learning about healthy foods and will have fun doing projects that in- crease their awareness of good food. We will discuss the “First Thanksgiv- ing” and the many ways the Native Americans helped the Pilgrims sur- vive. The children will have the oppor- tunity to pop popcorn, string popcorn and make stone soup. We will conclude this theme with a listening play, which the pre-k class will perform for their parents on November 17.

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Before I could turn the calendar page we celebrated Sukkot Shabbat and consecration of several students on September 28. Our 6th and 7th grade students joined Rabbi Sack to lead parts of the service. The evening concluded in the sukkah with a delicious Israeli falafel dinner prepared by Zohar ben Hamu. It was a delight to see so many families under the lights of the sukkah enjoying Shabbat dinner together. I could barely turn around before we hosted another dinner for Erev Simchat Torah. The procession of Si- mchat Torah was led by 1st grade student Asher Moon. Just when I thought it was safe to go back in the water, it became b’nai mitzvah season at Temple Judea. (The similarities to shark week are uncanny.) On October 6, Benjamin Manekin, son of Jennifer and Larry Manekin, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. The following week, on October 20, Emily Polk, daughter of Carin and Michael Polk, was called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. Some time after these elections, we finally took a moment to in- tegrate the viral baby shark video. A fun time was had by all. Looking forward, I am most exci- ted about getting our youth minyan and family Shabbat services started. This will give our students a more kid- friendly Shabbat service that allows them to take ownership of leading the service at their level in a family-friendly setting. I am hopeful that these new opportunities will help serve the needs of our growing congrega- tion.

Joann Goldman, Temple Judea Preschool Director We love November as we smell the popcorn, listen to the sounds of drums, touch the soft feathers, taste the stone soup and see our Native American vil- lage. During November, we will con- centrate on food, nutrition and Thanks- giving. The children will be involved in learning about healthy foods and will have fun doing projects that in- crease their awareness of good food. We will discuss the “First Thanksgiv- ing” and the many ways the Native Americans helped the Pilgrims sur- vive. The children will have the oppor- tunity to pop popcorn, string popcorn and make stone soup. We will conclude this theme with a listening play, which the pre-k class will perform for their parents on November 17.

The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets. The children are excited for her to share her experiences with us. On other days, classroom opportunities to be exposed to different Jewish culture and traditions. The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets. The children are excited for her to share her experiences with us. On other days, classroom opportunities to be exposed to different Jewish culture and traditions. The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets.

Our next Junior Congregation will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah. Some time after these elections with us. On other days, classroom opportunities to be exposed to different Jewish culture and traditions. The children enjoyed the wonderful puppet show that our local firefighters put on for them. They had a great time singing and dancing with the puppets.
Thanksgiving in Israel
Shelley Skelley

The celebration of Thanksgiving in America, Thanksgiving is often associated with our families gathered together, sitting around a table with a carved turkey as the main course. It is a tradition that has evolved over time from different cultural and religious influences. In Israel, Thanksgiving is celebrated mainly by Americans who have immigrated and brought their traditions with them. In fact, many have just finished celebrating what they consider the “real” Thanksgiving, which is Sukkot.

Sukkot is the Jewish festival that commemorates the forty years that the Israelites spent wandering in the desert. During this festival, Jews build temporary shelters called sukkot, which are decorated with palm branches and other materials. It is a time of joy and gratitude, and many Jews build sukkot in their homes and synagogues as a way to connect with their heritage.

Sukkot is a time of reflection, as it is the period of the year when Jews remember the exodus from Egypt and pray for a land of plenty and peace. It is also a time to celebrate the abundance of nature and the beauty of the natural world. Sukkot is a time of joy and thanksgiving, and it is often associated with the fall harvest.

This year when we celebrate Sukkot, may we have a greater understanding of the American values that we celebrate during the harvest season, which evolved into the holiday we now celebrate as Thanksgiving.

Of historical note, Thanksgiving was first celebrated in the United States in 1621, when the Pilgrims of the Mayflower first landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The Pilgrims invited the local Native Americans to share a meal with them, and they celebrated this first Thanksgiving meal as a time of gratitude and thankfulness for the blessings they had received.

Today, Thanksgiving is celebrated in many countries around the world, including Israel. It is a time to remember the blessings of the past year and to look forward to the future.

Happy Sukkot! L’Chayim
The unifying power of J.

Marina Berkovich

Ida Margolis

The Holocaust: What the U.S. and the American people knew at the time

Jarrod L. Sabel

On Friday, November 9, Jewish people around the world will memorialize one of the most sor- did events in their glorious, but often tragic, history. This day, November 9, 1938, is known in history as Kristallnacht (night of the broken glass).

During a 48-hour period, a care- fully orchestrated anti-Jewish event erupted throughout Germany and Austria, the depredations Jews were suffering in Germany.

On the night of November 9, 1938, in Germany and Austria, Nazi government-sponsored anti-Jewish riots took place. Storefronts of Jewish shops and offices were smashed and many syna-

nagogues burned. Known as the pogrom, it was a turning point in the his-
tory of the Holocaust.

At the Museum's Cultural Conversations at 3311 Lely Cultural Parkway.

ZIONIST ORG. OF AMERICA Southwest Florida Chapter

(941) 329-1024

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COMMUNITY FREE SYNAGOGUE

ForBatYam,Novembermeanmoreof our snowbirds have landed and that Cantor Murray Simon will again join with Rabbi Stephen Fuchs at every Friday Shabbat service at 7:30 p.m. We welcome the snowbirds and the “hazanish" melodies, old and new, sung by Cantor Murray Simon.

November also means that Saturday morning Adult Education classes commence. Rabbi Fuchs will teach Hebrew reading instruction at 9:00 a.m. and re-roll the Torah for Simchat Torah. Weiss and Barry Fulmer helped unroll Hochschild, Tanya Hochschild, Beth Weinberg & Co. for just a traditional Sabbath dinner. It is free and reservations are never required.

Another new woman’s course, "Larger than Life. Weaving Up To the Details," begins Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Lesson 1: Hide and seek: the right to privacy
Lesson 2: Carried away: the consumer

Lesson 3: The pledge fund: a charitable foun- dation
Lesson 4: With all due respect honoring our parents

Lesson 5: Whistle while you: work the balancing fact
Lesson 6: Cause and effect: a soul-ar panel on social activism
Lesson 7: On higher ground: with liberty and justice for all, in the SCUCC. Wanting to hold and anticipate Break-the-Fast. Barry and Michael Samet. Esta Berger and Michael Samet hosted it. All joined in at the Shabbat service. Rabbi Fuchs again opened their home for a traditional Sabbath dinner. It is free and reservations are never required.

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with prayer and song. A coffee hour...follows worship.
From joy to sorrow and back to joy.
TBE’s bimah since 2016. Minister Luna, a CCAR member, has graced...a CCAR member, has graced...rabbi, Nicole Manekin. RSVP to the Chaverot email...address above.

Chaverot also spon-
sors a monthly Rosh Hodesh event for women. This “Hol-
iday for Women” is celebrated each...in the TBE library. Next...address above.

Chaverot socializes. Rabbi Bessman is an experienced cantor,...the planning stages, including Israeli cooking classes taught by our shlichah, Zohar ben Hamu. Zohar will also be teaching a new high-school program for high school students. The purpose of the program is to prepare the teens to transition from the local Jewish community to college, to teach them about Israel and the Middle East, and to enrich them with skills that will help them in their adult lives. The program will begin in January. Stay tuned for more information.

Adult education classes, which be-
gan on Monday, October 8, continue. Rabbi Sack is teaching two classes: an Introduction to Judaism class, which is a perquisite for anyone considering conversion, but also open to those just wanting to learn more about Jewish practice, thought and history; and from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. participants are read-
ing and discussing Letters to My Pales-
tinian Neighbor by Yossi Klein Halevi.
That same night, Rabbi Michael Sack’s Torah study is on Thursday, November 1st at 7:45 to 8:45 p.m. Thursday of the month at noon in the TBE library. Next month at noon.

TBE’s bimah since 2016. Minister Luna, a CCAR member, has graced...a CCAR member, has graced...rabbi, Nicole Manekin. RSVP to the Chaverot email...address above.

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2019 Individual Sponsorship Opportunities

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<th>Producer</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Screenwriter</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<td>Naming rights for entire Festival including printed tickets (only 1 available)</td>
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<td>Invitation to Private Sponsor Reception with special guest meet &amp; greet</td>
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