

» Fascinating People
in our Community

Jewish Observer

of Central New York

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Central New York

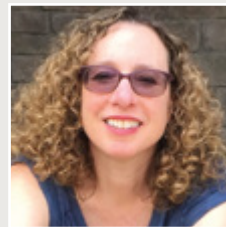
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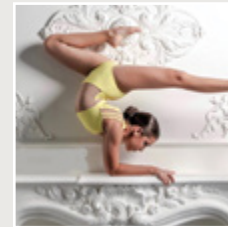
OCTOBER 2021 | TISHREI - CHESHVAN 5782

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IN OUR COMMUNITY



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From the Editor



Barbara Davis

Mispocha:

I just read a wonderful story about Rabbi Kalman Weinfeld, who served as a kitchen *mashgiach* in the IDF Air Force. The rabbi told his sons that, growing up, his mother always taught him that the many guests who came for Shabbos meals weren't guests. Their family just got bigger for Shabbos. What a lovely image! You come for a meal on Shabbat, and you aren't a guest, you are family.

What would it mean if we applied that model to a community? What if we all -- hosts and guests alike -- considered everyone who attended one of our programs or classes or events or services to be not a visitor, but a member of our family? Not even extended family, just family, *mispocha*.

There was a time when Jewish people all considered themselves part of a family, "members of the tribe," as some would put it. Sure, we all heard the jokes about different kinds of Jews who wanted nothing to do with one another: *A Jewish man goes sailing, but ends up shipwrecked on a desert island. Years later, he's found, but the man's rescuers want to know why he built a structure with a Star of David on it. The man replies, "That's the synagogue where I pray." They then inquire about a separate structure he'd built, also with a Star of David. "Ah, that," says the man, "is the synagogue I wouldn't set foot in."* But deep down, we all still recognized that we were *mispocha*.

There was a time when, if we got too far afield from the *mispocha*, if we changed our names or our noses or our neighborhoods, the general community would remind us of who we were. The jokes flourished in that sphere also: *A Jewish immigrant arrives by ship to New York City from Europe. The immigration inspector at Ellis Island asks him his first and last name, age, and religion. Because of all the suffering he went through in his native land, the Jew hesitates before answering. Finally, he lifts his head and answers, "My name is John Smith and I am Christian!" The immigration inspector looks him up and down and responds, "Christian Ashkenazi or Christian Sephardi?"*

The world we live in today is very different from what it was in the 19th and early 20th centuries. What does *mispocha*, or the Hebrew *mispacha*, mean when so few of us have shared memories of the immigrant experience, of restricted admission to country clubs or universities, of living in a neighborhood with many small synagogues, kosher butcher shops and bakeries? What does it mean when *mispocha* now includes people who love Israel and those who do not or when Jewish families are interfaith, agnostic, atheist or consider

themselves "Jews of no religion"?

A recent Stanford University study, entitled "Beyond the Count," corroborates with data the many anecdotal descriptions of racism in the Jewish community. Some 80% of over a thousand respondents said they have experienced discrimination in Jewish communal settings. Jews of Color said they are ignored, interrogated about their race and ethnicity, presumed to need education about Jewish rituals or assumed to be in synagogues or schools as nannies and security guards rather than community members. This is not *mispocha*. Not when half of all Jewish people marry someone who is not Jewish and when researchers estimate that Jews of Color represent at least 12-15% of American Jews.

The Jewish world of tomorrow, certainly in Central New York, will be a smaller one than it was decades ago. There are those who take comfort in the belief that Jewish life has always depended on quality rather than quantity. But to ensure that smaller means stronger, we must ensure that the Jewish community grows bigger as *mispocha*. We must ensure that we are inclusive of all who wish to participate in Jewish life, not just those who live in a certain zip code or belong to a certain organization or fit a certain demographic. We need to grow as family, accepting one another for who we are and loving one another for who we are.

And we need to remember that the job of the Jewish family has always been to ensure that Jewish life and purpose is transmitted to the younger generations. All of our Jewish institutions, working collectively and together instead of separately or at cross-purposes, need to empower our Jewish community to meet this challenge. Only in this way can we assure that our community's members are truly part of a warm and enduring *mispocha*.

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CORRECTION:

The article on the Federation page of the September *Jewish Observer* was written by Neil Bronstein, chair of the Board of the Jewish Community Foundation of Central New York. The photo that accompanied the article was of Neil Rosenbaum, chair of the Federation board. Here is the correct photograph. The *JO* deeply regrets the error.

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Jewish Community Foundation Breaks All Records



Neil Bronstein,
Foundation Board Chair

In a year saddened by the loss of its founders, Alexander Holstein and Linda Alexander, the Jewish Community Foundation of Central New York reached an all-time high in assets, asset appreciation and funding of the Jewish Federation, its major beneficiary.

Foundation treasurer Howard Port reported that the Foundation's assets were \$23,733,122, an increase of \$4,864,197 over the prior year.

Investment Committee chair Neil Hoyt reported a fiscal year return of 26.7% on investments and a 3-year return of 12.4%.

Michael Balanoff delivered the State of the Foundation Report, noting that "the Foundation

was able to contribute a record-setting \$720,000 to the Federation's campaign, accounting for fully 25% of the campaign achievement." He pointed out that "the foresight of our founders has come to fruition" but also cautioned that "even as we stand on the shoulders of giants, we must master their wisdom and move beyond it. We must follow the example they set for us and continue to grow our Foundation so that the future of our Jewish community will be secured."

"We know that our community is aging and shrinking," he said, "but we also know that young people are moving into or back to Central New York. The life experiences and expectations of younger generations are very different from those of us who remember life before cell phones, social media and Zoom, before there was a State of Israel. But those who believe in the importance of Jewish life, not only now but forever, must continue to work to make it happen. As we look to younger generations whose priorities are diverse and changing, it's crucial that we, the leaders of today, take action now to protect the future of Jewish life. The resurgence of antisemitism in America and around the world is a reminder that, while we pray that the horrors of ghettos, concentration camps and death camps are in the past, as Jews, we must be ever vigilant and must, to a certain extent, rely upon our own initiatives and strengths to secure our future."

As we look forward to 5782 and fiscal year 2022, our goal will be to increase the number of funds in our Foundation that will assure the continuance of needed services for the Jewish community provided by Federation. We will seek ways to increase the number of PACE funds both from individuals and from the community, through the Community PACE fund. It is only by working to achieve this today that we can assure that there will be a tomorrow.

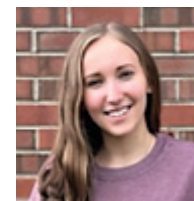
Board chair Neil Bronstein thanked the Foundation staff and leadership, saying that "Many are responsible for our achievements including our board past and present, the local agencies who have entrusted us with their funds and, most of all, our many generous donors." He said that the Foundation is continuing to prosper and that "earlier this year we surpassed \$20 million in assets under management and as I speak we are closing in on \$25 million

Dr. Idana Goldberg, the chief program officer at Russell Berrie Foundation, a philanthropic organization that identifies visionaries, institutions and unsung heroes doing groundbreaking work, then addressed the Foundation leaders and fundholders on the theme of "Jewish Philanthropy in the 21st Century." She traced the arc of Jewish philanthropy from the "Stuyvesant contract" made by the earliest Jews to arrive in the New World, which stated that Jews must take care of Jews to the dramatic changes in Jewish affiliation and philanthropy as documented in the Pew Report. She pointed out that Israel is no longer a "driver of Jewish identity" and reflected on the implications of that change, particularly with regard to the next generation of donors. "Jewish giving is a marker of Jewish identity," she said, "and needs to reflect the passion of the giver."

JFNA'S Jewish Changemakers Fellowship

by Talia Zames

The Jewish Federations of North America's Changemakers Fellowship is an online leadership development experience for 20–25-year-olds who want to effect positive change in their community and the world at large. Talia Zames was selected as one of 200 participants from Jewish communities around the world, including France, Israel, Argentina and Scotland, to take part in the program this summer. The JO asked her to report on her experience as a Changemaker.



The basic foundation of Changemaker fellowship was the concept of Public Narrative, as described in *The Story of Self, Story of Us, and Story of Now* by Marshall Ganz. Hillel's questions guided the work: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I'm only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

We learned that our power as a Jewish people has been our ability to adapt. We considered the words of Anne Frank: "How wonderful it is that no one has to wait, but can start right now to change the world." We discussed the statement by Michael Twitty: "Who is wise? The person who learns from everyone." And we pondered the lesson from the Talmud: "Teach your tongue to say, 'I don't know,' lest you are mistaken and get caught."

One of the most important civil discourse skills highlighted in the fellowship was reflective listening. We learned that civil discourse relies not only on one's ability to listen to others, but on making a conscious effort towards understanding others' perspectives. This is particularly important at a time of great polarization such as the present. We were reminded that agreement is not a requirement for understanding, that, as Melissa Weintraub from *Resetting the Table* puts it, we need to "shift core tendencies of conflict from rigidity and entrenchment into receptivity and flexibility."

The Jewish basis for civil discourse was at the heart of all of our discussions. In our study of biblical texts, it became clear that God wants people to participate in civil discourse and decide things for themselves. In the *Midrash* [Psalms, 12], when Moses asks God for an explicit answer, He only says, "Go according to the majority," thereby opening up the decision-making process to the people. In subsequent group reflections, we concluded that Judaism is more a religion of questions than answers. Since a person's capacity to make decisions is limited by their lived experience, we were asked, "What perspectives are missing from *your* world?" We came to recognize the critical value of intellectual humility and intellectual curiosity. The term "intellectual humility" implies that no one person has all the answers, and intellectual curiosity refers to a genuine interest in hearing perspectives that are not our own. We asked ourselves, "How will you seek depth of understanding over strength of opinion?"

We considered the words of Ruth Messenger of Jewish World Service, who said, "Listening is

a prerequisite for action. We have to listen in order to notice the gap between what is and what could be." And the words of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who said, "A Jew is asked to take a leap of action rather than a leap of faith." And Albert Einstein, who said, "In the middle of every difficulty, lies opportunity." And Rabbi Asher Lopatin, who said, "Don't be afraid. Don't let fear stop you from doing what you need to do. Balance fear with courage. Have radical love. If you're going to fight, fight with love."

We learned that the most important thing a Changemaker can do is show up. A changemaker needs to "Understand your voice, your power, your privilege, and consider the ways you can leverage those things for good." When taking action, depth of impact is more important than breadth.

We took a poll of the Jewish values the Changemaker fellows considered important. These were some of the top answers: tradition, community, *tikkun olam*, education. When learning about our Story of Now, we talked about building racially equitable spaces and the critical difference between equality, which focuses on identical inputs, and equity, which prioritizes equal outcomes. We discussed the challenges that contradict our core values which are established in our story of self and tied together in the story of us. We reflected on the words of Victor Frankel, a Holocaust survivor, who said, "When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves." We were encouraged to reframe our perspectives of adversity: "What is this challenge teaching me that I want to integrate into the person I am on the other side of this experience?"

The three-week Changemakers Fellowship ended all too soon. I am incredibly grateful that I had the honor of participating in such an exciting, engaging program. This fellowship truly fulfilled its intended purpose of allowing participants to gain new insight into themselves, the broader Jewish community, and the issues they care about and to come out ready to take the initiative in shaping the Jewish future in their own communities. In the words of futurist Bob Johansen, "If you can be clear about who you are, what your goals are, what your convictions are, what you like, and what you're good at, and redirect certainty, you will be successful no matter what life throws at you."

D'var Torah

Ultimate Questions

by Rabbi Irvin Beigel



What meaning can we find in life? Why are we on this earth? What is there that can give us the strength and will to prevail over the adversity and travail that we encounter as we go through life? As the Hebrew phrase puts it, these questions are “at the height of the universe.” That is, they are profound questions of the greatest importance. Yet I wonder how many of us take time to think about these matters. I believe that Dale Carnegie said that most people spend more time planning their next vacation than they spend planning the rest of their lives. The answers we find to these questions have an effect far beyond ourselves, but the struggle to find answers is an intensely personal one.



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I am very moved emotionally by a passage that appears in the prayers recited every morning just after the morning blessings. The author of the passage asks: “What are our lives? wWhat are our acts of kindness?...surely, the mighty are as nothing in Your presence...the wise are as if they know nothing...a human is no better than an animal for everything is fleeting and ephemeral.” That is, indeed, a very dark view of human existence. Nothing that human beings do has any significance. It is all worthless and does not last. The words echo *Kohelet* (Ecclesiastes) and the closing prayers of Yom Kippur.

The author, however, does not leave us there. The very next words give us hope. “But we are Your people, people of Your covenant; children of Abraham..., descendants of Isaac..., the community of Jacob....” We, as Jews, are bound by the covenant that God made with Abraham and then reiterated with Isaac and Jacob.

Fame, wisdom and power can become ends in themselves, but they have no lasting significance. Tragically, we see that human beings can act like the animals, acting out of fear and instinct, not out of commitment to moral and ethical principles. What gives meaning to the composer of this liturgical passage, however, is being part of a people in eternal relationship with God.

Being part of an eternal covenant means that we matter, that what we do matters. The tradition passed from Abraham to Isaac, and from Isaac to Jacob lives in us. The values of the Torah and what we do to give life to those values makes a difference in our lives, to our generation and to all future generations. More than Jews are a community of faith, we are a community of action. What we eat and what we say, how we honor the uniqueness of each day by observing the Sabbath and how we help the poor all matter. How we set time aside for study of our sacred texts and how we visit the sick all express our commitment to being part of an eternal people. The passage we have discussed goes on to say “therefore, we are obligated to acknowledge You, to praise, glorify, sanctify...Your name.” We are called upon as descendants of the Patriarchs to act in this world to make our lives holier and through our everyday behavior to make the world holier. It is in striving to fulfill this solemn responsibility and in the rewards that come from fulfilling it that the author of this passage found meaning and purpose in his life. It is also where I find meaning in my life.

What is it that gives meaning to your life?

Whatsa Mashgiach?

Outside of Israel, New York State has the world’s largest cohort of kosher consumers. With over 135,000 kosher products available on the market, there is a constant need for supervision. For those interested in a fascinating study of the kosher food industry, Sue Fishkoff’s *Kosher Nation: Why More and More of America’s Food Answers to a Higher Authority* is an unbeatable read. *Kashrut* is not only the province of religious authorities. The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets also conducts kosher surveillance inspections to make sure all products labelled kosher are registered and all establishments that sell kosher products are in compliance with the laws of *kashrut*.

In the past, when most food products were made in a home, store or small factory in a local community, a local rabbi would certify that a product was kosher. With mass production and transcontinental shipping, foods today are processed, cooked, packaged and transported in ways that are a far cry from yesteryear. Enter certifying organizations such as OU Kosher, which provides certification for over one million products made in over 13,000 plants worldwide.

A *mashgiach*, the Hebrew word for “supervisor,” is a Jew who supervises the kosher status of food purveyors, including slaughterhouses, manufacturers, hotels, restaurants, caterers, nursing homes, butchers, groceries and cooperatives. The *mashgiach* works as an on-site supervisor and inspector, representing a kosher certification agency or a local rabbi, who actually makes the policy decisions for what is or is not kosher. A *mashgiach* must be Jewish, Sabbath-observant (*shomer Shabbat*), Torah-observant (*shomer mitzvot*) and personally observant of the laws of *kashrut* (*shomer kashrut*). He or she must additionally be conversant with many technical aspects of food production and transportation, chemistry, engineering and food trends. It is not an easy job.

Moshe Levi has been the *mashgiach* in Central New York for four years. What began as a temporary assignment for the Sullivan County native turned into a regular gig. “It gets me out of the house,” says Levi, who did not grow up in a kosher home and who never saw kosher supervision as a rung on his career ladder. “But the community needed someone,” he says, and he stepped up to do the job. Moshe had served in the military and has a background in medicine.

But the best preparation for his current job, he says, was the time he spent as a waiter and busboy in the hotels in the Catskills where he grew up. “I know what goes on in a kitchen,” he says, “so I not only know the rules, but I know how to apply them.”

As a *mashgiach*, Moshe is responsible for the physical inspection of ingredients. He works at dairy production plants. “People don’t realize about binders in creamer or half and half,” he notes, “it’s not just milk.” He also supervises the Bagelover’s wholesale plant in Dryden. He enjoys the work and the human interactions that take place. “My job is about spotting mistakes before they become a disaster,” he explains. “You have a procedure. You want it followed.” He was once watching an assembly line and a worker commented, “It’s got to be boring just standing there.” Moshe admitted that was true, but added, “You don’t want me to have to go to work, because that would mean you messed up.” The last things companies want you to have to do, he says, “is fix” and the way to avoid trouble is “to have rules and follow them, write the policy and make it standard operating procedure.”

While the application of the laws of *kashrut* is open to interpretation, Moshe says, “you can debate, but not with someone who is not Jewish. All the interpretations can be correct according to the law, but you have to have one procedure, and you want it followed. Just like in the military: write up the rules and drill them into people.” Moshe doesn’t make the rules, he just makes sure they are followed.

In addition to assuring Jewish consumers that foods are prepared with kosher ingredients and in accordance with the laws of *kashrut*, kosher certification is a competitive advantage in the distribution of food. The increase in kosher certification is fueled by consumers’ desire for clean label, allergen-free and vegan foods. Foods certified *pareve*, for example, are reliably free of dairy and meat. It is estimated that nearly 80% of all kosher food sales are outside of the traditional Jewish market with more than 12 million American consumers choosing kosher food products for reasons related to health, food safety, taste, vegetarianism, lactose intolerance and other dietary restrictions. So whether he is at a dairy, a food manufacturing plant or the kitchen of Menorah Park, Moshe Levi is part of a network of people assuring that when a food product bears a *hechsher*, or kosher certification, you can trust it to be what it says.



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Rosh Hashanah

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Rosh Hashanah 5782/2021

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Their rabbi was redeployed and the Jewish Chaplains Office at Ft. Drum had only \$100 in the Chapel fund for Jewish services. The lay leaders of the Ft. Drum congregation reached out to Federation asking for help so they would be able to hold the traditional dinners needed for Rosh Hashanah and the Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast. Federation immediately responded with the needed assistance.

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Jewish News From Around The World

Adidas promotes Haredi female athlete.

Adidas, one of the biggest sportswear companies in the world, has featured Israeli Haredi orthodox marathon runner Beatie Deutsch in its “Impossible is Nothing” campaign, which aims to unite people through sports and expand the limits of human possibilities. “Where some see an Orthodox runner, I see my belief pushing me forward,” says the 4’9” Deutsch, who is originally from New Jersey and now lives in Israel with her husband and five children. <https://aleteia.org/2021/06/21/orthodox-jewish-mom-of-five-follows-her-faith-while-winning-marathons/>



relative to its small size and also its vaccination program. <https://www.jpost.com/health-science/israel-ranks-second-in-world-in-coronavirus-innovation-study-675728>

Breakthrough in detecting metastatic breast cancer. Researchers from four Israeli medical institutes have identified early signs in the body that indicate breast cancer is about to spread to other organs. The discovery could save millions of lives. They also discovered that the protein MYC speeds the growth of cancerous cells. <https://www.jpost.com/healthscience/breakthrough-in-the-battle-against-metastatic-breast-cancer-in-tau-study-675842>

Heart-monitoring smartwatch ready to launch. Israel’s CardiacSense is about to ship its first heart-monitoring smartwatches around the world. This article gives the history and technical details of the low-cost

product that can save many lives at a fraction of the cost of hospital sensors and implants. <https://www.calcalistech.com/ctech/articles/0,7340,L-3913705,00.html>

Google to connect Israel to Europe. Google plans to build and operate a submarine cable system to connect Israel with southern Europe. The Blue Submarine Cable System will link Israel to Italy, France and Greece. Its 16 fiber optic pairs aim to increase network capacity and decrease latency and be ready for use in 2024. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/google-announces-plan-for-undersea-cable-connecting-israel-southern-europe/>

Robotic warehouse wins huge US partnership. North American online grocery platform Instacart is partnering Israeli-founded automation logistics startup Fabric. Fabric will use its robotic fulfillment warehouses and AI software to help Instacart deliver goods to its customers. <https://nocamels.com/2021/07/instacart-israel-fabric-automated-fulfillment/>

Israel’s most valuable startup. The \$300 million just raised by Israel fintech Rapyd makes it Israel’s most valuable privately owned company, with a market value of \$10 billion. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/rapyd-becomes-israels-most-valuable-private-startup-with-300m-funding-round/>

Azerbaijan opens Israel trade office. Muslim-majority Azerbaijan has opened a trade representation office in Tel Aviv. Israel’s Tourism Minister Yoel Razvozov said the historic event “will doubtless serve as a focal point for Israeli entrepreneurs in fields including energy, medicine, water treatment, agriculture and investments.” <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/310854>

Archaeological evidence of Biblical earthquake. Excavations in Jerusalem’s City of David have revealed a layer of destruction that has been dated to the eighth century BCE, during the Kingdom of Judah. It corresponds to a massive earthquake as recorded in the books of the prophets Amos and Zechariah. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/311137>

Trial approved for Alzheimer’s treatment. Israel’s SciSpac will commence a Phase 2a clinical trial of its SCI-110

(formerly THX-110) treatment for patients with Alzheimer’s disease and agitation. <https://www.prnewswire.com/il/news-releases/scisparc-to-commence-phase-ii-a-clinical-trial-of-sci-110-for-the-treatment-of-alzheimers-disease-and-agitation-301326828.html>

Google health subsidiary sets up Israeli R&D center. Verily Life Sciences, an independent subsidiary of Google’s parent company Alphabet, is establishing a Research and Development center in Israel. The company focuses on digital health, applying AI to medical problems. In Israel it will target colorectal (colon) cancer. <https://en.globes.co.il/en/article-googles-verily-life-sciences-to-set-up-israel-rd-center-1001380819>

Not even the sky is the limit. Major N. is the first Israeli woman to have been promoted to the position of Deputy Commander of a combat squadron. She currently serves as head of the Air Force Commander’s Office and will take up her new position as Deputy Commander of the 119 Squadron (The ‘Bat Squadron’) next year. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/311927>

Arab social media stars come to Israel. Two dozen social media influencers from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco, visited Israel, thanks to non-profit Israel-is. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EF2u9yWaMp8>

The first Israeli baby born in the UAE. Ilan Sztulman, head of the Israeli mission in Dubai, and his wife Jacqueline celebrated the birth of their fifth child - Mia on August 14 at Dubai’s Mediclinic. Mia is the first Israeli citizen to be born in the UAE, just one year after the signing of the Abraham Accords. <https://www.jns.org/meet-the-first-israeli-baby-born-in-united-arab-emirates/>

Three Israeli universities in global top 100. The 2021 Academic Ranking of World Universities ranked three Israeli institutions in the top 100 (2,000 surveyed), for the first time since 2013. They are Hebrew University of Jerusalem (90), Weizmann Institute (92) and Technion Institute (94). <https://www.israelhayom.com/2021/08/15/3-israeli-universities-rank-among-worlds-top-100/>

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» Book Review

Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court by David G. Dalin

Review by Sharon Hochstein

Caveat: If you are looking for an entertaining, light read, this isn't it. It is, however, a densely fact-packed resource. The author is a rabbi who should be able to engage and connect with his audience, but instead dives into needless repetitive tangents that are cumbersome for the casual reader. If you dig deep and make it all the way to the end, however, you will be rewarded with fascinating golden nuggets of information along the way. This review may be sufficiently comprehensive to spare you the effort.

The first three Jewish judges appointed to the Supreme Court, Louis Brandeis, Benjamin Cardozo and Felix Frankfurter, faced a particularly vile, yet “genteel” and socially acceptable antisemitism. Early twentieth-century luminaries such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry James, Harvard President A. Lawrence Lowell, and even the great humanitarian Eleanor Roosevelt vocally and openly proclaimed their disdain for Jews, and law firms would not accept them into their employ. Such was the challenge that greeted those first three Jewish justices. Before Cardozo's appointment, for example, sitting Supreme Court Justice McReynolds urged President Hoover “not to afflict the court with another Jew.” He refused to sit next to either justice and rudely held a newspaper in front of his face when their opinions were read. Ironically, Brandeis was a completely assimilated Jew with no synagogue affiliation, who celebrated Christmas but no Jewish holidays. He eventually became a devout Zionist, however.

Benjamin Cardozo's life mission was to redeem his good family name after his father, Albert Cardozo, resigned from the NY State Supreme Court in a scandal involving Tammany Hall and political corruption. There was debate whether Cardozo, who considered himself a “non-observant Orthodox Jew” who kept kosher, was actually the first Hispanic judge to be appointed, and not Sonya Sotomayor. However, as most Latino organizations do not recognize individuals of Portuguese descent as Hispanic, Cardozo couldn't claim that title, although he is the only Sephardic Jew to have served on the high court.

Felix Frankfurter, born in Vienna, was the only Jewish Supreme Court Justice not



Sharon Hochstein

born in the U.S. Oddly enough, his confirmation to the Supreme Court was objected to not by antisemites but by other Jews who were afraid that another appointment of a Jew to the Court would “intensify charges that Roosevelt's New Deal was actually the ‘Jew Deal’ and that, as Nazi propaganda would have it, Jews were seeking to control the world by dominating FDR's administration.” Although raised in an observant home, Frankfurter walked away from Judaism, married the daughter of a Protestant minister and applied exclusively to non-Jewish law firms, which on principle, did not hire Jews. Yet, like Brandeis, he became active in Zionist causes, albeit briefly. He sat down in Paris in 1919 with the King of Syria who also became the King of Iraq and got him to write a letter endorsing the Balfour Declaration. Their translator was none other than the infamous T.E. Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia. Yet, in 1943 Frankfurter walked out of a meeting with a young man who bore witness to the horrors being committed by the Nazis in Europe, claiming that he was “unable to believe him,” thus missing a precious opportunity to use his influence to persuade the administration to bomb Auschwitz or otherwise expedite the U.S. attack on Germany.

All of the Jewish judges hired a number of Jewish law clerks, paving the way for more justices on courts and breaking down barriers in private law firms. Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, for example, hired Stephen Breyer to clerk for him. Goldberg was a lifelong Zionist and affiliated with a synagogue, and his family's seder was a gala annual event in Washington, with both Jewish and non-Jewish guests. He took a stand against Jewish law firms who refused to hire Orthodox Jews, on the correct premise that they would refuse to work on Shabbat. Goldberg only served three years on the Supreme Court because Lyndon Johnson pressured him to

resign and become U.N. ambassador, a decision that he apparently regretted for the rest of his life.

Abe Fortas was another Jewish judge who couldn't say no to Johnson when the President had to fill the vacancy left by Goldberg. He and his wife had prestigious, well-paying careers, and neither wanted to trade in their opulent lifestyle for the salary that came with public service. Fortas' shady business dealings and unethical transactions almost didn't get him confirmed, but those who would not have voted for his confirmation feared that they would be labeled antisemites, so in the end it went through. Fortas' improper business dealings and the reputation that accompanied them, however, pursued him while in office and he was forced to resign.

Bill Clinton appointed more Jews to high-level administration positions than any other president before or after him. Initially, when there was a vacancy on the Court, politicians from both parties pushed Clinton to select Stephen Breyer, so the President invited him to the White House for an interview. Unfortunately, the judge was recovering from a serious bicycle accident and had been forbidden to fly, so he took the train from Boston to Washington. He was short of breath and writhing in pain, and the interview did not go well. As a result, Clinton chose Ruth Bader Ginsburg as his nominee.

RBG was arguably the most venerated and iconic Supreme Court judge in history, and numerous books and movies are a testament to her legacy. There was another Justice Ginsburg, however, who was nominated to the Supreme Court but who never achieved rock-star status. In fact, he never made it to the Court at all. Although selected by conservative Ronald Reagan, the judge was forced to withdraw his candidacy when news surfaced that he had smoked marijuana, possibly with his students, while a law professor at Harvard.

When Clinton had another opportunity to select a judge for the high court, once again members of Congress from both parties advocated for Stephen Breyer. This time the interview with Clinton went well, and

he was confirmed. Like Louis Brandeis, Stephen Breyer is an assimilated Jew who has no synagogue affiliation. Like Felix Frankfurter, Breyer's wife is Protestant and one of his daughters is an Episcopal priest. Yet, like Ginsburg, Kagan and some of the Jewish justices before them, Breyer will not work on *Yom Kippur* and credits his Jewish heritage as the source and basis of his devotion to social justice and his own brand of *tikkun olam*. Breyer has also been a proud and vocal supporter of Israel.

Justice Elena Kagan was nominated by President Barack Obama as the fourth woman and eighth Jewish justice to serve on the Supreme Court. Raised in a modern Orthodox home in Manhattan, she battled with Shlomo Riskin, the rabbi of her synagogue to allow her to have a *bat mitzvah* ceremony where she could read Torah and give a *d'var Torah* on a Shabbat morning, just as the boys in her class did. Eventually a compromise was reached, permitting her to read from the *Book of Ruth* on a Friday night and provide a teaching from it to the congregation. Rabbi Riskin would later comment that he got a sense that his student was less than satisfied with this arrangement, but the experience may have provided the lesson in persistence that led to her becoming the first female dean of Harvard Law School and the fourth female Supreme Court justice.

Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court is an encyclopedic study of these judges and their times, replete with the cases they ruled on and how they made their mark on history. Dalin leaves nuanced clues as to how their Jewish heritage may have influenced their rulings but leaves much connecting of the dots to the reader.

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Historically, the work of female artists has been overlooked and undervalued. Misattributed to men, relegated to categories like “arts and crafts” or limited to textiles or fiber arts, art by women has only recently come to be recognized and appreciated on its own terms. The Central New York Jewish community is fortunate to have several women working as artists, and the JO is pleased to profile five of them in this issue.

Five Community Artists



ARLENE ABEND has been called “a woman of steel.” “I picked up a welding torch and fell in love,” she says. “The flame, the merging of the pieces of metal. Maybe it gave me a sense of power.” Arlene has worked for decades sculpting, welding, casting, cutting and soldering metal. Most of the people who admire the Tree of Life sculpture, Torah scroll holders and Eternal Light at Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevre Shas, or stand in grief and awe before the 9/11 Memorial at the DeWitt Town Hall, don’t know that the creator of these pieces is a 5-foot tall, 90-year-old Jewish artist who found her destiny when she picked up that torch.

Abend is a Brooklyn native who moved to Central New York in 1960. She was married with two young children and did everything that was expected of “a good Jewish mother,” as she says in a documentary of her life and work, “Stretching Boundaries.” But that was not enough for Arlene who, since childhood, had a desire to create art. She started as a painter and moved from portraiture to clay and eventually to steel. Though diminutive of stature, Arlene always wanted to “stretch her vision” and work on a larger scale. Thus her work includes some pieces that are twenty-seven feet long.

Describing her art, Arlene explains that “Each piece has its own individual life. I don’t have the sense that my work needs to convey anything. Sometimes it’s just form and shape or, for a commissioned piece, a specific context that is part of the message of that piece. Sometimes things come in a series, sometimes it’s just a line or the beauty of an abstract form. I even do jewelry with a brass rod or create figures with gestures that could convey joy and sorrow. Each piece allows me to put an expression in three dimensions, bring something to life that has its own intent.” Her work, she says, “depends upon the medium, the scale and the context. I let the material talk to me. There

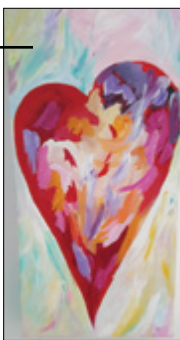


is an exchange between the material and myself. Bronze work has a very different characteristic from just taking a torch and cutting a piece of steel.” She laughs and confesses, “My work keeps changing because I get bored. That’s why I use a wide range of materials. You form things very differently from a piece of sheet metal and a lump of clay. The materials are my language, my vocabulary, how I express myself. I like people to get from my work what they feel by looking at it. I don’t want to determine their reaction. I create to bring something to life and how people see it depends on what they bring from their lives.”

As a woman and a feminist working in welding, traditionally a man’s world and male medium, Arlene’s challenges have been societal as well as artistic, but her creativity and talent, as well as her commitment to her work and her perseverance, have made her very successful. Her studio does not contain easels and brushes, but rather a thousand-pound chain hoist, vices, grinders, a plasma cutter and acetylene and oxygen tanks. Using the term “steely determination” to describe her passion for her art seems too easy. While her delightful smile belies her strength of conviction and commitment, it is that determination that let Arlene triumph whatever her chosen medium, creating in bronze, steel, clay and resin. [A new video of Arlene’s work by videographer Jay Lurie may be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESaFTcPDnuE>]

EUNI BALANOFF is a Central New York native for whom art has been a passion since she was a little girl. “At the age of five, my mother enrolled me in art classes at the Everson Museum, which was then at the corner of James Street and State Street,” she recalls. “It was a very old building with lots of charm and lots of big spaces to be free and experiment.” Euni tried all media except oil paint when she was young, but says, “I always seemed to step off the path that was given and experiment on my own. My passion grew with that freedom and allowed me to have no boundaries.”

Today Euni continues to work in all media, having



added oil painting to her repertoire. Her art ranges in scale from 4x4 inch squares to very large 30” x 24” canvases. Her subjects reflect her moods and encompass hearts, landscapes, water, places, people, action and abstracts. Art has infused Euni’s life. She worked professionally as a special education teacher’s assistant at Fayetteville-Manlius High School and is especially proud of her mentorship of a young artist with autism. She worked with special needs students at the high school for many years, in a special corner of the art room or in their classroom. She also worked in Jewish Community Centers in Syracuse, Boston and New Jersey, always making sure to develop their art programs.

Although she exhibited when she was younger, today Euni is content to display her work in her home, where she inspires the students she continues to teach privately. Some of her pieces are for sale in a local shop, including small-scale objects like greeting cards or one-of-a-kind t-shirts. Euni says she has “an endless passion for art” because “being an artist allows me to feel, to express myself, to be happy, sad or excited. It brings me to a calm creative place.”

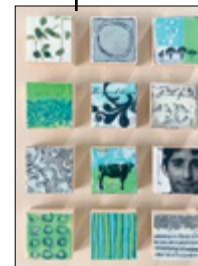


SALLY HOOTNICK works in oils, mixed media, and encaustics. Her paintings can be found in private collections in the United States, Canada, and Sweden and in the permanent collections of Upstate Medical Cancer Center, and the Pompey Museum. Explaining her work, Sally says, “We are products of our environment, and I had much freedom as a child to explore the natural world. My work is certainly influenced by the shapes, patterns, and colors found in nature.” Her art has evolved over time. “More recently, it occurred to me that other factors had impact as well. Endless hours of watching cartoons and reading comic books as a child imprinted a love of outline and bright, colorful geometric shapes into

my paintings. And a sense of place, in the form of aerial perspective and topography, can often be found in my still lifes and abstracts.”

Sally was drawn to encaustics, a painting technique in which pigments are mixed with hot liquid wax, for sensory reasons: “The translucency of wax allows views into the depths of the work,” she says. “The smoothness begs to be touched, and the beeswax gives off a subtle but lovely aroma.” Her work reflects her belief that “Life is made up of layers of memories and experiences that inform each new action that we take.” In her paintings, “surfaces are built up loosely with wax, paint and mark-making, knowing that the next day a new stratum will be laid on top of the original.

There is risk in this process, as often a section is covered that was working well. But each fresh layer gets a new revelation, and history is built.” Her paintings thus have two layers, one on the surface and one beneath, and she alternates between reality and abstraction. While the deeper areas may not be immediately apparent to the viewer, Sally says, “know that they are there, and trust that the work is richer for the underlying story.”



ROBIN KASOWITZ studied fine arts at Alfred University's School of Ceramic Arts, the premier university for that field. She recalls, "It provided me the best of the best in terms of its professors and facilities. Unfortunately, at that time, I didn't know what to do with an art degree." Robin changed her major to psychotherapy and put her art on hold. But she never lost her dedication to pursuing her art, and now she has the time and passion to create again. She has returned to what she describes as "my gift, my obsession and my vitality."

Robin works in clay, fabric, paint and reclaimed objects that brightly adorn her female figures with symbolism and messages. Through her work as a figural artist, she aims to highlight "the treasures that are essentially feminine." She explains, "What I seek lies beyond simply achieving female and male equality. My paramount goal lies in the awareness and honor of equal value."



Robin sculpts figures that reflect her unique perspective on the feminine force and bespoke female value. She carves, embellishes, unburies and defines her figures "to reflect the vast and powerful female spirit." Her figures "are filled with raw and primal emotions; they are intuitive, nurturing, drenched in color and mystery." Robin's aim is "to allow women to realize their own significance and importance without seeking to wear male values like an oversized, stretched out hand-me-down." She elaborates: "History has provided us with a multitude of male power symbols from equestrians on horses to Basquiat's warrior, but there are very few female power symbols for us to learn from and enjoy. I want to unbury and begin to fill this void with a vast array of female power symbols,

including the power of reflection, resilience, endurance, protection, illumination, regeneration, color, emotion, circular reasoning, nurturing and unwavering love."

In addition to creating her figures, Robin is currently working on a collaborative piece that will be shown in March at ArtRage. Robin shares, "I love the audience's interaction with my pieces as much as I love creating them. I'm honored that my pieces are finding a growing audience of collectors who want my pieces in their homes to display and enjoy."

HELENE STARR creates sculptures comprised of free-standing or wall-mounted clay and metal. Shapes intertwine and interrelate for balanced asymmetry with movement and stillness as if affected by the forces of nature. Helene's pieces have been exhibited in galleries in Central New York as well as Texas, Tennessee, Florida, New York City and the Everson Museum. She has a studio in her home in DeWitt as well as at the Delavan Center in downtown Syracuse.



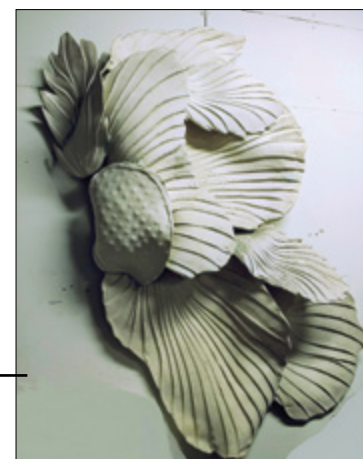
Helene grew up with art. Her father was an accomplished artist, and he encouraged his young daughter. Together they watched painters on television and studied the works of great artists, prints of which he laid out on a large table in their home. So, it was no surprise that Helene, having artistic talent, decided to go to the Parsons School of Design in a joint program with NYU in New York City, a place she describes as "the perfect place to study art."

Painting was not to be Helene's ultimate medium, however. Although she has a BFA in painting, she has her MFA in ceramics. She was introduced to ceramics at the Syracuse Clay Institute, and working side by side with famous visiting artists was hooked. "Right from the beginning, you could see shapes, forms and colors of what the earthy clay could be. You get involved with the material. It starts off malleable and then the slab starts to become a form." She eventually began to drape the clay around her

studio to make forms that relate to nature and respond to gravity. Using metal adds linear rhythms, connects and supports the clay. It's yin and yang, the contrasts of materials, the soft clay which, when it is fired, becomes hard."

Helene enjoys the challenges of commission work and finds working with smaller pieces and jewelry to be fun, but she is best known for her large-scale sculptures, comprised of free-standing or wall-mounted clay and metal. "I have always liked movement," she says, and likes "putting things together, using the metal in parts that can move around." She has even designed some pieces which the owners can rearrange allowing them to be involved creatively.

Nature and change infuse all of Helene's work. "There are always changes in nature," she says. "The moon affects the waves and the waves shape the sand. My clay is made out of sand, and I use it to capture the life cycle." Helene's art is also changing and evolving. She is looking forward to creating new works in the years ahead that will explore new materials and techniques.



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Dance

A Delicate Balance Between Perfection and Beauty

Throughout Jewish tradition, dance has been an expression of joy. People danced to celebrate military victories, marriages and momentous events. The Ba'al Shem Tov, founder of Hasidism, taught his followers that “the dances of the Jew before his Creator are prayers.” The *Jewish Observer* is delighted to share with readers the profiles of four young dancers from our community who exemplify the exhilaration of dance.

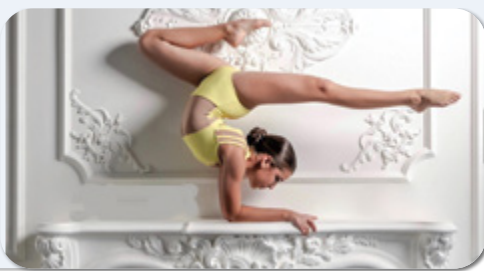


JESSICA BEASLEY

The Dance World Cup is the dance equivalent of the Olympics, so when Jessica Beasley won one gold and five bronze medals performing in Portugal in 2019, she had every reason to say, “It made me feel really proud and happy.” Jessica started dancing ballet at the age of four “because it was something my sister and I were able to do together.” She later

began to try more genres of dance like Acro, Tap, Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary and Hip-Hop. “Dance has always been something fun and stress free for me,” says Jessica, adding, “I like dancing because it allows me to express myself in a unique and different way.”

Her gold medal was for an Acro number with a team of dancers representing Canada, where Jessica lived before moving to Central New York in 2019 with her family. Jessica’s mother, Laura, says that dance for Jessica is “an all-consuming, year-round thing,” which explains why she is so good at it. At the Dance World Cup, she was one of over 120,000 competitors from 62 countries who had competed to reach the top in what has been described as “the greatest all-genre dance competition in the world for children and young adults around the world.”



TREVOR VAN ORDEN

“Dance to me means the freedom to express yourself. It is my safe space. Dance continually teaches me how to grow as an individual,” says dancer, choreographer and teacher Trevor Van Orden. Trevor grew up in Central New York,

attended the Syracuse Hebrew Day School and Fayetteville-Manlius High School. He received his B.A. in dance from SUNY Potsdam, was a peer instructor/company member for Borinquen Dance Theatre in Rochester and now lives and works in San Diego.

Trevor’s interest in dance started in an unlikely place: bar mitzvah parties. “I’m Jewish, so yeah, I went to A LOT of bar mitzvahs. And I just started dancing,” he recalls. “I remember I had a hurt leg one year, but I just HAD to go out there and dance to the Cotton Eye Joe.” His mom made him take martial arts classes, but Trevor watched dance videos on YouTube, studying the different choreographies. Eventually he found his way into the dance studio and into a dance company that brought him to San Diego.

Trevor currently teaches jazz, hip-hop and contemporary to kids and adults at the Coronado Academy of Dance. He is also the director of dance for the nonprofit, Heartbeat Music and Performing Arts Academy. He dances and performs in addition to teaching, which he hopes his students find inspirational. “I’m a dance teacher who is still dancing and performing,” he says. “I tell my students when I go out on auditions, and I tell them if I got the part. If you apply yourself, this is what you can do!” Trevor sums up his art: “When I dance, I feel like nothing can stop me. I feel true freedom, I feel present and pure joy which I believe we all need to learn to do in order to truly be ourselves.”



ALIYA IOSELOVICH

To watch Aliya Ioselovich dance is to understand the expression “poetry in motion.” Aliya has been a competitive ballroom dancer since 2012. Her recent achievements include solo awards at the 2021 Metropolitan Dancesport Championships, including International Latin winner, International Ballroom winner, American Smooth winner and American Rhythm winner. These follow on her performance at the 2019 NY/NJ Dancesport Challenge Junior Division, where she was the Gold American Rhythm Championship winner, Advanced American Rhythm Scholarship winner, Top Overall Student Award winner, Gold International Latin Championship winner, Gold International Ballroom Championship winner and Gold American Smooth Championship winner.

“I started dancing when I was about three years old,” seventeen-year-old Aliya recounts. “My mom and dad signed me up for a few classes at Fred Astaire Dance Studio



to get me out of my shell, since I was very shy as a little kid. I personally never wanted to dance and I would hide behind my mom and dad when we would go to the studio. The teachers and other kids who were dancing tried to get me to dance, but I would continue to hide.” Fast forward 14 years and meet a very different young woman. “Thanks to dancing I am now a very social person. I never stop talking and laughing. And I’m no longer easily embarrassed. I love everything about dancing: the movements, the music, the connection with my partner and the crowd, the feeling of perfection and elegance, while at the same time being strong and controlled. The timing must be perfect in order for the dance to play out well. The amount of joy I get when I see my loving family and coaches cheering for me, and telling me “Stronger! Come on! Come on!” It’s a very powerful moment being on the floor, and really having control of the crowd.”

Right now, Aliya is working on becoming a professional dancer, although she is not quite sure if she wants to go into the dancing world as a career. “I’m in the middle of choosing if I want to one day open my own dance studio and go into that business, or go into something different like becoming a doctor in neurology.” Whatever the future holds for her, Aliya is sure that dancing will somehow be a part of it. “Dancing is really just something that makes me happy, and it’s challenging, but it’s worth it. I do dancing for myself. It’s more just about expressing my feelings through music and movement.”

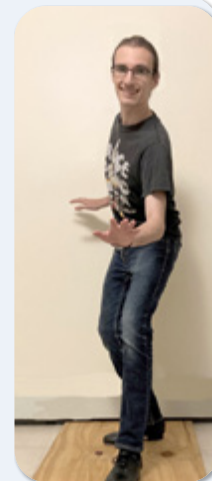


MATTHEW HINSHAW

Matthew Hinshaw is a Technical Consultant at aPriori Technologies in Boston. As a technical consultant, Matthew configures and deploys software to engineering and sourcing professionals across a range of industries. Sounds like the perfect job for a graduate of Boston University’s College of Engineering with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. At this point, readers are probably wondering why Matthew is included in an article about dancing. Do engineers dance?

This one does. Matthew has been tap dancing since he was 4 years old, and throughout high school was a frequent attendee of Barry Shulman’s tap class at the JCC. As a senior at BU, he was president of BU on Tap, the campus’ only tap-dancing club. For Matthew, tap dancing is all about the sound. “The sounds can tell more of a story than just movement by itself,” he says. “I like my tap to be very precise—it makes sense, I’m an engineering student—and the tap shoe allows you to be very specific about how you’re communicating.” Tap dancing requires athleticism, grace, and coordination, with the shoes being the instrument. Matthew rehearsed two to three times a week, each session between two and five hours.

Tap is something he really loves. “You’re listening to the sounds, you’re feeling the sounds, you’re seeing the people moving,” says Hinshaw. “It’s amazing and it’s really meaningful to feel like a part of that.” While there have been few opportunities to dance in person over the last year and a half, Matthew has stayed involved in the tap world through virtual classes and the Boston-based tap group, Touché Taps.





IMPACT

Federation Sponsors Adult Hebrew Classes to the Community at No Charge

Temple Concord and CBS-CS have been collaborating for more than ten years to teach Hebrew to adults and older teens. This year, for the first time, Federation is underwriting the classes, which are open to all in the community.

Many adults are hesitant to sign up for beginning Prayerbook and Torah Hebrew classes for various reasons: they may be embarrassed that they never learned to read Hebrew when they were young, they converted to Judaism but never learned Hebrew, they're planning to convert to Judaism and want to learn Hebrew, they want to refresh their knowledge of Hebrew because they want to participate more actively, their child is becoming bar or bat mitzvah and they want an *aliyah* or they want to have an adult bar or bat mitzvah because they never had one. All are welcome in the Beginning Hebrew classes for adults.

The classes are taught by Ruth Federman Stein and Jessie Kerr-Whitt. Ruth taught English on both the high school and college level for many years and has a Ph.D. in instructional design from Syracuse University. Her father, Simon Friedeman, was the rabbi in Rome, NY, during the 1940s. When Ruth was asked to teach Beginning Hebrew, she was excited by the opportunity to teach a different subject. Jessie Kerr-Whitt has her master's degree in curriculum development and taught at the Syracuse Hebrew Day School for 35 years. She also taught Hebrew in Temple Concord's religious school for twenty years and tutored students in preparation for their b'nai mitzvah ceremony. Teaching Adult Hebrew was a natural choice. After retirement, both Ruth and Jessie were very happy to continue teaching from a new perspective.

Lin Fields, Temple Concord's chair of the Congregational Learning Committee, is an enthusiastic proponent of the classes. She said, "As a newer member of Temple Concord, I was thrilled to take not only Ruth's beginning class, but also Jessie's Advanced Hebrew class. I had never learned Hebrew as a younger person, and studying with both of these

wonderful women was a joy. Taking the classes on Zoom made it so much easier for me, since I live in Watertown. I highly recommend these classes to anyone, beginner or not. I have learned so much, and you will, too."

This year, Temple Concord and Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas will again be collaborating to offer Prayer Book and Biblical Hebrew classes to adult and teen learners. The classes will be subsidized by a grant from Federation, are open to all in the community at no charge and will be held on Zoom. "Beginning Adult Hebrew," taught by Ruth Stein, will start on October 5 from 7-8:00 pm for 12 sessions. This class introduces the Hebrew alphabet and progresses to simple reading and basic vocabulary. This is the class to take to start from the beginning or review the basics. *L'Shon ha-Kodesh, A Beginning Hebrew Book for Adults* is the text. **For more information, email Stein.Ruth@gmail.com or call 315-751-5377.**

The other class, "Tav is for Torah," will also begin on October 5, but from 6-7 pm. This class will emphasize basic grammar and prayer book and biblical Hebrew vocabulary. There will be opportunities to practice reading skills and review Hebrew word roots and other basic concepts. Jessie Kerr-Whitt will teach the class. **For more information, contact Jessie at KerrWhitt@gmail.com.** Students will need a copy of *Tav is for Torah* and should have it for the first class.

Both classes have a minimum required enrollment. There is no charge for either of the classes and Federation is also covering the cost of the textbooks. **To register, contact the CBS-CS office at office@CBSCS.org.** Those enrolled will have to pick up their textbooks from the CBS-CS office.

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Making Music Again at CBS-CS

By Joanne Villegas



Miracle of miracles! Over 70 music lovers of all ages enjoyed an outdoor Jewish-themed concert presented by Sue Jacobs and the Seneca String Quartet. The program, hosted by Congregation Beth Sholom – Chevra Shas on July 25, was upbeat, soulful and energizing. For many in the audience, this was their first time returning to CBS-CS after so many months of isolation. The music was a special and emotional way to reconnect with community.

Coming Up at TAY

by Sonali McIntyre

As the hustle and bustle of the High Holidays comes to a close, Temple Adath Yeshurun is pleased to offer several opportunities for community and learning. Cantor Esa Jaffe will resume *Rising Song: Singing with the Cantor*, which occurs once a month via Zoom and onsite. Rabbi Zehavi will resume Contemplative Havdalah and Meditation Services, meeting once a month via Zoom. Beginning in mid-October, Rabbi Zehavi will offer a weekly class entitled *Portraits in Leadership*.

The TAY Sisterhood is planning to host a program in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month led by Dr. Jayne Charlamb. Monthly *Se'udah Shelishit* led by Rabbi Zehavi for the late fall/early winter will also resume in mid-October. At the end of October, Hazak will have its annual Paid-Up Membership Program and Officer Installation.

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The Weinberg Family; (L-R) Andy, Isabella, Aiden, Carolyn, and Gabriel enjoyed ice cream from Skippy's Ice Cream truck during Temple Adath Yeshurun's High Holy Day Drive-Up & Schmooze.

Additional details for TAY programming and events are available on the temple website at www.adath.org/calendar and through digital communications. **Contact info@adath.org or 315-445-0002 for more information.**

Temple Concord Announces Regina F. Goldenberg Series Author Talks

by Chana Meir

A wide variety of authors will discuss their work as part of the 2021-2022 Regina F. Goldenberg series at Temple Concord. All events are free, open to the public and on Zoom, unless otherwise noted. *To receive a link, please register on the events calendar at www.templeconcord.org.*

OCTOBER 21, 2021, 7:30 pm

Peter Zheutlin will discuss *Spin*, his novel based on the true story of Annie Cohen Kopchovsky's trip around the world on bicycle in 1895.

NOVEMBER 21, 2021, 3:30 pm

Courtney Zoffness will speak on *Spilt Milk*, her reflections of what we inherit from generations past and what we pass on to our children.

DECEMBER 13, 2021, 7:30 pm

Jen Sprya, former "Late Show with Stephen Colbert" writer, will discuss *Big Time*, her collection of dark, satirical and humorous essays.

JANUARY 23, 2022, 3:30 pm

Tracy Walder will speak on *The Unexpected Spy*, her memoir of how she went from her college sorority to the CIA.

FEBRUARY 13, 2022, 3:30 pm

Rachel Cerrotti will discuss *We Share the Same Sky*, outlining her journey tracing her grandmother's escape from the Nazis.

MARCH 6, 2022, 11:00 am

In conjunction with the Temple's Sisterhood Program, Joshua Henkin will speak about his novel *Morningside Heights*, following a woman's life in New York City through thirty years of marital and family challenges.

MARCH 21, 2022, 7:30 pm

Noah Isenberg will discuss *Billy Wilder on Assignment*, the first English translation of the screenwriter and director's early writings, from his time as a journalist in Berlin and Vienna.

APRIL 24, 2022, 3:30 pm

Professor Shana Gadarian, Chair of the Department of Political Science at SU, will talk, in person, about *Pandemic Politics: How COVID-19 Exposed the Depth of American Polarization*.

It Runs in the Family

by Judy Schmid

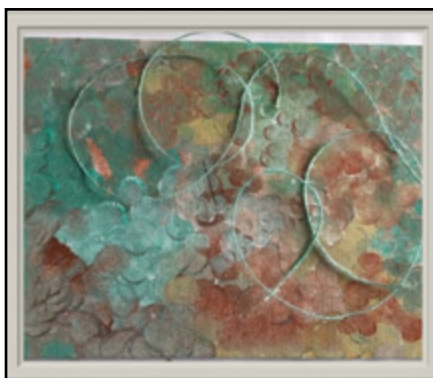
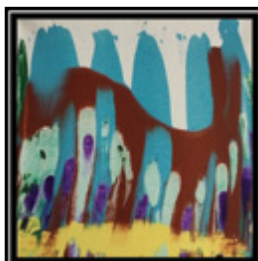


Every summer, Menorah Park sponsors a day of golfing, socializing and celebrating the community's generosity that helps Menorah Park provide quality programs, excellent care and resident scholarships. The 38th Menorah Park Golf Open was held at Drumlins Country Club on August 11. The first-place women's Captain & Crew team, led by Stephanie Pinsky and helmed by Heidi Lowenstein, Joanne Maloff and Beth Goldberg, was one of two first-place teams. The second winning team was the men's team, led by Todd Pinsky and his teammates David Temes, Brad Hack and Ben Mastronardi.

SJFS Presents “Emerging into the Light” Art Show and Reception

By Judith Huober

Syracuse Jewish Family Service invites community members to celebrate the works of artists from the agency’s M-Power U (MPU) Arts and Minds Community by visiting a show of their work to be held at The Oaks at Menorah Park from October 8 through December 8. An opening reception on October 8 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm will offer visitors the opportunity to meet and chat with these “non-artist” yet highly creative older adults who have completed many exceptional pieces over the past year in various media, including sculpture, poetry, photography, mixed media, painting and collage.



SJFS’s creative aging programs work from the idea that art is both the stimulus and the outcome of healthy, creative self-expression, at any age and cognitive status and given supportive tools, structured learning and socially embedded opportunity. The participants in SJFS’s Arts & Minds Community of MPU: A Learning Community for Early Memory Loss come together in this weekly 4-hour program to experience the unique variety of benefits the arts offer in the realms of physical, cognitive and social-emotional health and wellbeing, empowering their individuality, personal growth and independence and learning to cope with changes such as mild memory loss, mild cognitive impairment, and/or early-stage dementia, and the practical and emotional challenges that go along with them.

“This is not a paint ‘n sip program where everyone is aiming to produce a single, recognizable version of the assigned topic, like a sunset or an apple tree,” explained outgoing SJFS Director Judith Huober. “This is completely individualized and amazingly artistic. Deep, mindful experiencing of the

sensory, aesthetic, communicative and intellectual aspects of art, along with a lifting of lifetime inhibitions around what it’s ‘supposed to’ look like – and around the supposed lifetime lack of artistic talent – leads to a unique outpouring of unanticipated and unexpectedly rich creativity – as well as improved coping and functioning,” she continued.

“It’s uplifting – to the participants and staff alike – to watch different expressive capacities emerge from engaging with art of varying degrees of abstraction, such as



enjoyment of color, form and texture, or insight into their own process and that of others – that more than compensate for characteristics that are beginning to be altered, such as short-term memory and verbal skills, and allow participants to produce meaningful, communicative and startlingly beautiful works.”

The Arts and Minds Community is held every Friday from 9:30 am-1:30 pm in SJFS’s BeWell Together suite at the Oaks. Contact Ellen Somers, SJFS Assistant Director at somers@sjfs.org or call 315-446-9111, x225, for further information. In addition to the Arts and Minds Community, M-Power U also includes a Brain Power Group Community on Mondays and a Parkinson’s Community in formation that will be held on Wednesdays. Additional group, family and individualized programming is also available in the Creative Aging initiative.

All art show visitors must observe COVID precautions including wearing masks while at the art show and reception; contact Alise Gemmell at 315-446-9111 x240 or by email to gemmella@sjfs.org to RSVP to the reception and/or to request an appointment to visit the art show through December 8.

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Epstein School Introduces 3-Credit College Course

by Anick Sinclair

The Rabbi Jacob H. Epstein School of Jewish Studies is excited to announce that the school has partnered with SUNY Cortland to offer a college level course to its 11th and 12th grade students. JUDAISM: HISTORIC INSIGHTS is a year-long course and upon its successful completion, students will receive three SUNY college credits.

Students will not have to take extra classes outside of regular school hours, but the new course will involve readings and other work between sessions. Aaron Spitzer, Epstein's head of school, is enthusiastic about the new curriculum addition. "This is a course that will ensure our teens earn tangible credit for their involvement and hard work, and that the love of Judaism will accompany them into adulthood. It's also a fantastic way for students to add to their suite of college credits should they be going down that route."

The class will be taught by Rabbi David Kunin and will focus on the history, beliefs and practices of Judaism, including such topics as "Jewish literatures in context, Medieval and early Modern" and "Israel and America: The Promised land, Zionism and the State of Israel." "The course will encourage busy juniors and seniors to continue their studies at Epstein," said Epstein board president, Fran Ciardullo. "This has been a work in progress for a number of years, and it is a huge achievement for the school. I am proud and delighted that this project has finally come to fruition. It is our way of advancing education and ensuring that our curriculum is on par with other Jewish high schools across the country."

The course will begin on October 5th. All interested juniors and seniors are invited to contact Epstein for more information at www.epsteincny.org or email epsteincny@gmail.com.

New Year Brings a New Siddur to the Community Hebrew School

"The word 'community' has become the most important word in our school," said Ora Jezer, education director of the Syracuse Community Hebrew School. "We strive to be a community where each student, each family and each staff member feels welcome and comfortable. We have a *kehillah* (community) where time is given for self-exploration embedded in prayer."

Over the past year the Syracuse Community Hebrew School directors worked with clergy to create a new *siddur* for the school. Rabbi Kunin of Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevre Shas, Cantor Jaffe and Rabbi Zehavi of Temple Adath Yeshurun and Cantor Eglash and Rabbi Fellman of Temple Concord worked tirelessly to create this new prayerbook. "We cannot thank the clergy enough," Jezer said. "They really came together and created something amazing for our students."

The SCHS *siddur* was designed and printed for the SCHS *kehillah* to promote further self-exploration and engagement with the community. The *siddur* went through several revisions, with clergy meeting with school directors monthly to bring it to fruition. Each student will receive their own copy to use this fall in *t'filah* class, tutoring and at home to continue the community connection beyond the school hours.

The Siddur uses color-coding to highlight the differences in each member synagogue's service. The year will begin with the *minchah* afternoon service and switch to *maariv* evening service to coordinate with daylight saving time as sundown comes earlier. In the spring, the school will switch back. "The use of both services and the three different versions from each of the three synagogues also allows students to learn both about the differences between them as well as how much our community has in common," said Andrea Waldman, the SCHS administrative director.

Syracuse Hebrew Day School Begins Search for New Head

"SHDS is an amazingly wonderful school," says Laura Lavine. "If you want to lead a gem of a school, this could be for you." Heading the Syracuse Hebrew Day School is as much a labor of love as it is an administrative position. That is why the Day School is beginning a search for a new head now, as Lavine has announced her retirement in June.

"A successful head transition has as its foundation a thorough search process," says Leah Goldberg, the search committee's chair. "We start with a search committee that represents the school community, establish a timeline and stick to it and communicate progress to the school's constituents, so that everyone feels involved and informed."

The process of finding a new head of school, especially a Jewish day school, takes time, but in recent years, schools have seen search timelines tighten and the number of hiring cycles per year increase. "The Day School wanted to take advantage of Ms. Lavine's notice to do a thorough search and a thoughtful transition," says Rebecca Resig, the SHDS Board chair. "We know that it will be challenging to fill the position and we want to do it right and find the best person."

"We know that people are moving to Central New York and we hoping that someone who has the right qualifications will apply for this position," added Leah Goldberg. "Or maybe someone knows a person who would be just right for SHDS and they could be encouraged to move here to accept the job."

The description for the position is as follows: The Syracuse Hebrew Day School (SHDS) invites applications and nominations for the position of Head of School. SHDS was founded in 1960 as a pluralistic not-for-profit educational corporation operating under the laws of the State of New York. Current enrollment is approximately 50 students in kindergarten through sixth grade. SHDS is committed to providing leading secular and Jewish education for K-6 children in the Central New York area.

The Head of School is responsible for advancing the school's mission to teach, inspire, and nurture future leaders of our Jewish community, through an unparalleled academic experience guided by Jewish studies and values. The Head of School serves as a role model for the Jewish culture



and community of the school. This individual will work with the school's Board of Directors to ensure financial success, recruitment and retention of students and faculty, and strengthen SHDS's community presence.

The Head of School acts as the chief executive officer of SHDS, responsible for the day-to-day operations and future vision of the school. The Head of School provides leadership for faculty and staff in the development, implementation, and evaluation of a comprehensive educational program geared toward excellence in secular studies, Judaic studies, and auxiliary programs. This individual must be committed to the following key objectives: 1) constantly elevating the educational initiatives of the school, 2) inspiring and mentoring teachers and students to reach their highest potential, 3) communicating effectively about the school and its mission with parents, students, alumni, and the greater community.

Qualifications for the position of Head of School include significant experience in the field of education, dynamic leadership skills, and proven competence in institutional advancement and development, such as experience with successful grant writing and fundraising. A Master's degree or above, or its equivalent, in the area of Judaic or secular elementary education, educational leadership, or academic administration is strongly preferred. Applicants are encouraged to visit <http://www.shds.org/> for information regarding the school.

Confidential inquiries regarding the position of SHDS Head of School and questions regarding the search process should be directed to the SHDS Search Committee at shdssearch2021@gmail.com. Applications and nominations for the position must be submitted electronically as attachments to shdssearch2021@gmail.com. Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and the complete contact information for three references. Letters of nomination must include the complete contact information of the nominator and the candidate. Applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled.

JCC Rolling Out Computer and Other Adult Classes This Fall

The Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center wants to give you a reason to get out of the house and learn something new as the pandemic continues to wind down. From computer and art classes to lectures, the JCC is planning on offering in-person classes on the first Sunday of every month starting in November.

For anyone intimidated by computers, the JCC can help ease your nerves. Do you know how to “Google” something, set up your email or keep track of appointments using an online calendar? If you’d like to become more proficient with these skills and many more computer, tablet or smartphone tools, then let the JCC help.

Starting in late fall the JCC will be rolling out “Digital Basics” classes to help adults and seniors of any age become more proficient and confident in their use of technology. Each class will focus on a different aspect of your digital life—from Web browsing and email, to contacts and calendars. Learn what “The

Cloud” is and how to best organize and find your files.

The first set of Digital Basics classes will focus on using Google’s free software as an intro into the digital world with no extra purchase cost needed. Learn simple tricks and workflows that will help save you time and frustration.

Look for future announcements and information posted on the JCC website www.jccsyr.org about upcoming classes. For more information and suggestions on classes and content, contact Cindy Stein at 315-445-2040, ext. 104, or cstein@jccsyr.org.

Menorah Park goes BIG and LOUD with Parkinson’s Treatment

by Judy Schmid

Arming themselves with training in an innovative evidence-based program, the Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy teams at Menorah Park of CNY begin their new GO BIG, GO LOUD program to assist residents and rehab patients diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease. The specialized training is funded by a \$50,000 grant from the Sephardic Home for the Aged and will start rolling out on October 1.

“Menorah Park will be the only senior living campus in our area to implement this new series of protocols for Parkinson’s patients,” MaryEllen Bloodgood, Menorah Park CEO, said. “GO BIG, GO LOUD is a holistic, interdisciplinary program using a suite of integrated services and strategies to maintain or achieve wellness. Our team will work on strengthening large movements and speech.”

The program will also collaborate with Syracuse Jewish Family Service’s M-PowerU: Parkinson’s Community, which has weekly sessions. The collaboration will include team members Jim Kirwan, director of rehabilitation, who has

extensive experience treating a variety of neuromuscular disorders and conditions and Ellen Somers, case manager for SJFS.

The Sephardic Foundation on Aging has partnered with Menorah Park previously. For over 80 years, the Sephardic Foundation’s mission has been to foster innovation and collaboration in the field of aging so older people and their communities have the support and resources they need to flourish.

Families and medical professionals interested in learning more about GO BIG, GO LOUD for their family members or patients can contact Jim Kirwan at 315-446-9111 x164 or jkirwan@menorahparkofcny.com.

Moishe Pod Opens in Syracuse

In 2006, a group of Jewish young adults in California had a problem. They wanted to engage more actively in the Jewish community but were too old for Jewish life on campus and too young for traditional adult and family programming. Fortunately, Morris Squire, a philanthropist in Santa Barbara gave them the opportunity to create programming for themselves. He helped them host a Shabbat dinner, which morphed into a variety of peer-led Jewish programs. The first Moishe House was born.

Today, Moishe House is the global leader in peer-led Jewish young adult engagement around the world. Over 70,000 young Jews annually experience innovative, engaging, exciting Jewish programming, all planned and executed by their peers in 100 communities and 25 cities as diverse as Sydney, Toronto, Los Angeles, Beijing, Munich, Odessa, Warsaw, Sao Paulo – and now, Syracuse. The model is simple: Moishe House subsidizes the rent of groups of two to six residents in exchange for their promise to organize events for other Jews in their 20s. The Moishe House or Pod hosts create meaningful home-based Jewish experiences for themselves and their peers.

Local Moishe Pod hosts Alan Chelnitsky and Alexander Gabriel met in Israel when Alex was discharging from the IDF just as Alan was enlisting. Alex is from Marcellus and Alan is from North Caldwell, New



Jersey. Although Alex moved back to Central New York and Alan moved to Brooklyn, they stayed in touch over the years. Learning about Moishe House, the two friends asked each other, “How come we don’t open one in Syracuse?” The answer was, “Why not?” So they joined forces, submitted an application and were approved to open a Moishe Pod in downtown Syracuse on October 15.

The two-bedroom apartment that will house the Pod is located downtown Syracuse. Alan and Alex have been busy creating social media pages, a website and an email address for Moishe Pod Syracuse. They have reached out to the Central New York Jewish community to try to identify young Jewish adults aged 22-32 in cities around the world who are interested in building and leading their dream Jewish community with their friends. “We are very excited to be launching a Moishe Pod in Downtown Syracuse,” said Alex. Alan added, “We have an email set up for the Moishe Pod now. It is info@moishepodsyracuse.com. Our website is still being developed but will have a calendar and email newsletters sign up option in October. We look forward to meeting many new faces for Shabbat meals, social gatherings, activities, and learning sessions!”



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DR. LIONEL A. RUDOLPH
August 5, 2021



Dr. Lionel A. Rudolph, 98, died on August 6 after a brief illness. He was born in Brooklyn on May 23, 1923 to Harry and Hannah Rudolph. Upon completion of college at the University of Wisconsin, he entered the military, earning an honorable discharge as a lieutenant colonel for the medical corps.

He then attended New York University School of Medicine, graduating in 1951. He completed his residency at Bellevue Hospital Center and came to Syracuse with his wife, Dr. Claire Rudolph, in 1952 for his residency in internal medicine at SUNY Syracuse Medical Center. Upon completion of his residency, Dr. Rudolph had a primary care practice on University Avenue for over 40 years, serving the residents of Syracuse and the surrounding region. He also served as a primary care physician for Hutchings Psychiatric Center and was on the faculty of the SUNY Upstate School of Medicine.

Dr. Rudolph had many interests and was a supporter of arts and culture in Syracuse. He was also an avid runner and ran for a number of years in the annual Mountain Goat race, completing his last race when he was in his eighties. His wife of 68 years, Dr. Claire Rudolph, served on the faculty of the Syracuse University School of Social Work for many years. She passed away in 2016.

He is survived by his daughter Susan (Jim) Barrett and sons Dr. Daniel (Donna) Rudolph and Dr. Alan (Barbara) Rudolph and his grandchildren Rebecca, David, Rachel, Caroline, Andrew, Adam and Matthew and three great-grandchildren, Franklin, Sebastian and Mason.

Donations may be made to Green Lakes State Park at the National Heritage Trust.

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LESLIE H. COHEN
August 14, 2021



Leslie H. Cohen, who resided at Menorah Park, Syracuse, passed away on August 14 at the age of 86. Born on January 13, 1936 and raised in Syracuse, he was the son of Nathan and Zena Cohen. He attended Syracuse University Law School and was a practicing attorney for over 50 years. Soon after finishing law school, he was appointed to the position of assistant district attorney, the youngest district attorney appointed in Onondaga County.

Leslie was devoted to his family, friends and the Jewish community. He instilled in his children and grandchildren the important values he lived by and exemplified - simply summarized in three principles: family comes first, be a good person and be a good Jew.

He was predeceased by his brother, Jeffrey Cohen, of Schenectady, NY.

He will be very sorely missed by those who survived him: his wife Elaine Cohen of Syracuse, his children Jill Cohen-Bateman and son-in-law Danny Bateman of Jerusalem, Andrew Cohen of Tucson, Arizona and his stepchildren Judy and Nick Fedele of Cicero, and Robyn and Sherri Weitz of California. His grandchildren Dafna and Nadav Bateman, Natan and Orly Bateman, Shlomit Bateman, Ellery Cohen, Alex Cohen, and step-grandchildren Jaime Fedele and Delia Fedele, Andrew Weitz and Devan Weitz will always remember their Papa and know how much he loved them. Additionally, he had two great-grandchildren, Lavie Bateman and Yael Bateman.

May his memory be a blessing.

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DR. ARNOLD MOSES
August 4, 2021

Dr. Arnold Moses, 93, passed away on August 4. His family includes his daughters Linda (Arthur Gurevitch) Moses, Laurie (Richard Gordon) Moses and Amy Moses and his grandchildren Eric, Matthew, Jason, Jessie and Samantha. He was pre-deceased by his wife Carol in 2011. Arnold deeply cared for his family, community, patients and country. Like his father, he had a long and wonderful life.

Arnold was born in Newburgh, NY. After high school, at the age of 17, he enlisted in the US Army to serve his country. Afterwards, he attended Syracuse University where he earned a BS in Chemistry, magna cum laude, then a medical degree with honors from SUNY Upstate Medical School. He proudly did his internship and residency in New York City at Montefiore and Mt. Sinai Hospitals in endocrinology, then was recruited back to Syracuse for a lifetime of service to the medical and scientific communities. He was a distinguished service professor on the faculty at Upstate Medical Center where he served in many positions including the chief of the Clinical Research Center, taught medical students, residents and fellows, mentored junior faculty and cared for patients with thoughtfulness and compassion.

He was well known throughout Syracuse. He had many friends and loved playing tennis and swapping stories with them. The Moses family was one of the original members of Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas. His biggest joys were his children and grandchildren.

Burial was in the Singer family plot in Baron Hirsch cemetery on Staten Island. Contributions may be made to The Mimi and Arnold Weiner Yiddish Culture Fund c/o Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas or the Upstate Medical Alumni Association.

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DR. GAYLE CARSON-DEVECHT
August 1, 2021

Dr. Gayle Carson-DeVecht, international author and speaker, passed away in Miami Beach, FL on August 1 at the age of 83.

Gayle came to Miami in 1958 where she created and was CEO of the largest modeling and casting agency in the US outside of Los Angeles and New York. She grew the business into 350 employees and represented some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry.

Gayle led a glamorous life in the original heydays of Fabulous Miami in the 50s, 60s and 70s. She sold her business in 1980 and became an international author and speaker on business, writing seven bestselling books and speaking on six continents and in over 50 countries. At the time of her passing, she hosted 12 national radio shows on business and was the only woman in the world to hold several professional designations.

She graduated from Emerson College in Boston with a BA in broadcasting, theater and speech and received her doctorate from NOVA Southeastern University. She was deeply involved with both institutions and was on the boards of both universities. She also chaired and was a board member of numerous professional organizations and was the first woman in the United States to become chair of a Better Business Bureau.

Dynamic and inspirational, Gayle changed lives wherever she went and influenced countless people across the globe to pursue their dreams and lead more fulfilling lives. She believed in making the most of every moment, saying "When you refuse to give into negativity, the impossible becomes possible."

She loved her family and pets. She met and married the love of her life, Norman DeVecht, a real estate developer in Coral Gables, FL in 1963. They enjoyed 45 magical years together before his passing in 2008. Gayle was also predeceased by her son Steven DeVecht of Madrid, Spain. She is survived by her son, Scott DeVecht and son-in-law, Todd Brinton of Rancho Mirage, CA, her daughter, Tracy DeVecht, granddaughter Sarah and great-grandchildren Zion and Zia of Troy, AL. and her sister Ona Cohn Bregman of DeWitt, NY.

Tributes are being held by organizations across the country. A private family service was held in Miami Beach.

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BEATE ROSENBAUM-MADNICK
August 10, 2021

Beate Rosenbaum-Madnick, 96, died surrounded by family at the Nathan Littauer Extended Care Center in Gloversville on August 10. There, she touched the hearts of the entire staff, who are angels on Earth. We are extremely grateful for their dedicated care over the last year. Beate had lived in her own home until age 94.

Beate was born in Frankfurt, Germany on June 2, 1925 to Robert and Zizilie Weiss. Together, they immigrated to New York City in the mid-30s, where Beate fell in love with the city. She went on to study chemistry at New York University at a time when very few women went to college.

In New York, Beate met Edward Rosenbaum, who would become her husband, only after writing letters back and forth for two years while he went back to Germany to fight for the US in WWII. Beate was not one for loving exercise. Yet on their first date, they found themselves walking across the city to what was the first subway station in New York.

Following the war, Beate and Edward moved to Gloversville, where Edward had purchased a glove factory. They had three children, Ron, Neil and Robin and a very tight-knit community of friends. Beate



was an active volunteer and community member, a board member of many local organizations including the Knesset Israel Synagogue, the Jewish Community Center, Interfaith Tea and Nathan Littauer Hospital. Beate was fiercely dedicated to her family and children. She loved cooking and baking. She made the best cucumber salad and lemon squares. Following the death of her soulmate in 1985, she became a well-loved saleswoman for women's fashion in Gloversville. Once her kids had their own children, she spent time visiting, babysitting and enjoying spending as much time as she could with them.

After having explained many times that she was "spending a lot of time with George Madnick," her neighbor of over 30 years, she remarried.

Beate was a stoic woman with a smile that could light up a room. Her positivity and even-keeled attitude were contagious. No problem was insurmountable. She loved hot dogs, her kids and grandkids and had many opinions in her old age. Especially about blue nail polish.

She is survived by her son Ron (Steffi) Rosenbaum, Neil (Debbie) Rosenbaum and her daughter Robin (David) Fischer and her grandchildren Elyssa, Michael, Alex, Rachel, Logan, Sarah and Emily.

Donations may be made to the Knesset Israel Synagogue (34 East Fulton St., Gloversville, NY 12078) where Beate was a volunteer and board member for 60 years.

STEPHEN L. DAVIDSON
August 9, 2021

Stephen L. Davidson, 72, of Palmetto, FL, passed away on August 9 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Steve was born on May 8, 1949 to Teresa and Lawrence Davidson and raised in Levittown, NY. Most recently a resident of Palmetto, FL, he had been resident of the Skaneateles area for many years. After graduating from Great Neck North High School in 1967, he went to Oklahoma University to be a walk-on football player with the Sooners. He spent his professional life holding many jobs and owning various businesses, including a limousine company and a Jewish deli.

Steve was a passionate golfer, lover of chocolate and avid fan of the real estate market. He is most well-known for being a devoted, affectionate and nurturing father.

Steve is survived by his only daughter, Nina (Dennis Cohen) Davidson, his brother Jon Davidson and nieces Barrie Mooney and Sara Davidson Flanders and his former wife,

Justine Davidson. Graveside services and burial were in Lakeview Cemetery, Skaneateles. Donations may be made in Steve's name and to perpetuate his memory to The Greater Boston Food Bank <https://www.gbfb.org/donate/> www.sisskindfuneralservice.com

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