

JEWISH VOICE

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EDITORIAL: JAIDY SCHWEERS
Jaidy@ShalomDel.org
Main: 302.427.2100
Direct: 302.394.9063
Fax: 302.427.2438

ADVERTISEMENTS: KATHRYN WEISSENBERGER
Kathryn@ShalomDel.org
Main: 302.427.2100
Direct: 302.394.9057

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Connie J. Sugarman, President
Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer

We couldn't think of a more appropriate time to write about Comm.unity than after a memorable Federation Shabbat at Congregation Beth Emeth on January 27th. Members of our community throughout Delaware and the Brandywine Valley showed their support of Federation and our vibrant community. From an interactive PJ Library program to the festive Shabbat dinner to an engaging service, this year's Federation Shabbat was an evening to remember. Having the support and participation of our rabbis and cantors, synagogue presidents, beneficiary agency executives and presidents is rarely seen in other communities. Federation Shabbat was a vivid example that We Are Stronger TOGETHER.

2017 Annual Campaign. Thanks to our cadre of volunteers throughout the day, Federation was successful in raising critical dollars to meet the increasing needs of our community.

This month's issue includes a special feature on Jewish Camping experiences. We are privileged to be continuing our sixth consecutive year of One Happy Camper, a program of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, thanks to the generosity of the Gratz Endowment and a private family foundation. To date, we have sent more than 50 children in our community to first-time Jewish overnight camp experiences.

outstanding variety of programs to meet all campers needs from early childhood camps to traditional day camps to sports and specialty camps to teen programs. Campers enjoy swimming, arts and crafts, nature, sports, drama, Jewish culture, music, dance and much more.

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We Are Stronger TOGETHER.

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Coupled with a successful Federation Shabbat, our Super Sunday was held on January 29th. Our community was invited to make and answer the call for Federation's



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PUBLISHER'S REPRESENTATIVE:
Seth J. Katzen
Chief Executive Officer

EDITOR:
Jaidy Schweers
Jaidy@ShalomDel.org
main 302.427.2100

ADVERTISING:
Kathryn Weissenberger
Kathryn@ShalomDel.org
main 302.427.2100

BILLING:
Joy Toler
Joy@ShalomDel.org
302-427-2100

CREATIVE DIRECTOR/DESIGNER:
Carolyn Katwan

VOICE COMMITTEE CHAIR :
Meredith Rosenthal

VOICE COMMITTEE :
Kimberly Felzer, Rae Cook, David Margules,
David Satran, Michael Sigman, Jennifer Simon,
Jennifer Steinberg, David Udoff, Mark Wagman



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Do you have a strong feeling about something you've read?

DEAREDITOR

Do you have a strong feeling about something you've read? Consider writing a letter to the editor. Letters exist to provide a forum for public comment or debate. A letter to the editor is meant to express your opinion or point of view about an article you've read in the *Jewish VOICE*, or on a topic of general interest. Please be reminded that the opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the *Jewish VOICE* or of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Please limit your submission to 400 words, include your full name and city of residency, and if referencing an article, be sure to include the title and date of publication. Please be respectful and constructive. There is no guarantee that your letter will be published. For more information or to submit a letter, contact jaidy@shalomdel.org and include DearEditor in your subject line.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This content was reviewed by the *Jewish VOICE* committee. The opinions and views of the author do not necessarily reflect the position or perspective of the *Jewish VOICE* or Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Dear Editor,

In response to the Ellen and Bob Meyer story (January 2017) describing their trip to Israel with J Street, and their ample evidence that J Street, which claims to be a pro-Israel Zionist group, is actually an anti-Israel organization hiding behind a mask of Israel advocacy.

J Street lives in two opposing realities — claiming to be for Israel while it advocates and lobbies for policies and actions against Israel.

For example, J Street just celebrated the passage of UN resolution 2334 — perhaps the most anti-Israel resolution ever passed by the UN Security Council whose obsessive actions against Israel are legendary.

UNSC Resolution 2334 has been called “a diplomatic war to delegitimize all of Israel through boycotts, sanctions and the International Criminal Court.”

J Street also lauded Kerry's speech in which he laid the total responsibility for the conflict with Palestine at Israel's feet, justifying the US's inexcusable decision to advance passage of that controversial resolution.

J Street's web site states that they are “NOT NOW NOR WILL THEY EVER BE” supporters of the BDS boycott movement. But boycotts are exactly what they advocate: “We do not oppose boycott, divestment, or sanctions initiatives that explicitly support a two-state solution, recognize Israel's right to exist, and focus only on occupied territory beyond the Green Line.”

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Neither the State Department nor the US Administration nor J Street, gives any serious attention to the Palestinian leaders' declared intent to abolish Israel. Palestinian leadership and its Hamas neighbors have already declared any future Palestinian state to be “Jew-free.”

To transact a land deal with a Jew is cause for the death penalty in Palestine. The continual incitement of hatred within their school curricula, and their refusal to recognize Israel as a Jewish State are just a few of many clear indicators of the nefarious designs of a future Palestine. But J Street is oblivious to the facts.

Bob and Ellen Meyer are compassionate progressives who sympathize with the suffering Palestinian people. But the chief source of Palestinian suffering lies with the Palestinian kleptocracy and their terrorist affiliates all calling for the obliteration of Israel.

Unfortunately, J Street's false narratives and bias against settlements and its advocacy for the Palestinians, disregards every good thing that Zionism stands for.

Susan Warner,
Wilmington, DE

Susan Warner is founder of Olive Tree Ministries in Wilmington, Delaware, an Israel advocacy group. She is a frequent contributor to national publications on topics of Israel, the Middle East and Christian anti-Semitism.



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OPED

WHY BEING 'PRO-ISRAEL' ISN'T ENOUGH

Donald Trump started his hunt for Jewish votes by using anti-Semitic canards to crack jokes about wealthy Jews and calling for Israel to pay for the military aid Washington supplies it.

With no apparent personal or emotional attachment to Israel, even rightwing American Jews were worried. But he soon embraced the rightwing version of “pro-Israel.” This does not bode well for American Jews. We should be wary of such an affiliation, because it conflates the Jewish diaspora with Israel, relies on rightwing ideology to define pro-Israel, and distracts from the trends in the United States that should be worrisome for Jews by focusing on foreign policy.

Trump’s victory was greeted with relief and even excitement by the Zionist Organization of America and the Republican Jewish Coalition, while the centrist organizations expressed cautious optimism. Even as he has appointed to government individuals with bigoted views of Muslims and Jews, and made Steve Bannon, whose Breitbart fanned the flames of white supremacy, chief strategist, rightwing American Jewish groups ignored or downplayed the obvious implications of such prejudice for Jews and focused instead on how “pro-Israel” these individuals and Trump really are.

The nomination of David Friedman as ambassador to Israel has sharpened this trend. Friedman has ties to the settlement movement. He also believes Israel should annex parts of the West Bank, and is personally

EDITOR’S NOTE: This content was reviewed by the Jewish VOICE committee. The opinions and views of the author do not necessarily reflect the position or perspective of the Jewish VOICE or Jewish Federation of Delaware.

By Brent E. Sasley

Originally published in the Texas Jewish Post in December, 2016. Permission to reprint, given by the author.

committed to moving the American embassy to Jerusalem. Both of these policies would isolate Israel in the international system, which is why even Benjamin Netanyahu does not actively promote them.

Being “pro-Israel” is enough for these organizations. There are two problems with this. The first is that they have defined the term too narrowly. In their view, it means supporting the hardline policies of the Netanyahu government—on settlements, on the peace process, and on the Iran deal; the RJC specifically mentioned the latter as a reason to support Trump. It does not allow for domestic or foreign criticism of Israeli policy, even by those who publicly proclaim their belief in a Jewish and democratic state. American Jewish critics, in particular, are singled out for opprobrium—as “worse than kapos,” in Friedman’s words.

Focusing on foreign policy dismisses the concerns American Jews have raised regarding the incoming Trump Administration. This is because most Jews identify as liberal: according to a September 2016 survey by the American Jewish Committee, 39% of US Jews identify as “liberal,” while 12% “lean liberal”; 8% “lean conservative” and 16% call themselves “conservative.” Of the two parties, 51%

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

consider themselves Democrat and only 18% consider themselves Republican.

In addition, of the “most important issues” that would shape their vote in the presidential election, only 16% of US Jews said terrorism and national security, 10% said foreign policy, and 4% said immigration. 29% said the economy, 9% said healthcare and 9% said climate change.

More telling, though, is that American Jews overwhelmingly hold liberal positions on a range of domestic policy issues, including voting rights, separation of church and state, abortion, gay rights, and social tolerance. Trump and many of his nominations for Cabinet hold opposite views on these issues.

It is also why a range of Jewish groups, from the new grassroots movements such as IfNotNow to the established organizations like the Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, and most members of the community have been critical of the Netanyahu governments’ efforts to shut down domestic Israeli criticism and enforce a tribal Jewish identity over Israeli society. They do not see the Israeli government as representing their own values. So when a Trump Administration adopts that government’s priorities, it puts itself outside the Jewish consensus.

The second problem with pro-Israel as the litmus test for a Trump Administration is that it puts Israel at the center of diaspora Jewish identity. Yet for most Americans, Israel is only one part of their Jewish identity. In 2013, a major Pew study of American Jewry found that only 43% of Jews felt that “Caring about Israel” was an essential part of being Jewish—below “Remembering the Holocaust” (73%), “Leading an ethical/moral

life” (69%), “Working for justice/equality” (56%), and “Being intellectually curious” (49%). Surveys conducted since then have reinforced these findings, including showing a growing number of Jews who say they are uncomfortable with Israeli policies and are more willing to publicly criticize them.

The effort to make Jewish identity all about Israel tells diaspora Jews that their own rich histories and healthy communities are, at best, temporary and, at worst, illegitimate. It tries to orient Jewish priorities, including advocacy and resources, toward Israel and away from important community needs. And it raises questions about where American Jewish loyalties lie. When white supremacy and neo-Nazism seem to be resurgent in the wake of Trump’s victory, this puts Jews in a vulnerable position.

Tying American Jewish priorities to an Israel policy set by a minority of individuals who see American Jews as well as Muslims, Hispanics, and African-Americans as diluting the “real” American identity and who also think Palestinians don’t deserve the same rights as Israeli Jews undermines decades of American Jewish work on social justice, equality, and rights.

It will haunt not just US Jewry’s conscience, but our very security in America.

Brent E. Sasley is Associate Professor of Political Science at UT Arlington. He teaches and writes on the politics of the Jewish diaspora, Israeli politics, and International Relations. He tweets at @besasley.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

Do you have an opinion about this article? If so, we welcome you to submit a thoughtful and courteous response to the Dear Editor column. Your response should be no more than 400 words, and must include your name and place of residence. Submissions should be emailed as a Word document to jaidy@shalomdel.org.

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FINDING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

By Joe Consiglio

My first job out of college was teaching religion in a Catholic school. Catholic schools don’t tend to be very inclusive, but I did have a few black students and one Jewish student. I remember Meredith, the Jewish student, because she changed my life; she told me I should get a job working at the Jewish Community Center summer camp. I was looking for a summer job, but as a Catholic school boy, I knew almost nothing about the JCC or summer camp. Catholic kids tend to spend their summers at local swim clubs; summer camp isn’t part of our DNA. But Meredith assured me it would be fun. Now, 27 years later, I find myself a permanent member of the Jewish Community.

It started when Rabbi Jeff told me I had to lead the prayers for Shabbat. He was moving and designated me as his replacement. I told him I didn’t know how to play guitar. He told me I would learn. I told him I wasn’t Jewish. He said, nobody would care. So my wife bought me a guitar for Christmas, and the first song I learned was “Hineh Ma Tov.” Roughly translated it means, “How good and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity.” It was Rabbi Jeff’s favorite song, and it became one of mine. No doubt, it’s fun to sing. It has many different melodies, and the kids love it when I sing it like Elmo. But more importantly it expresses the essential truth about the Jewish Community: we love being together.

It is the most inclusive community I have ever joined.

For 25 summers I worked at Camp JCC doing everything from directing traffic to rallying the kids with song, but my favorite part of the week was always Shabbat. Shabbat means community, tradition, and peace. It means breaking bread, and thanking G-d for our blessings. It means finding our center.

Since my retirement from camp, I have continued to visit the JCC twice a month to sing for the kids. In the summers I try to come back every week for Shabbat.

“Those who threatened my JCC think that they can make us afraid, that they can keep us from gathering together.”

They couldn’t be more wrong.”

Over a quarter century, we have celebrated Shabbat in all kinds of circumstances. We have celebrated Shabbat with my wife and kids, all of whom worked for a time at Camp JCC. We have celebrated Shabbat with my nieces who, with the support of their Italian Catholic father, are being raised Jewish. We have celebrated Shabbat with kids who grew up to be camp staff and then sent their own kids to camp. We have also celebrated Shabbat in the shadow of hate crimes and terrorist attacks. On January 9th, my JCC was threatened. The children were evacuated. The center was closed. When I arrived to sing, the place was silent. I went home, not knowing what else to do. And then, on January 18th, my community was threatened again. It’s becoming a pattern.

Terrorism is a tool of the weak, and it presumes a weakness in the victim. Those who threatened my JCC think that they can make us afraid, that they can keep us from gathering together.

They couldn’t be more wrong.

Trying to keep Jews from gathering is like trying to stop rabbis from talking, relatives from noshing, and bobbies from matchmaking. You can’t stop us. It’s part of our DNA. And I say we, because I am part of the Jewish Community. I’m part of the family. And I will go wherever my people go. So the next time someone calls in a threat, I’ll be ready. The guitar is in the car. I will go to the evacuation site and find the Center, and together we will sing, “Hineh ma tov uma na’im shevet achim gam yahad.” It will be pleasant to be together. It will be good.

Joe Consiglio, a teacher at Concord High School, spent 25 summers as the Camp Program Director at the Siegel JCC in Wilmington. Sometimes known as Silly Joe, Consiglio writes children’s books and music and preforms for children and families throughout the area.

AMERICA'S ACTIONS AT THE U.N. MAKE PEACE LESS LIKELY

By John A. Elzufon
JCRC Chair

In the wake of the United States' decision not to veto U.N. Resolution 2334, ostensibly passed to condemn Israeli settlement activity, a dispute has arisen between the Israeli government, which claims that the Obama administration orchestrated this resolution in "behind the scenes" negotiations, and the Obama administration, which categorically denies this claim.

Originally published in the Delaware News Journal on December 29, 2017.

Under either circumstance, the Obama administration's actions are at best mystifying and at worst indefensible. Let me make it clear that this opinion piece is not intended to defend the Netanyahu government's settlement policy, which is subject to legitimate criticism.

One of the many problems with U.N. Resolution 2334 is its breadth. It notes at one part it is "condemning all measures aimed at altering the demographic composition, character and status of the Palestine Territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem . . . as being in "violation of international humanitarian law and relevant resolutions." Decades-old neighborhoods with hundreds of thousands of Israeli residents in the city of Jerusalem or in settlement blocs that even President Barack Obama conceded would remain inside Israel in the peace treaty are now "illegal." Did the Obama administration give any thought to the resolution's impact on these neighborhoods?

Per the resolution, Jewish holy sites in Jerusalem are now "Palestinian." Jerusalem is a holy city to the Jewish people (as it is to Christians and Muslims). In Jerusalem, the Western Wall that supported the Temple as it existed at the time of Jesus is considered by Jews to be their holiest site. For 2,000 years Jews were forbidden to pray at the Western Wall. It did not matter what power ruled Jerusalem. Without regard to religion or nationality, the Jews were not permitted to pray at the Western Wall. Even after Israel achieved its independence in 1948, the Western Wall was under Jordanian control and Jews were not permitted to pray there. In 1967, that area came under Israeli control and Jews have since prayed there. A return to the conditions before 1967, as called for in Resolution 2334, has implicit in it that when the Jews pray at the Western Wall, they do so in violation of international law.

Was that the intent of the Obama administration when it refused to veto the resolution? Of course not, but the inevitable conclusion is so great was the desire to condemn the settlements that no attention was paid to the resolution's sweeping implications.

If the Israelis are correct and the Obama administration was involved in crafting and advocating the resolution, then the Obama administration has lied to the American public about its involvement. If true, this is shocking.

However, if the Obama administration is being truthful and it had nothing to do with this resolution, then this is even worse.

U.N. Resolution 2334 represents a major change in the United States' foreign policy toward one of its allies. A policy change of this magnitude required the Obama administration to be "all over" the resolution to ensure that the wording of the resolution targeted its purpose, criticism of aggressive settlement activity condoned by the Netanyahu government, but nothing more. Clearly, this was not done.

The recent speech by Secretary of State John Kerry was long on condemnation but offered no concrete proposals to solve the problems that exist. That brings up the question of why this is being done now. Even the Palestinians are skeptical of the Obama administration's actions. As found recently on Al Jazeera's news website, Mouin Rabbani, a senior fellow at the Institute of Palestine Studies, a nonprofit think-tank based in The Hague, commented: "One wonders what is the point of an administration that has had eight years to get it right and has chosen to do nothing except systematically indulge Israeli aggression and expansionism."

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

AMERICA'S ACTIONS AT THE U.N.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

I do not agree with Rabbani's description of the Obama administration, but this points out that nothing good has or will come from the abstention vote on the resolution and Kerry's attempts to explain the abstention.

For decades, the Middle East has been one of the world's "hotspots." Peace is best served when America is involved as a "broker" whose actions and words are trusted and transparent. Over the last 18 months, two key components of our foreign policy, the execution of the nuclear deal with Iran and the abstention on the vote for Resolution 2334, have been at the expense of our allies. America's word and pledges have less credibility than before, and this comes at a time when its guidance is most needed.

Sadly, peace is now more elusive than ever.

JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA'S RESPONSE TO THE US ADMINISTRATION'S ABSTENTION OF UNSC RESOLUTION 2334

By Jerry Silverman
President & CEO, The Jewish Federations of North America

Jewish Federations across North America are deeply disappointed that the United States abstained from the vote on the one-sided, anti-Israel resolution that was passed by the UN Security Council in December.

The Administration's decision undermined a core principle of American foreign policy that has been embraced by Democratic and Republican Administrations for decades: that the only route to a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is through direct negotiations between the parties.

It also upended its own principled stance against UN resolutions that isolate Israel. Just two years ago when the U.S. vetoed a similar resolution, UN Ambassador Samantha Power stated "We voted against it because we know what

everyone here knows, as well peace will come from hard choices and compromises that must be made at the negotiating table." And the Obama Administration ignored the advice of 88 Members of the U.S. Senate who urged the President in September to reject such resolutions.

President Obama has consistently supported Israel's right to self-defense and affirmed that America has an "iron clad commitment to make sure Israel is secure." Several weeks ago the U.S. and Israel signed an unprecedented \$38 billion military aid package.

It is tragic that the Administration chose to mar its legacy of support for the Jewish State and set back the prospects for Israeli-Palestinian peace.



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ADL STEPS UP SECURITY TRAINING AS HATE INCIDENTS RISE

Anti-Defamation League
Official Blog

Mindful that the number of reported post-election hate incidents rose in 2016, ADL is redoubling its efforts to provide leaders of religious and community institutions with the training they need to prepare for the possibility of hate-motivated violence and targeted attacks.

In 2016, ADL’s regional staff held nearly 50 trainings for 3,000 people representing 500 institutions in 13 states – reaching twice as many trainees as in 2015. Most of the trainings were offered in partnership with the local FBI field offices, police departments, U.S. Attorney’s offices or other law enforcement agencies.

The trainings are designed to help leaders from local religious institutions, including synagogues, mosques, Sikh temples and churches, as well as secular community organizations, effectively prepare for a security emergency and respond to potential threat scenarios, including active shooters, bomb threats and cyber-attacks.

In September, ADL’s Philadelphia Regional Office, serving Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware, provided security training at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, which is located at one of the Jewish Community Centers that received a bomb threat earlier this week. The training included best practices for responding to bomb threats, which the staff implemented as trained.

Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Federation of Delaware told us, “The Delaware Jewish community appreciates its ongoing relationship and partnership with the ADL who provide an invaluable resource. We have benefitted immensely from their annual security training sessions as well as collaborative educational programming opportunities. Knowing we have their unwavering support and immediate availability in times of need and distress ensures confidence in our community as well as peace of mind. We Are Stronger TOGETHER.”

Each ADL office works with institutions within its region to customize a program that best addresses their needs. Last year, ADL’s Houston Office conducted a security seminar for six Muslim schools which included a meet-and-greet with police officers and segment on cyber bullying. ADL New England conducted a communal security presentation for representatives from Sikh gurdwaras (temples) on steps

that all religious institutions can take to help keep their communities safe, and highlighted the importance of building relationships with law enforcement. After the Pulse nightclub attack, ADL’s Mountain States Office partnered with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Colorado and the GLBT Community Center of Colorado to provide security training for LGBTQ organizations and individuals in the Metro-Denver area. ADL staff co-presented with Matthew Shepard Foundation staff on understanding and preventing hate crimes. In New York City, ADL’s New York Regional Office presented at a standing room only security event, “Stepping Up our Game: Protecting Schools and Institutions in a More Dangerous World,” hosted by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and attended by over 200 participants representing synagogues, schools, Jewish Community Centers and community institutions. ADL provided a piece on creating a culture of security, emphasizing that the security planning process must involve every member of an institution, and that everyone – from leaders to congregants – must become active members of their institution’s security policies.

Meanwhile, at ADL offices across the country, the experts at our Center on Extremism continue to track, monitor and report on extremist threats, providing up-to-the-minute information about hate crimes, extremist groups and terrorism to religious and community organizations — and to our partners in law enforcement.

ISRAELI ARTIST, HANOCH PIVEN, PRESENTS FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORKSHOP TO COMMUNITY



Hanoch Piven
PHOTO BY STEVEN
A. HELLER

By JFD Staff

The colorful and witty illustrations of Israeli illustrator Hanoch Piven have appeared throughout the last 20 years on both sides of the Atlantic, in most major American magazines and newspapers such as Time, Newsweek, Rolling Stone and in many European publications from The London

Times to the Swiss Die WeltWoche.

Through the support of the Israel and Overseas Committee and the Siegel JCC, Piven, will be present to share his inspiration in a family-friendly workshop at the Siegel JCC on February 19th.

Piven’s artwork has expanded from the pages of magazines into other media, from children’s books to interactive exhibitions, apps for the iPad, advertising campaigns and TV programs.

Piven’s latest book, *Let’s Make Faces* was published by Atheneum in 2013.

In Israel, Piven has gained great visibility due to his long time collaboration with the daily *Ha’aretz* and through his TV shows on the pre-K channel HOP TV and on the Education TV Channel. His method has been implemented in many kindergartens in Israel as a means to teach creativity to children.

Piven has lectured extensively about creativity in many venues across the world. Since 2003, Piven has been conducting creative workshops. These workshops apply the principles of Piven’s collage technique, prompting children and adults to experiment with common everyday objects and create their own works of art. Apart from being an easy and fun way to experience creativity, the workshops have been embraced by



FAMILY FRIENDLY WORKSHOP WITH ARTIST HANOCH PIVEN

Sunday, February 19
Siegel JCC Auditorium
2 – 4 PM
Family Friendly for ages 3+

For more information, contact:
Dana Berman, Shlichah at
dana@shalomdel.org

educators, art therapists and management consultants as an efficient tool for communicating through play.

Piven has also taught and lectured in many Art Schools around the world such as China Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing, Art Center of Design in Pasadena, Sheridan College in Toronto and Instituto Europeo di Design in Rome, SCAD in Savannah, Bezalel and Shenkar in Israel and more.

And last but not least, Piven is active in the field of Education, as Creative Director of Aulas Creativas, an online community of educators in Spain, and as a lecturer and conductor of creativity and communication workshops with students, teachers and parents.

Reference: pivenworld.com

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BOMB THREATS AT JCC PROMPT EMERGENCY MEETING



PHOTO BY JFD STAFF

Two bomb threats in the span of nine days at the Siegel Jewish Community Center was enough to make board members and staff call an emergency town hall meeting Thursday to discuss growing concerns.

A large crowd packed the JCC auditorium, one day after the most recent bomb threat at the Jewish institution in Talleyville again sent parents into a frenzy. State and local law enforcement officials, as well as the FBI, were there to field questions and discuss the bomb threats in Delaware and nationwide, assuring concerned members that the attack on their community center was not an isolated event.

Thirty Jewish institutions across 17 states received bomb threats Wednesday, said Seth J. Katzen, chief executive officer of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

By Alonzo Small
The News Journal

Reprinted with permission
from The News Journal.

The Siegel JCC received a threat that day, too. Someone called the facility around 11:45 a.m. on Jan. 9 and said there was a bomb inside the complex, Katzen said. The person who took the call pressed for more information but was given none before the caller disconnected, he said.

In each case, all four agencies in the building — the JCC, the Jewish Federation of Delaware, the K-5 Albert Einstein Academy and Jewish Family Services of Delaware — were informed and evacuated. New Castle County Police spokeswoman Tracey Duffy said both incidents will continue to be investigated.

In a brief statement Wednesday, the FBI and the Justice Department’s civil-rights division said it is investigating the scares as a “possible civil rights violations in connection with threats.”

The Anti-Defamation League also issued a statement citing “a series of bomb threats to Jewish community centers in at least 17 states.” The ADL says it’s received reports of threats in New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Florida, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Delaware, Connecticut, Alabama, California, Maine, Tennessee, South Carolina, Missouri, Texas and Kansas.

Ronald P. Comers, a 21-year veteran with the FBI, said resources from the federal, state and local agencies will continue to assist in the investigation of bomb threats.

“From the FBI’s perspective, we’re taking a look at this nationally,” Comers said. “This is not an institution here that is being singled out.”

“The FBI is looking at this nationwide and is trying to correlate it for a larger criminal investigation.”

Comers added that all the bomb threats nationwide proved to be nothing more than a scare.

Because of the sensitivity surrounding the investigation, law enforcement officials did not go into detail as to how they plan to combat the threats, only reiterating to concerned members that plans are in place should the threat continue to exist.

Christian M. Brown, a Delaware State Police trooper who works full-time with the joint terrorism task force, urged the community to help with tips and remain vigilant.

“We want people to be educated and vigilant,” Brown said. “But not live in a state of paranoia. If you see something, say something.”

Gina Schoenberg was one of many who asked law enforcement in attendance about protocols moving forward to ensure the

safety of all at the community center.

Maj. Pat Crowell, of New Castle County Police Department of Public Safety, told locals that the community center is under 24-hour surveillance and a uniform presence has been increased at the facility.

“We can’t be reactive,” Crowell said. “We have to be proactive.”

But one parent is concerned about the repetitive nature of the evacuation, suggesting that bigger threats may lie when children are outside of the facility. In both instances, children were relocated to a nearby parking lot, which worried parents, fearing whoever is behind the threats will anticipate the move.

“Who’s checking the parking lot when my son goes out [there]?” asked the woman, who declined to give her name to The News Journal.

JCC Executive Director Ivy Harlev assured members that the safety of their children inside the facility and in the case of an

emergency evacuation is paramount.

Caryl Marcus-Stape was encouraged by the large turnout on what was less than 24 hours’ notice. She said the meeting “was very professionally handled and addressed all of the concerns in a very fair, open and honest way without jeopardizing the safety of any of our constituents.”

Beth Carter of Wilmington said she now feels reassured after initial thoughts of removing her 7-year-old daughter from the community center’s after-school program.

“I feel a lot more comfortable,” Carter said of the discussion. “I thought to go somewhere else if it continues to happen, [but] I’m going to stick it out.”

The story includes information from the Associated Press.

Sending a big Super Sunday Thank You
to our leadership and community volunteers



2017 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS:
Barbara Blumberg and Lisa Dadone-Weiner

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE
FOR THE 2017 JFD ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
AND OUR ENTIRE JEWISH COMMUNITY



ONE HAPPY CAMPER PROGRAM OFFERS INCENTIVES, SHIFTING THE COURSE OF JEWISH LIVES

By Katie Tanzer Glazier
One Happy Camper Grant Recipient



PHOTO COURTESY OF K. GLAZIER



Jewish overnight camp is worth it.

Yes, many camps are expensive. Yes, some parents don't want to separate from their children for three to eight weeks during the summer. And yes, the moment before that one last hug can be emotional. I've now been on both sides of the experience, and I'm here to shout from the rooftops that Jewish overnight camp is worth the price in gold.

I am fortunate that as a child I had many positive Jewish experiences here in Wilmington (BBYO, Gratz, and of course the JCC), but Jewish overnight camp is where my Jewish identity took hold and formed the base for the committed Jewish adult I am today. For instance, it was at overnight camp that I first read from the Torah. Sydney, my 9-year-old daughter, came home from her first summer at Camp Ramah in the Poconos knowing more prayers (learned entirely by osmosis), and reported that t'filah at Hebrew School now feels more comfortable.

Our experiences are not unique; to completely paraphrase the Foundation for Jewish Camp, their long-term study (released in 2011) said that children who attend Jewish overnight camp grow into more engaged, more Jewishly active, more Jewish-community-focused adults.

Jewish overnight camp is worth it.

So, how can this worthwhile experience be more affordable? Enter, One Happy Camper. The Jewish Federation of Delaware, through their One Happy Camper grant program, will provide \$1,000

ONE HAPPY CAMPER

BY THE NUMBERS

- Mission is to build a strong Jewish future through transformative Jewish summers
- 40 + new campers from DE utilized the OHC incentive
- 7 out of 10 young Jewish leaders in their 20s and 30s attended Jewish summer camp as children
- As adults, campers are 37% more likely to light candles regularly for Shabbat
- As adults, campers are 55% more likely to feel very emotionally attached to Israel
- 20,000 kids attended Jewish camp for the first time in 2015
- OHC is creating Jewish summers for kids; 6 out of 10 would have stayed home or attended a non-Jewish summer experience
- For the summer of 2016, Jewish overnight camps experienced an aggregate 2% growth in camper enrollment, reaching 80,622 campers (ejp.com)

towards the tuition of a child's first summer at Jewish overnight camp. It's so easy to apply for the grant: visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware's website to apply online (it's in the "outreach" section). Nearly every Jewish overnight camp is on the list, and any Jewish child living in our area attending a secular school is eligible. For us, the One Happy Camper grant was a huge help towards providing Sydney with her first Jewish overnight camp experience this past summer.

Sydney is already signed up to return to Ramah this summer. I asked Sydney what she liked best about being at overnight camp. She said, "I really liked shira (singing)

and rikkud (dancing). I liked my activities." When I asked if there was anything special about going to a Jewish overnight camp, Sydney said, "Most of the time I am around a lot of kids who aren't Jewish, so I can't talk about Hebrew with them and at Ramah I'm around a lot of kids like me and that doesn't usually happen."

My husband Mike and I chose to provide our daughter with a Jewish overnight camp experience because we want her to form a lifelong bond with Judaism – to value the traditions, culture and community that we ourselves cherish. One Happy Camper helped us make that happen. We're very grateful.

For more information about Jewish overnight camps and the One Happy Camper program, please contact Jessica@shalomdel.org.

PHOTO CREDIT: BRADFORD GLAZIER

The Mid-Atlantic Region of American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU), mounted its annual community Tribute Brunch in November at the Fairmount Park Horticulture Center. The 2016 theme was “Footprints in the Negev,” an acknowledgement that leaders of AABGU in our community have made an impact on the development of the University and the Negev region.



Starting in Center Front and going left: Robin Saran Kauffman; Connie Sugarman, JFD President; Hedy Mintz; Bill Wagner; Ellen Wagner; Reiko Kayne; Toni Young, National President, AABGU; Barry Kayne, Delaware Chapter Chair; Jack Blumenfeld; and Karen Jacobs.



Starting in Center Front and going left: Cynthia Kane; Ruth Ann Ger; Errol Ger; Carol Rothschild, Tribute Event co-chair; Bonnie Chirlin; Barbara Levitt; Carol Levin; Don Parsons; Ethel Parsons; and Jerry Heisler, Sr.

MATT MEYER INAUGURATION

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY RABBI MICHAEL BEALS

Congregation Beth Shalom Congregant, Matt Meyer, was sworn in as the 2nd Jewish New Castle County Executive in the 344 year history of the county.



Matt Meyer, Center Right, poses with (from left to right) Cantor Mark Stanton, Rabbi Yair Robinson, Rabbi Michael Beals, Rabbi Michael Kramer, and Rabbi Steven Saks

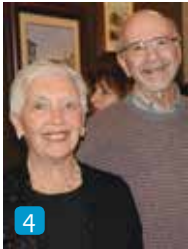


Dana Berman and Matt Meyer

RETIREMENT RECEPTION

PHOTOS 1, 3, AND 6 BY IZ'NEIL COLLINS
PHOTOS 2, 4, AND 5 BY DON THUREAU

JFS bids farewell to long serving CEO Dory Zatuchni in December.



1. Retiring JFS CEO Dory Zatuchni with Past JFS President Ruth Balick 2. Dory Zatuchni with Moe and Ronna Hochman 3. Lisa Dadone-Weiner with JFS President Regina Kerr Alonzo 4. Phyllis and Buddy Aerenson 5. Joy Davis and Cindi Viviano 6. JFS's incoming CEO Basha Silverman



EINSTEIN ACADEMY

PHOTOS BY JEREMY WINAKER

Top: Einstein Students Lead the ECC at Kabalat Shabbat

Bottom: Einstein Students Sing and Dance for Kutz Home residents in celebration of Chanukah



A TRADITION OF LOVE

PHOTOS BY JOE GOLDBERG



JFS volunteers served Christmas dinner at the Emmanuel Dining Room.



HILLEL @ AIPAC

PHOTO COURTESY OF UD HILLEL



Ayelet Meridy, Monica Weitz, Lindsay Merkel, and Amelia Abemayor representing UD Hillel at AIPAC's Saban Leadership Seminar in Washington, D.C.





1. Riva Brown 2. Kerin Hearn and Mary Lou Griffin 3. Art-Goers



Winnie the Pooh comes to life in the snow for Einstein 5th Graders PHOTO BY ELLY ALEXANDER

THE VALUE OF EDUCATION

By Rabbi Jeremy Winaker
Head of School, Albert Einstein Academy

The single greatest driver in bolstering Jewish identity and participation in community is immersive education. Study after study reports the impact of Jewish summer camp and Jewish day school. We know the value of these educational environments. We also know they come at a cost.

Over the last few years, Albert Einstein Academy has worked diligently to increase the value of our general studies program. Through test scores and other measures, we can demonstrate the high value of our academic program. We consistently improve student achievement and are highly competitive with other independent schools nationally, especially in math where our graduates place ahead into fast math or skip grades and also in language arts where our program prepares students to write at a middle school level. This great academic program is part of the educational value we offer as a private school. Private school also comes with the cost of tuition.

Up until now, Albert Einstein Academy has addressed this two-fold worthiness with its costs through the prism of our Jewish values. We offered “generous financial aid” to make available our excellent education to those who wanted it. In Judaism, education matters, affordability matters, and accessibility matters. The story is told of the famous rabbi, Hillel, and how

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Albert Einstein Academy is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.



- 1. Proudly displaying a dreidel for everyone to enjoy
- 2. Kids had a great time crafting and displaying dreidels and menorahs for #Let There Be Light
- 3. Kids enjoyed making crafts and eating Latkes and Sufganiyot at #Let There Be Light



MITZVAH LAPS

PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA HARLEV

- 1. The swimmers had a great time for a worthy cause
- 2. The Sharks receive some coaching before the Mitzvah Laps begin to keep them focused on their goal
- 3. The Sharks Swim Team swam 6770 laps and donated \$5267 to the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware

ARE COLLEGE COSTS OUT OF REACH?

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
MARCH 31, 2017

JOSEPH & MARION GREENBAUM SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Joseph & Marion Greenbaum Scholarship provides support for deserving students who wish to pursue an undergraduate degree at an accredited college or university in the U.S. or Israel.

This scholarship is renewable for up to 4 years – and can range up to \$2,000 or more each year.

Historically, over 40% of applicants receive scholarships.

GUIDELINES and the APPLICATION for the **GREENBAUM SCHOLARSHIP & OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** are available at: ShalomDelaware.org/Scholarships

Download an application or email your request to Scholarships@ShalomDel.org.

Scholarships are overseen by the Jewish Fund for the Future Grants Committee. Application deadlines vary.



AGENCYUPDATE

THE VALUE OF EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

he could not afford admission charged by a guard (scholars believe the guard imposed the fee by himself) to the House of Learning so he climbed onto the roof to listen through a vent to the lessons below. When the teachers noticed the room was darker than usual, they found Hillel under a pile of snow. By going outside, the teachers discovered a student who would go on to become perhaps the most influential rabbi. As we go outdoors educationally this year, Albert Einstein Academy is also stepping out with a new tuition structure to make clear our commitment to making our education available to those who want it.

In advance of the 2017-2018 school year, Einstein is introducing tiered tuition. Based on a landmark study of day school affordability programs like iCaps, tuition incentive grants, and flexible tuition, and conversations with day school leaders across the country, the Board of Trustees chose tiered tuition as a reflection of what we already do and a way to be transparent about it. Instead of families asking “How much aid will I need (assuming I qualify)?” families can now see upfront the answer to “What is tuition for me based on my income?”

Albert Einstein Academy may not have the next Hillel on our roof in the snow, but we are breaking out of models and mindsets that have held us back and kept others from coming to us. To find out more about our tiered tuition structure please check our website www.einsteinday.org or call to speak with our Admissions Director Julia Forester. The value of an Einstein education is not in question; now, how much it costs a family is clearer up front. Tiered tuition removes barriers to an education that matters, it indicates affordability, and it makes accessible a path to a kind of learning that makes a difference.

That is an education of value and values.

ShalomDelaware.org



PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA HARLEV

SUMMER CAMP ANNUAL GUIDE

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Community singing in a circle at the Passport NYC Jewish camp in New York City. Jewish summer camp is all about the networking, writes JNS.org humor columnist Leo Margul. PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREW SHERMAN/92Y PASSPORT NYC.

A WORKING PROFESSIONAL'S ADVICE ON JEWISH SUMMER CAMP

By Leo Margul
Humor Columnist, JNS.org

Camp was an amazing experience, and I remember it fondly. Looking back, there are a lot of things I would have done differently had I had the same skills I now use in my professional life. Jewish summer camp, just like any camp, was all about the connections, the friendships and romances that would last for years to come. How do I make new connections as an adult?

SIMPLE: NETWORKING.

So listen children, apply my networking knowledge to your time at camp, and you'll leave with some lifelong friends and some solid references for your resume.

KEEPING YOU IN MIND

How do you cement any newfound connections you make? Like any adult, you hand out your business card. You should pre-print these before you go to camp. Make sure they highlight your skills in a brief and appealing way, something like "Leo Margul—Good at archery, O.K. at Frisbee, below average but passionate at soccer." Then your contact info: "Cabin 4—left at the door, top bunk, large framed photo of parents." They won't forget you now.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

You show up at camp, you're in a new environment, you know no one. What would an adult do in this situation? You guessed it:

network. Go up to another kid and just mention something going on around you like "heard it's supposed to rain tomorrow." Adults call that "small talk," and that's how we do most of our communicating. Next, give an opinion that no one could disagree with, like "they have food here, and I like food." You're in.

BE CLEAR

Just like in business, when seeking advice or a referral, it's important to communicate your intentions clearly. So after your initial introduction, say, "I would like us to be friends and play together, what is your schedule like during swim time?" End your interaction at a natural break in the conversation, and then shake hands while maintaining eye contact. If they say you're "being weird," that means you've made a lasting impression.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

A WORKING PROFESSIONAL'S ADVICE

CONTINUED FROM CAMP GUIDE PAGE 2

STAY IN TOUCH

It's important to maintain contact within your new network. Interrupt your friends while they're playing, and ask if they're free to grab coffee to talk about your initial friendship offer. Remember to write a thank you note, to let them know that their time is appreciated. Then check in from time to time, and congratulate them on any positive news you've heard. "That was a cool beaded bracelet you made today, Benjamin."

BONUS: ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Meeting and interacting with romantic interests can start at camp. It's important to approach these situations with a plan as well. Luckily, what works to get someone's interest as an adult can work just as well for your camp romance.

—There is nothing more appealing than being mysterious. While everyone is playing sports, where are you? Sitting in the woods alone. "He's so cool, he must live by his own rules," the ladies will say, as they swoon. Also, make sure to answer every question with "maybe" and then a wink, so no one will ever know what you're thinking and they'll be drawn to you. That last part actually works in real life.

—Twins love feeling like adults. Show them you're mature by talking about grown-up matters, like the finer points of a fixed rate mortgage.

—Women love a man that stands out, so when Shabbat dinner rolls around and you have to dress formally, how do you go up a notch? Like they used to do in the 1800s, the sexiest century, add a cape, top hat, and monocle. You'll definitely get a lot of questions.

Approaching every situation like a professional is a skill that only comes after years of practice, and applying it to your childhood will at least make you friends, and at worst leave you with 497 business cards.

RESIDENTIAL CAMP CONQUERS IDENTITY QUEST

By Daniel Metz

We, as a Jewish community, have a disconnect: a weak spot in our cultural chain which lasts from our B'nai Mitzvot to the time when we start thinking about having children of our own.

That disconnect, that cliff, is community: we spend all of that time in Hebrew School, B'nai Mitzvot lessons, but for most children that takes place in a vacuum. Unless we live in dense, enclosed communities, or in Israel, a majority of our interactions will be with non-Jews, and certainly not in ways which were definitively culturally or religiously Jewish. From my bar mitzvah through high school, I spent 11 months of the year rarely interacting with other Jews outside of my family and BBYO, which was, outside of events, just a teen hangout. My clear interactions with Jewish life during my teenage years were limited to twice-a-year synagogue, and camp.

For eight years, I attended Camp Interlaken JCC, a Jewish resident camp in northern Wisconsin. We were served kosher meals, participated in prayer services, used Hebrew words in everyday speech, and tried to infuse Jewish themes in many of our daily activities. Fridays were a day of cleaning the campus and cleaning ourselves, and Saturdays were a day of rest and relaxation. Many of our programs were focused on fun and games, but during each session we also had programs about what it means to be Jewish, our cultural history, and the role of important Jewish values in everyday life. Many kids my age came home excited to experiment with new skills they learned, but also with a new and expanded sense of their own Jewish identities.

Jewish resident camps are a place where young Jewish teens can put theory into practice, where they can spend a whole month with other teens who went to Hebrew school, who had B'nai Mitzvot, and struggle for Jewish and social identity. It's a place where you can try being Kosher for a month, or saying prayers in the morning, and everyone gets it. It's a place to explore the personal meaning of your own Jewish experience.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Daniel Metz is a writer, as well as the Youth and Teen Coordinator at the Siegel JCC, and a 9-year veteran of resident camps in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. He loves a good story and a good discussion, so if you have one, he welcomes the opportunity to listen.



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RESIDENTIAL CAMP CONQUERS IDENTITY QUEST

CONTINUED FROM CAMP GUIDE PAGE 3

Look to our youth leadership, all across the spectrum, and you'll see that many of them have cherished memories of Jewish resident camp experiences and close ties to the friendships they made there. For many, they found their Jewish identities in those camp communities, and used that as the cornerstone of an active Jewish life. Among those number of rabbinic students, activists, and career Jewish community employees. It's these children who become leaders in youth groups, in Hillel, and in their Jewish communities.

Your bar mitzvah tells you that you are a Jewish adult, and pushes you out the door into a very unJewish world. Jewish resident camps let you explore what kind of Jewish adult you want to become. Do you prefer prayer or discussion? Will you keep kosher? Shabbat? What is it like to keep shomer shabbas? It's easier to try it for the first time if your friends know what it means.

Jewish resident camps are where young Jews go to turn theory into praxis, praxis into identity, and identity into a healthy Jewish adulthood.

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Max Rosenthal, center, with camp friends, circa 2013 PHOTO BY DONNA HARLEV

When I was six months old, it was my first day of my long journey at the Siegel Jewish Community Center. I started at the Early Childhood Center and never looked back. Summers spent at Camp JCC would become my routine and something I would look forward to all year long. Now being 11 years old, I have had a lot of experiences at the JCC. It's like a second home. I think it is spectacular that my life has been intertwined with the JCC.

I started summer camp in the youngest group called K'TonTon. I can remember the days packed with arts and crafts, games and songs, and I always got excited when it was time to go to the outdoor pool. Swimming was fun, but it was also a chance to see what the "big" kid campers were doing. They had the entire outdoor campus to explore. I couldn't wait until it was my turn to play Four Square, GaGa and climb the ropes.

In Kindergarten, I was finally old enough to be in Olim and experience outside camp and all that it offered. To this day, I remember my first day of camp. I was crying because I was so nervous, but then I saw my friends and all of the fun we were going to have. By the end of the first day, I couldn't wait for the next day of camp. In the first year I learned a lot—not just about camp but also about myself. I learned my strengths and my weaknesses.

A huge part of summer camp is about building a community, and it has helped me build a community

of friends. I made a lot of friends at camp—both Jewish and non-Jewish. Some I already knew from pre-school, and a lot of those friends I know to this day. The cool part is that I get to see them a lot at both the JCC and other places too. I see them at school, Hebrew school, basketball, baseball and our families also get to hang out. My friends are one of the many great things I've gotten from my summer camp experience.

I also like to learn about other people and places. So another thing I enjoy about Camp JCC is Israeli culture. It is so much fun trying Israeli food and learning Israeli dances. I think it is also neat when Israeli people come and teach us about Israel and what it is like there. These opportunities to learn about Israel have made me realize that I definitely want to visit and experience it myself.

I expect to continue being involved with summer camp. Every year I am so excited to go back. I can't wait for next year and having a chance at making new friends, learning new things about the Israeli culture and things in general. I am excited for the 2017 camp year. And someday, when I am older, I hope to still be involved at Camp JCC so other kids can have the awesome camp experience that I have had.

Max Rosenthal, age 11, is a 6th Grader at First State Montessori Academy in Wilmington. Max enjoys playing and watching sports, reading, and hanging out with his friends. Max is the son of Meredith and Dan Rosenthal and he is the big brother to Annie, who also loves summer camp.



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DAY CAMPS

CAMP JCC*

siegeljcc.org
302-478-5660
EMAIL:
adamcook@siegeljcc.org

Camp JCC is the Siegel JCC's Day Camp for children ages 2-14 years old. It offers traditional camps, sports camps, specialty camps, teen sports and specialty camps, and a Leaders-in- Training Program for 8th - 9th graders. Camp JCC has a large outdoor swimming pool, expansive field space, a low and high ropes course, sand volleyball courts, indoor and outdoor facilities, a state-of-the-art early childhood wing, Sharks swim team, J-Cade facility and so much more.

Camp JCC is a community made up of caring and enthusiastic individuals who work together to encourage children to be the best versions of themselves – in a fab and hip environment, of course. A summer at Camp JCC will be one your child never forgets.

DARLINGTON'S SUMMER ARTS CAMP*

darlingtonarts.org
610-358-3632
EMAIL:
info@darlingtonarts.org

Darlington's Summer Arts Camps inspire artists ages 3-14 to think creatively about the world around them and express themselves through the visual and performing arts. Music, Art, Dance, and Drama every week! Full Day, Half Day, and Arts Intensive weeks available. Visit us online for a full brochure.

DELAWARE COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN

Pre-College Art Studio
Program
dcad.edu/yap
302-622-8867 x110
EMAIL:
jcampbell@dcad.edu

The Pre-College Art Studio Program is a one-week program designed to help pre-prepare rising junior and senior high school students for college admission in the fields of art and design. Students create portfolio-building work through figure drawing classes, concentrated electives and open studio time. All students spend half their day in figure drawing class and half their day in a concentrated elective, chosen by the student. Electives include painting, animation, graphic design, illustration, interior design and photography. Participants have the option to live on campus, and field trips as well as evening activities will take place during the week.

THE MUSIC SCHOOL OF DELAWARE SUMMER CAMPS

musicsofdelaware.org
302-762-1132
EMAIL:
info@musicsofdelaware.org

The Music School of Delaware is your place for summer fun! Summer is the perfect time for private study and exploring new instruments, camps or programs. Take advantage of the flexible summer session to expand your child's or your own musical horizons. Whether you live in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey or beyond, we have a program just for you!

SAGINAW DAY CAMP

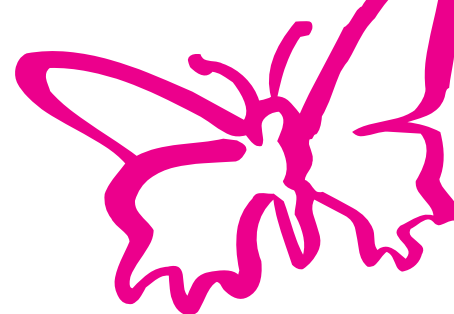
saginawdaycamp.com
888-477-CAMP (2267)
EMAIL:
askus@saginawdaycamp.com

Conveniently located in Oxford, PA and drawing from 80 years of experience, Saginaw Day Camp (SDC) provides a wide variety of exciting activities for children ages 4-15. In addition, we provide a comprehensive athletics program, instructional and recreational swimming daily, adventure course, ATVs, arts and crafts, Go-Karts and much more. Visit an open house or contact us for a private tour to see why SDC is the region's premiere day camp!

SANFORD CAMPS

sanfordcamps.com
302-475-8013
EMAIL:
SanfordCamps@gmail.com

Sanford Day Camp is dedicated to offering a safe and fun-filled summer experience for children from the age of 4 to 14 years old. The ultimate goal of the camp is to develop each camper to his or her fullest potential by offering a caring and structured environment supervised by an all teacher counseling staff. With our flexible schedule, beautiful campus (air conditioned classrooms and on site pool), multiple extended care locations (throughout the county) and academic opportunities (with Sanford School) we offer parents an easy option for summer child care.



THE TATNALL SCHOOL

tatnall.org/summer
302-892-4347
EMAIL:
markdavis@tatnall.org

Our 110-acre campus provides campers room for exploration and discovery from June 15 to August 21. Check out our expanded list camps and enrichment classes for ages 3 to grade 12. Each summer, The Tatnall School opens its beautiful 110-acre campus to the community offering programs designed to provide an enriching and memorable summer while providing a break from the rigors of the school year. Extraordinary facilities, coupled with an experienced staff, provide all the fun and variety kids want. Whether it's swimming in one of the four outdoor pools, learning a new sport, going on a great field trip, designing a video game, or joining the Tatnall Torpedoes swim team, a Tatnall Summer is sure to be the best summer ever!

WILMINGTON FRIENDS SCHOOL DAY CAMP*

wilmingtonfriends.org
Lower School 302-576-2998
Middle School 302-576-2995
EMAIL:
lscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org and
mscamp@wilmingtonfriends.org

The Wilmington Friends School Day Camp is a summer program dedicated to providing children ages 2-14 with a nurturing, challenging, and fun summer experience. We believe that children's summer experiences are an important part of their growth and development. Here, children participate in a wide variety of programs, including athletic activities, arts & crafts, computers, competitive and non-competitive games, swimming, bowling, and ice-skating.

Specialty camps for 2015 include STEM Design Challengers, Local Adventure Camp, Lego, Scratch, Lacrosse, Tennis and Volleyball, and, NEW this year, Mod and App Design Camps

OVERNIGHT CAMPS

CAMPS AIRY & LOUISE

Camp Airy (for boys)
Camp Louise (for girls)
airylouise.org
410-466-9010
EMAIL:
airlou@airylouise.org

Nestled in the rolling hills of Western Maryland, Camp Airy for boys and Camp Louise for girls have provided fun-filled overnight Jewish camping experiences for over 90 summers. We encourage campers to find their inner awesome by offering endless opportunities to discover new talents. Our dynamic programming includes everything from archery to zip-lining, including skateboarding, sports, culinary arts, robotics, crafts, drama, dance, swimming, and more! Campers span grades 2-12, with a special Rookie camp available.

CAMP GALIL

campgalil.org
610-847-2213
EMAIL:
info@campgalil.org

"The Spirit of Kibbutz Close to Home," Camp Galil is a Jewish overnight camp for boys and girls ages 8-16. Leadership development, tikkun olam, Shabbat experience, kosher plus sports, out-of-camp trips, ropes course, and more! Camp Galil offers 2, 3, 4 or 7 week sessions plus 4-day "Taste of Galil" program for those currently in 2nd grade.

CAMP JRF

campjrf.org
877-CAMP JRF
Email:
info@campjrf.org

One of the "Top 10 Jewish Camps," Camp JRF offers innovative, creative and engaging programs for 3rd -12th grade campers. Strong connections to Judaism, Reconstructionism, and human values in a beautiful, fun and safe environment. Programs include visual arts, music, drama, sports, aquatics, nature, challenge course and community leadership. Staff members bring maturity, experience, Jewish knowledge and great care. Camp JRF offers 2-, 3-, 4-week sessions. There is a 1-week special needs program and a 5-day family camp. Kosher.



PHOTO CREDIT: DONNA HARLEV

CAMP RAMAH IN THE POCONOS

ramahpoconos.org
215-885-8556/570-798-2504
EMAIL:
info@ramahpoconos.org

Camp Ramah brings 3rd -11th grade children together to expand their own creativity, learn from dynamic instructors and specialists, explore being Jewish in today's world and experience the beauty of nature. Young people at Ramah develop a great sense of self, lasting relationships and new skills. Camp Ramah offers 1-, 3-, 4- and 7-week options.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

* Please see additional advertisements in this issue of the Jewish VOICE.



CAMP TALL TIMBERS
camptalltimbers.com
800-862-2678
EMAIL:
info@camptalltimbers.com

Camp Tall Timbers offers programs that help foster a camper's personal development via participation in a broad range of activities. At Camp Tall Timbers YOU choose your own schedule! Choose from sports, arts, equestrian, outdoor & aquatics activities. There are 1-, 2- and 3-week sessions available for boys and girls in grades 1st -10th, from June 24 - August 18. Accredited by the ACA, located in nearby WV, a beautiful, two-hour drive from DC.

GOLDEN SLIPPER CAMP
goldenslippercamp.org
610-660-0520
EMAIL:
toneill@goldenslipper.org

GSC, operated since 1948, is an overnight camp located in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. Slipper boasts a variety of excellent facilities and topnotch programming. Scholarships are available to families to help pay for this truly unique experience.

NEW JERSEY Y CAMPS
njycamps.com
973-575-3333, ext. 112
EMAIL:
info@njycamps.org

Quality overnight Jewish camping experiences. Nah-Jee-Wah (1st - 6th

grades); Cedar Lake (7th - 9th grades); Teen Camp (10th - 11th grades); Camp Nesher (Modern Orthodox Camp); Camp Shoshanim (for Orthodox girls 3rd - 10th grades). Round Lake Camp (for children with special needs); Short Stay (1- and 2-week camp experiences); and innovative Total Specialty Camps specializing in a variety of programs.

PINEMERE CAMP*
pinemere.com
215-487-2267/570-629-0266
EMAIL:
camp@pinemere.com

Quality Jewish overnight camp for boys and girls ages 6-14. Private lake, adventure course, swimming pool, athletics, arts, and more. Individualized and diverse program combined with traditions built over 70 years. Pinemere Camp

offers 3-, 4-, and 7-week sessions, plus 3-day SPARK program and 1-week PIO-NEERS program for beginner campers. ACA accredited, JCC-affiliated, Kosher.

URJ CAMP HARLAM
CampHarlam.org
215-563-8184
EMAIL:
campharlam@urj.org

Nestled in the foothills of the magnificent Pocono Mountains in rural Pennsylvania, URJ Camp Harlam provides the finest in recreational and educational activities for Reform Jewish youth. Established in 1958, Camp Harlam has developed a strong tradition of success and excellence based on a highly skilled staff dedicated to the spiritual, physical, social and psychological well-being of each child.

Q&A WITH BASHA SILVERMAN New CEO of JFS



Basha Silverman took the helm of Jewish Family Services of Delaware as CEO in December, succeeding JFS's long-time CEO Dory Zatuchni when she retired at the end of the year.

A native Delawarean, Basha has deep personal and professional connections in the First State and a passion for Jewish social services. Prior to joining JFS, she was responsible for driving program development and visions for growth at the nearby Jewish Family and Children's Services of Philadelphia.

You've worked in the human services field for 15 years – what put you on this path?
My parents ran a small business selling baby furniture in Wilmington - Closic's Furniture. I grew up in that store selling furniture on weekends all through high school and college. With each potential sale, I got caught up talking to the couple about their family and their baby. Their social interactions, the family dynamics were far more compelling to me than which style of crib would work best for them. Looking back, it's clear to me that it was always the people that I cared about – more than the furniture or the profit margins.

While I was in college, I also started volunteering at an agency that provided social services. I soon realized that the business savvy that I gained working in the store could be valuable in reaching my goal to help people. After that, I was committed to the social service world, going on to earn my Masters degree in Social Work. I have never looked back, and feel so grateful that I have found a career path that allows me to follow my passion.

What excited you about JFS when you accepted this position?
Everything I've done professionally in Delaware and in Philly prepared me for this position. I feel almost like its tailor-made for my background, my passions, and my career experience.

I wouldn't have come back to Delaware to run just any nonprofit. I fell in love with the JFS mission in Philly – how the organization



Basha Silverman PHOTO CREDIT: MEREDITH STUART

is inspired by the Jewish principles of welcoming the stranger, repairing the world, honoring truth and integrity. The way we operate as consummate professionals ethically guided by our values makes me proud to be in a leadership position at any JFS. So to come back to my home state of Delaware, to utilize those Jewish principles and values, and to make a real, positive impact on the lives of others, well, that's just a win, win, win to me! I am truly honored and privileged to serve in this position.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

Jewish Family Services of Delaware is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

programs for the future to best suit the needs of the incoming campers by gearing it towards their collective interests. Our focus has been to see what our campers can get out of our program and how we can make sure it is just as fun as ever. Here’s what we’ve been up to:

- 1. Expanding Camp JCC from 8 weeks to 10 and giving a bridge week to make a seamless transition back to the classroom

- 2. Building up our program for older campers (4th-7th graders) to give them more choice in activities and time for self-directed play
- 3. Bolstering our Leaders-in-Training Program to build future leaders and adding Counselor-in-Training sessions to provide our oldest campers with the guidance and instruction needed to work at Camp
- 4. Growing our camp offerings to include more technology, science, cooking, art, and Wizards & Warriors Live-Action Roleplaying camps

- 5. Strengthening the roles of the principles of Judaism and our community’s relationship with Israel in our Camp experience

One of the blessings of having been a part of the Siegel JCC from my childhood is that I have seen how Camp has grown over the years. What makes Camp JCC so special is the tradition of creating and adapting programs that are fun. With that focus, we are confident that our program will be the place for the children of our community to grow and have fun. Because our campers deserve it.



1986 and 2016; Then and Now!
TOP: 1986 PHOTO COURTESY OF RABBI VOGEL
BOTTOM: 2016 PHOTO BY ESTHER STIESKA



A REFLECTION IN THE CANDLELIGHT

By Chaplain Mollie Epstein
Director of Administration and Religious Life

‘...shehecheyanu v’kiy’manu v’higianyu lazman hazeh’ ‘who has granted us life and sustained us and permitted us to reach this time.’

This blessing, recited at the beginning of the holidays and at special times in our lives, carries a unique poignancy when recited by a resident in a skilled nursing home. Such it is at the Kutz Home. As Delaware’s Jewish skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility, the Kutz Home takes pride in providing our residents with the Yiddishkeit typically found in a Jewish home. By maintaining a kosher diet, holding religious services on Shabbat and all holidays, we enable our residents to stay connected with the Judaism they cherished in their earlier years. It is truly a thrill to celebrate the festivals with our elders.

They embody our Jewish history. They had the experiences; they have the stories and are always eager to share.

We welcome our local rabbis to visit The Home anytime, and especially to light candles with us on Hanukkah. This year, during Rabbi Vogel’s evening with us, he mentioned that this was his 30th year lighting Hanukkah candles at the Kutz Home. Several days later, he provided us with a photo from his first year. Since that time, many things have changed, but one thing that has remained constant is the Kutz Home’s commitment to Jewish tradition and to our mission of “caring for our elders with the reverence they deserve.”shehecheyanu v’kiy’manu v’higianyu lazman hazeh.

The Kutz Home is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware.



LODGE LANE ASSISTED LIVING, BEST IN DELAWARE



By Melissa Casperson
Sales and Marketing Director at Lodge Lane Assisted Living

Recently Lodge Lane Assisted Living & Memory Care received the Reader’s Choice Award from the News Journal for Best Assisted Living Community in Delaware. Every year the News Journal nominates businesses who have made an impact in Delaware and asks its readers to vote for the best among the nominees. This year Lodge Lane had the privilege to be recognized, and received the honor of being title “Best Assisted Living Community” in Delaware.

Thank you to all who have voted.

Over the last year, Lodge Lane has hosted many educational events and continues to be a resource for the community especially those suffering with Alzheimer’s and other related dementias.

Every year, Lodge Lane, along with the Kutz Home supports the Alzheimer’s Association by walking in their Walk to End Alzheimer’s. A huge Thank You to all who helped make this year’s walk a great success. Together, Team Lodge Lane/Kutz Home raised \$2,468 through donations and fundraising efforts. We were happy to host the “Doggie Tent” for this year’s walk. Our four-legged walkers were provided complimentary doggy bandanas, a water station and homemade gluten-free dog treats compliments of Lodge Lane residents. Thank you to all who came out to join the Alzheimer’s Association and Team Lodge Lane/Kutz Home in the fight to end Alzheimer’s.

Recently Lodge Lane partnered with Lynn Paxson, a Certified Senior Advisor and the owner of Oasis Senior Advisors Delaware, to bring the Virtual Dementia Tour® experience to Wilmington.

Residents, Back Row, Lynn, Jim, and Agnes; Front Row, Muriel, Verna, and Jane
PHOTO BY MELISSA CASPERSON

We offer a **COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP** for families to gain better knowledge and understanding of the disease process (primarily Alzheimer’s and other related dementias). Often our support group will host guest speakers on certain topics and is FREE to the public to attend. Our group meets the third Wednesday of every month at 4 PM.



The Virtual Dementia Tour® is an individual experience through simulated dementia, created for families, organizations and companies seeking to better understand the physical and mental challenges of those living with dementia. After experiencing this sensory training, families gained a greater understanding of the realities of what living with dementia is like. This unique, interactive program has been shown to improve communication and care in facilities around the country. Learning to create a positive environment for those with dementia can only come from attempting to walk in their shoes. Lodge Lane looks forward to hosting this experience again in the spring.



Kutz Home and Lodge Lane Staff PHOTO BY MELISSA CASPERSON

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE SENIOR MELTS PASSION FOR PHILANTHROPY WITH JUDAISM



Brooke Wershaw PHOTO BY RACHEL GORDON

Every college senior is doing this. As they approach their last semester of college, they reflect upon their college career and their future ahead. University of Delaware senior Brooke Wershaw eagerly awaits her future in the nonprofit field.

Seeing her sister survive childhood cancer, Brooke saw firsthand the impact nonprofits and healthcare organizations have on those they serve. Wershaw discovered her passion for fundraising and nonprofit work through UDance, UD’s largest student-run philanthropy that raises funds and awareness for childhood cancer.

By UD Hillel Staff

Only until recently did Wershaw’s passion for philanthropy meld with her Jewish identity. As Hillel’s development intern, she gained a greater understanding of what Hillel provides for students beyond holiday services and meals.

Brooke delivered soup to students who were feeling sick for UD Hillel’s Matzah Ball Soup Hotline service and considered this experience to be one of the most rewarding parts of her internship.

“Being able to serve as a helping hand when parents aren’t there to help their sick child, helped me learn how vital Hillel is to a Jewish college student and their family,” said Wershaw.

As part of her internship Brooke also grew UD Hillel’s Giving Tuesday campaign, which raised more than \$16,000 to support Shabbat dinners this year. She inspired other students to join her in making phone calls by sharing with them how Shabbat at UD Hillel is so special. Wershaw even filmed a fun video where she stopped students walking around campus to ask them to strike a match, a great opportunity to then tell them about the Light Up Hillel for Giving Tuesday Shabbat campaign.

Her senior year internship with Hillel not only helped her gain practical job skills but also reaffirmed her passion for nonprofit work and for Judaism. Wershaw is excited to graduate this spring in the hopes that she will find a job doing what she loves. No matter where she will be employed next year, Brooke says she “... looks forward to advancing the Jewish value of tikkun olam, or ‘repairing the world’ into [her] post-college career and also into [her] everyday life.”

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE HILLEL RECEIVES CAMPUS PARTNERSHIP AWARD FROM HILLEL INTERNATIONAL



By Nicole Wasilus
Assistant Director, UD Hillel

At its annual Global Assembly in Orlando in December, Hillel International presented the University of Delaware (UD) Hillel with the People’s Choice Campus Partnership Award. Hillel International, the largest Jewish campus organization in the world, recognized campus Hillels that best exemplify the organization’s mission – to enrich the lives of Jewish students so they may enrich the Jewish people and the world. UD Hillel was honored for extending that mission by positively impacting the entire student body through interfaith cooperation and cross-campus partnerships.

“We are excited to be recognized by Hillel International and the entire Hillel movement as an indispensable campus partner,” said UD Hillel Executive Director Donna Schwartz. “By working in collaboration with the University we build bridges that help connect Jewish students to amazing opportunities that benefit them personally and professionally and strengthen their Jewish identities.”

UD Hillel has been a catalyst for diversity and tolerance, specifically through its Serving Better Together program, which won UD’s “Bright Initiative” award in 2015. The program brings together students from across religious and nonreligious backgrounds during the University’s Winter Session to engage in relationship-

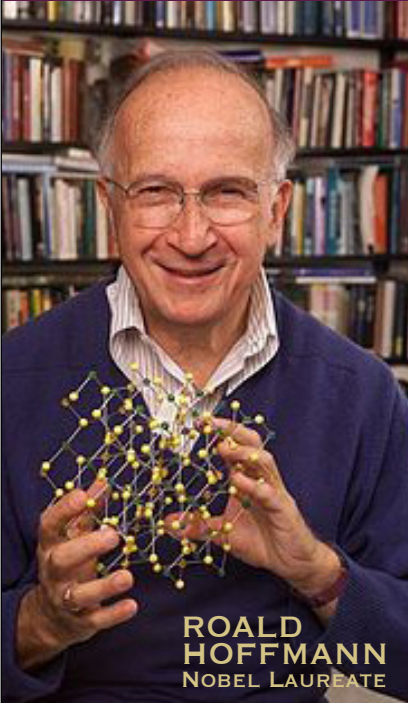
building through service to those in need.

Serving Better Together participant Leah Blachman ‘18 said that she “...loved the opportunity to meet students from all religions” throughout the month-long program. She added, “Sometimes I forget that there are students of different religions on campus who share a lot of the same values as my own Jewish values. It was comforting to see that we had more in common than we thought.”

UD Hillel was also recognized for its partnership with the Admissions department. Since bringing kosher dining to the University of Delaware in fall 2015, UD Hillel’s efforts have shifted to working hand-in-hand with the Admissions department to attract prospective students to the University.

“The Hillel staff are not just trying to “sell” families on the experience,” said Doug Zander, UD Director of Admissions. “They are providing testimony to the deep and caring relationships they have with our students, helping them grow as scholars, as people, and as engaged citizens of the world.”

UD Hillel is a beneficiary agency of Jewish Federation of Delaware



REFLECTIONS ON SCIENCE & JEWISH TRADITION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 | 7 PM
ADAS KODESCH SHEL EMETH
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ROALD HOFFMANN, RECIPIENT OF THE NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY IN 1981, IS EQUALLY COMFORTABLE WORKING ACROSS DISCIPLINES IN A LAND BETWEEN SCIENCE, POETRY AND PHILOSOPHY.


In this lecture, Hoffmann explores how science and religion look at pieces of the world. The religious setting is that of Jewish tradition. The science is mainly the central one, chemistry.

This is the kickoff event of a project at AKSE that seeks to engage science with Judaism to illuminate the theme of Natural and Man-made.

Part of Hoffmann’s lecture will introduce the theme, with subsequent events on April 2, April 23 and May 7.

ROALD HOFFMANN
NOBEL LAUREATE

[SUPPORTED BY A GRANT FROM SINAI AND SYNAPSES.]



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ShalomDelaware.org



NOBEL LAUREATE ENGAGES SCIENCE AND JEWISH TRADITION IN THE PURSUIT OF HUMAN UNDERSTANDING

By Mark Wagman
VP of Community Affairs,
Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth

“That science and religion only contend, or that they occupy separate compartments in our minds, one unrelated to the other—these are both such impoverishing views. Scientific knowledge, aesthetics, and faith cohabit. They speak to one another in the human soul—yes, sometimes their dialogue is uneasy. But it is their intertwined voices which shape true human understanding.”

In their book, *Old Wine, New Flasks: Reflections on Science and Jewish Tradition*, Roald Hoffmann and Shira Leibowitz Schmidt further represent “true human understanding” as a jigsaw puzzle, with the pieces widely dispersed, and they proceed to assemble jigsaw pieces—some from science and some from religion.

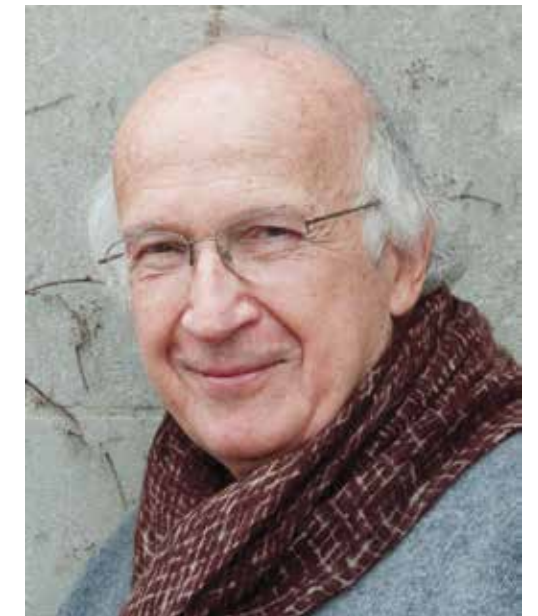
Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth is honored to host a lecture by Hoffmann in which he explores this metaphor.

“The religious setting is that of Jewish tradition. The science is mainly the central one, chemistry. Some stories will be told, digressive the way real life is, of how science, religion and art look at pieces of the world. One such story will feature an ancient pigment, Tyrian purple, which also played a ritual role in Jewish religious practice. And in an American contribution to world culture, blue jeans.”

Since 1965 Roald Hoffmann has been at Cornell University, where he is now the Frank H. T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters Emeritus. A self-described “applied theoretical chemist,” he has received virtually all the honors of his profession, including the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1981. Yet he is equally comfortable working across disciplines in a “land between science, poetry and philosophy.” Hoffmann is notable also for reaching out to the general public. He has published several poetry collections and plays. His book *Chemistry Imagined* explores the creative and humanistic aspects of chemistry. He presented *The World of Chemistry* series on PBS and runs a monthly cabaret, *Entertaining Science*, in Greenwich Village.

Born in 1937 in Zloczow, Poland (now Ukraine), Hoffmann writes that he “came to a happy Jewish family in dark days in Europe.” Most of his family, including his father, were killed by the Nazis and their helpers. He survived along with his mother and a handful of relatives and, in 1949, came to the United States.

Hoffmann describes himself as unreligious, but having great respect for religion in general, and for his Jewish religious heritage specifically. “When I read the words of the morning service, I am with



Roald Hoffmann PHOTO CREDIT MICHAEL GRACE-MARTIN



REFLECTIONS ON SCIENCE AND JEWISH TRADITION Nobel Laureate Roald Hoffmann

February 26
7 PM
Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth
4412 Washington Blvd.,
Wilmington

Questions: 302-475-8351
mewag1@comcast.net

Subsequent project events on
April 2, April 23 and May 7
at 7 PM at AKSE

All events are free and open
to the public.

the people, the words mean much to me.” In writing *Old Wine, New Flasks* he collaborated with Leibowitz Schmidt, an Orthodox engineer who has published widely, exploring the interface of science and religion.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



— A play by/
Nicky Silver
Directed by/
— **Neill Hartley**

3/9 -- 4/2 2017

Walnut Street Theatre,
Studio 5, Philadelphia, PA

The Lyons

The Washington Times
credits Philadelphia-raised
playwright, Nicky Silver for
this: "He sure knows how
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and hilarious."

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SYNAGOGUENEWS
NOBEL LAUREATE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

Hoffmann’s lecture is the kickoff event of a project at AKSE that seeks to engage science with Jewish tradition to illuminate the theme of Natural and Man-made. The theme itself was inspired by some of his writing, and part of his lecture will introduce the theme. In three subsequent events, the perspectives of science and Judaism will be developed and brought to bear on intriguing questions such as “Are humans a part of nature, or apart from nature?”, “How and why do we distinguish between the natural and the man-made?” and “Is natural ‘better?’”

A task force of scientists, engineers, a doctor, a psychologist, a lawyer and a rabbi are actively planning the project. We are excited by how much understanding can be gained by approaching these important questions from a dual perspective. We agree with Hoffmann and Leibowitz Schmidt that, though “we do not wish to minimize the differences between science and religion... we believe that science and Jewish religious tradition share this: the conviction that this world is very much real and tangible, that the world and the actions of human beings matter, and that there is order to be found. This commonality is a lot to build on.”

The Natural and Man-made project is supported by a grant from Scientists in Synagogues, a grass-roots program to offer Jews opportunities to explore the most interesting and pressing questions surrounding Judaism and science. This program is organized by Sinai and Synapses (which is incubated at Clal – The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership) in collaboration with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion (DoSER), and funded by the John Templeton Foundation, Emanuel J. Friedman Philanthropies, and other individual donors.

HEALING SERVICES: A RENEWAL OF SPIRIT

By Ellen L. Weingart
CBS Member

Jewish healing services do not beseech God for a cure. Curing is about physical symptoms and, as the saying goes, is for doctors. Healing is developing strength, courage, a sense of meaning and a feeling of belonging to both an ancient culture and an embracing community.

Jewish healing, says Rabbi Michael Beals, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom, Jewish healing has its roots in the Torah with Moses’ prayer for God to heal his sister, Miriam, sick with *metzorah*, a skin disease (*Parshat B’ha’alotecha* in the Book of Numbers). Moses prayed, “*El na, refahla na*” (“Please God, heal her, please”).

The phrase is the root of CBS’s Cantor Elisa Abrams’ healing prayer, with music

written by Craig Taubman, during the congregation’s quarterly Friday night Shabbat Koleinu service, accompanied by musicians from the Delaware School of Music.

“It is soul-stirring,” said Rabbi Beals. “All really good healing services share really good music at their core. Music unleashes the soul.”

While individuals, of course, may pray for healing for themselves or others, public prayers, in the form of a *mi sheberach*, are a part of many synagogue services. Because a *mi sheberach* isn’t an officially mandated prayer, there is considerable flexibility about whom is blessed and how. The late singer-songwriter Debbie Friedman’s *Mi*



**UNDER THE WINGS
OF THE SH’KHINAH:
A JEWISH HEALING SERVICE**

February 11
Shabbat morning services
Congregation Beth Shalom

Sheberach, introduced to the Reform Movement at its 1993 biennial meeting, has become the fastest adopted liturgical melody in the Reform and Conservative Movements; some synagogues in the Modern Orthodox movement include it as well. Friedman composed it for a *Simchat Chochma* (celebration of wisdom) ceremony honoring a woman friend on her 60th birthday; the friend was having a

MORE ON NEXT PAGE



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HEALING SERVICES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

difficult time in her life. The accessibility and meaningfulness of Friedman’s melody and interpretation of liturgy led synagogues that had removed the traditional *Mi Sherberach* prayer from their services to add it back.

Contemporary communal Jewish healing services began in the 1980s. The services are varied, but most include prayer, chanting, guided visualizations, music, teaching based on Jewish sources, meditation and physical contact such as hugs and holding hands. Healing draws on Jewish resources and the Jewish community to develop strength,

courage and the feeling of belonging to both an ancient tradition and a caring local community. Confronted with illness, death, divorce and other losses, people need tools to help them confront what they face and begin to heal. Ritual has the power to provide hope, love, wisdom from others and connection with a community.

Rabbi Beals attended his first Jewish healing service in the winter of 1994 when he was a rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. He and his wife, Elissa Green-Beals, became regular attendees of the monthly services conducted by Friedman in the small chapel at Anshei Chesed.

“To live full time in New York City, one truly needs a healing service,” said Rabbi

Beals. “The chapel was always crowded but [Friedman’s] music and voice, coupled with the liturgy was so healing that one could tolerate the New York City subway-at-rush hour-feeling of the room.”

He also attended Friedman’s Jewish Healing Conference, called *Refayenu* (Hebrew for *and we will be healed*). The conference goal was to help prepare Jewish leaders to conduct their own Jewish healing services. Rabbi Beals took the skills he learned to his first pulpit in Los Angeles and moved with them to Delaware 13 years ago, where he shared his healing service with Dory Zatuchni, former CEO of Jewish Family Services of Delaware. He began holding a monthly healing service in the JFS Healing Center room. Well-attended at first, attendance dropped off to only one or two regulars at the six-month mark and the monthly services ended.

Rabbi Beals will conduct a healing service in February. The *siddur* for the service is *Under the Wings of the Sh’khinah: A Jewish Healing Service*, prepared by the Women’s League for Conservative Judaism. Described as “a complete service for those seeking comfort and hope in God’s sheltering presence,” it is filled with Debbie Friedman songs, liturgy and a guided-imagery meditation.

“I am excited to reintroduce this healing service to Congregation Beth Shalom members,” said Rabbi Beals, “with the hope that it will bring comfort and support in a loving environment.”



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GETTING ANIMATED

By: Yoni Glatt
koshercrosswords@gmail.com
Difficulty Level: Easy
SOLUTION: page 40

ACROSS

- 1. Bava ____ (Talmud Tractate)
- 6. City that doesn’t allow Jews entry
- 11. “ ____ the love of G-d!”
- 14. Biblical brother often paired with Gad
- 15. Norman Lear’s “ ____ the Family”
- 16. Oliver Stone’s “ ____ Given Sunday”
- 17. Cartoon family that breaks all the Commandments?
- 19. YU’s high school for boys
- 20. Mother who brokered a temporary cease-fire in the 1982 Lebanon War
- 21. Unreturned serve for Sela
- 22. Jerusalem or a National Park in 62-Down
- 23. Israeli news site
- 24. Abraham’s oldest
- 27. Mix (the cholent)
- 29. Towards Genesis
- 32. They’re near this puzzle
- 35. One of 49
- 37. Mark of Cain, e.g.
- 38. Bird locale for doing the mitzvah of Shiluach HaKan
- 40. What some might do at the Kotel on 9 Av
- 42. “Young Frankenstein” hunchback, and others
- 43. Allergen in most challah
- 45. Kippur and HaZikaron
- 47. Jew
- 48. Empire that ruled Jerusalem for 400 years
- 50. “The Plot Against America” author
- 52. Yoni Netanyahu helped free several of them
- 54. ____ Olam
- 58. Steven Bochco’s “Blue” cop show
- 60. David’s was 70 at his end
- 61. Shtetl locale
- 63. Rock genre of Joe Trohman’s “Fall Out Boy”
- 64. Cartoon about writer R.L.’s ancestors? (with “The”)
- 66. What ppl. used to use to tape “The Nanny”
- 67. Esa ____
- 68. End an IDF mission early
- 69. Common tree in Israel
- 70. Rabbi Avi that made headlines
- 71. Simcha dances

DOWN

- 1. Mashuga like the Joker
- 2. How some look after fasting
- 3. “ ____ Will Be Blood” (Day-Lewis film)
- 4. Does teshuva, in a way
- 5. Ben Canaan and Gold
- 6. Where Israel is outlined
- 7. Idina’s Queen of Arendelle, and others

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| 66 | | | | | 67 | | | | | | 68 | | | |
| 69 | | | | | 70 | | | | | | 71 | | | |

- 8. Say “G-d willing by you” at a wedding, e.g.
- 9. Rav Chen or City (viewing centers)
- 10. Response to a Talmudic Q
- 11. Cartoon about a gentile man of the house?
- 12. “I’m ____ you!” (I’m no yutz!”)
- 13. Baseballer Braun
- 18. Bialik who played “Blossom”
- 22. 1983 Woody Allen title character
- 25. Recent red states of those in blue states?
- 26. Chagall, e.g.
- 28. Poles that might be idoltarous
- 30. First name in Israeli basketball
- 31. ____AQ, where many Israeli stocks are traded
- 32. 2013 Best Picture winner with 52-Across
- 33. Yutz
- 34. Cartoon that’s pure tref?
- 36. Star of Steven’s “Jaws”
- 39. Respected an elder
- 41. Make like Ben Stein in Ferris Bueller’s class
- 44. Actress Portman

- 46. Greatest of the prophets
- 49. Voldemort’s snake that tries to kill Radcliffe’s Potter
- 51. Maker of kosher (and tref) gummies
- 53. Simmons and Kelly
- 55. Jewish Federation funder
- 56. Work by Gershwin or Mozart
- 57. Bird locales for doing the mitzvah of Shiluach HaKan
- 58. Har where 46-Down died
- 59. JCC alternative
- 62. See 22-Across
- 64. Rob Reiner’s “A ____ Good Men”
- 65. Frank McCourt memoir or a contraction for Lazarus

Q: Are our traditional mourning customs relevant today?

A: **RABBI YAIR ROBINSON**
Congregation Beth Emeth

“My Father Was a Wandering Aramean.” Every generation of Jews has read these words in association with Passover, going back to Biblical times. They are the beginning of our ‘history,’ but they are also how we see ourselves. As Jews to this day, part of our identity is that of having been refugees—of having come from somewhere else, to a place of safety, in order to speak of truth and shine a light on justice. From Abraham to Moses, exile from Israel to the miraculous return, from Europe to North America, this idea is deeply rooted into our identity. Speak to Jews about their family histories and you hear of parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, who had to leave—sometimes under duress, under terrible conditions—in order to arrive someplace else, a place they and their children might call home, or at least safe. Certainly, that is my own family’s story, from my great-great grandparents coming to this country, and my own mother and her family fleeing Egypt under King Farouk to come to Europe and eventually Israel.

These experiences continue to teach us the same lessons: that because of our own experiences of suffering as a people when fleeing oppression and hatred, we now must make sure that no one suffers the way we and our ancestors did. Because of our experience, we have paid very close attention to the plight of the refugee and the refusenik, and as American Jews, we have a proud history helping those who needed to escape darkness to reach light. Whether it was our own people leaving the former Soviet Union or Ethiopia, or victims of war like the Vietnamese “boat

people,” this community in particular has worked hard to resettle refugees either locally or in Israel.

We, among all the people of the earth, understand what it means to escape bloodshed only to come to a new strange place untrusted and afraid.

For two years we have been watching horrific imagery of refugees streaming out of Syria, fleeing a brutal civil war, only to either die horribly in transit, or find themselves isolated in European countries suspected of terrorism or being some kind of fifth column, sent to undermine the fabric of the country. And in our own country we have heard a myriad of different stories, from the children fleeing gang violence in South America to young women escaping genital mutilation in Africa, to activists fleeing Burma, to LGBT individuals from around the globe escaping oppression. Certainly immigration is a complicated issue, and a political football to boot, and there is a time and a place to have those policy conversations. But as Jews, can there be any doubt that we feel an obligation to care for human beings—created in God’s image—who are fleeing violence and oppression?

For that reason, it’s telling that HIAS, formerly an organization devoted to helping specifically Jewish immigrants, is working so hard in partnership with Jewish communities (including our own) to resettle Syrian refugees (among many others) here in the United States and in Delaware in particular. These refugees are vetted rigorously and

often wait years to be relocated to a new home. They come exhausted, afraid, having seen the worst that humanity can do to each other. Don’t we feel the obligation to welcome these families, these children, care for them, make sure they integrate into American society, help them become whole again? The answer must be an unconditional yes. I know my congregation is saying yes and answering the call of our tradition, of our sacred text. For we were strangers and wanderers once too.

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER
Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth Emeth

Years ago, a minister said to me, “I only wish we had the mourning customs you have.” The minister told me how many times he had to deal with issues of grief. His flock more often than not ignored the emotions tied to dying and death. I couldn’t agree with him more inasmuch as the rituals alone are therapeutic, allowing the mourner to ease back into active life after the death of a loved one. When one rushes the process there is a good chance the emotional impact lingers.

I vividly recall seeing on the news one night a camera crew coming up to a woman who was schlepping groceries. She had just won a lottery jackpot. “What do you plan to do with your winnings?” she was asked. She responded, “Well, tomorrow is my husband’s funeral and I’ll think about that afterwards.”

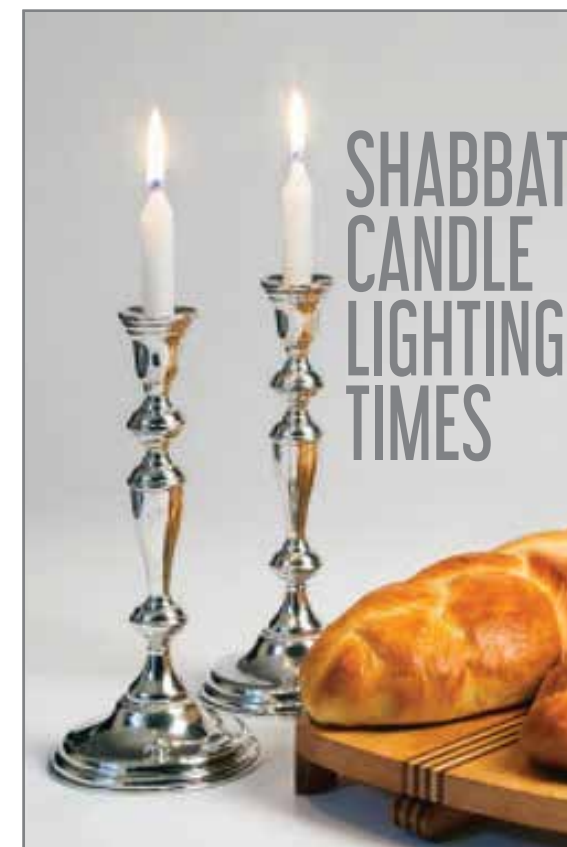
I have no idea if that conversation continued; I was so taken aback with her matter-of-fact

MORE ON NEXT PAGE

response and seeing that she had to buy groceries without apparent help from family or friends.

Unfortunately, in many cases we have adopted this American approach: a stiff upper lip and little to commemorate the loss. Do we think we are stronger than our forebears? Smarter than our forebears? Do we really want to isolate ourselves and bear the grief alone?

Our traditional mourning practices might even be more relevant today than ever before. So much of what we experience in life is without the benefit of family members who all too often live in communities far from ours. That’s why it’s important to connect to people either through affiliation in a synagogue or through active involvement in community agencies. It’s not just because this is a way to express our Jewish values, it’s also about creating community so that in times of need friends can be there for you.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2017
Light candles at 5:07 PM
Shabbat, February 4, 2017
Shabbat ends at 6:08 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2017
Light candles at 5:15 PM
Shabbat, February 11, 2017
Shabbat ends at 6:15 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017
Light candles at 5:23 PM
Shabbat, February 18, 2017
Shabbat ends at 6:23 PM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017
Light candles at 5:31 PM
Shabbat, February 25, 2017
Shabbat ends at 6:30 PM



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she'ar avelei tziyonvi'Yerushalayim.*

RENEE GAIL COVIN 1933 - 2017

AGE 83, passed away Thursday, January 12, 2017.

Born in Chicago, IL on March 7, 1933, Renee was the daughter of the late Matthew and Ann Seskind. At the age of 19, Renee married her high school sweetheart, Jerome Covin. Together, Renee and Jerome moved from Chicago to Los Angeles where their three children were born and raised. Renee focused on raising their family while Jerome completed medical school. When Renee was 40, she went back to school, earned a Master's Degree and fulfilled her lifelong dream of becoming a Marriage and Family Therapist. Throughout Renee's life, her family was always her top priority - from raising her children, to caring for her grandchildren. and enjoying her great-grandchildren - her family was her everything. Jerome and Renee first became grandparents while living in Los Angeles and after retiring and living in Colorado for ten years, they settled in Pennsylvania when they were blessed with more grandchildren.

Renee genuinely enjoyed life, she was as comfortable hiking, skiing, or SCUBA diving as she was wearing designer clothing, putting on make-up, or staying at the Ritz Carlton.

Renee was preceded in death by her son, Jordan Dale Covin. She is survived by her

husband, Jerome Covin; daughters, Cynthia Covin Alderton (Del) and Marla Covin Cooper (Ross); grandchildren, Jonathan Bringuier (Katie), Stefan Bringuier (Misha), Sabrina Bringuier, Jordan Cooper, and Ethan Cooper; great-grandchildren, Camden, Natalie, and Vanessa.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom.

HELEN FEINGOLD GOLDBERG 1922 - 2017

AGE: 94 • Wilmington

Helen Goldberg passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at Forwood Manor.

Helen was born on April 15, 1922 to Nathan and Fanny Feingold. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 68 years, Albert Zev Goldberg, and is survived by sons Steven (Jane) and Harry (Ruth), by grandchildren Wendy, Andy (Holly), Sarah (Ilana) and Jennifer, and by great-grandchildren Eliana and Naomi.

Helen was a life member of Temple Beth Shalom, where she was confirmed in 1937, married in 1943, and became a Bat Mitzvah in 1999. Helen and Albert were honored at Temple Beth Shalom on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary on October 3, 2003.

Helen served the Jewish community in

Wilmington and throughout Delaware. She was a past-President of the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware and was honored for her service by Temple Beth Shalom and by the Jewish Historical Society. Helen was also a Life Member of Hadassah and served as President of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home Auxiliary.

SAMUEL "MURPH" GOLDBERG

AGE 95, passed away peacefully at home, Wednesday, December 14, 2016. A World War II vet, he was a loving husband to his late wife Jean, and is survived by his loving children, Ralph (Anne) of Stone Mountain, GA; David of Washington, DC; Allen of Bethesda, MD; Janice of Wilmington; and Bill (Rochelle) of Baltimore. He is also survived by grandchildren Zvi (Rifky), Dovid (Golda), Yitzy (Malki), Shoshana (Baruch), and Akiva. He was blessed with 11 great-grandchildren: Chaya, Hadassah, Sori, Nechamah, Dovid, Shraga, Tzvi, Michal, Shaindy, Moshe, and Yossi.

He was a simple, kind and sweet man who loved bowling and Westerns. He had a great sense of humor, but killed almost every joke he ever told. He made time for his kids' activities and always reminded them how proud he was of them.

ROBERT FRITS KAN

AGE 86, of Wilmington, DE, died on December 16, 2016 after a long illness. His devoted wife of 58 years, Francisca, was by his side.

Born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, he immigrated to Queens, New York, with his parents and sister, after escaping wartime Europe in 1940.

He received a BA in Economics from Hofstra University, then worked for 30 years for the US government, including service at the Department of Commerce as an international trade specialist, the Atomic Energy Commission, the National Science Foundation, and the American Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. After retiring from the government, he worked for 20 years in private practice as a Certified Financial Planner.

Robert was a lifelong Boy Scout, and received the Silver Beaver Award. He served on several Scout committees and belonged to related organizations, from local board councils to the National Eagle Scout Association. He was also an accomplished philatelist, and combined his interest in stamp collecting with his devotion to the Boy Scouts. He assembled an acclaimed collection of Scouts on Stamps.

He was active in community affairs wherever he lived—in Chevy Chase MD, Elkton, MD, and then Wilmington, DE, serving on town councils and community college boards, as well as working with professional associations.

But first and foremost, Robert was a

committed and kind father and husband, a loving, optimistic, and steady influence in his family. He loved the outdoors and being private scout leader to his three daughters who survive him: Jeanette R. Benway of Mount Kisco, NY; Susan Kan (Lynne Paju) of Northampton, MA; and Eleanor K. Alexander (Frederick) of Wilmington, DE. He is also survived by his sister, Betsy Klein; and five grandchildren: Rachel, Peter, and Elizabeth Benway and Sarah and Zev Alexander.

Donations in Robert's memory can be made to HIAS Refugee Resettlement or Appalachian Mountain Club.

ALFRED M. (AL) KESSLER 1923 - 2016

AGE: 93 • Wilmington

Alfred (Al) M. Kessler, of Wilmington, DE, passed away peacefully on December 24, 2016.

Al was born on February 6, 1923 in Atlantic City, NJ, the son of Irving and Beatrice Kessler. Al graduated Atlantic City High School in 1940 and became a pre-med student at Susquehanna University where he played football. Although he had a college exemption from the Armed Services, at 18, he shelved his medical career to enlist in the US Army Air Force for active duty in World War II.

After three years of active duty, at a return celebration party in Atlantic City, he met and married the love of his life Josephine (Jo) Taub in 1947. After a brief time in Washington, DC, they made their life in Wilmington, DE with their two children, Alan and Steve. After 67 years of blessed marriage, Al lost his beloved Jo, who

passed away in January 2015. Al resided in Forwood Manor Senior Living over the last two years and loved the community and being a fixture in it.

Al's priorities in life were his family and his friends. He adored and revered his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, who were a constant presence in his and Jo's lives, and who returned that love many fold. Al was limitless in his dedication to his many friends, always there to provide emotional and, when needed, financial support, and play a large part in their lives. His perpetual friendly, good natured and always upbeat personality was infectious. In his presence, his smile and way with people made you feel as though you were the most important person in the world. He was also a Renaissance man with many varied interests that included being a trained concert pianist, jazz and big band music, appreciation of the arts, a love of sports, reading, history, politics, government, and his beloved stamp and coin collection. Al was a dedicated member of Congregation Beth Shalom for over 60 years.

Al is survived by his children: Alan Kessler (Gail) of Wynnwood, PA and Steve Kessler (Barb) of Wilmington; grandchildren: Anastasia (Stacy) (Gianluigi), Mark, Brian, and Dan; and great grandchildren: Valentina and Gianluca.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Congregation Beth Shalom or to the American Cancer Society.

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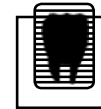
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COMMUNITYCALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2017

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Fifth Annual Community Game Night and Klezmer Showcase

7-10 PM
Congregation Beth Shalom
Mark this date on your calendar and enjoy a fun-filled night! Bring your friends and your own favorite games. Bingo, Trivia, Poker, Mah-Jongg, Monopoly... you decide. A light supper is included in the admission of only \$15 paid by Feb. 3rd, or \$18 at the door. Cash bar for Beer & Wine. This event is co-sponsored by AKSE, CBE, CBS, and TBE. For more information, please contact Laurie Hazen at Sisterhood@bethshalomwilmington.org.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Kickin' It: Attention, 6th - 8th Graders!

4:30-6 PM
Siegel JCC - Senior Lounge, JCade & Gym Club 78 Members - \$5 / All others \$10
As part of the J's 2017 "Youth Social Guide" programming, middle school-aged children are coming together for a social event of hanging out by taking over the J's Senior Lounge with a few snacks. Afterwards they'll be in the gym for a little soccer and

Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at ShalomDelaware.org for a full, up-to-date listing of community events.

the JCade for video games and music. For more information contact Dan Metz at danmetz@siegeljcc.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Jewish Great Books

2 PM
Siegel JCC Board Room
The Retrospective by AB Yehoshua. For information, contact annasaul@siegeljcc.org.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Wine & Wisdom: Film and discussion Israel Inside

7 PM
Siegel JCC
Discussion led by Jennifer Steinberg. Free and open to the public. For information, contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt JCRC Director 302-427-2100.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Dinosaur Shabbat

4:45 - 6 PM
Siegel JCC - Auditorium
Join your ECC friends and family for our Third Annual Dinosaur Shabbat! Enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner of baked chicken, potatoes and challah after the service. If you have never attended a Shabbat service

before, don't worry--our children will guide you! This dinner is open to all JCC members regardless of religion. Space is limited, and RSVP's are a must! Dinosaur Shabbat is \$5 a person (under 1 is free).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Jewish History Course: The World of Biblical Israel: Lecture 11- Worshipping Locally

10 AM
Congregation Beth Shalom
Dover, DE
These classes are open to all members, their friends and neighbors, and whoever has an interest in Jewish history! You do not have to be Jewish to learn from, and enjoy these classes. These classes are in Jewish History, not religion. so everyone will be comfortable in attending and participating. Please contact Burt Brenman, the moderator of the class, at burtrehab@gmail.com, in order for him to prepare sufficient handouts for new class members.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

DVLI - The Creative Communication Workshop with Hanoch Piven

2-4 PM
Siegel JCC - Auditorium
Israeli Artist and illustrator Hanoch Piven will join us for a creative workshop. His workshop encourages creativity, communication and self-reflection through the creation of collages with common everyday objects. The session will allow people of all ages to create their own works of art. Co-sponsored with the Jewish Federation of Delaware. For more information contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org.
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Community-Wide Program Featuring Rabbi Michael Uram
7-9 PM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
Join us for an evening with Rabbi Michael Uram, Executive Director & Campus Rabbi at University of Penn Hillel. Registration is requested by February 17th. For more information, contact nicole@ShalomDel.org.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Mini Masquerade

6:30-9 PM
For children in Kindergarten through 5th grade
Siegel JCC - Auditorium, Gym & Senior Lounge
Members: \$20
Non-Members: \$30 per child
As part of the J's 2017 "Youth Social Guide" programming, elementary-aged children are sharing a social event of fun taking over the J's Auditorium and Gym areas for an evening of playing games, music, face painting, carnival games and other surprises! For more information contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

Guest Speaker - Professor Roald Hoffman

2 PM
Brandywine Hundred Library located on Foulk Road.
Dr. Hoffmann is a child Holocaust survivor, having been born in Poland in 1937, and recently wrote an autobiographical play, Something that Belongs to You, which deals with issues of memory and forgiveness. This event is sponsored by Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth and the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Reflections on Science and Jewish Tradition

7 PM
Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth
Nobel Laureate Roald Hoffmann explores how science and religion look at pieces of the world. The religious setting is that of Jewish tradition. The science is mainly the central one, chemistry. This lecture is



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COMMUNITYCALENDAR

the kickoff event of a project that seeks to engage science with Jewish tradition to illuminate the theme of Natural and Man-made, with subsequent events on April 2, April 23 and May 7. All events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Mark Wagman at mewag1@comcast.net.

MONDAY, MARCH 6

Ronald McDonald House YLD Cooking Event

2:30 PM
Join YLD as we cook dinner for the families staying at the house. They have space for no more than 12-14 people in their kitchen. Children under the age of 16 must be supervised and within eye contact of an adult parent or guardian (21 years old and above) at all times. Children must be 12 years old to participate in food preparation. Please arrive at 2:30 PM to begin prepping. For more information and to sign up, please contact Jessica Rosen at Jessica@shalomdel.org or 302-427-2100.

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JERUSALEM POST CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION

GETTING ANIMATED
Puzzle is located on page 35

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Your Kosher Deli's New Menu!



Partial February Menu
Selections Change Every 2 Weeks

- Stuffed Flounder Florentine
- Salmon Cakes
- Italian Style Chicken Cutlet
- Honey Glazed Chicken
- Rotisserie Chicken Salad
- Beef Sloppy Joes
- Kung Pao Chicken
- *Roasted Sweet Potato
- *Roasted Red Bliss Potato
- *Roasted Farm Vegetables
- *Steamed Broccoli
- *Steamed Asparagus

Available by The Pound or Build a Meal

\$9 Build a Meal- Choose one meat (8 oz) and 2 sides* (6 oz each)
\$12 Build a Meal- Choose one fish (8 oz) and 2 sides* (6 oz each)

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CAMP AT THE HOMESTEAD

By Jaidy Schweers, Editor

As the months begin to creep closer to summer’s edge, parents are assigned the arduous task of Camp Duty: Finding a camp. Paying for camp. Preparing for camp.



PHOTO CREDIT: ISOTCKPHOTO.COM

The role is relatively clear, and most of us can/have/ will relate to the concept. I come from a small town in Colorado where options for camp were fairly limited; Jewish day camps, unheard of. So, the camp frenzy that exists on the East coast has always been very unique to me. The choices and costs can be overwhelming. Whatever your decision, this summer I invite you to try this: bestow some camp moments at home, with the kids, in your own backyard.

I have been sending my kids to a Jewish day camp every summer since they were three, and they love it. And just last summer two of them took advantage of the One Happy Camper incentive offered through Jewish Federation of Delaware, and went to overnight camp, which was an equally rewarding adventure. Through their experiences, I have observed there is no replacement for a camp experience, and certainly no replacement for a Jewish camp experience. In addition to the value my children find at camp, they also find that creating pint-sized compartments of memories by doing things together as a family, to be an indispensable part of their summers. These activities take up a sliver of the day, but will quickly fill up those memory receptacles with overwhelming amounts of goodness.

The following is a list of what I do with my family when spring and summer roll around. I don’t take credit for everything. Some ideas came from creative and whimsical friends, other ideas reflect the products of impressionable, curious eight year olds (see #13). I was a little nervous about that one.

- 1. BUILD FORTS OUT OF FALLEN BRANCHES.** Have dinner in them after sunset.
- 2. BUY A HAMMOCK.** Lounge all summer long, and look up in the sky and make cloud animals, or swing them high. Not too high.
- 3. MAKE RAIN SHADOWS.** Run outside the moment it begins to lightly shower and lay down on the pavement with your faces catching the rain. Get up five minutes later and observe the outlines your bodies left behind on the dry spot of the ground.
- 4. MAKE A LUNCH AND TIE IT INTO A BANDANA OR OLD T-SHIRT...** and then onto a stick, like a hobo, and take a walk through Brandywine Creek State Park. A perfect time for a nature hunt too.
- 5. SEARCH FOR BUGS.** And frogs. And then catch them, and then let them go. (You might have to fake like you’re not afraid).
- 6. USE A MAGNIFYING GLASS ON ALL THINGS.** Sand. Grass. M & Ms.
- 7. HAVE A GARDEN PARTY** with homemade newspaper hats, and cookies. (I haven’t done this yet, but it’s always been in my head).
- 8.** Put the cars in the driveway and **HAVE A FAMILY CAR WASH** – even if your cars aren’t dirty. (Don’t worry about getting wet).
- 9. SIDEWALK CHALK.** You know this one. Super fun. Try the glow in the dark kind.
- 10.** Get large paintbrushes and a bucket of water and **‘PAINT’ LARGE MURALS** on the deck, patio, or on the side of your house. Watch them fade in the sunlight. And then do more.
- 11. PUT ON SNEAKERS AND WALK IN A CREEK.** Search for rocks in the water shaped like hearts.
- 12. EAT APPLES. PLANT THE APPLE SEEDS.** (It doesn’t matter if they don’t amount to anything).
- 13. MAKE A VEHICLE OUT OF A CARDBOARD BOX, A BOOSTER SEAT, DUCT TAPE AND A SKATEBOARD.** Put a bike helmet on and take turns riding the ‘car’ down the street. Steer it into the grass to brake. (Ages 5 and up).
- 14. MAKE SOMETHING UP.**



PHOTO CREDIT: PINTEREST.COM

A Jewish upbringing stems from the family, and the accompanied creativity can be as colorful and vibrant as the days of summer. Yes, do your Camp Duty; find the best camp, shop for the best pair of water shoes, discover sticky labels online, and enjoy bearing witness to the adventures your children have during the camp experience. But more importantly, create camp at home; laze together deep into a bed of plush, emerald grass, and slowly begin to roll all the way down a hill, picking up your speed, until you’re left dizzy with youth. Your children will never forget the moments your hands gently brushed together, or that you all giggled the whole way down that hill.

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(in a nutshell)

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| FEBRUARY 1-19 | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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written by
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