Below left: A young family from France arrives in Israel on a special International Fellowship of Christians and Jews flight. See story p. 17.

The ZOA annual brunch and meeting was held on Sunday, July 24 at Kravitz’s Delicatessen. The following members were installed as officers at the meeting.

President             Michael Froomkin
1st Vice -President   Phyllis Friedman
Vice-President        Alice Franklin
Recording Secretary   Richard Marlin
Treasurer             Arthur Friedman
Membership Chair      Ronna Marlin
Outgoing President    Suzyn Schwebel Epstein

Above left: (from left) Todd Herzog, Elliott Legow, Rabbi Frank Muller, and Hillari Lipkin at the kick-off to the Rodef Sholom 150th Anniversary Celebration. See story on p. 9

Above right: Loving summer at the Jewish Community Center’s day camp program. Left: Sidnee Guthrie, Right: Averi Billups

Below left: A young family from France arrives in Israel on a special International Fellowship of Christians and Jews flight. See story p. 17.
Anti-Israel BDS movement faces setbacks while Pro-Israel advocacy, legislation on the upswing

Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, JCRC Director

It has been a busy year thus far for anti-Israel activists who have worked to promote a global campaign to delegitimize Israel through the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS). While BDS proponents have made minor inroads since the inception of the movement, the events of 2016 have proven that not only do BDS initiatives continue to fail, and that pro-Israel advocacy and support is steadily increasing and becoming more widespread.

The history of the formal BDS movement dates back to the outbreak of the second Palestinian Intifada in 2000, and to the 2001 United Nations World Conference on Racism in Durban, South Africa, a conference that morphed into an anti-Israel free-for-all.

The campaign intensified by 2004 and 2005 with calls by international pro-Palestinian groups to impose broad boycotts and implement divestment initiatives against Israel similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era, and to pressure governments to initiate embargoes and sanctions against the Jewish state. A key element of the BDS campaign was, and continues to be, the rejection of a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

In a powerful speech this year at a U.N. gathering of Ambassadors against BDS, Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, urged occupying Israeli and distraction from the real world of almost seven decades of an ongoing effort to destroy the Jewish state.

Because no other state in the world is criticized more vehemently and attracts more self-righteous indignation than Israel, BDS is simply a modern version of “an irrational hatred of the Jewish people.”

Other noted voices outside the Jewish community also condemn BDS. International columnist Fred Maroun, a Canadian-Arab who lived in Lebanon from 1961 to 1984, contends that the movement is destroying a future Palestinian state.

In a recent essay, Maroun wrote, “The BDS movement continues to apply hypocritical double standards in a transparent effort to make Israel extinct.”

Its leaders have stated in no uncertain terms that they are not interested in a two-state solution. They want a single Arab state to replace Israel.”

Maroun further noted that the movement has played right into the hands of the dangerous game Arabs have been waging for almost years that on Jewish scruples to turn every defeat into a partial victory. “Whereas throughout history those who lose wars – especially wars they themselves started – are forced to live by the rules of the winner, the Arabs have refused to live by Israel’s rules and they even consistently rejected middle-of-the-road two-state solutions that would have been reasonable for both sides. One can only hope that they, like Egypt and Jordan, will soon decide to live peace with a neighbor which turned out to be far better in the way it treats Palestinians than the Palestinians’ own Arab brothers. One can only hope that Palestinian leaders will start promoting a culture of peace rather than a culture of hate.”

Some high profile BDS failures this year, as well as successful efforts to pass anti-BDS legislation throughout the country, demonstrate that voices such as Greenblatt and Maroun are being heard, and that continued vigilance against the movement can ultimately result in its deserved demise.

At recent national conventions of several mainline Protestant denominations — conventions where national leaders have repeatedly over the years tried to hijack the agendas to promote BDS — voices of reason led votes to reject pro-BDS resolutions.

Delegates at the 2016 United Methodist Quadrennial General Conference voted to maintain positive investment to advance Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking and to reject resolutions to divest from several companies that sell goods that help Israelis defend themselves. The body further passed resolutions calling for the rejection of oversimplified efforts to blame one side or the other, and to withdraw from a group that supports broad anti-Israel boycotts, divestment and sanctions and opposes U.S. support for Israel.

And despite vilification of Israel by numerous activists at the Presbyterian Church’s General Assembly in June, support of two states for two peoples and continued grassroots support for Presbyterian-Jewish relationships were evident, led by a growing national movement, Presbyterians for Middle East Peace, who reject any and all anti-Zionism.

The continued effort among leaders of national academic associations to

Continued on p. 7

Commentary

Enough delays: time to bring the Falash Mura home

By David M. Elcott

NEW YORK (JTA) — We met Demoz Deboch at services in Gondar, Ethiopia. It was Friday night in June of 2013 and we were surrounded by hundreds of white-clad Falash Mura, the descendants of Jews who were now living a Jewish life in neighborhoods near the Jewish compound set up by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Women stood and blessed candles chanting in Hebrew and Amharic. The service began; African melody but Hebrew words. White robes, white tizit and beautiful, delicate black faces. I sat among the young men. This was a dramatic moment. Israel had announced that the last Falash Mura would be flown on eagles’ wings to Israel, the end of an almost 3,000-year-old Jewish community. We were there to witness the event, to cheer on these men, women and children who were so passionately committed to Israel — to returning home.

I turned to this young man, Demoz, and spoke to him in Hebrew.

“When exactly are you leaving?” He turned his head as if in shame and replied, “Ani lo b’rishima,” I am not on the list. I was confused.

What list? And how could this young man, who wears a kippah, speaks beautiful Hebrew, keeps kosher and teaches the young kids at the compound — how could he not go to Israel? I turned to the young men on the other side and asked the same question. The same response all around me: None were “on the list.”

And so I learned a painful truth. The visiting Jewish leaders who had come for the ceremonial closing of the Jewish school were being thanked by students, teachers and youth leaders who were being left behind. And the health center, the food kitchen — even the Torah — were all being taken away, leaving 6,000 stranded Falash Mura in Gondar — as well as another 3,000 attached to the Falash Mura in Israel.

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On the Calendar for August

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Candle-Lighting Times

Aug. 5 8:15 p.m.
Aug. 12 8:06 p.m.
Aug. 19 7:56 p.m.
Aug. 26 7:46 p.m.
Sept. 2 7:34 p.m.

About the Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine

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JJMM Mission Statement

❖ The Youngstown Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine, a publication of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, strives to —
❖ Provide a major tool of community communication for the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation and its affiliated agencies;
❖ Present current local, national and world news of Jewish interest;
❖ Offer timely commentary, interpretation, analysis and authentic background on events of the day for the purpose of encouraging the concern and response vital to our responsibilities as Americans and Jews;
❖ Enrich the cultural interest of individuals and the community through articles, features, reviews and other material of both local and national Jewish content and interest;
❖ Provide a communication tool to enable all members of the Jewish community to express their viewpoints on issues of Jewish importance and interest;
❖ Demonstrate commitment to the progress and continuity of Jewish life in the U.S., especially our local area, Israel and around the world.

The JJMM does not assume the responsibility for the Kashruth of any product or service advertised on its pages.

August 15 is the deadline for articles and ads for the September 2016 issue.
By attending this year’s Campaign Education Workshop on Wednesday, Aug. 24 at 5 p.m. at Vernon’s Café in Niles, $500 will be donated in your name to the 2016 Federation Campaign from the Thomases Family Endowment Fund.

Abigail Levin, vice president of development for the Jewish Federation of Cleveland is the invited speaker. Ms. Levin has been with the Cleveland Federation since September 2005 and oversees the Federation’s Campaign for Jewish Needs.

In her time with the Federation, she has worked in development, community planning and allocations, young leadership, and other high priority projects.

Prior to her work with the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, Ms. Levin spent two years working for Hillel at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Her leadership activities have also included next generation programming, strategic planning, and development efforts with her synagogue, B’nai Jeshurun Congregation in Pepper Pike.

Ms. Levin holds a B.A. from the University of Maryland, and an M.B.A. and an M.A. in Jewish Communal Service from Brandeis University. Ms. Levin is a FERP Scholarship recipient, which led to her role with the Cleveland Federation, and was selected to participate in the inaugural class of the Jewish Federation of North America’s Fundraising University. Ms. Levin resides in Beachwood with her husband, David and her daughter, Hallie.

There is no charge for the briefing, but reservations are due by Aug. 17 to Bea Blue: BBlue@JewishYoungstown.org.

For further information, call the Campaign office at (330) 746-3250 x114.

Abigail Levin

Inaugural event on tap next month at DeYor Center

When the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation kicks off its Inaugural Event on behalf of the 2016 Combined Jewish Appeal on Sept. 8, two outstanding speakers will headline this year’s program to be held for the first time at the DeYor Center.

Dr. Will Recant, the assistant executive vice-president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee-International Development Program, is responsible for the development and coordination of projects relating to the Rescue, Relief, and Renewal of Jewish communities worldwide.

Before joining JDC, Dr. Recant served as the executive director of the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, where he established the Congressional Caucus for Ethiopian Jews and advocated on behalf of the Ethiopian Jewry movement. The end result of his efforts was Operation Solomon.

Once the airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel was complete, AAEJ closed its doors, and Dr. Recant was the natural choice to represent JDC in Washington, DC. During his tenure there, Cuba’s government began the process of revising its constitution, paving the way for JDC to secure a license to initiate community development and renewal within the country’s Jewish communities.

Alla Magas, 30, was born in Poltava, Ukraine, and until the age of 13 did not know she had any connection to the Jewish people. When this news came, she plunged into Jewish community life and hasn’t left it since.

In 2007, she completed JDC’s Metsofa Jewish Young Leadership program, which she says changed her life and gave it a new direction. Soon after this, Alla moved to Kharkov — a city with a Jewish community of 40,000 — to head the Jewish Youth Association there.

In this position, she developed youth leadership, volunteerism and taught Jewish tradition, and she also became one of the initiators of the Teen Movement in the Limmud FSU (originally the “Former Soviet Union.”

Ms. Magas developed teen activities in Ukraine, and took Ukrainian teens to BBYO conferences. Last year at the BBYO symposium, She was awarded the David Bitker Unsung Hero International Advisor of the Year Award.

Save the Date

Lion of Judah

2016 Annual Campaign

Monday, September 19, 2016

For more information, please contact
Debbi Grinstein, Endowment Director
At 330-746-3250x175 or dgrinstein@jewishyoungstown.org
A letter of gratitude to the community

This is to all our dear community members in Youngstown.

While you’re reading these lines, we will already be in Israel visiting our family and friends. Before we come back for another year full of programs and activities, we wanted to take this chance to summarize the last 12 months which we spent with you.

We came here as a newly wedded couple, from a situation in which we shared our lives with 25 teenagers in a boarding school in Israel. We moved to a new country with a different language, to live on our own.

So what have we done during this last year? We organized many-many programs for all kinds of audiences for the Jewish and wider community.

We conducted “Lunch & Learns” about Jewish tradition and Israel as well as “Concept nights.” We celebrated holidays and Shabbat with the community and with the kindergarten kids.

We had the privilege of bringing Israeli speakers and were honored by great attendance — all thanks to you. We had the pleasure of forming a Young Adults group that meets almost every month, and we spoke about Israel in area churches. And on top of everything, we became teachers at Akiva Academy.

No doubt that the last year was very busy for us. We cannot describe in words the impact this experience has made upon us. We are different people today than we were a year ago. We are more experienced and more Jewish. We have a stronger connection to Israel and, most important, we have much more energy today, so we can ensure you one thing — next year will be even better.

We’ve been to many places this year, but there’s no place like home. We are very excited to go home, but even more excited to come back and have another year with all of you.

See you on Sept. 30 for our first program next year.

Gon & Shai Erez

Pope visits Auschwitz during trip to Poland

(Pope Francis pays a solemn visit to the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps on July 29.

(JTA) — Pope Francis visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau former Nazi death camp in Poland, in what World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder said was an “important signal to the world.”

On Friday, July 29, The Associated Press reported, the pope prayed in silent contemplation before meeting Holocaust survivors in front of the death wall where the Nazis summarily shot thousands of people.

Among the survivors he met were Helena Dunicz Niwinska, a 101-year-old woman who played the violin in the Auschwitz orchestra, as well as survivors who worked at the camp hospital or who were there as children.

Francis lit a candle in front of the death wall, bowing his head in prayer before visiting the cell of Polish priest and saint Maximilian Kolbe who died at Auschwitz after taking the place of a condemned man.

The visit falls on the 75th anniversary of the day Kolbe was condemned to death.

Ahead of his visit Francis said that rather than making a speech, he would stand in silence to reflect on the horrors committed and let his tears flow.

After arriving Wednesday in Poland, the pontiff said the world had been plunged into a piecemeal third world war. He has repeatedly denounced those committing crimes in the name of religion, after Europe suffered a string of deadly jihadist attacks.

In a statement, Lauder praised the pontiff, who has forged ever-closer ties between the Catholic Church and Jews since his election in 2013.

“Pope Francis is one of the closest allies Jews have today in the fight against anti-Semitism, bigotry and hatred,” Lauder said. “He is a true friend of the Jewish people, a man who reaches out to others and embraces them. Never over the past 2,000 years have Catholic-Jewish relations been better.”

The pope’s visit “sends an important signal to the world that this dark chapter must never be forgotten and that the truth about what happened seven decades ago must not be obfuscated,” Lauder added.

The late pontiff John Paul II, who was born in Poland, visited Auschwitz in 1979. His successor, Pope Benedict XVI, visited in 2006.

Who are the Shlichim

Shaliach means “messenger” or “emissary” in Hebrew; the plural of the word is shlichim.

The Jewish Agency’s shlichim are dedicated to the Jewish People, Jewish heritage, and to Israel. They are hand-picked from various streams of Israeli society, and different professional and academic backgrounds.

The shlichim get communities actively involved in securing a vital Jewish future by creating programming tailor-made for specific communities’ needs — designed to increase Jewish awareness, knowledge, and pride; to bridge the gap between Jews of different backgrounds and Israel; and to promote an understanding of Israel and its ideals. The Jewish Agency’s Community Shlichim Program sends idealistic and dedicated Israelis to serve in Jewish communities and with Jewish organizations throughout the world.

The shlichim remain in their communities for one to two years, during which time they become partners with their host communities and work to engage all age groups — especially teens and young adults — in a range of Jewish cultural, educational, and social activities.

Guided locally by the community leadership, the Community Shlichim plant the seeds of a secure Jewish future by implementing programs that are designed to increase Jewish awareness, knowledge, and pride; and to promote an understanding of Israel and its ideals.

Lauder said, “He is a true friend of the Jewish people, a man who reaches out to others and embraces them. Never over the past 2,000 years have Catholic-Jewish relations been better.”

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Thomases Family Endowment donates testimonies to YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies

Through a gift from the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, the Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies at Youngstown State University is now home to a series of video testimonies of local Holocaust Survivors. This gift distinguishes YSU as the only location in all of Ohio and one of only a handful of universities across the nation, with such an archive of testimonies.

Announced at a recent YSU event, the some 30 testimonies of Survivors who lived in the Mahoning Valley were originally part of the collection of the Shoah Foundation at the University of Southern California. In 1994, Steven Spielberg, the Academy Award-winning director of Shindler’s List founded the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education to record testimonies in video format of Survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust.

The procurement of the testimonies is part of an ongoing project, in conjunction with the JCRC’s Holocaust Education and Commemoration Task Force, to identify and research the lives of all Survivors who lived in the Mahoning Valley for at least six weeks or more. To date, more than 180 names have been identified, although only 30 gave Shoah testimonies. Efforts by YSU and the JCRC are now underway to create an independent, easily accessible website that will provide information, photographs, video testimonies and other information about these Survivors. The JCRC expects to unveil the new website with the first batch of completed biographies during its 2017 Yom Hashoah commemoration programs next spring.

The Thomases Endowment also is funding the creation of the website. During the YSU event, Andi Baroff, a member of the Thomases committee noted the importance of the endowment’s philanthropic partnerships with the Federation and other entities such as YSU to support worthwhile projects that benefit the whole community. Baroff stressed Irwin’s commitment to tzedakah, his mission to promote justice, and his belief in tikkun olam — the requirement to leave the world in a better place than how he found it.

Dr. Helene Sinnreich, the Clayman Professor of Judaic and Holocaust Studies and director of the Center, said, “Soon there will not be any Holocaust Survivors available to give first-hand accounts of their experiences. This wonderful gift will allow those voices to live on for generations, bringing their stories to students, researchers, and the community at large for many years to come.”

The testimonies will be permanently housed at YSU and will be accessible to anyone with a YSU login account. The general public will be able to access the collection through public terminals at Maag library.

Kristine Blair, dean of the College of liberal Arts and Social Sciences, said YSU is honored to be the permanent home to the oral histories. “This collection means that the YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies will become a central point for researchers and scholars from around the nation and the world,” she said.

The JCRC and Jesse McClain, Federation Holocaust educational specialist, will continue to work with YSU on all Holocaust educational projects. Fifteen-minute documentary films about Bill Vegh, Esther Shudmak, and Henry Kinast, as well as traveling exhibits about Vegh and Kinast, have already been completed.

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Has the gate to the compound of the god Pan been discovered at Hippos?

A monumental Roman gate discovered in the excavations by the University of Haifa at Hippos may cast light on the bronze mask of Pan — the only object of its kind found anywhere in the world — that was discovered in the same site from 117 to 138 CE, or slightly earlier. From the reign of the Emperor Hadrian, who reigned from 117 to 138 CE, or slightly earlier. The researchers were working on the hypothesis that the building formed part of the fortifications of the city, but as they dug deeper they found two square basalt towers with dimensions of approximately 6.30 meters x 6.30 meters and a portal of 3.7 meters wide in-between. The researchers concluded that the original gateway was over six meters high, while the building (propyleaum) itself was even taller. The propyleaum can probably be dated to the period of the Emperor Hadrian, who reigned from 117 to 138 CE, or slightly earlier. The mask was presumably fixed to a wall or altar at the compound, as its rear side

Continued on p. 20

Israeli teens find remains of 3,700-year-old Canaanite fortress

(Associate Press/Exclusive to JNS.org) A group of teenagers working on an archaeological dig in the village of Ibillin in northern Israel uncovered a Canaanite-era fortress dating back 3,700 years.

The youngsters — who hail from Moshav Alon Hagalil and Kibbutz Hanaton and are spending their summer vacation working on an Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) excavation — unearthed the Canaanite structure, whose existence was previously unknown, in the middle of an olive grove between Ibillin and Shfaram.

Archaeologist Nurit Feig, who is overseeing the project for the IAA, said that “it could be that the youth who are working with us have uncovered a chapter in the history of the Galilee that we didn’t know about. The wall they found is especially massive, and could have functioned as a wall that protected some ruler or another. It appears that the place was active in the Canaanite period, about 3,700 years ago. This is the first time that we’ve found a fortified structure from that era in this area.”
Bar association honors lawyers

Alan Kretzer, president of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, received a distinguished service award at the annual Mahoning County Bar Association election banquet held last month.

The award is given to lawyers or judges who have provided exemplary service to the association or the community at large.

At the event, Daniel B. Roth was honored for 60 years in the legal profession, Peter B. Grinstein for his 55 years as lawyer, and Michael S. Harshman for his 50-year legal career.

Anti-BDS status (continued from p. 2)

promote boycotts of Israeli universities and professors — ironic in that these efforts run entirely counter to the notion of the free exchange of ideas so treasured by the academic community — is not gaining much traction. Ideas should not be dismissed because of the nationality of those who provide them, yet proponents of academic boycotts put pressure on leading intellectuals to not visit Israel or participate in its conferences, and to support resolutions that cast Israel as a pariah state.

In the latest BDS failure at a national academic association, the full membership of the American Anthropological Association rejected support for a boycott resolution after it had been approved at a previous business meeting.

And on the legislative front, 12 states have now passed some form of an anti-BDS law or resolution. Legislative approaches vary widely, from resolutions that condemn BDS without any other legal action, to bills that ban investment of government funds in companies that boycott Israel and/or disallow government contracts with businesses or individuals that engage in such boycotts. These laws are based on the notion that it is in the best interests of the states to prohibit discriminatory trade practices based solely on national origin.

With overwhelming bipartisan support, New Jersey passed the most recent anti-BDS law that prohibits the state from investing pension and annuity funds in companies that boycott Israel or Israeli business.

And Governor Andrew Cuomo of New York, just signed an executive order to ensure that no state agency or authority will engage in or promote any investment activity that would further the harmful and discriminatory BDS campaign, stressing that, “If you boycott Israel, New York will boycott you.”

Ohio is hoping to become the next state to pass an anti-BDS bill. This past spring, a bipartisan group of legislators introduced a measure that would prohibit the state from entering into contractual relationships with entities that engage in national origin discrimination by boycotting Israel. The bill was voted out of committee before the summer recess, and Ohio Jewish Communities is now working with the legislative leadership on final language changes before it goes to a vote.

And finally, a group of committed pro-Israel Democrats and Republicans in Washington have introduced the “Combating BDS Act of 2016,” legislation that would affirm the authority of state and local governments to identify and divest from entities engaged in BDS activities against Israel.

This clarification is important because, if passed, the act would protect state and local governments from lawsuits alleging that they are causing undue burdens or discrimination against interstate or foreign commerce.

This bill sends a strong message regarding Congress’ commitment to opposing BDS and supporting the ideals of a two-state solution to the conflict.
Rodef Sisterhood: thanks and plans

By Sally Blau

One of the most beautiful and absolutely fabulous evenings occurred on Friday July 8 at Congregation Rodef Sholom. Our Sisterhood had the pleasure of sponsoring the 150th Anniversary kick-off celebration dinner. It took many generous volunteers, giving many hours to produce such an unbelievable event.

Kandy and her kitchen crew were joined by Art Einzig, owner of Fire Grill in Girard, who ordered and helped prepare 109 pounds of brisket for the Sesquicentennial kick-off. Kandy makes it look easy to prepare a meal for 200 as well as the weekly Onegs. A big thank you to all the volunteers who came in to cook, set tables and decorate for a very special event.

Special thanks to Roz Hixson, Claudia Axelson, and Toni Greenbaum.

Rabbi Muller turned our regular Friday Shabbat service into a musical event along with Todd Herzog, our visiting cantorial soloist from Phoenix, AZ. The evening concert was more than spectacular, and it was a joy to see Rabbi Muller perform alongside Todd. We are all so proud of our Rabbi.

I want to thank co-chairs of the 150th Committee, Hilari Lipkin and Elliot Legow, who did a stellar job. Sue Weiss, Yetta Gluck and Barbara Kirkorsky decorated the tables and made the arrangements for Sisterhood members to provide the delectable desserts. When my sisterhood comes together “We can't help everyone, but everyone can help some-thing” Ronald Reagan

Things to do before traveling

Texting: The last thing to do before taking off for on your wonderful trip is to say “I love you”. Because life is so full of unexpectedness, we take comfort in always sharing words of love. Whenever we depart each other’s company, it ensures, that g-d forbid something happens, our memories will be of Love.

Tzedakah: When you or someone you know is traveling give a Dollar to the traveler and tell him or her that by them accepting this Dollar they become Shalach Mitzvah. They become a representative on a mission of Tzedakah or charitable giving. According to the rabbinic sages, someone who is on route to perform a Mitzvah is given extra protection. I hope all are enjoying these beautiful summer days. Please Stay Safe.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Thursday, Sept. 1: Sisterhood’s 12th Annual Card Party with Temple El Emeth Sisterhood in Strouss Hall. There will be door prizes and a raffle. Cost is $15. Payment may be made at the door but a reservation is required to the Temple office by Wednesday, Aug. 24.

Sisterhood is having a fundraiser to help everyone get ready for the Holidays. We are baking apple nut Bundt cakes (can be available without nuts). Pre-orders and payment due at the Temple by Tuesday, Sept. 20. Cost will be $10 each. Orders can be picked up on Sept. 28 at the Temple office. We are offering home delivery for an additional $3.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next event.

With love
Your Sisterhood President,
Sally Blau

Congregation Rodef Sholom
150th Anniversary Celebration speaker

Friday, Aug. 12 at 6 p.m.

Dr. Roger Berkowitz, son of Dr. Sidney Berkowitz, beloved Rabbi of Rodef Sholom from 1946 to 1983, will speak on “The Legacy of Rabbi Sidney M. Berkowitz.”

This presentation will review the remarkable career of Sidney M. Berkowitz, Rabbi of Congregation Rodef Sholom from 1947 until 1982. His public accomplishments were legendary, mainly based upon some extraordinary human traits.

It is hoped that this discussion will bring back memories to those who knew him and will introduce others to one of this Congregation's greatest spiritual and community leaders.

An abbreviated Shabbat service will precede the lecture.

Roger M. Berkowitz was born in Denver, CO, and was brought to Youngstown by his parents Rabbi Sidney and Pauline Berkowitz in 1946 at the age of two. Educated in Youngstown public schools (Harding, Hayes and Rayen), he then studied at Western Reserve University, followed by an M.A. and a Ph.D. in the history of art from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Berkowitz was a member of the curatorial staff of the Toledo Museum of Art, serving later as director for the last five years of his 30-year museum tenure.

Upon retirement, he and his wife Rhoda, a retired professor of law, moved to Pittsboro, North Carolina, where they have lived for the past 12 years. They have traveled extensively, while he also serves as a trustee of the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh.

Volunteers Needed

Social Action Committee at the Second Harvest Food Bank

Wednesday, August 3, 2016 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. 2805 Salt Springs Road, Youngstown, Please contact the Temple office at (330) 744-5001 to volunteer your time.

Outdoor Shabbat

Join us for an outdoor Shabbat service Friday, Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. at Wick Park.

Gail Saunders-Smith, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Teacher Education, Beegly College of Education, YSU will be the speaker will be Dr. Saunders-Smith will speak about literacy and the roles it plays in social justice and how it might combat poverty and racism.

Pot luck picnic will be held in Wick Park Pavilion.

Bring a pot luck item based on first letter of last name:

- Last names starting with the letters A through D — Bring your choice of entree
- Last names starting with the letters E through H — bring your choice of salad
- Last names starting with the letters I through M — bring your choice of dessert
- Last names starting with the letters N through P — bring your choice of side dish

R.S.V.P. to the Temple office at (330) 744-5001 no later than Monday, Aug. 1

All are cordially invited to attend. An Oneg will follow the presentation.

There is no charge for the event, however, an R.S.V.P. is required by calling the Temple at (330) 744-5001 or email rodefsholom@sbcglobal.net by Tuesday, Aug. 9 at 4 p.m.

This lecture is sponsored by the Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation.
Welcome to the sesquizone. Our journey has only just begun. Friday night, July 8, was amazing! The evening began with a musical service with Rabbi Muller and guest cantor Todd Herzog. We enjoyed participating in the service and singing the liturgy.

The evening continued with a sold-out dinner for congregation members magnificently catered by Kandy Rawl and her 20+ volunteers. Everyone raved about the wonderful summer style dinner. It was so perfect. The tables reflected the mood of the evening. Thank you to Sisterhood for sponsoring the dinner. Dessert and table arrangements were organized by Sue Weiss. Thank you to all our bakers. Dessert was delicious and plentiful.

Dinner was followed by a 90-minute concert performed by Todd Herzog, who performed many original songs. Our special treat was when Rabbi Muller joined Todd in song.

A special thank you goes out to Carol and Bruce Sherman for donating sesquicentennial T-shirts to our children. Adults are able to purchase them through the gift shop. Only a few are left. Thank you to Jody Nudell for designing our logo. We will be seeing it often!

Thank you to all of our supporters and volunteers: Kandy Rawl, Bonnie Lehman, Wendy Miller, Sue Weiss, Yetta Gluck, Barbara Kirkorsky, Sandy Mallen, Nancy Burnett, Lisa Levy, Allison Henline, Sally Blau, Helen Sackerman, Jodie Damioli, Inez Heal, Norma Rothman, Sammie Winnick, Beverly Nathan, Marilyn Sniderman, Toni Schildcrout, Anita and Dick Shapiro. The evening could never have been so successful without everyone's help and support.

Hilari and Elliot
Temple El Emeth

Klezmer Shabbat successful again

About 75 people enjoyed El Emeth’s annual Klezmer Shabbat held Friday night, July 15. The outdoor musical Klezmer shabbat evening service was followed by dinner.

El Emeth held a “Blush and Brush” painting party in late June under the direction of artist Lori Szoke. Shown here are some of the participants with their creations.

August at El Emeth

August 16—Bible Study with Pastor Juan Rivera and Rabbi Schonberger Bible study will take place at New Life Church, 2250 E. Western Reserve Rd in Poland beginning at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. This program is alternating between New Life Church and Temple El Emeth.

August 18 — Minyan and a Meal

Minyan begins at 5:45 p.m. followed by a light supper at 6 p.m. Lori Glass will speak following dinner about her work in the field of Forensic Dentistry and some of the high profile cases she has been involved with. The title of her talk is “Dead Men Tell No Lies.” Paid reservations are required by August 15. Members $10 and associate and non-members $15.

August 22, Shmoozing with Shmulik

Join Sam Kooperman, aka Shmulik, for some fun in Yiddish. The session runs from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Chapel at El Emeth. Coffee and pastries are served.

Services: Daily minyan at 5:45 p.m. including Saturday. Friday morning Minyan at 7 a.m. Shabbat morning services are at 9:30 a.m.

Sisterhood set for September

by Mary Lou Finesilver

When last we spoke, I talked about World War II and the things we went through to help the war effort. Back then we were all, at least most of us, united to get the war over, and bring our boys home from overseas.

Those few years after the war were years of growth for our country. The middle class really came into being. There was the GI Bill of Rights giving returning veterans the opportunity to get an education. VA loans helped with the growth of housing. Levittown was developed beginning around 1947. These communities were homes built cookie cutter like but were fairly inexpensive which gave our returning vets and young families the opportunity to own a home.

I remember one of my cousins bought one back then, and it was fine for a small growing family. I don’t know how well made they were, but I believe there were six or seven of these communities built in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and Maryland. I think they were called pre-fab at the time, and I think some of these homes may still be around. I know my husband built some when we first got married. But this period after the war was a time of growth economically and educationally.

We lived, for a while, during a peaceful era with nothing threatening our universe. Unfortunately, that didn’t last too long. Along came television and more information on world affairs than maybe we needed to know. I remember the little television with the huge magnet hanging on the front.

We were one of the first families in Johnstown to get a television and the only thing on the air for a time was the logo from KDKA in Pittsburgh. I don’t think we sat and watched it, but it sure was a miracle.

Then after that came the wrestling matches and baseball. We had a big front porch on our house and I can still remember sitting on the porch with all the neighbors and friends who didn’t fit into our living room watching baseball. We were the most popular family in town, with just about the only TV in the neighborhood.

Now we have one in every room in the house, except the bathrooms. That could change anytime. Now we live in a time where progress is all around us and changing constantly. How long can you keep your cell phone and have it with all the bells and whistles. Not long, believe me: the cell phone makers won’t allow that to happen.

Upgrading has become a way of life and it is hard for the average person to keep up. Not only do they upgrade technically, but also monetarily. If you get my drift? Well enough for this week. Please stay tuned while I bring you up to date on Sisterhood happenings.

Vacation time is over for Sisterhood officers and chairmen. Program Vice Presidents Phyllis Perlman and Ellen Weiss have had their first planning meeting with what sounds like a great year for all of us.

The first meeting will be Sept. 13, with a board meeting at 10:45 a.m. and lunch at noon. Lunch will be $12 per member. Reservations must be in by Sept. 7. Please put the dates on your calendar now so you don’t forget.

Our Presidium Debbi Grinstein and Paula Ferguson will preside at both the board meeting and lunch.

Our incoming officers are — Nancy Wagner, Funds V.P.; Program V.P’s Phyllis Perlman and Ellen Weiss; Membership Vice President, Phyllis Fried-
Falasha Mura need to come to Israel (cont’d from p. 2)

The Falasha Mura are a subset of Ethiopian Jewry. Over the last 100 years, under economic and social pressures, some Jews converted to Coptic Christianity. Others married Christians or Muslims. While other Ethiopian Jews were making their epic migration to Israel, the Falasha Mura’s Jewish lineage — a matter of biology, not identity — was considered suspect.

In the case of Demoz, his maternal line was Jewish, but his father was not in town when the Jewish census took place, so the family was not on the list maintained by the Population and Migration Authority of Israel’s Interior Ministry. By the time that was rectified, Demoz had “aged out” and as an adult was no longer listed with his family.

Demos was a child when his family sold its land in the rural village where he was born to join the Jewish community in Gondar. Families from around the province with rich memories of Jewish customs and celebrations handed down from their grandparents flocked to the Jewish community on the path of aliyah. They left everything they had in the village and then had no place to which they could return. Always considered outsiders in Ethiopia — the derogatory name Falasha suggests “exile” or “transient” — they felt the pull of their Jewish faith. Growing up in the compound, Demoz only knew his Jewish life, his Zionist schooling, his Jewish soul. The idea that he was now rejected by Israel and the Jewish community that had nurtured him his whole life was unfathomable.

And so began a campaign by the Ethiopian leadership in Israel headed by the activist Avraham Neguse, now a member of Knesset, and supported by empathetic Israelis and American Jews. Demoz and I corresponded the past three years. We offered to bring him to America with his two closest friends to help him formally convert to Judaism and resolve any lingering doubts, to study at college here and then go to Israel. He refused. He could not abandon his family and community, saying that when he leaves Gondar, it will only be to go to Israel. Rabbis in White Plains, New York, helped raise money among their congregants to fund the Jewish compound and keep it open. The Torah stayed. Ethiopian Jews in Israel, supported by their allies, demonstrated.

Meanwhile, months and then years passed with no resolution. But Demoz stayed faithful, a true believer that the Israel of his dreams would not fail him. He enrolled in college with the hope of joining the Israeli Foreign Ministry and becoming an ambassador for Israel. He made Jewish friends around the world on Facebook, making his simple request: Bring me home.

After over two years passed, a miracle seemed to unfold. In 2015, the commission appointed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to consider the plight of the 9,000 remaining Falash Mura of Ethiopia recommended that they be brought home to Israel. In November, the Israeli Cabinet unanimously agreed. Demoz was ecstatic, making plans to reconnect with friends and family in Israel, to sell the little he had and go to Israel, join the army and finally be a true Israeli.

Then, in February, Netanyahu’s government announced, citing budget reasons, that there would be no aliyah, no more Jews from Ethiopia. The incredulity and despair, in Israel and in Ethiopia, was huge. As one member of the Knesset, Revital Swid of the Zionist Union, angrily reacted: “How can we tell soldiers from Ethiopia that they’re good enough to sacrifice their lives but not good enough to reunite with their relatives?”

And there was a darker irony. At the very moment Demoz was told he was not good enough to come to Israel, Nathan Sharansky — himself a Russian Jew brought to Israel along with a million Russians, many of whom knew nothing of Judaism or even were not in fact Jews — invited the Catholic descendants of Spanish Jews who converted over 500 years ago to make aliyah. But not Demoz of Gondar.

Demos and I Skyped and, to my utter amazement, he was his optimistic and joyful self, believing against all the evidence that he would soon be making aliyah. I was filled with anger and fury. Demoz was serene, refusing to waver in his faith or believe that Israel would abandon him. And he has made believers of us.

That is why we, an ad hoc group of American rabbis and Jewish leaders, brought Demoz and his close friend Gezi Derebe to America this month. They will tour the East Coast and California speaking at conventions and camps while meeting with often recalcitrant Jewish leaders. Some 50 rabbis and leaders have also launched a petition campaign to give voice to the Falash Mura community left behind and tell this very simple story of “ahavat Yisrael,” the love of Israel, and the unwavering belief that the ingathering of the exiles means that Demoz and Gezi and their families and friends will soon be brought home on eagles’ wings, just as the Torah they read every week promises.

David M. Eicholtz is the Taub professor of practice in public service and leadership at the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service of New York University.
ADULT PROGRAMMING

For more information, contact: Darlene Muller 330-746-3250 Ext. 106 or Dmuller@jccyoungstown.org.

Steel Magnolias

At Truvy’s beauty shop, the women are all sass and brass. Through a cloud of hairspray and over the buzz of blow dryers, six southern spitfires gather each week to gossip and support each other through thick and thin. But those bonds are about to be tested when M’Lynn and her daughter Shelby face a life-changing event. Infused with heart and humor, “Steel Magnolias” is a hilarious story of love, loss, and enduring friendship. Price includes orchestra seat, transportation, and tip for bus driver. Dinner on your own.

Date: Sunday, August 21 | Cleveland, OH
Leave JCC: 11:00 a.m. | Return: 7:30 p.m.
$75/Member $85/Non Member

Kinky Boots

Back by popular demand, the smash-hit “Kinky Boots,” returns to Playhouse Square for one week only. Winner of six Tony® Awards including Best Musical, this inspirational story follows a struggling shoe factory owner who works to turn his business around with help from Lola, a fabulous entertainer in need of some sturdy stilettos. Together, this unlikely pair finds that they have more in common than they ever dreamed possible. Price includes orchestra seat, transportation, and tip for bus driver. Dinner on your own.

Date: Sunday, August 28 | Cleveland, OH
Leave JCC: 2:30 p.m. | Return: 10:30 p.m.
$75/Member $85/Non Member

Movie and Lunch Bunch

The Queen

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Actress, Helen Mirren gives a spellbinding performance in “The Queen”, the provocative story behind one of the most public tragedies of our time—the sudden death of Princess Diana. In the wake of Diana’s death, the very private and tradition-bound Queen Elizabeth finds herself in conflict with the new Prime Minister, the slickly modern and image-conscious Tony Blair. “The Queen” takes you inside the private chambers of the Royal Family and the British government for a captivating look at a vulnerable human being in her darkest hour, as a nation grieving for its People’s Princess waits to see what its leaders will do. Price includes light lunch and movie.

Date: Thursday, August 25
Time: Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
$5/Member $7/Non Member | $10 after August 23

Sip and Paint

“You are a sip away from a Masterpiece!” Once you walk in the door the party will begin. An easel, paint, canvas, aprons, snacks, wine and an instructor will be provided. No experience is required. Our local experienced and enthusiastic artist will be giving easy step-by-step instructions for everyone to follow. You’ll leave with a one-of-a-kind piece of art ready to display. Price includes art supplies, wine and cheese. We’re offering two parties. Join us for both!

Date: Monday, August 29
Time: 6:00-8:30 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
$30/Member $35/Non Member

Sip and Paint

Lunch and Learn

Healthcare 101

Beth Massaro, Senior Community Affairs and Retention Specialist with Gateway Health will discuss different options to get medical care for you and your family.

Date: Friday, August 26
Time: Noon – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
An R.S.V.P. is required to Shelia Cornell by August 23 — 330 746-3250 ext. 184

Movie and Lunch Bunch

Brooklyn

Based on the best-selling novel, “Brooklyn” is a warm and wonderful story about falling in love and finding your way home. Oscar Nominee Saoirse Ronan lights up the screen as Ellis Lacey, a young Irish immigrant navigating through 1950s Brooklyn. Although her initial homesickness soon gives way to romance, when Ellis’s life is disrupted by news from her hometown, she is forced to choose between two countries and two men on opposite sides of the world. Price includes movie and light lunch.

Date: Wednesday, September 14
Time: Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Multi-Purpose Room
$5/Member $7/Non Member $10 after September 12

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

For more on Youth Programming, contact Emily Collins 330-746-3250 Ext. 152 or Ecolls@jccyoungstown.org.

Camp JCC

The Camp JCC kids had an amazing summer! They’ve enjoyed soccer, baking, bubble making, field trips, tennis, swimming and so much more. We’re already gearing up for Camp JCC 2017! Go to jccyoungstown.org for more information and check out our Facebook page for pictures.

PJ Library

This is a Jewish engagement program implemented on a local level throughout North America. Through the program, we mail free, high quality Jewish children’s literature and music to families every month.

Challah Tots

Join us for a fun-filled evening of kid-friendly challah making to prepare for Shabbat! We will make the challah dough together and you will take it home to bake for Shabbat the next day. Open to children 3-8 years old. Parents must be present.

Date: Wednesday, September 14
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Location: JCC

SHLICHIM

For more on Shlichim programming, contact Gnon Erez: 330-746-3250 ext. 195 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

Free event : Living Room Lecture

This is a great opportunity to learn more about Israel. Gon and Shay, our Israeli Shlichim will come...
to your home and deliver a lecture on a variety of Israeli topics. You provide the space, Gon and Shay will bring their wealth of knowledge about Israel.

Minimum number of participants: 4 Adults

**A Taste of Israel —**

**An in-home cooking lesson**

Want to learn how to make traditional Israeli food in your own home? Gon and Shay, our Israeli Shlichim will teach you how to make a delicious Israeli meal in your own kitchen. They will provide all the ingredients needed and even wash the dishes!

**Cost:** $15 per person

Minimum number of participants: 4 Adults

To schedule your cooking lesson or lecture contact:
Gon Erez 330.746.3250 ext. 159 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

**Lunch & Learn**

**The Western Wall**

The holiest place for Jewish people to pray has changed many times over the last century. Israeli Shlichim Gon and Shay Erez will talk about the history of Jerusalem and the complexity of the Western Wall as it relates to Jewish and Israeli society. They’ll also discuss the recent change in law for men and women praying at the Wall.

**Date:** Friday, September 30

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room

The event is free and open to the public.

Lunch will be served

The event is free and open to the public.

**Location:** Multi-Purpose Room

The event is free and open to the public.

The event is free and open to the public.

**Deadline is September 23**

**Contact:** Gon Erez 330.746.3250 ext. 159 or gerez@jewishyoungstown.org

**GROUP EXERCISE**

**Stress Relief Meditation**

This class will focus on stress relief and reduction. Each week you will explore sitting meditation as well as other modalities of meditating so you will feel more comfortable practicing on your own.

**Date:** Wednesday

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. – noon

**Mindfulness Movement Yoga**

A gentle yoga practice paired with mindfulness and meditation. This class is great for beginners or those who want to move in a slower, more meditative way. Classes will emphasize relaxation, exploring yoga postures with stretching and release.

**Date:** Wednesday

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**Private Swim Lessons**

Private swim lessons provide the greatest flexibility among lesson options. The one-on-one attention provided through these lessons creates a personalized setting for learning. Private lessons are great for swimmers of any age from the rookie swimmer trying to learn the basics to the seasoned swimmer looking to improve their skills. Private lessons are also great for adults who want to learn-to-swim or even triathletes looking to improve their skills.

**1:1 student/teacher ratio**

**4 lessons @ 30 minutes**

**$99/Member | $110/Non Member**

**P.A.L.S. – Persons with Autism who Love to Swim**

**Private Swim Lessons**

The JCC is proud to offer free swim lessons that are especially geared towards persons on the autism spectrum. Our instructors have gone through special training in order ensure they are more than capable of teaching children with autism. Instructors will be using advanced techniques to connect with and aid autistic children during lessons.

Those wishing to enroll in the JCC P.A.L.S. program must apply to be on the waiting list by visiting our website at www.jccyoungstown.org and finding the PALS program under the aquatics tab.

**Family Swim**

Once each quarter we will have a family swim free for those who have a family member on the autism spectrum.
Elie Weisel: Nobel Prize winner, conscience of and light to the world

By Sarah Wildman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Elie Wiesel, the Holocaust survivor and Nobel laureate who became a leading icon of Holocaust remembrance and a global symbol of conscience, died Saturday at 87. His death was the result of natural causes, the World Jewish Congress said in a statement.

A philosopher, professor and author of such seminal works of Holocaust literature as “Night” and “Dawn,” Wiesel perhaps more than any other figure came to embody the legacy of the Holocaust and the worldwide community of survivors.

“I have tried to keep memory alive,” Wiesel said at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in 1986. “I have tried to fight those who would forget. Because if we forget, we are guilty, we are accomplices.”

Often he would say the “opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference.”

The quest to challenge indifference was a driving force in Wiesel’s writing, advocacy and public presence. Though he considered himself primarily a writer, love is not hate, it is indifference. “Along with his beloved wife Marion and the foundation that bears his name, he raised his voice, not just against anti-Semitism, but against hatred, bigotry and intolerance in all its forms,” Obama said in a statement. “He implored each of us, as nations and as human beings, to do the same, to see ourselves in each other and to make real that pledge of ‘never again.’”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wiesel was “bitterly mourned” by the State of Israel and the Jewish people.

“Elie, the wordsmith, expressed through his extraordinary personality and fascinating books the triumph of the human spirit over cruelty and evil,” he said in a statement.

Wiesel won a myriad of awards for his work, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Congressional Gold Medal and the National Jewish Book Award. “Night” is now standard reading in high schools across America. In 2006, it was chosen as a book club selection by Oprah Winfrey and, nearly half a century after it was first published, spent more than a year atop the best-seller list. He would also take Winfrey to Auschwitz that same year.

Writing for The New York Times Book Review in 2008, Rachel Donadio said Night had become “a case study in how a book helped create a genre, how a writer became an icon and how the Holocaust was absorbed into the American experience.”

“There is no way to talk about the last half century of Holocaust consciousness without giving Wiesel a front and center role,” said Michael Berenbaum, a professor at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles and former director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s research institute. “What he did, extraordinarily, was to use the Nobel Prize as a tool to call attention to things, and as a vehicle to scream louder, shout more, agitate more.”

Born in the town of Sighet, Transylvania, then and now a part of Romania, in 1928, Wiesel was deported to Auschwitz in 1944 with his family when he was 15. His mother and one of his sisters disappeared forever when the camp was forced aboard the cattle cars, murdered immediately. His father, who traveled with him to the camps, died of dysentery and starvation in Buchenwald before liberation. Two sisters would survive the war.

In Night, Wiesel describes pinching his face to see if he is dreaming when he sees the murders of infants.

“‘Never again’ is what one saw in one night, generations of men and women had not seen in their own entire lives.”

Wiesel was liberated from Buchenwald in 1945. He went on to study at the Sorbonne and moved to New York at the end of the 1950s, where he lived in relative obscurity. He worked hard to find a publisher for “Night,” which initially sold poorly.

“The truth is in the 1950s and in the early 1960s there was little interest and willingness to listen to survivors,” said Wiesel’s longtime friend Rabbi Irving “Yitz” Greenberg, who had read a copy of “Night” in Israel in the early 1960s. “In 1963, someone told me this author is alive and well in New York City and I somehow managed to find him and go see him.”

Continued on p. 18
Mildred “Millie” Melincoff Rusnak

Services were held on Friday, July 8, at the Ohev Tzedek-Shaarei Torah Congregation, 5245 Glenwood Ave. in Youngstown, for Mildred “Millie” Melincoff Rusnak, 91, who passed away on Tuesday July 5, at Heritage Manor Nursing Home.

Born June 27, 1925, in Pittsburgh, she was the daughter of the late Morris and Rose Melincoff; loving wife and soul mate of the late Marty Rusnak; adored mother of Sherri (Stu) Mulne in Youngstown and Ed Rusnak of Delray Beach, Fla.; cherished grandmother of Becky “Becka” Mulne and Jessica Rusnak; loved great-grandmother of Braydon; loved aunt, sister-in-law, cousin and friend to many; and admired and loved sister of the late Sam (Julie), Fred Melincoff and Edie (Norman) Shapiro.

The family received relatives and friends at the Synagogue with services to follow. Interment followed at the Ohev Tzedek Cemetery on Tippecanoe Road in Cornersberg.

The family would like to thank the nurses, aides, and staff at Heritage Manor for their loving and excellent care over the years and special thanks to Crossroads Hospice for their excellent care.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ohev Tzedek Temple or Heritage Manor in Youngstown.

Jadyn Erin Larky

Jadyn Erin Larky, age 11, passed away on June 21. She is survived by her mother, Liza (Terri Moore); father, Howard (Lori Kaethow); sister, Elliott Hannah Larky; grandparents, Barbara and Sheldon Larky and Debsy and Jerry Yarov; great-grandmother, Cecile Freedman; uncle, Adam (Lorie Savin) Larky; many friends and other relatives.

A private service and internment was held on Thursday. Shiva will be observed at the home of Liza and Terri on Thursday from 1-3 and from 5-8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes donations to go to the Jadyn Larky Camp Scholarship Fund c/o Columbus Jewish Foundation, 1175 College Ave.

Jadyn had only just begun her summer at Camp Livingston, one of the country’s oldest active Jewish summer camps. The camp is located in a densely forested area near the Ohio River in southeastern Indiana, and has a beautiful lake on its property.

She was looking forward to a summer of color wars, playing on the high ropes course, paddling along the river, and, for the first time this year, an overnight campout.

Continued on p. 23

Dr. Louis Lemberger

Dr. Louis Lemberger, loving husband, father and Poppy, passed away peacefully on July 13, surrounded by his adoring family. He was preceded in death by his parents, Max and Ida Lemberger, and his sister, Rozy Pavloff.

He leaves behind his wife of nearly 57 years, Myrna Diamond Lemberger; brother David (Donald Heurlin) Lemberger of Milwaukee, WI; daughters Harriet (Neil) Schor of Youngstown, and Margo of Manhattan, NY; and granddaughters, Alyssa and Meryl Schor.

The son of two Orthodox Jewish Eastern European immigrants, Dr. Lemberger was raised in Woodridge, NY and exemplified the American Dream. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy (now Long Island University), which named him its 1990 Distinguished Alumnus and awarded him an honorary Doctorate in 1994 and the 1998 President’s Award. He earned an M.D. and his Ph.D. in pharmacology from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and in 1971, moved his family to Indiana to accept a position at Eli Lilly & Company.

As a scientist and ultimately director of clinical pharmacology and the Lilly Laboratory until his 1993 retirement, Dr. Lemberger discovered and developed many life-saving drugs, including Prozac, Zyprexa, Celasnet, Strattera, and Permax. He was the first physician to administer these compounds to a human being, as well as the first person to simultaneously hold a scientific and administrative title for the company. His accomplishments led to his annual inclusion in Who’s Who in America and Who’s Who in the World.

During his entire tenure at Lilly, Dr. Lemberger insisted on seeing patients at Wishard to maintain a one-on-one connection to the endgame of pharmacological research — the person in need of treatment.

He was also a respected professor (now Emeritus) of pharmacology, toxicology, and psychiatry on the Indiana University School of Medicine faculty.

Dr. Lemberger was a board member and president of numerous professional societies, and was showered with a myriad of awards for his accomplishments, including the 1985 ASPET Award, the 1986 Rawls-Palmer Progress in Medicine Award, the 1992 Henry W. Elliott Distinguished Service Award, the 1993 Harry Gold Award For Excellence in Research and Teaching in Clinical Pharmacology, the 1994 Advocate of The Year Award from the Indiana Academy of Ophthalmology, the 2000 Cornerstone Award for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement in the Health Sciences, and the 2003 Oscar B. Hunter Award For Outstanding Achievement in Experimental Therapeutics.

Dr. Lemberger was on the board of directors for the Jewish studies department, and a member of the Well House Society, the Varsity Club, the Presidents Circle, the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, and the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis.

Like most men of his generation, Dr. Lemberger was a member of the U.S. military, serving at the National Institute of Mental Health during the Vietnam War. He was enormously proud of his service, and held the rank of Commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 114.

He was fortunate that his career took him around the world, taking his family along whenever possible. Those trips are among the family’s best memories. He was especially proud of receiving the coveted Mr. Potato Head Award at Dodger Baseball Fantasy Camp in 1991. In addition, Dr. Lemberger was a rabid Indiana University basketball and football fan, and a huge Colts supporter.

He never missed a performance or game his daughters participated in, and he and Myrna made frequent trips to Youngstown and beyond to do the same for his granddaughters.

Dr. Lemberger authored two books: The Physiologic Disposition of Drugs of Abuse and then the nearly cult-classic Indiana: Where Basketball Is King, or Is It Knight? Confessions of An Indiana Hoosier Fan. All profits for the latter were donated to Indiana University’s Bobby Knight Library.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Indiana University Jewish Studies Program or the American Cancer Society.
Father Balasko sponsors lecture

The Rev. George Balasko is sponsoring the Third Annual Nostra Aetate Lecture, on Thursday, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. at the Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center, 2067 Evergreen Road, Villa Maria, PA.

Musicologist James A. Grymes will discuss his book, Violins of Hope: Instruments of Hope and Liberation in Mankind’s Darkest Hour. A stirring testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of music, Violins of Hope tells the remarkable stories of violins played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust, and of the Israeli violinmaker dedicated to bringing these inspirational instruments back to life. Violins of Hope was the winner of the 2014 National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category.

Blending stories from Violins of Hope with scenes from the documentary Amnon’s Journey, Dr. Grymes will discuss the various roles the violin played in Jewish lives during the Holocaust. For some musicians, the instrument was a liberator; for others, it was a savior that spared their lives. For many, the violin provided comfort in mankind’s darkest hour, and, in at least one case, helped avenge murdered family members. Above all, the violins of the Holocaust represented strength and optimism for the future. Wherever there were violins, there was hope.

At the end of his presentation, Dr. Grymes will answer questions from the audience. A reception will follow.

James A. Grymes is an internationally respected musicologist, a critically acclaimed author, and a dynamic speaker who has addressed audiences at significant public venues such as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Dr. Grymes has been featured in interviews by the New York Times, ABC News, and CNN, and has written essays for the Huffington Post and the Israeli music magazine Opus. Dr. Grymes is professor of musicology and Chair of the Department of Music at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

All are welcome, but registration is requested. Call 724-964-8886 or online at www.vmesc.org.

A free will offering accepted.

New Books at the JCC Library

Killing a King: The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the Remaking of Israel by Dan Ephron (C950.29). Dan Ephron, formerly Newsweek Jerusalem bureau chief, offers a clear perspective on the life and assassination of Rabin.

The Black Widow by Daniel Silva. In Silva’s newest book, Gabriel Allon is about to be named as the head of Israel’s secret intelligence service, but what has occurred to keep him active in the field instead of behind a desk? Always filled with thrills and excitement, Silva’s latest book will be in demand by his many fans.

Featured book: Not in God’s Name: Confronting Religious Violence by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks was recently added to the JCC Library. Featured on NPR, the book is a must read for all those who are bewildered by the daily news and left wondering what is happening to our society.

Not in God’s Name explains the historical roots of current religious extremism and violence. Using detailed Biblical analysis, psychology, and philosophy, Rabbi Sacks explores the foundations of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and applies them to ISIS, Al-Quaeda, and other crimes of passion.

His well considered theories provide a profile of human nature and how we got to the point of suicide bombers and mass murders in which we find ourselves living today. Written for people of all faiths, Rabbi Sacks examines the role of religion and its misuse in historical world events.

Reviewed by Nancy Burnett.

JCC Library Book Club

The next meeting of the JCC Library Book Club will be on Thursday, August 18 at 1:30 p.m. in the JCC Schwartz Judaica library. Up for discussion is The Song of Hartgrove Hall by Natasha Solomons. One copy available at the JCC library. Call Mary Lou Henneman at 330-746-3251 and leave a message if you have questions or wish to join.

The Green Prince
Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016
Encore Cinema | 4:00 P.M.
Director: Nadav Schirman
Country: Germany/Israel/UK/USA
Language: English/Hebrew
101 Minutes

Every Face Has A Name
Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016
Encore Cinema | 4:00 P.M.
Director: Magnus Gertten
Country: Sweden
Language: English, Polish, Swedish, Norwegian
73 Minutes

Dough
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016
Encore Cinema | 7:00 P.M.
Director: John Goldschmidt
Country: United Kingdom
Language: English
94 Minutes

Little White Lie
Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016
Encore Cinema | 7:00 P.M.
Director: Lacey Schwartz
Country: USA
Language: English
65 Minutes

For more information contact: Darlene Muller
330.746.3250 x 106 | dmosler@jccyoungstown.org
TEL AVIV, Israel, July 21 – Propelled by worsening anti-Semitism and increasing radical Islamic terror, some 150 French Jews arrived at Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion Airport today on a special International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (The Fellowship) to start new lives in Israel.

“The Fellowship and millions of Christian supporters of Israel stand shoulder to shoulder with the Jews of France, and we will do whatever we can to help any French Jew who seeks to build a new life in the Jewish homeland,” said Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, The Fellowship’s president and founder.

The July 20 flight, with 147 passengers, is one of a series of missions The Fellowship has launched in France, where it has been actively working to help French Jews. Over the past three months, The Fellowship has been flooded by more than 5,100 inquiries from French Jews about immigrating to Israel (making aliyah), and following the horrific truck massacre in Nice last week, demand is only expected to rise. Several families from Nice were aboard today’s flight, while others came from Lyon, Paris, and Toulouse. In June The Fellowship brought 82 Jews from across France to Israel, and is working on a third flight scheduled to leave in August.

The French-Jewish aliyah is part of The Fellowship’s global efforts to bring Jews experiencing economic and security threats to Israel. The Fellowship has helped more than 2,000 Jews worldwide immigrate to Israel this year, from Bolivia, Brazil, France, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Ukraine.

Many of the Jews leaving France with The Fellowship say they are escaping what has become an intolerable situation for the Jewish community in general and for their families specifically, and, in fact, more than half the passengers are children. Many of the French Jews describe being afraid to wear yarmulkes outdoors or to display any other visible signs of their Jewish identity, while others say they are growing increasingly concerned about radical Islamic anti-Semitism and terrorism. The Fellowship has also been funding security upgrades in French-Jewish communal institutions, including schools and synagogues in the wake of terror attacks over the past year.

For those French Jews who wish to move to Israel, The Fellowship provides information fairs and preparatory seminars in France, guidance for six months once the immigrants arrive in Israel, employment counseling, one-time financial aid or six months of rental support, tuition assistance for job training, financial assistance to help immigrants learn Hebrew, material aid such as furniture, appliances and medical treatment, and private tutors and informal education for children.

“The Jews of France know we are united with them and will do whatever is necessary to support their community at this critical time,” Eckstein said.

The International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (The Fellowship) was founded in 1983 to promote better understanding and cooperation between Christians and Jews, and build broad support for Israel. Today it is one of the leading forces in helping Israel and Jews in need worldwide — and is the largest channel of Christian support for Israel. Led by its founder and president, Rabbi Yechiel Eckstein, The Fellowship now raises more than $140 million per year, mostly from Christians, to assist Israel and the Jewish people. Since its founding, The Fellowship has raised more than $1.3 billion for this work. The organization has offices in Jerusalem, Chicago, Miami, Toronto, Seoul, and Sao Paulo. For more information, visit www.ifcj.org.
In Memoriam

Elie Wiesel (continued from p. 14)

Wiesel was “gaunt” and “working as a freelance reporter, a stringer, for a French newspaper, an Israeli newspaper and a Yiddish newspaper — and for none of the above was he making a living,” Greenberg said.

Greenberg was determined to help Wiesel find work.

“He had this magnetic presence,” the rabbi said. “He was quiet but with tremendous force and he felt the vividness the Holocaust had a message.”

In the late 1960s Wiesel finally began to emerge as one of the preeminent voices in Holocaust literature. By the end of his career he had written some 50 books.

In 1972, he enthralled Yeshiva University students with his excoriation of the American and American Jewish leadership for its silence during the Holocaust.

How many Jewish leaders “tore their clothes in mourning?” Wiesel asked. “How many marched on Washington? How many weddings took place without music?”


“Elie Wiesel was the collective moral compass of the Jewish people,” Natan Sharansky, who became the face of the Soviet Jewish struggle, said in a statement with his wife, Avital, who with Wiesel led advocacy for Sharansky’s release from prison.

“He was the first to break the silence surrounding the plight of Soviet Jewry, and he accompanied our struggle until we achieved victory,” said Sharansky, who is now the chairman of The Jewish Agency for Israel. “We will miss him deeply.”

In 1978, Wiesel became the chairman of the Presidential Committee on the Holocaust, which recommended the building of a Holocaust museum in Washington. As his public presence grew, he began to visit the sites of other genocides. In 1980, he traveled to Cambodia. In an interview with JTA, Wiesel called the Cambodian refugee camps “spectacles of horror” and noted, “That these things could happen again simply means that the world didn’t want to learn — or

In 1985, Wiesel’s reputation grew beyond the Jewish world when he challenged President Ronald Reagan on live television over his intention to visit a German cemetery that housed the remains of Nazi soldiers. In the Oval Office to receive the Congressional Medal of Achievement, Wiesel chastised Reagan.

“This is not your place, Mr. President,” Wiesel famously said. The president visited the cemetery anyway, but changed his itinerary to include a visit to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

Wiesel challenged the White House again in 1993 when he charged the newly inaugurated President Bill Clinton to do more to address the atrocities then unfolding in Yugoslavia.

“Most people don’t confront a sitting president that way, and he confronted two,” said Sara Bloomfield, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum’s current director.

“He saw people would listen to him,” said Stuart Eizenstat, who held senior positions in multiple presidential administrations and was a key figure in the negotiation of Holocaust restitution agreements with several European governments.

“He became more aggressive about showing that it is not just the Holocaust, but applying lessons to rest of the world as well,” Eizenstat said. “He became more active in other genocidal or world conscious issues. He wanted to use that power for the cause not just of Holocaust memory, but also to prevent genocide.”

At the inauguration in 1993 of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Wiesel said, clearly, “I don’t believe there are answers. There are no answers. And this museum is not an answer; it is a question mark.” That question mark he applied to global atrocities, as well as historical ones.

His later years saw him wade into politics. He was friends with Obama but also loudly chastised the president for calling for an end to settlement construction and for brokering the Iran nuclear rollback-for-sanctions-relief deal, positions that led to criticism, even from longtime admirers. His very public support for Netanyahu was also questioned. Peter Beinart, writing in Haaretz, said: “Wiesel takes refuge in the Israel of his imagination, using it to block out the painful reckoning that might come from scrutinizing Israel as it actually is.”

In June 2009, he led Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel on a trip to Auschwitz, where he noted he was at his father’s grave. Wiesel then gave a searing indictment of the world’s continued inability to learn.

“As a public figure who was also the very symbol of the Holocaust survivor in America, Wiesel acted as a moral compass, his personal history lending unequaled gravity to his public remarks on genocide, anti-Semitism and other issues of injustice worldwide,” said Ruth Franklin, author of A Thousand Darknesses: Lies and Truth in Holocaust Fiction. “Wiesel never pretended that he understood the Holocaust. He spoke of it as a horror beyond explanation, a black hole in history. As the virtual embodiment of the catch phrase ‘never forget,’ he did more than anyone else to raise awareness of the Holocaust in American life.”

Along with his wife, Wiesel is survived by a son, Shlomo.
Democratic convention’s second night was all about the (Jewish) women

By Ron Kampeas

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) — Debbie Wasserman Schultz disappeared. Jewish women, not so much.

Debra Messing, Lena Dunham, Idina Menzel, Sen. Barbara Boxer and two women with close familial ties to Judaism — Madeline Albright and Elizabeth Banks — were among those taking the stage on the second night of the Democratic National Convention to hammer home the evening’s theme, the rise of women.

The night was very much about the glass ceiling Hillary Clinton cracked after Bernie Sanders cleared the way earlier in the evening, asking for a suspension of rules so his erstwhile rival could be named the nominee by acclamation.

The convention was supposed to be a triumph for Wasserman Schultz, the Jewish congresswoman from Florida who backed Clinton in the 2008 race until Barack Obama secured the nomination. She had been building to this moment since she assumed the chair of the Democratic National Committee in 2011. But she was ousted over the weekend after a dump of emails showing animus by Wasserman Schultz and her staff against Sanders and his campaign.

The relief that an obstacle to party unity was removed was evident as soon as Donna Brazile, Wasserman Schultz’s interim replacement, took the stage to loud cheers.

“As the incoming chair of the DNC, I promise you we will have a Democratic Party you can be proud of!” Brazile said.

Although Bill Clinton’s speech about his wife’s personal and professional accomplishments was the centerpiece of the session, more women than men took the stage. Toward the end, Hillary Clinton herself emerged via video feed after “shattering” a montage of the 44 male presidents.

“I can’t believe we just put the biggest crack in that glass ceiling yet,” she said to applause.

Messing, the “Will & Grace” star, introduced a segment on how Clinton, as senator from New York, helped bring relief to affected New Yorkers and first responders after the Sept. 11 attacks (Messing has featured in Clinton campaign outreach to Jewish women).

Emceeing Elizabeth Banks, the director-actor who began practicing Jewish ritual after marrying Max Handelman, a sports writer, in 2003. Banks unveiled a video of a celebrity-studded a cappella version of Rachel Platten’s “Fight Song,” which has become the Clinton campaign’s theme. Included were cameos by Menzel, the Broadway star, and director Rob Reiner.

Also speaking was Sen. Barbara Boxer, who noted that her granddaughter is Clinton’s nephew (Boxer’s daughter, Nicole, was married for a time to Clinton’s brother, Tony Rodham). Her intimacy with Clinton allowed Boxer an aura of sisterly defense. “The right wing has thrown everything at her — not only the kitchen sink, but the stove, the refrigerator, and the toasters, too,” she said. “And guess what? She’s still standing!”

Sen. Chuck Schumer also played a

Continued on p. 21

Jewish Republicans wonder how to vouch for Trump when he won’t help out

By Ron Kampeas

CLEVELAND (JTA) — Donald Trump’s campaign for the presidency rolled out its Israel Advisory Committee last week — no one noticed.

Blame the unrelenting news cycle, if you will. July 14 was the day of the hideous mass killing in Nice, France.

But also, his Israel Advisory Committee consists of exactly three Jews, including two who work for him.

Not much news here, move along.

Trump’s unusual campaign extends to its Jewish outreach, or rather his lack of Jewish outreach resembling anything that has come under that rubric in other campaigns.

Campaigns routinely distribute talking points to Jewish supporters and cultivate them as “validators,” folks who will appear on their behalf in the community and Jewish media making their case. But insiders say that Republican Jews who want to support Trump within their community have heard … crickets.

No talking points. No invitations to speak on his behalf to their communities. Calls by potential supporters and donors on behalf of daughters and nephews who want to volunteer go unreturned. (Like JTA’s request to the Trump campaign for comment on this story.)

Tevi Troy, a deputy secretary of health under President George W. Bush and a formidable Jewish community validator for past Republican candidates, said no one has been in touch this year, but that may be because he’s not on any of the relevant lists. Troy had opposed Trump during the primaries, but once it became clear in May that Trump would be the nominee, he said he was open to persuasion.

“I don’t think they’re targeting messages specifically to the Jewish community,” he said.

That could cost Trump significant advantages, both in much-needed fundraising for the campaign and in votes.

“There’s a fundraising component to Jewish outreach,” Troy said. “There are Jewish populations in certain swing states in 2004 that really helped” Bush win reelection, he said, referring to Ohio and Florida.

On the other hand, Troy said, how one validates candidates may be changing, with more folks going to social media to solicit information and opinions.

“The Jewish community is a vocal one, there are a lot of bloggers, a lot of tweeters” pushing out the pro-Trump message, he said.

Troy said Trump’s pick of Indiana Gov. Mike Pence as a running mate could reassure conservative Jews acquainted with Pence’s long history of friendship with Israel not just as governor but when he was in Congress.

Perhaps the biggest Jewish validator of all, casino magnate Sheldon Adelson, was scheduled to attend a Republican Jewish Coalition event during the convention. But after pledging to contribute as much as $100 million to the Trump campaign, Adelson has yet to make a significant contribution nor convince other pro-Israel donors to chip in.

On Tuesday evening, Michael Mukasey, the Jewish attorney general under President George W. Bush, was scheduled to speak at the convention. Mukasey, who advised Jeb Bush’s presidential campaign, is known for his warnings about radical Islam’s spread in the United States — a message that jibes with Trump’s own broad-brush comments about Muslims.

The names on the campaign’s Israel Advisory Committee included Jason Greenblatt, for years the Trump Organization’s general counsel, and David Friedman, who also for years has represented Trump in bankruptcy cases. The third name was Richard Roberts, a pharmaceutical executive and a benefactor, and the toasters, too,” she said. “And guess what? She’s still standing!”

Continued on p. 21
It's only July, but the JJMM is already planning for September and the High Holidays.

What better way to wish your friends and family a Happy New Year than in the September — Rosh Hashanah — issue of The Jewish Journal?

Take the opportunity with the form below to extend your greetings to everyone you know in the community and help support the Journal as well.

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f. [Name] Wish Family and Friends a Happy New Year

Haifa University discovery (cont’d from p. 6)

included remnants of lead used for stabilization purposes. Now, however, the researchers can offer a fuller analysis regarding not only the mask’s dating, but also its function.

“When we found the mask on its own, we assumed that it had filled a ritual function. Since we found it outside the city, one of the hypotheses was that we were looking at evidence of a mysterious ritual center that existed outside the city. However, as we all know, monumental gate structures lead to large compounds. Accordingly, it is not impossible that this gate led to a large building complex – perhaps a sanctuary in honor of the god Pan or one of the other rustic gods – situated just before the entrance to the city of Hippos,” Dr. Eisenberg suggests.

“The mask, and now the gate in which it was embedded, are continuing to fire our imaginations. The worship of Pan sometimes included ceremonies involving drinking, sacrifices, and ecstatic rituals including nudity and sex. This worship usually took place outside the city walls, in caves and other natural settings. We are very familiar with the city of Paneas to the north of Hippos, which was the site of one of the best-known sanctuaries for the worship of Pan. But here we find a monumental gate and evidence of an extensive compound, so that the mystery only gets stranger. What kind of worship of Pan or his fellow Dionysus, the god of wine, took place here in Hippos? To answer that question, we will have to keep on digging,” concludes Dr. Eisenberg.

Since 2000, the ancient city of Hippos has gradually been unearthed by an international expedition under the auspices of the Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa. Hippos lies within Sussita National Park, which is managed by the Israel Nature and Parks Authority. The next excavation season will be held in July 2016, with the participation of dozens of researchers and volunteers from Israel and around the world.

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Jewish presence at DNC (cont’d from p. 19)

sibling-like role: the big, tender brother. He was the senior New York senator to Clinton for her eight years. “Now, I’m from Brooklyn,” he said. “It’s in our blood to sniff out empty bravado. There’s a lot of that in politics, but there’s not an ounce of it in Hillary Clinton. When she tells you something, take it to the bank.”

Albright, the first woman secretary of state, noted her commonality with Clinton and, in calling out Republican nominee Donald Trump, pointedly noted the welcome she and her family received in the United States as refugees from Czechoslovakia’s communist government.

“She knows that safeguarding freedom and security is not like hosting a reality TV show,” said Albright, who was raised Catholic but learned as an adult that her parents were Jews. “It is a complex, round-the-clock job that demands not only a steady hand and a cool head, but also a big heart. You are not just representing yourself, you are there for all of us.”

Lena Dunham, the creator of the HBO hit “Girls,” appeared with actress America Ferrara. Dunham talked about being a survivor of sexual assault, and said of Trump, “We don’t accept hatred as the norm in our communities. Why would we accept it in the Oval Office?”

In the keynote speech, Bill Clinton spoke of his wife’s successful negotiation of a ceasefire ending the 2012 war between Hamas and Israel, and her role in bringing nations — including recalcitrants like China and Russia — into the Iran sanctions regime.

He also mentioned – without naming her – a Jewish woman who had a lasting influence on his wife’s life. As Arkansas First Lady, he explained, Hillary Clinton had fallen for an Israeli program known as HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) that enlists mothers of toddlers in teaching reading skills and sharply boosts literacy. Mrs. Clinton invited HIPPY’s founder, Avima Lombard, to the state to train preschool teachers.

“Next thing you know, I’m being dragged around all these preschool graduations,” Bill Clinton said.

Women of Reform Judaism urge voting

When WRJ was founded in 1913, women in the U.S. were not allowed to vote and in most states could not even own property. In most communities they were not allowed to serve on the boards of their synagogues or sit on the bima. Our founding mothers set out to change that. They were suffragists and advocates for the rights of women in political life and in their religious communities. We owe them a debt of gratitude for opening the doors to allow our full engagement in public life.

WRJ women today continue to be advocates, and when it comes to having our say in the political arena as WRJ women, we proudly raise our hands to be counted. As we stand at the threshold of a crucial U.S. election, we know that our voices and votes are critically important. At stake are vital political, economic, and moral issues of concern to all Americans, and in particular, to women.

Now is the time for WRJ women in the U.S. to fulfill their civic duty and to make sure their values are brought into the voting booth. During the next four years, legislation on significant issues such as reproductive rights, gun violence, pay equity, health care, and immigration are likely to be considered by the next Congress and Administration. Understanding these issues will be key to making educated choices in the coming election.

To help frame these issues of concern, WRJ is embarking on a campaign to educate our members and to provide non-partisan background information and links to WRJ positions on these key issues. Every vote counts and plays a defining role in creating the communities we wish to live in. This campaign will give you the tools to better understand how your vote will determine what our future will look like.

In addition to becoming educated voters ourselves, WRJ women can play a vital role in engaging others in the political process. During the campaign season, it is particularly important that we avoid partisan political activity within our sisterhoods and congregations. Nonetheless, non-partisan Get Out the Vote and educational programs are perfectly acceptable. Be sure to review the Religious Action Center resources if you plan to work on these issues in the coming months.

We bear the legacies of our founding mothers and of the over 100 years of WRJ women who fought for women’s rights and cleared a path for our engagement in public life. Let us take up their cause now and make them proud. Register. Listen. Educate. Vote.

Keep an eye out for more “Your Vote Matters: WRJ Issues 2016” emails on five Tuesdays during the next three months leading up to the November election. Get involved with the #WRJWomenVote campaign by participating in the discussion on Facebook and Twitter by using the hashtag in your posts. Spread the word and raise your hands to be counted!

Jewish challenge at RNC (cont’d from p. 19)

factor of a major yeshiva in Lakewood, New Jersey, who is also a Republican fundraiser.

Trump’s difficulties among Jews have much to do with his broadsides against minorities, the disabled and women; his refusal to disavow some of the anti-Semites who have attached themselves to his cause, and his back and forth on whether he would be “neutral” on Israel.

Their ambivalence was in evidence Monday morning at the Ohio delegation’s breakfast emceed by Josh Mandel, the state treasurer and a national Jewish GOP star. Mandel did not mention Trump’s name once, explaining at one point that he preferred to focus on close congressional races.

Mandel had invited Joan Synenberg, a judge whose husband, Roger, is a leader in the Cleveland Jewish community, to deliver the invocation before the program began.

“We praise a God who is black, white, red and every other color,” she said. “We seek that before we lash out, white, red and every other color,” she said. “We seek that before we lash out, we reach out, we reach out, we come together, whatever our differences,” describing what

Continued on p. 23.
**Mazel Tov!**

Daniel Feuer

Daniel Feuer will be called to the Torah on Sat. Aug. 6 at Temple El Emeth in celebration of his Bar Mitzvah. He is the son of Joel and Tammie Feuer of Canfield.

He attends Canfield Village Middle School where he is an honor roll student. Daniel is passionate about soccer and participates in the Everest Soccer Club in Hudson, OH.

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**Russian synagogue invites Pokemon hunters**

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) — As the Pokemon Go phenomenon grows, some institutions connected to European Jewry’s darkest hour have taken precautions against it.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and State Museum in Poland has banned the addictive smartphone game, in which players viewing their environments through their device’s camera run in search of animated figures that the game’s application superimposes on the video feed in real time.

Citing the need to respect the memory of the dead, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., also asked visitors to refrain from playing the game, which has tens of millions of players since its release this month by the gaming giant Nintendo.

But in Russia, one Jewish institution with a troubled past is taking the opposite approach. In St. Petersburg, the city’s main synagogue and Jewish community center is doing its best to lure players to the building’s majestic interior by offering a bottle of kosher wine to anyone who catches a Pokemon there.

The first winner was Daniel Gurevich, a local Jewish man whose Pokemon hunt last week at the Grand Choral Synagogue of St. Petersburg was the second time he ever visited the place, according to a report Monday by Jewish News Petersburg.

Shuttered by communists in 1930 and nearly destroyed by Nazi artillery during the vicious fight for Leningrad during World War II, it was rebuilt in the 1940s but was allowed to function only as a sham shul -- a prop in the Soviet Union’s propaganda about its citizens nonexistent freedoms.

Gurevich told the news site that he came to the synagogue after its staff posted an invitation to Pokemon hunters on the synagogue’s Facebook page, which the local media quickly reported.

“I was Rollerblading nearby, I opened the news [on the smartphone] and saw that the synagogue wants me to come and look for Pokemons. Immediately I went and caught one,” he said. “It’s great that our synagogue is on the crest of fashion.”

A spokesperson for the synagogue told the news site that joining the Pokemon craze has roots in Jewish tradition.

“Any more or less knowledgeable person will tell you that the synagogue is no temple, it’s a meeting place where fun is permissible within reason and we see this in the Purim parties and children’s games,” the spokesperson said.

“We very much want the youth to know the synagogue is a modern place, not a boring one.”

Unlike some synagogues, the Choral shul complex indeed functions as much as a community center as a house of worship. Completed in 1888 after eight years of construction, it is one of Europe’s largest synagogues, and has many rooms and event halls. The synagogue’s kosher cafeteria, which has a WiFi connection, has many young regulars who work on laptops or meet up at cultural events and Q&A sessions organized for members of the community.

The synagogue was closed down in 1930 for several years under orders from the communist government, which back then had a semi-official policy of anti-Semitism in addition to its restrictive approach to organized religion in general.

Famously, KGB agents used to spy on the few Jews who dared go to shul during communism from a building opposite the Choral synagogue, where the KGB had a special window installed to survey the entrance door.

**Share the Joy!**

A new baby? An engagement? A wedding? Graduation (from high school, college or grad school? Jewish Journal readers want to read about your simchas. Families are invited to submit information and photographs to The Jewish Journal. Please be sure to include parents and grandparents names (if appropriate); names of schools/colleges and majors or degrees, with any honors awarded, and future plans; positions held by brides- and grooms-to-be.

Please send your news to — journal@jewishyoungstown.org. High resolution photos provided digitally offer the best reproduction. Photos sent through Facebook or via mobile phone may not print optimally.
Summer with Ohev Tzedek

OT Board Meeting – Wednesday, August 10 at 7:00 pm

Services
Morning Minyan services are held each Thursday at 7:30 am.

Shabbat services are held every Saturday at 9:45 am. Rabbi Saul leads a Torah study session after each service.

Saturday, August 6 - the kiddush will be sponsored by Shirley, Sandy, and Chaya Kessler in celebration of the new additions to their family: Oren and Jessica Kessler’s son, Milo, and Asaf and Inbal Kessler’s daughters, Ayelet and Rotem.

2) Saturday, August 13 - the kiddush will be sponsored by Barbara and Eugene Goldberg in memory of Joseph Goldberg.

Ohev Tzedek Update:
Mid-June through mid-July have been very joyfully hectic at Ohev Tzedek with Shabbat events bringing in vast numbers of people, as well as numerous other activities at the synagogue and other locations.

It began with the traditional all-night study session for Shavout at the Rabbi’s house with four of the attendees presenting teachings. (It actually did run all night because midnight begins the morning.)

The following weekend, we had a surprise birthday Kiddush for one of our members and had about 100 people remarkably pulling off the surprise. This was followed the next Saturday by a Bar Mitzvah that had over a hundred attendees, and the next Shabbat by an aufruf that attracted fifty plus, and our scholar’s weekend that featured three separate events that each attracted over forty people.

The Torah Study session on that Shabbat lasted about three hours after the Kiddush.

In between these events, OT also volunteered at Second Harvest, had their annual meeting, concluded the Process Theology Class, and started two new classes: Psalms and Jewish Food/Jewish Cooking, which features both a study session of various cultures from around the world and the food that they prepare; and then a hands-on preparation of a recipe from that culture. These classes, while underway, are still open to anyone who would like to join. They will run through August and into September.

In September, Star Schlep, an exploration of Jewish themes in short science fiction and fantasy, will launch. Contact the synagogue to get aboard.

New officers
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Jadyn Erin Larky (continued from p.15)

Early Tuesday morning a severe storm passed directly over Camp Livingston. Though no severe thunderstorm warning was given in advance by the National Weather Service, two weather statements warning of a strong thunderstorm were released at 12:30 and 2:30 am.

However, at 2:21 am the local sheriff’s office received a call from Camp Livingston. A bolt of lightning had struck a tree next to Jadyn’s cabin, causing a large part of it to fall and crush half the cabin. Though her counselors and fellow campers were able to escape unscathed, Jadyn was seriously injured, and she died after emergency responders arrived at the scene.

It was a heartbreaking loss for the camp, the Columbus Jewish community, and, most of all, Jadyn’s family. Her younger sister, Elliot also attends the camp. Her mother, Liza Yarov Larky, is a career adviser at The Ohio State University’s Moritz College of Law, and her father, Howard Larky is an anesthesiologist in Zanesville, Ohio, according to his Facebook page.

The mayor of Bexley, Ben Kessler, said that Bexley is a close-knit community with many young families.

“The sense of grief is palpable,” he said. “Right now we’re just trying to support the family any way we can.”

Grief counselors were sent to the camp Tuesday morning, and the Columbus JCC is offering grief counseling as well.

Friends and relatives have been sharing their shock and sadness on social media, as well as on Jadyn’s memorial page. “Jayden was such a sweet girl, polite and kind,” wrote Shirly Benatar, an educator in the Columbus Jewish community.

“She always volunteered to lead Hatikvah in Hebrew school, and would jump up and down when I handed her the lollipop for leading.”

Jewish challenge at RNC (cont’d from p. 21)

might be the antithesis to the Trump ethos.

“I’m here today because I’m with Him,” Synenberg said, pointing skyward.

Joel Pollak, a senior editor at Breitbart, a conservative news site, said the Trump campaign needed to overcome negative perceptions specific to the Jewish community.

“The challenge of making Trump’s case is primarily that there are a bunch of people shouting ‘Nazi’ and ‘shanda’ for no real reason,” he said, using the Yiddish word for an embarrassment.

Pollak, speaking to JTA via Twitter direct message, outlined a three-point strategy for overcoming complaints about Trump’s difficulties with minorities and allegations that he flirts with white supremacists.

“The argument for Trump among Jews boils down to: 1. (daughter) Ivanka Trump’s Orthodox conversion; 2. His long association with people like (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu; 3. A list of Hillary Clinton’s failings, plus the Democrats’ leftward shift,” he wrote.

Nick Muzin, a senior political adviser to Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, said Trump’s overarching message – that Clinton assumes office at America’s peril — was one that would resonate within the Jewish community and did not necessarily need tweaking.

“People are coming around to the fact that we want to defeat Hillary Clinton,” said Muzin, an Orthodox Jew who wrote an essay for JTA in support of Cruz for president. “The idea of the Democratic Party and where it’s drifted on Israel, and on the Iran nuclear deal — we can’t afford not to have a change
New ‘Jewishy’ books for enjoyable summer reading

By Victor Wishna

(JTA) — Summer’s here, and whether from the heat or the humidity or the harrowing election cycle, we bet you could use an escape.

So take our advice: Whether you’re lucky enough to be lazing on a beach or packed in like a pickled herring on a subway car, take some time to retreat into a good, Jewfshy book. Here are seven fresh reads on the lighter side — because it’s too hot out there to get too heavy.

Seinfeldia: How a Show About Nothing Changed Everything (Simon and Schuster) by Jennifer Keishin Armstrong

Nearly 20 years after the series finale, many of us refuse to accept that “Seinfeld” ever ended — phrases like “No soup for you!” have become part of the cultural lexicon. With the precision of a scientist, entertainment writer and TV historian, Armstrong dives into the ecosystem that Larry David and Jerry Seinfeld dreamed up over a cup of coffee, a “silly little sitcom” about the daily off-stage life of a New Yorshk Jewfsh comedian and his friends that they never thought anyone would watch. But millions did on a weekly basis, and the show’s following is nearly as strong today — not that there’s anything wrong with that.

A Book About Love (Simon and Schuster) by Jonah Lehrer

OK, you will probably hate this book — which is totally why you’ll have so much fun reading it. This is Lehrer’s first published volume since high-profile plagiarism revelations cost the Jewish wunderkind his gigs for The New Yorker and NPR’s “Radiolab,” not to mention his many lucrative speaking engagements. The book has been, shall we say, poorly received: “insolently unoriginal” was one of the gentler rebukes from The New York Times. But you could read Lehrer’s treatise on how humans form and maintain romantic connections, and draw your own conclusions — after all, love is blind.

You’ll Grow Out of It (Grand Central Publishing) by Jessi Klein

This collection of real-life stories from comedian Klein, the Emmy-winning head writer of Comedy Central’s “Inside Amy Schumer” and self-described “tomman” — a tomboy who never did grow out of it — offers a funny (obviously) yet poignant take on the minefield that of two dozen essays, she takes on topics such as bad breakups, pregnancy and aging, along with everything from pornography (she finds most of it challenging) to Anthropologie (the place where she feels “emotionally home”).

The Extra (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) by A.B. Yehoshua, translated by Stuart Schoffman

The iconic Israeli author’s 20th novel, and the 11th to be translated into English, is propelled by the friction triggered when individual independence runs into family obligation. Schoffman’s highly readable rendition of Yehoshua’s prose tells the tale of Noga, a harpist and divorcée who is torn from her idyllic, secular life in the Netherlands and summoned home to Jerusalem. There she must confront the expectations of her religious family, as well as other characters — and decisions — from her past. The book tackles some large themes — between Orthodox and secular Jews, Israelis and Palestinians — as well as the more universal conflict: complicated family dynamics. For those visiting rela-

bring along.

Forbidden Love in St. Petersburg (The Overlook Press) by Mishka Ben-David, translated by Dan Gillon

Spy thrillers might be a shekel a dozen, but rare is the fictional Mossad escapade written by an actual former high-ranking officer of Israel’s renowned intelligence agency. Ben-David, a bestselling author, has penned several, and he delivers again with a Russia-set tale of shadowy spycraft, mistaken identity and passionate romance — each threatening to undo the other — and all with an authoritative inside glimpse of the mystery that is the Mossad. Are you a John le Carre lover? Take note.

Kissing in America (HarperCollins) by Margo Rabb

This second novel from the award-winning Rabb is actually for teens — but we know how much adults can love those (even when they don’t feature vampires or hungry kids fighting to the death). In this case, the protagonist is a 16-year-old Jewish girl named Eva, the granddaughter of Holocaust Survivors escape the grief of her father’s recent dramatic death. A real-life romance develops — yes, in America; yes, with kissing — and a road trip in the name of love soon ensues.

Underground Airlines (Mulholland Books) by Ben Winters

An award-winning writer, Winters has an impressively varied catalog: His previous tomes include Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters and World of Trouble. For the setting of his newest thriller, Winters envisions a familiar modern-day United States — save for the fact that the Civil War never happened and slavery still exists. Here, sci-fi meets sanctioned servitude in a literary mashup about a black bounty hunter tracking escaped slaves for the U.S. Marshals Service. The novel has received rave reviews — NPR called it “exceptional” — but there’s a larger drama in play, too: The release of this novel by a white Jewish writer has sparked fresh controversy over who gets to tell which stories.

Read it and decide for yourself.

Jennifer Keishin Armstrong

Jonah Lehrer

Jessi Klein