



SHALOM



The Journal of the Reading Jewish Community. Published as a community service by the Jewish Federation of Reading, Pa.

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Ross to speak to students, leadership and community

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Jewish Federation of Reading is kicking off the 2017 community campaign in a big way this month with speeches by Ambassador Dennis Ross.

For more than 12 years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process and dealing directly with the parties in negotiations. A highly skilled diplomat, Ambassador Ross was U.S. point man on the peace process in the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. He was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians to reach the 1995 Interim Agreement; he also successfully brokered the 1997 Hebron Accord, facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty and intensively worked to bring Israel and Syria together.

A scholar and diplomat with more than two decades of experience in Soviet and Middle East policy, Ambassador Ross worked closely with Secretaries of State James Baker, Warren Christopher and Madeleine Albright. Prior to his service as special Middle East coordinator under President Clinton, Ambassador Ross served as director of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff in the first Bush administration. In that capacity, he played a prominent role in U.S. policy toward the former Soviet Union, the unification of Germany and its integration into NATO, arms control negotiations and the 1991 Gulf War coalition.

Most recently Ross served two years as special assistant to President Obama and National Security Council senior director for



the Central Region, and a year as special adviser to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Reading is fortunate to have such a foreign policy expert give three speeches on Sept. 25. At 3 p.m. Ross will speak at Albright College to local college students. Ross especially enjoys speaking to students, and JFR is happy to work with Hillel and Hillel International to bring Ross to Albright's campus. Students from Albright, Alvernia, Kutztown, Penn State Berks and our Jewish High School are being

invited to attend.

Immediately afterwards, Ross will move to the DoubleTree in Reading for our Leadership Gifts dinner. The community is invited to attend this event, which will include a private reception with Ambassador Ross followed by his remarks to our Leadership group. Afterwards we will enjoy dinner and conversations together. Community members can attend this event for \$1,200 per person or \$600 per person under 40. Please RSVP to Richard Nassau at richardn@jfreading.org or 610-921-0624.

The entire Jewish community and general public is invited to the third Ross event held at DoubleTree at 7:30 pm. Ross will speak on "Peace and Policy in the Middle East" at this free community event. In addition to current events in the Middle East, Ross will also speak on the upcoming U.S. general election and themes from his recent book "Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama." JFR's Israeli Book Club read "Doomed to Succeed" however all community members are encouraged to read the book to learn more about the U.S.-Israel relationship. Copies of the book will also be sold on Sept. 25.

For more information or questions on any of these events, please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreading.org or 610-921-0624.

To register please visit our website (www.readingjewishcommunity.org) or call 610-921-0624. We are requesting RSVPs for the 4:15 p.m. Leadership Gifts event and 7:30 p.m. community program.

We look forward to seeing many of you at these exciting events on Sept. 25.

2017 Jewish film series kicks off with historical thriller

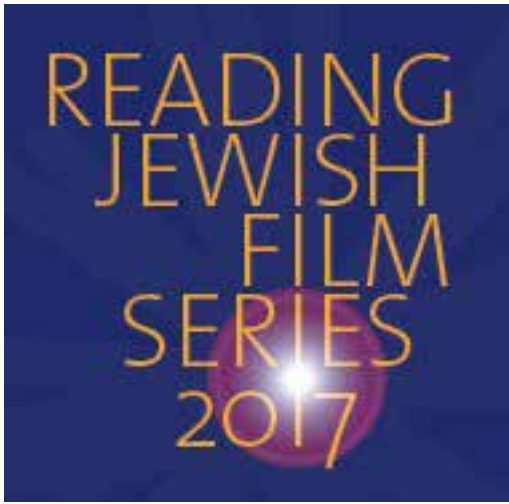
By Amanda J. Hornberger

How far would you go to bring Nazis to justice? Commit treason? This is the dilemma faced by Attorney General Fritz Bauer in 1957 Germany in the thriller "The People vs. Fritz Bauer." Given crucial proof on the whereabouts of Adolf Eichmann, Bauer must decide what to do with the evidence given his distrust in the German justice system. Bauer contacts the Israeli secret service Mossad. Does that make Bauer a hero or traitor?

"The People vs. Fritz Bauer" is the first film of our 2017 Reading Jewish Film Series and will be shown Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. at FOX EAST, 4350 Perkiomen Avenue, Exeter Township (next to Boscov's East).

The 2017 Reading Jewish Film Series will feature a variety of genres from comedies to dramas to documentaries. The films are from around the world including the U.K., Israel, Argentina, the U.S. and Germany.

New this year is our partnership with other community organizations — the Hispanic Center, the Islamic Center and the Central Pennsylvania African American Museum — for facilitated discussions on three evenings. The films in October, January and April were



selected in part due to their cross-cultural themes and we look forward to partnering with the Hispanic, Islamic and African American communities on these special evenings.

The 2017 Reading Jewish Film Series is co-sponsored by the Rubin Educational Fund of the Jewish Federation of Reading and Fox Theatres. Admission is \$5 per film or \$30 for the series of eight films. All films will be shown on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. at FOX EAST. Tickets can be purchased at the

theater beginning at 6:30 p.m. the day of the screening, and series tickets can be bought at the JCC. Cash and checks are accepted.

Special thanks to Don Fox and the staff of Fox Theatres for their continued support of the Reading Jewish Film Series.

This year's films and dates:

Sept. 14 — "The People vs. Fritz Bauer"
Oct. 26 — "My First Wedding"* with the Hispanic Center for Hispanic Heritage Month
Dec. 7 — "Germans & Jews"
Jan. 18 — "Rosenwald"* with the Central Pennsylvania African American Museum
March 1 — "The Sturgeon Queens"
April 5 — "Women in Sink" and "In Search of Israeli Cuisine" (two films)* with the Islamic Center

May 17 — "Apples from the Desert"

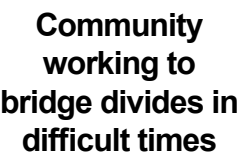
*Facilitated discussion to follow the film.

We hope you will join us as we explore post-WWII justice in Germany, an interfaith wedding in Argentina, modern-day relations between Germans and Jews, the philanthropy of Julius Rosenwald, the real story of Russ & Daughters, life and cuisine in Israel and a daughter who challenges her parents' way of life during the 2017 Reading Jewish Film Series!



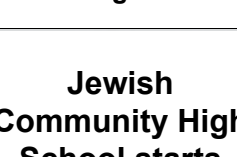
Late couple's generosity helps Federation and other causes they cherished.

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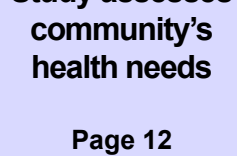
Community working to bridge divides in difficult times

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Israel Book Club explores "Trouble in the Tribe"

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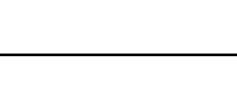
Jewish Community High School starts another big year

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE: Study assesses community's health needs

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2016 totals as of Aug. 19

Jewish Community Campaign \$335,404

*Includes transfers from Donor Advised Funds

Working to unite communities at a challenging time

By William D. Franklin
President

For those who have been following the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, you may be aware of the recent platform furor with respect to Israel that has created concern in Jewish communities. Reading about it I was reminded of Hillel's famous saying from Ethics of the Fathers – “If I am not for myself, who will be for me?



But if I am only for myself, who am I? If not now, when?”

In early August, more than 50 organizations associated with the Black Lives Matter movement (BLM) released an extensive platform that raises important issues, including economic justice, voter rights and criminal justice system reforms. Unfortunately, the platform also includes provisions that demonize Israel, erroneously equating the experiences of African-Americans with Palestinians and outrageously calling Israel an “apartheid” state guilty of committing “genocide.”

Relevant excerpts from the platform are:

General

- “The U.S. justifies and advances the global war on terror via its alliance with Israel and is complicit in the genocide taking place against the Palestinian people.”
- “Israel is an apartheid state with over 50 laws on the books that sanction discrimination against the Palestinian people. Palestinian homes and land are routinely bulldozed to make way for illegal Israeli settlements. Israeli soldiers also regularly arrest and detain Palestinians as young as 4 years old without due process. Every day, Palestinians are forced to walk

through military checkpoints along the U.S.-funded apartheid wall.”

Federal Action:

- “Build invest/divestment campaigns that ends US Aid to Israel’s military industrial complex and any government with human rights violations.”

State Action:

- “Fight the expanding number of Anti-BDS bills being passed in states around the country. This type of legislation not only harms the movement to end the Israeli occupation of Palestine, but is a threat to the constitutional right to free speech and protest.”

Local Action:

- “Map out local infrastructure needs and pass resolutions calling for the necessary reinvestment and rebuilding efforts. Coordinate direct actions of solidarity with South Africa, Palestine, Columbia [sic] and liberation movements across the globe.”

Alan Dershowitz responded- “I write this column both in sorrow and in anger. ... It is a real tragedy that Black Lives Matter — which has done so much good in raising awareness of police abuses — has now moved away from its central mission and has declared war against the nation state of the Jewish people. I write it in anger because there is never an excuse for bigotry and for promoting blood libels against the Jewish people and their state. It must stop. And those who engage in it must be called out for condemnation.”

And ... “It would be sad if the good work done by Black Lives Matter were now to be sidetracked by the mendacious and irrelevant accusation of “genocide” and “apartheid” against one foreign democracy — Israel.”

Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner, Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism issued the following statement: “The Reform Jewish Movement is deeply committed to addressing the structural

racism that exists in the United States and to doing so in partnership with activists and communities of color — including those who proudly identify as Reform Jews. While we commend many aspects of the recently released Movement for Black Lives platform that effectively target structural racism, as deeply committed Zionists we condemn in the strongest possible terms the platform’s language on Israel and the Palestinian Territories.”

Alan Dershowitz and Rabbi Pesner’s positions exemplify for us how to enact Hillel’s first caveat — If I am not for myself, who will be for me?

It must be noted that the posture on Israel expressed in this platform does not reflect the views of many in Reading’s African-American community. I met with representatives of our local NAACP who were not aware of the BLM platform language and confirmed that while they and national NAACP officials support the primary goals and work of BLM, they neither agree with nor support these planks that conflate the experiences of African-Americans and Palestinians.

We also note that Black Lives Matter isn’t necessarily represented in its entirety by the Movement for Black Lives platform or by the Black Lives Matter Network — there are other nationally focused groups representing Black Lives Matter (such as Campaign Zero) that take a different approach and are sometimes in disagreement with other segments of BLM. Because BLM is a decentralized movement with much internal conflict about its direction, it is impossible – and inaccurate – to make sweeping claims such as “Black Lives Matter supports BDS.”

There is an intentional BDS strategy to create deep divisions between the black and Jewish communities. Their goal is to put the Jewish community in a position of being framed as antagonistic towards Black Lives Matter and other racial justice causes.

North American Jewish communities are dismayed by elements of this platform, specifically the co-opting and manipulation of a movement addressing concerns about racial disparities in criminal justice in the United States in order to advance a biased and false narrative about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. JFR cannot and will not align ourselves with organizations that falsely and maliciously assert that Israel is committing “genocide” and we denounce an agenda to wage economic and cultural warfare against Israelis and efforts to mobilize against state and local efforts that reject the “BDS” movement.

We reject participation in any coalition that seeks to isolate and demonize Israel.

As we dissociate ourselves from the Black Lives Matter platform and those BLM organizations that embrace it, we recommit ourselves unequivocally to the pursuit of justice for all Americans, and to working together with our friends and neighbors in the African-American community, whose experience of the criminal justice system is, far too often, determined by race.

We will not allow this profoundly disturbing development to deter us from values and principles we hold dear regarding the character of our nation and the pursuit of equality for all Americans. Fifty years ago the African-American and Jewish communities came together in a mutually beneficial alliance that energized the emerging civil rights movement and had a dramatic impact on the course of this country’s history. Historically we have had much in common; but now our community relations are strained. Jews are responding to anti-Semitism and anti-Israel sentiment, and African-Americans are, in many cases, simply trying to ensure safe and equitable access to education and advancement, and avoiding sometimes lethal expressions of racism. Together, we can deepen our understanding about the reality of the serious issues each community faces.

So while we must stand firm in fighting the anti-Semitic nature of the BLM platform and the BDS movement, we must remain committed to working to overcome the issues of inequality and racial injustice impacting black lives in America today and continue to work for equality for all people in all places. Our faith demands it, and our world requires it.

In working to exemplify Hillel’s second caveat “If I am only for myself, who am I?”, we are expanding the 2016-17 Reading Jewish Film Series to include films and discussions with:

- Centro Hispano and our Hispanic friends on Oct. 26 viewing “My First Wedding” for Hispanic Heritage Month
- The Central Pennsylvania African American Museum and our African-American friends viewing “Rosenwald” on Jan. 18; and
- The Islamic Center and our Muslim friends viewing “Women in Sink” and “In Search of Israeli Cuisine” on April 5.

Join us as your Jewish Federation of Reading works to advance our shared agenda of equality, justice, and respect for human dignity.

The time is now.
Thank you.

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Help us set a PACE for Federation’s future funding

By Richard Nassau
Development Director



I’ve created a PACE. Great, you say, Richard has now taken up running. While I’m glad to discuss my track skills with anyone, my PACE, just like running, is a way that can help me live a little longer. PACE — Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment.

I contribute to our annual community campaign. (If you haven’t made your 2016 campaign gift, please do so now.) At some point in the hopefully distant future, this contribution will stop shortly after I

do. So I decided to establish a PACE through my will. At that time my running won’t be the same or quite as good, but my PACE will allow me to “live a little longer” in our community.

Every year forever after I’m gone, my PACE will make a gift in my name to our annual community campaign. A PACE allows me to create a meaningful Jewish legacy. It is commitment I’ve made to my community. Like running, which has its benefits, my PACE helps ensure we will remain a strong and vibrant community into the future.

Establishing a PACE is easy. In your will you choose an amount or percentage to leave to the Jewish Federation of Reading for creation of a Perpetual Annual Campaign

Endowment in your name (Richard’s PACE.) Every year, income from your PACE will be distributed in your name to our community campaign. What a tremendous gift.

A PACE gift ensures we will have a continuous level of support. It provides a financial buffer against ever-changing economic cycles and unknown futures. A PACE gift is there at the very beginning of our campaign. It is a gift of security for the next generation and for the generations beyond.

Consider establishing a PACE. It is a Jewish legacy in our community that you literally put your name on. A visible commitment, seen by everyone, that reflects your everyday values. The values you pass on to

family through the traditions you keep, the responsibility you take in helping others, and the care you give.

Establishing a PACE, unlike running, is an act that improves the health of our entire community. It is an act of tzedakah — loving kindness and social justice. Your PACE allows you to continue to be there whenever help is needed — today, throughout your lifetime, and for generations to come.

A PACE runs forever. It keeps us healthy and connects us to the future. One way to live a little longer? Create a PACE.

For more information about PACE or other ways to create your own Jewish legacy, contact Federation 610-921-0624.

Message from the Chair

Board members speak of comprehensive vision as year begins

By Haia Mazuz
Federation Chair



A Federation board meeting in August? Whom were we kidding!

And yet on Aug. 18, 15 members of the board of Jewish Federation of Reading, and two staff members, attended the first board meeting of the season. This follows a few years during which board meetings were held bi-monthly and never begun before September. What a devoted group.

This year our campaign kicks off early (Sept. 25) in a novel and inclusive way. A renowned expert on Middle East Affairs, Dennis Ross, is speaking not once, not twice but three times. Our kickoff event will reach out to the entire community of Reading — from college students, to leaders of the Jewish community, to anyone else in the area who is interested in learning from this authority. I wanted very much to share this with the board. I was eager to enlist the board’s assistance in making this event a resounding success.

At some point I was invited to expound on my vision and goals for JFR while I

chair the board. I have to admit, I muttered a few things ineloquently and we went on to several other items of business. Issues were raised, discussed, votes noted.

Then we came around to talking about the role of the board and a workshop we will conduct in October (in lieu of the October board meeting) to allow our board members to strengthen their understanding of what it is we the board are tasked with.

We went around the table, each one expressing the importance to them of JFR and their role as members of the board. We heard a comprehensive vision from all who spoke. This is what members said:

- Federation should promote, and initiate communal activity and engagement in Jewish life.
- JFR should look for new ways to engage those Jews who haven’t found their niche in this community.
- The board needs to subscribe to its mission and ensure it is carried out.
- Some worry about the population decline in the Jewish Community. Others fear assimilation will shrink our ranks. What can we do to turn the tide and engage more local Jews.
- Several members feel that Federation should foster cohesiveness

and be more of a positive force in helping the various congregations come together.

• One individual reminded us all that to serve as a volunteer on a board is good for us as well as for the community we serve. We serve because we have a skill to contribute and we can make a positive impact.

• We should be sensitive to the needs and interests of young families and others moving to the area. Engage even more young families.

• JFR should reflect on what committees are needed and the board should be asked to serve on them.

• We should work hard to preserve the Lakin Preschool and to ensure the continuity of Keshet Zion congregation. The preschool has 16 Jewish children signed up out of a total of 45 in all.

• Board members should be more proactive and take a longer term approach to planning. There is concern about lessening donations both for local needs as well as for Israel. We have to stem the tide of such a decline and temper our spending habits while working to increase donations.

• The board members are ambassadors to the Jewish community as well as the larger community. We should always be ready to explain our mission, our goals, our vision .

• In a nutshell, as Bill Franklin (president of the JFR) summarized what he heard, while each individual may have different priorities, we all have the welfare and future of the Reading Jewish Community uppermost in our minds and hearts. We can all help in fundraising by playing different roles. It does not always have to mean asking for money. But we all realize that we do need money to achieve our goals.

We reach out to you, readers of the *Shalom!* The fact that you read, and respond to what you read, is proof that this community matters to you very much. Talk to us about what we are doing well! But also let us know where you feel we let you down or need to do more. We, the board of your Jewish Federation of Reading, promise to listen and act. Tell everyone you meet about JFR! Tell everyone you meet about this fabulous opportunity to hear, from the lips of Dennis Ross, well-informed and intelligent insight into the situation in the Middle East. Let’s make this kickoff event one for the records and use the momentum to work at re-energizing the Jewish Federation of Reading!

Please remember, while the talk is free, you should inform us know how many of you will attend the event. Speak with Brenda by calling 610-921-0624.

Yemin Orde program sparks curiosity in at-risk teens

The Gelfand Science Enrichment Program sparks curiosity and creates science opportunities for youth in Yemin Orde’s Village Way Educational Initiatives partner communities. Youth who participate in these programs would otherwise never have such enriching experiences.

The program is bringing interactive science workshops from some of Israel’s leading institutes to at-risk youth in partner educational communities and is providing opportunities for these youth to visit sites such as museums, laboratories, and greenhouses.

These science activities are fun and interesting, piquing the student’s interest in science and curiosity about the world. Topics include engineering, energy, electricity, insulation and conduction, matter and materials, astronomy, physics, magnetism, metal and robots.

“First of all, I loved the topic and the activity. I finally understand the subject for the first time, and learning through trial and error, experimentation and implementation is much more interesting and

challenging than the regular way of learning in class,” a student said.

In addition to providing science programming in partner educational communities, the Gelfand Enrichment Program offers similar opportunities for the Village Way’s young men’s and young women’s gap-year leadership programs for immigrant youth.

In Ethiopia, Mark Gelfand recently met with Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Yemin Orde graduate Tamrat Berhanu, and Ethiopia’s Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn to discuss science opportunities in Ethiopian schools. Gelfand believes science is the bridge for a better future. Activities take a hands-on approach to learning. Participants in the young women’s program, known as IsraElite, spent two intensive days at the renowned Weizmann Institute of Science. Village Way graduate communities continue to participate in the science enrichment program.

Yemin Orde is supported by local dollars through the Jewish Federation of Reading’s Israel Now campaign.

We really want to hear from you

We are initiating a letters section with two purposes. One, to get your input on what we are doing well, or where you see unmet needs and opportunities and the need to do more.

We also want to support a “machloket”, arguments or debates. An argument is defined as a reason or set of reasons given with the aim of reaching logical truths.

So please feel free to try to persuade our community by sending your letters, arguments and opinions to williamf@jfreeding.org or Haia - mazuzorchim@aol.com . Please limit you piece to 300 words.

We, the board of your Jewish Federation of Reading, promise to listen and act.

SHALOM

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Next deadline, Sept. 5

Meir Panim, local authorities find success working together

Located near Haifa, Israel's northern city of Or Akiva is known for its high unemployment, high crime rate, and low socioeconomic status. Residents' feelings towards of the police has not been traditionally friendly, but today, things are changing.

Meir Panim, Israel's premiere charity organization established to help alleviate and diminish the harmful effects of poverty, has a new success story – the creation of a collaborative relationship with Or Akiva's police force. Meir Panim's Or Akiva location manager Ilanit Hafuta has been working diligently to strengthen the positive image and relationships between local authorities and the community, particularly local youth. "Unfortunately, because of the dysfunction and challenges that many residents in Or Akiva live with, people do not view the police as a helpful entity," said Goldie Sternbuch, Director of Overseas Relations for Meir Panim. "The progress that has been made in this arena is crucial for the future welfare of the city and particularly for



its young people. This initiative fits right in with Meir Panim's multi-level efforts to find solutions to poverty in Israel."

Officer H. is in charge of Police Community Relations in Or Akiva. Seeking to improve the public's image of law enforcement, he sought help from Meir Panim.

"Ilanit Hafuta has a way with the people," he said. "They love her, respect her and do not want to disappoint her. She instills in them the belief that adults and people

of authority can be trusted. Until recently, I felt incapable of building a good community relationship because I wore a police uniform. In Or Akiva, a uniform is associated with someone coming to take your mom, dad, or you away from your home."

Recognizing the importance of building these relationships, Hafuta regularly invites Officer H. and his staff to Meir Panim activities. Officers join in Meir Panim food packaging and distribution activities, Purim carnivals, Chanukah parties and summer programs for kids.

Officer H. noted the impressive changes in Or Akiva over the past few months. He told of a situation in which both parents had to be removed from their home, requiring their two young children to be taken to the police station. The younger child needed diapers and milk. "I called Ilanit at 2 a.m. for help. She showed up with warm blankets, formula, diapers, wipes, food and a toy."

He explained, "I knew that Ilanit would be available at night, after working hours, when the Welfare Department office was

closed." The children have since been placed with relatives and Hafuta maintains contact with them to provide further support.

"Ilanit's presence soothes struggling families. She'll do anything to ease very difficult situations," continued Officer H. "Today, nobody is surprised when they see a uniformed officer with a computer or a case of hot food at their door. In fact, I have become somewhat of an 'idol' to many young kids. They even ask for my autograph."

The model used by Meir Panim and the Or Akiva police has caught the attention of law enforcement professionals in other cities. "Meir Panim is grateful for our outstanding Or Akiva staff, and especially for Ilanit Hafuta," Sternbuch said. "This collaboration venture will be used as a prototype for improving police-community relations in cities across Israel."

Meir Panim is supported by local dollars through the Jewish Federation of Reading's Israel Now campaign.

'Impressions' art exhibit now showing at the JCC

By Amanda J. Hornberger

This fall the JCC is pleased to host a collection of acrylic paintings on canvas entitled "Impressions" by Montgomery County artist Lois Schlachter.

Schlachter is a prolific painter, working primarily in acrylic. She considers herself an abstract expressionist. Her work is filled with bold, handsome colors and geometric shapes in space. Lois is a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and Philadelphia College of Art now the University of the Arts.

Formally and technically trained, Lois prefers to let her imagination direct her. With no preconceived plan, the paintings emerge. Color and line

will navigate the viewer's eye over the canvases as one fun spot after another is discovered.

Schlachter worked for the Recreational Division of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park, where she enjoyed 30 years interacting with hundreds of children and adults who were playing, learning and having fun. Many happy life experiences have endowed her with an endless supply of ideas, which are reflected in her paintings.

"Impressions" is on display at the JCC, and there will be an art opening on Thursday, Sept. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. Light refreshments will be served that evening.

Come out and enjoy this colorful show!

Book Club: 'Catch the Jew!'

By Amanda J. Hornberger

The JCC Israel Book Club will meet Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. This month the group will be reading "Catch the Jew" by Tuvia Tenenbom.

"Catch the Jew!" recounts the adventures of gonzo journalist Tuvia Tenenbom, who wanders around Israel and territory controlled by the Palestinian Authority for seven months in search of the untold truths in today's Holy Land.

With holychutzpah, Tenenbom boldly goes where no Jew has gone before, at times risking his life as he assumes the identities of Tobi the German and even Abu Ali in order to probe into the many stories in this strange land and poke holes in all of them.

From the self-hating leftists in Tel Aviv to the self-promoting PLO execs in Ramallah, from the black-clad Haredim of Bet Shemesh to the glowing foreign human rights activists in Beit Hanina, from Jewish settlers and the Christians who come from abroad to toil with them to ardent Jerusalem monks and Bedouins in surprisingly glorious shacks, Tenenbom takes on the people of the land, getting to know them and disarming them as he breaks bread and mingles with anyone and everyone.

For more information on the JCC Israel Book Club, please call the Federation office at 610-921-0624.

Please consider joining local delegation at General Assembly

By Richard Nassau

Please consider joining the Reading delegation at the premier North American Jewish communal event, the General Assembly. The 2016 General Assembly (GA) is being held in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 13-15. Sponsored by Jewish Federations of North America, the GA brings together for three extraordinary days dynamic speakers, thought-provoking sessions, networking opportunities, and Jewish leaders from around the globe.

The GA is an opportunity to voice your ideas and interact with other community leaders. You'll hear how innovative community programs are helping shape purposeful Jewish lives. How cultural and creative experiences continue to be important building blocks for the Jewish community. Plus, ways communities are creating new Jewish journeys, from the cerebral to the whimsical.

The GA always features a long list of notable speakers. Speakers come from all sectors, including news organizations,

entertainment, and politics. Among the many featured speakers this year are the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsberg, U.S. Supreme Court Justice; Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, 2016 Templeton Prize Laureate; and Sigal Samuel, Opinion Editor of *The Forward*.

The Jewish Federation of Reading is part of the network of Jewish Federations of North America, which represents 151 Jewish Federations and 300 smaller communities. Together, Jewish Federations raise and distribute close

to \$3 billion annually for social welfare, human services and educational needs. The Federation movement has forged a course that continues to impact millions of Jewish lives on every continent. Federations touch more Jewish lives than any organization in the world.

Please consider being part of the Reading delegation to the 2016 General Assembly. For more information about the program contact Federation 610-921-0624 or visit the GA's website, GeneralAssembly.org.

Apple picking fun for whole family at big September orchard event

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Each Rosh Hashanah families gather to eat apples dipped in honey to evoke a sweet new year. On Sept. 18 families are invited to a pre-holiday apple picking event at a local orchard!

PJ Library, PJ Library Our Way, RCOS Tot Shabbat and Lakin Preschool invite you to join us for apple picking at Ontelaunee Orchards. Kids through age 11 are invited for this fun event (kids will be separated by age group: 0-6 and 7-11).

On Sunday, Sept. 18 at 3 p.m. we'll meet at Ontelaunee Orchards (1460 West Leesport Road, Bern Township) for apple picking. The event will include a lesson on the orchard, nature walk to the field (please wear comfortable shoes), apple picking, Kosher cider sampling with a take home cup and PJ Library books

on Rosh Hashanah! The cost for all those activities will be \$5 per child.

Parents and grandparents are welcome too, and adults can pay separately by the pound for whatever apples they pick.

Join us for this fun community event! Please RSVP with payment to Brenda at brendas@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624 by Wednesday, Sept. 14. For additional information or any questions please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreeding.org

Every child in the Jewish community is encouraged to participate in all youth events. Need-based scholarship funding is available. Call Sari Incledon at Jewish Family Service if your child would benefit from confidential assistance ... 610-921-0624.

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Jewish community to benefit from late couple's generosity

The late Maxine and Richard Henry donated \$2.1 million to establish the Richard L. Henry Memorial Fund through the Berks County Community Foundation.

The fund will make annual distributions to the Jewish Federation of Reading along with Berks Women in Crisis, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Ronald McDonald House locations in Philadelphia and Hershey. Money from the fund also will address issues related to breast cancer and visual impairment among Berks County residents.

The donation from the Henrys, who were longtime generous members and supporters of the local Jewish community, was the largest the foundation received from an individual donor in the recently completed fiscal year.

The fund was established by the estate of Maxine Henry, who died at age 88 on Oct. 29, 2015, so that she and Richard, could continue to support causes that mattered to them. Richard Henry died, also at age 88, on Jan. 29, 2014.

Jill Henry, daughter of Maxine and



Maxine and Richard Henry

Richard, said she is thankful to have had great parents and wants to ensure that their name and values continue to be present in our Reading Jewish community.

She appreciated her growing up here in the Reading Jewish community and will continue to support it. To this end, she would like to see the Federation use the funds from her parents' recent endowment gift used to support the Friendship Circle seniors program and

efforts to increase and enhance the engagement of our Reading Jewish community.

Though her home is now north of San Francisco, she has an apartment here in Reading and will be returning frequently.

Jill said the fund was purposefully established in only her father's name.

"It's so typical of her," Jill said of her mother. "She revered him. They were a team, and I'm realizing that more and more, but she was 'old school.'"

Born in Philadelphia, the couple moved to Berks County and Richard became owner of Quality Roofing Supply Company, which was started by a friend of his on Morgantown Road in Reading.

"Dad was sensitive to how people could be much better off with just a little bit of help," Jill recalled. "They grew up with so little, so it means a lot to them to be able to give. They always wanted their donations to stay in the community."

The couple supported specific causes for personal reasons.

"Maxine Henry was a noble warrior

who fought metastatic breast cancer for, I believe, 35 years or more during which she was a warm and dedicated friend to a small army of people," said Dr. Gerald Marks, a boyhood friend of Richard's and now a professor of surgery at Lankenau Medical Center, Wynnewood, and chairman of the Marks Colorectal Surgical Foundation.

Richard Henry was also a significant contributor to the professorial chair that was created in Marks' name at Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Medical College (now called Sidney Kimmel Medical College).

When Maxine decided it was time to structure her charitable giving, she and met with Franki Aitken, senior vice president for finance and operations at the Community Foundation, and William Morgan of Buckingham Asset Management, the couple's financial adviser.

Less than a week after the paperwork was completed, Maxine passed away.

"It's taught me something: Don't delay these kinds of things," Morgan said.

Tech Tuesdays continue at the JCC

By Amanda J. Hornberger

Tech Tuesdays continue in September with classes taught by millennials who are experts on how to use the latest technologies. The classes are open to ALL ages and skill levels.

Classes will be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of September. After a break for the holidays in October a new set of classes and topics will run in November and December.

Each class we will cover a different technology with hands-on experiences and handouts with instructions to take home. The classes will be an hour long and there will be plenty of time for questions and answers! If you have your own device please feel free to bring it, but the class is also open to anyone who does not have the technology and would like to learn. You can attend just one class or the entire series.

The JCC is offering the classes for

free, but we are requiring RSVPs so we can prepare materials ahead of time. Please RSVP to Brenda at brendas@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624 by the day before the class. Please specify if you are attending the entire series or just one class. A list of classes and topics are below.

Sept. 13 at 3 p.m.—Email

Sept. 27 at 3 p.m. — Accessing e-books from the Reading Public Library (Please bring your library card with you to this class!)

Questions? Please contact Amanda at amandah@jfreeding.org or 610-921-0624.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Special thanks to Abby Goldberg and Tristan Haas for volunteering to teach our first three classes and Jennifer Bressler from the Reading Public Library for teaching the e-book class.



Tristan Haas teaches a Tech Tuesday class.

PJ fun at Wyomissing library

The Jewish Federation of Reading sponsored a PJ Library story time and craft activity Aug. 3 at the Wyomissing Library



Good News Israel: Spotlight



Keep an eye on these 12 aging-tech Israeli startups

Israel21c.com

Some of the most promising products were displayed at the recent Israel Aging 2.0 startup contest during the Conference for Technologies for Aging Well at Bar-Ilan University.

"We see the entry of more and more high-quality Israeli ventures in this field, and more interest from the investor community," says Dov Sugarman, the Israel representative for Aging 2.0, a global platform to accelerate innovation to improve the quality of life of the aging population.

"Our main goal is to foster dialogue between developers of technology and those who will use it," says Yael Benvenisti, chairwoman of the society and the conference.

Sugarman noted that monitoring, sensing and tracking technologies —

delivered via apps, smart TVs and robots, for example — is becoming critical in extending the independence of people in declining mental and physical health.

Here are 12 of many Israeli startups in the aging-tech sector:

1. **MyndYou.** Mobile platform helps people with early-stage cognitive deterioration maintain independence. It will monitor cognitive, physiological and behavioral parameters and alert family members to changes.

2. **Vitalitix.** This platform provides three-way communication between seniors, caregivers and community "social angels" as well as volunteers from existing networks. The senior can access the app through any wearable device or smartphone.

3. **Pharmpool.** Developing a mobile app that evaluates the safety of a particular drug therapy regimen for a specific patient

and has features to increase medication adherence and management.

4. **Steps&.** This firm has created a virtual smartphone assistant that guides and encourages physical therapy patients through home exercises.

5. **Kytera.** Working on a smart wristband and motion-sensor technology to monitor seniors who are aging at home. It automatically detects and alerts to "stress situations" that vary from a person's usual activity patterns.

6. **AbiliSense.** Developing apps that continuously listen to the world around the user, analyze the sounds and transform them into alerts — delivered to smartphones, wearables and other devices.

7. **HelpAround.** Allows organizations to match patients with appropriate resources to improve access to care.

8. **Mybitat.** Partnered with Samsung

to develop a suite of smart-home solutions aimed at helping the elderly remain at home longer with better quality of life.

9. **Perlis.** Developing an artificial intelligence and robotic system to identify early symptoms of diseases commonly affecting the elderly at home.

10. **E2C.** Offers a Basic Smartphone and a Basic Tablet to help seniors easily access the latest communication technologies with large print, one-button navigation and other streamlined processes.

11. **PowerTags.** Tags provide location-based tracking capabilities for institutional caregivers of the elderly, among other applications.

12. **LungTek.** Introduced a digital respiratory training device designed to increase lung strength and stamina; reduce coughing and flu risk; clear mucus; and enhance overall wellness.

10 Israeli technologies to watch

BridgesForPeace.com

Israel has been dubbed the "Startup Nation" — the country with the highest number of startups per capita in the world. Over the past decades, thousands of Israeli startups have given rise to innovations in a range of fields, from agricultural irrigation and GPS navigation to life-saving cancer treatments.

An exhibition of outstanding Israeli discoveries opened recently at Ben Gurion Airport. A large part of the exhibition is devoted to Israeli Nobel Prize winners; another part showcases Israeli inventions such as the flash drive, Teva's Copaxone drug for multiple sclerosis, the PillCam disposable capsule that films the gastrointestinal tract, a robot that helps with back pain, and Intel chips that were developed in Israel. But which Israeli startups and technologies are truly changing the world? We highlight 10 innovations that have impacted the world for the better or are in the process of changing our lives forever.

IceCure: Cryoablation technology uses below-freezing temperatures and liquid nitrogen to essentially freeze a tumor in place. This alternative to surgery takes just 15 minutes and requires only a bit of local anesthetic. Watch out cancer — it's about to get cold.

ReWalk: For people with spinal cord injuries, standing and walking freely remain the stuff of dreams. Now, using a revolutionary exoskeleton walking device ReWalk, which was recently approved for use in the U.S., wheelchair-bound individuals are able to move freely.

Mobileye: Making driving safer and potentially saving lives, this is one of the major developers of autonomous car technologies. Its systems use video cameras and advanced algorithms to identify and respond to other vehicles, bends in the road, pedestrians and traffic signs, providing advanced warning for drivers and thereby preventing road accidents. Mobileye has already embedded its technology into cars made by Audi, Tesla Motors and others.

Waze: Launched in 2008 in Israel, and now owned by Google, this navigation app uses a complex algorithm and the real-time speeds of its users to determine the best driving routes. Waze's strength is its crowd-sourced reports, giving it the advantage of using both human and machine knowledge.

SniffPhone: Last year, Prof. Hossam Haick of the Technion-Israel Institute

of Technology introduced a device that can sense disease on the breath, much like a breathalyzer test. What he calls the SniffPhone uses nanotechnology sensors to analyze the particles on the breath and is able to pinpoint exact diseases, including certain kinds of cancer. The SniffPhone, Haick's new mobile device, contains his previously-developed 'NaNose' breathalyzer test, which "sniffs out" lung cancer before it spreads.

Netafim: This company is synonymous with the famous Israeli invention of drip irrigation, which helps countries around the world to conserve water and save money. Today, Netafim is the world's leading manufacturer of drip irrigation systems.


Solaris Synergy: As solar energy companies around the world are competing for the relatively few vast land areas required to house solar farms, Israeli startup Solaris Synergy has found a new terrain to use. Instead of a land-based solar system, the company decided to develop a water-based technology. In other words: A floating solar power plant.

Takadu: Since water is not just for irrigation, Israeli startup TaKaDu is working on solutions to leaking pipes. The company provides a water network monitoring system service that gives water utility companies the capability to monitor their network, detect leaks, bursts, inefficiencies and problems with their equipment or operational issues — all in real-time.

WoundClot bandages: These stop severe bleeding within minutes. WoundClot is composed of a highly absorbent gauze made from regenerated cellulose (what plant cell walls are made of). When applied to a wound, this single-use, sterile bandage turns into a gel-state membrane, forming a stable membrane with the platelets (clotting blood cells) from the wound. By enhancing the natural process of coagulation, WoundClot stops hemorrhaging within minutes and lasts up for up to 24 hours.

BioBee: The big buzz around Israel's Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu, a pioneer in organic agriculture, is that it has successfully left its mark on chemical-free farming with its very own company BioBee. The firm specializes in breeding beneficial insects and mites to help propel agricultural growth in open fields and greenhouses.

Dinner and A Movie



Thursday, September 29 4:30pm

Join us at Manor for a **delicious dinner**, then receive **complimentary tickets** to the movie of your choice at the R/C Reading Movies 11, located on N. 2nd Street (near Goggleworks).

RSVP your meal choice of crab cakes or beef tips with a portabella mushroom glaze by calling 610-616-5112 by Sept. 26.

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Israel Book Club's summer reading: 'Trouble in the Tribe'

Dov Waxman, professor of Political Science at Northeastern University, begins "Trouble in the Tribe" describing a speech by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the annual gathering of the Jewish Federations of North America. Suddenly, a young girl started shouting to protest a bill being considered in the Knesset and was escorted out by security. Netanyahu continued and a second protester started shouting, "The occupation delegitimizes Israel" and also was escorted out. A third protester stood, shouted a different slogan,

and was escorted out. Waxman writes that "this is a dramatic manifestation of a wider conflict that is raging within the American Jewish community."

Waxman describes, from his perspective, the fracturing of the Jewish community along fault lines of age, religious observance and political leanings of the left and right. These divisions are causing bitter arguments within communities, within families and among life-long friends. Waxman's goal in writing this book is to convince those who continue to strongly

support Israel that the emerging Jewish critics of Israel have a sound moral basis for their position so the Jewish community as a whole uses its political power to support President Obama's efforts to pressure Israel on concessions.

Waxman gives an accurate description of the liberal American Jewish community's perspective. However, our discussion of the book showed several flaws in his argument. First, the author says that the protesters were dragged out of the conference when an easily available online video shows them being simply walked out by security.

Waxman denigrates the attendees of the gathering as "a Netanyahu-adoring audience and a violent and frenzied mob"; however, the video also shows that not to be the case. Waxman fails to mention that the protesters, were members of the Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), a radical-left group that openly calls for the destruction of the Jewish state of Israel and praises Palestinian terrorism.

The author cites the opinions of Professor Judith Butler, Rashid Khalidi and Norman Finkelstein as legitimate positions. These intellectuals and academics have started massive campaigns of delegitimization, demonization, and dehumanization of Israel and Israelis. Waxman is as unwavering, unquestioning and uncritical of these individuals as he feels Israeli supporters are of Israel.

The author argues that the American-Jewish relationship with Israel changed from admiration to bitter division due to Israel's right shift in 1967. He writes that the right wing change in Israel disappointed, disturbed and angered many secular, liberal American Jews and that the new Israel is more right wing, more religious, more intolerant, more unequal and more aggressive than the Israel that American Jews had fallen in love with. But it is also the case that young American Jews lack

the firsthand experience of the Jews' tragic history and Israel's difficult challenges, resulting in their not sharing previous generations' sense of communal solidarity amidst disagreements. Anti-Israeli activists understand all of this and exploit it for political purposes.

To repeat, Waxman wrote this book to finally break the Israel-Palestinian deadlock by allowing "Obama to pressure Israel to make peace." He ignores the fact that the Palestinians have rejected four offers — in 2000 at Camp David; in 2001 by rejecting the Clinton Parameters; in 2008 by walking away from Ehud Olmert's offer; and after Israel's withdrawal from Gaza. Evidence shows that what the Palestinians want is not the creation of a Palestinian state, but the destruction of the Jewish one. There are fundamental flaws in the process, one of which is that the Arabs are not required to first make their own peace with the existence of a Jewish state.

The most painful truism in Professor Waxman's book is the bitter divisions allegedly revolving around support or distance from the state of Israel. It is not new in our history that Jews in Europe (Benjamin Disraeli, Karl Marx, Heinrich Heine) and in Russia (Levitan, Pasternak) and even in the United States distanced themselves from Jewish life on the basis of moral grounds. However, what Waxman fails to understand and fails to articulate is that there are large moral positions on both sides. Israel's necessary moral stance is that it refuses to risk the safety and freedom of any of its citizens on abstract principles of human rights that are imposed by countries who are currently not at risk and which could result in the destruction of the Jewish state.

All of the above contributed to a lively discussion of the book.

— *Moisey Schneider & Andi Franklin*

About 45,000 Holocaust survivors living in poverty in Israel, study says

About 45,000 Holocaust survivors in Israel live in poverty, a recent study revealed. The Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel study further revealed that 190,000 survivors live in Israel in 2016; 2/3 are women.

About 13,000 survivors die every year, according to the report; the average age of a Holocaust survivor is now 80. 13 percent of survivors are over 90, and very few live to their hundreds. The youngest survivor is 72, and was in the womb while his mother was in a concentration camp.

The study found that 50 percent of survivors feel lonely; 60 percent are concerned over their financial situation; and 43 percent are concerned that the

Holocaust will happen again. In addition, at least 50 percent of survivors suffer from poor health, and at least two-thirds are suffering from mental health issues.

"We expect the government to design a comprehensive plan for the welfare of the survivors, to include references to the needs which will arise in the coming years, particularly with regard to health," former Labor MK Colette Avital, who chairs the Center, stated to Walla! News.

Avital also demanded an increase in allowances for survivors, stating that government benefits do not cover the cost of living. Moreover, a *Haaretz* report this year revealed that thousands of survivors have never received those benefits at all.

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Speakers will present in the Social Hall during the oneg for about 45 minutes. The Speaker Series is for adults only. Babysitting is available for free for children ages 2-8 and tweens ages 9-13 with a reservation by calling the office the Friday before the event, 610 375-6034.

Appreciation is extended to Sisterhood for supporting the Speaker Series onegs.

PROGRAM #1:
FRI., OCTOBER 28, 2016

*Examine the Ethics,
Essence, & Entertainment
of the Election*

featuring Alvernia University's Jodi Radosh, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Communications & Victoria Williams, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science.

PROGRAM #2:
FRI., JANUARY 27, 2017

*We Finally Have A New
President...Now What?*

featuring Bernard Whitman. Bernard is a brand & political strategist with over 25 years experience advising some of the world's most powerful leaders, companies, and organizations. He is a frequent television commentator with more than 500 media appearances on networks including CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, ABC, CNBC, and Fox Business. Bernard is the brother of student Cantor Harriet Dunkerley.



*Kesher Zion
High Holidays
Tishrei 5777
with
Rabbi Matthew Abelson*

Selichot

Saturday, September 24, 2016
Selichot Service 8:00 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, October 2, 2016
Evening Service 6:15 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, October 3, 2016
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Kiddush Luncheon following services

Tashlich 5:30 p.m.
at Reading Public Museum
Mincha to follow

Tuesday, October 4, 2016
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Israeli Kiddush Luncheon to follow services

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, October 8, 2016
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

Kever Avot

Sunday, October 9, 2016
(At the Kesher Zion Cemetery)
Memorial Service: 10:30 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 11, 2016
Mincha 6:15 p.m.
Kol Nidre 6:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, October 12, 2016
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Yizkor 10:30 a.m.
Congregation Study with Rabbi Matthew Abelson 4:30 p.m.
Mincha 5:30 p.m.
Neilah 6:30 p.m.
Maariv & Havdalah to follow
Shofar 7:30 p.m.
Communal Break the Fast to follow

Sukkot

Monday, October 17, 2016
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah 12:00 noon
Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah 12:00 noon
Friday, October 21, 2016
Evening Service 6:15 p.m.
Dinner in the Sukkah 7:00 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret

Monday, October 24, 2016
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Recited

Simchat Torah

Monday, October 24, 2016
Maariv and Hakafot 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 25, 2016
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Kiddush following services

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Facial recognition technology may help protect Jewish institutions

JNS.org

At around 1 p.m. on a cloudy day in April 2014, Frazier Glenn Miller Jr., 74, pulled into the rear parking lot of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and opened fire. Shouting anti-Semitic slurs, he shot dead Dr. William Lewis Corporon, 69, and his grandson, Reat Griffin Underwood, 14, before fleeing for the nearby Jewish geriatric center, Village Shalom. There, he murdered 53-year-old Terri LaManno.

Miller said after his arrest that he conducted reconnaissance missions of the JCC and Village Shalom in the days before the shootings. But what might have happened if the security protocols at those sites were more advanced?

A new technology endorsed by the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America (JCCA) could play a key role in preventing future attacks. This year JCCA announced FST Biometrics, an Israeli developer of In Motion Identification (IMID) technology for biometric identification, as its preferred identity management vendor.

Brian Soileau, JCCA's manager of corporate partnerships, told JNS.org that JCCA did not investigate dozens of vendors before choosing FST, and as such he cannot say if it is the only or best solution. But he immediately found favor in the IMID solution, which uses biometric identification technology — including facial recognition and body behavior analytics — to allow JCC staffers and members to move freely into and through facilities, while restricting access to unauthorized visitors.

"JCC managers are challenged with finding the right balance to create safe spaces for fun, sport, and education, while also ensuring that their facilities are functioning optimally and creating a welcoming environment," said Arie Melamed, chief marketing officer of FST Biometrics, founded in 2007 by Israel Defense Forces Maj.-Gen. Aharon Ze'evi Farkash, the former head of Israel's Military Intelligence Directorate.

"Farkash would visit the Erez checkpoint [from Gaza into Israel] and he saw that Palestinians were standing in the cue to enter Israel for four, five, or even six

hours," explained Melamed. "The reason was security. The military was trying to make sure that no one passing through the checkpoint was a terrorist or on a watch list."

The more Farkash watched the process, the more he realized that there must be a technology available that would ensure security and improve efficiency.

"He thought, 'If someone is not a terrorist, he will not like us very much,'" said Melamed.

When Farkash searched for such a technology, he realized there was no solution that could solve the challenge. Any single technology on its own was either invasive, uncomfortable, or inaccurate, but Farkash realized that "a fusion of technologies can bring us the results we need," according to Melamed.

IMID utilizes a combination of facial recognition and body behavior, ties it to a database of information, and has the ability to simultaneously incorporate voice recognition by request.

"It works like our brains," said Melamed, noting that when you see someone you know from a distance, you recognize them by gait or body behavior. As they get closer, you see the face and verify if it is the person you believed it was. If there isn't enough light, you listen to the person's voice.

The results: 99.9997 percent accuracy, or the possibility that only three out of 10,000 people trying to gain false entry into a facility will succeed. Enrollment in the system takes 10 seconds.

FST has put on security webinars for JCCs across the U.S. and is in active talks with a handful of institutions. The technology is being leveraged at Bais Yaakov School for Girls in West Hollywood, Calif., and at several locations in New York, Israel, Australia, the Netherlands, and elsewhere in Europe, among other places. Though he said he could not name the specific institutions using FST (beyond the aforementioned Bais Yaakov school), Melamed said the technology is making life easier for these companies and organizations by eliminating key fobs and access cards. Secure entry at these sites is now faster because information on incoming visitors is processed while they are in motion. The process is also less intrusive and more

hygienic than fingerprinting technology.

Kyle Shideler, director of the Threat Information Office at the Center for Security Policy, a Washington-based national security think tank, said facial recognition technologies such as the one provided by FST are an attractive option for security services in Western nations, where the prevention of terrorism is becoming a higher priority. This is especially true in Western Europe and Eastern Europe, he noted, where there has been a rise in anti-Semitism, hate crimes and terror.

According to Shideler, a German intelligence report in July 2015 indicated that there were a minimum of 950 Hezbollah and 300 Hamas activists operating in Germany, and that "these individuals have participated in inciting anti-Semitic protests and other incidents."

Shideler said Jewish institutions want to become "as hard a target as possible" by installing a visible security presence, and that new technologies could play a key role in achieving that objective. He said terrorist organizations — much like Frazier Glenn Miller, the lone-wolf shooter — engage in a high degree of reconnaissance before conducting an attack.

"The best opportunity to prevent a terror attack is finding that threat during the reconnaissance phase," Shideler said. "If

you can determine who is observing you, who is coming by that shouldn't be there, and turn the police on them, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

This is the philosophy of Adam Cohen, a volunteer facility manager for Bais Yaakov in West Hollywood. A few years after Buford O'Neal Furrow Jr. walked into the North Valley Jewish Community Center in Granada Hills — 20 miles from Bais Yaakov — opened fire and wounded a receptionist, camp counselor, and three boys in 1999, Cohen decided to help Bais Yaakov improve security. All four of his daughters have attended the school, and one is still a student there.

Cohen started with traditional technologies — a video camera and a keypad. Then, in 2009, he helped enlist Bais Yaakov, which at the time already used fingerprint entry software, to be a test site for FST Biometrics. He helped secure a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to help fund the installment. Today, Bais Yaakov is considered one of the most secure schools in the nation.

"It's not an inexpensive technology," said Cohen. "But you want to make your facility as secure as possible, so that if someone is looking for a target, they aren't going to come after you."

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LOCAL CONGREGATIONS AND SERVICE TIMES

REFORM CONGREGATION OHEB SHOLOM (610) 375-6034
Friday, Sept. 2: 6 p.m. Fridays, Sept. 9, 16, 23 and 30, 7:45 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 10: Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 17: Harry Weiss Bar Mitzvah, 10 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 24: Melanie Wartluft Bat Mitzvah, 10 a.m.
Saturday, Sept. 24: Selichot service and dessert, 10 p.m.
CHABAD CENTER OF BERKS COUNTY (610) 921-0881
Saturday mornings: 9:30 a.m.; Friday evenings: 6:30 p.m.
KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE (610) 374-1763
Weekly services Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Friday Evening Service – Please call for service information
CONGREGATION SHOMREI HABRITH

September ☆ Av - Elul



Shabbat Candle Lightings

September 2

7:14 p.m.

September 9

7:03 p.m.

September 16

6:51 p.m.

September 23

6:34 p.m.

September 30

6:28 p.m.



Torah Portions

September 3/Av 30

Re'eh (Deuteronomy 11:26 – 16:17)

September 10/Elul 7

Shoftim (Deuteronomy 16:18 – 21:9)

September 17/Elul 14

Ki Teitzei (Deuteronomy 21:10 – 25:19)

September 24/Elul 21

Ki Tavo (Deuteronomy 26:1 – 29:8)

October 1/Elul 28

Nitzavim (Deuteronomy 29:9 – 30:20)


Introduce your child
to the joy of Shabbat!

Tot Shabbat

is a musical, story-filled, interactive hour for
children through grade 2. Bring your family
& friends to celebrate with Rabbi Michelson
and stay for a pint-sized oneg of juice, challah,
fruit, and child-friendly treats.

Join us
next time!
Sept. 10th
at 10 am

Members and non-members are
invited. No registration is required.
Tot Shabbat services are held
Saturday mornings at 10:00 am at
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom,
555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing
unless noted. Please call the
Temple office with any questions,
610.375.6034.



Upcoming Dates:
October 22 at 5:00 pm - Pizza in the Hut: Tot Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah
November 19 • December 17 • January 21 • February 11
March 25 at 10:00 am - Intergenerational Tot Shabbat at The Highlands
April 22 & May 13

Reading JCHS opening for the new school year

By Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner

Reading JCHS Director

The Reading Jewish Community High School is a program for learning and Jewish experiences and socializing opportunities for Jewish students in the Greater Reading community in the 8th through 12th grades. No affiliation with a community organization or agency is required, and students are accepted without regard to previous Jewish educational experiences or Bar/Bat Mitzvah. JCHS meets Sundays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the JCC.

Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner is returning for his sixth year coordinating and directing our JCHS program as well as teaching classes. In addition, we are delighted to announce that Shira Simon is returning for her second year as faculty, bringing her double-MA in Education and Jewish Studies to benefit our students.

For information and questions about classes and course descriptions, please contact Rabbi Dov Lerner at bdlerner1@gmail.com. For details about JCHS registration contact Amanda J. Hornberger, Program Director for the JCC at amandah@jfreading.org or 610-921-0624.

Registration forms and course choice sheets are available online at readingjewishcommunity.org/community/jewish-community-high-school. The annual calendar is online as well.

Interested students may visit the JCHS program for an evening to experience the classes, meet the teachers and our student body and try out our snack and social opportunities. We especially welcome the members of BBYO, NFTY and veterans of Jewish camps.

Field trip

The first quarter will feature an Oct. 9 field trip to the National Museum of American Jewish History (NMAJH). Our teachers are collaborating with the NMAJH educational staff expertise for several unique learning experiences. We will also offer parents and families of the

community to join in this visit – details on cost for limited bus seating will be available through the JCHS students, community flyers, our synagogues and at the JCC. First-come, first-served, of course with a reservation to the JCC office and Amanda Hornberger, or amandah@jfreading.org, 610-921-0624.

Local rabbis play key role

Rabbis Matt Abelson, Brian Michelson and Yosef Lipsker have volunteered to teach a class for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters. The course title and description of each course syllabus will be announced for each quarter when classes are chosen by the students.

We also are initiating “The Rabbinic Forum.” These events will give local rabbis an opportunity to address a topic of their choosing. We plan on a JCHS student moderator for each session.

We believe this will be a wonderful, new connection this year for learning a range of Jewish perspectives. Some views on these topics will be the same and perhaps some slightly different, which we anticipate will encourage a lively discussion.

Opening event

This year’s JCHS opened Aug. 28, and a special presentation on the issue of anti-Semitism in school. This program was a response to student and parent comments about anti-Semitic comments from children and teachers. As many know, there are also reports of the growing BDS movement on many college campuses, soon to be our students’ next home.

Our program was an interactive workshop session open to students in grades eight to 12 and their parents. The workshop was led by Lindsay Shafer, a skilled facilitator from the Anti-Defamation League.

Participants had an occasion to explore personal reactions and responses to anti-Semitic incidents; to develop a heightened awareness of the relationship between Jewish identity and responding to anti-Semitism; and to acquire skills in developing effective strategies for taking

synagogues, programs that benefit kids and the elderly are the first to be cut in times of financial crisis.

Another likeness between seniors and teenagers is that we are usually not the main sources of income in our households: The law requires teens to attend school, while seniors often have money saved up for retirement. I believe that not having to make ends meet prevents people from taking teens and the elderly seriously: the members in those groups are not seen as able individuals who can be treated like “adults.” Next, at least within the scope of my Better Together class, a similarity between the young and the old is that there was general agreement between the two groups that being a senior citizen is easier than being a teenager. What was fascinating was that the challenges of being a teenager, such as a stressful uncertainty of the future and an increased workload, outweighed the drawbacks of being old, such as reduced mental and physical capacities. Finding so many commonalities that I share with the elderly has taught me to respect and appreciate them more.

Second, because of the Better Together program, I saw being “old” through a new lens. Before participating in Better Together, I had seen old age as an undesirable state in which there was a constant yearning for youthfulness. However, after spending time with several seniors in the Better Together program, I learned that the experience of being old is really up to the person



Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner leads teens and seniors in study at JCHS.

action against anti-Semitism.

Course offerings

Reel Jews: Which portrayals of Jews in films were accurate and which encouraged stereotypes? Have films created a constructive image to the Jews viewing them?

Jewish Foods: This course will involve both the cultures in which Jews lived and how they adapted local foods and taste preferences. We will prepare tastes of different cultures in our kitchenette.

Hebrew Boot Camp: This will facilitate reading fluency for students who had no previous Hebrew reading instruction or those who wish to renew their skills.

Current Events: What impact do Judaism and Jewish values have upon events and decisions?

Can Jewish Prayer Affect Our Ethical Decisions?: What is the source of the Siddur? How did worship and prayer evolve from biblical times to today. What do you expect from prayer?

All About Us: How individual Jews and the Jewish community played a significant role in the creation, maintaining and building for the future in this country and the story of the world community.

In the second quarter, Rabbi Brian Michelson will teach “Sex in the Texts Judaism”: Discover what does Judaism teach about sex and interpersonal

relationships. We will examine and discuss topics such as sexuality, love, dating, marriage, adultery, and abortion.

JCHS First Quarter Calendar

Classes meet at 5:30 p.m. at the JCC unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 11: Better Together & Rabbinic Forum.

Sept. 18: Class

Sept. 25: Students invited to Dennis Ross lecture at 3 p.m. at Albright College or 7:30 p.m. at DoubleTree hotel in Reading. No class at JCC.

Oct. 9: Better Together Field trip to Philadelphia

Oct. 30: Class

Nov. 13: Better Together & Rabbinic Forum

Better Together returns

We are delighted to announce that our grant for Better Together, the inter-generational learning experience, was renewed for a second year.

Our approach has been slightly reconfigured to support additional choices for the students and encourage participation in the courses being offered by our Reading rabbis.

Last year we participated in an essay writing competition. For our branch, Evan Cardinal’s essay was awarded first prize and a “gold medal.” A “silver medal” was awarded to our eight additional participants in the contest.

Taking part in Better Together an eye-opening time for student

We will be sharing some of the essays entered into last year’s Better Together essay contest to show our pride in the quality of our students’ work.

By Matthew Driben

When I first heard that our Hebrew High School was incorporating the Better Together as an optional program into its program of studies, I thought that I would be giving up my time for a program that would simply help some senior citizens feel less lonely on Sunday afternoons.

I could not have been more wrong; I actually believe that I have benefited at least as much as the elderly men and women with whom I have learned. Although we focused on Jewish stories and ideas, the most significant take-away from the Better Together program for me was more about human relationships and character than the texts we read. From studying Judaism with seniors in the Better Together program, I learned that people my age have much more in common with senior citizens than I could have ever imagined, I gained a new outlook on what it means to be “old,” and I realized that every person has the ability to shape the future.

First, through studying Jewish texts with senior citizens, I discovered that I could relate to the elderly in a myriad of ways. For example, teens and seniors are valued differently than people who are in their prime or middle age. Studying this phenomenon in class, I was intrigued by how people are more willing to come to the aid of needy children and seniors, but in establishments such as

living it. For example, according to Erik Erikson’s stages of psychosocial development, seniors are left with the choice of maintaining their integrity or succumbing to despair.

Interacting with elders of varying levels of vitality in the Better Together program taught me that Erikson’s theory holds true. Fortunately, many of the seniors who were active enough to participate in Better Together in the first place had decided to enjoy their lives even though many of their finest years had already come and gone. One of my partners joked he was still a 29-year-old trapped in an old man’s body; another senior reflected fondly on his life by telling me entertaining stories of his youth. My partners may not have known it, but the examples they set reinforced the values of taking an active role in my community and finding fulfillment in life. When I grow old, I want to be able to look back and be proud of the life I have led.

Third, I learned that everybody has the power to change the world for future generations. Two contrasting Jewish examples I studied with the senior citizens were Jephthah and Honi the Circle Maker. Jephthah carelessly promised to God that he would kill the first thing he saw in front of his house, but the unanticipated result was that he had to kill his own daughter. On the contrary, Honi planted carob trees just for the benefit of his posterity, even though he was cognizant that he would not live long enough to enjoy the fruits of the carob trees.

Reading the stories, I realized that

one generation’s actions can have momentous implications for future generations. This revelation provoked me to ask, “What impact will I have on the future of the Jewish people?” The answer is that it is my choice to be like Honi and pass on Jewish traditions and values, or to be like Jephthah and throw the future away. Similarly, I learned that intergenerational experiences can shape the future. If those in the eldest generations do not care for the youngest generations, the world will overflow with ignorance and insensitivity, and the dregs of history are doomed to repeat themselves. On the flip side, positive intergenerational experiences can result in a more peaceful world with far fewer issues. I can only hope that my generation, which is currently struggling to maintain its Jewish identity, can embrace l’dor vador and have a positive impact on the future of Judaism.

The Better Together program has left me a more enlightened individual and has taught me to cherish my elders. One notable discovery was how much I shared in common with the people five times my age. Next, I learned that, instead of being an unpleasant experience, how one faces the challenge of being old depends on the choices of each person. Lastly, the Better Together program taught me that a single generation can have an enormous impact on the future.

My only complaint with the Better Together program is that more Jewish teens do not have the opportunity take part in such a worthwhile cause.

Jewish Federations of North America lay out Israel policy agenda

Jewish Federations of North America is dedicated to ensuring that all of Israel’s citizens have equal access to educational and economic opportunity. We provide a safety net for the most vulnerable, we advocate for those in distress, and we support initiatives that encourage religious diversity. Federation has helped millions of immigrants move to Israel and start new lives. Federation funds organizations that work, often in partnership with the government of Israel, to provide the most cutting-edge social services to the Israeli people, especially in Israel’s periphery.

Federations work tirelessly to deepen connections between the Jewish State and the global Jewish community. That global connection is fostered by immersive experiences for young Jews and programming that brings to Israel to life in communities throughout North America.

And when Israel is threatened, we mobilize our networks at home and overseas to come immediately to her aid.

Federations do all this with our



partners the Jewish Agency for Israel, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and World ORT.

JFNA’s Israel Policy Priorities for engaging Israeli policymakers in 2016 include the following issues:

- Strengthening the Relationship between Israel and the North American Jewish Community

The relationships built between Federations and Israeli leaders position JFNA leadership to engage with the Israeli government and other institutions on matters of importance to the North American Jewish community. These relationships enable Federations to fulfill their commitment to bolster broad, apolitical and multigenerational support and understanding between Israel and the North American Jewish community. They allow the

Jewish community to remain united and discuss matters constructively, particularly in times of crisis and tension.

Federations provide educational opportunities for Israeli leaders to understand the nature, work, institutions, developments and important trends within the North American Jewish community. These opportunities include bringing delegations of Israeli leaders, including Knesset Members and journalists, to visit Federation communities.

- Providing Transformative Israel Experiences for Young Adults

Federations are a primary supporter of immersive Israel experience programs that build Jewish identity and foster deep and lasting connections with Israel. Federations work in partnership with

the Jewish Agency for Israel to ensure the government of Israel maintains its support for Birthright, MASA, and Onward Israel programs. These programs have brought more than 400,000 young Jews to Israel.

- Countering the Delegitimization of Israel

Federations counter delegitimization of Israel around the world. The Israel Action Network {IAN}, a project of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, works with Jewish communities to expand the network of allies on campus, in churches, labor unions, and other sectors where anti-Israel activity takes place.

- Promoting Religious Pluralism and Equality of Religious Expression

Federations support grassroots efforts to promote freedom of religious choice and expression in Israel. Federations work with Israeli leaders to increase awareness about the ways in which specific matters of legislation and policy impact Jewish identity worldwide and specifically within the North American Jewish community. Federations are in active dialogue with high-level Israeli leaders about the January 2016 Kotel arrangement, recognizing religious conversion, and freedom of choice in marriage.

- Delivering Rapid and Effective Israel Emergency Relief

Federations maintain relationships with the National Emergency Authority and Israeli municipalities and partner agencies to ensure the Federation system is able to respond to a crisis in Israel in the most efficient, timely, and effective manner. Federations have provided more than \$450 million in emergency assistance for Israel since 2006, including nearly \$55 million during Operation Protective Edge.

- Speaking Out for Minority Rights

JFNA builds understanding between the North American Jewish community and Israelis around the complex challenges of dealing with members of Israel’s minority and migrant populations, promoting fair and compassionate solutions to address them. Federations invest in programs across Israel that foster the development of a strong Israeli society shared by all of its citizens.

Obituaries

Gerald Fogelman, 89, of Wyomissing. Gerald was owner of the former Towne Jewelers on Penn Street in Reading for 40 years. He was a member of Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom. Gerald is survived by his wife, Raie, his daughter Patrice and her husband Vincent Douglas, his son Robert Fogelman and his wife, Jacqueline. There are also four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Lillian Wise Abramson, 98, of Reading. Lillian and her husband owned and operated the former Abramson’s Furniture Store in Reading for over 30 years, she then started Keystone Tees in Reading with her husband and son, Donald. She was a member of Keshet Zion Synagogue and Hadassah. Lillian is survived by her son, Donald and his wife, Ellen, of Exeter Township; and her three grandchildren, Bradley, Joseph and Michele, and one great-granddaughter.

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DENNIS ROSS
SEPT. 25, 2016
AT 7:30 P.M.
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AMBASSADOR ROSS will speak on current events in the Middle East, the upcoming U.S. general election and themes from his recent book "Doomed to Succeed: The US-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama".

Dennis Ross has been a direct participant in shaping U.S. policy toward the Middle East, and Israel specifically, for nearly thirty years. He served in senior roles, including as Bill Clinton's envoy for Arab-Israeli peace, and was an active player in the debates over how Israel fit into the region and what should guide U.S. policies.

Things aren't always how they look

By Anne Seltzer

Several months ago a friend related a story of something that happened to her children. She has a son with a disability, who looks healthy. One evening he, his sister and brother-in-law went to a local establishment for dinner. They parked in a handicapped spot because he has a legal placard. A local person of high standing in the community walked around the car and then looked at them. This person went into the restaurant and proceeded to tell the hostess they had parked in a handicapped spot and had no reason to do so. The brother-in-law proceeded to tell the man that indeed his brother-in-law does have a serious disability and is legitimate to park there. The man just looked at them, did not apologize, and continued to his table. My friend sent a letter to the man with the link to the medical condition's website, which explained the illness, suggesting he read it and perhaps not judge people by how they look. She never heard a word from him, no apology, nothing. This story left me quite angry, and I had one of my holier than thou tirades. Then my friend suggested I write this article. So I am.

Have you ever looked at someone who parked in a handicapped spot and thought, They don't look like there's anything wrong with them? Things are not always how they look, and this drives home the point that we shouldn't jump to conclusions about someone's appearance. It's so easy to pass judgement on someone without knowing the details.

Whether it's an illness, someone with weird (in your eyes) eating habits, or just thinking someone may not be a person you want for a friend, it's always worth giving the benefit of the doubt and getting to know them. I've made some of my best friends this way. If I had gone with my first instinct (she's snobby, out of my league, nasty) and not gotten into a



discussion with or decided to volunteer with someone, I would have missed out on a great opportunity for having new friends and learning new things.

But dear readers, this has only come with maturity and the patience middle age affords us. I am truly sorry of any relationships missed out on and the education perhaps not gotten because I used to stay with my first impression. What about you? Maybe in this New Year a goal could be to be more tolerant and accepting, it's something I will strive for.

A sweet start to the New Year is always welcome. These are lemon bars made with honey instead of sugar. Perfect for Rosh Hashanah.

Lemon Bars

Crust

- 1 c. all purpose flour
- 2 tsp. water
- ¼ tsp. salt (I used Kosher salt)
- 1 tsp. honey
- 6 T. unsalted butter, cut into pieces and at room temperature

Filling

- 2 large eggs, plus 7 yolks
- 2/3 c. lemon juice
- ½ c. honey
- 4 T. unsalted butter cut into 4 pieces
- ¼ c. grated lemon zest (I didn't used that much)
- 3 T. heavy cream

For crust — mix flour and salt on low speed until combined, add butter 1 piece at a time. Mix until pea-size pieces remain. Add water and honey, mix until clumps. Transfer to a foil-lined 8 x 8 pan. Bake at 350° for about 20 minutes, until golden brown. Leave oven on.

For filling — whisk eggs and yolks, honey, lemon zest and juice in medium saucepan until smooth. Cook over medium-low heat, stirring constantly until mixture thickens slightly and registers 165°, about 5-7 minutes (mine took less). Off heat, whisk in butter until melted. Strain lemon curd through fine mesh strainer into a bowl, stir in cream. Pour warm curd over baked crust. Bake at 350° until filing is shiny and opaque and center jiggles slightly. Cool completely in pan and don't cut until cool (if you can help yourself, I couldn't). Enjoy!

Gardening with Vicky

An enlightening program

By Vicky Sokoloff

In July I had the opportunity to visit the Penn State Southeast Agricultural Research & Extension Center in Manheim. SEAREC's mission is to provide unbiased evaluations of cultivar performance in the Mid-Atlantic region by testing new and established flowers, vegetables and ornamental plants.

They conduct yearly outdoor trials of annual and cut flowers from plant breeders and suppliers from around the world; utilize trial gardens and educational information for workshops, tours, open houses and field days for commercial growers and home gardeners; provide speakers and information for local, state and national seminars and symposia on plant selection, production, integrated pest management and variety performance; publish newsletters and articles for local, state and national publications; and publish yearly results and pictures of plant entries on the web.

Each year they open the center for a one-day program called the Summer Garden Experience. There were many interesting speakers including Jessica Walliser, author of "Attracting Beneficial Bugs to the Garden" (Timber Press, 2014). Jessica presented two workshops: Attracting Beneficial Insects, and Intro to Organic Gardening. Steve Bogash conducted programs on both Tomato Fertilization and Tomato Pest Management.

Throughout the day there were wagon tours of the entire farm as well as demonstrations and information about Home Food Preservation, Dyeing with Veggies, Keeping Honeybees and Caterpillar Vivarium. Among the other information stands were Flower Arranging, Lightning Bugs, Rain Gardens, Hobby Greenhouses, Weed Identification, Herb Topics, and New Perennials.

The Bluebird Society offered both information and bluebird boxes. Penn State Master Gardeners answered questions at their Ask the Expert stand. Local vendors offered plants and garden related products.

For me the highlight of the day was the opportunity to walk through the trial gardens that have been operating since 1992. While most of the plants were

growing in full sun, some had spots in both the sun and shade areas to compare performance under different conditions. At the end of each year's trial for annuals plants are rated 1 to 5 for factors such as uniformity, flowering, foliage, and growth. Perennials are tested for three years.

At a local garden center you might see a handful of varieties of a plant. SEAREC planted 927 cultivars this year including 35 dahlia, 93 calibrachoa, over 100 petunia, 34 verbenas. Can you really picture seeing over a hundred different petunias? It's amazing!!

At the end of each growing season the trial reports are posted at www.trialgardenspsu.com. Here are two examples from the 2015 trial report.



Serenity™ Spring Day New
Accession No.: 1513 - 2015
Genus: Osteospermum
Supplier: Ball FloraPlant
Rating: 4.6 Average of Sun/Shade
Color Group: yellow, yellow changes to lavender
Genus Ranking: 3 of 15



Meteor Shower™ New
Accession No.: 8079 - 2015
Genus: Verbena
Supplier: Proven Winners
Rating: 4.8 Average of Sun/Shade
Color Group: Violet, lavender violet
Special Comments: Best of species.
Genus Ranking: 1 of 61

Looking back on school days

By Tootie Moyer

School days, school days, dear old golden rule days.

Hi all you "youngsters" who are reading this. Do you ever think of the time you went to grade school, junior high or high school? Of course we didn't have kindergarten back then; we learned our manners from our parents.

Grade school was where we learned the A, B, C's, how to add, subtract with only our brains to help us. Today all the kids need a smart phone to get an answer. Though we are a long time past our school days we never forgot how to multiply and the tables are imbedded in our head.

Next comes junior high school now it is called middle school — can anyone tell me why?

Now comes the "big time" school, high school. I went to the "Castle on the Hill", also known as Reading

High. We had to go through a tunnel to get to the gym. The teachers were dedicated, no fooling around .

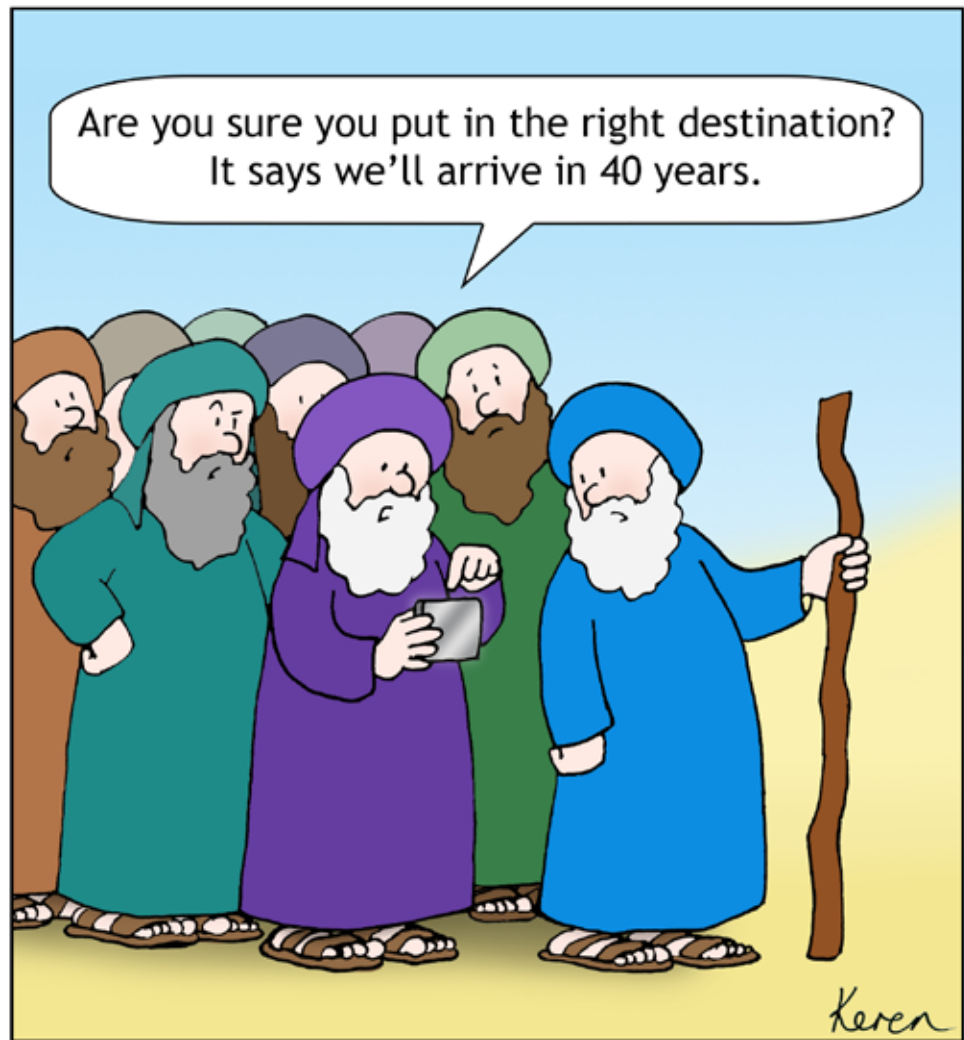
Did you ever hear of a "snow day"? We went to school, rain, shine, in 6 feet of snow, and we were never late. Did you ever hear "sexual harassment" when a student did a good job or needed confidence the teacher or coach could hug the child. Now it would end up being a lawsuit.

Talking about smartphones, it is fine for a student to have one if he or she doesn't know how to turn a page in a workbook or how to use a library or reference book.

Babies are born with a smartphone in their hands. Guess what? It really doesn't matter how our kids learn — just so they do learn.

Enjoy your past memories and savor your future.

Isn't it "awesome" to be called "youngsters"!



Wilderness GPS

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Jewish Family Service

Assessment identifies area's health needs

By Sari Incledon, M.Ed.

A community health assessment is mandated every three years by the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act for hospitals to maintain their nonprofit status. In 2015 the Berks County Health Collaborative, consisting of Berks Community Health Center, Berks Community Foundation, Penn State Health St. Joseph, Reading Health System, and United Way of Berks County conducted a study, and the results that were recently released



showed a majority of our county's residents are affected by a poor diet, lack of physical activity, obesity and mental health concerns.

Local health care officials and social service agencies participating in this study identified four areas that need to be addressed in the next three years.

***Access to Care** — Some of the issues found to limit care are inability to pay for out-of-pocket medical expenses, difficulty navigating the health care system, lack of insurance, time limitations (long waits, limited office hours, time off from work etc.), lack of transportation, and limited public transportation.

*** Obesity**— About two in three county residents or 200,000 people are

overweight or obese.

***Chronic Illness** — Diabetes was cited as a major health issue facing residents.

***Mental Health** — One in five residents was diagnosed with anxiety or a depressive disorder.

The coalition is required to develop a strategy that outlines how it plans to tackle some of the health care problems identified in the assessment. The organizations have decided to concentrate on two of the most significant areas — obesity and mental health. According to Desha Dickson, director of community health at Reading Health System, "When we're looking at things like heart failure or diabetes, they all have an

underlying common denominator — obesity. So if we can focus on diet, wellness, and nutrition, some of these other common illnesses would see improvement." Mary Hahn, vice president for strategy and business development at Penn State St. Joseph said the hospital systems are pursuing how they can improve linking mental health care with the physical side of health care, so they are caring for patients as a whole.

Having participated in an online survey in 2015 for social service providers, it is gratifying to see that the Berks County Health Collaborative is working productively to improve health outcomes for everyone in our community.

**United
Way**



JFS thanks Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom and Kesher Zion Synagogue for their generosity to Jewish Family Service clients during their congregational rummage sales. Your kindness helped individuals and families in difficult situations. We appreciate your support!

Women on their Own - A Social and Support Group

The next meeting will be **Sunday, Sept. 25** at 10:30 a.m. At RCOS. For more information contact Sheryl Weintraub-Sheryl.woto@gmail.com or Sari Incledon-610-921-0624 or SariI@jfreeding.org.

Jewish Family Service thanks Attorney Bernard Mendelsohn for generously providing professional services to our agency's client.

Jewish Family Service Planning for Retirement Programs

If you are planning to retire in the near future, our two informational programs can help you make important decisions.

Maximizing Social Security Benefits

Monday, Nov. 7 at 6 p.m. at the JCC with Earl Schultz of Strategic Wealth Advisory, Birdsboro. Learn the following:

*Strategies to maximize your benefits

* How benefits are calculated and how to coordinate benefits with your spouse

*Common mistakes that may cost retirees thousands in lifetime benefits

*What the new law means for your social security decision

Program is free, minimum registration is required. Please RSVP by Oct. 28 Call 610-921-0624 or email Sari Incledon at SariI@jfreeding.org

Basic Introduction to Medicare

Monday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at the JCC with Phyllis Dessel- community volunteer, retired from Berks County Area Office of Aging

Learn about all the parts of Medicare:

Medicare Part A- hospital insurance

Medicare Part B- medical insurance

Medicare Part C- Medicare Advantage plans

Medicare Part D- prescription drug plans

Program is free, minimum registration is required. Please RSVP by Nov. 7 call 610-921-0624 or email Sari Incledon at SariI@jfreeding.org.

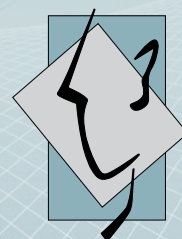
Rosh Hashanah Service and Holiday Meal Thursday, Sept, 29 at 10:45 am

Jewish Family Service and Manor at Market Square invite you to a Rosh Hashanah Service and Holiday Meal at Manor at Market Square.

Reservations are required! Call the JCC at 610-921-0624 by Sept. 19 to make a reservation.

Jewish Family Service thanks Larry Goodman, V.P. of A.W. Golden for generously assisting our agency's client.

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Please mail your payment with complete information to the Jewish Federation, PO Box 14925, Reading, PA 19612-4925 or bring to the Jewish Cultural Center, 1100 Berkshire Blvd, Suite 125, Wyomissing. You may set up a “**savings account**” for the purpose of sending cards. Please contact the Jewish Federation at 610-921-0624 for further information.

Contributions as of Aug. 19

JFS Food Pantry

In memory of:
Stanley Cieplinski – Kate Mohn

Jewish Family Service

In memory of:
Birth of Margie and Alan Leisawitz’s granddaughter – Sue and Herb Wachs
Marriage of Alan and Lisa Levine’s daughter Emily – Loewenstein/Harting Family

Get well/speedy recovery:

Margie Leisawitz – Sue and Herb Wachs
Yvonne Oppenheimer – Berna and Karen Sherman

In memory of:

Judy Hartman – Berna Sherman
Gerald Fogelman – Ruth Isenberg, Sid and Ester Bratt
Stan Cieplinski – Berna Sherman, Gordon and Carol Perlmutter, Andy and Corinne Wernick and family
Lillian Abramson – Barbara Nazimov, Al and Betsy Katz

Federation Jewish Community Campaign

In honor of:
Henry Singer’s special birthday – Anzie and Edward Golden

Get well/speedy recovery:

Yvonne Oppenheimer – Carol and Bernie Gerber
Sue Viener – Rob and Yvonne Oppenheimer

In memory of:

Addie Dunitz – C. Harold Cohn, The Peanut Bar, Jack and Mary Mancuso, Anzie and Edward Golden, Deluxe Restaurant, Carol and Bernie Gerber
Dorothy Lempiner – Elaine Lempiner Jones and Sidney Lempiner
Judy Hartman – Anzie and Edward Golden, Hilde Gernsheimer
Gerald Fogelman – George Weiss, Dena and Vic Hammel, Cheryl and Eric Farber, Carol and Bernie Gerber
Jackie Gershon - Judy, Bob and Susan Pollack
Stanley Cieplinski – Dena and Vic Hammel, Cheryl and Eric Farber, Carol and Bernie Gerber, Barbara Nazimov, Anzie and Edward Golden, Jackye and Jim Barrer

In Fond Memory of our Tennis Coach,
Stan Cieplinski.

We are forever grateful for his leadership,
companionship and the values he instilled in us
both on and off the court.

Brad Abramson, David Katz and Aaron Wernick

Thanks to all our friends and family
for their thoughtful and generous donations made
in memory of Gerald Fogelman, and for the many
acts of kindness shown to our family.

Raie Fogelman and family

Honorials and Memorials

Contributions may be made to the following Funds:

Federation Jewish Community Campaign	\$10
Jewish Family Service	\$10
Leo Camp Lecture Fund	\$10
JFS Food Bank	\$25
JFS Taxi Transportation Program	\$20
Holocaust Library & Resource Center	\$18
Doris Levin Fund	\$10

Robert Goldberg (Harlan Kutscher’s brother) – Dena and Vic Hammel
Lillian Abramson – Rob and Yvonne Oppenheimer, Dena and Vic Hammel, Debbie Goodman and John Moyer, Anzie and Edward Golden, Jackye and Jim Barrer, Judy and Bob Pollack, Susan Pollack-Esposito and Jasen Esposito, Lisa and Ellis Block
Howard Bauman – Margie and Alan Leisawitz
Alison Althouse’s father – Judy and Bob Pollack

Harry and Rose Sack Fund (Adult Programming)

In honor of:
Birth of Darren and Loren Sack’s son Sullivan – Albert and Nancy Sack

PJ Library

Get well/speedy recovery:
Sue Viener – Sue and Herb Wachs

In memory of:

Lillian Abramson – Sue and George Viener, Sue and Herb Wachs

Friendship Circle Fund

In honor of:
Engagement of Carole and Mike Robinson’s daughter Madelyn – Gaye and Glenn Corbin
Andy Primack’s Bar Mitzvah – Gaye and Glenn Corbin

In memory of:

Gerald Fogelman – Glenn and Gaye Corbin
Lillian Abramson – Glenn and Gaye Corbin

Evelyn Thompson Nursery School Fund

In memory of:
Lillian Abramson – Beth and Bob Caster, Evelyn and Jay Lipschutz
Gerald Fogelman – Beth and Bob Caster
Carol Greenberg’s father – Beth and Bob Caster
Judy Hartman – Beth and Bob Caster
John Ulrich – Beth Caster
Alison Althouse’s father – Beth and Bob Caster

Poll shows support for two-state solution

Israel21c.com

Fifty-one percent of Palestinians and 59% of Israelis back the two-state solution, despite the recent stagnation in the peace process, according to a poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Polling and Survey Research and the Israel Democracy Institute.
However, when the pollsters presented Israelis and Palestinians with a hypothetical peace agreement based on previous negotiations, only 39 percent of Palestinians and 46 percent of Israelis supported it. The hypothetical deal included mutual recognition, a demilitarized Palestinian state based on 1967 borders with land swaps, the establishment of a Palestinian capital in east Jerusalem and an Israeli capital in west Jerusalem, and the return of 100,000 refugees to Israel.
Among Israeli Jews, 10 percent of

the right, 59 percent of the center, and 88 percent of the left supported the proposed deal, while 56 percent of the secular population and 10 percent of the religious population backed it. Interestingly, 90 percent of Arab-Israelis supported the proposed deal. As for the Palestinians, 64 percent of the non-religious and 34 percent of the religious supported the deal, whereas 57 percent of Fatah and 25 percent of Hamas backed it.
However 26 percent of Israelis said they would change their minds, if the proposed deal included peace with all Arab nations, while 34 percent of Palestinians said they would change their minds, if Israel acknowledged responsibility for creating the refugee problem. The poll found that 44 percent of Palestinians prefer a forum in which world powers sponsor negotiations in comparison to 27 percent of Israeli Jews.

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