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Janice Kaplan
Author of The Gratitude Diaries

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During Passover we are reminded that, as Jews, it is our responsibility — and at the very heart of our values — to deliver the gift of hope to other Jews locally, in Israel, and around the world.

If G-d did not take us out of Egypt, then we, our children, and our children’s children would still be slaves to Pharaoh. We remember that generation after generation has survived threats to destroy the Jewish people.

The responsibility now rests on us. We must act. Federation acts. We do so every year.

In our own community, we provide financial, emotional, physical, and educational assistance to many in need. A teenager receives a scholarship to attend a Jewish Camp. A senior citizen gets help with daily tasks or in finding long-term care. An adult gets confidential counseling and assistance until they get back on their feet again. A young adult participates in leadership programs that benefit each of our beneficiary agencies. A child receives PJ Library books every month to share with the entire family.

Jewish Federation of Delaware is there to help when needed, promoting lasting connections and ensuring a strong and vibrant Jewish future.

During Passover, let us remember that we are all responsible for our fellow Jews. All of us desire for Israel to dwell securely in her borders. All of us want Judaism to continue to thrive and flourish. All of us hope and pray for the welfare of our parents, spouse, family, and friends.

We have the power and the responsibility to make the lives of our fellow Jews better and let them know they are not alone. Our collective devotion makes our people strong.

In difficult times, people turn to the Federation. Now we are turning to you to make your gift to the 2019 Annual Campaign. The good your gift provides is immediate and has a lasting impact on the lives of so many.

We Grow Stronger TOGETHER.

Chag Sameach,
Bill Wagner, President
Seth J. Katzen, Chief Executive Officer

Wishing you happiness, peace, prosperity and all the joys of PASSOVER

FROM THE OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND STAFF OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE

WILLIAM WAGNER
President

SETH J. KATZEN
Chief Executive Officer
Trying to understand the upcoming Israeli elections can get confusing.

The country’s longtime prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, is mired in a series of corruption scandals and facing a serious challenge from a new rival.

Other politicians are maneuvering behind the scenes to form new coalitions that would allow them to be included in Israel’s parliament majority and thus have more influence over Israeli policies. It’s a fascinating race that changes by the day.

Israel’s 13 biggest political parties, each explained in one sentence

Israel has a total of 47 parties competing at the ballot box. Israelis vote for parties, not individual candidates (the candidates are chosen by the parties, some through primaries). The more votes a party gets, the more seats it has in Israel’s 120-seat parliament, the Knesset. A government is formed by a party — more likely a coalition of like-minded parties — that captures more than 60 seats.

More than a dozen parties could make the next Knesset. Here’s a short description of each of them.

The front-runners:

Likud, Israel’s right-wing flagship, and Netanyahu’s party, opposes a Palestinian state, supports settlements and encourages privatization in the economy — but its main selling point is the longtime prime minister, who is seeking his fifth term.

Supporting actors on the right:

Blue and White is a new centrist coalition led by a former military chief of staff, Benny Gantz. It was created to oppose Netanyahu and his alleged corruption.

The New Right is led by the prominent figures Naftali Bennett and Ayelet Shaked; the party staunchly opposes Palestinian statehood and supports settlement growth, and features a very hawkish defense policy — what its platform calls an “iron fist” against Israel’s enemies.

Jewish Home-Jewish Power is the controversial union between a religious Zionist party and a far-right party, also known as Otzma Yehudit, that supports implementing religious law and waging “total war” on Israel’s enemies.

Israel Beiteinu champions the interests of Russian-speaking immigrants, along with a hard-line defense policy that calls for the execution of terrorists.

Kulanu is a center-right party focused on lowering Israel’s high cost of living.

Zehut is an unusual mix: libertarian — and in favor of marijuana legalization — but strongly against Palestinian statehood and Arab-Israeli equality.

Supporting actors on the left:

Labor was once the left-wing flagship and largest party in the country, it’s now an also-ran to Blue and White.

Meretz is about as far left as you can go while remaining Zionist, supporting a Palestinian state alongside Israel along with minority rights and religious pluralism within Israel.

Haredi Orthodox:

United Torah Judaism is the Ashkenazi haredi party — who support Orthodox control of Israel’s religious life, oppose mandatory army service for their followers.

Shas is the Sephardi haredi party who stand for religious traditionalism as well as the rights of Israel’s Mizrahi (Middle Eastern and North African) Jewish population.

Arab Israeli:

Hadash-Taal supports Palestinian statehood and advocates for Israel’s Arab minority.

Balad-Raam supports Israel being a secular state for all its citizens and no longer a Jewish state.

Why are there elections in April?

The Israeli government operates under a proportional representation system. There are 120 seats in the parliament, or Knesset. To gain a seat, a party needs to win at least 3.5 percent of the vote. Whoever wins at least 61 seats controls the government.

No party has ever won the necessary 61 seats. That means the party with the most votes has to form coalitions with other smaller parties to reach the threshold.

In the last elections, held in March 2015, the Netanyahu-led Likud won 30 seats and formed a coalition with smaller right-wing and religious parties (Jewish Home, United Torah Judaism, Kulanu and Shas, with Israel Beiteinu joining a year later). If the coalition were to fall apart — a minister leaving the government, for example — Netanyahu would lose his coalition, lose control of the government and have to call new elections.

That is almost exactly what happened last November: Israel Beiteinu left the coalition when Avigdor Liberman resigned, disgusted by a cease-fire with Gaza militants. Netanyahu was left with 61 seats — an ultra-slim majority that doesn’t allow for easy legislating. If just one small faction of his coalition disagrees with a bill, it’s dead in the water.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Sure enough, coalition disagreements over a bill to draft haredi Orthodox men into the military caused the party heads to call for new elections in December. However, many believe the timing of the elections has more to do with Netanyahu’s legal troubles, which led to his indictment on corruption charges at the end of February. A victory, pundits surmised, would give Netanyahu leverage in fending off the charges.

—Emily Burack

Can Netanyahu withstand his big corruption scandals?

Netanyahu is the first sitting prime minister to be indicted on criminal charges – but that doesn’t mean he won’t be re-elected in April.

Netanyahu allegedly attempted to improve his press coverage through illegal deal making on multiple occasions and is accused of receiving $200,000 in illegal bribes of Cuban cigars and champagne.

On February 28, Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit made the decision to indict Netanyahu in three separate corruption cases. But under Israeli law, a hearing must precede the formal filing of charges. This hearing won’t be held before the elections — look for it in July.

Netanyahu’s situation is not quite unprecedented: In 2008, his predecessor, Ehud Olmert, resigned before he was formally indicted on bribery charges. Olmert eventually was convicted and served 16 months of a 27-month sentence.

But unlike Olmert, Netanyahu will not step down and remains defiant.

Netanyahu served a term in the 1990s and has served continuously as prime minister for the past decade. He remains popular among voters — or at least more tolerable than his rivals. Some polls have shown Blue and White inching up and even surpassing him, although the coalition math still favors the right.

Even if Netanyahu is re-elected and formally indicted, there is likely no legal requirement that he step down from office — though not leaving would certainly be an eyebrow-raising choice.

—Laura E. Adkins

The rise of Benny Gantz’s coalition, a formidable challenger to Netanyahu

At the last minute, a new party has entered the Israeli political scene and stands a decent chance of toppling the ruling Likud party.

On February 21, the last day to submit a party list for the elections, Gantz decided to merge his fledgling Israel Resilience Party with media personality and politician Yair Lapid’s established centrist Yesh Atid. They named the alliance the Blue and White for the colors of Israel’s flag.

Yesh Atid, a surprisingly successful party established in 2012, is almost radically centrist and focuses primarily on social and civic issues. It’s still hard to discern where exactly Gantz stands on most issues, but from what we’ve seen, he is a centrist as well. Blue and White’s platform emphasizes global collaboration on security issues and true Israeli democracy that recognizes Israeli Arabs as equal citizens and requires religious Jews to serve in the IDF.

Though this is Gantz’s first foray onto the political stage, he is well respected as a general, having served as the chief of staff for the IDF from 2011 to 2015. In Israel, former chiefs of staff cannot serve as prime minister for at least three years after completing their service, so this is Gantz’s first opportunity to do so. Likud and the Blue and White are virtually tied in the polls, with both expected to pick up somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 seats. If elected, Gantz and Lapid would alternate who gets to be prime minister, with Gantz serving for the first two years.

—Laura E. Adkins

In February, Netanyahu helped broker a pact between an extreme right-wing party, Jewish Power, or Otzma Yehudit, and the more moderate right-wing Jewish Home. By combining forces, the parties would have a better shot at winning Knesset seats than making it on their own. Netanyahu is effectively legitimizing the ideology of Meir Kahane, an American extremist rabbi, who is known for his legacy of violence and spreading hate in both Israel and America. Assassinated in 1990 in New York, Kahane’s racist legacy lives on in Israel through groups such as Jewish Power and their followers (known as Kahanists).

While some of Kahane’s ideas have moved to the mainstream Israeli right (he was one of the first to discuss the idea of a “demographic time bomb”), he is still undeniably considered an extremist figure. That’s why Netanyahu has taken so much heat for the move at home and abroad.

Labor used to be almost synonymous with Israel: It stood for social democracy, kibbutzim, a strong defense posture, and negotiations with the Palestinians. In 1999, it was riding high; Party leader Ehud Barak had defeated Netanyahu in the election, and was pushing toward a peace treaty with the Palestinians. But negotiations failed and the second intifada began — an unprecedented wave of terror attacks in Israel that led to a clampdown on Palestinians in the West Bank.

Israel’s Arab minority has the right to vote, but those votes usually don’t mean much. Arab-Israeli parties — there have been several over the years — never sit in Israeli governing coalitions and usually are at odds with both the Israeli Jewish left and right.

PHOTO CREDIT: BROOKINGS.EDU
PJ OUR WAY Welcomes a National Leadership Team Member from Delaware and the Brandywine Valley

By JFD Staff

Jenna Mussaf, 9, of Delaware has been chosen by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) in partnership with Jewish Federation of Delaware, to join the new national PJ Our Way Leadership Team!

As part of a Harold Grinspoon Foundation initiative to create kid-driven local programming for tweens, Jenna and nine other team members from across America will participate in monthly leadership trainings, explore what interests excite them, and learn how to translate their enthusiasm into action.

The six-month program gives team members opportunities to form friendships with kids from a variety of different Jewish communities. During this time together, they will learn skills such as visioning, goal setting, marketing and program planning. Team Leadership kids will also be paired up with local PJ Library professionals to achieve a goal of creating a program that can be used as a model for tween engagement.

“From our very first meeting where we explored what really matters to us, I realized just how much these kids care about their world and how each one is ready to take action to build something meaningful and fun for their peers,” said Saskia Swenson Moss, who directs the Leadership Team.

Each participating community has been granted $250 to help make this program happen.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Jenna is thrilled about being chosen. “I really wanted to be on the team because I wanted to meet other Jewish kids around the country and try to do something important for my community here in Delaware.”

Jamye Cole, the Coordinator for PJ Library of Delaware and the Brandywine Valley, said, “This is such an exciting opportunity for Jenna, for PJOW Delaware and the Brandywine Valley, and for Jewish Federation of Delaware. We, as a community, are honored to be asked by PJ Library to participate in such an exciting and innovative program.

Jenna, who is already a young leader in Delaware, is being acknowledged for her dedication to improving the community and gets the chance to continue her work (and passion) by helping the children at Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. She also gets to show her peers why leadership and Tikkun Olam is crucial in the community, and has the opportunity to have them join her in her work.”

The PJ Library adventure continues with PJ Our Way where kids ages 9-11 can log in to a child-safe website each month to choose a free Jewish chapter book. PJ Our Way members can write book reviews, read blogs, watch kid-created book trailers and author interviews, and access activities just for them.

For nearly 200 years, we’ve stood for one thing: Service. We began as a small business and though we’ve grown into one of the region’s oldest and largest banks, we’ll never forget where we came from. We’re committed to helping the communities where we live, work and play. That is why WSFS Bank is proud to support the Jewish Federation of Delaware.
On May 2, Delaware Remembers the Holocaust with Reverence and Love

By Polly Zavadivker, Assistant Professor of History & Director of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Delaware

For decades it was an accepted truth: Jews in postwar America consciously repressed, denied, and forgot to remember the catastrophe that befell their fellow Jews in Europe between 1933 and 1945.

It took nearly sixty years for those claims to be questioned, challenged, and finally, deconstructed. Enter Hasia Diner, professor at New York University, who made a bold intervention with her award-winning 2009 book *We Remember with Reverence and Love: American Jews and the Myth of Silence after the Holocaust, 1945-1962*.

Given Diner’s avid commitment to studying the relationship between American Jewry and the Holocaust, it is highly fitting that she will deliver this year’s Yom HaShoah lecture at the University of Delaware on May 2. For this program itself provides living proof of her central subject: American Jews have in fact been commemorating the Holocaust and honoring its victims since the end of World War II until the present day!

In order to appreciate the extent to which Dr. Diner’s work rocked the field of Jewish Studies in the last decade, we need to revisit the conventional wisdom that she set out to challenge. It was popularized in such highly influential works as Peter Novick’s *The Holocaust in American Life* and Norman Finkelstein’s *The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the Exploitation of Jewish Suffering*. According to Novick and Finkelstein, American Jews in the 1940s and ‘50s consciously avoided discussion of the fact that Nazi Germany and its allies systematically murdered nearly six million European Jews during the Second World War. The reasons for this alleged silence were numerous and varied, they argued, but stemmed largely from fear that mention of the uniquely Jewish tragedy might alienate them from the mostly white, Christian, middle-class communities where they sought inclusion, rather than distinction. These authors further claimed that American Jews began to openly discuss the Holocaust after Israel’s stunning victory in the Six-Day War in 1967. Suddenly, commemorating the Jewish victims seemed more acceptable, less threatening to American Jews. A collective sense of pride and international solidarity pervaded American Jewish consciousness, launching a culture of Holocaust commemoration and advocacy that has continued down to the present day.

Diner’s book demolished just about every aspect of that myth of silence. With a rich and diverse collection of evidence, she conclusively showed that the Holocaust occupied a central place in postwar American Jewish culture. She found prayers, scholarly studies, songs, artistic creations, cemetery markers, and sermons, all revealing that American Jews of all denominations had openly mourned and honored the wartime suffering of European Jewry since the very end of the war. She cited instances when Jewish organizations used the Holocaust to justify communities where they sought inclusion, rather than distinction. These authors further claimed that American Jews began to openly discuss the Holocaust after Israel’s stunning victory in the Six-Day War in 1967. Suddenly, commemorating the Jewish victims seemed more acceptable, less threatening to American Jews. A collective sense of pride and international solidarity pervaded American Jewish consciousness, launching a culture of Holocaust commemoration and advocacy that has continued down to the present day.

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MORE ON NEXT PAGE
American Jews of all denominations had **openly mourned** and **honored** the wartime suffering of European Jewry since the very end of the war.

Thanks to (Diner’s) research...it is no longer possible to say that American Jewry ever forgot or repressed knowledge of the Shoah.

As Director of the Jewish Studies Program at UD, I am honored to host Dr. Diner to present her groundbreaking findings on May 2. I am also thrilled that this program represents a continued partnership between UD’s Jewish Studies Program, the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, and UD Hillel. Our shared mission to remember the Holocaust and its victims with reverence and love can only be strengthened by bridging our university with the people of our community and our state.

---

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We remember

AMERICAN JEWS AND THE MYTH OF SILENCE AFTER THE HOLOCAUST, 1945-1962

HASIA R. DINER

New York University
Author of *We Remember with Reverence and Love*

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Daniel L. Herrmann, former state judge, and prominent in civic, communal, philanthropic and legal affairs, was confirmed by the State Senate to be an associate justice of the Delaware Supreme Court. His confirmation came following that of Daniel F. Wolcott to be Chief Justice. The terms of both justices will run for 12 years. Chief Justice Wolcott formerly was associate justice and Associate Justice once served on the Superior Court.

Associate Justice Herrmann will be sworn in later.

A native of this community and a graduate of the Wilmington High School, Associate Justice Herrmann has a typically “Horatio Alger” career. He worked to make his way through school and then through Georgetown Law School, in Washington, D.C.

During World War II he was a major.

On his return to civilian life he entered into the law and is one of the outstanding members of the Delaware bar. He is a member of the State Goals Committee, was president of the Legal Aid Society and a board member of the United Community Fund. He is a member of the Children’s Bureau of Delaware, the Delaware Welfare Council, the Delaware Boy Scout Council and other civic and communal organizations.

He has served as president and chairman of the board of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and is a member of its executive committee and budget committee. He is also a member of the board of the Katz Home for the Aged and the Jewish Community Center and of Temple Beth Emeth.

DECEMBER 1964
State of Delaware Honored

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FEBRUARY 1986
Roxanne Arsht Receives Marvel Cup

Roxanna Arsht is the fourth woman to receive the Marvel Cup since it was established in 1949.

The others were Dr. Margaret I. Handy, 1953, Pearl Herlihy Daniels, 1957, and Emily H. Womach, 1968.

The award recognized her as having given “exemplary service for the benefit of the state, community, society or fellow beings as a judge and (as) a volunteer with many community groups.”

“Her work in connection with and behalf of service organizations and agencies,” the citation said, “extends over four decades and has touched upon virtually every aspect of life in Delaware.”

Roxanna Arsht was born July 15, 1915 near the corner of Second and Adams. Her father deserted from the czar’s army in 1905 to avoid service in Russia’s war with Japan. He migrated to the United States by way of England. Eventually he reached Wilmington and received the Americanization advantages the city and state offered.

Roxanna and her brother, Dr. Norman Cannon, were stimulated by their parents to seek higher
Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is an Affiliated Organization of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Ballard Spahr is proud to support the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

education, even as their father attended special classes at the University of Pennsylvania.

Here I must tell a favorite story. Judge Arsh was admitted to the Delaware bar in 1941 while pregnant with her first child. When she took the oath to join the Delaware bar I’m told, she said, “We do.”

In 1980, she got really angry. With a couple of Family Court cases involving drug abuse before her, she became frustrated because Ferris School, then only for delinquent boys didn’t have a real drug abuse treatment program.

She ruled that unless Ferris inmates started to get meaningful drug abuse treatment within 30 days; she’d hold the entire Bureau of Juvenile Corrections in contempt of court. She meant it, too, and she got her way.

One of her major decisions came in 1961, after Family Court Judge Elwood F. Melson Sr. said to Roxanna’s husband, “Sam, how about donating your wife to our court?”

Arsht very wisely consulted his wife and on Jan. 2, 1962, she was sworn as a volunteer master of Family Court. She became known for a unique talent of expressing the sense of the law so that those who appeared before her not only understood and accepted her decisions but saw the workings of the system and felt part of it.
JCRC leadership met with Senator Chris Coons recently as part of our ongoing relationship-building efforts.

L to R, Mark Wagman, Jenn Steinberg, David Margules, Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, Richard Levine, John Elzufon, and Senator Chris Coons

Hillel celebrates Shabbat

Students gathered in celebration of Shabbat, welcoming the company of good friends and good food.

Hillel Birthright visits Arad

University of Delaware students got the opportunity to visit our sister city (Arad) during their birthright Israel trip this winter! Students were able to learn about robotics and hear all about the robotics competitions that take place in Israel and abroad. We had an amazing time learning and exploring together!
On Tuesday, February 26, Jewish Federation in collaboration with the Siegel JCC brought national recording artists, Distant Cousins, to Delaware as part of their mini-East Coast Tour. More than 75 attendees enjoyed the band’s folk/pop music at Wilmington Brew Works.

1 Distant Cousins light up the night  2 Mark Stape and Jeff Stape  3 Concert goers enjoying beer before the concert  4 Seth J. Katzen with Distant Cousins

ABOVE LEFT: A big crowd came out to hear Bob Yearick present The War on Words at Hadassah’s February brunch. Thank you to Karen Jacobs for hosting us in her lovely home! ABOVE RIGHT: left to right, Sue Rohrbacher (Hadassah Programming VP), Bob Yearick, and Karen Jacobs

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OUT AND ABOUT WITH DANIELLA

1 Enjoying the welcoming community of Dover
PHOTO SUBMITTED BY D. BUCHSTABBER

2 Daniella teaches students in Rehoboth
PHOTO BY DAVID UDOFF

3 Daniella engages the group
PHOTO BY DAVID UDOFF

4-5 Daniella shared her Israeli story with Temple Beth El’s Men’s Club. It was a very informative event with community members learning about Israel through Daniella’s story.
PHOTO BY SHELLEY PERLMUTTER

6-8 CONNECT (JFD’s Young Professionals Network) members created Mishloach Manot and baked Hamantashen for members of our elderly community. It was a fun evening filled with light and joy of giving back to the community.
PHOTO CREDIT: MADDIE DRIBAN AND NOAM GUKSMAN
DELAWARE JEWISH TEEN PHILANTHROPY INITIATIVE  PHOTOS BY JFD STAFF

Our Delaware Jewish Teen Philanthropy Initiative held a screening of the film, Rocky, on Sunday March 10 at 4 PM. Proceeds raised will be awarded as grants to Jewish Federation of Delaware beneficiary agencies.

REGISTRATION TABLE (LEFT): Micah Harley, Jayson Alonzo, and Alexander Goldman SNACK TABLE (RIGHT): Corrine Wiley and Brian Dym

TBE HAPPENINGS
PHOTO CREDIT: SHARON FULLERTON

1 Beth Margerison presents her handcrafted history dolls in an informative Sisterhood program
2 B'raysheit, Aleph, and Bet students prepare for Alex's Lemonade Stand in Sunday School
3 Molly Shay works on designing her custom tallit along with Hai classmates

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Happy Passover

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PHOTO CREDIT: RABBI MOTTI FLIKSHTEIN AND CTEEN JEWISH SCENE
1 2600 Jewish Teens Celebrate Being Jewish in Times Square
2 CTeen Delaware girls proudly wearing their blue and gold
3 Ready to rock the subway as we sing with Jewish Pride on the way
to Times Square
4 Celebrating our Jewish Pride on the Subway
5 CTeen Delaware at the Closing Ceremony Banquet
6 The Times Square Megatrons were taken over by CTeen

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From our 'Family
To Yours!

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WHAT’S HAPPENING AT THE J?

1 Dino Shabbat at the ECC
2 ECC Pre-School Teachers Jane Checchi, Erin Strickland, and Tiffany Millar on the 100th Day of School
3 Gayatri Khambadkone with little helpers at Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event
4 Bethany Kutz at Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event
5 Community Members enjoying a ladies’ night at Mind Body Wine
6 Campers enjoying our Olim Reunion

WISHING YOU A HAPPY Passover

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Wishing you happiness, peace, and all of the joys of Passover!

-Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester
Annual Meeting of the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware

Justice, Justice shalt thou pursue
Delaware’s Jewish Judges

Presentation by Richard Levin

Sunday, April 7, 2019
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Siegel Jewish Community Center
101 Garden of Eden Road
Wilmington, DE 19803

A reception with light refreshments will follow the program.

The event is free and open to the public. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Please RSVP by April 5 to 302-655-6232 or visit jhsdelaware.org/events/annual-meeting

JHS Del
Jewish Historical Society of Delaware

505 North Market St.
Wilmington, DE 19801
jhsdelaware.org
visit us on facebook.com/JHSDel

Founded in 1974, the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware acquires, preserves, and publishes materials pertaining to the history of Jewish settlement and life in Delaware.

One Book, One Community event was held on Sunday, March 10 at Congregation Beth Shalom and featured author, Lauren Belfer.

Left to right: Gary Harad, Rabbi Michael Beals, author Lauren Belfer, Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt

Author Talk with Hasia Diner

Photo credit: The Hagley Museum

More than 200 attendees heard Hasia Diner, author of Julius Rosenwald: Repairing the World, a collaboration between The Hagley Museum and Federation.

From our family to yours:
Happy Pesach!

With warmest wishes from
Senator Tom Carper and Mrs. Martha Carper
I am adding a text to my seder plate.

For all of the symbols we put on the seder plate—from the traditional egg, charoset, parsley, lettuce, horseradish, and shankbone to the less traditional orange, beet, or pineapple—along with the matzah and four cups of wine, the symbol that needs more visibility at our seder table is text.

“What about the haggadah?” you might ask. The haggadah is a wonder of pedagogy, teaching both order and fantasy. It presents rote exercises and differentiated learning right next to each other. The haggadah, though, is too easily the least meaningful symbol. For most people it means more pages before dinner or more pages to skip. Even for those who approach the haggadah as a great tool for the seder, it remains a book to open, to read, and to close.

The rabbis of the haggadah, however, would want us to experience more of what students at Einstein get when they read a text; they want the text to come alive for us today. They want us to decide for ourselves, to think critically, and to sharpen our thinking in relationship to others to answer the question: what does the text mean for me?

At Einstein, students start with learning far more of the text of the haggadah than one might imagine. In particular, they learn the “hineni muchan umzuman” passage that announces readiness for the next commanded part of the seder. Likewise, they learn the verses that make up the answer to all Passover questions, the recital of Deuteronomy 26:1-10. When I say learn the verses, though, I do not mean that they can merely read or sing them; I mean that they learn to argue about them.

The rabbis of the haggadah story who stayed up all night were famously on opposite sides of great debates about how to read Jewish text. They met in B’nai B’rak for a Passover seder precisely to find meaning in the relationship that one builds when you focus on a text with someone else. Do you really want to ignore the person whose politics differ from yours for the whole seder? No, you want to connect safely and meaningfully.

Connecting over the way our texts are open to interpretation, provoke questions, or challenge us to make sense of them is precisely what the seder seeks. How much more free are we when we find new insight or are pushed to agree-to-disagree after a great conversation? How much more free are we when we see that we can find new meaning year after year in ten verses of Torah? How much more free are we when we study and learn together? At Einstein, we are teaching students to be free and to liberate others at the seder table; you just might want to put a text on the seder plate so they can show you the way.
WELCOMING THE STRANGER

By Madeline Driban
Development & Communications Associate, JFS

Stepping into the Jewish Family Services file room, I curiously scanned the packed shelves, eventually discovering the old boxes marked “Archives, 1948-1951.”

JFS’ 120th anniversary provided me the unique opportunity to search through the agency’s history, and this seemed like the perfect place to start. Excited by this hidden treasure, I climbed up to see what lay inside. The sweet, musty smell of old papers and memories blossomed out of the box as I lifted the lid, disturbing the cracked, creased, and long-forgotten papers . . . it certainly was a hidden treasure.

I was in awe of the history I found inside. Old board meeting notes and memoranda, agency self-studies, and job applications...but one rather large file caught my eye. Labeled “United Service for New Americans,” the folder contained old correspondence and paperwork, telegrams and affidavits, job listings and case reports, page after page detailed the extraordinary work our Delaware community did in the 40s and 50s to advocate and open doors for Jewish refugees seeking a fresh, safe start after the war. Jewish Family Services, or the Jewish Welfare Society as it was called then, was front and center, coordinating these communications and services.

Regular letters and reports from the United Service for New Americans laid out the rapidly growing need, to which we would ultimately respond:

“Twenty thousand Jewish men, women and children, survivors of the world’s worst persecution, have now become eligible to enter the United States as a result of the recent liberalization of the Displaced Persons Act.”

“These uprooted and homeless Jewish victims of war have been given their final chance to come to a free country . . . their decade of oppression can be ended if every Jewish community acts promptly.”

Passion and urgency filled every page, bringing the people and their stories to life. Families, cousins, friends, and neighbors traveling from Poland, Vienna, Berlin, and Romania; people seeking new homes not only in America, but in Australia, Haiti, and Israel. Relatives, rabbis, donors, and employers rallied around these refugees, sending funds for travel, meeting them at the docks, and providing lodging until they could become self-sufficient. Each sponsorship or assurance document signed was filled with hope and

Want to connect our Jewish story to that of today’s refugee crisis at your Passover Seder?

Visit www.jfsdelaware.org to download JFS’ Haggadah Supplement.

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

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
promise of a new life, each page a piece of JFS history.

JFS has a long and proud history of advocating for and assisting newcomers to America, and I was touched to discover the traces of this history waiting to be read. We remain committed to reuniting families that have been separated by war, mobilizing communities to welcome them with open hearts, and helping them rebuild their homes and reshape their dreams in Delaware.

At the Passover Seder each year, we gather to tell the story of the Jewish People, afflicted with insecurity, wandering in search of safety; we are reminded at this time not only of our Exodus from Egypt, but our migration from a war-torn Europe and how, now, as a result of our history and resilience, we pledge to help those seeking refuge today. Compelled by our shared American values, spiritual convictions, and responsibility to humanity, we stand together to help the world’s most vulnerable people live in freedom and safety.

The Passover Exodus was 3000 years ago; the Jews’ liberation from the Holocaust was almost 75 years ago; and, yet, many around the world are still fleeing horrors most of us can only imagine. As we step into our own Jewish history this Passover and retell the story of our people’s search for freedom, I urge you to remember the 68.5 million displaced people and refugees around the world who are still in crisis today.

I hope you’ll be inspired, as I have been, to open doors, hearts, and minds and to join in making history for our future generations to read and admire . . . because our people were refugees too.
AGING WISELY

By Charlotte Zaback, Resident at Lodge Lane & Melissa Casperson, Sales & Marketing Director

Aging is inevitable. From the moment of birth, we start to age.

As we grow older, we are often faced with life challenges and difficult changes. We experience loss, whether it is a loved one or the ability to function as before. However, there is no need to dread the thought of aging. Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit rewrites what it means to grow older by providing us with tools to live life with renewed energy, intention, and joy even as we navigate through the challenges of aging. Writers Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal provide the road map for a journey we are taking. No subject is off limits including: relationships, body image, romance, living with loss, and cultivating well-being.

According to The Institute for Jewish Spirituality, “The Wise Aging Program is the only one of its kind that considers mindfulness and contemplative practices to be the foundation to aging wisely.” The program uses meditation, listening, text studying, journaling, and activities to dive deeply into a better understanding of how we age. Those in the group also learn to develop mature adaptive strategies which help them to age more wisely.

A Wise Aging program was recently started at Lodge Lane thanks to resident Charlotte Zaback. Charlotte is uniquely qualified to facilitate the group as she holds a Doctorate in Psychoeducational Processes from Temple University and is also certified as a Professional Life Coach. I recently sat down with Charlotte to observe one of their group meetings and to learn more about why she wanted to implement this program.

Q: Why bring the Wise Aging Program to Lodge Lane?
A: Charlotte Zaback

I arrived at Lodge Lane on March 19th, 2018. I have always been active in the community and once I was settled I decided to look for something to do on a volunteer basis that would utilize my skills and be beneficial to the Lodge Lane community. I observed that many folks went to three meals a day – an opportunity also for socializing, but I realized that the conversation was often limited to what was served at each meal. I myself observed that there was little discussion of other more meaningful topics, and very little other than superficial conversations. In response to what I felt was a need for more intellectual stimulation, I looked for a forum and a topic to launch some sort of discussion group which would bring people together in a more meaningful way.

Q: What was the inspiration for the program?
A: Charlotte Zaback

About that time, I received the July/August 2018 issue of Hadassah Magazine which focused on The Art of Aging. An article titled Growing Older caught my eye. Aging is like “the elephant in the room.” Everyone knows it’s there, but no one wants to acknowledge it. The article made reference to the text Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit. I ordered the book, which gave me a foundation text for the group.
I proposed this concept to Lodge Lane and received the green light to begin.

Q: When did the program start? Was it well received by others?
A: Charlotte Zaback

The group formed, and those who were interested began to meet on Fridays in the month of September. The group took a brief hiatus for December and reconvened in January. There is a core of members who are often joined by other residents and guests from time to time. In addition to helping members explore a wide range of topics regarding aging, the side benefits have been friendships made and more camaraderie among Lodge Lane residents.

References:
http://www.jewishspirituality.org/our-programs/resources-for-your-community/wise-aging/
Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal, Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, & Spirit (New Jersey, Berman House, 2015)
We’re told the story of Passover as children, dabbing the 10 Plagues on our plate.

Why is this night different from all other nights? Why are we different from all other people? What is it about the Jewish connection that extends beyond physical space?

When we had our mass exodus from Egypt, we had nowhere to turn but Israel. While the story talks about our journey, it doesn’t always mention how we were received: with open arms.

They needed gift cards and supplies to rebuild the community. Months later, Doron asked Joel if he knew then what he knows now, would the answer have been the same?

“No,” said Joel. “We needed people.”

Most recently, JResponse was deployed to Pittsburgh after the shooting at Tree of Life Congregation. Our own Aquatics Director, Stephanie Kegelman, joined JResponse, where she worked at the JCC of Greater Pittsburgh as a lifeguard for a few days this past winter.

In Pittsburgh, the staff were working non-stop with little to no breaks; their JCC was operating as a crisis and family assistance center. In taking care of the community, it became harder to take care of themselves.

“I think, more than anything, the staff just needed to feel supported,” said Stephanie.

“We were not only able to offer relief for those who needed a break, but provide an extra level of comfort for our larger JCC community.”

“They described it as giving them a ‘big hug’, said Stephanie.

For Steph, who visited Pittsburgh for the first time in November, the experience was as rewarding as it was moving. Through JResponse, she was able to connect with her colleagues in Pittsburgh, as well as her fellow volunteers.

“You could feel the good you were putting out in the world,” said Steph. “In a time where we all felt so helpless, it felt amazing to be able to contribute.”

That “we” that felt helpless speaks to a much larger picture: we are all one community. Jews, JCCs, Federations, Israelites. When we hurt, we hurt together. When we love, we love together. When we succeed, we succeed together.
ONE NEIGHBORHOOD AT A TIME

By Ellen L. Weingart
CBS Member

Tikkun Olam. Repairing the world. A tall order. But one small corner of the world at a time? That may be manageable.

“I feel very strongly about giving back to the community and by that I mean beyond the four walls of the synagogue,” said Stacey Friedland, chair of Congregation Beth Shalom’s Tikkun Olam Committee since June. “The congregation’s decision several years ago to stay in the city was almost a statement of our commitment to the neighborhood and our decision to join with other faith-based communities in the area.” She credited Rabbi Michael Beals, CBS’s spiritual leader, with having taken the lead on being neighborly and reaching out to area churches.

The Tikkun Olam Committee oversees nine ongoing programs, many in partnership with other area faith communities. The programs range from helping newly arrived refugees adjust to life in the United States; to programs for Ninth Ward neighbors in need, such as Family Promise, the Hanover Church Food Pantry and the Emmanuel Dining Room; to helping children through mentoring students at nearby elementary schools, promoting peace in the Galilee region of Israel through the interfaith middle-school-student Peace Drums and hosting a Jewish Girl Scouts troop; to helping CBS youth connect with the community through mitzvah projects; to interfaithe celebrations with area churches.

The committee consists of about 15 members who chair a particular program or a part of a large program, but Friedland estimates about five times that number of congregants are engaged in the various programs over the year.

The Tikkun Olam Committee also takes on “special requests,” rating them in terms of time commitment, cost, volunteer appeal and skill requirements, interfaithe and/or community connection, possible conflict with other programs and whether the project reinforces Jewish teachings. One recent “special request” was collecting supplies for Syrian refugees in a displaced persons camp in Idlib, Syria.

Such collection drives are relatively easy, said Friedland, but other programs require funding. “And we aren’t at all funded by the synagogue,” she said. “We need donations. Without that, we’re very limited in what we can do.”

Each time an organization sponsors Family Promise, for example, it donates $50; CBS hosts four times a year. Food for the Hanover Food Pantry is donated by congregants, but monetary contributions are made to purchase fresh produce.

“We’re also very grateful to the Siegel JCC and Einstein Academy for enrolling our refugee children at no cost, so we would like to make a contribution in appreciation of their generosity, but we don’t have much money in our account,” said Friedland.

Much of what we contribute is time and compassion, but there are costs,” she continued. “These are not just projects we’re working on, but relationships with other communities. We’re building on our Jewish values with gifts of money and compassion.”

Building community relationships through tikkun olam, said Friedland, gives congregants a way to learn about their neighbors and for non-Jewish neighbors to learn about Judaism. “We learn to appreciate each other and respect our differences,” she said. “We represent Judaism as warm and friendly to people who may know very little about us.”

It’s also a way to learn different ways of accomplishing a common goal. “And it’s the neighborly thing to do,” said Friedland. “We give of ourselves because we want to. We want to make a difference in our corner of the world.”
International CTeen Shabbaton in NYC: “I WAS IN TEARS”

By CTeen Staff

Rabbi Motti and Rochel Flikshtein brought a delegation of Delaware teens to New York, where they joined thousands of teens from around the world to celebrate Jewish unity, heritage, and pride at the 11th annual CTeen International Shabbaton.

The convention, which drew over 2600 participants from 23 countries, was the most electrifying and meaningful event to date. Participants from around the world assume that Delaware is a huge state with a booming Jewish community because of the energy, enthusiasm and excitement that the Delaware group proudly displays.

According to Corey Silberglied (Wilmington Friends School, 9th grade), “The Shabbaton is the greatest weekend of the year. It is a time like none other where I can be in a city I love with people I love. It is the time I can explore my heritage while meeting thousands of other teens like me. It is a time where I can thank Hashem for all that He has done for me. And most of all, the Shabbaton gives me the resources to show me that I matter!”

The inspirational weekend included a traditional Shabbat experience in the heart of Crown Heights, the Hasidic neighborhood of Brooklyn, meaningful hands-on workshops and lectures about Judaism, and the ever popular Times Square takeover, featuring world renowned Jewish popstar, Yaakov Shwekey. Cole Morris of ninth grade came to the Shabbaton for the first time. His mother, Elisa Morris, watched the live stream of the Havdallah concert in Times Square and commented, “I watched the live feed from Time Square and saw all those beautiful teens dancing, singing, and celebrating their common heritage. I was in tears. It was so moving.”

The theme of the historic Shabbaton was I-Matter. The aim of the theme was to empower teens to recognize and use their inherent, true value that is not dependent on achievements or status. It is a message that resonated with thousands of teens who have found their voices and personal missions through their involvement in CTeen.

“There are things that every teenager goes through, but that we rarely talk about.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
SYNAGOGUE NEWS

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019
Light candles at 7:12 PM
Shabbat, April 6, 2019
Shabbat ends at 8:12 PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019
Light candles at 7:19 PM
Shabbat, April 13, 2019
Shabbat ends at 8:20 PM

PASSOVER
FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019
Light Shabbat/Holiday candles at 7:26 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019
Light Holiday candles after 8:28 PM
(from pre-existing flame)
Sunday, April 21, 2019
Holiday ends at 8:29 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019
Light Holiday candles at 7:32 PM
FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2019
Light Shabbat/Holiday candles at 7:33 PM
(from pre-existing flame)
Shabbat, April 27, 2019
Shabbat/Holiday ends at 8:35 PM

For more information about CTeen, please contact Rochel Flikshtein at Rochel@ChabadDE.com or at (302) 547-2280.

Watching my fellow CTeeners on stage was like a breath of fresh air. Hearing their stories reminded me that I am not alone; none of us are,” shared Sarah (12th Grade).

Fifteen teen speakers shared personal stories of struggle, triumph, and strength in the face of adversity. The stories, ranging from students who fought for Jewish rights at school, to teens who lost family members to drug addiction—captivated the crowd, leaving a deep impression on the audience.

Adam Neumann, CEO of WeWork, engaged the audience with an important message about being present, connecting with others, and the incredible impact of celebrating Shabbat.

“The secret of my life and success is keeping Shabbat,” Adam Neumann shared in a powerful, electrifying surprise appearance. “Disconnecting from the world for 25 hours and connecting to something greater than myself makes me who I am. There has never been a more relevant time in history to celebrate being Jewish. If you come away with one thing today, I hope it’s that you disconnect to connect. Our intrinsic worth is not based on achievements. Every individual can connect to G-d, no matter the circumstances. It is because of this connection that every individual, in any situation, can make a significant difference.”

You may find yourself alone, the only Jew in your public school, you may feel like a minority, but remember: there is no such thing as a small Jew,” shared Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky, Chairman of CTeen. “I hope you take the energy you gained this weekend and carry it into every aspect of your lives back at home.”

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Q: What have you been doing in your retirement?

A: RABBI MICHAEL L. KRAMER

Benjamin woke up one Saturday morning in a bad mood. When he came down to breakfast, he put on his yarmulka and sat across the table from his visiting sister, Sarah.

“I’m not going to shul today!” he said to Sarah emphatically.

“Yes you are.” Sarah replied calmly.

“No I’m not . . . I don’t think I really want to ever go again!” Benjamin said with obvious irritation. “The people down there don’t like me, they ignore me sometimes . . . they don’t appreciate me at all . . . and I won’t go back.”

“Yes, you will go today, and you will continue,” said Sarah with confidence. And, I’ll give you two reasons. Number one, you’re 45 years old . . . and Number two, you’re the Rabbi!”

As a congregational rabbi I enjoyed going to shul (on most days). The challenges, the stimulation and the variety of my responsibilities energized me. I relished the teaching of young and old, writing a good sermon, the care and concern for my congregants, Jewish worship on Shabbat as well as the Jewish holidays and much more.

Nevertheless, a rabbi’s work is tiresome; the endless days, long weeks, interminable meetings, can overwhelm you.

Transitioning from this full time job to retirement can be difficult. It helps to prepare for the moment if you can. After thirty-six years in the congregational rabbinate I set out to make a change. Part of my preparation was to work towards hospital chaplaincy. I performed a chaplain internship at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC and moved to Delaware in 2009 to spend a year as a chaplain resident at Christiana Care. Ultimately I decided to retire rather than move to another area of the country searching for a position at a hospital. My family lived in the Northeast and I didn’t want to sacrifice proximity to them.

While at first finding responsibilities were challenging, I’ve managed to develop my niche in the community. Foremost I have taken and taught classes (like Jewish Folk Tradition and Reading Genesis) at Osher Lifelong Learning. I was the first man to join the Book Group there and spend a good time reading. I’ve taught in the different synagogues in the area which has given me great satisfaction, as well as read Torah at Temple Beth El. I meet with my colleagues as a member of Derech (the local rabbis and cantors group). I am on the Israel and Overseas Committee at Federation. And I am a member of J Street because I believe in a two-state solution to resolve the conflict between Israel and Palestinians. Lately, Barbara and I have been volunteering at Joseph’s Pantry at Beth Emeth providing low income families with food. I’ve also had the opportunity to serve congregations on the High Holy Days. While I’m not as busy as I was, I feel fulfilled.

The renowned rabbi and scholar, Jacob Emden, wrote a prayer, “Blessed is the One who has not made me a rabbi.” I rejoice in the choices I have made and in the profession I chose. I have no regrets and if given a new choice, I would follow the same path.

RABBI PETER GRUMBACHER

It’s hard for me to believe that it’s been ten years since I hung it up, as it were, but I never really hung it up. When I attended

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Leila Abigail Kutz, daughter of Jason and Bethany Kutz and sister of Benjamin and Elijah, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 18th. Leila is in 7th grade at Garnet Valley Middle School. Leila is a passionate soccer player, makeup artist extraordinaire, and enjoys hanging out with friends. For her Mitzvah Project, Leila has been practicing tikkun olam by picking up litter on the grounds of the Siegel Jewish Community Center. Leila’s proud grandparents are Jonathan and Vicki Kantrowitz of Fairfield, CT; Karen Lloyd of Philadelphia, PA; and Ron and Bridget Kutz of Columbus, NJ. Mazel tov!!

RABBIS’ VOICES
Each month, Rabbi Peter Grumbacher, along with rabbis from around the state, answer your questions about Judaism.

Have a question? ASK THE RABBI!
Send your questions to: AskTheRabbi@ShalomDel.org

RABBIS’ VOICES

Yeshiva University’s Wurzweiler School of Social Work in the early 1990s, one of my instructors asked me, “With a young family at home and an active congregation, why are you doing this difficult academic task?” I responded, “Because in my retirement I won’t do woodworking!” And in fact I used my MSW in counseling through JFS and other avenues.

I’ve been doing some teaching but the reason I retired early was to present my father’s story as a Dachau survivor and a World War II GI so I accept just about every invitation to do so.

The opportunity to do interim rabbinic work came about and while there were some congregations who turned me down, I spent two great years in Winchester, Virginia and now this year in Staunton, an hour-and-a-half further south on I-81. What made Winchester so interesting (among other things) was that during the time I was their rabbi my son David was their president. I wonder how often - if ever - that combination occurred in the history of American Jewry!

One reason for an interim rabbi to spend a year (no more than two) with a congregation is to assist with the transition of a new rabbi. Winchester’s rabbi had retired but, without getting into details, chose to return. My mission had changed in the second year… I transitioned them back to their “old” rabbi.

Of course I write... for this column, for Beth Emeth’s monthly newsletter, for the weekly eBlasts and monthly bulletins of the interim congregation, pieces for my memoir group of which I’ve been a member for four years or so, and, oh yes, sermons and d’vrei Torah.

No, my book is still in my head; maybe I’ll get to that if I get bored.

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Ruth Bader Ginsburg: THE REAL WONDER WOMAN

By Gina Schoenberg
Deputy Attorney General at Delaware Dept. of Justice

I am a judge born, raised, and proud of being a Jew. The demand for justice runs through the entirety of the Jewish tradition.

— RUTH BADER GINSBURG

In an ever-expanding digital world, it feels at times as though we are farther apart than ever. Yet, my 5-year-old daughter and my 95-year-old Mommom share a common interest—Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. What is it about this pint-size think tank that fascinates both young and old?

Perhaps it is because she is just the second female justice to be confirmed to the Supreme Court. Or perhaps it is her career-long devotion to the advancement of gender equality and women’s rights (before it was a popular thing to do). Maybe it is her ability to hold a contrary opinion, yet still be able to put differences on issues aside and find common ground for true friendship. As a young female lawyer and mother, for me it is Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s ability to accomplish so much that is difficult and to communicate powerful messages with style, grace, and humility.

I had the opportunity last year to hear Justice Ginsburg speak in Washington, D.C. She told the audience of her lifelong dedication to repairing the world, one small act at a time. As I sat in a room with 200 or so other female attorneys, I felt as though she and I were the only women in the room. We never even made eye contact, but my soul connected with hers immediately. Justice Ginsburg was speaking of Tikkun Olam.

Though she is undoubtedly a cultural icon who transcends religion, gender, and race, Justice Ginsburg is a Jew. She is a Jew who has made and continues to make her mark on the world by living with Jewish values. Justice Ginsburg has dedicated her life to repairing the world, one gesture, one act, one precedent at a time. For that, she is my hero.

Wilmington Hadassah invites you to join us in Celebrating One of Our Own:
Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a life member of Hadassah
SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
10 AM – 12 PM at the Siegel JCC

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• Ellen Meyer, retired Attorney
• Gina Schoenberg, Deputy Attorney General at Delaware Dept. of Justice
• Aida Waserstein, retired Delaware Family Court Judge

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For more information, contact Sylvia Wagman at srwag8@comcast.net
THE PHENOMENON OF WOMEN’S SEDERS

By Stacey Baron Colton
Community Member

In 1973, a group of progressive women began to seek a better understanding of the role of women in the Exodus as they realized there was minimal mention of women in the Book of Exodus, the Talmud, and, consequently, in traditional Haggadot for Pesach.

In E.M. Broner’s book, The Telling: The Story of a Group of Women Who Journey to Spirituality Through Community and Ceremony, she discusses the group’s critical need to better understand their Jewish foremothers’ contributions to the original Exodus. The group needed to gain strength from their own biblical foremothers’ history by documenting the women’s story of the Exodus. In many ways, the Exodus might not have happened had it not been for certain women such as Miriam, Moses’ sister; Tsiporah, Moses’ wife; Yocheved, Moses’ mother; the midwives, Shifra and Puah; and the Pharaoh’s daughter, Bat Paro. These women helped in keeping Moses alive. Miriam was directly responsible for Moses’ survival. In addition, Miriam was a leader in that after crossing the Red Sea, she was able to unite the frightened women and lead them in song and dance to celebrate their freedom. For these reasons, Miriam is our key heroine in the story of Pesach. After conducting research, E. M. Broner and Naomi Nimrod wrote the first “Women’s Haggadah.” By 1976, these women and their friends first held small Women’s Seders in both Haifa and New York City that were more emblematic of women. Gloria Steinem attended the first one and Bella Abzug would later join these women at the New York City Women’s Seders. This was the birth of the Women’s Seder. Women’s Seders now take place all over the world. They are not meant to replace traditional seders but to complement them.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
In the early 1990s, Greater Wilmington’s own progressive group of women from various Delaware synagogues began asking the same questions. This diverse group of women were united thru a class they all took at Jewish Family Services of Delaware on Judaism and Feminism. While studying together they too questioned where were the famous Jewish heroines in biblical and Talmudic history. How could women become more a part of the seder rather than just be the preparer/server? These women most impressively wrote and compiled their own Women’s Haggadah from scratch and started having seders in their homes – the first seder was held at Harriet Ainbinder’s home in 1993. I was very fond of these seders especially as a newcomer to Wilmington and as a woman questioning her own Jewish identity. As the seders became bigger they were held in public spaces such as B’nai Brith House, Ashland Nature Center and in 2004, the group’s final Women’s Seder was held at the Siegel JCC. They were ready to pass the baton after many years of lovingly running this special tradition.

In 2005 Galina Chadwick and I organized a small Women’s Seder. In 2006 while serving on the Sisterhood’s Executive Board, I asked if the CBS Sisterhood would take on this tradition. Since then, we’ve held Women’s Seders from 2006-2011 and in 2014 and 2015. Meredith Weiss and Jessica Imber beautifully wrote and compiled their own Women’s Haggadah. These seders have become a special place where women from the entire community could come together to think, feel, and relive their own Exodus. At these seders, which take place prior to Pesach, women have not had to worry about the deadline of getting rid of the chametz, the cooking and the serving of the traditional dishes (let alone the rush of serving the meal to their famished families and friends once the first part of the seder was finished). This was a seder that they themselves could recline at and fully experience for themselves.

What is it about my fascination with Women’s Seders? I can’t say I’m a devout feminist but I do believe in equality and I do strongly agree we need a time and a place to recapture the Jewish Women’s Exodus. I treasure when our community of Jewish women come together to support one another. I honor both my mother, Joan DeKeyser Baron, and my grandmother, Leonore DeKeyser, both native New Yorkers, for being strong female figures by having had their own careers at a time when that was not widely done. We need to learn the lessons of our foremothers and how they, themselves, overcame challenges. We need to feel and be inspired by their strength; to continue to build upon their legacy. I think it’s very important that we continue this tradition. It’s especially meaningful to see grandmothers, mothers, and their daughters share this event together. Perhaps someday their daughters will continue the legacy.
The third cup of wine always does me in.

I usually don’t drink that much, and given that Manischewitz sits heavy on the stomach, after a meal of matzah and brisket and tzimmes, it was I who was, indeed, gefiltehed (stuffed)! And thus my head began to nod, which would not have been a problem, but for the fact that I was leading the seder.

It was then that I had my vision, my hazon, of Moses, but it wasn’t Moses. It was a modern-day Moses, who walked into the throne room of Pharaoh, but it wasn’t a throne room and it wasn’t Pharaoh. It was a modern-day taskmaster, and Moses had come to deliver the message of the Eternal One.

“Let my people go,” Moses cried, “for if you do not, God will bring down extraordinary chastisements.”

And with those words, the Wifi dropped out.

The courtiers checked the servers, they called the cable company, and though they unplugged and re-plugged the router, there was no signal to be had. “No matter,” they said, “We will log onto our 4G networks,” but no bars were to be had throughout the land. When work could not be done nor cat videos shared, the master relented. But, when the signal was restored, his heart hardened once again.

And so Moses went to Pharaoh a second time, warning this time that employees’ computers would be clogged. Indeed, try as they might, no one could click fast enough to cycle through endless pop-up ads. Even when they did, they were distracted by an infinite list of articles, none of which offered the information promised in the fascinating titles.

With work once again halted, the master told the workers to go, but when the flow of information was restored, his heart was hardened and the laborers returned to their tasks.

This cycle continued as Moses brought the rest of the plagues upon Pharaoh’s kingdom. You will have too many bills; each will be unexpected and unanticipated, throwing your carefully crafted budget into chaos.

Your children will have soccer games and recitals and karate tournaments and scouting and chess club, and though these events will not occur every day, it will seem that they do.

At last, you will finish the project you’ve been working on for four months only to find assignments for two more were made in the interim.

You will spend hard-earned money on the tokens and trinkets the modern world craves, only to find them cheaply made and easily broken. Your kids, however, will have great fun playing with the trinkets’ shipping boxes – more fun, in fact, than they’ve ever had with any of the toys and games in the playroom.
You will gain weight. If you eat a lot, the number on the scale will go up. If you eat a little, the number on the scale will go up. The fad diet results that seem to work for everyone else will elude you, and even then, the number on the scale will go up.

No matter what the topic, someone will take issue with whatever you say. You will find offense lurking beneath every vine and every fig tree, and all will make you afraid.

You will never get enough sleep. Though you will lay your head down each night, the siren call of media and technology at your bedside will thwart your circadian rhythms. Try as you might, sleep will elude you, until morning dawns and you find yourself exhausted.

After every plague, the boss was chastened, but in the end, the master was unrelenting, and the workers returned to their feverish pace.

And then Moses brought the 10th and final plague, “You shall have 24-hour workdays, and seven-day work weeks. With the ability to take your work anywhere, you will take your work everywhere. From the boss in his big chair, to the lowly intern in the basement cubicle, neither you nor your people nor anyone in the land shall know rest or retreat or refreshment from your labors. And there shall be no end.”

Suddenly, I was startled awake. The seder was over and the clean-up crew was vacuuming the carpet.

“Funny,” I think, “it’s the haggadot that need vacuuming; that’s where the crumbs collect.”

Moses and the boss were gone, but the memory of those plagues haunted me. Ten new soul-crushing punishments brought down from heaven to chastise the taskmasters.

“Thank goodness it was only a nightmare,” I tell myself. “Or was it?”

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Rabbi Anthony Fratello is a 1994 graduate of Pomona College and was ordained at the Cincinnati Campus of the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in 1999. Since 2000, he has been the rabbi of Temple Shaarei Shalom, a 560-family congregation in Boynton Beach, FL. He has served as a board and executive board member of numerous community agencies and is a highly sought and well-regarded speaker, teacher, and lecturer.
When I was a child, my maternal grandparents (may their memories be a blessing) now and again would take me out to Wendy’s restaurant after a movie or for a treat.

Sometimes I got a Frosty—a delicious chocolate flavored frozen dessert—or I got a kid’s meal and delighted in salty French fries. Almost always, my grandparents would get a salad, and as they got older, they ate half and took the other half home. Sometimes, when they wanted to host but didn’t have the stamina to cook, they would buy salads at Wendy’s and we would all eat around the white oval table in the kitchen.

Since they passed, when I want to remember my grandparents, I go to Wendy’s. I buy some food that I hope meets my own standards of the Jewish dietary laws (Frosty or fries), and I reminisce. I remember the Batman movie they took me to when I was in elementary school, and the trip to Wendy’s when I went back for a visit from college. I remember them and the good times we shared. Needless to say, for this reason, Wendy’s holds a soft spot in my heart.

But it’s been harder than usual these last many years to love the fast food giant that reminds me so much of family and home.

Of America’s top five fast food chains, Wendy’s is the only one that has not signed on to the Fair Food Program, a groundbreaking human rights initiative led by farmworkers with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) that has been successfully addressing human rights abuses in the Florida tomato industry. Fast food giants McDonald’s, Subway, Burger King, and Yum! Brands (Taco Bell), have all joined the Fair Food Program (FFP), raising the wages of tomato pickers by one penny per pound of tomatoes picked and helping to ensure fair, regulated working conditions in the fields. Food service companies and grocery stores such as Walmart, Whole Foods and Trader Joe’s have also joined the FFP, committing themselves to only source from growers who have instituted a legally binding code of conduct in the fields.

Today, thanks to implementation of the FFP in over 90% of Florida’s tomato fields, the Florida tomato industry is known as one of the best workplaces in modern agriculture. They have made profound progress to end the widespread labor trafficking, slavery, and unsafe working conditions which once dominated the industry and earned it the nickname of “ground zero” for human trafficking in the United States. For their exceptional work, the FFP has been recognized with the 2015 Presidential Medal for Extraordinary Efforts Combatting Modern-Day Slavery, the 2014 Clinton Global Citizen Award, and the 2013 Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom from Want Medal, among other acknowledgements and awards.

Despite its proven successes, Wendy’s has resisted joining the Fair Food Program and continues to source its tomatoes outside of the FFP. Instead, Wendy’s issued its own code of conduct a number of years ago calling on suppliers to follow local, state, and federal laws and industry standards. Due to the lack of transparency, however, it’s not clear who are Wendy’s suppliers or whether they are compliant. In the not too distant past, at least one former Wendy’s supplier, the Kaliroy Corporation, was known to have a history of...
serious human rights violations. In a March 16, 2016 blog post for Harper’s Magazine, author Andrew Cockburn confirmed that Kaliroy, the U.S. Distribution arm of Mexican tomato grower Bioparques de Occidente, was supplying Wendy’s tomatoes. Cockburn cited a December 2014 investigative article from Los Angeles Times reporter Richard Marosi including interviews with Bioparques workers who “described subhuman conditions, with workers forced to work without pay, trapped for months at a time in scorpion-infested camps, often without beds, fed on scraps, and beaten when they tried to quit.” If these are the “industry standards” that Wendy’s has accepted in its supply chain, then sadly, I think we can do better.

On March 3rd, 2016, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers issued a call for a national boycott of Wendy’s, and on April 13th that year I received an email from T’ruah, a Jewish nonprofit organization that mobilizes rabbis and their communities to protect human rights in the United States, Canada, Israel and the Occupied Territories, endorsing the CIW boycott. I joined with over a hundred and fifty rabbis and cantors in answering that call. My commitment to the cause continues to this day as does the CIW campaign. Municipalities in North Carolina and Florida are considering or passing resolutions urging Wendy’s to join the FFP and activists on college campuses are challenging the fast food giant to join or leave campus eateries. The issue continues to draw not only local but national attention, including a March 7th, 2019 article in the New York Times.

This month, when many Jews in our area and around the world celebrate Passover, a Jewish holiday of freedom, we will tell the story of yetziat Mitzrayim, our people’s miraculous exit from the physical and spiritual oppression of forced labor. If we are unaccustomed to or disquieted by miracles like the ten plagues and the parting of the sea, we still may understand the subtle miracle it is simply to be free, to move at will, to be compensated justly for our labors, to live a life free of physical and sexual violence. We may come to understand that a boycott, like the plagues, is an enactment of a truth: dramatic demonstrations of might and power and determination are often required before we can break free.

This year, I’ll struggle to understand why Wendy’s heart is hardened to the rights and dignity of the workers who grow its tomatoes, just as every year I struggle to understand why Pharaoh’s heart was hardened in his day. Maybe I’ll add a Florida tomato to my seder plate or pass one out to each of my guests and tell the story of how Taco Bell joined the Fair Food Program after a CIW boycott some years ago. After all, I may not understand how hearts become hardened, but I do know how to soften them.
Passover, though one of my favorite Jewish holidays, is also one of the most challenging for me. As a vegetarian and Ashkenazic Jew, major staples in my diet such as beans, tofu, tempeh, seitan, and brown rice are suddenly banned. I have met some vegetarians/vegans who “go Sephardic” for Pesach so that they have more food options, even going as far as consulting and getting permission from their rabbis to do so. But bringing kitniyot (foods such as: rice, corn, soy beans, string beans, peas, lentils, mustard, sesame seeds and poppy seeds that are not allowed to be consumed during Pesach under Ashkenazic custom) into my home would be a big no-no, and personally I wouldn’t feel comfortable observing the holiday differently. I’ve had 11+ years to figure out and fine-tune the ins and outs of a vegetarian Pesach and I’m here to share some of my must-have foods, while still following Ashkenazic tradition and staying healthy.

Let me preface my suggestions by explaining a little bit about my background and how I observe Passover. I was raised in a Conservative kosher home, where the only foods that enter our kitchen for the holiday are ones that bear a Kosher for Passover (K for P) symbol. Even though there are so many vegetarian/vegan packaged goods that I love and are chametz-free, they will not be coming into my home without the K for P symbol. For some readers, this may be stricter than you’re used to. Ultimately, you have to do what you feel comfortable with on this holiday. As a result, I tend to cook nearly all my meals from scratch. Cooking in bulk and not minding repeat meals is helpful, as is finding a grocery store (or online kosher shop) that carries a variety of products, which thankfully gets easier every year with the ever-expanding selection of Passover foods on the market.

In the beginning of my quest to stay vegetarian on Passover, I found that I ended up eating a lot of carbohydrates (matzah meal, matzah farfel, matzah cake flour…) and relied too heavily on dairy for my main source of protein. Consuming a diet with little variety can cause you to miss out on important vitamins and minerals, whereas a diet made up of a wide selection of sources of carbohydrates, protein, and fat would not have this issue. From my training as a nutritionist, I’ve now found alternative and creative ways to fuel up and feel good all Pesach long. I do have matzah-based foods in my diet, but they play a much smaller role. Now I focus on plant-based foods that are both nourishing and satisfying. So without further ado, here is my top 10 list of must-have foods for your vegetarian kitchen on Passover:

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Jackie Topol is a nutritionist at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and a Masters candidate in Clinical Nutrition at NYU. In her free time she teaches health-focused cooking classes at the JCC in Manhattan where she has been an instructor for over 4 years. Her career has been greatly inspired by her experiences at Adamah, where she was a Fellow in 2007.
1) Quinoa
Quinoa is not only a great source of complex carbohydrates but also contains 8 grams of protein per cup. Check out my flavor-packed Vegetable Quinoa Pilaf below!

2) Eggs
Eggs offer essential amino acids, vitamins, and minerals. I purchase free-range eggs, which have the added benefit of a nice dose of omega-3 fatty acids.

3) Avocado
Avocado provides excellent heart-healthy fat that will give you lasting energy. One of my go-to breakfasts on Pesach is mashed avocado on matzah with a touch of lemon juice and sea salt.

4) Nuts
Nuts are another source of heart-healthy fat and also give you a bit of fiber too. I am so grateful that there is a Kosher for Passover almond butter on the market! I’ll definitely be packing an almond butter & jelly matzah sandwich with some fresh fruit for work a few days of the holiday.

5) Fresh and dried fruit
With so many of my usual snack foods like hummus and granola bars cut out of my diet on Passover, I survive on fresh and dried fruit throughout the holiday. I carry bananas, oranges, or boxes of raisins wherever I go, so that I always have an easy snack on hand.

6) Portobello mushrooms
Since tofu, tempeh, and seitan are out of the picture, I use Portobello mushrooms instead since they have a great meaty texture and delicious, savory flavor. I stuff them with sautéed onions, spinach and matzah meal for a main dish (I make a variation of this recipe) or I grill them with red peppers and zucchini for a side.

7) Vegan chopped liver
Vegan chopped liver with Tam Tams is a yummy start to any seder. The eggs offer a great source of protein, the walnuts contain omega-3, and the mushrooms are one of the only plant-based sources of vitamin D.

8) Hearts of Palm
Salad can get boring so easily, so I jazz mine up with interesting toppings. Hearts of palm are super easy to find in the Passover section and I love slicing them up on top of my salads. They have a great texture and taste and give you a nice dose of potassium, zinc, and iron.

9) Sabra’s Caponata
Another delicious dip I always have in my fridge around Pesach is Sabra’s Caponata. They make a bunch of excellent dips that are free of kitniyot. They’re a perfect size to bring to work or a Pesach picnic.

10) Matzo Meal Couscous
When I’m missing grains, I cook up some Matzo Meal Couscous (Savion is one brand I like) in vegetable broth and toss in some roasted broccoli, garlic, and sautéed mushrooms. It has a toothsome chewiness and a neutral flavor that’s ready for any seasoning or add-in you see fit.

This list of items certainly will satisfy anyone in your home, vegetarian or not. So this Passover, try some new foods and recipes out. Start with the one below!

RECIPE ON NEXT PAGE
CELEBRATING TRADITIONS
SHOPRITE OF BRANDYWINE COMMONS
PASSOVER MENU

SEDER MEAL
Gefilte Fish w/Horseradish
Chicken Soup w/Matzo Ball
Roast Chicken or Brisket
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Recipe by Jackie Topol
Serves 6

INGREDIENTS:
1 1/2 cups quinoa
3 cups vegetable broth
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
1/2 tablespoons ginger, minced
d 2 cloves garlic, minced
2 carrots, chopped small
1 red pepper, chopped small
1 zucchini, chopped small
1/2 cup chopped parsley, packed
1/4 cup scallions, green and white parts chopped
3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 teaspoons extra virgin olive oil
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
freshly ground pepper

DIRECTIONS:
1) Rinse quinoa using a fine mesh strainer (skip this if your quinoa is pre-washed—it will say so on the box if it is). Next, place quinoa in a medium size saucepan and heat on a medium-high flame. Let the quinoa toast for about 3-4 minutes (You will smell a nutty aroma). Add vegetable broth, cover pot with a lid, bring to a boil, and then simmer until cooked, about 20 minutes. Set aside and let cool until ready to mix with the cooked veggies.

2) Heat a large skillet over a medium flame and then pour in 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Add in minced ginger and garlic and sauté for about 3 minutes. Add in the chopped carrots, red pepper, and zucchini. Cook for about 5 minutes until all vegetables are just slightly soft. Remove from skillet, place in bowl, and set aside to cool for about 5 minutes.

3) In the meantime, chop up parsley and scallions. Add to cooked (now cooled) vegetables. Incorporate the cooked quinoa into the vegetables and finally add in lemon juice, remaining olive oil, salt and pepper. Add more salt to taste if necessary. Serve warm, cold, or at room temperature.

Optional: Top with sliced/cubed avocado or sprinkle with a couple of tablespoons of pine nuts for an added dose of healthy fat.
LOOKING GOOD

By Yoni Glatt
koshercrosswords@gmail.com

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Manageable

SOLUTION APPEARS ON PAGE 56

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:
email Yoni at
koshercrosswords@gmail.com

ACROSS
1. Hail ___ (cry “Taxi!”)
5. Totally defeated
10. A football game starts with one
14. Baskin-Robbins choice
15. Bring shame to
16. History or law
17. Jewish fashion designer
19. O’Rourke who lost to Ted Cruz
20. Miner's filing
21. Cooking styles
23. Applications for spiky hair
26. Measuring devices
27. Jewish fashion designer
31. Iron Man Ripken Jr.
32. 8-Down’s grandmother
33. Feel pride, at a Bat Mitzvah
37. Unlikely menu item, at a Bar Mitzvah
39. Any “Scrubs” episode on TV
41. Innovator’s spark
42. What an injured player goes through
44. Fruit with a pitom
46. Funny reel
47. Jewish fashion designer
50. Seer
53. Girl’s name that sounds like an old Flushing stadium
54. Brag that you know Calvin Klein, e.g.
57. Parking option
61. Famous redhead explorer
62. Jewish fashion designer
65. Work station
66. “Give it ___” (“Try this book”)
67. Snare
68. Estimator’s phrase
69. “Bye Bye Bye” boys
70. Religious violations

DOWN
1. Australia’s most successful band
2. What “magniv” could mean
3. Queen Elsa’s younger sister
4. Not dangerous to health
5. Strong wood
6. Org. for heavyweights
7. Drug bust cop
8. Son of Rebecca
9. He plays the intern in “The Intern”
10. Jewish fashion designer
11. Hurricane that hit the East Coast in 2011
12. Furnish food for a party
13. Karlie who married a Kushner
18. Followers of blessings
22. Have a long face
24. Famous King of the stage
25. Oscar winner as Thatcher
27. Cabbage cousin
28. Where David fought Goliath
29. Very tough, as criticism
30. Boorish fellows
31. “Fortunate Son” band, briefly
34. Razor’s sharp part
35. Like healthy beef
36. Not keep up
38. Jewish fashion designer
40. 600-year-old man on a boat
43. Like Larry David or George Costanza
45. Exotic green fruit
48. Logan who played Percy Jackson
49. Responds
50. “Which ___ you want?” (choice question)
51. A perfect game, compared to a no-hitter
52. Awry
55. Boathouse supplies
56. Hunted animal
58. “Full House” actress Loughlin
59. Golda Meir’s foreign minister Abba
60. Baking amts.
63. Dagim container
64. Jewish org. also known as “The Joint”
JEWISH BAND MAKES SOULFUL MUSIC FOR HOLLYWOOD MOVIES & TV ADS

By Lisa Klug, timesofisrael.com

EDITOR’S NOTE: Fortunate for our community, on Tuesday, February 26, Jewish Federation in collaboration with the Siegel JCC brought national recording artist, Distant Cousins, to Delaware as part of their mini-East Coast Tour. More than 75 attendees enjoyed the band’s folk/pop music at Wilmington Brew Works.

After its Israeli and American members founded popular bands Moshav and Blue Fringe, LA-based Distant Cousins is making a name for itself in the music industry mainstream

With over 7 million recent YouTube views and a screen debut with Billy Crystal, mainstream success is in reach for musical trio, Distant Cousins.

“We’re somewhat giddy to see how far the music we make in our little spot in Los Angeles can spread in the world,” says Distant Cousins bandmate Dov Rosenblatt.

Not genetically related (as far as they know), the three band members of Distant Cousins make their home in LA’s highly Jewish Pico-Robertson neighborhood. Each met while performing shows with their previous bands, long before they were married fathers seeking to support themselves and their growing broods in the music industry.

By working in Hollywood, the three make a living writing, performing, and producing music for commercials, film and television. As Distant Cousins, they also release albums, play live gigs, and tour.

As a band, the threesome also picks up other gigs — such as performing behind-the-scenes and on screen: Distant Cousins appears as a fictitious synagogue band beside Billy Crystal, who portrays a politically-engaged rabbi in the dramedy, “Untogether,” which opened February 8.

While filming, the Cousins said they hit it off with the legendary comedian.

“We had so much fun with him in between takes when he would walk over to us and start singing ‘Fiddler on the Roof’ classics,” Rosenblatt says. “We’d jam along and then the director would be ready to yell ‘action,’ except he was having way too much fun singing and wasn’t quite ready to stop.”

In another project, millions of viewers of a trailer for the animated film, “How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World 3,” which premiered February 22, have heard the Distant Cousins’ blood-pumping song, “Are You Ready.”

Commissioned to write and record, Distant Cousins also enjoy the kind of kismet that characterizes the business of music licensing. Through licensing, a single song, such as the band’s “On My Way,” can appear in multiple contexts, including the Season 14 premiere of “American Idol” and a 2014 Macy’s ad for jeans. Their tune “Are You Ready” not only appears in the newest installment of the DreamWorks “Dragon” franchise, but also appeared in the film, “This is Where I Leave You.”

Like fine wine, only getting better

The group’s sound builds on the prior success each Cousin tasted before they joined forces.

The eldest Cousin, 40-something Duvid Swirsky, grew up making music beside the
guitar-slinging Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, at Moshav Mevo Modi'im, the village Carlebach founded.

There, Swirsky met his other bandmate, Yehuda Solomon, with whom he continues to perform in their popular world music and Jewish rock group Moshav — named after their hometown.

Moshav is a fixture at Jewish cultural events, music festivals, weddings and bar or bat mitzvahs.

The second most senior Cousin, Rosenblatt, 36, grew up in Baltimore and first made headlines with his former band, Blue Fringe. After performing together for eight years, the members dispersed across the US.

Like Rosenblatt, the youngest Cousin, Ami Kozak, 32, is an East Coast transplant. He performed with his high school band at the same shows as Rosenblatt and later moved west to pursue commercial music.

Whatever the gig, Swirsky says, composing and performing share certain constants.

“You still need to do your best work, your soul’s work. Everyone knows — from the shul to the club, everyone knows — if it’s real,” he says. “You have to share what’s in your heart and soul no matter what you’re doing.”

Although the bulk of their work is not on the road, Rosenblatt and Kozak, who both attend Modern Orthodox synagogues, face the challenge of keeping Shabbat.

“It definitely isn’t easy,” Rosenblatt says. “We aren’t the first band of Jews to play shows all through the week except Friday nights — and Saturday nights half the year,” Rosenblatt says.

“And we’re grateful to artists like Evan and Jaron, Peter Himmelman, Matisyahu, Alex Clare, and others who have paved the way.”

Swirsky’s other band, Moshav, also does not perform on Shabbat. But twice monthly, Swirsky appears at Nefesh, a community led by Rabbi Susan Goldberg at Wilshire Boulevard Temple in LA’s Koreatown.

“It’s a warm music service that connects with a lot of people who otherwise don’t have a lot of
connection to Judaism,” Swirsky says. “It’s been amazing, really inspiring, to me — and helped me reestablish my own connection.”

Distant Cousins’ origin story echoes back to Moshav’s frequent tours.

“Everywhere we’d go, we’d get a band calling and asking, ‘Can we open for you?’” Swirsky says.

“It was always younger Jewish kids. We loved it. It felt really gratifying — the influence the music was having on the kids to get up there and do it.”

Among them was Rosenblatt, with whom Swirsky felt instant chemistry. “And we both felt, if we have a chance to work together, we would,” Swirsky says.

Eventually, Swirsky and Rosenblatt co-wrote a song while Swirsky was visiting New York. When Rosenblatt later moved to Los Angeles, where Swirsky was already living, he and Swirsky teamed up again. Rosenblatt was already exploring commercial composing and was working on a piece for a comedy film called “Coffee Town” when he brought Swirsky aboard.

“We wrote it quickly and it felt really good,” Swirsky recalls.

When they needed sound mixing on the song, Rosenblatt suggested Kozak, who had already relocated and put his degree to work composing and producing commercially. Kozak’s input on the song “worked right away,” Swirsky says.

As teens, Kozak and Rosenblatt had both attended Torah Academy of Bergen County, New Jersey. And Kozak followed both Moshav and Blue Fringe as an aspiring performer, sometimes opening for the bands.

“We were always fans of each other,” says Kozak. “Once we were in LA, it was inevitable that we would get together to collaborate.”

Soon after, the three gathered at Swirsky’s studio. “Immediately, it was just awesome,” says Swirksy.

That’s when his neighbor suddenly rang.

“She said, ‘I hear you all the time. Whatever you are doing right now is really great.’ And that was the sign,” Swirsky says. “That was the launching of Distant Cousins right then.”
WARREN BOWMAN
Wilmington - Age 76, affectionately known by childhood friends as “Lefty” passed away peacefully in his home on Monday, February 18, 2019.

Born August 24, 1942 in the Bronx, NY to the late Yetta and Kenneth Bowman; Warren grew up in Mt. Vernon, NY where he graduated from A.B. Davis High School with honors and then attended Cornell University on a full scholarship, graduating with Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Chemical Engineering. He also received an MBA from the University of Delaware. Warren used his creativity and analytical skills in a 40-year career with DuPont. He was married for 51 years to Arlene F. Bowman, an educator and Theater Teaching Artist.

After Warren and Arlene welcomed their two boys into their home, Warren set about sharing with them his zest for life, his extraordinary sense of humor, and his math prowess. His wife and boys remember him as kind, loving, witty, devoted, and full of wisdom; and, always wanting to give advice. He tirelessly encouraged his sons to pursue their goals and interests with the same zest he had for life.

Warren was accomplished at putting people at ease and problem solving. He often generously shared his math skills by tutoring his sons and their friends. Warren enjoyed coaching his sons’ childhood sports teams, proudly attended their Concord High School marching band and wrestling competitions, and diligently attended their numerous award ceremonies. His love of Hallmark and classic movies, classical music, and Doo-wop of the 50s and 60s, found him often quizzing friends and family alike, “who starred in this film, who wrote and/or recorded this song?”

In retirement, Warren enjoyed attending classes at the University of Delaware’s OLLI, traveling throughout the world with his wife and friends (especially on river cruises), and working diligently as the president of his homeowner’s association for the past 8 years.

Warren is survived by his wife, Arlene; sons Adam of Lewes, DE and Kevin of Baltimore, MD; his grandchildren, Aiden and Addison Bowman of Lewes, DE; and brother, Jeffrey (Gail) of Rehoboth Beach, DE.

The family would like to thank Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Wilmington Hospital, Cadia Silverside Rehabilitation, and the Vitas Healthcare staff for their dedication and kindness to both patients and their family members. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Vitas Hospice Healthcare, 100 Commerce Drive, Suite 302, Newark, DE 19713.

HANNAH ARIEFF BRAUNSTEIN
Wilmington - Age 94, passed away Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at Forwood Manor, where she spent the last several years of her life.

Hannah was a lifelong Wilmington resident. She was born May 20, 1924 to the late James and Clara (nee Harwitz) Arieff. Her parents owned a grocery store/butcher shop at 22nd and Jessup Streets, where Hannah spent many afternoons and weekends working in the business.

After graduating from P.S. DuPont High School in 1942, she attended Goldey-Beacom College. Hannah worked for the DuPont Company and for Dravo Shipbuilding during World War II. After the war, she met Bertram Braunstein, who was to become her husband for more than 50 years. Hannah worked for and retired in 1990 from the State of Delaware Department of Labor. She did volunteer work in the community; most notably with B’ni’ai B’rith Women (twice serving as President of the Wilmington Chapter); was a long time member of Congregation Beth Shalom; collected funds for various charities and worthy causes; and served as a mentor for school children in the City of Wilmington for a number of years. Hannah had many friends and was always available to help friends and family.

Bert and Hannah were completely devoted to each other. They were each other’s best friends as well as spouses, and were almost inseparable after both retired from their careers. Hannah was a caretaker throughout her life, caring for both of her parents during illnesses, and for her mother following her father’s passing. She was a doting mother of her two children, and cared for her husband during his illnesses in the latter part of his life.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Warmest Passover greetings to our community

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Day: 302-764-2393
Night: 302-762-6407

The family would like to thank the staff at Forwood Manor for the compassionate care they provided Hannah.

Preceded in death by her husband, Bert in 1997; she is survived by her two children, George (Mary Ann) and Sandra (Samuel Powell); four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom, 1801 Baynard Boulevard, Wilmington, DE 19802; the World Central Kitchen (www.worldcentralkitchen.org); or a charity of your choice.

STANLEY M. HART
Wilmington - Age 92, a native of Wilmington, DE passed away Sunday, March 3, 2019.

Stanley, also known as “PopPop”, “Stan-the-Man“, and “Mr. Al”, was born July 24, 1926 and graduated from P.S. DuPont High School in 1944. While attending high school, he started his 77-year career at Al’s Sporting Goods, working his way up from a stock boy to purchasing Al’s in 1967 with Izzy Weiner. This success in his life can be credited to his surrogate father, Abe Kristol “Boomie”. His greatest pleasure was when his son, Robert Hart, became his partner in 1984.

In 1948, he married Annette “Netty” Greenberg, who was his wife of 69 years, who he sadly lost in 2017. They both enjoyed their many friends at Brandywine Country Club and spending their winters in Boca Raton, FL. In addition to being an avid golfer, he was a member of the Brandywine Masonic Lodge, on the board at Brandywine Country Club, a member at Boca Lago Country Club, and involved in the Downtown Business Association. His family was the most important aspect of his life.

Preceded in death by his wife, Annette “Netty” Hart; mother, Sara Hart; sisters, Evelyn Grossman and Geraldine Bowman; Stanley is survived by his two sons, Geoffrey (Mary) and Robert (Sheri); and his three

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beloved grandchildren, Jennifer, Shane, and Rita; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Stanley’s name to the Siegel Jewish Community Center, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803 or Congregation Beth Emeth.

SCOTT NEIL HERSH
Newark - It is with tremendous sadness and broken hearts that the family of Scott Neil Hersh announces his passing, at home surrounded by his devoted family, on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at the age of 55.

Scott was born in Schenectady, NY on 9/29/1963. After receiving a Master’s degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of Maryland, Scott worked for W. L. Gore & Assoc. for over 30 years which he thoroughly enjoyed. He will be remembered as a loving husband, proud father, wonderful son and brother, and loyal friend. Scott inspired all that knew him with his strong work ethic, positive attitude, steadfast determination, and sense of humor even when facing adversity. Scott had a passion for learning new things, setting challenges for himself which included completing the Philly Marathon, and helping others. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family and friends. Scott’s smile could light up a room and he was loved by so many.

Scott will be lovingly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 31 years, Michelle; his children, Jacob and Matthew; his parents, Abby (Kevin) Dwyer and Mike (Susan) Hersh; and his extended family and dear friends. Those who so desire may make donations in memory of Scott to Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center at www.hopkinscancerresearch.org by choosing “Please use my gift to support a specific physician or area of research” and indicating “colon cancer.”

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JUNE RIEUR KLEBAN
Ardentown - Age 95, passed away peacefully March 1, 2019 after a very long and wonderful life.

June was born on a farm in Flagtown, NJ in 1923 and raised in Upper Montclair, NJ. A graduate of Montclair High School, she went on to attend what is now Douglas College, holding degrees in Agriculture and Library Science. As an undergraduate during WWII, she trained and worked on dairy farms as a volunteer with the Women’s Land Army. After graduation, June worked as a research librarian at Rutgers University for Dr. Selman Waksman, and was in his employ when he was awarded the Nobel Prize in ‘Physiology or Medicine’ in 1952.

June held other jobs and voluntary positions as a librarian including working at the quaint Arden Library and her synagogue library. She later retired from many years working as a reference librarian at Delaware Technical and Community College. June was a very active volunteer, supporter, and participant in the Ardens, particularly with the Arden Craft Shop Museum and the Arden Club, as well as with many other organizations including the League of Women Voters, Hadassah, Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation, and the Delaware Humanities Forum. She was a great supporter of the arts and along with her husband, had a deep interest in art from the Native American Cultures, Asia, and local artists.

She married in 1953 and settled in Arden, DE where she made her home for more than 65 years. June loved nature and adventure, and was an avid traveller into her 90s. June was a musician, cranking out honky-tonk piano tunes as well as improvised ditties. She spent many years leading the Arden Halloween Parade playing her accordion and would break into song when handed a ukulele.

Preceded in death by her spouse, Bernard Kleban; and two brothers, Jack (Betty) and Renan (Elaine) Rieur; she is survived by her children, Marcie (Richard) Eskin of Evanston, IL and Allan (Sharon) Kleban of Ardentown, DE; her grandchildren, Harry, Joseph (fiancee, Shani Abramowitz) and Lena Eskin, Jason (Olivia Haas) and Lilah Kleban; as well as many beloved cousins, nieces, and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in June’s name to her beloved Arden Craft Shop Museum (www.ardencraftshopmuseum.com) 1807 Millers Road, Arden, DE 19810.

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NAOMI RUTH KLEIN (NEE RUDMAN)  
Wilmington - Age 93, died February 16, 2019. Raised in Philadelphia, Naomi was a graduate of Syracuse U. and earned her Master’s degree at UD. She was a reading specialist in DE public schools and a proud member of the teachers’ union. In retirement, Naomi volunteered as an elementary school mentor and ESL instructor. Naomi and her late husband, Dr. Charles Klein, enjoyed life-long friendships, traveled widely and enthusiastically, loved summers on Long Beach Island, and were active members of Congregation Beth Shalom.

The Kleins had four children: Deborah (E. Jan Kounitz), Lisa (Tim Kinsella), Wendy (Alan Metnick), and David (Sue Oldenburg). Naomi’s grandchildren were among her life’s greatest joys: Ricky Klein (Kelly), Martha Kinsella, Hannah Klein (Nick Smith), Maggie Metnick, and step-grandsons Saul (Jordan) and Noah (Annie) Metnick. She welcomed her first great-grandchild, Nora, last year. Naomi was predeceased by her parents and brother, Anna, Israel, and Peter Rudman, and sister-in-law, Elva Levine.

The family would like to thank Izabela Kwiecinska and Connie McGill for helping Naomi remain independent.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the NC Klein Jazz Scholarship Fund for the RI Philharmonic Music School (rifoundation.org/WorkingTogether/ForDonors/GiveOnline), Hadassah (www.hadassah.org), or the charity of your choice.

ROBERT LEVINE  
Wilmington - Age 90, passed away Sunday, March 10, 2019.

Born May 1, 1928 in Wilmington, DE, he was the son of the late Morris and Anna (nee Redlus) Levine. Robert graduated from P. S. duPont High School and attended the University of Delaware. He proudly served his country in both the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. Robert owned a Patent Medicine Store for 18 years before becoming a

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Realtor. He was a Mason and a longtime member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue. There is no one that did not like Bobby Levine. He always had a warm smile and a positive attitude. Bobby was always happy to see and talk to you. He is best known for his “Bobby-isms.”

Preceded in death by his parents; brother, Nathan; and sister, Lillian Kemper; Robert is survived by his wife, Sally (nee Sirkin); children, Alan and Marci (Rick) Herman; grandchildren, Andrew and Jessica; and niece, Merrill Yost.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Siegel Jewish Community Center Senior Center, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

SELMA APOTHAKER SEITZ
Wilmington - Age 86, passed away Friday, February 15, 2019.

Selma was born September 21, 1932 in Atlantic City, NJ. She married Ernest Seitz on June 7, 1953 and together, they raised 3 children. Selma took classes at the Osher Life Long Institute and tutored at Lancashire Elementary School. She enjoyed traveling, cooking, and her schnauzers.

Preceded in death by her husband, Ernest; Selma is survived by her children, Michael (Debra) of Overland Park, KS, Elyse Seitz (Jeff Martino) of Gaithersburg, MD, and Jon (Shari) of Blue Bell, PA; grandchildren, Sara Seitz (Pat Underdown), Jacob, Ben, Sam, Philip Savini, Stephanie Savini, Emily, and Andrew; great-grandchildren, Emmy Underdown, Stella, and Jillian Savini.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Humanity Gifts Registry, P. O. Box 835, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

GENNADY YEVEL
Wilmington - Age 69, passed away Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

Born in Kiev, Ukraine, he lived an incredible life - always putting his family first. Gennady loved to tell jokes and spend time with his family and friends.

Gennady is survived by daughter, Marina Manarin (Jason); son, Phil; and grandchildren, Ella and Zachary.
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019
Webinar on the Israeli Elections
1 PM
Participate in this informative webinar to hear about polls, projections and predictions with Haviv Rettig Gur, Israeli Journalist and political correspondent. You must register to participate. Click on the link https://form.jotform.com/jfna/elections. For information, please contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, JCRC Director, at ellen@shalomdel.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019
CTeen Session: Social and Community Service
7–8:30 PM
Siegel JCC
Find out what the CTeen hype is all about while enjoying a delicious pizza dinner! Come have a great time meeting and hanging out with other Jewish teens, get into great discussion based on the theme of the month, and get community service hours - all in one session! For more information about CTeen and a calendar of events go to www.CTeen.com/Delaware or find the Facebook group CTeen Delaware. Please contact Rochel Flikshtein for more information at Rochel@ChabadDE.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019
JFS Memory Café
1:30–3 PM
Congregation Beth Emeth
A social gathering for people experiencing memory changes and their caregivers. Open to ALL; every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. For more info or to RSVP, contact Karen Commeret at 302-478-9411 or kcommeret@jfsdelaware.org. Interested in volunteering? Contact Joyce Griffith at 302-478-9411 or jgriffith@jfsdelaware.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019
JFS 120th Birthday Celebration
8–11 PM
The Gables at Chadds Ford
JFS is grateful to be celebrating our 120th Anniversary with our community and supporters. Share a night to remember with JFS! RSVP by March 22 at https://www.jfsdelaware.org/event/120.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019
CoroAllegro
6:30–8:30 PM
JCC Auditorium
Seek Not Afar for Beauty: Celebrating Nature in Song, a musical performance of CoroAllegro. CoroAllegro is an ensemble of dedicated avocational singers (professional and experienced amateur) devoted to the accomplished performance of a wide variety of fine choral literature, with particular emphasis on less frequently performed works. Under the direction of Jeffrey Sean Dokken, CoroAllegro sings in concert halls, schools and community facilities throughout the State of Delaware and in surrounding states. Cost: $18 (J members, enter discount code SiegelJ19 to receive $8 off each ticket.) For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org, or contact Katie Glazier at katieglaizer@siegeljcc.org.

APRIL 8, 2019
J Street Delaware Chapter Program:
Israel Election Preview: Issues, Parties, Coalition Possibilities
8:30 AM Coffee and Bagels
9–10 AM Presentations
Siegel JCC
101 Garden of Eden Rd.
Wilmington, DE
The Delaware J Street Chapter is sponsoring a program on the Israeli elections to encourage a deeper understanding and greater appreciation of the Israeli Election. Our discussion will include the Israeli political parties, their various issues and priorities and the challenges of forming a working coalition government in the Parliamentary system in Israel. PRESENTER: Professor Ian Lustick, University of Pennsylvania. Professor

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Lustick is a past president of the Politics and History Section of the American Political Science Association and of the Association for Israel Studies, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Commenters: Rabbi Michael Kramer and Rabbi Michael Beals. Convener: Rabbi Douglas E. Krantz.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

FED Talk: Women’s Issues in Israel
8:30–10:30 AM
Federation Boardroom
Join Federation’s Israel & Overseas Committee for Fed Talk and get a fresh look at Women’s issues in Israel today. Our speaker, Idith Shacham, is an Israeli attorney who specializes in family law and mediation. She will talk about day to day life for women in Israel. The event is free and open to the community; a light breakfast will be served. For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

Trip to Colonial Jewish Philadelphia
9:30 AM–3 PM
Colonial Jewish Philadelphia
Join us for an outdoor docent walking tour of Jewish Philadelphia. Dining and snacks available for purchase. Cost: $18/member, $28/public. For more information or to register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Katie Glazier at katieglazier@siegeljcc.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

CTeen Shmurah Matzah Delivery Community Service Project
7–8:30 PM
Siegel JCC
Join us for this memorable CTeen session, where we will be personally delivering handmade Shmurah Matzahs to elderly people in the community. Last year, this event made a huge impression on the teens and on the people we visited. Community service hours will be awarded. You will even get to bring home your very own Shmurah Matzah to use at the Seder! If you would like to send your teen to this very meaningful and memorable program, please contact Rochel@ChabadDE.com.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019

Webinar following the Israeli elections
2 PM
Participate in this informative webinar. Analysis of the election with Lahav Harkov, Senior Contributing Editor, The Jerusalem Post. You must register to participate. Click on the link https://form.jotform.com/jfna/outcomes. For information, please contact Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, JCRC Director, at ellen@shalomdel.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

Shalom Baby and Albert Einstein Academy Present: Baby Einstein - Music and Craft with Mr. Shelley
9:30–10:30 AM
Albert Einstein Academy - Music Room
Please join us for Music and Story Time with ECC’s Music Teacher, Mr. Royce Shelley. This NEW Monthly Music Class will meet the SECOND Thursday of each month. This FREE class welcomes little ones (ages 0-3) and their caregivers for stories, music, and fun! (Strollers should enter through the Siegel JCC main entrance.) For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lisa Kornblum, Admissions Director at 302-478-5026 or lisa.kornblum@einsteinday.org.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

Caring Group (Widow Support Group)
5:30–7 PM
JFS Wilmington Office
If you have lost a spouse and are looking for support from people who share the experience, please consider joining JFS’ new Caring Group. FREE to join, contact Pamela Stearn at 302-478-9411 or psteam@jfsdelaware.org

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

Women’s Community Seder hosted by the CBS Sisterhood
5:30–8 PM
Congregation Beth Shalom
1801 Baynard Blvd
Wilmington DE
Join us for a community-wide Women’s Seder, a chance for women to recline and focus on Pesach and its heroines. Check in is at 5:30 PM. The Seder will commence at 6 PM. Dinner will be served (vegetarian option available). For more information, please contact Jessica Wright at events@cbswilmde.org or to register please go to www.bethshalomwilmington.org/womenseder.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019

Youth Social Guide: Pre-Passover Pizza Party (Grades 6-8)
7–9 PM
Siegel JCC
Get ready for Passover (or just relax with friends) at this carb-loaded hangout. Cost: $10/Member, $18/Non-member. For more information or to register, please visit siegeljcc.org or contact Becky Stahl at beckystahl@siegeljcc.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019

Open House
10 AM–2 PM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
Become a part of our community. Join us for Open House! Every new member that joins will receive a J Summer Swag Bag, as well as a chance to Spin-The-Wheel for a surprise offer. As always, when you refer a friend, you get a month FREE! For more information, please visit siegeljcc.org, or contact Courtney Howe at courtneyhowe@siegeljcc.org.

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019

Jewish Federation of Delaware’s Business Professionals Breakfast with Rodger Levenson
8–10 AM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
A great opportunity to network with professionals engaged as philanthropists and leaders in our community. Keynote speaker: Rodger Levenson, President and CEO of WSFS Financial Corporation. Cost: $18/person by April 1st and $25/after. No minimum gift required. Includes continental breakfast. Event Co-Chairs: Jesse Miller and Beth Moskow-

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

PUZZLE LOCATED ON PAGE 45

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019
JFS Memory Café
1:30–3 PM
Congregation Beth Emeth
A social gathering for people experiencing memory changes and their caregivers. Open to ALL; every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. For more info or to RSVP, contact Karen Commeret at 302-478-9411 or kcommeret@jfsdelaware.org. Interested in volunteering? Contact Joyce Griffith at 302-478-9411 or jgriffith@jfsdelaware.org.

STARTING THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2019
Spring Break Camp
6:30–9 PM
Siegel JCC ECC
Join Camp JCC during Spring Vacation Break for some special activities and trips. Cost: $50/members/day, $60/non-members/day. Runs April 18-26, excluding weekends. For registration and questions, visit siegeljcc.org or email Adam Cook at adamcook@siegeljcc.org.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019
Community Passover Seder
7:45 PM
Chabad Center for Jewish Life
This year, we want to make your Passover Seder experience as easy as possible by inviting you to our Community Seder for the first night of Pesach! Just make reservations and let us do all of the work for you. Wouldn’t it be nice to have one less thing to worry about going into Pesach? $30/Adult, $16/Child (Under 11 $120/sponsor. To make reservations, visit www.ChabadDE.com/register no later than Thursday, April 11, without exception.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019
Community Seder
8 PM
Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth
The community is invited to join Rabbi Saks and the AKSE family for a Seder on the first night of Passover. Enjoy an inspiring Seder and complete catered meal, including wine. Meal price – $44 for adults, $20 for children ages 6 to 12, free for children 5 and under. Registration and payment should be made by April 5 online at www.AKSE.org or by contacting the AKSE office at 302-762-2705 or office@AKSE.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019
Community Seder
8 PM
Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth
The community is invited to join Rabbi Saks and the AKSE family for a Seder on the second night of Passover. Enjoy an inspiring Seder and complete catered meal, including wine. Meal price – $44 for adults, $20 for children ages 6 to 12, free for children 5 and under. Registration and payment should be made by April 5 online at www.AKSE.org or by contacting the AKSE office at 302-762-2705 or office@AKSE.org.

MORO ON NEXT PAGE
YOM HAZIKARON
WEDNESDAY
MAY 1, 2019
7 PM
SIEGEL JCC AUDITORIUM

Yom Ha’zikaron Ceremony
6 PM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
Please join us for our traditional, teen led, Yom Ha’zikaron ceremony. Teens from the local community will be reading texts and singing songs to commemorate the memory of the fallen soldiers and victims of terror in Israel. The ceremony is free and open to the community. For more information, please contact Daniella Buchshtaber at Daniella@ShalomDel.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019
Yom HaShoah Program
7 PM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
Holocaust Day of Remembrance ceremony in Freedom Plaza, Wilmington, at the Holocaust Memorial sculpture located between the Carvel State Office Building and the City/County Building. The event is sponsored by DERECH: Delaware Rabbinical and Cantor’s Association and the Hallina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Center in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Delaware. For more information, please contact Gina Kozicki at (302) 427-2100 x820 or Gina.Kozicki@ShalomDel.org.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019
Shlichim Community Wedding
3 PM
Congregation Beth Shalom
Join us for a unique community event as our Shlichim, Daniella and Noam, are married under the chuppah followed by a reception.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
Hadassah Presents: Celebrating One of Our Own – Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a life member of Hadassah
10 AM–12 PM
Siegel JCC Auditorium
Learn about RBG’s impact on human rights, gender equality and social justice. How does Judaism inform her attitude toward the law? Speakers will be Justice Randy J. Holland, retired Delaware Supreme Court Justice; Ellen Meyer, retired Attorney; Gina Schoenberg, Deputy Attorney General at DE Dept. of Justice; and Judge Aida Waserstein, retired Delaware Family Court Judge. Light Breakfast included. $18 in advance, $25 at the door. Become a sponsor for $36. RSVP by April 24 with check payable to Hadassah mailed to Arlene Eckell, 43 Cornwall Drive, Newark, DE 19711. Questions?? Email Sylvia Wagman at srwag8@comcast.net.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration
6 PM–9 PM
Siegel JCC
Celebrate Israel’s 71st birthday! We will have an interactive program including Israeli food, music and many fun activities! For more information, please contact Daniella@ShalomDel.org.

For more information, contact:
Daniella Buchshtaber
302/427-2100
Daniella@ShalomDel.org
As a Jewish peoplehood, we have been given one of the greatest gifts in life - Tradition!

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines tradition as: “the handing down of information, beliefs, and customs by word of mouth or by example from one generation to another without written instruction.” As Jews, we have been blessed with both: written instruction in the Tanakh, and an “Oral Torah” with interpretations in the Talmud. Be it life-cycle celebrations such as a B’nai Mitzvah or wedding to our Shabbat and holiday rituals such as lighting shabbos candles, fasting at Yom Kippur or conducting the seder at Passover, we are guided by the Jewish laws and traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation.

As Passover approaches, I would like to pose a couple of questions: How can we fulfill the traditions and obligations of the seder and retell the “Pesach Story” while bringing relevance to our children and guests? And, how can we engage each other in a more meaningful and exciting experience?

If your family is anything like ours, by the second seder the children are climbing the walls while the adults are shloffing from the wine! That’s what it was like for us until my mother Roberta Marcus (z”l) suggested her grandchildren lead the second seder, and a new family tradition was born.

MORE ON NEXT PAGE
Ah, but your children are too young, they can’t read the haggadah, they don’t know Hebrew or how to sing the songs... while all are valid arguments, they are also incredible opportunities for you to capitalize on what they are learning in Sunday School, Hebrew School, or from the Passover Books at PJ Library. Use social media such as Pinterest, Google, and any of the Jewish web sites for ideas. Engage older cousins, grandparents, aunts and uncles to spend time with your children in advance. Ask what Passover means to your children, write it down for them, ask them to draw pictures and you can write the captions, and lastly don’t forget to share what Passover has meant to you over the years.

Explain why we retell the story as if we were once slaves and now we are free, and the Exile was long... and we celebrated Passover in Egypt, and freedom was the theme, and the story was told by a series of questions and answers mimicking the game show. Our story was told by a series of questions and answers mimicking the game show. Our Superhero’s Seder was especially fun; Moses was Superman, and Pharaoh was The Riddler.

Or the year we had an Israelis vs. Egyptians Baseball Seder; Moses was the Captain of the Israelites, Pharaoh the captain of the Egyptians, Red Barber was the Narrator (aka G-d) and the seder was told in innings. As the girls got older, the Disney Princess Seder was particularly empowering. All of the male heroes and villains were now Disney Princesses—Snow White was the Narrator, Cinderella was Moses, Ursula was Pharaoh, and Pocahontas was G-d. But perhaps my favorite seder was two years ago when our theme was, From Slavery to Freedom: A Very Harry Potter Seder; did you know there is an actual Harry Potter Haggadah? While we displayed it, we didn’t use it because that would be cheating… the kids made their own. We also made magic wands for everyone using chopsticks and super glue, hung floating candles from the ceiling, dinner was at Hogwarts, dessert at Honey Dukes, and sections of the seder were assigned as the HP books.

While our seders are not conventional in telling the Passover Story, we have created a family tradition steeped in the values and traditions of Judaism. And each year as a family we start discussing what the upcoming year’s theme should be, what has been of relevance over the past year, and how can it be incorporated into our seder. For example, one year our theme was, Wants to Be a Million Matzah-nare? Seder and process.

Some of our most memorable seders include the very first seder, which was a play written by our daughter Pamela (ten years old) and our niece Paige (nine years old) in which they made us dress in Togas and they put our son Mark (three years old) in a laundry basket as Baby Moses and our nephew Max (four years old) acted as “grown up Moses.” We ate reclining on pillows and without utensils using just our hands (except the soup which we drank from mugs). One year while the boys were still young, the girls created a coloring book for everyone to color as they told the story of Passover. As the kids grew older, the themes became more advanced in thought and process.

For example, one year our theme was, Who Wants to Be a Million Matzah-nare? Seder. The story was told by a series of questions and answers mimicking the game show. Our Superhero’s Seder was especially fun; Moses was Superman, and Pharaoh was The Riddler.
Every day of every year, Jewish Federation of Delaware works with local, national, and international agencies to transform lives and deliver hope, dignity, and comfort to people in Delaware and the Brandywine Valley, in Israel and around the world.

Please support the Annual Campaign and Create A Jewish Legacy so Federation, in collaboration with our local agencies and overseas partners, can continue improving our world.

Today, Tomorrow and TOGETHER.
JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE Presents

Business Professionals Breakfast

APRIL 15•2019

8:00 - 10:00 AM
The Siegel JCC
AUDITORIUM

CO-CHAIRS:
Beth Moskow-Schnoll
Jesse Miller

FEATUED GUEST SPEAKER
Rodger Levenson
President and Chief Executive Officer
WSFS Financial Corporation

COUVERT
$18 Person By April 1
$25 Person After
No Minimum Gift Required
Includes Continental Breakfast

REGISTER BY April 10
ONLINE: ShalomDelaware.org/bizproevent
BY PHONE: (302)427-2100
For more info: Wendy@ShalomDel.org