

Jewish Observer

A publication of the Jewish Federation of Central New York

of Central New York

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NOVEMBER 2021 | CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5782



Jewish Federation
OF CENTRAL NEW YORK

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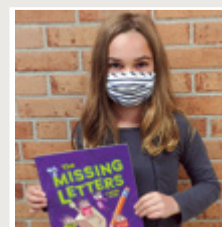
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If you do have an IRA, once you reach age 70½ you may begin making QCDs totalling up to \$100,000 a year from your IRA directly to qualified charitable organizations.

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To help you navigate the intricacies of the tax law, you may want to consult with a certified public accountant or qualified tax advisor to see what is best for you. The Jewish Community Foundation can also help.

For more information, please contact the Foundation’s Executive Director, Michael Balanoff, at 315-445-0270 or mbalanoff@jewishfoundationcny.org to set up a confidential meeting.



The Jewish Community
Foundation OF CENTRAL NEW YORK



From the Editor



Barbara Davis

Perspective is everything. Last month, I was reading in horror an article about the Yulin Dog Meat Festival, an annual 10-day event in Guangxi, China, in which over 10,000 dogs are eaten. I was, of course, appalled. Then I read another article that pointed out that judgmental Americans have a similar annual slaughter: 46 million turkeys are killed each year for Thanksgiving. Maybe the Chinese are equally repulsed by our holiday. It all depends on your point of view.

It is said that God gave us two ears so that we have the ability to listen to both sides of an issue. Jewish tradition – and much of Jewish life – is built on argumentation and disagreement. Arguing is an essential part of Judaism. Jewish texts are almost always either engaged in argument or perceived to be so. We see it in the Mishnah and Talmud, in every

kollel, yeshiva and Hebrew school. We're supposed to dive into the deepest issues and examine them from differing perspectives.

We live in an age in which so much is being reexamined and the perspectives and points of view that are emerging are very different from those that prevailed decades ago. Columbus Day, for example, has been renamed Indigenous People's Day in many states and school districts. The change accompanies a desire to alter the perspective, to de-center Columbus and make native people visible. Syracuse's own Columbus Circle is scheduled, not without controversy, to be renamed and its eponymous statue removed.

There are those who are distressed by change, others who advocate forcefully for it and still others who understand why it needs to be done but still regret having to do things differently. Educator Ali Michael explains that "we are raised on Columbus, the Nina, the Pinta and on the myth of Thanksgiving. We believe it, we want to believe it and our nationalist pride is tied to it. Meanwhile, most people have very little knowledge of the actual history that occurred, or the fact that there is a group of Native people who gather annually at Plymouth Rock on the day of Thanksgiving for an 'annual day of mourning' while most of the country is celebrating America with football, Macy's and turkey."

Change is hard. Changing perspective is hard. What was it like for the rabbis of old when they had to reinvision Judaism without a Temple? Galileo said that the earth revolves around the sun, not the reverse, and he was convicted of heresy by the Catholic Church. The Hasidic movement was originally condemned as superstitious, its adherents excommunicated and their books burned. But change continued. Change cannot be stopped.

Recently the Federation convened the presidents,

executives and rabbis of our community for the first 5782 session of this group, which meets every six weeks. Participants were asked to think "out of the box" and to come up with new ideas without concern for funding.

It was clear that change was in the air. "There needs to be a global checking of egos," one leader wrote. "The senior population often pulls the 'but it has always been done this way' and the younger feels they know better. We need to work together for the future success of this community." "We need more community-wide events," said another, "with less siloing of the shuls. We should get to know each other better." Someone else suggested "one community campus for all Jewish life: shuls, schools, JCC, senior living and programming, entertainment, kosher butcher/deli, coffee shop with music/performance space, etc." Several put forth the idea of synagogues "without borders, walls or denominations" or a "one-campus synagogue with different minyans and a common kiddush." These were our community leaders speaking, not a bunch of iconoclastic radicals.

Change happens when our perspective is altered. A Chinese proverb says, "When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and some build windmills." The Central New York Jewish community is feeling the winds of change. It is up to us to either resist or harness them. The wisdom of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks may help us. He reminded us that "change is not threatening, so long as we keep firm hold of the values by and for which we live. We can travel with confidence so long as we have a map."

As we celebrate the joys of the November holidays (Chanukah begins November 28!), let us also remember that there are many ways to look at things and many different perspectives, all of which are valid to the persons doing the looking. Tofurky, anyone?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY FOR THE JEWISH OBSERVER

As a Jewish community newspaper and organ of the Jewish Federation of Central New York, the *Jewish Observer* has a special relationship and obligation to its sponsor. Letters to the editor provide a forum for public debate, enabling the exchange of information, ideas and opinions between different groups of people. That being said, however, letters to the editor are not editorials. They must respond to articles or stories published in the JO and not to stories or events that are not covered by the JO.

Letters to the editor may be considered if they meet one of the following criteria: 1. Support or oppose a stance taken by the JO in an editorial, or responding to another writer's letter to the editor. 2. Comment on a current issue being debated by the JO's governing body, i.e., the Federation. 3. Remark on articles or stories that have appeared in a previous edition, either criticizing or praising them. 4. Correct a perceived error or misrepresentation.

The submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication. The JO prioritizes letters that contribute to a diverse array of perspectives on an issue. As with other content, letters to the editor are subject to selection, editing and framing processes and are limitations such as space and timeliness. Letters to the editor must not exceed 200 words and must be submitted no later than one month prior to the month of publication. They must include the author's full name and contact information. Anonymous letters will not be published. The factual accuracy of the letter is the responsibility of the writer, subject to review by the editor.

CORRECTION:

The JO erroneously stated that the Jewish Community Foundation gave \$720,000 to the Federation campaign in 2021. The correct figure is \$320,000.

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From the Federation President/CEO

Michael Balanoff

Disagreement is said to be part of our DNA as Jews. We are all familiar with the concept of two Jews, three opinions. But as I start my fifth year as president/CEO of the Federation, I take pride in the cooperative and mission-driven attitude that has characterized our work over the past few years.



In this same spirit, I would like to tell you about my vision for the Jewish community and perhaps even suggest ways to fulfill it. We know that our Jewish community, like most throughout the country, is aging, less affiliated and more integrated into American secular society than earlier generations—but also yearning to maintain and express their Jewish identity in ways comfortable to them. I see Federation's role as making people feel welcome and engaged in our community and helping to provide varied opportunities for them to express their Jewishness.

Many years ago, Federation saw its role as "being the voice of the Jewish community and speaking on its behalf." That is still necessary on occasion. Federation's voice is requested from time to time by the media, political leaders and other religious leaders in an effort to ascertain our perspective on events affecting the Jewish community. Our voice is needed in the wider community to maintain relationships that will be mutually respectful in maintaining a secure community among and between all participants.

But Federation's role has expanded. In addition to speaking FOR the Jewish community, Federation now needs to spend

more time speaking TO and WITH the Jewish community, so that we can ascertain what its needs and aspirations are. How else can we properly, efficiently and responsibly use the funds which you, our contributors, have entrusted to us? The wise use of those funds should have a positive impact on the recipients of their disbursement. Thus Federation will report to you regularly as to how your generosity benefits people in our community and abroad. This is the power of collective—or federated—giving. It is the opportunity to do more good as a group than most individuals could do on their own.

Through its capacity to convene and work in partnership with other Jewish organizations in Central New York, Federation will continue to influence the direction and power of change in our community in 5782 and beyond. Federation convenes a meeting of board and synagogue presidents, executive directors and pulpit rabbis every six weeks to understand and anticipate needs, plan for the future and maintain, improve and keep relevant the programs we encourage and support. Our conversations are cordial, respectful and responsive to solving the problems at hand.

Federation will always support the State of Israel and its right to a secure, independent and prosperous future. Whether we agree or disagree with the policies of its government, which are always open to debate in a free society, we will not waver in our support for the State to maintain its identity as the homeland of the Jewish people.

It may be in our genetic makeup to disagree, but I believe that there is a place for every Jew to participate in the Jewish community through the Federation. We share common interests, common values and common traditions. When we held a rally after the attack on the Tree of Life synagogue, all were invited. When we commemorate *Yom Hashoah*, all are wanted. When we celebrate *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*, all are welcome. I hope we can continue to celebrate our commonality together so that our future will be strong and enticing. That should overcome the DNA for all of us.

Oz Pearlman to Star in Federation Campaign Kick-Off



Oz Pearlman is an Israeli-born mentalist, magician and mind reader. At the age of 13, he fell in love with magic and at 14 began performing at restaurants, kids' shows and corporate events. As he got older, his focus changed from magic's sleight of hand to mind reading and mentalism. He learned from mentalist legends but also created his own original techniques.

What sets Oz's performances apart from others, even when held virtually, is the level of interaction. Each trick involves audience participation from beginning to end and recreates the energy and excitement of a live show. Guests do not simply watch but actively take part every step of the way.

Pearlman earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan and then joined Merrill Lynch

in their global technology services department. While working on Wall Street, he developed his passion for magic and, after a successful corporate entertainment show for Merrill, decided to focus on a full-time career as a mentalist. Following a winning appearance on *America's Got Talent*, he went on to a variety of national and international shows including NBC's *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, the *TODAY Show* and *ABC World News*.

Mentalism has been called "magic of the mind." Rather than utilizing sleight of hand and fast fingers, mentalism requires a deep knowledge of human behavior. It combines a multitude of techniques including the art of suggestion, subliminal messaging, body language reading, statistical analysis and neurolinguistic programming. Every show is different because every person is different, adding to the element of excitement and surprise at Oz's performances.

"Oz's unique blend of mentalism and mind reading create an interactive experience that redefines the very nature of a magic show," said Campaign Chair Debbie Rosenbaum. "He truly needs to be seen to be believed, and even then, you might not believe it," she added. "That is why we are so excited to have him be the star of our campaign kick-off event."

Major Donors, PACE fundholders, Federation and Foundation board members and Campaign Cabinet members are honored guests at the kickoff. Others may purchase tickets for \$180. **For more information, email CampaignKickOff@jewishfederationcny.org.**

From the 2022 Campaign Chair

Debbie Rosenbaum

I recently had an opportunity to listen to the new Prime Minister of Israel, Naftali Bennett, address the Jewish Federations of North America. His ruling coalition is the most diverse in modern day Israel. In addressing the American Jewish community, he said two things which really struck a chord with me. First, he said he'd like to import from America the ability to listen and not to define people and put them in a box. He wants to ensure that Jews of all walks of life, regardless of race, gender identity, Hasidic, Orthodox, Modern Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and unaffiliated Jews, have a voice.

This year's Jewish Federation Campaign Cabinet, highlighted on page 5, reflects this very diversity. Our members represent a full cross-section of affiliation and non-affiliation as well as of ages and backgrounds. Our goal is to represent all and make sure everyone is heard.

Secondly, the Prime Minister talked about "doing good." To inspire the next generation, he said, we must all work together for a common good. The Federation exists to support the work of all of our Jewish agencies and our community. Our parents' generation made it possible for us to have a JCC, a

community-wide Hebrew school, a Jewish day school and high school, a Jewish Home and many other organizations and programs that sustain our community. We must all work to ensure that we, in turn, provide these riches for our children and grandchildren.

Through your generosity, we can "do good." I hope you'll support our efforts this year by attending our Major Gifts virtual event, volunteering to make calls, answering the call and coming to the Rosamund Gifford Zoo on Sunday, January 9th for Zoo-per Sunday. Let's teach our children the importance of helping one another.



Federation Donates To HIAS To Aid Afghan Refugee Crisis

Federation made a donation to HIAS to support its work in dealing with the refugee crisis in Afghanistan. HIAS was founded as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society in 1881. Today, its mission is to rescue people whose lives are in danger for being who they are; to protect the most vulnerable refugees, helping them build new lives and reuniting them with their families in safety and freedom; to advocate for the protection of refugees and assure that displaced people are treated with the dignity they deserve.

HIAS staff traveled to United States military bases in Afghanistan to help



process Afghans who made it out of Kabul. HIAS affiliates across the U.S. are ready to receive Afghan refugees and are ramping up services for them. HIAS President and CEO Mark Hetfield emphasized that HIAS is in for the long haul. “This is an immediate crisis,” he said, “but it’s not going to have an immediate solution.” Federation made the donation on behalf of the Jewish community of Central New York. **That’s what community is all about and what Federation is for.**

Elaine Rubenstein Honored with Interfaith Leadership Award

More than 350 people gathered to demonstrate appreciation for the honorees at InterFaith Works’ Leadership Award Dinner in early September. Elaine Rubenstein was one of those whose commitment to the principles of democracy was recognized, along with Dan Cummings, Imam Mohammed ELFiki, Pastor Daren C. Jaime, Van Robinson and Linda Brown-Robinson, James Tormey and Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh.

In presenting the award to Elaine, Federation President/CEO and Foundation Executive Director Michael Balanoff said, “Elaine Rubenstein believes democracy is the freedom to ‘have a good education, access to health care, to find employment, and to be part of the government in a democratic way.’ Elaine has put these beliefs into action throughout her life. She has served on a number of Boards, including InterFaith Works, Syracuse Area Middle East Dialogue (SAMED), Crouse Hospital, American Friends of the Oasis of Peace in Israel and the Milton J. Rubenstein Museum of Science and Technology (MOST), which was named in memory of her beloved husband. ‘When I go to the MOST and see the street lined with school buses, I am just thrilled we are doing our mission,’ she says. ‘It’s the same feeling I get when I walk into InterFaith Works and see the



lobby filled with immigrant families from everywhere. I say to myself ‘We are enabling them to become citizens, learning what they can do to have a job in this community, giving them housing, health care, helping them to be part of the community and part of the economy here.’ Elaine is committed to InterFaith Works’ mission and its dialogue programs in particular. “The more you have the opportunity to listen and understand the cultures of other people, the more you have the opportunity to talk about your own interests, and this makes for democracy,” she says.

Letter To the Editor:

I enjoyed your editorial about “creating a family.” Sometimes, though, it takes a village. I think you start with children who absorb who they are from their parents and then their friends and the parents of their friends. This osmosis takes many years, with many twists and many “wait until you have children.” For some, it is almost ingrained and for others, becoming what their parents are is to be avoided. The Amish, when their children reach 18, give them a year off away from the community to find themselves and to make a commitment to being a member of the community and to follow the Amish rules. At thirteen, our children may be one of ten in a minyan but still must finish high school and at 18 pick a university. There are choices along the way which must be accepted. No freedom yet.

Irish are proud to be Irish; Italians are proud to be Italians. Jews are different. We don’t have a weekend takeover of downtown. We are not called Israelites. We just seem to say “Sha sha. Don’t make waves. Maybe it will go away.”

There was no nation before 1948. There were families, groups, tribes and assimilators, the sooner the better. Yes, there were “Jews of no religion” who held on to custom, food, words, pride and achievement and who would hold onto and keep the faith, but on their own terms. We must encourage a more flexible mispocha, building a real family and not just numbers. Our children are smart, rebellious, love their parents but want to build a community of their own and that mispocha will be of their own making. We must give them room at the table. We must not despair, as being of a family is hard work and as Jews we know, after 5782 years, we have survived.

— Sidney Manes

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Campaign 2022 Cabinet: A Roster of Stars

There's a span of eighty years between the youngest and the most senior member of this year's Campaign Cabinet, but when it comes to support for Federation and the Jewish community, there's not an inch of distance between them. Campaign 2022 is going to be an incredible success thanks to the energy and commitment of its leadership team, led by campaign chair **Debbie Rosenbaum**.

Returning for a second term of inspiring others are **Arel Moodie**, the best emcee on the planet, **Seth Goldberg**, master impersonator, **Sid Manes**, **Milo Sinclair** and **Eli Goldstein**, super solicitors, **Robin Goldberg** skillfully representing women's philanthropy and **Phyllis Zames**, the creative force behind Super (this year Zoo-per) Sunday. New to the team with fresh ideas and lots of enthusiasm, as well as great technical expertise, are **Melissa Harkavy**,



Federation board member and Zoo-per Sunday Zoom master, **Henia Zames**, social media

maven, physician and *mohelet* **Karen Beckman**, **Abby Scheer**, Zoo-per Sunday co-chair and

Robert Lieberman of RAV Properties whose portfolio is the very special campaign thank you event to be held in June. Completing the roster are the campaign's Tween/Teen Zoo-per Sunday co-chairs **Rose Scheer** and **Julia Zames** – friends since JCC preschool, through seven years at SHDS and now studying at Epstein – who are ready to bring the campaign to the next generation. Rounding out the roster and assuring succession is the effervescent **Anick Sinclair**, who serves as campaign chair-elect.

"With this much talent leading our campaign, we know we can't miss the mark," said Federation board president Neil Rosenbaum. "Our community is extremely fortunate to have so many wonderful people of all ages willing to help us raise the funds needed to support our schools and agencies and to make the Central New York Jewish community a vibrant and vital one that meets the needs of all."

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New Chanukah Books for Kids



The Missing Letters: A Dreidle Story

by Renee Londner

Reviewed by Aviva Minkoff-Zern, 3rd Grade

The Missing Letters is a children's book that teaches us that dreidels are more than just a toy. The story takes place in a dreidel shop. The letters on the dreidel come to life. The *mems* and the *nuns* thought that the *gimels* were the favorite side. They decide to make the *gimels* disappear. When the dreidel maker found out the *gimels* were missing, he told a story about how dreidels are important in Jewish history. (I don't want to spoil the story, but in the end the *gimels* were found.)

I learned that I shouldn't be jealous if one person seems more important than me because we are all better together. The other thing I learned is that dreidels are more than just toys. They helped the Jewish people hide their studies a long time ago.

I think the author could have made the ending a little more interesting, and I also think she could have given the dreidel maker a name. Overall, I thought the book was good. I would recommend it to ages 3 to 10. I think kids ages 3 to 6 will enjoy the story while the older readers will enjoy the lesson. Either way it really is a fun book.



Osnat and Her Dove:

The True Story of the World's First Female Rabbi

by Sigal Samuel

Reviewed by Tammy Greenblatt, 6th Grade

Osnat and the Dove is a true story about the first girl rabbi. The story took place five hundred years ago. Osnat was always curious and convinced her dad to teach her Torah. One day, when she was young, she fed a white dove, and it became her pet. When she got older, her dad said she must get married. She said her husband would not let her study Torah. She eventually met a man who let her study Torah. When he died, she took over his synagogue. A lot of people didn't like it, but that was not going to stop her. I really like this book and would recommend getting it and reading it yourself.

D'var Torah Up From The Doldrums

by Rabbi Daniel Jezer,

Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevra Shas



Alas, poor *Heshvan*. The Hebrew month of *Heshvan* has the misfortune of following *Tishrei*, a month that boasts *Rosh Hashanah*, *Yom Kippur*, *Sukkot*, *Shemini Atzeret* and *Simchat Torah*. Hardly a day goes by in *Tishrei* in which we are neither celebrating, preparing or recuperating from a holiday. Poor *Heshvan*. It is the only month in the Jewish calendar in which there is not a special day of holiday or celebration or commemoration. Some have felt so sorry for the month that they call it *MarHeshvan* or Bitter *Heshvan*.

Holidays and special days raise us up from what can be the doldrums of day-by-day existence. They provide, with their anticipation and celebration, a break from routine. In our Jewish rhythm, Shabbat somewhat provides for that, but even Shabbat, as it comes weekly, is insufficient for the high that we crave. It is all too easy to fall into a sour mood, a type of depression without the highs. Poor *MarHeshvan*, bitter lonely *Heshvan*.

A recent sermon by Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove of the Park Avenue Synagogue addressed this issue. He referred to a study a decade ago, which many of us have forgotten, by Richard Emmons of Berkley. He had his students keep a "gratitude journal" in which they recorded things for which they were grateful. After a period

of time those who kept such a journal and practiced gratitude constantly were found to have a host of benefits, both physical and mental.

I am not a researcher and cannot scientifically evaluate the study. However, this is an insight that our Jewish tradition has promulgated for thousands of years. Our tradition legislates that day by day we recognize and verbalize gratitude for the many things that we would otherwise take for granted.

We wake up in the morning and are to recite *Modeh Anee*, "I am grateful to You, living and enduring king, for restoring my soul to me...." Indeed, each day we experience a minor miracle in losing consciousness (which some equate with death) and coming back to sentient being. If we think of morning in those terms, rather than cursing the alarm clock, our mood is uplifted.

Each day we are bid to recite at least 100 *brachot*. One hundred times a day we are to express gratitude. Does God need these 100 expressions? It seems to me that God can take care of himself. God does not need those blessings. We need those blessings. We need to bless God. We need to feel the sense of gratitude.

As Tevye says in *Fiddler on the Roof*, in Judaism there is a blessing for everything, from the mundane (going to the bathroom) to the ethereal (seeing a magnificent rainbow) to the instructive (hearing a scholar speak) to eating a piece of bread, there is a *bracha* to be verbalized, a conscious expression that sensitizes us to the specialness of the occasion or action. These constant expressions of gratitude engender within us an inborn sense of gratitude. This can transform poor *MarHeshvan* into *Heshvan*.

There Was a Young Rabbi: A Hanukkah Tale

by Suzanne Wolfe

Reviewed by Asher Moodie, 3rd Grade

There Was a Young Rabbi is a picture book. The rabbi read the Torah and lit the menorah. Then she made a brisket, a 10 pound one. She spun the dreidel, and she won. Next, she ate gelt. It melted in her mouth. She ate some latkes. They were yum. I would recommend this book to a person who loves a good Hanukkah story. It has a lot of rhyming in the book.



The Golden Dreidel

by Ellen Kushner

Reviewed by Sydney Kanter, 6th Grade

The Golden Dreidel is a really fun book. I like it because it helps you learn about the dreidel. It's about a Chanukah party where Sara gets a golden dreidel. She throws it, but it seems like it throws itself on its own. The TV had a crack and Sara gets pulled into it. You will want to see what happens next!! Recommended for ages 7-10.


The Ninth Night of Hanukkah

by Erica S. Perl

Reviewed by Sam Elman, 6th Grade

The Ninth Night of Hanukkah is about a family who just moved into a new apartment. However, they misplaced their box full of Hanukkah supplies. After asking their neighbors for help, they got many items. They kept thinking, "It was nice... but it didn't feel quite like Hanukkah." Then they realized what they were missing: they were missing guests. So on the ninth night, they invited everyone over. Then they thought it felt like Hanukkah. I really liked this book because it is about perseverance. I recommend this book to young readers looking for a good Hanukkah story.





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HOLLYWOOD COMES TO SYRACUSE

Nat Tobin and the Manlius Art Cinema

Nat Tobin took over the Manlius Art Cinema in 1992 and purchased it, with his wife Eileen Lowell, in 2007. Originally opened in 1918, the Manlius has been showing movies for over one hundred years. It's a "shotgun" style theatre, so named because a shot fired through the front door would exit the back door without touching a wall. It is 100 feet long, 17 feet wide, with only 200 seats, two on the left of the aisle and five or six on the right.

The Tobins' mission at the Manlius is "to bring the best of independent cinema to Central New York and to provide a warm and friendly environment in which to see them." Nat says that independent theatres are part of the fabric of a community, and he has worked hard to counter the threat posed by streaming services. One key to success is a pre-show talk. Drawing upon their

encyclopedic knowledge of movies, Nat and Eileen share with the audience a hidden aspect of the film or a connection to other films to enhance their appreciation of the featured movie. This is not something you find at the multiplex. "Smart movies for smart folks" is how Nat characterizes their offerings. By showcasing independent and foreign language films as well as special productions, the Manlius provides what a social media reviewer called "movies that make you think, are beautifully made and make you a better person for having seen them."

The admission price has gone up since 1918, when it was eight cents, but it is only \$11 for adults and \$10 for seniors, students, children and members of the military. COVID slowed the Manlius down, but did not stop it. "We are quite proud of our place in the community and the staying power of the cinema. It is the oldest in Central New York and one of the oldest cinemas in the country," says Nat.



Jeremy Garelick and American High

Through impactful storytelling, creative integrity and commercial appeal, innovator Jeremy Garelick built a very successful Hollywood career as a writer, director and producer with movies such as *The Wedding Ringer*, *The Hangover* and *The Golden Tux*. Frustrated by the studio system, he purchased the A.V. Zogg Middle School in Liverpool and opened his own full-service production company, American High, specializing in heartfelt teen comedies that tell modern stories of diverse characters as they navigate the most formative years of their lives. In addition to producing multiple films per year, the company aims to finance and acquire a number of third-party films that align with the mission of the American High brand.

Jeremy produced seven features, each with a budget between \$3 and \$5 million, when COVID hit. With filmmaking curtailed, he pivoted to helping others, transforming soundstages and crew to manufacture over 25,000 face masks and shields for hospitals in Central New York and beyond. Garelick and American High were selected by *The Hollywood Reporter* for the prestigious "Top Hollywood Innovators" list, highlighting Garelick's industry leadership, the company's continuous efforts in producing feature films in lock-step with their overall brand and their philanthropic endeavors in readapting their resources for COVID-19 protection and relief.

American High has since returned to its original purpose. Four feature films went into production. *The Binge*, directed by Garelick and starring Vince Vaughn and *The Ultimate Playlist of Noise* headed to Hulu, which also released *Big Time Adolescence*, starring Pete Davidson. The latter and *Banana Spilt* both hit digital and streaming earlier than anticipated due to theater closures. In 2021, they wrapped production on the comedy feature, *Sex Appeal*, starring Mika Abdalla, Jake Short, Margaret Cho, Fortune Feimster and Paris Jackson. Up next, Garelick will be directing the sequel to Netflix's *Murder Mystery* and producing two Hulu Original features: Sammi Cohen's *Untitled Sammi Cohen Feature* starring Rowan Blanchard and Auli'i Cravalho alongside Megan Mullally and *Sex Appeal* starring Mika Abdalla and Jake Short alongside Margaret Cho, Fortune Feimster and Paris Jackson.



Maryse Netter Wilkins, Milliner to The Stars

It is said that, "With the right hat, nothing else matters." Perhaps that explains why Maryse Wilkins' millinery skills have been such a valuable commodity in Hollywood for so long. If you recall with pleasure the extraordinary hats worn in *Pretty Woman*, *Titanic*, *The King's Speech* or *Dick Tracy*, it is Maryse's work that you are admiring.

Maryse comes from a family of hat makers. Her mother owned the second largest millinery in Luxembourg. Although Maryse studied to become a teacher at Hebrew University, when she came home, she apprenticed at the store. During WWII, Maryse's family hid in an attic, but eventually was able to come to Syracuse in 1952. Her story is reminiscent of that of Anne Frank, albeit with a happier ending. That is why, after she moved to Syracuse and by chance met George Stevens, who was producing a movie about Frank, she was invited to California to audition for

the role. Her parents were opposed, on the grounds that life in Hollywood "was not a Jewish life." They were supported in that belief by Rabbi Hyman of Temple Adath, to which they belonged.

But Maryse's life has taken some unusual twists. "Never in a million years did I think I would work in millinery," she says. And yet "I am in that business right now." What's more, she has had a decades-long career in Hollywood "and they always let me keep my Jewishness."

So how did she get from Madame Netter's, her mother's store on Salina



Street, to Hollywood? Her mother had always entered an annual international millinery competition, and when she died, Maryse decided to submit her own entry. She was selected as the winner and went to Europe to work

with the famous French designer Yves St. Laurent. Hollywood producers saw her work there, and that was how her career was launched.

Maryse works with a team for each movie, sometimes for years. Right now, she is working a "biggie," which she is not allowed to name. The team starts with a script and works together to design the hair, the makeup and the clothes, all depending on the director's vision. She loves the work, especially the historical research that goes into it. But what she loves most of all is being on location all over the globe – an experience she has shared with her husband and her children as they were growing up, taking them out of school to places like Spain, Egypt, Russia and Norway. "California has given me such a wonderful opportunity for our whole family to be able to experience the world," she says, noting that her practice of Judaism was always respected and she was provided kosher food no matter where she was.

Since the late 90s, Maryse has lived more in London than in America. She is usually on the road, creating and designing. "It's been a privilege and so much fun," she says, "and I'm always learning something new."

SYRACUSE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD

“Since the beginnings of the Hollywood film industry at the turn of the last century, Jews have contributed—as executives, producers, directors, writers and performers—to the building and development of the studio system, the star system, and the arts and sciences of the Hollywood style.”

Hollywood's Chosen People: The Jewish Experience in American Cinema

Jews and movies have long been connected as attested by many books, such as *From Shtetl to Stardom: Jews and Hollywood* and *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood*. Those same connections continue in the careers of ten local community members who are deeply linked to the world of film.



Douglas Brode is a screenwriter, playwright, novelist, film historian, teacher and journalist. He pioneered the Cinema Studies program at Onondaga Community College and then taught at Syracuse University's Newhouse

School of Public Communications. Brode is a serious scholar of film and popular culture and a brilliant teacher. He is the author of over 57 books on film and the mass media including *Films of The Fifties*, *Films of Steven Spielberg*, *Sinema*, *Shakespeare in the Movies*, *From Walt to Woodstock*, *Multiculturalism and the Mouse* and *Elvis Cinema and Popular Culture*. His knowledge of film is exhaustive and he is not afraid of controversy or investigating things from a unique perspective. He is one of the few film critics to see Walt Disney and his empire as being positively transformative in terms of racial and gender equality.

Natalie Paige Goldberg

is an actor, casting director and content creator. She is known for her work on *Big Time Adolescence*, *The Binge* and *The Voyeurs*. Natalie graduated from the Syracuse Hebrew Day School in 2005 and has a bachelor of fine arts in musical theatre from Syracuse University. She is currently working in Los Angeles, where she has been the casting assistant/associate for many films. She recently had her feature film casting director debut at Dances With Films in Hollywood for her work on *My Fiona*. She has acted in some projects as well and is a member of SAG-AFTRA. Currently, she is helping produce the feature film *Moonwater* that is filming south of Binghamton. You can also find her on her YouTube channel, “Natalie Gold,” where she gives commentary on movies and shows.



Mark Kassen (né Krassenbaum) is an actor, director and producer. He originated the role of Ben in the off-Broadway play, *Things*

You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight, which was notable in that he appeared on stage unclothed. He appeared as Hitler's nephew William Patrick Hitler in the play *Little Willy*, which he also wrote. He performed in the Broadway production of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* and traveled with the production to Los Angeles. He has appeared in the films *Growing Up Brady*, *The Good Student*, *Puncture* and *Jobs* and has had parts in television films and TV series. He produced the television movie *Bernard and Doris* with Susan Sarandon and Ralph Fiennes, which earned him nominations for a Golden Globe and Primetime Emmy Award.

Adam Kassen,

another SHDS graduate, runs an independent film production company with his older brother Mark. Adam made his directorial debut with Mark on the feature film *Puncture*, based on the true story of Michael David Weiss, playing Weiss's law partner and best friend Paul Danziger. The Tribeca Film Festival selected the picture as one of its spotlight features. Adam was co-producer of the films *The Sasquatch Gang*, *The Good Student* and *Big Sur* and executive producer of *Bernard and Doris*, which earned him an Emmy Award nomination for outstanding made-for-television movie.



Adam Hootnick, a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, began his career in news production before becoming a director and producer of film, television and other short-form content. His first feature, *Unsettled*, followed several young Israelis during the 2005 withdrawal of Israeli settlements and troops from Gaza. He directed *What Carter Lost*, the story of one of the most talented high school football teams in history, the Dallas Carter Cowboys. His *Son of the Congo* relates the story of Serge Ibaka's improbable journey from the violence of Congo to NBA stardom and his return home hoping to help rebuild



his country. Hootnick also collaborated with ESPN to direct the short films *Pro Day* and *The Outstanding Mind-Bending Basketball Synergy Machine*.



Rafael Marmor is the founder of Delirio Films, a boutique production company specializing in feature documentaries, docuseries and commercials. He went on to produce a number of films: *Bombay Beach*, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival, *No Place On Earth* and *The Short Game*, which won the audience award at the 2013 SXSW Film Festival and was picked up as Netflix's first original documentary. His next film, *Can You Dig This*, won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2015 LA Film Fest. The SHDS alum produced the SXSW audience award winner *Becoming Bond* as well as *Too Funny to Fail*. He executive-produced the six-part documentary series, *Hunting ISIS*, on the History Channel, and he is currently executive-producing a six-part true crime series for the Sundance Channel.

Owen Shapiro

is a self-described “hardcore cinephile” and the Shaffer Professor of Film at the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University. He has directed the SU film program since its founding in 1973. Incidentally, he was its founder. He designed and developed the BFA and MFA curricula and designed space for the new film facilities in the Shaffer Art Building, including film editing, animation, sound and lighting studios and a film studies research lab. He is also co-founder and artistic director of the Syracuse International Film Festival and helped establish the 250-member non-profit CNY Film Professionals to develop a filmmaking economy in Central New York. Owen is an award-winning filmmaker, having made over 32 films and a dozen videos on a wide range of subjects, all exploring the boundaries between documentary and fiction.



Michaela Watkins is an actress and comedian, best known for starring on the Hulu series *Casual* and the sitcoms *The Unicorn* and *Trophy Wife*, as well as being a cast member on *Saturday Night Live*. Watkins grew up in DeWitt

and graduated from Boston University, where she studied theater and acting. She moved to Los Angeles where she became a regular performer at The Groundlings, where she was discovered by *SNL*. She then appeared in the sitcom *The New Adventures of Old Christine* as well as in recurring roles in the comedy programs *Enlightened*, *New Girl* and *Anger Management*. She made guest appearances on shows such as *Hung*, *Children's Hospital*, *Kroll Show*, *Key & Peele*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and *Modern Family* and has also appeared in supporting roles in many other films.

Jewish Cook of the Month

Orit Antosh

Sufganiyot For Chanukah

Many cultures have versions of fried dough. Italy has *bombolone*, France, *beignets*, Thailand, *pathongko*, Spain, *churros* and Brazil, *bolinhas de chuva*. But none of these treats are as closely linked in origin and significance to a holiday as are the Israeli doughnuts known as *sufganiyot*. Like their oil-cooked counterparts, latkes, *sufganiyot* are directly related to Chanukah, commemorating the small jar of oil that miraculously burned in the Temple for eight days.

The word *sufganiyah* (plural: *sufganiyot*) is based on the Talmudic words *sofgan* and *sfogga*, referring to a “spongy dough.” The word *sfog* means “sponge.” An Israeli folk tale recounts that when God exiled Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, he gave them *sufganiyot* to cheer them up.

Sufganiyot are by far the most popular Israeli Chanukah food. They are sold throughout the eight-day festival at almost every bakery and market and enjoyed by people in every community. About 70 percent of the *sufganiyot* consumed in Israel are stuffed with jelly, but a number of contemporary Israeli fillings have become popular, including halva, crème espresso, chocolate truffle and numerous exotic flavors.

Following are three recipes that Orit loves. The first is a traditional Israeli recipe that her Savta Miriam used to make. “They always came out outstanding and delicious,” she says. The second recipe is Tunisian and the third Algerian. All are guaranteed to make your holiday extra special.

Kriosh: Algerian Flower Sufganiyot

- 3 cups of white flour**
- 3/5 cup of semolina flour**
- 1 egg, beaten (use half for the dough and the rest later in the preparation)**
- ½ cup melted butter**
- 1 tablespoon sugars**
- 1 tablespoon baking powder**
- ½ teaspoon of dry yeast or a teaspoon and a half of fresh yeast**
- ½ cup water**

- 3 flower-shaped cookie cutters, small, medium and large size**
- A small handful of whole, non-roasted almonds**
- ½ cup of honey, heated in the microwave**
- 2 tablespoons roasted sesame seeds, for garnish.**
- Oil, for deep frying**

Put ½ of the beaten egg and all the other ingredients for the dough, except the water, in a large bowl. Add the water gradually, stirring until a uniform dough is obtained. Knead the dough for 5-6 minutes, until it becomes silky smooth to the touch.

Cover with a towel and set aside to rise for about two hours. (Rising time is long because of the amount of butter in the dough. It does not have to double in volume).

Remove the volume from the dough and divide it into 5 equal parts. While working on one part, cover the other parts with a towel.

Roll one piece of dough. Cut 9 flowers with the large cutter, 3 flowers with the medium cutter and 3 with the small cutter.

Place one large flower on the work surface and spread (with your finger) its center with a little beaten egg. Above it place a second large flower so that the leaves are slightly at an angle and not exactly above. In the same way spread egg and place a third large flower.

Spread egg in the center of the third flower and place a medium-sized flower on it.

Repeat with egg and place a small flower on top.

Take one almond and stick it in the center of the flower. Push it until you feel it touch the work surface. Transfer to baking paper.

Heat oil for deep frying in a medium-sized pot.



Traditional Israeli *Sufganiyot*

- ¾ cup whole milk**
- 1 tablespoon active dry yeast**
- 3 cups plus 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour**
- 1/3 cup superfine sugar**
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter at room temperature, diced**
- 1 large egg**
- 4 teaspoons Armagnac or apple brandy**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract**
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt**
- 5 cups canola oil, plus more for brushing**
- 1 cup granulated sugar**
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon**
- 3 cups strawberry jam**

In a small microwaveable bowl, warm the milk at high power to 110 F, 1 minute. Sprinkle the yeast over the milk and let stand until foamy, about 10 minutes.

In a stand mixer fitted with the dough hook, combine the flour with the super fine sugar. Add the milk mixture, the butter, egg, Armagnac, vanilla and salt. Knead at low speed, scraping down the side of the bowl, until the dough starts to come together, about 4 minutes. Increase the speed to medians knead until the dough is soft and pulls away from the bowl, about 10 minutes.

Lightly brush a large bowl with oil. Place the dough in the bowl, cover with plastic wrap and let stand in a warm spot until doubled in size. About 2 hours. Lightly brush 2 rimmed baking sheets with oil. Punch down the dough and cut in half. Roll each half into a 12-inch log. Cut each log into 12 equal pieces, roll into balls and arrange on the prepared baking sheets, about 2 inches apart. Cover with plastic wrap and let stand until doubled in size, about 1 1/2 hours.

In a medium bowl combine the granulated sugar with the cinnamon.

In a large saucepan, heat the 5 cups oil over moderate heat to 325 F. Working in batches, fry the *sufganiyot*, turning once, until golden, about 2 minutes per side. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the *sufganiyot* as they are done to the cinnamon sugar and toss to coat.

Spoon the jam into a pastry bag and pipe into the *sufganiyot*.



Using a slotted spoon, carefully lower one *sufganiyah* into the oil. Fry for 40-60 seconds, until golden, puffed and hardened.

Remove to absorbent paper and fry the rest of the *sufganiyot*, putting them on absorbent paper. Do not fry more than three at a time.

Drizzle honey generously over the prepared *sufganiyot*.



Tunisian Sufganiyot

1/2 3 cups less a tablespoon
flour, sifted
2 eggs
1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons oil
1/2 cup water or orange juice
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
2 teaspoons baking powder
Grated peel of one orange
Deep frying oil
For garnish (optional): ground
coconut

Syrup:
ginger, lime and lemon grass
syrup
2 cups sugar
1 cup water
Peeled grated whole lime or
1/2 lemon
1 inch ginger root, peeled and
coarsely sliced
1-2 lemongrass branches,
halved and coarsely cut

Put all the sufganiyot ingredients in the mixer bowl, except the oil for frying and the coconut (you can also knead by hand). Put with a kneading hook for 3-4 minutes, until a soft dough is obtained.

Cover the dough with a towel and let rest for 20-30 minutes.

Prepare the syrup. Put the ingredients in a pot, bring to a boil and cook over medium heat for about 20 minutes, until the syrup thickens. Strain.

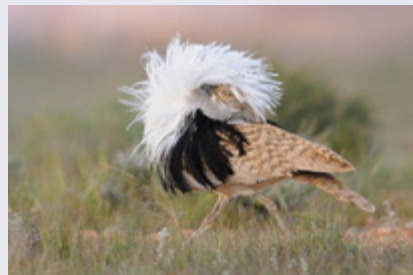
Cool to room temperature.

Lightly flour the work surface. Divide the dough into 8 equal parts and form a one-inch diameter roll from each part. Cut the rolls into inch lengths and form into balls.

Fry the sufganiyot in deep oil over medium heat until golden. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towels or strainer.

Dip the sufganiyot in the cooled syrup for a few seconds. If desired, roll in ground coconut.

Jewish News From Around The World



The return of the houbara. The UAE and Israel have been partnering to save the endangered Houbara species. Park rangers in Southern Israel this summer sighted hundreds of the beautiful iconic desert birds, a key indicator of the well-being of Israel's flora and fauna.

<https://www.israel21c.org/uptick-in-number-of-houbaras-spotted-in-southern-israel/>

Advancing the peace of the Abraham Accords. Former US ambassador David Friedman has established The Friedman Center for Peace through Strength. It aims to expand and scale up the Abraham Accords he helped broker in 2020 among Israel, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, Kosovo and Morocco. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/david-friedman-launches-friedman-center-to-advance-peace-made-by-abraham-accords-678452>

Transforming text into video. Israel's Hour One enables users to create a video without having any background in video production. The AI-based video production platform creates content from text, using computer-generated synthetic characters based on real people, for professional and commercial use. <https://www.hourone.ai/>

Trade with Arab states tripled. In the first seven months of 2021, trade between Israel and Arab states grew by 234 percent compared to the same period in 2020. Trade with the United Arab Emirates surged from \$50.8 million between January and July 2020 to \$613.9 million in the same period in 2021. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israels-trade-with-arab-states-has-surged-since-2020-peace-deals-data-shows/>

Direct flights from Bahrain and Cairo. Gulf Air, Bahrain's national airline, is launching twice-weekly flights to Tel Aviv beginning 30 Sep. And EgyptAir the national airline of Egypt, is reportedly going to operate direct flights

between Cairo and Tel Aviv from early Oct. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/313238>

DHL orders 12 Israeli electric planes. DHL has ordered 12 fully electric "Alice" eCargo planes from Israel's Seattle-based Eviation. Delivery to DHL Express is planned for 2024. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/dhl-express-shapes-future-for-sustainable-aviation-with-the-order-of-first-ever-all-electric-cargo-planes-from-eviation-301346727.html>

General Motors expands in Israel. The General Motors Technical Center in Israel is expanding its activities in the electric and autonomous vehicle market. To house its 600 staff, it is paying NIS 300 million to rent office space in Herzliya for the next 10 years. GM expects to recruit 400 additional staff and rent even more space.

<https://www.calcalistech.com/ctech/articles/0,7340,L-3915931,00.html>

New Israeli drama series. "The Collective" is a new Israeli drama series from "Fauda" producer Maria Feldman and writer/director Dror Shaul. It centers on an American who moves to a kibbutz and becomes its leader in defending Israel's borders. <https://www.algemeiner.com/2021/09/02/new-drama-series-from-fauda-producer-centers-on-american-living-in-kibbutz-who-defends-israels-borders/>

Give it a rest. The year 5782 on the Jewish calendar is a sabbatical year for the Land of Israel. There is even an Israeli Ministry of Agriculture Unit for Agriculture According to the Torah. <https://www.israel21c.org/the-farmers-who-are-giving-their-land-a-years-rest/>

More historic Jewish discoveries. Archaeologists have discovered a vast 2,000-year-old quarry near Jerusalem that includes large stones like those King Herod used to extend the Jerusalem Temple. Meanwhile a Temple-like structure is being unearthed just outside of Jerusalem. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/313046>

Record-breaking month for aliya. Nefesh b'Nefesh brought 1,000 North American olim (immigrants) to Israel during August, surpassing any other month in the organization's history. NbN has brought more than 3,000 olim to the country, well on

the way to its target of 4,500-5,000 olim by the end of 2021. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/israel-receives-record-breaking-1900-olim-in-august-678263>

Letters to the Almighty tripled. Israel's postal service reports a three-fold increase in the number of letters it has received in 2021 addressed to the Kotel [Western Wall] in Jerusalem compared with last year. Rabbi of the Wall Shmuel Rabinovitch, placed hundreds of notes between the stones ahead of *Rosh HaShanah*. <https://www.algemeiner.com/2021/08/30/letters-to-god-bound-for-western-wall-tripled-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Massive crop from Temple-era data palm. Hannah, one of the Judean date palms at Kibbutz Ketura that was grown from a 2,000-year-old seed, has produced a huge crop of dates this year. It dwarfs the 111 dates produced last year. Visitors to the kibbutz's research center might even be able to buy some. <https://worldisraelnews.com/temple-era-palms-produce-miraculous-crop-of-dates/>

Jewish deli to open in downtown Buffalo. Thanks to winning a contest, the Bloom and Rose deli will open next year at 808.5 Main Street. For Zach Rosenblum and his wife Lois, the sole Jewish partners of the business, it's a labor of love. They entered the "Make It on Main Contest" this summer in hopes of winning a year of free rent at a little building sandwiched in between two others on Main Street. Now they'll finally get to open the Jewish deli they've been dreaming of since they started making knishes in their kitchen. <https://www.wgrz.com/article/entertainment/television/programs/daybreak/bloom-and-rose-will-bring-jewish-deli-to-downtown-buffalo-thanks-to-free-rent-contest/71-d304502d-6e5a-4d05-a63f-c78d096db828>

Bahrain's first bar mitzvah since 2005. The ceremony took place in the House of the Ten Commandments in Manama, the kingdom's only operational synagogue. It came about after Bahrain signed a normalization accord with Israel. Similar agreements have been signed with the United Arab Emirates, Morocco and Sudan. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/bahrain-jews-celebrate-first-bar-mitzvah-in-16-years/>

In-Person Learning Resumes at the Epstein School



Students, staff, volunteers and faculty celebrated the beginning of the 51st year at the Rabbi Jacob H. Epstein School of Jewish Studies on Tuesday, September 14th at the “Back to Epstein Bash.” This event, made possible by a Holstein Community Program Fund grant from the Federation, not only included a catered pizza dinner and ice cream from the Carvel truck, but highlighted new classes and community partnerships for 5782. More than 50 students, staff, faculty and volunteers gathered to learn about the new collaboration with SUNY Cortland that will grant three SUNY credits to junior and senior Epstein students, the new hybrid model and an exciting winter elective offered in partnership with Syracuse Jewish Family Services at Menorah Park.

Classes began on October 5th with almost 60 students learning in person at Congregation Beth Sholom-Chevra Shas. “It’s really nice to be able to be back in person. The best part is hanging out with my Jewish friends I don’t get to see during the rest of the week,” senior Jack Satterlee remarked. Core classes this fall include Moral & Ethical Dilemmas (7th/8th), Tikkun Olam (9th),

Mussar (10th), and JST 140: Judaism — Historic Insights & Perspectives (11th/12th). Elective choices include the Jewish Lens, which includes student submissions to the international Jewish Lens Digital Photography competition where Epstein students have received special recognition during the last two years. Other electives this fall include Jewish Trivia & Games, Modern Hebrew and *Shmita* Art. Epstein students are blessed to be learning from clergy and respected educators from across the community — Rabbis Katz, Kunin, Shore and Zehavi, Cantors Jaffe and Siegel-Eglash, Moshe Alfasi, Diana Koester, Ora Jezer and Scott Miller.

The longer fall and spring terms will be held at CBS-CS, while the 7-week winter session will be remote. “Our hope is that, by pivoting to remote learning for January and February, we can take advantage of the best aspects of Zoom-school — the ability to bring in non-local faculty, families not driving to and from Epstein during the harshest months and limiting exposure to colds and flu,” Aaron Spitzer, head of school, stated. “It made sense to pilot this model this year in light of COVID-19. If it works for Epstein families, great! If not, we can return to the regular model in future years.”

Holstein Grant Funds Day School Television Studio

by Alicia Spevak

The Syracuse Hebrew Day School wanted to create a school television station as an effective and innovative way to bring education to life for students. The skills and discipline required to plan, script, present and produce a televised broadcast are applicable to many other areas of learning, such as comprehension, literacy, computer graphics and math. In addition, at SHDS, a morning newscast can be broadcast at least partly in Hebrew, giving the students the opportunity to use their second-language skills in a realistic format, describing the weather, upcoming activities and other news.

All that was needed was an appropriate studio environment to facilitate broadcast, including



basic video, audio, recording, lighting and editing equipment. Federation’s Holstein Program Fund provided the wherewithal. The Holstein Program funds projects that are bold and new to our community. The Federation Board believed that the studio would offer the community a venue to do something new and different. Jewish education is a community priority, but Jewish education has evolved and changed significantly over recent years. Learning today includes much greater integration of video and the visual. Media technology, moreover, is a great catalyst for critical thinking in young people.

Many schools in the area have offered studio broadcasting, including green screen opportunities, for years. In order for the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, the only Jewish day school in Central New York, to stay current and even surpass current trends in educational practice, it needed to incorporate media technology into its program in an active way. “The new television set provides just this kind of experience,” said Laura Lavine, SHDS head of school. “It is not passive learning, sitting in front of a screen. Rather, it offers a hands-on, intensive and meaningful set of learning experiences that provide opportunities for students to shine on



many levels, whatever their special skills or abilities might be.”

Students are responsible for every component of the daily studio broadcasts, including monitoring video and sound boards, operating the camera and serving as on-screen talent. Although initially the studio is being used by SHDS, it is anticipated that its use could be expanded to other Jewish schools and community organizations which could use it to create innovative programming and serve as an instructional tool for teachers and students



“The Day School is very grateful to the Federation which, through the Holstein Grant Program, allows us to provide this innovative Jewish experience to our students,” said Lavine. “Once the capabilities of the studio have been established, it can be made available to other institutions, utilizing formats deliberately kept simple so that they can be used by those with limited technical knowledge. The studio is a low-cost community resource with unlimited potential for enabling individuals and groups to work together to increase outreach and in-gathering.”



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Federation Funds Technology For Community Hebrew School

The Federation Board voted unanimously to provide a special donation to the Syracuse Community Hebrew School to purchase technology that can facilitate both in-person and remote learning to meet the needs of all families and replace outdated and insufficient technological resources.

The funding will equip each classroom with a Chromebook, projector and screen to broadcast *t'filah* and on-line resources for the entire class. Additional

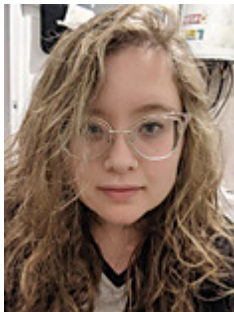


Chromebooks will be utilized by students to connect with tutors outside the building, and Boogie Boards are included as a resource for students to write Hebrew letters.

In announcing the grant, Federation president/CEO Michael Balanoff said, "This is a very positive step in showing the community Federation's support for Jewish education in our community." **That's what community is all about and what Federation is for.**

Shalom and Greetings from Israel!

by Leah Eve Jezer-Nelson



Leah Eve is participating in the Masa Israel Teaching Fellows program, a 10-month fellowship for college graduates who want to make a difference. They contribute to the future success of Israeli children by giving them the essential basis of native spoken English.

It's hard to believe I've been in this beautiful country for over a month. Tel Aviv, which I will call home for the next five months (and then Ramle for the five months after that), is a city that is vibrant, fast-paced and filled with excitement around every corner.

I am teaching in the South Side of Tel Aviv, which contains much of the city's immigrant and refugee populations. The kids are much like any kids anywhere in the world. They play, they laugh and they get into anything and everything. Israeli public schools are much less strict than American schools, I've found, and teachers often walk into classes several minutes later than the advertised start time. For the past few weeks, I've been working with children to help teach them English. We play board games, use whiteboards and try to connect with each other while using only English.

The program I am working for mandates that we are not allowed to let the children know we understand any Hebrew and that

we are only allowed to speak in English. The kids seem to realize, however, that we are living in a Hebrew-speaking country and therefore must know at least some. Score one for the kids!

I'm so grateful to also be working on Zoom for the Syracuse Community Hebrew School. It's wonderful to still feel a connection to my community, even 6,000 miles away. Although I'm not there in person to see the kids I've taught grow up, it's gratifying to listen to their stories and see their smiling faces. I'm so grateful to all of my community in Syracuse for supporting me, for raising me and for preparing me for this year. *L'shana Tovah*, and may it truly be a good year for all!

Matthews Grant To Help Revamp JCC Children's Room



JCC Board President Steven Sisskind and Marci Erlebacher, executive director, hold the JCC's latest Matthews grant check which will be used to renovate the JCC's children's room.

The Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center of Syracuse recently received a \$1,000 grant from the Matthews Children's Foundation to renovate its children's room. This latest round of funding is the result of JCC Board President Steven Sisskind's ongoing efforts to sponsor the JCC's grant application.

"We truly appreciate the Matthews Foundation's continued support of our children's programs as we continue to feel the financial impacts of the pandemic," said Sisskind. "The outstanding generosity of the foundation will allow us to enhance our school-age programming and better serve local families."

The JCC's Children's Programming department is using the funds to refresh its children's room which is used for various group activities as well as arts and crafts projects. New furniture and supplies will be purchased to make the room more attractive and better support the children working on their projects.

Matthews Children's Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations whose purpose is to support children. It has contributed millions of dollars to date to such charities. The JCC of Syracuse has received a substantial amount in grants over the years from Matthews Children's Foundation to benefit the JCC's children's programming.

"Steven has been a wonderful advocate

on behalf of the JCC, securing such solid support from the Matthews Children's Foundation and other organizations," said Marci Erlebacher, JCC of Syracuse executive director. "We are grateful for the Matthews Foundation's funding of our quality programs, especially now with all the uncertainty due to COVID-19."



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Rabbi David Kunin's Installation at CBS-CS Highlights His Artistic Talents

by Joanne Villegas

On September 23, Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevra Shas celebrated the installation of Rabbi David Kunin with a full night of festivities, including wonderful addresses from distinguished community leaders, including Edward Michalenko, Michael Balanoff, Neil Rosenbaum, Laura Lavine and Rabbi Emeritus Daniel Jezer, as well as special guest, Rabbi Irwin Huberman. But the highlight of the entire night was an art auction.

Did you know that Rabbi Kunin is an esteemed artist and photographer? As a photographer, he seeks out liminal places which seem to bridge the gap between the sacred and the mundane. Rabbi Kunin's artistic vision photography has the power to capture internal essence as well as the eternal reality.

"My pictures of Israel, Japan, Bali and the American Southwest emphasize



light in its changing qualities, mixtures of color as found in everyday street scenes. The blurred abstraction leads the viewer away from detail to merely a quick impression of the scene in all

its diversity and movement," explains Rabbi Kunin.

Rabbi David Kunin moved to Syracuse in July 2020. A graduate of Brandeis University with a degree in medieval history, he attended the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he was ordained as a rabbi and received an MA in Judaic studies. He has served as rabbi of communities in Glasgow, Elmira, San Diego, Edmonton and Tokyo.

During the installation, many of Rabbi Kunin's artworks were on display in the social hall. Congregants in attendance and via Zoom were able to join the silent auction for one of the rabbi's photo-prints. Proceeds raised from the auction were donated to the CBS-CS Fund for Future. Additional photo-prints are on display at CBS-CS with proceeds going to the same fund.

To learn more about Rabbi David Kunin's art, visit www.dakphotography.smugmug.com.

Tay Sukkot Celebration

Alicia Gross, Cantor Esa Jaffe and Barbara Simon stand together in front of the drive-up Sukkah during Temple Adath Yeshurun's sukkah decorating event. Families came together to create decorations to hang up in the TAY Sukkah. Tomomi Saito, of Japan, mailed several strings of origami decorations made by her mother for the TAY Sukkah.



Four-year-old Levi McIntyre met with Cantor Esa Jaffe in the sukkah to learn the brachot for Sukkot, how to shake the lulav and etrog and new songs for the holiday.

Sunday Cinema Circle of Friends

A "watch party" is one of those neologisms that seniors can learn to love, especially in the age of COVID. What could be more fun than a group of friends gathering together to watch a movie without leaving the comfort of their homes? All that is needed is popping the popcorn.

Temple Concord and the Federation are planning to partner this winter to gather some friends together to watch movies. Some will feature Jewish content and others will not. They have been selected by some cinematically-inclined community members and will be introduced by some cinematically-knowledgeable community members. After the screenings, lively discussions are encouraged.

The Sunday Cinema Circle of Friends would meet once a month at 7 pm beginning in January 2022 to enjoy a movie and each other's company. **If you would like to join them, please email diane@templeconcord.org or bdavis@jewishfederationcny.org.** The only requirement is a Zoom app on your computer and if you need help installing that, there are friends available to assist you.

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Spilt Milk Author Courtney Zoffness to Speak at Temple Concord

by Chana Meir

Courtney Zoffness will discuss *Spilt Milk*, her evocative memoir of motherhood, anxiety and Jewish identity at 3:30 pm on November 21, 2021, as part of Temple Concord's Regina F. Goldenberg Cultural Series.

The book, called "a graceful debut" by Kirkus, is a series of essays in which Zoffness explores what we inherit from generations past and what we pass to future generations. Among her themes are the intersection of motherhood with her Jewish faith, her fraught relationship with her own mother and her fear of passing her anxiety to her son.

Zoffness directs the Creative Writing Program at Drew University and is the winner of several literary awards including the *Sunday Times* Short Story Award.

The event is virtual and free. **To receive the Zoom link, register by clicking on the link on the Events Calendar at templeconcord.org.**

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**RANDALL MARK
RUDOLPH**
August 10, 2021



Randall Mark Rudolph, aka Randy and Rand, passed away August 10, just a couple of weeks before his 67th birthday, in Vero Beach, FL. He is survived by his wife Lorie, three grown children, his dog Max, and his mother Fay Rudolph, whom he insisted move from Syracuse to Vero Beach where he was. Also surviving are his father Lester Rudolph, his aunt Barbara Finley and several cousins in Silver Spring, MD and Alexandria, VA. He was predeceased by his grandparents Shirley and Harold Finley, Irene and Seymour Rudolph and great-grandparents Judge Nathan and Sophie Abelson, whom he loved very much.

He graduated from Alfred University where he was active in his fraternity and still kept in touch with quite a few members. He enjoyed watching sports, and one summer he went to baseball camp in Ft. Lauderdale. He also liked to have the boys over for card games. He had a green thumb and grew a large olive tree near the pool. He was very sensitive to the feelings of others. He is greatly missed. Funeral services and burial were in Florida.

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NORMA E. ANZEL
September 3, 2021



Norma E. Anzel, of Syracuse died on September 3 at Loretto Health and Rehabilitation Center.

She was born in Utica, NY and came to Syracuse as a bride in 1947. She taught senior high school for several years and later was employed for 33 years by the Onondaga County Department of Social Services. Following her retirement, she was a volunteer for Literacy Volunteers, the former Plaza Health Center and University Hospital.

Norma is the widow of Warren S. Anzel who died February 16, 2004. Survivors include a brother, Ben T. (Mary) Fairbrother, of Utica and several nieces and nephews.

Anzel was a member of Temple Concord, its Sisterhood and the National Council of Jewish Women. Private services and burial were conducted in Syracuse. Contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

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BARRY LEE GORDON
September 3, 2021

Barry Lee Gordon, 74, died in Arlington, Texas on September 3. He was born in Syracuse to the late Rose (Abel) and Henry Gordon.

After honorably serving in the Marine Corps, Barry worked for many years as a computer systems specialist, finishing his career as a private consultant to major computer companies. He was the holder of several patents in computer software and the recipient of numerous awards of recognition.

Barry's keen intellect and dry sense of humor were hallmarks of his engaging personality.

He is survived by his sister Cheryl (Mark) Wolfe and four children, Brian (Cheryl) Gordon, Terri (Montgomery) Vaughn, Melissa (Louis) Ornelas and Jennifer (Jorge) Puente. He was also a loving grandfather to his nine grandchildren.

Private services and burial with military honors were conducted in Syracuse.

Contributions may be made in Barry's memory to the Parkinson's Foundation.

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LINDA PRINGLE
September 28, 2021

Linda Pringle, 72, passed away on September 28 in Long Beach, NY Born in Syracuse on March 13, 1949 to Robert and Elaine Herman, she had moved to the New York City area after college, where she majored in education. Linda found her calling as a special education teacher in the New York City schools where she taught for many years until retiring. Health challenges in recent years required her to move to assisted living.

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LINDA FINE
September 3, 2021


Linda Fine was born on February 12, 1945 and passed away peacefully on September 3. Her parents, Rose and Morris Fox, were both immigrants, and she enjoyed being a first-generation young American girl. She graduated from Nottingham High School and went on to attend Fredonia State College and Syracuse University. She spent her summers working at Bradley Brook Camp and ultimately became a counselor. She treasured the relationships and memories she had with her childhood friends.

Her first "real" job was at General Electric where she met her husband, Jerry. They both joined the ski club and hit it off immediately. They later realized that they unknowingly grew up as backyard neighbors. They were married a year later in 1967 and had two daughters, Amy and Dana. Linda stayed home with her girls until they were in middle school, then worked briefly at Laubach Literacy. She went on to work at The White House professional building in Fayetteville as the office manager for over 20 years while forging many meaningful friendships. In addition, Linda took tremendous pride and initiative in running "Photos by Fine," side by side with Jerry.

Sunday dinners with grandparents were a tradition, and she so looked forward to their family winter vacations in Florida. She was extremely social and loved spending time with family and friends, exercising, traveling, monitoring the weather, eating and shopping. She enjoyed social games and played canasta, bridge and took up and enjoyed mahjong in her later years just like her mother Rose.

Linda was blessed to spend valuable

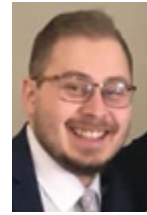
time and countless holidays in Maryland with her daughter Dana and her family. Linda also enjoyed welcoming family into her warm home and loved the time together in Syracuse. In 2016 she and Jerry moved to Clearwater, FL to enjoy retirement and spend time in the sunshine with her daughter Amy and her family. While sunshine and retirement suited her, she missed work and productivity and decided to start a new career working as a bridal consultant where she met many wonderful people. She loved being around brides and their families and was a natural salesperson just like her mom Rose.

She was kind, thoughtful and warm, a wonderful mother, grandmother, wife and friend to all who had the good fortune to know her. Linda made this world a better place, and we will miss her forever. She leaves behind her husband Jerry of 54 years, who selflessly cared for her so lovingly these past 18 months, and daughter Amy, son-in-law Steven, daughter Dana, son-in-law David and her four beloved grandchildren Jared, Sophie, Ella and Charlie. She has a brother Allen (Sheila) Fox and many beloved relatives. There are so many wonderful, special friends who she adored and who graced her life.

When we lose someone, we love we must learn not to live without them, but to live with the love they left behind. Please take the time to fondly remember Linda and allow these memories to bring a smile to your face and help her live on in your heart.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date to be shared with family and friends. If you would like to make a donation in Linda's honor, the family requests that it be directed to the ALS Association, 3242 Parkside Center Circle, Tampa, FL 33619 or Temple B'nai Israel, 1685 S. Belcher Road Clearwater, FL 33764.

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ISAAC JAMES TENENBAUM
September 11, 2021


Isaac James Tenenbaum, 22, died September 11. Born in Syracuse on April 10, 1999, he had lived his life in Syracuse. He was a graduate of the Syracuse Hebrew Day School, then a graduate of The Big Picture in the Lafayette school district where he was a member of the varsity football team. He had also been on the varsity wrestling team at Fabius-Pompey middle school. He enjoyed playing baseball with several summer leagues as well as traveling teams.

He had been a line cook and then a sous chef at Pappagallo of Fayetteville where he was truly beloved by staff and customers alike. He had most recently worked in field sales for Erie Construction Company.

His family includes his parents Lori Tenenbaum and Christopher Waddell and Abe and Monica Tenenbaum, his sister Sadie Tenenbaum, his brother Riley Waddell, grandparents Syd Tenenbaum and Deidre Zehner, Cindy and Rich Annunziata, Susie and Norm Davis and Glenn and Kelly Thresher, uncles Curtis Thresher and Troy Thresher, his aunt Helaine Reaves and his cousin Kai Valentine. He also had a large and loving circle of friends who were truly like family.

Isaac lived up to the meaning of his name, which is "one who laughs." His outgoing personality and witty sense of humor kept all who were around him laughing as well.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to perpetuate his memory may be made to the Syracuse Hebrew Day School. You are welcome to share your memories and photos of Isaac by emailing Memoriesofisaac@gmail.com.

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BRUCE B. SHAFIROFF, MD
September 13, 2021


Bruce B. Shafiroff, MD, 74, passed away on September 13 in Rochester, NY after complications related to a kidney transplant.

Born on July 7, 1947 to Charles and Selma Shafiroff in Brooklyn, he had been a resident of Syracuse since 1980 when he accepted a position with SUNY Upstate Hospital.

Bruce was a graduate of Middlebury College and earned his medical degree from the University of Vermont Medical School. He was a resident at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx where he interned in general surgery. He then continued his residency in plastic surgery at Montefiore Hospital as well. He served a fellowship in microsurgery in Melbourne, Australia and then moved to Louisville, KY where he served another fellowship in hand reconstruction microsurgery.

In the mid 1980s he established his private practice located in the Madison-Irving Physicians building until retiring.

He was a member of Temple Concord, the Onondaga County Medical Association, The Hand Society and The Micro-Surgery and Reconstructive Surgery Society,

Bruce was a loving and devoted husband and father. He thoroughly enjoyed spending time in his garden, had a love for animals, especially his labradoodle Pavlov and was an avid reader. He was a walking encyclopedia.

His family includes his wife Shirley of almost 50 years, their daughter Anne, his brother Scott and his sister Nina. He was predeceased by their son Michael.

Special heartfelt thanks to Cindy and Scott Whitcomb for their selfless help in caring for Bruce. Contributions to perpetuate his memory may be made to Helping Hounds of Syracuse or Roswell Cancer Center of Buffalo. Services and burial were in S. Burlington, VT. There will be a celebration of Bruce's life in the spring.

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LEWIS KUPPERMANN
September 13, 2021

Lewis Kuppermann, 88, of Manlius, passed away on September 13 in Syracuse, NY. Lewis was a wonderful and beloved husband, father, yaydie, brother, uncle and friend.

Lewis was born on May 1, 1933 in Syracuse, NY to Hiram and Nellie (Tobias) Kuppermann. He studied at Syracuse University and had a successful career in retail, leading him to own Winters, an exclusive men's store. Lewis loved the rag business. After closing Winters, Lewis had a second successful career in the temporary staffing business. He loved being a part of the Syracuse business community. Lewis married the love of his life, Anita Strausman. They had a wonderful life raising their two sons. Upon his retirement, Lewis became even more involved in the local community, including starting the Manlius Informed Lecture Series. He was an engaged and interested member of the greater Syracuse community, an avid daily reader of The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, a lover of SU sports and a connoisseur of all things Jewish deli, especially Zabar's. Lewis was one of the greatest characters you could ever meet. He was eager to participate in conversation with all, and he will be greatly missed.

Lewis is survived by his wife of 65 years, Anita, two sons, Andrew and Brett (Diane), four grandchildren, Alex, Elana, Glenn and Leah, his brother Ellison and many wonderful nieces, nephews and cousins.

Donations may be made to Make-A-Wish Central New York (<https://wish.org/cny>), Manlius Senior Activity Center (<http://www.manliusseniors.org/>) or Temple Adath Yeshurun (<https://www.adath.org/>).

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**ADELINE SCHWARTZ
JASPER**
September 20, 2021



Adeline Schwartz Jasper, 97, of Jamesville, NY passed peacefully September 20 at The Nottingham. Adeline, or Addie as she was known, was born in the Olney section of Philadelphia, PA and was married to Martin N. Jasper for 52 years. Adeline grew up and raised her family in Philadelphia and Bucks County, PA. Adeline kept the family involved in Jewish life and ceremony and was an active member of Temple Beth Or and Shir Ami in Philadelphia, and later, Temple Concord in Syracuse, spending time working at the Temple Concord Food Pantry as her health allowed. She worked most of her life in clerical and purchasing positions, until retirement as a contract negotiator, civil servant for the US Navy.

Adeline will always be remembered for her love and devotion to her family and the example she set for them through her strong work ethic and genuine concern for making sure the family was always close and together. In addition to her husband, Adeline was predeceased by her daughter Sandra Lee Jasper Weissman, and three sisters: Mildred, Beatrice and Florence.

She is survived by her son Neil (Charlotte) Jasper, six grandchildren: Adam (Kelly) Weissman, Zeth Weissman, David Jasper, Steven Jasper, Benjamin (Theresa) Ireland, and Braydon (Jaclyn) Ireland and five great-granddaughters: Sophia Adele Weissman, Maeve Olivia Ireland, Molly Marie Ireland, Sephina Jasper and Carlin Rae Ireland.

Graveside services and burial were at the Roosevelt Memorial Park in Bensalem, PA with a celebration of her life to be held in Syracuse at a later date. Contributions in Adeline's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association.

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GERTRUDE B. KAMP
September 8, 2021

Gertrude B. Kamp, 96, passed away on September 8 at Crouse Hospital after a brief illness. Born in Brooklyn to Joseph and Leah Bohm, she had been a resident of Syracuse since she and her late husband Paul were married in 1946. Gertrude had been a member of Temple Adath Yeshurun since coming to Syracuse.

Her family includes her children Helene (Gerry) Rubenstein, Beverly Shor, Deborah Kamp, Nancy (Leo) Sawyer and Jason Kamp, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She was also pre-deceased by her three sisters.

Graveside services were in Adath Yeshurun Cemetery. Burial was next to her husband Paul, of blessed memory, who passed away 31 years ago to the day and her beloved daughter Aviva, who passed in 2012.

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SHARYLL NOVIDOR
September 29, 2021

Sharyll Novidor, 79, passed away on September 29. She was a loving mother and grandmother.

Sharyll graduated from Syracuse University with a B.S. in manufacturing management. She was a computer programmer for Kodak in Rochester and was formerly a proprietor of Nate's Floral Estates Mobile Homes Park in Ithaca, NY.

Sharyll had a love of travel and exploring. She found her way from the ice caps of the Antarctic Circle to the grasslands of Tanzania. In her later years, you could find her traveling across the United States in her truck camper. These youthful pursuits would not be hampered by her physical limitations. More than anything, Sharyll loved her family. Visiting her children and calling them, sometimes continuously to get minute-by-minute updates on the day, was the norm for her. To the people who were fortunate enough to know her, she was an energy that lit up our lives and added a special brightness to our day that will be sorely missed. Those who wish to make contributions to perpetuate her memory may do so to The Oaks at Menorah Park.

Sharyll's family includes her daughter and son-in-law Jacki and Jeff Boulter, son and daughter-in-law Mark and Chentel Carlson, grandchildren Josh Boulter, Seth Boulter, Rylan Carlson and Lucas Carlson and her brother and sister-in-law Stan and Linda Novidor.

Graveside services and burial beside her parents of blessed memory, Benjamin and Beatrice Novidor, were held at the B'nai Israel Cemetery at 626 Franklin Street, Elmira, officiated by Cantor Francine Berg.

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MAURICE "MOE" SILVERSTEIN
September 22, 2021

Maurice "Moe" Silverstein, 83, passed away on September 22 at the Bishop Rehabilitation Center. Born in Brooklyn to Joseph and Sarah Silverstein on June 5, 1938, he had been a resident of Syracuse since 1964. He and Susan met at a Jewish community event and were married within a year. They settled in Syracuse, raised their children here and enjoyed a wonderful life.

Maurice had been an electronics technician for the Carrier Corporation during his professional career. He was a member of Temple Concord.

Maurice was an avid baseball fan. He never missed a Brooklyn Dodgers game during his childhood ~ he hated the Yankees.

His family includes his wife Susan, their son Larry, and their daughters Judy (Ray) Breitenbach, Stacey (Jeremy) Kelley and their grandchildren Mitchell, Samuel and Owen.

Contributions to perpetuate his memory may be made to The American Diabetes Association or Temple Concord.

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AUDREY J. ADKINS
September 25, 2021

Audrey J. Adkins, 87, died September 25 at Upstate Hospital. Born on June 13, 1934 to John and Lillian Beck, she had been a life resident of Syracuse.

After her son Mark was old enough to be independent, she returned to the work force. Audrey worked for the NYS Insurance Fund for many years until retiring. Audrey's main interest in life was caring for her family and being in touch with them and her friends through phone conversations. Everyone loved her.

Her family includes her son Mark (Sharon), grandsons Christopher Glaister and Bradley Glaister, great-granddaughter Alani Rose Glaister, brother Bernard Beck and several loving nieces and nephews. Her husband Jack passed away in 1997.

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All Varieties of Chicken,
Beef or Vegetable 17 oz.



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Roasted & Peeled



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8.5 oz.
White



3⁹⁹

with AdvantEdge Card
Osem
Chicken
Consomme
14.1 oz.



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3.5 oz. • Milk Chocolate or
Bittersweet



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