

SHANA TOVA!

5784



Just because it’s about baking challah doesn’t make it a cookbook

By Marilyn Shapiro

As Jews around the world herald in the Hebrew Year 5784, I am celebrating Rosh Hashanah with the release of my fourth book, “Keep Calm and Bake Challah: How I Survived the Pandemic, Politics, Pratfalls, and Other of Life’s Problems.”

Before you start getting out your baking pans, please

be warned: No, this is NOT a cookbook!

In March 2020, as the reality of COVID-19 hit home, I started baking challah, the delicious, braided egg bread that is typically eaten on the Sabbath and other important Jewish holidays. More importantly, I started writing about baking challah. Getting inspiration from England’s World War II rally

cry, I searched the internet and found Keep Calm Maker on Zazzle, an American on-line marketplace, could create an apron with a Keep Calm and Bake Challah logo embroidered on the top half. The yellow cotton pinafore arrived in June and my wearing it while baking the loaves became as necessary to the process as kneading the flour, sugar, salt, oil,

and yeast. I knew that the mantra would be the title of my book.

Over the next two and half years, I wrote about baking challah. I also wrote about adjusting to the “new normal” — wearing masks; zooming with family and friends; missing in-person birthdays, bar and bat mitzvahs, graduations, weddings, and funerals; following the news as the country was split apart; emerging slowly back into life more closely resembling the pre-COVID years; finally meeting my San Francisco grandson who was born days before California began its shelter-in-place orders; resuming our summers at 9100 feet in Colorado; and dealing with our own COVID illnesses.

In April 2023, my editor, Mia Crews, and I were putting the final touches on “Keep Calm and Bake Challah” before publication. We were going back and forth with necessary changes to the 53 stories as well as the cover, which featured a picture of me wearing my apron and holding a huge, braided loaf. Finally, Mia uploaded the first draft copy of the book. That Friday afternoon, I greeted the deliveryman as he handed me the brown envelope that held my new “baby.”

“Thankyouso much!” I told him. “It’s my book!”

“That’s nice,” he said, as he turned around and started heading for his truck.

“No, it’s not any book,” I



MARILYN COHEN SHAPIRO

The cover of Marilyn Shapiro’s newest book.

said. “It’s my book! I wrote it. Do you want to see it?”

Before he could answer, I tore open the envelope and showed him the proof copy.

“That’s nice,” he said. “You wrote a cookbook.”

“No, it’s NOT a cookbook,” I said. “It’s a collection of stories about my life during the pandemic.”

As he left, however, I took a closer look at the cover. It

DID look like a cookbook. That opinion was confirmed by several other people to whom I showed the proof.

Over that weekend, I agonized over my dilemma. Did I need a new cover? A new title? Or did I need to throw out hundreds of hours of writing and editing, keep the cover and title, and just write a cook-

Shapiro on page 18A



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CARDINAL MONUMENTS

Jewish grief support group resumes

How do we pick up the pieces and start to live again? Everyone does it differently and in his or her own time frame.

Join a grief support group. Renew old friendships, find a job that you enjoy do volunteer work, find a new or renew an old hobby.... One of the best therapies is finding a friend you can talk to...one who will listen and support you as you ease back into the world! We are better than ever for our commitment. We are forever changed in a good way.... no one can ever take that total love away from us as we again join the world.

The Jewish Pavilion offers a grief support program twice a year for five weeks. It is taking place on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. from Oct. 16- Nov. 13 at Cascade Heights in Longwood.

This free grief support group is being run by Judy Kahan who is a social worker. The program helps participants deal with their grief through a Jewish lens and members participate in all five sessions.

Judy Kahan is a native Central Floridian whose Jewish communal career included work at the JCC, Jewish Federation and Kinneret Apartments. During her tenure as Executive Director of Kinneret Apartments, Judy created the organization known today as the Jewish Pavilion. She received her master’s degree in Social Work from Yeshiva University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Florida. Currently Judy serves on the board of Share the Care, a nonprofit organi-

zation that provides day care service centers for the elderly and supportive services for caregivers. After 25 years of marriage, Judy became a widow at the age of 52. In 2015 Judy married Elliott Davis, who now serves as Past Chairman of the board of the Jewish Pavilion.

As a caregiver, some people totally devote themselves to caring for another person who no longer functions as he once did. We may move, leave our jobs, give up our independence, and rarely see our family and friends. Our entire life may revolve around comforting and making our loved one feel loved.

When a loved one passes, often we grieve and then the process of finding our way back into the world begins anew.

Saturday Night Out at the Rosen JCC

Get ready for Saturday Night Out at the Rosen JCC. This event let’s parents drop off their children on Saturday, Sept. 30 6 p.m.-11 p.m. Children will play games, do crafts plus get pizza and a movie.

Parents can plan their own

night of fun. Whether you plan a quiet night at home or a night out on the town, this gives parents a chance to take time for themselves.

It’s a perfect opportunity to take advantage of Visit Orlando Magical Dining that run till Oct. 1. Enjoy one of the

amazing restaurants in our area while the children have their own good time.

To register for Saturday Night Out visit www.rosen-jcc.org/sno. To learn more about Visit Orlando Magical Dining options visit www.magicaldining.com.

Overcoming apathy and discouragement and preparing for Rosh Hashanah

**By Rabbi Nechemia Coopersmith
Aish Hatorah Resources**

Preparing for Rosh Hashanah should not be a downer. It's an auspicious, exciting time for clarity and closeness, grounded in positivity and love.

The Hebrew month of Elul, a spiritually super-charged time leading up to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, has a surprising theme. The word "Elul" is an acronym for the phrase "Ani l'dodi v'dodi li – I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me" that comes from King Solomon's Song of Songs (6:3).

To borrow from Tina Turner's famous song, what's love got to do with it? Why does this phrase that articulates the deep longing between two lovers, which is a metaphor for the love between God and the Jewish People, serve as the core focus of preparing for Rosh Hashanah?

What's the Essence of Rosh Hashanah?

Rosh Hashanah transports you back to the very beginning of time when God, as CEO of the universe, was setting budgets and job descriptions for all of humanity. As a mutli-

gazzilionaire, there is no limit to what this CEO can allocate. The only limit is His employees' understanding of the company's vision and the extent of their responsibility to implement the CEO's bottom line.

On Rosh Hashanah, you stand before God, a.k.a. the CEO of the universe, making your case for the upcoming year. The previous year is over; your past performance is not relevant. Every person is starting a new chapter and everything is up for grabs. Now is the time to get clarity, articulate your dreams, and genuinely commit to make them happen.

The month of Elul is the crucial time period to recalibrate your goals and get ready to make your presentation to the Boss Himself.

Two Obstacles

But embracing this challenge requires overcoming two sizable obstacles that you may find yourself slamming into: apathy and discouragement.

You feel pretty distant from God and are perfectly content to stay where you are, putting in your minimal effort to live a decent life and spending the rest of your time on social media and binge-watching, and

whatever fix you need to comfortably pass away the time. Apathy stops all growth in its tracks.

And if you do want to work on personal growth and take preparing for Rosh Hashanah seriously, there's that voice that whispers in your ear: "Who are you kidding? How many times have you gone down this road, and look where you are? In the exact same spot, with the exact same issues. People don't change. Admit it, you're a failure and there is no reason to think this year will be any different."

Discouragement saps your energy and cynically undermines your ability to change.

The phrase "I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me" that typifies the essence of Elul is the life preserver you need to extract you from your debilitating apathy and discouragement.

How so?

Love is the Pillar

Stephen Covey, the author of "7 Habits of Highly Effective People," popularized the expression, "Love is a verb." One of Judaism's commandments is "to love your neighbor" which most commentaries define as expressing love through action. It's tricky to mandate an emotion; com-

manding action is far more doable.

Marriage is the commitment to shower your spouse with acts of love, no matter what mood you're in and whether or not you're feeling the love. Regardless of your feeling, love her — meaning put your love into action. Show affection, give compliments, go out on a date, be curious and listen, and most importantly care about the things your spouse cares about.

Putting your love into action fosters feelings of love. What starts as a verb becomes an object. And the distance you may have been feeling between you and your spouse dissipates as the intimacy is restored.

Now apply this with God. It's okay if you're not feeling the love. Love is a verb; just do it. Don't wait for the sudden inspiration. Take a few quiet moments and ask yourself: what are the things that are important to God that I can work on making important to me? Give yourself some time to answer; you may be surprised to hear what your inner self says when you access it with honesty and vulnerability.

Then select one or two things that speak most to

you and start implementing them, slowly but surely. These first steps loosen the shackles of apathy and help close the spiritual distance you may be feeling with God. But you need to make the first move, not God. That's why the phrase begins, "I am for my beloved" — it's starts with you taking the first step.

The Ultimate Cheerleader

Love flows both ways. Once you take that first step in drawing closer to God, your efforts will be met with God's welcoming embrace. God's love is a constant. Even the smallest step forward impacts the tenor of the relationship.

God reciprocates, as expressed in the second part of the phrase, "and my Beloved is for me." This is essential to overcoming discouragement.

While you may have moments where you feel like throwing in the towel and give up on yourself, God sees what you're really made of. As your Creator Who invested in you immeasurable potential for greatness that only you can achieve through your unique mission in life, God is rooting for you and wants you to succeed. Feel that love and allow it to empower you to take the next step forward in your journey.

Preparing for Rosh Hasha-

nah should not be a heavy downer. It's an auspicious, exciting time for clarity and closeness, grounded in positivity and love.

That's why the essence of Elul is expressed through the phrase "I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me," underscoring the love that exemplifies this period.

Turns out that love has everything to do with it. Initiating small steps to strengthen your relationship with God will shake off your apathy and arouse a greater feeling of love and closeness. And this, in turn, will be reciprocated by God's constant love, giving you the encouragement and confidence to plow forward, step by step, in fulfilling your life's journey.

Rabbi Nechemia Coopersmith lives in Jerusalem with his wife and children. He is the chief editor of Aish.com, one of the world's largest Judaism websites. He is the author of "Shmooze: A Guide to Thought-Provoking Discussion on Essential Jewish Issues" — a must-have little book for anyone who loves a good question, and the co-author of "Rabbi Noah Weinberg's 48 Ways to Wisdom and Wisdom for Living: Rabbi Noah Weinberg of the Parsha."

Brooklyn kosher ice cream chain recalls all of its ice cream and frozen desserts due to listeria fears

By Jackie Hajdenberg

(New York Jewish Week) — A kosher ice cream chain in Brooklyn is voluntarily recalling all of its ice cream and pareve frozen desserts after it was linked to a recent listeria outbreak from another kosher ice cream manufacturer.

The recall was announced by the Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday and lists more than 90 frozen treats sold by the Ice Cream House, a chain of kosher dairy eateries in Brooklyn that was recently featured in an episode of the Netflix reality show "Jewish Matchmaking." The chain has salads, sandwiches and pizza on its menu, in addition to frozen desserts.

Ice Cream House said in an automated voicemail message that it has closed its Borough Park location for maintenance until further notice. The chain's other two loca-

tions — in Williamsburg and Flatbush, which, like Borough Park, have large Orthodox populations — remain open, according to the automated message. Ice Cream House did not respond to requests for comments.

The recall also applies to Ice Cream House frozen products sold in grocery stores.

According to the FDA, the Ice Cream House recall is related to a listeria outbreak in a line of ice cream cups called Soft Serve on the Go, made by Klein's Real Kosher, which were separately recalled earlier this month. The FDA has matched listeria found in those products to a food-borne illness that hospitalized two people in New York and Pennsylvania.

The FDA did not elaborate on how the recalls of Ice Cream House products and Soft Serve on the Go are linked. Klein's Real Kosher,

the Brooklyn-based frozen food company that produces Soft Serve on the Go, said on its website that the cups "are manufactured at their own dedicated facility" and that their recall earlier this month did not affect any other products.

The relationship between Ice Cream House and Klein's is likewise unclear. However, the two companies appear to be connected: One option on Klein's main phone menu directs callers to Ice Cream House's headquarters.

When the soft serve recall was announced on Aug. 9, Ice Cream House posted the notice on its Instagram profile and wrote, "We hope that Soft Serve On The Go will come back to delivering their safe & high quality product shortly."

Klein's, which also appears to go by Real Kosher Ice Cream, also did not respond to a request for comment. Its soft

serve products are distributed via retailers in 20 states, and production of those products has temporarily stopped, the FDA reported.

Infections from listeria can be serious and sometimes fatal. Symptoms can include high fever, severe headaches, stiffness, nausea, abdominal

pain and diarrhea. Listeria infections can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths.

On Aug. 14, a class action lawsuit was filed against Real Kosher Ice Cream by customers who had bought some of the affected ice creams, claiming the company "improperly, deceptively, and misleadingly

labeled and marketed its Products to reasonable consumers... by omitting and not disclosing to consumers on its packaging that consumption of the Products may increase the risk of contracting invasive infections."

The investigation into the outbreak is ongoing.

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‘And Just Like That’ and antisemitism

By Morton A. Klein and Elizabeth A. Berney

(JNS) — “Sex and the City” fans appropriately expressed outrage after SATC’s reboot “And Just Like That” made an offensive joke about the Holocaust on Holocaust Remembrance Day. They further charged that the show was permeated with overdone “woke-ism.”

But other deeply disturbing things about AJLT received little to no notice. First, AJLT repeatedly promoted the dangerous George Soros-funded Israel-bashing propaganda organization Human Rights Watch. This became even worse in the just-aired AJLT Season 2, which also displays giant HRW signs in numerous scenes.

The show also included a joke portraying Israel’s Mossad as random assassins; propagated the false “Muslim ban” myth; disparaged Jews’ physical appearance and behavior; and mocked concerns about kosher food. It thus compounded the negative, antisemitic portrayals of Jews and Israel in the series “Suits,” “Quantico” and too many other shows.

This is extremely harmful to Jews in an era of skyrocketing antisemitism, which is often manifested as Israel-hatred.

Elevating anti-Israel HRW

AJLT has obsessively promoted HRW. This is particularly disturbing given HRW’s unabashed hatred of Israel. Besides Soros, whose foundations gave a \$100 million 10-year challenge grant to HRW, the group has also received donations from notorious anti-Israel groups like the Ford Foundation, Oxfam and the Rockefeller Bros. Foundation, which specifically contributed to HRW’s “Israel/Palestine program.” HRW has also used its anti-Israel defamation campaigns to raise funds from prominent Saudis.

HRW uses its massive funding and power to repeatedly defame Israel. An HRW website search reveals 2,185 HRW articles, so-called reports, op-eds and so on that libel Israel, including lengthy reports falsely accusing Israel of “apartheid” and “crimes against humanity,” and promoting antisemitic anti-Israel boycotts and lawfare.

Because of this extreme, unrelenting Israel-hatred, HRW’s founder and former chair Robert Bernstein disassociated himself from his own organization. Bernstein wrote that HRW has turned into a group that is “helping those who wish to turn Israel into a pariah state. ... Israel, the repeated victim of aggression, faces the brunt of Human Rights Watch’s criticism.”

Yet in AJLT Season 1, Episode 10, lead character Miranda Hobbes (played by left-wing politician Cynthia Nixon) is chided for giving up what is lauded as a valuable, “highly competitive” and “impossible to get” internship with Human Rights Watch. When Miranda informs her human-rights law professor, Nya Wallace, of her plans to follow her nonbinary lover to California, the professor laments the decision:

Later in the same episode, lead character Carrie Bradshaw also chides Miranda for giving up the the internship.

The real HRW tweeted in response, “Btw, all of our internships are remote-friendly—you can have love AND an internship!” How heartwarming to know that you can simultaneously work for blood-libeler HRW and have a confused, doomed affair.

Notably, AJLT’s elevation of HRW occurred just two days after a similar anti-Israel so-called “human rights” group, Amnesty International, issued a report promoting a “right” to murder Jews and destroy Israel. The Amnesty report was based, in significant part, on HRW’s own false anti-Israel reports.

Incidentally, HRW internships do not appear to be as “coveted” as portrayed by AJLT. Glassdoor.com has 23 complaints from HRW interns about HRW’s lack of pay, travel stipends and subsidies, plus complaints about a lack of substantive work.

AJLT’s Season 2, Episodes 8 through 11 went even further in fawning over HRW, including claiming that working for it is “doing good in the world.”

The following episodes show Miranda working for HRW and meeting with considerable success. In almost all these scenes, the backdrop consists of giant Human Rights Watch logos, covering the wall of Miranda’s private office and displayed in the office common areas. Everyone wears large HRW badges around their necks. The giant HRW sign even appears in the “previous on” segment at the beginning of episode 10, just in case anyone missed it the numerous times it filled the screen in the previous two episodes.

Talk about product placement on steroids!

AJLT needs to take steps to undo this harm. Would any television show ever elevate an organization that defames Blacks, gays, Asians, Muslims or any other minority group? Of course not. It is only Jews and Israel that can be maligned with seeming impunity. Moreover, AJLT could easily have chosen or invented a decent human-rights group, instead of elevating blood-libeler HRW.

Showrunner Michael Patrick King, Jewish

actress and executive co-producer Sarah Jessica Parker and AJLT’s other top brass should now do whatever possible to rectify this situation, including apologies and corrective scenes in AJLT’s next season.

For example, AJLT could show Miranda resigning from HRW in disgust after realizing that it has weaponized the mantra of “human rights” in order to incessantly demonize Israel with antisemitic falsehoods.

Unfortunately, there are other issues that need to be addressed as well.

Portraying the Mossad as assassins

Season one, episode seven of AJLT contains a tasteless anti-Israel joke that portrays Israel’s national intelligence service, the Mossad, as assassins who senselessly “off” people.

At a fundraiser, Carrie Bradshaw spots a man named Peter with whom Carrie recently had an embarrassing blind date. When Peter leaves the room, Carrie turns to her friend Anthony:

Carrie: You know what? Can you follow him out? And then come back and tell me when you’re sure he’s out of the building and gone?

Anthony: You want me to off him, too? What am I, Mossad?

Why didn’t AJLT choose a group that really “offs” innocent people, like the Mafia, Hamas or the Palestinian Authority?

Promoting the “Muslim ban” myth

In AJLT Season 1, Episode 1, Miranda tells her human-rights professor because CNN announced that the Muslim ban was initiated.

In reality, there was no “Muslim ban.” It is a propaganda term used by opponents of the travel ban that former President Donald Trump initiated to protect U.S. security.

The travel ban restricted travel from only a small number of terrorism-infested countries — five Muslim-majority countries and three non-Muslim countries—where the U.S. lacked the information needed to properly vet entrants to the United States.

The Pew Research Center calculated that Muslim-majority countries affected by the initial travel ban contained only 12 percent of the world’s Muslim population. This percentage later dropped even further. The five Muslim-majority countries affected by the third version of the travel ban contained only 8 percent of the world’s Muslim population.

The affected countries were all places in which terrorism forced the U.S. embassy to close, leaving the United States without any on-the-ground presence. Numerous Obama administration officials and others testified that ISIS and other terror groups were

attempting to infiltrate the U.S. and the lack of on-the-ground presence made vetting impossible.

Disparaging Jews’ physical appearance and behavior

SATC portrayed the Jewish character Harry Goldenblatt as so physically unattractive that, during the early part of his relationship with the gorgeous character Charlotte York, Charlotte is repulsed and embarrassed to be seen in public with Harry.

Related episodes focused on Harry’s hairy back, Harry sloppily eating and then spitting out a bagel into his hand and Harry leaving skid marks on the sofa from sitting on it naked. Even after Charlotte falls in love with Harry’s humor, warmth, compassion (and sexual ability), and converts to Judaism so he will marry her, Charlotte yells at Harry: “Do you know how lucky you are to have me? Do you know how we look? Do you know what people out there think when they see us together? Do you?”

Harry leaves after that outburst, and Charlotte is then set up with two other Jewish men, described as “a meeskite and a faigela”—Yiddish terms for an ugly man and a gay man. Charlotte then attends a Jewish synagogue singles event populated with unattractive singles and only one good-looking Jewish man. The good-looking man leaves the event after Charlotte rejects him, and the other women then lament that “all that’s left is the fatties and the baldies.”

The other significant Jewish character, Carrie’s gay friend Stanford Blatch, is short, bald and portrayed as unattractive.

By contrast, virtually every non-Jewish SATC event attendee and date is good-looking—often extraordinarily so.

Planting trees

To be fair, there is one quick snippet of dialogue in AJLT season two, episode five that offers a bit of pro-Israel relief. The following exchange helps convince character Harry Goldenblatt to allow his child “Rock” (birth name “Rose,” gender pronoun “they”) to model in a “family progressive” Ralph Lauren Polo ad:

Charlotte: They’ve [Rock/Rose has] come up with a great idea of how they will use the money they will make.

Rock: Plant trees in Israel!

Harry (looking defeated): Uy.

What is going on at AJLT? Why are they repeatedly portraying Jews in a manner that would engender outrage if it were directed at any other ethnic group?

AJLT needs to plant a lot more trees in Israel to reverse the harm it is doing.



Everywhere

High Holidays — A time for mutual respect and forgiveness

By Mel Pearlman

The days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are devoted not only to examining our relationship with God, but also to self-reflection and our relationship with others.

Our tradition, developed over more than three thousand years, has created a rich narrative of prayers and readings which, selectively are an integral part of synagogue services for all denominations. Included in the High Holiday liturgy is the retelling of our rich history from the rituals and pageantry of the High Priest in

the Holy Temple to our religious experiences throughout the centuries.

Also included in the holiday observance is remembrance of the martyrs throughout our history who sacrificed their lives to assure the integrity and survival of the Jewish people; and to keep intact their belief in monotheism, devotion to Torah and their unbreakable connection to the Land of Israel.

Among the world’s great religions, Judaism is unique. Besides being the first to embrace monotheism and reject idolatry, it is the only existing religion in the world connected to an

ethnically identified people from its very inception. It is a people and religion connected to a land by virtue of its relationship with God. It is a people and religion that not only perceives an individualized relationship with God, but a collective one as well.

Whether one is religious, secular, agnostic or an atheist there is a

place within the context of Judaism for all of us; and the holy days gives Jews, whatever their level of observance, an opportunity to collectively and individually, stop and reflect on our own lives and how we relate to each other, to Israel and the world at large.

For religious Jews, Torah, Rabbinic law and Israel guide their relationship with Judaism. For secular Jews, tradition, culture and connection with Israel are the primary paths to embracing Judaism.

For agnostics and atheists the Torah may not be God’s word or divinely inspired, but its story-telling and Talmudic commentaries can be a source of wisdom from which they can define their ethical and cultural values in Jewish terms.

Of course, the above categorizations are not intended to be rigid divisions, since every Jew can at one time in his or her life find elements of belief and doubt from each of the rich offerings of the Jewish experience.

The ten days embracing Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, according to traditional religious belief, are when God judges us and allows us to express our remorse and to repent for errant spiritual behavior, “to avert the severe decree”.

But deeply imbedded in the meaning of this holy period, our Jewish tradition at every level of observance calls upon us to reflect on our behavior and treatment of our fellow human beings.

For every Jew it is an opportunity to examine

his or her own behavior over the past year with an eye towards improving personal relationships and restoring and maintaining respect for one another in our different approaches to our Jewish heritage and beliefs.

Having recently returned from visiting the death camps in Poland and reflecting on the wholesale destruction of our people, it is particularly poignant and critical for us to respect each other and to not allow our political differences to undermine our common destiny.

No matter what your personal relationship to Judaism is, looking at our similarities and differences within our own community in this light can be a source of unifying our people instead of driving us apart. It will strengthen our resolve to fight the increasing onslaught of antisemitism and anti-Zionism from whichever direction it emanates; and which ultimately threatens all of us in the diaspora as well as our brothers and sisters in the Land of Israel.

Wishing all a Happy, Healthy and Sweet New Year!

If you wish to comment or respond you can reach me at melpearlman322@gmail.com. Please do so in a rational, thoughtful, respectful and civil manner.

Mel Pearlman holds B.S. & M.S. degrees in physics as well as a J.D. degree and initially came to Florida in 1966 to work on the Gemini and Apollo space programs. He has practiced law in Central Florida since 1972. He has served as president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Orlando; was a charter board member, first vice president and pro-bono legal counsel of the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Central Florida, as well as holding many other community leadership positions.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THIS PAGE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT.

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The price of American leadership

By Clifford D. May

(JNS) — “A fool is someone who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing,” Oscar Wilde famously quipped. In Milwaukee last week, the Republican candidates for president—minus one Donald J. Trump—quarreled over both the price and value of American support for Ukraine.

Only Nikki Haley crunched the numbers correctly. From the February 2022 Russian invasion to August of this year, the United States has committed roughly \$43 billion to Ukraine. As Haley suggested, that’s just 3.5 percent of U.S. spending on the Defense Department over the same period.

In other words, without American troops spilling a single drop of blood, Ukrainians are delivering body blows to the offensive military capabilities of Russian dicta-

tor Vladimir Putin, America’s No. 2 adversary. (America’s No. 1 adversary, of course, is Chinese Communist leader Xi Jinping, whom Putin has embraced in a “no limits” alliance.)

Another way to look at it: U.S. assistance to Ukraine—military and humanitarian combined—represents just 1.2 percent of U.S. government spending over the past 18 months.

Is that not outstanding value? When have American taxpayers received a better—or even comparable—return on investment?

I’m not arguing that \$43 billion is chump change. But to put that number in perspective, a recent AP investigation found that more than \$280 billion in COVID-19 relief funding may have been stolen, with another \$123 billion wasted or misspent.

Consider three other misallocations (in my humble

opinion) of your tax dollars.

President Biden is adding \$80 billion over 10 years to the budget of the Internal Revenue Service.

His plan to socialize student loans was to cost as much as \$430 billion. Since the Supreme Court found that plan unconstitutional, the White House has come up with a new plan to transfer \$39 billion worth of loans from students to taxpayers.

And the misleadingly named Inflation Reduction Act is projected to cost taxpayers \$1.2 trillion over 10 years in “green” subsidies. This will “address” but not actually impact climate change.

You also should know: Much of the materiel we’re sending to Ukraine is drawn from existing Defense Department stockpiles and is decades old.

Money spent on new and improved equipment to replace what we’ve transferred

to Ukraine bolsters the U.S. defense industrial base, which is employing a growing number of skilled American workers.

That base has been in steep decline since what we believed (wrongly, I think) was the end of the Cold War in 1991. We took a premature “peace dividend.”

The U.S. defense industry also is expected to receive billions of dollars in new orders from European countries to replace materiel they have transferred to Ukraine.

So, support for Ukraine is modernizing American forces and the forces of America’s allies while building U.S. defense industrial capacity so we can better compete with other countries—the People’s Republic of China among them—that make and sell arms.

All this is necessary if Americans are to reliably deter their enemies. Deterrence

doesn’t come cheap, but it’s a bargain compared to what it costs when our enemies see us as weak—lacking martial capability or will, or both—and decide to take a shot.

What about diplomacy?

We can try, one more time with feeling, to “reset” relations with Putin, as President Obama did one year after the Russian dictator carved two provinces off neighboring Georgia and five years before he invaded Ukraine for the first time.

We can continue to attempt to “thaw” relations with Xi. We can bribe Ali Khamenei of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

These dictators would be pleased but not appeased.

Offers of “win-win” compromises do not tempt them. Outreached hands in search of unclenched fists hold no appeal. They recognize and respect power—nothing else.

Trust me: If Putin comes out on top in the current

conflict, he won’t devote his golden years to gardening and pickleball.

He’ll use the continuing revenue from oil sales to, shall we say, build back better militarily and pursue his dream: the restoration of the Russian Empire. He’ll also utilize Ukrainian resources—both natural and human (the latter with bayonets at their backs).

Because Finland and Sweden grasp this reality, they’re no longer neutral. They’re now on our side. Poland is beefing up its defenses.

Indeed, eleven European countries have given more to Ukraine as a percentage of GDP than has the United States. Several other NATO countries have not stepped up as they should—that’s where U.S. diplomacy can be put to good use.

Meanwhile, in South Africa last week, the BRICS bloc—

Price on page 18A

What Biden’s \$6 billion ransom teaches our enemies

By Jason Shvili

(JNS) — Reports confirm the Biden administration will gift Iran a whopping \$6 billion in exchange for the release of five American hostages. This decision is a godsend for outcast regimes and terrorists around the world—starting with Iran itself—that will no doubt feel emboldened to pursue further acts of belligerence against America and its allies.

The decision reflects the president’s naive view that friendly diplomacy can subdue our enemies. Rather, Biden’s policies have only encouraged rogue elements like Iran’s Islamist regime to continue on the path of aggression and terrorism. At this point, those who wish to defeat the United States must be asking themselves, “With enemies like Biden, who needs friends?”

Biden’s payment to Iran will be the biggest ransom paid in centuries. The United States will be paying the mullahs \$1.2 billion per prisoner. There are only two other instances in recorded history when a bigger ransom per hostage was paid.

In 1190, King Richard the Lionheart of England was kidnapped by the Duke of Austria. He was freed in exchange for the equivalent of \$3.3 billion in today’s money. In 1532, Spanish Conquistador Francisco Pizarro kidnapped Atahualpa, the last Inca emperor. He freed the Inca leader in exchange for the equivalent of \$1.5 billion in today’s money.

Thus, the Biden administration will be paying the biggest ransom in nearly five centuries and the third biggest ransom per captive in history. And this is assuming that the total ransom payment to Iran will be just \$6 billion.

According to an article in The New York Sun, it’s possible the ransom will also include recently unfrozen funds from Iraqi and other banks, which would raise the value of the total ransom to \$16 billion—\$3.2 billion per hostage.

The Biden administration has no way of ensuring its ransom to Iran will not fund more terrorism—in fact, this outcome seems almost guaranteed. The administration claims that under the terms of the deal, the \$6 billion given to Iran can only be used for humanitarian needs. But according to Iranian officials, there will be no restrictions on how the money can be used.

Even if there is an understanding between Iran and the United States that the former will only use the \$6 billion ransom payment for humanitarian causes, how will the Biden administration

ensure that the mullahs abide by this part of the deal?

According to the Washington Examiner, Qatar “will supposedly supervise the account holding the \$6 billion to ensure funds are not diverted to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps or other such organizations.”

Seriously? Qatar is already Iran’s unofficial partner in crime. The two countries both support Islamist terrorist groups in the region, including Hamas and Hezbollah.

Even if Iran does use the \$6 billion for humanitarian needs, it can reallocate money already used for humanitarian causes to its bigger priority—financing terrorism.

Indeed, the ransom payment will allow Iran to dramatically increase funding to its proxy terrorist organizations. Consider, for example, that Iran currently funds Hamas to the tune of up to

\$150 million annually, while it gives Hezbollah about \$700 million per year.

This means that Iran spends just under a billion dollars funding these two terrorist organizations. Add \$6 billion to the Islamic state’s coffers and there’s no telling how much more funding the mullahs will give their terrorist proxies, not to mention the possibility that the Iranians will spend the extra money on advancing their nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

Furthermore, Biden’s ransom will only encourage Iran and other rogue regimes to pursue the strategy of holding hostages in exchange for big rewards from the United States. Consider that in December last year, Russia freed WNBA star Brittney Griner in exchange for convicted arms dealer Viktor Bout. Barely three months later, Russia imprisoned American journalist

Evan Gershkovich. And now that the Russians know the Biden administration is willing to part with \$1.2 billion for one hostage, the price to free Gershkovich will likely be very high, if not higher than the ransom given to the Iranians.

Consider, also, that after Israel freed 1,000 Palestinian prisoners—many of them with the blood of innocent Israelis on their hands—in exchange for kidnapped soldier Gilad Shalit in 2011, Palestinian terrorists have repeatedly attempted to take more Israelis hostage—and have succeeded, twice.

Hamas took one Israeli hostage in 2014 and another a year later. They also still hold the bodies of two Israeli soldiers killed in the 2014 Gaza war. The Palestinian terrorists will surely be emboldened to try and extract a very heavy

Ransom on page 18A

‘Don’t be a tail!’

By Rabbi Yossy Goldman

(JNS) — There are many kinds of blessings. Every situation, every occasion, has a different blessing. We wish success to some, to others long life or good health, and to still others we wish nachas and pride from their children.

When my sister was a small child, she was somewhat confused by the traditional Yiddish blessings we give people at various life milestones. Someone had a baby and she wished them biz hundert un tzvanzig! In plain English, that means, “till 120!” It’s what we say when someone, particularly a more mature person, has a birthday: May you live a long life, all the way to the proverbial 120 years. But to wish a new mother another 119 children was neither appropriate nor appreciated. Anyway, we all had a good laugh.

In this week’s Torah reading (Sept. 2-8) Ki Tavo, we come across the Rebuke, a long and painful list of misfortunes that will occur to us if we

reject the faith and wander from the path of God. If we are faithful to His way of life, we will be blessed. If not, the Rebuke contains some heavy descriptions of the tragedies that will befall us.

One of the blessings is “God shall place you as a head and not as a tail.” Now, I ask you: This is a blessing? Don’t be a tail? To be honest, I can’t quite picture myself bestowing such a blessing on a Bar Mitzvah boy. Frankly, I’m not sure his parents would appreciate it either.

In fact, Pirkei Avot 4:14 tells us to be “a tail to lions” rather than “a head to foxes.” The simple meaning is that it is better to sit at the feet of the wise and learn from them than to be a leader of lesser individuals.

There are a variety of interpretations given to the Ki Tavo blessing by the commentators. One is that the blessing is advice to individuals who may be ambitiously pursuing higher stations in life. Often, the road to the top requires us not only to stand on the heads of others but also to ingratiate ourselves with

those who outrank us on the corporate ladder. In pursuit of our aspirations, we can make the mistake of becoming “yes-men,” forever currying favor with our superiors. That’s the kind of “tail” we are discouraged from becoming.

The flamboyant film mogul Samuel Goldwyn of MGM Studios was famous for his malapropisms. In fact, they were so notorious that someone coined the term “Goldwynisms.” One of his well-known lines was “I don’t want any yes-men around me. I want everyone to tell me the truth. Even if it costs them their jobs!”

The blessing of being a head and not a tail is that we should never demean ourselves in order to advance within a given hierarchy.

However, the teaching applies not only to individuals but also to nations: In trying to be a head, don’t allow yourself to become a tail. In the attempt to become a powerful nation, don’t lose your own self-respect and ingratiate yourself with other nations. Yes, we should be pragmatic and flexible, not dogmatic or intransigent, but we should

never degrade ourselves into a wagging tail that is but an appendage to the body and has no mind of its own.

Legend has it that David Ben-Gurion famously celebrated the apprehension of the first thief in Israel after statehood was declared. “Now we are a nation like all nations,” he is reputed to have

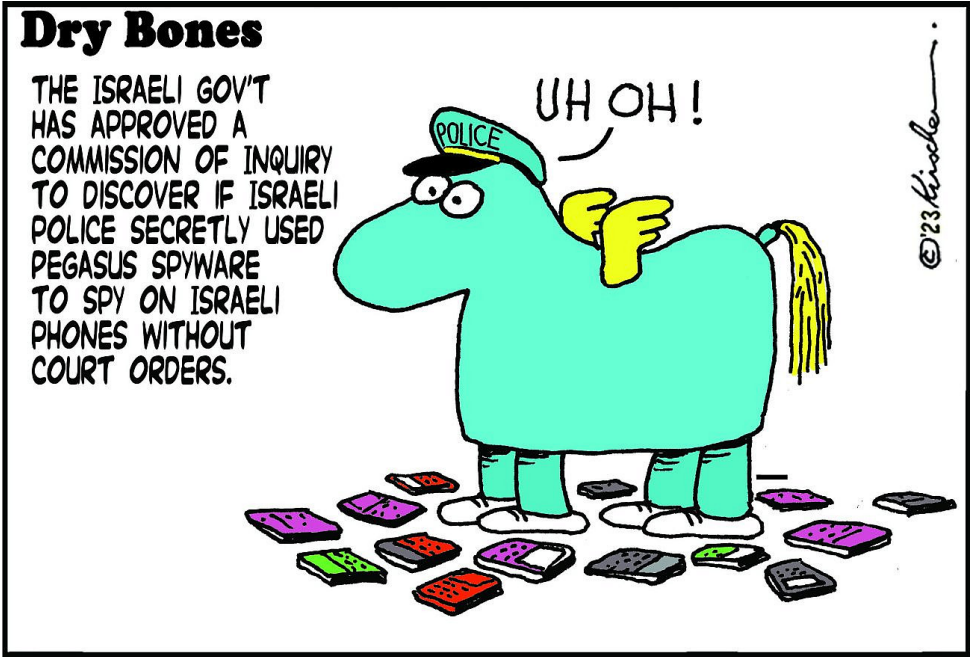
remarked. In another version of the story, he states, “We will know we have become a normal country when Jewish thieves and prostitutes conduct their business in Hebrew.”

I think it’s sad if that’s what we have to do to be a nation. Why should we be a “nation like all nations?” We should

march to our own beat. We always have and, please God, we always will.

Whether in our own personal lives or in our national identity, let us not degrade ourselves and become lowly tails in order to achieve some elusive position of leadership.

May we all be truly blessed to be a head and not a tail.



What's Happening

A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For inclusion in the What's Happening Calendar, copy must be sent on separate sheet and clearly marked for Calendar. Submit copy via: e-mail (news@orlandoheritage.com); mail (P.O. Box 300742, Fern Park, FL 32730-0742); fax (407-831-0507); or drop it by the office (207 O'Brien Rd., Ste. 101, Fern Park) Deadline is Wednesday noon, 10 days prior to publication.

LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES AT
Sept. 8
7:20 p.m.
Sept. 15
7:12 p.m.

MORNING MINYANS

Chabad of South Orlando — Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. and 10 minutes before sunset; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 8:15 a.m., 407-354-3660.

Congregation Ahavas Yisrael — Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m.; Saturday, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-644-2500.

Congregation Chabad Lubavitch of Greater Daytona — Monday, 8 a.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m., 904-672-9300.

Congregation Ohav Shalom — Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-298-4650.

GOBOR Community Minyan at Jewish Academy of Orlando — Monday – Friday, 7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Temple Israel — Sunday, 9 a.m., 407-647-3055.

For events happening at the Roth Family JCC, please visit the website, orlandojcc.org.

For events at the Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center, please visit holocaustedu.org.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Ahavas Yisrael — Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Torah Portion — Parashat Nitzavim-Vayelech: Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

JLI teens — Fourth class of six-lesson course from 12:15-1 p.m. at Nate's Shul. Lunch served. No cost to attend, and students earn \$17 per lesson. Must attend at least five of the six classes. Register at www.jewishnorthorlando.com/jliteens Info: Rabbi Majesky at rabbi@jewishnorthorlando.com or call 407-636-5994.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

COS Men's Club — Virtual bridge, 7 p.m. All welcome, no cost. Register at www.bridgebase.com. For info: Jim Tinkoff, jtinkoff@cfl.rr.com or Andy Rosen, andy@pineloch.com.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Ahavas Yisrael — Kabbalat, 30 minutes before sundown

St. Augustine Jewish Historical Friends — Celebrate the first Jews to land on Florida's Coast with Pedro Menendez de Aviles, 2 p.m. at 1960 North Ponce De Leon Blvd, St. Augustine. There is no charge. Info: call the Main Library, 904-827-6940 or visit www.sjcpis.org.

Quote of the Week

"Your 'good old days' are still ahead of you, may you have many of them."

— Sam Levenson

"I'm lost without it!"

"It's inexcusable!"

"My week is not complete without it!"

"I can't live without it!"

"How in the world am I supposed to know what's going on?"

These are some of the comments we receive from readers when they miss an issue of *Heritage Florida Jewish News*.

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All the Jewish NFL players to watch in the 2023-2024 season

By Jacob Gurvis

(JTA) — As the calendar turns to September, many Jews eagerly await an annual fall tradition that signals a new beginning: Week 1 of the NFL season.

This year, the season began on Sept. 7, just about 10 days before Rosh Hashanah. Read on for our guide to all the Jewish players (listed alphabetically) and storylines to watch — plus a few free agents who could get another chance.

Jake Curhan, Seattle Seahawks offensive tackle

Curhan, 25, appeared in four games for the Seahawks in 2022, a step back from his 15 games and five starts during his rookie season the prior year. The 6-foot-1, 315-pound lineman who grew up attending Jewish summer camp is expected to take on a similar backup role this season. During his successful collegiate career with the California Golden Bears at the University of California, Berkeley, he took on the nickname “Bear Jew.”

A.J. Dillon, Green Bay Packers running back

After a record-setting career at Boston College, Dillon enters his fourth season with the Green Bay Packers. Dillon, the team's second-string running back, appeared in all 17 games last season, wracking up 770 rushing yards and seven rushing touchdowns, a career high. Dillon, 25, spoke at the BBYO Jewish teen movement's convention last year, where he shared his experience as a Jew of color and joked about missing Hebrew school for football practice as a kid.

Michael Dunn, Cleveland Browns offensive lineman

The 2023 season is already off to a seesaw start for Dunn, who was re-signed by the Browns on Wednesday, just one day after they had reportedly released him. The 29-year-old appeared in Cleveland's first eight games last year, including two starts, before a back injury derailed his season.

Greg Joseph, Minnesota Vikings kicker

Joseph is beginning his third straight season as the Vikings' primary kicker. The South African-born Jewish day school grad has been involved with the Jewish communities of each city in which he has played during his four years in the NFL. The 29-year-old has become known for his clutch game-winning field goals, including two in a row that each made history last season.

The free agents who hope to return

Anthony Firkser (tight end): Despite appearing in at least 11 games in each of his five NFL seasons, Firkser, 28, enters this season without a roster spot. Firkser — who had a bar mitzvah growing up in New Jersey and spoke to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency about his love of latkes — was cut by the New England Patriots this week as the deadline loomed for teams to finalize their 53-man rosters. The Harvard alum has five career touchdowns and could get a shot as another team's second- or third-string tight end.

Josh Rosen (quarterback): Rosen — who had a bar mitzvah, was a standout at UCLA and was once seen as a lock to be the first Jewish star QB in several decades — has struggled to find his footing in the NFL. The 10th overall pick in the 2018 draft, Rosen has more interceptions (21) than touchdowns (12) in his 24 career games. Rosen, 26, last appeared in a game with the Atlanta Falcons in 2021 and spent last season on the Browns' and Vikings' practice squads.

Sam Sloman (kicker): After making 10 field goals in his rookie 2020 season, the Georgia native has bounced around practice squads without seeing game action. Sloman, 25, played for the Vegas Vipers in the XFL in their 2023 season. Sloman took on the nickname “Kosher Cannon” when he played at Miami University in Ohio.

Other Jewish storylines

Off the field, the biggest Jewish storyline of the 2023-

NFL on page 19A

“Rosh Hashanah Activities” by Yoni Glatt

Difficulty Level: Manageable

koshercrosswords@gmail.com

Across

1. Villain in Samuel

5. Former Rams rec. who got hurt in the Super Bowl

8. Chef's assistant, at times

13. ___ Jews (Nigerian natives)

14. Ewe's "yo"?

15. Truly love

16. Rosh Hashanah activity for Han Solo?

18. Makes like a cantor

19. Feeling

20. City near Jaffa

22. Problems

25. Lot, spot, or or a plot

26. Rosh Hashanah activity for Tim Cook?

30. Mardi ___

31. Historically unfriendly neighbor to Isr.

32. Metrical stress, in poetry

34. Paper not exactly considered pro-Israel, for short

35. Some ties

37. UN agency of crosswordese

38. Air once more

40. Atty.'s org.

41. Baby bronco

42. Rosh Hashanah activity for Ralph Kramden?

45. Common seltzer flavoring

46. Often evil ruler, once

47. Birds of prey in the USA

50. Tent option

54. His belt twinkles in the sky

55. Bygone Rosh Hashanah activity for Don Corleone?

58. Blues, for one

59. Ben-Gurion airport, once

60. Root canal, in dentist-speak

61. Omens

62. Let the ball go through your legs

63. College bigshot

Down

1. "Mine!"

2. Look at longingly

3. Abba of note

4. Says some Lashon Hara

5. First half of a Jedi first name

6. Not allow

7. Hockey great Jaromir

8. Colorful African garments

9. Simply foolish

10. Big industry meet-up, perhaps

11. Thus

12. What Jews should do on Rosh Hashanah

17. It can give you away

21. Top left comp. button

23. Not as much

24. It might keep an eye on the nanny

26. Rabbi Kaplan or Adventures

27. Making like the Shomrim

28. Classic Asimov book

29. Soviet work camp

30. "November Rain" band, casually

33. Fa-la connector

35. Flowerlike sea animals

36. New Mexico town popular with artists

39. It's worth \$1 billion

41. Flashy sports-car color

43. Urge

44. Hawthorne, to pals?

47. Gets hazy, with "up"

48. "Whose woods these ___ think I know" (Frost line)

49. Foot part

51. Chris who plays Kirk

52. Never ___ sentence with...

53. Ghostbuster at the heart of "Ghostbusters: Afterlife"

56. Pro

57. Pres. for 12 years

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See answers on page 18A.

Blinken: Saudi deal will require major Israeli concessions

(JNS) — The Biden administration told the Israeli government last week that it would have to make considerable concessions to the Palestinians if a U.S.-brokered deal with Saudi Arabia is to succeed.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken told Israel's Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer, who visited Washington on Aug. 17, that Israel's government is "misreading the situation" if it presumes it won't need to make concessions, two U.S. officials told Axios.

Saudi Arabia will need to show Muslims the world over that it succeeded in extracting promises from Israel regarding the Palestinians in return for a normalization deal, said Blinken.

Saudi Arabia is also requesting American help for a Saudi civilian nuclear program.

The Wall Street Journal reported on Friday that the Saudis are considering a Chinese-made nuclear plant as the U.S. had made its help contingent on the Saudis not

enriching their own uranium or mining their own uranium deposits. China has not sought any conditions.

The Saudi move is viewed as a way to pressure the Biden administration to compromise on its conditions for U.S. help in the kingdom's pursuit of nuclear power, the Journal reported.

On Aug. 9, the White House downplayed claims that Riyadh had agreed to the "broad contours" of a normalization deal with Israel as reported in the the Journal earlier that day.

"There's no agreed framework to codify the normalization or any of the other security considerations that we and our friends have in the region," U.S. National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told journalists on a press call.

The Journal reported that U.S. and Saudi officials were "negotiating the details of an agreement they hope to cement within nine-to-12 months."

Sources cited by the newspaper said it would be "the

most momentous Middle East peace deal in a generation." They cautioned, however, that such a deal still faced long odds.

Efforts accelerated with a visit by U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan to Saudi Arabia on May 7 where he met with Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's crown prince (known as MBS).

Negotiators were already discussing specifics, including the aforementioned U.S. aid for a Saudi civilian nuclear program, along with security guarantees and the concessions for Palestinians, according to the report.

Washington in return was asking Riyadh to place limits on its burgeoning ties with China, with the U.S. likely to request assurances that the Saudis wouldn't let China build military bases on their territory.

Limits on Saudi use of Chinese technology and a commitment to use U.S. currency and not the Chinese yuan may also be part of the negotiations.

MBS has sent "conflict-

ing messages" about his readiness to normalize relations with Israel, telling his advisers "that he was in no rush, especially with the current hard-line coalition government in Israel that opposes the creation of an independent Palestinian state," the Journal reported.

Israeli National Security Adviser Tzachi Hanegbi said negotiators have not broached specifics with Israeli leaders.

Netanyahu said in an interview earlier this month with Bloomberg Television that the concessions to the Palestinians the U.S. and Saudi Arabia expect are not as big a stumbling block as people think.

He expressed confidence that his government could achieve some form of normalization with Saudi Arabia in the coming months.

"I think that we are about to witness a pivot of history," Netanyahu told Bloomberg's Francine Lacqua. "First, there is an economic corridor of energy, transport and communications that naturally goes through our geography

from Asia through the Arabian Peninsula to Europe.

"We are going to realize that," vowed the prime minister, adding, "Saudi Arabia is one of the exceptional things that tells you why I'm very optimistic about Israel."

"If there is a political will, there will be a political way to achieve normalization and formal peace between Israel and Saudi Arabia. That has enormous economic consequences for the investors and if they have to bet on it right now, I'd bet on it," Netanyahu said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen published an op-ed in the Journal on Aug. 8 in which he argued that U.S. defense guarantees under an Israeli-Saudi normalization agreement would render Gulf states' nuclear ambitions "unnecessary."

The Americans would be able to provide protection against Iranian aggression in the region, said Cohen, adding, "[A] defense pledge could reassure Middle Eastern nations, primarily Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states.

This approach would make individual nuclear ambitions unnecessary, bolster regional stability, and promote the peace and normalization agenda."

Cohen continued: "A united front, bringing together moderate Sunnis and Israel, would be an effective check on Iran's growing ambitions."

Israel's top diplomat earlier said that the Palestinian issue will not be an obstacle to normalizing relations with Riyadh.

"The current Israeli government will take steps to improve the Palestinian economy," he stated.

"A visit to Israel by a Saudi foreign minister would be a day of celebration," Cohen remarked, noting that governments led by Netanyahu had secured diplomatic relations with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco as part of the 2020 Trump administration-brokered Abraham Accords.

The Israeli premier and the Saudi crown prince will make history together, Cohen predicted.

Court rejects MK's request for restraining order against reform opponents

By David Isaac

(JNS) — The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Wednesday rejected Knesset member Simcha Rothman's request to issue a restraining order against 430 opponents of judicial reform, members of a WhatsApp messaging group called "Looking for and harassing Rothman."

"After weighing all the considerations, I found that the respondents' activity apparently falls within the scope of a permissible political protest, in accordance with the rules of the democratic game," said Judge Naeel Mohana.

Such an order would restrict "the basic fundamental rights of the individual, and therefore ... cannot be granted casually," the judge added.

Rothman, who heads the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee and is one of the leading architects of the government's judicial reform program, said the activists planned to disrupt his family vacation in the Golan Heights.

They posted a picture of

Rothman and his family, who are on vacation in the North, and the location where to find him. They urged people in the vicinity to go and harass him. The information was also shared on X/Twitter.

"The respondents began to pursue Rothman and his wife in violation of privacy, carried out detective operations and published personal information regarding their location," according to Rothman's petition.

He asked for an order to close the WhatsApp group as it is "designed to trample on my privacy."

Although rejecting his initial petition, the court recommended that Rothman and his wife, Hannah, file a civil lawsuit against those who unlawfully invade their privacy.

On the judge's recommendation, Rothman's attorney, Uriel Nazri, immediately filed a civil suit.

Rothman's office informed JNS that Rothman, through his attorney, also sent a warning letter to two lawyers who published

his whereabouts on social media—Smadar Weinberg and Nitzan Tabenkin.

In a social media post, Weinberg wrote: "The chairman of the Constitution Committee ... is arriving for a rest in the north of the Golan. ... We are looking for volunteers, around the clock. ... The goal: to pursue him everywhere. ... The main thing is not to let him rest."

Tabenkin opened a WhatsApp group called "Looking for Rothman in the Golan Heights" and organized "surveillance shifts."

According to Israel's Privacy Protection Law, "spying on or following a person in order to harass him" constitutes an invasion of privacy that is a criminal offense and a civil offense, Rothman's civil suit notes.

Rothman's attorney didn't include all the members of the "Looking for Rothman" WhatsApp group in the civil suit so as to streamline the coming proceedings, which are slated for Sunday. He said that the decision to keep the list short does not in any way grant immunity

to anyone who invades the privacy of Rothman and his family.

Rothman contacted Weinberg and Tabenkin through his attorney and demanded that the post be removed and an apology be published for violating his privacy.

"Demonstration is an important and sacred right but persecution, disruption and harassment are violations of the law," Rothman said.

In the civil suit, Rothman and his wife said that opponents of judicial reform had been harassing them both in Israel and abroad.

In a well-publicized incident in June, Rothman pulled a megaphone away from a protester who was trailing him and his wife on a Manhattan street.

"A small group of violent protesters attacked me and my wife as we walked late at night in New York. They blocked our way, stepped on my wife Hannah's leg and cursed, includ-

ing death wishes," Rothman explained to the press.

Rothman has been a favorite target of protesters, who have made harassing individual lawmakers a standard part of their activities. In May, angry protesters greeted him upon his arrival at Tel Aviv University to take part in a panel discussion on judicial reform. In April, hecklers continuously interrupted him during a panel discussion at the Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly in Tel Aviv.

In February, protesters harassed several Israeli coalition lawmakers outside their homes, including Rothman, in a bid to block them from reaching the Knesset to vote on the first bill in the government's judicial reform package.

Protesters have been accused of crossing the line elsewhere, as when they gathered in June outside the home of Justice Minister Yariv

Levin, who leads the judicial reform push, and blocked the road near the entrance to his home with barbed wire and burning tires.

"This is a serious incident of a violation of public order, endangering local residents by burning tires in the heart of a residential neighborhood, blocking traffic lanes and trampling on Supreme Court orders regarding protests in front of the home of an elected official," police said in a statement.

Left-wing activists have also hired private investigators to surveil Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's son Yair.

The Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet), which is the organization tasked with protecting the prime minister's son, said the incident was being handled.

Protesters also demonstrated against Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, during their recent vacation in northern Israel.

Flight to Israel has emergency landing in Saudi Arabia

By Phillissa Cramer

(JTA) — What appears to have been the first-ever passenger flight between Saudi Arabia and Israel has taken place — even though the two countries have not yet established diplomatic relations.

An Air Seychelles flight to Tel Aviv made an emergency landing on Monday in the port city of Jeddah, where passengers spent the night. On Tuesday, they flew from there to Ben Gurion International Airport.

"I really appreciate the

warm way in which the Saudi authorities treated the Israeli passengers," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement. "I really appreciate the good neighborliness."

The incident comes amid what are reported to be U.S.-brokered talks to establish ties between the two countries. Saudi Arabia would become the fifth Arab country to normalize relations with Israel in recent years, following the four deals known as the Abraham Accords that were struck in 2020.

Relations between the countries have been softening in recent years, and Saudi Arabia began allowing Israeli planes to pass through its airspace last year. Last week, Israelis participated in a global video game competition in Riyadh, the Saudi capital, and reported having a positive experience. Because there are no direct flights between the countries, the Israeli competitors traveled through Dubai — a city they could not reach directly before the United Arab Emirates established ties with their country in 2020.

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Mardi & Ron*

7 sweet facts about Rosh Hashanah you may not know

By Leah Kadosh

This story originally appeared on Kveller.

Shanah Tovah, Happy, Healthy New Year! The Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, is nearly here. I can tell this coming year is going to be a good one — the bar is already so low, we can only go up from here!

Rosh Hashanah, or “Head of the Year” is observed this year from sundown on Sept. 15 through Sept. 17. Rosh Hashanah celebrates the beginning of the next year on the Hebrew lunar calendar and is a time of great reflection, repentance and, of course, guilt.

In honor of this very important Jewish holiday, we eat special foods, don white

attire, hear the shofar, attend or stream services, give tzedakah, and, in my family, at least, make brisket and tzimmes (though I personally skip the tzimmes). Perhaps most importantly, we contemplate how we can improve our actions in the coming year. With all of the food, remorse, praying and thinking, Rosh Hashanah is the classic Jewish holiday.

So, take a break from your apple stamping project and enjoy these fun facts that are sure to make your Rosh Hashanah a blast:

1. This New Year corresponds to 5784!

Wait, according to this date system, does that make me younger? The year 5784 counts the years since God

created the world, as described in the very first portion of the Torah, Genesis Chapter 1. Just how did we arrive at this number? Many estimates were suggested by scholars, although Rabbi Yossi Ben Halafta’s calculation (which he made around 165 CE in Israel) became the most widely accepted.

Through careful study of the Hebrew Bible, with special emphasis on the dating of biblical figures’ lifetimes and kings’ reigns, the established date of 70 CE (the destruction of the Second Temple) was used as the end point and counting started backwards from there. Rabbi Yossi Ben Halafta established that God created the world on Monday, Oct. 7, 3761 BCE. (using Gregorian calendar terms). And now it’s math time: 3761+2023=5784!

2. The name “Rosh Hashanah” is not mentioned in the Torah

It’s true: This major Jewish holiday is not mentioned by name in the Torah! Instead, it is referred to as Yom Teruah (Day of Sounding the Shofar) and Yom HaZikaron (Day of Remembering). The holiday becomes identified as “Rosh Hashanah” during the 1st century CE in Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1.1.

3. Rosh Hashanah celebrates the New Year, but falls on the first day of the seventh month!

Like so many Jewish holidays and traditions, there are several and conflicting theories as to how Rosh Hashanah evolved and how we came to celebrate the new year in the seventh month on the Hebrew calendar. Among the numerous interpretations, I wish to share my favorite: In the 13th century, Sephardic sage and rabbi Nachmonides equated the counting from the months of Nissan (the first month of the Hebrew calendar) to Tishrei (the seventh) to be the same relationship as the first day of the week (Yom Rishon, which literally means “the first day”) with Shabbat (the seventh day). The number seven in Judaism holds sacred significance. It is associated with God’s six days of creation (special, but not super special) to the seventh day of rest, Shabbat (super special!). Counting seven months from the time of our Exodus from Egypt — which, you guessed it, happened in the month of Nissan — emphasizes the holiness of the seventh month of Tishrei, and is therefore the perfect excuse for a new year celebration.



4. Rosh Hashanah is a two-day festival, everywhere!

As the song goes: Wherever you go... not only will you find someone Jewish, you will also celebrate Rosh Hashanah for two days. That’s true whether you’re in Israel or elsewhere! This is in contrast to other important biblical festivals, such as Sukkot, Passover and Shavuot, which are observed for an extra day in the diaspora (outside of Israel) — just to be sure the correct day is commemorated. (Why? Nearly 2,000 years ago, holiday start times were determined by moon-witness testimony, and then word was dispersed by foot. Extending the holiday by one day compensated for inevitable delays.)

Now, I know what you’re thinking: Why is Rosh Hashanah celebrated for two days even in Israel? Maimonides, 12th-century scholar and philosopher, explains that it is the only Jewish holiday that begins on the first day of a new month, and therefore, witnesses were not permitted to travel to alert their communities on the sighting of a new moon. To enable complete worship, two days were established and came to be known as yoma arichta, “a long day” lasting 48 hours. Ask any Rosh Hashanah host at the end of the second day, and I believe you’ll find that “yoma arichta” is the perfect description!

5. Apples and honey aren’t the only traditional foods.

Because Rosh Hashanah is a rather serious holiday filled with introspection, repentance and self-improvement, our traditional foods symbolize those themes as well. In Ashkenazi tradition, apples are dipped in honey for the delight in literal sugary sweetness and the hope for a fulfill-

ing year ahead. But that’s hardly the only traditional Rosh Hashanah food: There’s also round challah, as opposed to braided challah, which represents the yearly cycle and God’s crown or majesty. Fish heads are traditional in Sephardi Rosh Hashanah feasts — “better the head than the tail” is what I was always taught! (“Rosh” is also the Hebrew word for “head,” and therefore, there is a literal connection to beginnings.) Pomegranates are in season during this time in Israel, and are another traditional Rosh Hashanah treat. They were once thought to contain 613 seeds, the same number of mitzvot (commandments) in the Torah — just don’t tell my daughter, she just started counting!

6. But, strangely, it’s tradition to avoid nuts!

It is a custom to abstain from eating nuts during Rosh Hashanah for a couple of reasons. According to the Shulchan Aruch, one of the most consulted Jewish law books written by Joseph Caro in the 16th century, nuts not only increase the production of saliva and phlegm in our mouths (a lovely thought) but could perhaps hurt our pronunciation of words recited during services. As any young Jewish child knows, services are already extremely long on Rosh Hashanah, therefore, anything that hinders our ability to pray should be avoided!

7. The shofar is an integral part of our High Holiday season, although it’s never blown on Shabbat!

You heard me! As mentioned previously, one of Rosh Hashanah’s Biblical names was “Day of Sounding the Shofar,” and only two details are included in its observance as written in the Torah: to hear

the shofar and to abstain from work. Shofars are horns taken from kosher animals and can vary greatly in size, color and shape. It also takes a skilled musician to make a decent sound — trust me, I’m not one of them!

The shofar is an ancient instrument of communication (figure our modern TV or cell phone alert) and had a multitude of purposes: to declare battle, welcome Shabbat and a New Moon, announce the reign of a new king and so on. Nowadays, one can hear the shofar blown after morning services every day (excluding Shabbat) in the month of Elul, the month preceding Rosh Hashanah — except for the last day, the day before Rosh Hashanah.

The unique sound of the shofar reminds us of an alarm, a reflective wake up call. Maimonides reasoned that the sound awakens our souls and calls to our attention our actions of our past and what we want to change in the future. We are tasked to analyze our relationship with God, ourselves and others and to change for the better.

As for the reason for abstaining from blowing the shofar on Shabbat, that’s due to the fear of carrying the instrument itself! The Talmud explains that it was not the actual sounding of the shofar that was forbidden, but the worry of an inadequate shofar blower carrying their shofar to an experienced shofar blower for help and training on Shabbat that was prohibited. If that is not the most Jewish reason for anything, I don’t know what is!

Wishing you and your family the most healthy, happy, fulfilling new year ahead with blessings abound, Shanah Tovah!

Birth Announcements

Eilo Haywood Des Islets



Ozzy Bernard Shroyer



Scott and Rhonda Des Islets are ecstatic to announce the births of two grandchildren. Ozzy Bernard Shroyer was born to Jordan Shroyer and Tirzah Cabiach on Aug. 17, 2023 and Eilo Haywood Des Islets was born to Derek Des Islets and Linda Deliva on Aug. 23, 2023.

Insights from The Orlando Senior Help Desk

Get your affairs in order

One wonderful gift a person can give to one’s family is to put all affairs in order before a disaster or medical emergency. A physical folder plus a file on the computer is ideal. Family members must be informed about the location of these files.

- All bank accounts, account numbers and types of accounts and the location of banks.
- A list of all passwords
- Insurance Company, policy number, beneficiary as stated on the policies and

type of insurance (health, life, long term care, automobile, etc.)

- Deed and titles to all properties
- Loan/lien information, who holds them and if there are any death provisions
- Social Security and Medicare numbers
- Military history, affiliations and papers (including discharge papers)
- Up-to-date will in a safe place (inform family where the Will is located)
- Living Will or other Ad-

vanced Directive appropriate to your state of residence

- Safe and security box information such as codes and locations
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Instructions for funeral services and burial (if arrangements have been secured, name and location of funeral home.)

While most seniors face major adjustments when transitioning to an elder-care community, Jewish seniors face additional challenges. Not only do they lose

their homes, and many of their friends, but they also lose ties to their cultural heritage. This is where the Jewish Pavilion, a 501c3 non-profit, steps in. The Pavilion serves as a resource that provides room visits, festive holiday celebrations, and more to 450 Jewish residents in fifty facilities for seniors. The Jewish Pavilion promotes inclusion, and thousands of seniors of all faiths are welcomed into our programs. www.JewishPavilion.org.

The Jewish history of Joyva



By Stephanie Ganz

Cousins Richard Radutzky and Sandy Wiener grew up with major bragging rights. Both boys could boast to friends that their family made candy for a living. Career Day at their schools inevitably involved one of their fathers bringing in a giant bar of chocolate to wow the room and treats to share with all of their classmates. Richard and Sandy grew up in Brooklyn, New York in the shadow of their family business, Joyva, makers of tahini, halvah and other confections. The two, who now run the business along with Richard's son, Ben Radutzky, vividly remember operating the freight elevator (Richard's first "job") and scampering underfoot at the factory, during long games of hide-and-seek.

Arriving in New York from Ukraine in 1906, Jewish immigrant Nathan Radutzky had little to his name, but he carried with him a family recipe for halvah that his wife, Ray, encouraged him to sell. Halvah originated in the Middle East and traveled

north through the Balkans and to Eastern Europe thanks to migrating Jews. Nathan's family in Ukraine were in the grain business, so halvah, which was made from sunflower seeds in that area, would have been familiar to him. In 1907, Radutzky set out with a pushcart of halvah through the Lower East Side of Manhattan, where he immediately found an audience for the sweetened sesame seed confection.

"I'm sure there were a number of people living alongside him on the Lower East Side that grew up with halvah, were familiar with halvah, and enjoyed it; and it probably brought them back to their home a little bit," says Ben. "It was a welcome bit of the life that they had just left behind to keep them attached to it."

By 1909, Nathan Radutzky had outgrown his Lower East Side route, so he set up a retail store on nearby Orchard Street. Interest continued to grow and just a couple of years later, Nathan relocated to Brooklyn where he officially began Independent Halvah and Candies, Inc. and

eventually built the factory, completed in 1931, that still houses the brand.

At the end of 1950, Independent Halvah and Candies Inc. introduced a sub-brand called Joyva, a portmanteau of halvah and Nathan's granddaughter's name, Roslyn Joy. In the following decade, the company would drop the name Independent Halvah and Candies in favor of the simpler moniker. And in 1961, the company introduced jellies and marshmallows enrobed in chocolate to the market, which have become a staple of Jewish households, Mah Jongg tables and Passover celebrations in the years since. Nowadays, Richard estimates, they make around 7,000 to 8,000 pounds of jellies per day.

Six decades later, Joyva is still very much a family business, helmed by Richard and Sandy. Richard's son, Ben, the fourth generation to join the business, has been integral over the past few years in archiving the brand's history and bringing the centenarian brand into modern times, something the original owners were never in a rush to do.

"They were risk-averse, they were set in their ways, they didn't love change," Richard Radutzky explains. "But, we're uncovering their own entrepreneurship along the way. Our perspective was that they weren't so quick to change, but at the same time, they did stuff that we can't take for granted. They did take some chances. We have articles from Manufac-

turers Confectioner back in 1966 that we were the leader in vacuum-packed halvah technology."

For the better part of 60 years, Joyva operated just as Nathan and his four sons envisioned it, working off of

hand-written recipe cards and doing business with handshake agreements and phone calls. (To this day, folks who call Joyva HQ with a complaint may wind up talking to Richard or Sandy, which, Sandy says, goes a long way

with the old-timers.) When Richard's father Alex passed away in 2015 at the age of 93, he was still a vital part of the business, coming to work every day.

Joyva on page 19A

As Israelis rejoice in the sound of the shofar, we're also preparing for the wail of the siren.

With the growing threat of a war with Hezbollah, we can't ensure this Rosh HaShanah will usher in a peaceful year. But with a new campaign to add 300 urgently needed ambulances to MDA's fleet, we can save lives no matter what 5784 brings.

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Wide range of on-campus sentiments about Israel

By David Swindle

(JNS) — One student has been told she doesn't get to talk because she's white and therefore couldn't have been oppressed. Another found colleagues to go "ghost white," fearing for safety on campus in the face of anti-Israel activism when he chose to move forward with hosting an event with a former Israel Defense Forces soldier.

The stories that pro-Israel college students shared with JNS earlier this week at the Israel on Campus Coalition National Leadership Summit about their experiences on campus ranged from being threatened and silenced to more promising feelings, which inspire confidence for the future.

At George Washington University, an urban campus mere blocks from the White House and State Department, Sabrina Soffer, a junior majoring in philosophy and public affairs and in Judaic studies, has experienced antisemitism. She turns to a statement from the late Holocaust survivor and author Elie Wiesel—that indifference begets hatred.

"That's what you're seeing right now, especially on campuses," Soffer told JNS. "I've had various interactions with people where they're like, 'You can't talk because you're white and you were never oppressed.'"

At the University of Califor-

nia, Davis, the "full weight" of anti-Israel sentiment on campus hit Owen Krauss, a senior majoring in international relations and peace and security, when he planned an event with a former IDF soldier, who was to discuss giving humanitarian aid in Gaza, struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder and "toxic masculinity."

"It was going to be a really great program," he told JNS. But after he marketed the event, and days before the program, Students for Justice in Palestine claimed that "the Zionists are having someone from the Israeli occupation force come, everyone needs to protest," Krauss told JNS.

As the group's criticism circulated on campus, there were concerns about student safety. Krauss chose not to cancel. He recalled that made his peers go "ghost white, like absolutely terrified because at Davis anti-Zionism, antisemitism is a huge problem."

"In fact, they were ranked one of the worst in the country," he said of his school.

Things are different at Emory University in Atlanta, according to Morgan Ames, a senior majoring in political science and religion, and Sophie Kalman, a sophomore studying political science and the Middle East.

In Ames's experience, there isn't overt antisemitism at Emory, which is nearly 20 percent Jewish. Kalman told JNS that she actually felt a bit

out of place at the ICC summit since her school did not have as aggressive an anti-Israel presence as many others do.

"I feel this is what gives me a little bit of impostor syndrome," she said. "Being here at Emory is knocking on wood."

But three years before Ames got to Emory, eviction notices showed up on the doors of Jewish students' dorms. As a result, the Students for Justice in Palestine chapter was kicked off campus, "which was great, because for my first two years, there were no detractors," she said.

There was still concern about Emory's reaction to the notices, according to Kalman. The student group had its charter revoked not for committing a hate crime, she said, but merely for putting eviction notices on doors.

And Ames told JNS, anti-Israel activism is emerging among the Emory faculty. In 2021, the university hired an anthropology professor, whose doctoral thesis compared Israeli and Nazi policies. "It was blasphemy to me that they had hired a professor with this on his record," she said.

The professor is leaving Emory, Ames said. "But he somehow became the chair of the department and tenured in no time, and it was really disgusting," she said. "I had it out with the Jewish studies department about it."

Campus on page 19A

2023 | 5784 HIGH HOLIDAYS AT OHEV SHALOM

We welcome you to join us as we celebrate & commemorate another year together, inspiring us to begin anew for 5784.



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- | | |
|--|--|
| Selichot Service
Saturday September 9th at 10:00pm | Kol Nidre Service
Sunday September 24th at 6:30pm |
| - | |
| Erev Rosh Hashanah
Friday September 15th at 6:30pm | Yom Kippur Service
Monday September 25th at 9:00am
* Children's Programming at 10:00am |
| - | |
| Rosh Hashanah Day 1
Saturday September 16th at 9:00am
* Children's Programming at 10:00am | Maariv, Ne'ilah & Shofar Blowing
Monday September 25th at 5:30pm
Final Shofar Blowing at 8:05pm |
| - | |
| Rosh Hashanah Evening
Saturday September 16th at 7:15pm | See Our Website for Sukkot & Simchat Torah Service Times |
| - | |
| Rosh Hashanah Day 2
Sunday September 17th at 9:00am
Preschool Family Services at 9:30am
K-5th Family Services at 10:30am | |

* Separate Registration required for Children's Programming

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Local author’s book premieres off-Broadway



Artist/set designer Robert Sauber

By Pamela Ruben

Just in time for the High Holidays, Eden Grove and The Mesaper Theatre announced the New York premiere of “Out of The Apple Orchard,” an off-Broadway production based on award-winning author Yvonne David’s book “Out of the Apple Orchard,” the first book in the four-part children’s book Apple Tree Series. It was adapted for the stage by Ellen W. Kaplan and directed by Nicole Raphael of The Mesaper Theatre.

“Out of The Apple Orchard” was first performed at the Orlando Repertory Theatre in 2016 and was directed by Tony-award-winning producer Kenny Howard. The off-Broadway production will play seven performances at the historic Actors Temple Theatre.

Inspired by the timeless works of Joseph Stein’s “Fiddler on the Roof,” Sholom Aleichem’s “Tevye the Dairyman,” and Charles Dickens’ ‘A Christmas Carol,’ the Apple Tree Series tells the story of a Jewish immigrant family who arrive in New York City in 1910. The series follows the Biemans through four generations, taking them from the vibrant Lower East Side to the Mountaindale hamlet in Upstate New York’s Catskill Mountains.

During an interview at David’s home, the Altamonte Springs author shared that “Out of the Apple Orchard” deals with the importance of making mistakes, rectifying wrongdoings, and asking for forgiveness.

As David shared pages of the book with illustrations by international artist, the late Lyn Rodden (the author’s sister), she commented, “What may seem like a simplistic children’s book on the surface deals with the deeper themes of how to handle mistakes, being wronged, asking for and granting forgiveness, and making up for your wrongdoings. Through the play adaptation, we will examine poignant examples and take the lessons learned in my

book, ‘Out of the Apple Orchard,’ to help solve problems in our own lives.”

David continued, “Audiences of all ages will be delighted by the tale of Adam Bieman, a young boy who finds himself in trouble due to his mischievous choices that tear at his conscience. ‘Out of the Apple Orchard’ showcases the injustices of antisemitism and highlights the discrimination that is so pervasive in today’s society.”

David reiterated that the play explores the themes of second chances, perseverance, and encapsulating the immigrant experience through a Jewish lens. “Out of The Apple Orchard” resonates with audiences, encouraging forgiveness and new beginnings.

“Our goal in bringing this series to the stage is to help mitigate the anger and prejudice in our nation

through kindness and compassion. Literature, theater, and education are powerful and poignant tools to inspire such change,” she stated.

The British-born author shared mistakes from her own life, amongst them struggling and failing English Literature A-Level in London, the equivalent of a first-year university course. At that time, she was feeling very poorly about her self-worth. After moving to the States, David enrolled in the Hamilton Holt School at Rollins College at the right time in her life and earned a degree in English and Organizational Communication, graduating summa cum laude.

Director Nicole Raphael brings the storybook to life in

the 60-minute play. She is an educator with Jewish congregations around NYC, where she makes her educational home. It is at Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational School where Raphael developed the unique and multifaceted curriculum: “From Page to Stage - Out of the Apple Orchard! - an educational and engaging companion to the New York premiere of ‘Out of the Apple Orchard.’

This curriculum allows students to work together as a theatre company, learn about the unique history of the Catskills, acquire acting skills, and transform a historic Jewish story from ‘page to stage.’ David and Raphael hope to bring the curriculum to a wider audience soon.

The production features sets and paintings by artist Robert Sauber, illustrator of Book 2 in the Apple Tree Series, “The Night Sky Lined with Silver.” Innovative lighting by Maarten Cornelis enhances the storybook feel, with Stage Manager Rebecca Ponticello managing a seasoned group of professional actors. Caleb Hafen stars as Adam Bieman. A fresh move-in to The Big Apple, Caleb is eager to make his New York debut.

As playwright and professor emerita of Smith College, Ellen W. Kaplan explained “Out of the Apple Orchard gives us a beautiful opportunity to celebrate Jewish holidays, tradition, family, community and love.”

Performances of “Out of the Apple Orchard” are on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3 p.m. and 7p.m.; Monday, Sept. 11 at 7p.m.; Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m.; Wednesday at 3p.m. and 7p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7p.m. Tickets for “Out of The Apple Orchard” can be purchased online at www.outoftheappleorchard.com through Telecharge. Include Promo Code Orchard30 for a special 30 percent off.

For more information about the Apple Tree Series, visit <http://www.appletreeseries.com>.

Pamela Ruben is managing director of “Ruben Writes.” She is a grant writer, teacher, life historian and author. Contact Pam at PamelaWritingTeacher@gmail.com.



High Holidays 5784 (2023)

Join TSS for the Holidays by Becoming a Member or Purchasing Guest Tickets

Friday Sept. 15	7:30PM	Erev Rosh Hashanah	Adult Ticket	\$180.00
Saturday Sept. 16	10:00AM	Rosh Hashanah	Senior Ticket	\$136.00
	4:30PM	Tashlich (Sam Smith Park)	Child Ticket	\$ 72.00
	5:00PM	Family Service (Sam Smith Park)	(13 & older)	
Friday Sept. 22	7:30PM	Shabbat Shuva	Young Family	\$360.00
Sunday, Sept. 24	7:30PM	Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre)	(Adults under 30)	
Monday, Sept. 25	10:00AM	Yom Kippur	Family Ticket	\$500.00
	4:30PM	Family Service	(& all dependent children)	
	5:30PM	Yizkor	College students (under 26) & active military may attend HH services for free by showing their student or military ID.	
	6:00PM	N'ila & Havdlah		
	7:30PM	BreakFast (FUMCO Social Hall)		

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Shana Tova from JFS Orlando!



Phil Flynn, president

As with every year, the Jewish High Holy Days provide the perfect opportunity to look back and commit to a better future for ourselves and our world. We at Jewish Family Services of Greater Orlando are very grateful for all those who have joined with us over the years to help all those in need in our community, not just during the holidays but EVERY day through our FAMILY of services. With the increased capacity of the Pearlman Food Pantry, we distributed record levels of food not seen in our 45-year history. Four



Marty Sherman, chairman

of the past six months have exceeded our previous record of 447 sets, with the highest being 581 in May 2023. A set is enough groceries to feed a family of 4 for a week. We estimate that by the end of 2023 we will provide close to 250,000 meals to those who depend on our assistance year-round. But it is not just our Pantry that has been active. JFS therapists continue to provide quality *counseling*. Our RIDE Program is clearing the waitlist to transport seniors & disabled adults to essential appointments. Our Family Stabilization Program is as

busy as ever and will begin its new application cycle in October. Our Kobrin Family Scholarship students are just starting a new semester at UCF. And now, our FAMILY of services is growing with our new Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program, a case management program that will help those Survivors that reside in Central Florida with home care, food, counseling, and transportation. The demand for our FAMILY of services remains high as we continue our efforts to bring a little hope to those in need and build a stronger community together. We ask you to join us in our annual High Holy Days' Hope Challenge, where every donation to JFS Orlando will be generously matched dollar for dollar by Lauren & Scott Zimmerman and the Zimmerman Foundation, with a total match of up to \$25,000. To learn more and to donate, please visit JFSorlando.org/hopechallenge. On behalf of the JFS Orlando Board of Directors, staff, and clients, may you and your loved ones be inscribed for a sweet 5784. Philip Flynn III, President Marty Sherman, Chairman

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Ofira Bondorowsky

On Rosh Hashanah we stand at the crossroads of time, looking back with gratitude and forward with hope. It's a time for self-reflection and self-renewal. A reminder that we have the power to evolve, to rise above our circumstances, and to continu-

ally strive to be better versions of ourselves. We're encouraged to seek understanding in the face of differences, and to sow seeds of kindness and compassion.

The shofar, a musical instrument made from a ram's horn, is blown not once, not twice, but 100 times, sending a timeless and unifying message heard all around the world. It echoes with urgency, inspiring a sense of renewal and change. It calls us to action, to choose optimism over pessimism, progress over stagnation, and kindness over indifference. It summons us to reflect on the past year, the challenges we've faced, the obstacles we've overcome, and the moments that have shaped us. And, in the process of introspection we're reminded that life is a journey we don't walk alone.

Rosh Hashanah calls upon us to strengthen our con-

nections with others and to mend bridges. As (the great) Ferris Bueller once said, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." Although spoken by a fictional character, these words hold deep and valuable meaning. How often do we rush through our days, lost in our thoughts or distracted by our devices, and miss out on simple yet extraordinary experiences? How often do we postpone our happiness, thinking it will come in some distant future? It's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of daily routines, commitments, and engagements that can diminish our joy and sense of well-being, and distract us from attending to the friends and family we hold so dear. Yet, our relationship with ourselves and those around us are the threads that weave the tapestry of our lives.

So, as the sound of the shofar urges us to pursue our own aspirations, it simultaneously commands us to pause and appreciate the simple moments — the laughter shared with loved ones, the small victories, the lessons learned from failures, and the bonds forged. Each step on our path is an opportunity for growth, self-discovery, and personal transformation. It's the people you meet along the way, the love you give and receive, and the moments you create that truly matter.

Whether you're Jewish or not, religious or not, I hope you'll pause to appreciate the present with gratitude and look ahead with optimism. Wishing you and yours a year of growth, resilience, and boundless joy. May you be inscribed for a good year in the Book of Life.

Ofira Bondorowsky
CEO, Jack & Lee Rosen JCC

Shalom Orlando wishes the community goodness and sweetness



Keith Dvorchik

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, I am filled with a sense of gratitude and antici-

pation. This particular time of year allows us to come together as a community to reflect, renew, and rejoice in the blessings that surround us.

Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of a new year, a time for self-examination and introspection. It is a chance for us to pause and contemplate the journeys we have taken, the challenges we have overcome, and the aspirations that continue to guide us. Let us use this opportunity to set meaningful intentions for the year ahead, to grow as individuals and as a community, and to deepen our connections with one another.

Shalom Orlando, home of The Roth Family JCC and The Jewish Federation of Greater

Orlando has always been a beacon of unity, learning, and support. As we prepare for Rosh Hashanah, I invite you to join our Jewish community in celebration and observance. The doors to our community are open to all, offering diverse services, events, and programs designed to enrich your holiday experience and enhance your community connection. Reach out to our local synagogues for tickets to attend services. For our seniors in need, Kinneret Council on Aging is once again providing a Rosh Hashanah holiday meal to be delivered to your home.

May the sounding of the shofar remind us of the resilience of our ancestors and

the strength of our faith. Let the sweetness of apples and honey symbolize the blessings we wish for ourselves and our loved ones. And may the coming year bring health, happiness, and harmony to each and every one.

In the spirit of Rosh Hashanah, let us embrace the opportunity for renewal and growth, and to come together in community, as we embark on new chapters in our lives. I am truly honored to be part of our remarkable community.

Wishing you and your families a Shanah Tovah Umetukah, a year filled with goodness and sweetness.

L'shanah tovah,
Keith Dvorchik
CEO, Shalom Orlando

Jewish Pavilion is always there for our Jewish seniors



Nancy Ludin, CEO

At the Jewish Pavilion, we want Jewish seniors living in elder-care facilities to know they have not been forgotten by the Jewish community! We want the aged to remain connected to our community and our heritage. Together with our volunteers, we bring a friendly face, Shabbat programs, holiday celebrations, and one-on-one visits to Jewish seniors in 50 facilities in the greater Orlando area.

While our volunteers are amazing, it is our staff that



Jan Edelstein, Board Chair

coordinate all of the Shabbat and holiday celebrations. Holiday supplies like round raisin challahs, honey cakes and service booklets are purchased by the Pavilion. Ninety-four percent of the budget goes to programs that directly impact our seniors and their family members, many of whom join their elders for our holiday festivities.

The Jewish Pavilion promotes inclusion as loneliness knows no cultural borders, and thousands of seniors

of all faiths attend and are welcomed into our programs each year. www.jewishpavilionn.org

Our Senior Help Desk has assisted thousands of callers navigate their way through the daunting senior maze, alleviating caregiver stress while giving advice on all types of elder issues. www.orlandoseniorhelpdesk.org

Please join us for our online auction Oct. 22-27.

www.jewishpavilion.org/online-auction

Other upcoming events include:

• Harvest/Sukkot Festival, Nov. 9 at Watercrest Senior

Living in WP at 5 p.m.

• JP Connection's Lunch, Dec. 4 at Hilton Altamonte Springs at 11 a.m.

• Annual Fashion Show, Feb. 15 at Dillard's Altamonte Mall at 11 a.m.

• Pavilion Golf Society Tournament, May 13 at Heathrow Country Club at 9 a.m.

• Cocktail Party, June 5 at the Maitland Civic Center at 5:30 p.m.

The Jewish Pavilion staff and volunteers wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

Nancy Ludin, CEO,
Jewish Pavilion

Jan Edelstein, Board Chair,
Jewish Pavilion

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JCC, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland • JCC South, 11184 South Apopka-Vineland Rd., Orlando • Kinneret, 515 South Delaney Ave., Orlando • SOJC, 11200 S. Apopka Vineland Rd., Orlando • Brown's New York Deli, 156 Lake Ave., Maitland • Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Heritage News, 207 O'Brien Rd., Fern Park • Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 451 E. Altamonte Dr. Suite 2317, Altamonte Springs & 1260 Oviedo Marketplace Blvd., Oviedo • Bagel King, 1472 Semoran Blvd., Casselberry • Kosher Kats, 744 W. S.R. 434, Longwood • Central Florida Hillel, 4250 Alafaya Trail, Ste. 212-363, Oviedo Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets

VOLUSIA COUNTY

Federation of Volusia/Flagler, 470 Andalusia Ave., Ormond Beach • Most Publix Supermarkets • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets • Barnes & Noble, 1900 W. International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach • Perry's Ocean Edge Resort, 2209 South Atlantic Ave. Daytona Beach • Debary City Hall • Debary Library • Vienna Coffee House, 275 Charles Richard Beall Bl • Starbucks, 2575 Enterprise Rd • Orange City City Hall • Orange City Library • Dunkin Donuts, 1296 S Woodland • Stetson University Carlton Union • Deland Chamber of Commerce • Sterling House, 1210 Stone St • Temple Israel, 1001 E New York Ave • Beth Shalom, 1310 Maximillan St • Deltona City Hall • Deltona Library • Temple Shalom, 1785 Elkam Dr. • Temple Israel, 1001 E New York Ave, Deland • College Arms Apt, 101 Amelia Ave, Deland • Boston Gourmet Coffee House, 109 E. New York Ave, Deland • Stetson University Carlton Union, 421 N Woodland Ave, Deland • Family Bookstore, 1301 N Woodland Ave, Deland • Deland Chamber of Commerce, 336 Woodland Ave, Deland • Deland City Hall, 120 S Florida Ave, Deland • Beth Shalom, 206 S. Sprng Garden Ave, Deland • Orange City Library, 148 Albertus Way, Orange City • Boston Gourmet Coffee House, 1105 Saxon Blvd, Deltona • Deltona Library, 2150 Eustace Ave, Deltona • Temple Shalom, 1785 Elkam Dr., Deltona • Deltona Community Center, 980 Lakeshore Dr, Deltona • Debary City Hall, 16 Colomba Rd, Debary • Debary Library, 200 Florence K. Little, Debary

OSCEOLA COUNTY

Cindy M. Rothfield, P.A., 822 W. Bryan St., Kissimmee • Most Publix Supermarkets • Verandah Place Realty, 504 Celebration Ave., Celebration • All Winn Dixie Supermarkets • St. Cloud City Hall, 1300 9th St, St. Cloud • St. Cloud Library, 810 13th St, St. Cloud • Southern Oaks, 3865 Old Canoe Creek Rd, St. Cloud • Plantation Bay, 4641 Old Canoe Creek Rd, St. Cloud • Osceola Chamber of Commerce, 1425 Hwy 192, St. Cloud • Valencia College, 1800 Denn John Ln, Kissimmee • Kissimmee City Hall, 101 Church St, Kissimmee • Kissimmee Library, 211 E. Dakin, Kissimmee • Robinson's Coffee Shop, 114 Broadway, Kissimmee • Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Sq, Kissimmee • Barnies, 3236 John Young Pwy, Kissimmee • Reily's Gourmet Coffee, 3831 Vine St, Kissimmee • Shalom Aleichem, 3501 Oak Pointe Blvd, Kissimmee • Books-A-Million, 2605 W. Osceola Pwy (522), Kissimmee • Lower East Side Deli, 8548 Palm Parkway, Lake Buena

Sudoku (see page 18A for solution)

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SYNAGOGUE SERVICE SCHEDULE

For information about services at local synagogues not listed, contact the individual congregations. Unless listed, for tickets or information, contact the individual synagogue.

Celebration Jewish Congregation (Reform)

Members of Celebration Jewish Congregation are invited to attend services at Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon, FL. Please see their schedule listed below. For those who wish to attend services elsewhere, a directory of synagogues may be found on the CJC website at www.jewishcelebration.org under the “Others” tab on its home page. The Jewish Broadcasting Service also provides access to Reform High Holy Days services from the Central Synagogue in New York City. In the Orlando are, JBS is carried on Comcast/Xfinity, channel 1684; Spectrum, channel 1223; DirecTV, channel 388. For more information, contact CJC at 407-479-8377.

Chabad of Altamonte (Orthodox)

Rabbi Mendy Bronstein
Chabad of Altamonte
195 S Westmonte Drive #1126
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701
www.jewishaltamonte.com
There is no cost for services. RSVP is requested. Visit website ro make a reservation.
Shofar in the Park will be held at Cranes Roost Park, near the Embassy Suites Hotel.
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 6:30 p.m.;
Saturday, Sept. 16, Traditional pre-service, 9 a.m.; Morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Torah reading and Rabbi’s sermon, 11a.m.; Evening service, 8:05 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Traditional pre-service, 9 a.m.; morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Rabbi’s sermon & Shofar blowing, 11:30 a.m.; Rosh Hashanah community lunch, 1 p.m.; 15 minute Shofar service and Tashlich, 3:30 p.m.; Evening service, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Torah reading and Yizkor, 11:30 a.m.; afternoon service, 5:30 p.m.; Neilah, 6:30 p.m.; Shofar blast & Break Fast 7:54 p.m.

Chabad of Greater Orlando (Orthodox)

Rabbi Sholom Dubov
708 Lake Howell Rd.
Maitland, Fla. 32751
Chabadorlando.org
Yom Kippur services will be held at:
The Alfond Inn
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 6:30 p.m.; Community dinner, 7 p.m. RSVP required
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah, Shacharit, 8 a.m.; Torah reading, 9:30 a.m.; Kiddush Lunch buffet, 12:15 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II, Shacharit, 8 a.m.; Torah reading, 9:30 a.m.; Shofar service, 10:15 a.m.; Kiddush luncheon, 12:15 p.m.; Tashlich, 2 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidrei, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Yizkor, noon; Mincha/Neila, 5:30 p.m.; Yom Kippur ends, 7:54 p.m. followed by buffet break fast

Chabad-Lubavitch of North Orlando (Orthodox)

Chabad-Lubavitch of North Orlando has lots of options for people at home or those that would like to join in person. All services are free.
Rabbi Yanky Majesky
Nate’s Shul
1701 Markham Woods Rd.
Longwood, FL 32779
407-636-5994
Jewishnorthorlando.com
Services will be held at:
The Westin 2974 International Pkwy
Lake Mary, FL 32746
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Roshanah, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah Traditional pre-service, 9 a.m.’ morning service, 9:30 a.m.; Traditional Mincha. 7:15 p.m.; Ma’ariv, 8:05 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II pre-service, 9 a.m.; Service, 9:30 a.m.; Mincha, 6 p.m.; 15-minute Shofar service, 6:30 p.m.; Tashlich, 7 p.m.; Ma’ariv and Havdalah, 8:03 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Kol Nidrei, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur service and Yizkor, 9:30 a.m.; Mincha, 5:30 p.m.; Neilah, 6:30 p.m.

Chabad of South Orlando (Orthodox)

Rabbi Yosef Konikov and Rabbi Nissan Zibell

Sephardic services with Rabbi Matan Bar-Menashe
Rosh Hashanah services will be held at Chabad:
7347 W. Sand Lake Rd., Orlando
Yom Kippur services will be held at:
Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort
12205 S. Apopka Vineland Rd., Orlando
www.jewishorlando.com
You already have a membership, because every Jew is a member! No fees or tickets. Donations recommended.
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 7:15 p.m., Community dinner, 8 p.m. (RSVP required)
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah morning, 9 a.m.; Shofar sounding, 10:30 a.m.; Children’s service, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.; Afternoon service, 3:30 p.m.; Evening service, 7:30 p.m.; Community dinner, 8 p.m. (RSVP required)
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II, 9 a.m.; Shofar, 10:30 a.m.; Children’s service, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; Evening service, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Mincha, 6:45 p.m.; Candle lighting/Fast begins 6:50 p.m., Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur morning service, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, 11 a.m.; Mincha afternoon service, 5:15 p.m.; Neilah, 6:15 p.m.; Fast ends and Break Fast, 7:42 p.m.

Congregation Bet Chaim (Reform)

Cantorial soloist Jillian Morrisini
Services will be held at:
First United Methodist Church of Oviedo
263 King Street
Oviedo, Fla. 32765
407-830-7211
www.betchaim.org
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah, 10 a.m.,
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Yom Kippur, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 24, Yom Kippur, 10 a.m.; Family Service, 4:30 p.m.; Yizkor Memorial service, 5:30 p.m.; concluding service, 6:30 p.m.; Break Fast, 7:30 p.m.

Congregation Beth Am (Conservative)

All services for the High Holidays will be held at Temple Israel in Winter Springs. Please see the schedule under Temple Israel.

Congregation Beth Shalom (Reform)

Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz
Cantor Soloist Sandy Santucci
706 Bryan Rd.
Brandon, FL 33511
<https://bethshalom.org>
813-681-6547
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah, 10 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II, 10 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept 25, Yom Kippur, morning service, 10 a.m.; Yizkor Memorial service, 11a.m.; Children’s service, 3:30 p.m.; Afternoon service, 4 p.m.; Ne’ilah, 4:30 p.m.; Break fast after Ne’ilah.

Congregation Beth Sholom of Leesburg (Reform/Conservative)

Rabbi/Cantor Karen Allen
315 North 13th St.
Leesburg, FL 34748
Bethsholomflorida.org
All services will be held in person and virtually on Zoom. Guests are welcome. The suggested donation for guests is \$175.
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah service, 10 a.m., followed by Tashlich
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II service, 10 a.m.
Wed. Sept. 15, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Yom Kippur service, 10 a.m.; Yizkor, approx. noon; Neilah, 5:15 p.m.

Congregation of Reform Judaism (Reform)

Rabbi Rachel Jackson
Cantor Bryce Megdal
928 Malone Dr.
Orlando, Fla. 407-645-0444
www.crjorlando.org
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah service, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah service, 9:30 a.m. (including babysitting and youth activities 3rd- 6th grades, and holiday activities preK-2nd grades)

Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II, 10 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 8 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur, 9:30 a.m.; Meditation service, 12:30 p.m.; Family service, 2p.m.; Yizkor, 4 p.m.; Healing service, 5 p.m.; Neilah, 6 p.m.; Break Fast, 7 p.m.

Congregation Ohev Shalom (Conservative)

Rabbi Geoffrey A. Spector
Cantor Jeffrey Weber
613 Concourse Pkwy. S.,
Maitland, Fla. 407-298-4650
www.ohevshalom.org
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah service 6:30 p.m.; candle lighting, 7:13 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah, 9 a.m., Children’s program, 10 a.m.; Mincha/Ma’ariv, 7:15 p.m.; Candle lighting, 8:29 p.m.,
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II service 9 a.m; Havdalah, 8:11 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Mincha/ Neilah/ / Final Shofar, 5:30 p.m.; Break fast, 8:01 p.m.

Congregation Shalom Aleichem (Reform)

Rabbi Chapin
3501 Oak Pointe Blvd.
Kissimmee, FL 34746
Nonmembers tickets are \$25 per person for a total of \$125 or discounted to \$100 for all five services. For nonmembers tickets, please contact Frank Gutworth at 201-396-4091
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah, 10 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur, 10 a.m.; Yizkor (no ticket needed), noon; Neilah, 5 p.m.; Havdalah service, 7 p.m.; break fast is \$10 per person.

Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation (Conservative)

Rabbi Melissa Crespy
Rabbi Michael Fraade
11200 S. Apopka Vineland Rd.
Orlando Fla. 407-239-5444
www.sojc.org
Membership is required to attend services
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah service, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah services, 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II service, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Erev Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur service, 9 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.; Break fast immediately following services.

Temple Israel (Conservative)

Rabbi Joshua Neely
Guest Cantor Teron Cohen
50 S. Moss Rd.
Winter Springs, Fla. 407-647-3055
www.tiflorida.org
*Mincha/Maariv, Second day Rosh Hashanah service, Tashlich, and community memorial are open to the entire community but reservations are required. To purchase tickets, please contact the office at 407-647-3055 or email manager@tiflorida.org
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah service, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 16, 1st day Rosh Hashanah, 9 a.m., *Mincha/ Maariv, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, *2nd day Rosh Hashanah, 9 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 20, *Tashlich, 6 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Mincha before Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m., Kol Nidre, 6:45 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur, 9 a.m.; Yizkor, 11:30 a.m., *Mincha, 4:45 p.m.; *Community memorial, 6:30 p.m.; End of Yom Kippur, 8 p.m.

Traditional Congregation of Mount Dora (Traditional)

Rabbi Hayyim G.Z. Solomon
848 North Donnelly
Mount Dora, Fla. 352-735-4774
www.tcomd.org
Friday, Sept. 15, Erev Rosh Hashanah, 6:30 p.m
Saturday, Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah service, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 17, Rosh Hashanah II, 9 a.m.
Sunday, Sept. 24, Kol Nidre, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25, Yom Kippur Shaharith, 9 a.m.; Mincha, 2 p.m.; Classes in the afternoon taught by Hakham Sassoon; Neilah, 7 p.m.

5783 Community Year in Review



Queen Elizabeth



Rachel Slavkin



Tess Wise



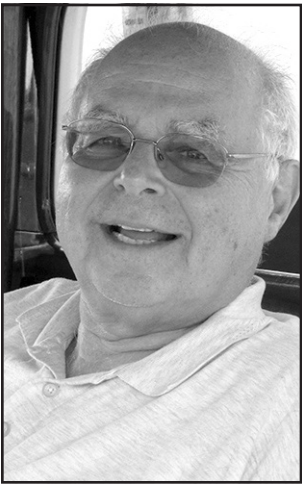
Cantor Jeffrey Weber



Rabbi Geoffrey Spector



Gloria Yousha



Marc Katzen



Burt Chasnov



Rep. Darren Soto (I) with Rabbi Yosef Konikov.



Ed Borowsky



Rabbi Steven Engel



Rabbi Melissa Crespy



Chana Ben-Abraham



Rabbi Rachel Jackson



Rabbi Michael Fraade



Dr. Reuben Romirowsky



Ofira Bondorowsky



Chabad's new Jewish Center at UCF.

September 2022

The Jewish community along with the rest of the world mourned the death by natural causes of Queen Elizabeth II on Sept. 8, 2022. Just as September was about to leave, Hurricane Ian struck, causing massive flooding and power outages across Central Florida. Most severely harmed was the Fort Myers area. Federations doubled down on providing their community with food and emergency assistance.

October 2022

Lots of changes happened in October. Kinneret apartments, collectively known as Kinneret Inc., were sold to Fairstead for \$57 million. Fairstead plans to preserve the affordability of the property and embarked on a

substantial renovation to modernize the seniors' homes.

Beth Shalom Memorial Chapel relocated to 640 Lee Road, Orlando, gaining much needed space. JNF-USA Orlando installed two professionals, Josh Mellits and Harrison Shames, in new Orlando roles in response to the organization's rapid growth in this region. RAISE director Rachel Slavkin, joined Shalom Orlando as RAISE Inclusion director on staff. Founder of the Holocaust Center, Tess Wise, passed away on Oct. 23, 2022. Kinneret Tenant Association honored 101-year-old Jean Dolen by renaming the Delaney Café, the Jean Dolen Café.

November 2022

Congregation Ohev Shalom welcomed Cantor Jeffrey Weber. COS then held a gala to honor their new rabbi, Geoffrey Spector, and new cantor. Longtime Scene Around columnist, Gloria Yousha, passed away Nov. 18, 2022.

December 2022

Shalom Orlando's Jewish Community Relations Council encouraged the community to speak out against hate crimes after a mass shooting in Colorado Springs in which five

people were killed and 25 injured. Community builder Marc Katzen died on Dec. 4, 2022.

January 2023

Jewish Family Services was awarded a \$50,000 United Way grant. Passionate leader in the community, Burt Chasnov, died on Jan. 15, 2023.

February 2023

The Oviedo-Winter Springs area welcomed a new Chabad Center led by Rabbi Tzviky and Fraidy Dubov.

March 2023

Rep. Darren Soto met with Rabbi Konikov of Chabad of South Orlando concerning harassment from the antisemitic group Goyim Defense League. Rep. Soto requested an investigation of GDL. Former actress Hedy Lamarr was honored with an

historical marker placed in Red Bug Lake Park in Casselberry in recognition of being an actress during the Golden Age of Hollywood, but also for designing a secret communication system for torpedo guidance during WWII.

April 2023

Through its partnership with the Rosen Hotels & Resorts and Joann Fabrics, RAISE expanded into Southwest Orlando. Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a law cracking down on hate speech. The bill HB269, titled "Public Nuisances" makes it a felony to harass people for their religion or ethnicity. It also penalizes leaving flyers with hateful images, messages or any other "credible threat" on a person's private property.

June 2023

Just after Shavuot, Chabad of North Orlando completed a new Torah Scroll.

Local resident Ed Borowsky released his first fiction novel, "It's A Good Day to Liquidate." Previously, he published a novella, "The Great Mongolian Bowling League of the United States of America," which won an International Book Award.

July 2023

Rabbi Steven Engel resigned as rabbi of Congregation of Reform Judaism after serving for 26 years. Rabbi Rachel Jackson replaced him and is the first female rabbi in Central Florida. Also, Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation welcomed Rabbi Melissa Crespy as their rabbi. That makes two female rabbis for Central Florida! The Jewish Academy of Orlando hired a new head of school, Chana Ben-Abraham.

August 2023

Jewish Family Services Pearlman Food Pantry distributed record levels of food not seen in its 45-year history. Four of the past six months exceeded previous record of 447 sets, with the highest being 581 in May. Jewish groups reached out to help relief efforts in Maui. Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation welcomed student rabbi Michael Fraade. The Rosen JCC had a major change in leadership — CEO Dr. Reuben Romirowsky retired after four years and Ofira Bondorowsky assumed the duties of CEO the last week of August. Chabad of UCF opened its new Student Center at the University of Central Florida.

Weekly roundup of world briefs

Jerusalem police nab Palestinian for US embassy break-ins

(JNS) — Police recently arrested two Palestinians from the Hebron area for breaking into a U.S. embassy warehouse in Jerusalem and stealing property last month, the Israel Police said.

The suspects, both men in their 20s from the town of Tarqumiyah, worked at a construction site near the embassy in the capital's upscale Arnona neighborhood.

According to the police, the pair took advantage of their work permit in Israel to steal "maintenance property" during a "series of break-ins."

The burglars were eventually apprehended and taken in for questioning, a spokesperson said, adding that the investigation is ongoing.

Their initial pre-trial detention was set to expire on Thursday.

Israel completes purchase of DC home for its ambassador

(JNS) — Israel has completed the purchase of an official residence for its ambassador in Washington.

Michael Herzog will be moving into an 11-bedroom, 12-bathroom home with a listing price of \$10 million, Jewish Insider reported on Thursday. It is located in the upscale neighborhood of Forest Hills in the northwest quadrant of the U.S. capital.

Herzog, 71, the older brother of Israeli President Isaac Herzog, has been living in hotels and rental properties since taking up the post in November 2021. He will likely move in within the next month, an embassy source told Jewish Insider.

"After almost 10 years of temporary housing, the State of Israel has decided to purchase an official residence to provide a long-term solution for its ambassador," the source said.

Israel has rented properties for its D.C. ambassadors since 2013, when the previous official residence on Chesapeake Street NW was

abandoned due to unlivable conditions. The residence that was used by every Israeli ambassador since the 1960s was condemned and eventually torn down.

According to the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, the Forest Hills neighborhood became predominately Jewish in the 1940s and 1950s due to an absence of restricted housing covenants.

Israel warns citizens of possible abductions during the holiday season

(JNS) — Israel's National Security Council on Thursday cautioned citizens to remain vigilant while traveling over the upcoming Jewish holiday period, citing the risk of attempts by Iranian-backed terrorists to carry out kidnappings in Israel and abroad.

The updated travel warning cites a higher risk of Iranian terrorism in both neighboring and faraway countries including Georgia, Azerbaijan and Turkey, as well as in countries in Africa and Latin America.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad may seek to kidnap Israelis to use as a bargaining chip in indirect negotiations with the Jewish state, adds the National Security Council.

The press release also cites increased Islamic terrorist threats in both Sweden and Denmark in the wake of recent Koran burnings there that outraged the Muslim world.

"We call on the Israeli public to continue to travel abroad, but to be vigilant, behave responsibly in accordance with the risk level of the country they are visiting, and to adhere to the recommendations," the National Security Council said.

Earlier in August, NSC Intelligence Division head Yossi Adler told JNS that "the last two years have been exceptional, from a historical perspective, in terms of terror activity against Israelis and Jews abroad."

"My message is, think about what you are saying

on the social networks, don't give your geographic route, which hotel room you're in, because the [terror] squads are looking for prey," he warned.

The National Security Council provides 24/7 service on its website and a call center for issues related to travel warnings.

New report: Antisemitic crimes rose 28% in 21 US cities in 2022

(JNS) — Research from the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) reveals an increase in the number of hate crimes against Jews (up 28 percent) and other minority groups in America's most populous urban centers.

The 10 largest cities in the country saw an average increase of 22 percent in biased-based illegal incidents, hitting a new record of 1,889. The highest number of these crimes happened in Los Angeles—195 against black people, 98 against gay men, 91 against Jews and 88 against Latinos.

The largest percentage increase happened in Chicago, with an overall rise of 84 percent in hate crimes. For Jews, the increase was exponentially higher (500 percent), going from six crimes in 2021 to 36 in 2022. Seattle also saw a jump from one incident in 2021 to seven in 2022.

Of victims targeted on the basis of religion, Jews accounted for the lion's share with 78 percent of religious-centered incidents—a total of 470 hate crimes in 2022. The report identified four religion-motivated murders last year, three against Shia Muslims by a Sunni terrorist and one killing of a Catholic who the perpetrator believed was Jewish.

Of the 470 hate crimes against Jews, most of them (261) took place in New York City, which saw a 33 percent increase from 2021's 196.

The report identifies a key factor impacting anti-

semitic crimes: the intensity of conflicts in the Middle East. During the Gaza War in May 2021, for example, antisemitic crimes in cities went up 59 percent.

While most cities saw increases in hate crimes, notable exceptions with declines include San Diego; San Antonio; and Phoenix, Ariz.

Thomas-Greenfield, Lipstadt meet with Jewish leaders in New York City

(JNS) — Linda Thomas-Greenfield, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and Deborah Lipstadt, U.S. special envoy to monitor and combat antisemitism, met with a number of Jewish leaders at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City on Aug. 28.

Thomas-Greenfield previewed U.S. priorities for the upcoming U.N. General Assembly session, and both diplomats addressed U.S. "efforts to counter antisemitism and anti-Israel bias at the U.N.," per a readout from Nate Evans, spokesman for the U.S. mission to the United Nations.

Lipstadt praised António Guterres, secretary-general of the United Nations, "for taking the important step of drafting a UN Action Plan to Combat Antisemitism," according to the readout. Thomas-Greenfield "also reinforced the Biden administration's unshakeable support for Israel and a negotiated two-state solution."

Several people posted on social media that they were part of the event, including American Jewish Committee CEO Ted Deutch, Chabad-Lubavitch spokesman Yaacov Behrman and New York Gov. Kathy Hochul staffer Eva Wyner.

Thomas-Greenfield also met on Monday with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, as did Guterres. In a readout of Thomas-Greenfield's meeting with Gallant, Evans stated that the diplomats "discussed the need to de-escalate tensions

and improve the security situation in the West Bank." **Iran warns of retaliation for alleged Israeli Syria strike**

(JNS) — Iran on Wednesday threatened revenge for an alleged Israeli attack on Syrian territory earlier in the week that put Aleppo's main airport out of service, the Associated Press reported.

Speaking at a press conference in Damascus, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said, "The criminal practices by the Zionist entity in the region will not remain without retaliation."

The strike on Aleppo International Airport on Monday was attributed to Israel by Syrian state media.

Ynet cited a Saudi network as reporting hours after the attack that Israel had destroyed an "Iranian military shipment containing sensitive equipment."

Israel has allegedly struck hundreds of targets in Syria in recent years as part of an effort to prevent Iranian military entrenchment in the country. However, it rarely acknowledges these incidents.

PA issues list of demands for Saudi-Israel deal

(JNS) — The Palestinian Authority wants more control over areas of Judea and Samaria, the reopening of the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem and the resumption of Saudi financial support in return for supporting a Saudi-Israel normalization deal.

Riyadh has already proposed resuming financial assistance to the P.A., according to Saudi officials and former Palestinian officials. Earlier this month, Riyadh appointed its first-ever non-resident envoy to the P.A., who will double as consul general to Jerusalem.

The list of demands suggests Palestinian leaders are taking a more practical approach to Saudi-Israel normalization than it did in 2020 to the Abraham Accords. It described that deal

between Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain as "a stab in the back of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people."

This time, the P.A. appears ready to accept a pact in return for concrete gains. It seeks to expand its footprint in Judea and Samaria by demanding more control in Areas B and C. Judea and Samaria is divided into three administrative zones under the Oslo Accords. Only Area A is under full P.A. civil and security control.

Its request for a reopening of the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem will strengthen its claim to part of Israel's capital. The U.S. consulate had acted as a de facto embassy to the Palestinians before the Trump administration shuttered it in March 2019.

A resumption of Saudi funding will help shore up the P.A. economy, which is in shambles. Saudi Arabia had contributed billions to Palestinian causes until cutting off funding in 2016 over P.A. corruption. Aid dropped from \$174 million a year in 2019 to zero in 2021.

Even though Saudi Arabia occupies a leading position among Muslims due to its control over Islam's holiest sites, it must tread carefully to avoid antagonizing Muslims for whom the Palestinian cause is a central issue.

Meanwhile, Israel has concerns about Saudi Arabia's own demands regarding a normalization agreement. Israel Defense Minister Yoav Gallant met on Wednesday with Brett McGurk, U.S. National Security Council coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa, to request clarification regarding the kingdom's demand for U.S. assistance in building out its civilian nuclear program.

Specifically, Israel has questions about the fuel cycle, which could potentially allow the Saudis to enrich uranium independently, Hebrew media reported.

Israel is facing a prolonged escalation in Judea and Samaria

By Yaakov Lappin

(JNS) — Monday's murderous terrorist attack on Route 60 in Hebron, in which an Israeli woman was shot dead and a man seriously injured, is just the latest indication of the sad fact that Israel is in the middle of a prolonged security escalation in Judea and Samaria—with no end in sight.

The incident comes two days after an Israeli father and son were shot dead in Huwara, an attack that may have helped "inspire" Monday's shooting.

So far in 2023, 34 people (33 Israelis and an Italian tourist) were killed in Palestinian terrorism, and almost 200 shooting attacks occurred in Judea and Samaria. In the whole of 2022, terrorists killed 31 people and there were 281 shooting attacks.

These figures attest to the scope of the escalation. The Israel Defense Forces and Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet) are engaged in a non-stop effort to combat terrorism in the area, sending in backup forces and holding assessments daily all the way up to the level of the General Staff, according to an Israeli military source.

Over 20 IDF battalions are active in Judea and Samaria, including the Givati Reconnaissance Battalion that was dispatched on Saturday after the Huwara shootings.

In the end, however, no matter how many backup forces it sends, the IDF still cannot be everywhere at once or preempt every attack.

There are many roads in Judea and Samaria that provide easy targets for terrorists looking to fire on Israeli vehicles, including Route 60 and the Hurawa "corridor,"

which Israelis in the area must use to move between north and south—although the decision by the father and son on Saturday to stop at Hurawa for several hours was extremely dangerous.

Other signs of the escalation can be found in the fact that where in the past a single IDF company was sufficient to hold the Huwara area, now an entire battalion is needed, according to the Israeli military source.

The fact that so many IDF battalions have to be deployed to Judea and Samaria is also negatively impacting training.

Last month, work reportedly began to construct a Huwara bypass road, which if completed will significantly ease the pressure on Israeli security forces.

While the current situation is not a full-blown intifada, the figures indicate that it

is indeed prolonged escalation, and despite the massive resources and efforts that the IDF and Shin Bet are pouring into Judea and Samaria, terrorists' motivation remains high.

Furthermore, their ability to carry out attacks is enhanced by the enormous quantities of firearms flooding the area.

The guns are being smuggled in from Jordan, produced in Palestinian workshops and stolen from IDF bases in southern Israel. On Aug. 1, Israel announced that it would build a new security barrier on the border with Jordan, in an attempt to staunch the flow.

The July 5-6 Jenin operation launched by the IDF saw hundreds of weapons seized by security forces, and Israel will continue to launch such operations at various scales, but it will not be enough.

According to the military source, for every successful terrorist attack on average some 10 are foiled by Israel, providing a glimpse into the true extent of the threat.

The instability of the Palestinian Authority, the ability of Hamas to exploit it, and friction between Palestinians and Israelis are all contributing to the strain on the IDF's efforts.

Israel meanwhile is continuing its policy of allowing some 150,000 Palestinians who have passed security screening to work in Israel, as part of its targeted approach that seeks to differentiate between terrorists and civilians, and to decrease the ability of Hamas to use its murderous incitement to recruit even more attackers.

At the same time, the IDF is under pressure from Israeli civilians to show better results and to bring down the number of attacks.

Israel's round-the-clock counter-terrorism effort is up against a network of hostile actors involving local gunmen supported by Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Iran, with the latter three pouring cash and incitement as fuel onto the fire.

Iran, for its part, is implementing a decision taken around a year ago to transfer its conflict with Israel into Judea and Samaria and the streets of Israel, after its failure to respond to a series of blasts and incidents on Iranian territory that it blamed on Israel.

As such, Iran is strengthening its support for its proxy Hezbollah in Lebanon, while in Judea and Samaria it is working to inject more cash for weapons production and for destabilizing the arena.

Israel's fight against terrorism in the area is set to be a long-term affair.

At UN Security Council meeting, DC, Moscow and Paris take aim at Israel

By Mike Wagenheim

(JNS) —America’s ambassador to the United Nations emphasized at Monday’s U.N. Security Council meeting last week, the Biden administration designated a Hezbollah-linked group—one that purports to be an environmental organization—a terror group. Linda Thomas-Greenfield also stamped the “terror” label on two Israelis who have been charged, but not yet tried, in a deadly incident earlier this month.

“We strongly condemn the terror attacks by settlers in Burqa on August 4 that killed a 19-year-old Palestinian,” said the ambassador, noting also that there have been recent deadly Palestinian terror attacks against Israelis.

Speaking at the security council’s monthly meeting on the Israeli-Palestinian file, Thomas-Greenfield referred to an incident in which a group of Israelis said it aided a shepherd who was attacked by a group of Arabs. A Palestinian was shot under unclear circumstances with the main suspect saying that he fired the deadly bullet in self-

defense after being struck in the head with a rock.

In an unusual stance, the U.S. State Department decided not only that the accused were guilty until proven innocent prior to their trial, but it also labeled the incident a terror attack shortly after it occurred.

“We note Israel has made several arrests and expect accountability and justice to be pursued with equal rigor in all cases of violent extremism,” said Thomas-Greenfield, “whether the perpetrators are Palestinian militants or extremist Israeli settlers.”

The ambassador added that Washington “also remains deeply concerned by Hezbollah’s provocative actions” along the Israeli-Lebanon border, “which represent an increasing threat to Lebanon’s peace and security, as well as Israel’s.”

The U.S. Treasury Department last week designated the Hezbollah-aligned Green Without Borders—a supposed environmental protection organization—and its leader as terror supporters. An Israeli diplo-

matic source told JNS that the designation called attention to Hezbollah’s menacing activities, as the security council considered renewing the mandate held by U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, or UNIFIL.

Russia: ‘Incessant, unilateral and illegitimate steps’

At the Aug. 21 meeting, Thomas-Greenfield noted last week’s appointment of Naif bin Bandar Al-Sudairi, Saudi ambassador to Jordan, as non-resident ambassador to the Palestinians and consul general in Jerusalem.

“We stand ready to be supportive of any and all efforts that will bring us closer to a two-state solution,” she said of the appointment. That appeared to refer to discussions between Washington and Riyadh aiming in part to normalize Israeli-Saudi relations. The Saudis are

expected to seek concessions from Israel on behalf of the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, France took aim at Israel during Monday’s session, with Isis Jaraud Darnault, France’s political coordinator to the United Nations, calling on Israel to “abandon the construction of new housing units in the settlements.”

“France will never recognize the illegal annexation of territories, nor the legalization of outposts,” Darnault said.

She also complained that the Israel Defense Forces recently demolished the European Union-funded, illegally built Ein Samiya school northeast of Ramallah, calling the razing “unacceptable.” The European Union has threatened to sue.

Having taken an increasingly antagonistic stance to-

wards Israel at the United Nations since Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine, Russia continued the pattern on Monday.

Dmitry Polyanskiy, Russia’s U.N. chargé d’affaires, laid blame solely at the feet of Israel for the “protracted, years-long stagnation of the peace process.”

Polyanskiy referred to “the incessant, unilateral and illegitimate steps by Israel that create irreversible facts on the ground and basically reduce to a zero any prospects for recovering direct talks among Palestinians and Israelis on a universally recognized international legal basis, which has at its core a two-state formula, which we unfailingly support.”

He blasted “violent militarized raids” by Israeli counterterrorism forces in Palestinian Authority-controlled territory. The raids have led to

dozens of deaths, overwhelmingly of Palestinian terrorists, which various terror groups and militias have publicly claimed as their adherents.

Few security council ambassadors made any note of ongoing clashes between Palestinian militants, including those of Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas’s Fatah group, in Lebanon’s Ain al-Hilweh camp. The fighting has led to 13 deaths, dozens of injuries and millions of dollars’ worth of damage. Services were suspended in the camp late last week due to ongoing danger in the street.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which operates the Palestinian-controlled camp of more than 50,000 people, said on Aug. 18 that armed fighters are still present in its facilities, including schools.

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from
Andrew L. Reiff, P.A.
Attorney and Counselor at Law

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Shapiro

From page 2A

book? I seriously considered a title change — Thankful? Finding a Silver Lining? — until a conversation with five of my cousins on our weekly Tuesday Zoom call.

“Don’t change the title,” they said. “Just put a banner

proclaiming, ‘No! This is NOT a cookbook!’”

I gladly followed their advice. I had been working on this book since March 2020, and I knew that the chosen title best reflected all those months of dealing with the pandemic. More importantly, I loved the title. No matter

Price

From page 5A

Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa—held a summit at which they agreed to admit Iran, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Egypt, Argentina and the United Arab Emirates. More than 20 other countries have expressed an interest in joining.

With Xi and Putin at the helm, and Khamenei holding their hands, this will become the latest anti-American “international community”—a growth industry.

Of course, if you’re an isolationist, you think: Let nations “non-align” against America! Let Russia erase Ukraine! Let NATO crumble!

Ransom

From page 5A

price from Israel in exchange for these individuals—or at least their bodies—after seeing what Iran is getting for the release of five U.S. hostages.

Biden’s ransom deal with Iran is part of his administration’s naive strategy of appeasement—the same failed strategy British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain tried with Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.

Nevertheless, The New York Times put a positive spin on the deal, with a headline that reads, “Prisoner Deal Could Smooth Effort to Contain Iran’s Nuclear Program.” Indeed, there are reports that Biden will try to include a freeze on Iran’s nuclear enrichment as part of his deal with the Islamist dictatorship.

The Times goes on to say, “The announcement of a pris-

oner exchange deal between the United States and Iran could increase prospects for further diplomatic cooperation.”

It would appear that the Times supports Biden’s strategy of appeasement.

No surprise: Eighty-five years ago, the Times also spoke positively of Chamberlain’s Munich Agreement with Hitler, proclaiming on Oct. 1, 1938, that “the peace

Life’s Problems.” For all of you who hoped it was a cookbook, I hope you enjoy it anyway. And to make everyone happy, my challah recipe is included at the end of the book. Happy baking!

“Keep Calm and Bake Challah” is available on amazon.com.

Let Beijing take Taiwan and the Indo-Pacific! Why worry?

No need—if you’re oblivious to the impact all that will have on the security, freedom, rights and prosperity of your children and grandchildren; if you can’t imagine what it will mean if America becomes a has-been hegemon in a world

dominated by Chinese Communists and their America-hating partners in Moscow, Tehran, Pyongyang, Havana, Managua and a lengthening list of other capitals.

Yes, the price of maintaining American leadership is high. But the value is higher. Significantly. To refuse to see that is just foolish.

of Europe seems assured for a generation at least.” World War II broke out less than a year later. So much for appeasement.

If Biden believes he can offer America’s enemies a mere finger without them taking the whole hand, he is sorely mistaken. In fact, if history is any measure, America’s enemies will not only take the hand, but the rest of the body as well.

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NFL

From page 6A

2024 NFL season is new Washington Commanders owner Josh Harris, who purchased the team from embattled Jewish owner Dan Snyder earlier this year for a record \$6.05 billion. Snyder is under multiple investigations over

sexual harassment and toxic workplace culture allegations. In July, Harris said buying his hometown NFL team was “bashert,” using the Yiddish word for fate. In the broadcast booth, a number of Jewish play-by-play announcers and analysts will entertain fans on various networks. Here are a few of the more well-known figures in the

booth and in the studio: Kenny Albert (Fox Sports), Chris Berman (ESPN), Ian Eagle (CBS), Andrea Kremer (Amazon Prime), Steve Levy (ESPN), Al Michaels (Amazon Prime) and Tracy Wolfson (CBS). Plus, former Super Bowl MVP Julian Edelman recently joined Fox Sports’ “Fox NFL Kickoff” program, the network’s signature pre-game show.

Joyva

From page 9A

With the baton fully in Richard and Sandy’s hands, the duo brought in outside help to update the brand’s image while staying true to its origins. Gone are the artificial colors and flavors Joyva once used. They’ve been replaced with natural, fruit-based flavors and hues to appeal to an ingredient-conscious consumer. Gone, too, is the Sultan logo, a relic of the 1950s admen era. The refreshed Joyva harkens back to the company’s vibrant and unique history. “Brooklyn 1907” is printed on the reimagined packaging, bringing in a smidge of storytelling and establishing

Joyva as the pioneers of the industry. The updated packaging features bold colors and timeless graphic designs that evoke a hint of nostalgia with a modern touch. “Our secret sauce has always been connection,” Richard notes. “We have handwritten letters from customers going back years and years. Everyone feels connected to this brand, not only connected but like they have a stake and a say. The rebrand and graphics took so much time and effort to make sure we were still who we were and were recognizable because we really didn’t want to piss off grandma, but we wanted to appeal to young people.” Now in their late 50s,

Richard and Sandy have bragging rights of another kind. When so many family businesses have been torn apart by infighting and generational upheaval, they are among the few who have managed to honor their family’s legacy while keeping it relevant and engaging for today’s audience, appealing to the newest generation of halvah lovers 115 years later. “We have this cool story that other brands and companies try to make up,” Richard says with a laugh. “Here’s this rich, fertile story that people want to know about, and it actually makes the connection smarter and better. I get chills thinking about it, but it’s true.”

Campus

From page 10A

At Oral Roberts University, an evangelical school in Tulsa, Okla., Carlos Vasquez, a senior who is pre-law, helped relaunch what he said was “a very dormant Israel club.” Vasquez knew he had the ability to kickstart the pro-Israel student group, even though he’d never done

something like that before. Now, members of the group are participating in Zionist campus organizations and StandWithUs, he told JNS. At Oral Roberts, there’s no anti-Israel activity to speak of. “There are no anti-Israel demonstrations,” he said. “There’s no Israel hate.” Isaac Lichtman, who graduated in May from the

University of Georgia with an economics degree, plans to spend a year on a fellowship in Krakow, Poland. He figures that like many state schools, the University of Georgia isn’t particularly active politically. “I never dealt with the antisemitism or the BDS that a lot of my peers that I meet at conferences like this have,” he said.

The leadership of the Jewish Pavilion wishes you a happy and healthy New Year!

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