In a tightly packed seven days of high-level meetings, tours, demonstrations, and discussions within the academic, business, and governmental sectors of Israel, Youngstown leaders in an effort to create a partnership between universities in Israel and YSU and the Youngstown Business Incubator. Pictured above in front of the Knesset (from left) YAJF Director of Community Relations/government affairs Bonnie Deutsch Burdman, Florida businessman and YSU alumnus Dan Carnevale, YSU Pres. Jim Tressel, Ellen Tressel, and Dr. Brett Connor, YSU director of Advanced Manufacturing and Workforce Initiatives. See more on pages 15-18.
One year and counting: Western Wall prayer fight must go on

By Anat Hoffman
Chair, Women of the Wall

JERUSALEM (JTA) — One year ago, we thought we had made history. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government passed the Western Wall agreement, for the first time granting official recognition to non-Orthodox Jewish streams and women’s rights at Judaism’s holiest site. We were proud of achieving a historic compromise because we knew it was the only way of instilling social change in society. The compromise was painful for us, but we thought it was a worthwhile sacrifice.

One year later, that document feels more like a bitter betrayal. Facing a rebellion from his haredi Orthodox coalition parties, Netanyahu shelved the agreement and now even allows talk, by his own ministers, of annulling it. For him, it seems that love of power has proven greater than his own integrity.

On Wednesday, the government has to provide Israel’s Supreme Court with good cause for the prohibition on women’s prayer with a Torah at the Kotel. It has to justify its failure to implement the Western Wall agreement we negotiated for three years. And it has to explain why we do not have a seat on the Western Wall Heritage Foundation.

The extremists in the government have taken on an impossible task: defending blatant discrimination against women and liberal Jews. In 2017, the law won’t have it, and the people won’t have it.

These men are grasping at straws. They have resorted to reviving King George V, who wrote the 1924 king’s Order in Council decreeing proper custom for the British Empire. His majesty decreed that no civil court had standing to rule over religious holy sites.

It is the very definition of chutzpah: Officials who receive salaries from the state, including Orthodox rabbis, claim the state has no standing. They want extremist rabbinic rule.

Women of the Wall lives by two abiding principles: that Jewish women have the same innate rights as Jewish men, and that despite differences, we will treat one another with respect.

Given the resurgent prominence of women’s equality and civility in public discourse as urgent political topics, Women of the Wall members are pioneers. We always knew that without these two precepts, civic society as we know it will disintegrate.

For what have we stood for 28 dogged years? We have stood, sometimes in the rain and other times while facing violent assault and even arrests, for the right of Jewish women to partake of an unquestionably noble tradition: praying at the Western Wall from a Torah scroll.

That is it.

By doing so, we have stood for all Israel — for the Israel that is described in its Declaration of Independence as a nation in which people of all backgrounds and both sexes live as equal citizens under the same laws.

A distorted authority acting illegally, protected by the highest institution of the land — the state rabbinate, under the auspices of the Prime Minister’s Office — has fought us hand over fist to prevent us from enjoying our basic rights: the freedom to pray as we wish.

Women of the Wall is at the forefront of a larger battle to maintain Israel as a Jewish and democratic state with freedom and equality for all.

Israel, however, is much greater than that Cabinet table. Women of the Wall has returned to the Supreme Court, where we feel hopeful our demand for justice will be heard.

Every time we pray at the Wall, I recall with gratitude the paratroopers who fought for the Western Wall in 1967 and who came to stand and pray with us. These men know what real combatants look like, and they look like us — determined, righteous women fighting for what is ours.

One year after the Western Wall agreement was passed, there is one thing I ask of my Jewish brothers and sisters around the world: Stand with us.

Fight for the better face of Israel.

Every time you meet a representative of the state, a group of schoolkids, a consol, maybe even Israel’s ambassador to the United States, Ron Dermer, make sure you let them know that you stand with Israel, and that you demand Israel stand for you, too.

This is a time to persevere and let Israel’s imperfect leaders know that we still believe in a more perfect state.

Trump, the Jews and the political weaponization of anti-Semitism

By Andrew Silow-Carroll
Editor in Chief, JTA

Was that so hard?

At some point in the past week, it looked like President Donald Trump was never going to use “anti-Semitism” in a sentence. It took a fourth series of hoax bomb threats at JCCs around the country and imprecations from Jewish groups across the ideological spectrum for the president to at last use the “A” word.

“Anti-Semitism is horrible and it’s going to stop, and it has to stop,” Trump said Tuesday morning. “The anti-Semitic threats targeting our Jewish community and our Jewish community centers are horrible, are painful and they are a reminder of the work that still must be done to root out hate and prejudice and evil.”

That it took so long for Trump to condemn anti-Semitism after twice being asked about it last week, and coming on the heels of a White House International Holocaust Remembrance Day statement that somehow omitted any mention of the Jews, was “mind-boggling” to many groups, including the Anti-Defamation League, which said so in a tweet.

It had reached a point that I already started imagining a White House Passover greeting that didn’t mention the Jews.

“Starting at sundown, the world will come together to remember certain events in Egypt,” it would begin, and end with, “I’ve made it clear that all plagues are horrible.”

What made Trump’s demurrals stranger is that denunciations of anti-Semitism are to presidential declarations what kosher symbols are to supermarket goods: It doesn’t hurt to have one, and only Jews usually notice.

So why did it take the administration five tries to get it right? I am counting the two news conferences, in which Trump basically punted on the question from two Jewish reporters; a statement from the White House on Monday that denounced “hatred and hate-motivated violence of any kind” without mentioning Jews or anti-Semitism, and daughter Ivanka’s tweet saying “We must protect our houses of worship & religious centers. #JCC.” The JCC hashtag was a nice touch, but not exactly a Queen Esther-style declaration of co-religious solidarity.

Pundits spent the past week trying to explain Trump’s hesitation. Peter Beinart blamed narcissism, using the theory that when Trump hears “anti-Semitism,” he can’t help but take it as a personal attack that he must fend off. I wondered if it was simple belligerence -- that the more you ask this president for something, the more he is likely to say “you can’t make me.”

Or maybe he was just annoyed at the ADL, the group most identified with combating anti-Semitism, for repeatedly calling him and his campaign out for either ignoring or encouraging intolerance. Maybe Trump saw CEO Jonathan Greenblatt’s Feb. 17 column in The Washington Post recalling how “the Trump campaign repeatedly tweeted and shared anti-Semitic imagery and language,” thus “allowing this poison to move from the margins into the mainstream of the public conversation.”

The most ominous explanation, offered by Bradley Burston from the left-wing Haaretz newspaper and a surprisingly outspoken Chuck Todd of NBC News, was that Trump was throwing a bone to — or at least trying not to alienate (Continued on page 5)
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And much, much more

Earlier this year, significant trips to Israel were undertaken — first by academic and business leaders, and later by Youngstown Area Jewish Federation representatives to the steering committee meetings of Partnership2Gether.

The purposes of those visits were far-reaching, and their outcomes will continue to be realized both in Israel and in communities of northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

This month’s Journal provides an overview of each group’s activities. More detailed articles about the many aspects of this area’s relationship with the Jewish state will follow in the coming months — as well as first-hand stories about many other aspects of Israeli life and culture.

What to watch for in 2017

Candle-Lighting Times

Shabbat
March 3  5:58 p.m.
March 10 6:06 p.m.
March 17 7:14 p.m.
March 24 7:21 p.m.
March 31 7:29 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.

March 15 is the deadline for articles and ads for the April 2017 issue.
Sen. Brown leads as early opponent of anti-Semitism

After meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, U.S. Senate Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) issued the following statement on Feb. 15.

“Yesterday, my colleagues and I had a productive meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu to discuss our nation’s unique relationship with Israel and the challenges that Israel faces in an unstable and hostile region,” said Brown. “Ohioans have raised concerns over the growing number of hateful incidents throughout the state, and I raised the rise of anti-Semitic rhetoric with Prime Minister Netanyahu directly. As Americans, we must stand up against hate wherever it is found, and I was appalled by President Trump’s refusal yesterday to stand with the Jewish community and denounce these actions. We must never shy away from speaking out against hatred anywhere.”

Editor’s note: After considerable pressure from Jewish and Civil Rights organizations, President Trump stated, “The anti-Semitic threats targeting our Jewish community and community centers are horrible and are painful, and a very sad reminder of the work that still must be done to root out hate and prejudice and evil,” on Feb. 21.

‘Peoples of Western Galilee’ exhibit at Thomases Gallery

Under the direction of Dena Eber (USA), Freddie Kelvin (USA) and Yo-chanan Kishon (Israel), a number of American, Hungarian, and Israeli photographers set out to interview and photograph some of the interesting people of the Western Galilee.

This traveling exhibit, is made possible through support from Partnership2gether, a program of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation, Jewish Agency and the Jewish Federations of North America, promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational, and economic programs.

It will continue in the Thomases Gallery of the Youngstown Jewish Community Center through April 6.

The Thomases Family Endowment of the Youngstown Area Jewish Federation Art Gallery is located in the main hall of Jewish Community Center of Youngstown, on the first floor adjacent to the multi-purpose room. The gallery hosts six to seven exhibitions per year, highlighting the work of regional artists. Each exhibition runs for approximately six weeks, with an artist reception at the beginning of each show.

Interested artists should send an artist statement, resume or curriculum vitae, four or more images (JPG or PDF), and an image list indicating title, dimensions, medium, and date to kgibbons@jewishyoungstown.org.
Analysis: Trump, anti-Semitism (from p. 2)

Mr. President, we believe you and many other Jews believe you, so please make it clear that not only are you not an anti-Semite but that you reject people who are even if they did vote for you," Todd said last week.

If Trump had been struggling with a political calculation, it was reminiscent of one that played out in the 2008 campaign, when then-candidate Barack Obama was being pressed to disavow an endorsement from Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan. When he was asked about Farrakhan during a debate with fellow Democratic contender Hillary Clinton, you could almost see the thought bubble over Obama’s head as he weighed rejecting Farrakhan without alienating supporters who considered him a hero.

Obama answered by reiterating his “denunciation” of Farrakhan’s anti-Semitism, leading to a semantic debate with Clinton over the distinction between “denouncing and rejecting.” Eventually the ADL’s then national director, Abe Foxman, declared that Obama had cleared the Farrakhan hurdle.

If Trump’s allergy to the “A” word is a political calculation, what would it be? He knows that three out of every four Jews didn’t vote for him, and perhaps someone is whispering to him, a la James Baker, that he gains no advantage by caving to a special interest as liberal as the Jews.

Trump’s critics pin the issue on his chief strategist, Stephen Bannon, who came to the Trump campaign after steering Breitbart News, which he himself called a “platform” for the alt-right, among other right-wing movements. In turn, Bannon’s defenders note that Breitbart is enthusiastically pro-Israel and often keeps tabs on anti-Semitism.

But search “anti-Semitism” at Breitbart and a pattern emerges -- one that could explain the week that was. The site seems most exercised about Jew hatred when it is committed by Muslims, members of the left wing in Europe, and far left and anti-Israel activists on American college campuses. When it does report on hate crimes in the United States, its coverage is almost always skeptical, highlighting “false rumors” or quoting those who deny that there has been a surge in hate crimes here or in Britain since the U.S. elections or Brexit.

This week, when much of the press corps was focusing on how and whether Trump would denounce anti-Semitism, Joel Pollak, a senior editor-at-large at Breitbart, was accusing the media of hyping fears of anti-Semitism. Breitbart blames an “ongoing pattern of false ‘hate crimes’” and the media’s reluctance to report on left-wing anti-Semitism. But mostly he blames general “anti-Trump hysteria.”

“Trump’s critics seem to want to believe false accusations of antisemitism, which justify their hatred of him and maintain a sense of outrage and unity among activists,” writes Pollak.

For Pollak and other Breitbart contributors, the reporting and denunciation of anti-Semitism is a partisan weapon wielded by the left to discredit the right. (Just as Trump asserted that it’s a “false rumor” wielded by a dishonest media to discredit him.) Of course, Breitbart also politicizes anti-Semitism, using it as a scarlet “A” to be worn, almost exclusively, by Muslims, campus radicals, self-hating Jews and European leftists.

In fact, it has become an increasingly familiar trope both on the left and the right that the other is more anti-Semitic.

At least both sides agree that anti-Semitism is bad, even if they hesitate to take responsibility for the version that metastasizes among their ideological allies. They want to target the Jew haters but are wary about friendly fire.

Maybe the mistake of Jewish groups seeking a strong response from Trump is that they are living in a simpler past, when both sides could agree that anti-Semitism was an evil, no matter the perpetrators or their politics.

Andrew Silow-Carroll, JTA’s Editor in Chief, was born in Israel and previously worked as foreign news editor for Maariv and as a reporter for Haaretz.

Federation to restructure its corporate status

The Youngstown Area Jewish Federation is making changes to its corporate structure. What is currently one large organization will become three connected, but separate corporate entities.

The process started in 2015 with a strong suggestion from the Federation’s auditors, Hill, Barth & King, that the Federation’s assets should be protected from future potential creditor claims. (Currently there are no claims, nor are any expected.)

After several meetings, the Federation Board of Directors approved creating a parent organization that will control two separate organizations: the first encompassing our operating agencies, JCC, JCRC and Human Services, which runs Heritage Manor, Levy Gardens and Jewish Family Services; and the second a foundation that will hold the endowments and reserves and other assets for the benefit of the Federation.

While the Federation Board has approved this, the Federation voting membership is required to approve the change of the current Federation to that of the operating organization. This will occur at the Annual Meeting set for May 15.

YWCA International women’s day

YOUNGSTOWN - YWCA of Youngstown will celebrate women at an International Women’s Day event from 6 to 8 p.m. March 8 at 25 W. Rayen Ave.

The event will include diversity, recognize the uniqueness of various cultures and, most important, celebrate women.

Included will be a multicultural fashion show, food, and music from around the world.

Participants are needed for the fashion show. If you are interested in taking part or need more information about the event, call 330-746-6361, ext. 112.

The event is sponsored by International Institute Fund, a component fund of Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, and is in partnership with the Women and Gender Studies Department and the Human Ecology Department, Youngstown State University.
Do you ever dream of becoming the next Picasso? A new study at the University of Haifa comparing art and social science students has found that visually creative students evaluate their sleep as of lower quality. “Visually creative people reported disturbed sleep leading to difficulties in daytime functioning,” explains doctoral student Neta Ram-Vlasov, one of the authors of the study.

“In the case of verbally creative people, we found that they sleep more hours and go to sleep and get up later. In other words, the two types of creativity were associated with different sleep patterns. This strengthens the hypothesis that the processing and expression of visual creativity involves different psychobiological mechanisms to those found in verbal creativity.”

One of the leading approaches to the subject defines creativity according to four characteristics: fluency – the ability to produce a wide range of ideas; flexibility – the ability to switch between different thought patterns in order to produce this wide range of ideas; originality – the unique quality of the idea relative to the ideas in the environment; and elaboration – the ability to develop each idea separately.

The current study was undertaken by Prof. Tamar Shochat of the Department of Nursing and doctorate student Neta Ram-Vlasov of the Graduate School of Creative Art Therapies at the University of Haifa, together with Amit Green from the Sleep Institute at Assuta Medical Center and Prof. Orna Tzischinsky from the Department of Psychology at Yezreel Valley College. The researchers sought to understand how two types of creativity – visual and verbal – influence objective aspects of sleep such as duration and timing (indexes such as the time of falling asleep and waking up), and subjective aspects – sleep quality.

Thirty undergraduate students from seven academic institutions participated in the study, half of whom were majoring only in art and half of whom were majoring only in the social sciences.

During the study, the participants underwent overnight electrophysiological sleep recordings, wore a wrist activity monitor (a device that measures sleep objectively), and completed a sleep monitoring diary and a questionnaire on sleep habits in order to measure the pattern and quality of sleep. They also undertook visual and verbal creativity tests.

The findings show that among all the participants, the higher the level of visual creativity, the lower the quality of their sleep. This was manifested in such aspects as sleep disturbances and daytime dysfunction.

The researchers also found that the higher the participants’ level of verbal creativity, the more hours they slept and the later they went to sleep and woke up.

A comparison between the sleep patterns of art students and non-art students found that art students sleep more, but this in no way guarantees quality sleep: art students evaluated their sleep as of lower quality and reported more sleep disturbances and daytime dysfunction than the non-art students.

The researchers add that possible explanations can be offered for the connections found between the two types of creativity and sleep patterns.

Further studies may help determine whether creativity influences sleep or vice versa (or perhaps neither is the case). “It is possible that a ‘surplus’ of visual creativity makes the individual more alert, and this could lead to sleep disturbances,” the researchers suggested. “On the other hand, it is possible that it is protracted sleep among verbally creativity individuals that facilitates processes that support the creative process while they are awake. In any case, these findings are further evidence of the fact that creativity is not a uniform concept. Visual creativity is activated by – and activates – different cerebral mechanisms than verbal creativity.”
Jews rank the warmest on Pew Research ‘feeling thermometer’

(JTA) – Jews are the most warmly regarded religious group in America, according to a new survey by the Pew Research Center.

The survey, which was released Wednesday, found that Americans generally express more positive feelings toward various religious groups than they did three years ago.

As they did the first time the survey was taken in 2014, Jews topped the survey, in which respondents rank various religious groups on a “feeling thermometer.” On the scale of 1 to 100, 1 is the coldest and 100 the warmest; 50 means they have neither positive nor negative feelings.

Jews were ranked at 67 degrees, up from 63 in the 2014 survey, followed by Catholics at 66, up from 62, and Mainline Protestants at 65. Evangelical Christians stayed at 61 degrees.

Buddhists rose to 60 from 53, and Hindus increased to 58 from 50. Mormons moved to 54 from 48.

Atheists and Muslims again had the lowest ratings, but both still rose on the warmth scale. Atheists ranked at 50 degrees, up from 41, and Muslims were at 48, up from 40.

The authors noted that warm feelings toward religious groups rose despite a contentious election year that deeply divided Americans. “The increase in mean ratings is broad based,” according to the authors. “Warmer feelings are expressed by people in all the major religious groups analyzed, as well as by both Democrats and Republicans, men and women, and younger and older adults.”

The random-digit-dial survey of 4,248 respondents was conducted Jan. 9-23. The margin of error is plus or minus — (Continued on page 30)
It’s just a photo — a photo of an arch — but it speaks volumes to me and is stored away in my memory bank as one of those moments frozen in time; a defining moment that elicits hard-to-verbalize emotions. It stirs something deep within my soul.

The photo was taken in Israel outside the Ghetto Fighters’ Museum. It is of a covered archway connecting the main museum building to the children’s museum.

On a day late in January, I was part of an international group of about a dozen representatives of the Partnership2Gether delegation. As we departed from a very moving tour of the museum, the sun came out from behind the clouds of a dreary sky; as we gazed at the archway and beyond it the land of Israel, a gentleman in our group solemnly reminded us that we were facing Jerusalem and then suggested it would be a good time to recite Kaddish for all those whose lives the museum commemorated.

Quietly and in unison our voices haltingly united—haltingly due to the emotion of the moment.

The spell was broken as the clouds again rolled in, and we silently turned around and walked to our awaiting tour bus.

That silent walk and our tear-stained faces will be a lasting memory of my first trip to Israel.

Partnership2Gether

They call it the Central Area Consortium — if by central, you mean Buffalo, Fort Worth, Youngstown, South Bend, Omaha, Toledo, Dayton, Austin, TX; Northwest Indiana, San Antonio, Louisville, KY; Indianapolis, Des Moines, Canton, and Fort Wayne. And it’s these 14 American Jewish communities, together with Budapest, Hungary, that have come together to promote mutually beneficial endeavors between and among their peoples.

Youngstown’s nine-member delegation to the joint steering committee meetings held in the Western Galilee, was the largest of all the participating communities.

For Nancy Burnett, Patricia Kelvin, Jeff Vickers, David Wilschek, Melissa Bateman and her husband Aaron Hively, it was a first trip to Israel. Megan Vickers and Sarah Wilschek had visited Israel on a Birthright trip years before. Only Myra Benedict was seeing Israel through well accustomed eyes.

But each looked forward to the opportunity of learning about the Partnership and each hoped that her or his own knowledge and expertise could benefit one or more of the many task forces and programs that P2G comprises.

Over five packed days, that had participants on the bus at 8 a.m., back for a 15-30 minute break in the late afternoon, and back on the bus for evenings of educational fun and always, more delicious food than some of us needed.

Dancing on a Kibbutz? No, not the Europeans-turned-agricultural workers living the Zionist promise and enjoying a wild Hora at the end of an exhausting day. A real dance kibbutz — the Galilee Dance Village, where more than 200 dancers live: students and professionals. During the Steering Committee meetings, the arts and community task force visited this locale and enjoyed watching a company rehearsal. But when one of the dancers took Myra Benedict by the hand and brought her on stage, the enthusiasm was contagious.

About her time in the Western Galilee, Mrs. Benedict said, “The most wonderful feeling was seeing old friends, from Israel and our consortium communities, who share the passion about Partnership. It had been a while since I attended a steering committee meeting, but the bonds seem to be forever.

The most inspiring evening was going to a traditional Druze dinner with a group of Western Galilee women who have been involved in a program called “Women Cooking a Dialogue.” These Arab, Jewish, Druze & Christian women have been meeting for the past year eating together, sharing their lives with each other and creating a sisterhood. It was a beautiful experience.”
Coming up at Ohev Tzedek

Shabbat Across America
Friday, March 3, 5:30 p.m.
Join us to celebrate a Kabbalat Shabbat service and vegetarian potluck. Please bring your favorite vegetarian/dairy dish to share. We will meet in the Birch Hill Cabin in Mill Creek Park. This free event is open to the entire congregation and their guests. R.S.V.P. to the Ohev Tzedek office by Wednesday, March 1.

Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 8, 7 p.m.

Purim Extravaganza
The annual Temple El Emeth/Ohev Tzedek Purim celebration and Megillah Reading will be held on Sunday, March 12 at El Emeth. The Megillah will be read at 4:30 p.m. with a hotdog dinner (featuring world-famous El Emeth Sisterhood hamantashen) and a celebration immediately following. Join your friends from El Emeth and Ohev Tzedek for an evening of music, singing, fun, food, and surprises.

No charge for dinner, but reservations are a must. R.S.V.P. to El Emeth (330 759-1429) or Ohev Tzedek (330 758-2321) by Monday, March 9. We hope to see everyone in costume!

Torah Studies for Christians
Rabbi Oresky and Father Balasko will continue to lead their monthly program Wednesday, March 15 at Villa Maria from 1-2:30 p.m. This month’s topic is Purim.

Flory’s Flame

She was raised in a musical household in Bosnia, and her family roots go back centuries before the Jewish expulsion from Spain in 1492. As the sole surviving family member after World War II, Flory’s mission has been to continue her family’s cultural legacy through their music. Her strength of spirit shines through her challenging but ultimately triumphant story. The movie will begin at 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

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.

Adult Education – Spring 2017
Classes that receive a minimum of six registrants will begin in April. Each is designed to be approximately 10 sessions. Some classes may require a text to be purchased in addition to the registration fee of $50 per class. Unless otherwise noted, all will be held at Ohev Tzedek. Rabbi Oresky is also open to suggestions for classes not proposed below. All of the classes are open to the entire community.

Jewish Composers and Musicians from Biblical to Classical to Pop – A treat for the mind and the ears: we will learn about Jewish composers and musicians from King David to Carole King and listen to and discuss their music. How, if at all, did their Jewishness influence their music? Feel free to suggest composers and musical selections when you register for the class.

What’s So Funny About Being Jewish? A Study of Jewish Comedians – Who doesn’t have a favorite Jewish comedian? Why has comedy been a Jewish occupation for so long? How could a person with an often-tragic history produce such a large number of really funny people? We’ll watch and listen to comedy routines both old and new and search for common threads.

The Amidah – Using Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman’s excellent volume in the My People’s Prayer Book series as a guide, we will explore this core prayer to discuss tefilla, Jewish prayer, as a whole, and how Jews have ever understood our ongoing, evolving relationship with G-d.

Selected Books of the Prophets: Joshua and Judges – Read beyond the haftarot! By delving deeper into some of the prophetic writings, we’ll begin to access the wisdom of this crucial middle third of the Tanakh. We’ll start with the first two books that follow the Five Books: what happened once our ancestors entered the Land? Why are these two books so different?

Saying Kaddish – Using The Kadish Minyan and several other excellent sources and classroom discussion, we will explore “the time after” a loss of a dear one; saying Kaddish can be far more than a rote exercise – it can be a path to reconnection with the past, a meaningful activity of the present, and an important link to the future.

OT starts social action committee

Ohev Tzedek Temple has taken the first steps to creating OTSAC, a social action committee. The kick-off meeting, on Feb. 5, featured a screening of the movie Before the Flood, a documentary on global warming produced and narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. A presentation by Dr. Colleen McLean, a biology professor at YSU specializing in environmental recovery, followed the film.

According to Neil Yutkin, Ohev Tzedek co-president, “Raising environmental awareness is only one facet of what the committee is looking to accomplish.” He said the idea is to continue current activities, such as volunteering at Second Harvest Food Bank, and to begin involvement in other programs where the committee members feel they can make a difference.

He said, “Realizing that this is a major task for any small group of people, the committee decided to join forces with representatives of the wider Jewish community.”

The planning meeting was held with representatives of the other area shuls and with Federation Program Coordinator Sarah Wilschek, Shari Della Penna, who will be co-chairing OTSAC with Carol Gottesman, represented Ohev Tzedek.

Eighteen people attended the initial meeting, 11 of whom indicated that they would like to continue doing things to help the community.

The next meeting will focus on the directions the committee will take and set priorities for those programs. Those who would like to be involved with OTSAC and/or have ideas for programs or actions in which the group could become involved, should contact the Ohev Tzedek office 330 758-2321.
Queens Vashti, Esther remain models for strong women today

By Shai Erez
Federation Shlichah

There’s a reason I like the holiday of Purim so much. Purim is a holiday that champions, among other things, women’s empowerment. It is based on a biblical story which includes two brave, strong women who have something to teach us: Queens Vashti and Esther.

Queen Vashti, in contrast to the obedient Esther, was seen as a strong woman who stood up for others, some have even called her a “feminist icon”. She lived during a time when women lacked rights; the Jewish people were a minority living in an exile and the governing regime was a monarchy. Anyone who tried to oppose the King’s power was severely punished.

Queen Vashti held women’s banquets throughout the kingdom. One night, after too much wine, King Ahasuerus sent for the Queen so he could show off her beauty. Vashti declined the king’s order, which caused the inebriated king to expel her from the kingdom. After a good night’s sleep, King Ahasuerus realized his mistake, and called for Vashti to return the palace. But it was too late.

During her time, women were not asked their opinions, and in most cases were the property of their husband or father. They were often considered to be sexually impulsive and manipulative. Vashti might have been labelled a brazen prostitute at the time she lived, but in 2017 she is seen as a bold, independent activist. This year, women are represented in record numbers in the Israeli Knesset: 33 to be exact, which is 27.5% of all 120 Knesset members. The rise in women in the Knesset is part of a worldwide political phenomenon; the proportion of women in various parliaments has steadily risen since the mid-90s. Queen Vashti might be proud!

And then there is Queen Esther. Everyone loves her wants to be like her. She is the first female character to be presented positively, and with her own story: aptly named The Book of Esther. Esther saved the Jewish people from extermination. Yet she is perceived in the eyes of modern women as weak and defeated compared to Vashti.

Why? She did what she was told to do, and nobody saw her as a key figure. But when we take a closer look, we see an anonymous girl from the city of Shushan who finagled her way into the King’s exclusive circle, impressed those who were around her at the palace, was chosen to be a queen and exerted great influence on the king.

This month, the world will mark International Women’s Day on March 8. We will celebrate love and respect for women and their political, economic and social achievements. In Israeli and Jewish contexts, women are celebrated in a number of ways. We recognize Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America, which was founded on Purim and is named for Queen Esther’s Jewish name, Hadassah.

In Israel, military service is mandatory for men and women. The status of women in the army, the roles available to them and their opportunities for advancement, have changed over the years. Women make up 33 percent of all soldiers and 51 percent of officers.

The world is moving towards equality of men and women. We can see it over the past 70 years in Israel, and we can certainly learn about it from our ancestors and the history of our people.

Women, please remember the power you have in the world. Remember that you can do anything you would like to do, and achieve anything you want.

Men, please keep in mind that the woman next to you is equal to you in power. Everyone should respect all living beings everywhere, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion and sex. We can do it!

Happy Woman’s month!

Bias in the Media: Is a Picture Worth a Thousand Words?

Gary Kenzer, former media bias watchdog in Israel, will show us how a photo can paint a negative picture, as it often does during media coverage of Israel. This event is free and open to the public. A light dinner will be served. Honest Reporting is not aligned with any government or political party or movement.

March 20, 2017
6:00-7:30 p.m. | Multi-Purpose Room
RSVP by March 15, 2017
330.746.3250 Ext. 159
gerez@jewishyoungstown.org
www.jccyoungstown.org
World Jewish leaders gather at Limmud FSU in UK to celebrate Balfour Declaration centennial

WINDSOR, England, Feb. 5 – A century after the U.K. declared its support for the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Israel, the current Lord Balfour expressed pride in his great-grandfather’s “humanitarian act,” as Jewish leaders from around the world and some 700 Russian-speaking Jews from 18 European countries gathered in Windsor this weekend for the first-ever Limmud FSU (former Soviet Union) Europe regional conference in the U.K.

The Limmud FSU Europe conference featured a special centennial celebration of the Balfour Declaration. The declaration, dated Nov. 2, 1917, was sent from U.K. Foreign Secretary Lord Arthur James Balfour to Baron Lionel Walter Rothschild, and expressed the U.K.’s support for the establishment of a homeland for the Jewish people in Israel.

Reacting to the celebration, Arthur Balfour’s great-grandson, Lord Roderick Balfour, who had never before made a public statement about the declaration, said in a letter: “My family is very proud of the importance to Jewish people everywhere of this initiative by the British government of the day. The relevance to you all here today is that the imperative for it stemmed from the appalling Russian pogroms at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries.

“Thus, and this is what we are most proud of, the declaration was first and foremost a humanitarian act trying to repatriate a talented but much-persecuted people to the land of the original Judaic roots.”

Speaking at the conference about a report issued last week by the London-based Community Security Trust that anti-Semitic hate crimes are at an all-time high in the U.K., American historian Deborah Lipstadt said: “Holocaust denial is one manifestation of anti-Semitism. There are hard-core Holocaust deniers – who are easy to fight, using facts – and then there is soft-core Holocaust denial. Take, for example, the recent White House statement that failed to recognize Jewish victims of the Holocaust. These sorts of attempts to be ‘inclusive,’ as Trump spokesperson Hope Hicks put it, take the Jewish identity away from the Holocaust. This is a form of Holocaust denial.”

“The CST report is particularly disturbing because there was no single trigger event – such as Israel’s 2014 operation in Gaza – this past year,” said Jonathan Arkush, the president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. “This increase in anti-Semitic incidents is a result of the populism surrounding Brexit – in the same way that Donald Trump’s election exposed deep-seated anti-Semitic and other hateful sentiments in America.”

Limmud FSU Europe marked the first time in its decade-long history that Limmud FSU was not geared toward Russian-speaking Jews of a specific city or country. More than 250,000 Russian-speaking Jews currently reside in Europe, making it one of the world’s largest Russian-speaking Jewish communities.

“This unprecedented continental gathering brought together major Jewish leaders and the Russian-speaking Jewish communities of Europe to celebrate the Balfour Declaration, which paved the way for the formation of the modern State of Israel,” said Limmud FSU Founder Chaim Chesler and Co-Founder Sandy Cahn. “Our first extra-territorial Limmud FSU was also our first nomadic conference, convening Russian-speaking Jews from across Europe in the continent’s informal capital.”
**Czech Republic? no problem**

By Chani Miller

Ezer Mizion’s Bone Marrow Registry has saved the lives of more than 2000 patients around the globe.

Recently, a call came in from Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel that a six-year-old child needed a transplant as soon as possible. Is there a genetic match available?

A search was done. Success. Among the 800,000 registrants on the database, an excellent DNA match was found. The potential donor was contacted. She'll be happy to donate, but there’s one problem. The next level of testing must be done as soon as possible, and the potential donor is currently in Brno in the Czech Republic.

“Can I make an appointment with the lab for when I return in a few weeks?” The Ezer Mizion staff member could simply note on records: Donor out of country. Testing will be done when returns. The patient? Perhaps his condition would still be such that he can benefit from the transplant. Perhaps not. Ezer Mizion was not going to take that chance.

Linked to Life, another division of Ezer Mizion, that uses a What’s App program to make vital contacts worldwide, was called. Thousands of screens lit up while the test tubes were being prepared. “We need a volunteer to drive vital test tubes from Petach Tikva to the airport in Tel Aviv to meet someone going on the 3:50 flight to Vienna.” In moments, a volunteer responded and the tubes were on their way.

While he was driving, screens lit up again looking for someone scheduled to be on the flight to take the tubes. Bzzzz. Responding. Am at airport at Gate 123. I’ll take it.

Another Linked to Life volunteer was waiting at the Prague airport and drove the package to the Chabad House. The head of the Chabad House drove through the night to Brno and used his contacts to have the clinic opened in the middle of the night to draw blood from the potential donor. More clicks while the now-filled test tubes were making their way back to Brno.

Anyone traveling from Prague to Israel on next flight? By the next morning, another Ezer Mizion Linked to Life volunteer was waiting in the airport at Tel Aviv to transport the tubes to the Bone Marrow Registry in Petach Tikvah. Less than 24 hours. Mission accomplished.
Thanks to Israeli university professors, first area in Peruvian Amazonas to be purchased and turned into a nature reserve

TiME, the environmental protection organization founded by Prof. Uri Shanas of the University of Haifa, has crowdsourced funds to purchase the first area of land to become a nature reserve. The goal: to preserve biodiversity.

TiME organization has scored its first success in its struggle to save endangered species around the world. TiME crowdsourced funds to purchase an area in the Peruvian Amazonas that is home to over 300 species, some of which are in grave danger of extinction. The area will be turned into a nature reserve.

Each of the habitats is home to a diverse range of endangered species. The selected habitat is purchased by TiME and becomes a nature reserve. Since all those involved in TiME work on an entirely voluntary basis, the land purchase is undertaken through local organizations responsible for managing the new nature reserve following its purchase.

The first habitat chosen by TiME members is situated in the Peruvian Andes – the site was chosen over a coral reef in Belize and a savannah in Kenya.

The privately owned land is home to more than 300 species of birds, lizards, and mammals, many of which appear on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, such as the yellow-tailed woolly monkey and the long-whiskered owl. The owner of the site placed it on the market and TiME will buy the land for $30,000. Of this sum, $25,000 was raised by crowdsourcing while $5,000 was donated by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, which supports environmental protection projects, among other areas.

According to Peruvian law, the land can only be sold to locals (members of the Yambrasbamba Campesino community). Accordingly, the land will be purchased in the community’s name by a local conservation organization, Neotropical Primate Conservation, managed by Dr. Sam and Dr. Noga Shani. The Shanis have lived in the area for years, working to help save species in danger of extinction. They will manage the site together with the local community, and in the spirit of TiME, research and educational activities will be integrated in the purchased area,” Prof. Tal explains.

“The rate of deforestation in the rainforest is among the highest in the world,” Prof. Shanas concludes. “This specific site serves as an important corridor between two existing reserves. Breaking the chain of forests in this area could dissect the region, leaving small animal populations unable to survive. Although this is a small area of land, we have been motivated by this success. We really hope that this proof of concept will help us recruit more supporters and members over the coming year.”

This site is a high priority for conservation because it is part of the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot, home to many threatened and endemic species. The area lies within the Condor-Kutuku conservation corridor, one of Conservation International’s strategic priorities and a national conservation priority. The area is overlapped by two of BirdLife International’s Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (PE056 and PE058).

Editor’s note: This story represents yet another example of Israel’s leadership and contributions to the world at large.
Members of Indian Bnei Menashe community make aliyah

TEL AVIV, Israel – Seventy-two members of the Indian Bnei Menashe Jewish community arrived at Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion Airport on Feb. 16. A total of 102 members of the Bnei Menashe were brought on Aliyah this week by Shavei Israel, a Jerusalem-based nonprofit that aims to strengthen ties between the Jewish people and descendants of Jews around the world.

The new immigrants all come from the northeastern Indian state of Mizoram, which borders Burma and Bangladesh and is home to the second-largest concentration of Bnei Menashe in India after that of the state of Manipur. This marks the first time since Jan. 2014 that Bnei Menashe are making Aliyah from Mizoram. The first 30 of this week’s 102 new immigrants arrived in Israel on Tuesday, Feb. 14. They all plan to settle in Nazareth Illit, Israel, which already has a flourishing Bnei Menashe community.

Also arriving with the group is Mizmor Sharon and her two children. Mrs. Sharon’s husband, Shomron, died two weeks ago after a long battle with cancer, while the family was still in India waiting to make Aliyah.

“My children and I are heartbroken that their father didn’t live to see his dream of making Aliyah come true,” said Mrs. Sharon. “But we are excited to be making this journey and to honor his legacy by building our new lives in the Jewish homeland. I am sure that he will be with us in spirit with every step that we take on the holy soil of Israel.”

“We are excited to be launching Operation Menashe 2017 with the Aliyah this week of 102 Bnei Menashe from Mizoram,” said Shavei Israel Founder and Chairman Michael Freund. “Over the course of the coming year, with G-d’s help, we will bring a total of more than 700 Bnei Menashe immigrants to Israel – the largest-ever airlift in a single year.”

Freund added: “After 27 centuries of exile, this lost tribe of Israel is truly coming home. But we will not rest until all the remaining Bnei Menashe still in India are able to make Aliyah as well.”

The Bnei Menashe are descendants of the tribe of Manasseh, one of the Ten Lost Tribes exiled from the Land of Israel more than 2,700 years ago by the Assyrian empire. So far, some 3,000 Bnei Menashe have made Aliyah thanks to Shavei Israel, including more than 1,100 in the past four years. Some 7,000 Bnei Menashe remain in India waiting for the chance to return home to Zion.

Shavei Israel is a nonprofit organization founded by Michael Freund, who immigrated to Israel from the United States with the aim of strengthening the ties between the Jewish people, the State of Israel and the descendants of Jews around the world. The organization is currently active in more than a dozen countries and provides assistance to a variety of communities such as the Bnei Menashe of India, the Bnei Anousim (referred to by the derogatory term “Marranos” by historians) in Spain, Portugal and South America, the Subbotnik Jews of Russia, the Jewish community of Kaifeng in China, descendants of Jews living in Poland, and others.

Kent Hillel seeks executive director

Make a significant impact in the Jewish world by joining Hillel at Kent State University as the executive director.

The executive director of Hillel at Kent State University will be a strong, articulate organizational leader who will bring Hillel at KSU into the next 10 years of success by implementing the vision of Hillel with students, community, lay leaders and local and national organizations and the greater Jewish and university communities.

Candidates for the position should have strong entrepreneurial spirit, the capacity to create space for a diversity of perspectives and allow all voices of students to be heard, expertise in leading complex conversations about Judaism and Israel in a way that is approachable and meets students at various points in their personal Jewish journey.

To be considered, individuals should have five to eight years of professional work experience, particularly in management roles in the Jewish or secular nonprofit, higher education, or mission-driven organization world. Past Hillel experience is a plus as well.

A bachelor’s degree is required, but a masters degree is preferred. A range of candidates’ experiences and credentials will be considered.

The salary range for this role is $110,000-$120,000, with a comprehensive benefits package, including health insurance, a group supplemental retirement annuity, pension plan, life insurance, long term disability, and a flexible spending plan.

The executive director will travel regionally and abroad, particularly to Israel.

Apply at www.hillel.org/jobs and include your resume and cover letter.
Trying to condense the activities of the week-long YSU-YBI-YAJF Mission to Israel is virtually impossible. Thus, what follows are excerpts of the notes Bonnie Burdman took during the trip. The editor has tried to include examples of the many facets of the time the group spent in Israel as examples of a far wider agenda.

In the course of the week’s trip, the group met with six companies, met with five individuals, incubators, VCs. They met with senior officials at five universities — including Hebrew University, Western Galilee College, Tel Aviv University, The Technion, and the Interdisciplinary Center.

The group also participated in three Israeli government briefings at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and one at the Prime Minister’s Office.

In addition, a representative of the U.S. Commercial Service provided an American government briefing to them.

Day 1 – January 12, 2017:
Arrival dinner and briefing by Reuven Ben-Shalom. Ben-Shalom served for 25 years in the Israel Defense Force as a helicopter pilot and in various international relations positions, among them director of Israel-US military cooperation, and director of the International Fellows Program at the Israel National Defense College. He is the founder of Cross-Cultural Strategies Ltd., focusing on facilitating international cooperation by bridging cross-cultural gaps. He consults, teaches and lectures in various forums, in Israel and overseas. A native speaker in both English and Hebrew and conversational in Russian and Chinese (Mandarin), Ben-Shalom holds a B.Sc. in industrial engineering and management and M.Sc. in business administration from Ben Gurion University. During the briefing, Ben-Shalom briefed the group on the current political climate in Israel and the greater Middle East, current threats to the state of Israel, the Israel-Palestinian conflict, and the Israeli view of the incoming new administration.

Day 2 – January 13, 2017
Tour of Jerusalem

Yad Vashem, where a child of two Survivors guided us through the museum. The guide shared the miraculous story of how her parents, engaged to be married as teens and separated by the Nazis, escaped death and found each other after the war.

Western Wall Tunnels

Thanks to Jay Schottenstein, we received a VIP tour of the tunnels below and adjacent to the Western Wall of the Temple. We learned about the many layers of Jerusalem’s past by touching the actual ancient walls and by studying an interesting model depicting the different dwelling periods and history of the inhabitants of Jerusalem. We stood on the site believed to be the nearest spot to the “Holy of Holies.” A highlight of the tour of the tunnels was the visit to a new Western Wall Heritage Foundation interactive exhibit, made possible by the generosity of the Schottenstein family, entitled “The Journey from Jerusalem to Jerusalem.” After the destruction of the Second Temple in the year 3830 (70 CE), the Second Temple was rebuilt in the year 3760 (69 CE). The most important event in the history of Jerusalem is the destruction of the Second Temple in the year 3830 (70 CE) by the Romans under the leadership of Titus, which led to the end of the Temple Era and the beginning of the Diaspora Era.

(Continued overleaf)
Tour of the “Cardo,” meaning the War in 1967. A special point of interest the City was unified after the Six-Day Aharoni, we walked through the Jewish Old City.

Tour of Jewish Quarter of the Salem takes place in a special room that all returned home. The Journey to Jerusalem and community and family has a special story – all left Jerusalem and all returned home. The Journey to Jerusalem takes place in a special room that was recently exposed in the Tunnels.

Day 3 – January 14, 2017
Bethlehem – We started the day with a visit to the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, one of the oldest continuously operating churches in the world. The church is built over the cave that tradition marks as the birthplace of Jesus. The structure is actually a combination of two churches, with a crypt beneath – the Grotto of the Nativity – where Jesus was born. George, an Arab Christian resident of Bethlehem guided us through the church and the city.

Jerusalem – Following a traditional lunch in Bethlehem, we returned to Jerusalem with a stop at the top of the Mt. of Olives for a panoramic view of the city. Overlooking the Old City, the Mount is covered partly in olive trees, cemeteries and churches, commemorating the events of Jesus. On foot, we then descended the Mount via the Palm Sunday Walk to visit the Garden of Gethsemane, most famous as the place where Jesus prayed and where his disciples slept, the night before Jesus’ crucifixion. We entered the Old City to walk the Via Dolorosa, the traditional route which Jesus traveled, where he was forced by the Romans to carry his own cross from the judgment seat of Pilate to the place of the crucifixion. The Via Dolorosa is marked with 14 “stations of the cross” commemorating 14 incidents that took place along the way. We ended the day with a visit to the Church of the holy Sepulcher, a complex of various chapels built on what was called the Hill of Golgotha and the site of the resurrection.

Day 4 – January 15, 2017 (Government Day):

Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
Briefing on Israel and the Middle East by Ariel Shafransky, director of the MFA Political Research Division. We heard a detailed briefing about the current political climate in the Middle East. Significant points in the briefing:

Briefing by Sharon Kabalo, Director, MFA Policy and International Relations Department (MASHAV). MASHAV is the Israeli agency for international development cooperation. Launched in 1957, MASHAV was designed to share with developing countries Israeli “know-how” and technologies that were the basis of Israel’s rapid development. Similar to USAid, MASHAV partners with international relief organizations around the world and is making a huge impact on the lives of real people.

Briefing with Ambassador Reda Mansour, a senior Israeli career diplomat and the first non-Jewish member of the Israeli diplomatic corps. Now posted at the MFA, Ambassador Mansour previously served as the Israeli Ambassador to Ecuador and Brazil, the Deputy Ambassador in Portugal, Consul General in Atlanta, and Consul in San Francisco. Ambassador Mansour discussed the importance of Israel remaining a majority Jewish state, noting that the Jewish and democratic nature of the country has contributed to its success in general and the advancement of the minority populations (Muslims, Druze, Christians) in particular. He further discussed the nature of the Druze community in Israel, and noted that 70 percent of Arab students in Israeli universities are women. He also stated that in his view, the many uprisings in the Arab world are centered in the expression of identity by Arab minorities.

Idea: Could YSU potentially attract Israeli Arab and Druze women to study in Youngstown? This could be an opportunity for many to break free from some traditions that could inhibit their educational growth.

Tour of the Knesset (Parliament)
The Knesset, Israel’s unicameral Parliament, took its name and fixed its membership at 120, from the Knesset Hagedolah (Great Assembly), the representative Jewish council convened in Jerusalem by Ezra and Nehemiah in the 5th century BCE.

Idea: Jim thought about ways to potentially get YSU students to Israel to work in the high tech sectors either as interns or as full time employees after graduation.
Business Meeting – Hebrew University, 3D & Functional Printing Center: Meeting with Dr. Michael Layani, senior researcher under Dr. Shlomo Magdassi, head of a research group focusing on materials science and nanotechnology, and multi-functional 3D printing. The main research fields of the group are formation and stabilization of inorganic and organic nanomaterials, formulation of these materials in various inks and delivery systems, and their application in a variety of fields including 3D and functional printing.

**Potential Outcomes/Follow-Up:**
- Collaborative R & D (near term)
- Co-visits (near term)
- Tech sharing
- Licensing technology to Youngstown businesses
- Possible funding from U.S. entities for joint research

**Business Meeting – Jump Speed:** Ben Weiner, managing partner/founder. Jump Speed, a mixture of an early stage venture fund and an accelerator, invests in startup companies like a traditional venture capital fund, and also from time to time incubates “home grown” startups, in partnership with dynamic entrepreneurs. The fund only invests in firms based in Jerusalem, however, they are looking at the possibility of launching a software company from northeast Ohio. They have a relationship with Jump-Start in Ohio. Mr. Weiner, from Allentown, PA, is an entrepreneur-friendly venture enthusiast who co-founded his first startup in 1999.

Between stints as a business development executive with a number of private equity ventures and startup companies, he was a vice president of business development at IDT Corp., where he managed acquisition projects and established and managed a number of new corporate subsidiaries and startup ventures. He began his professional career as a corporate lawyer in New York and Israel and as a clerk on the Israel Supreme Court. He earned a B.A. in economics from Yeshiva University, and a J.D. with honors from Columbia Law School.

**Potential Outcomes/Follow-Up:**
1. Possible assistance by YBI in assisting with creating a presence in

**Northeast Ohio Ideas:**
Find potential opportunities for YSU students to intern with Israeli companies. Funded by YSU Foundation.

Israeli incubators spend less time working with their companies than YBI—they are often released from their respective programs after two years if they are not showing progress. Find potential opportunities for such companies, if appropriate, to come to YBI.

**Day 5 – January 15, 2017 (Western Galilee/Business Meetings)**
Partnership2Gether (P2G) is a program of the Jewish Agency and the Jewish Federations of North America, promoting people-to-people relationships through cultural, social, medical, educational and economic programs. Youngstown is one of 12 U.S. communities in the Central Area Consortium in partnership with Israel’s Western Galilee. Through four task forces – Arts & Community, Education, Missions & Resource Development, Medical – the programs are dedicated to connecting people and making a difference for Jewish in Israel and America.

**Western Galilee Hospital**
Judy Yuda, Partnership Director and Bracha Zuriel, Partnership Representative, provided an overview of the Partnership, the Youngstown community’s robust engagement with the Partnership, and the support of the Thomas Family Foundation in a number of Partnership programs, in the hospital, specifically in the ER and in newly planned operating theaters, and in various initiatives throughout the region.

During the initial meetings and the tour of the hospital, Aya, Kipershlak, Director, WGC International Affairs Department Sharon Mann, Liaison, WGC International Affairs Department, and Dr. Arie Eisenman, Head of ER, WGC discussed various hospital programs and potential connections between YSU and Youngstown. Amir Yarchi, Director, American Friends of Galilee Medical Center discussed the diversity of the Western Galilee region of Israel and some of the medical issues with which they are faced, including genetic issues, infant mortality, and lower life expectancy. The highlight of the hospital tour
Dr. Brett Conner from YSU looks at some equipment in the foundry Laboratory of the Israeli Institute of Metals at The Technion.

was the visit to the underground facility and that is ready for use at all times if needed, as well as the hospital’s history of treating Syrians wounded in the current Syrian civil conflict.

**Potential Outcomes/Follow-Up:**
- Opportunities for YSU Nursing Students.
- Exchanges with Youngstown medical professionals/students (conferences and externships – Youngstown hospitals/Neomed)
- BDB Idea: Connection with Pat Sweeney, Youngstown Health Department; Dealing with similar inner city health issues as Akko).

**Western Galilee College**

Met with: Prof. Dov Dvir, president, WGC; Miri Frenkel, director, External Relations, WGC; Gil Klempert, Partnership education chair

Received a thorough briefing about the current and planned programs of the College (full power point presentation contained on thumb drive/pen given as gift). The student body is split approximately 50-50 between Jews and Arabs. The School of Management has programs in general management, economics, logistics, human resources, accounting, and real estate management (pending). Current general courses of study include education, sociology, criminology, theater, conservation (archeology). Courses of study in development include health management, I.T., political science, MBA. Major research initiatives are being undertaken in areas such as Holocaust, literacy, Akko/Galilee history, and youth at risk (neglected children). The Thomases Foundation is involved with the latter effort.

**Potential Outcomes/Follow-Up:**
- Williamson Business School/School of Management connections
- Matt Omansky/WGC Conservation program connections
- Tressel ideas: Study abroad opportunities for both sides, including shorter, focused studies for credit; WGC students to YSU in summer, year-long faculty exchanges.

**Akko Center for Arts and Technology (ACAT)** – Met with ACAT CEO Naim Obeid and others. ACAT is a community/career training center modeled after the National Center for Arts & Technology (NCAT) is the MBC affiliate that works with cities to replicate the Manchester Bidwell Education Model. ACAT is the first replication outside the United States, and is a center of excellence providing education and training for underprivileged youth and adults in the arts and technology, including in 3D printing. Funded in part by the Thomases foundation, ACAT is a social engineering project that is important to Arabs and Jews where it is not usual for both communities to be together. Youth classes are held in 3D printing and photography. Adult job training classes include the hospitality industry.

**Business Meeting – Itamar Yona, Aviv Printing and Media Solutions:** A 2D and 3D printing company that has developed a software product to support print houses in customer relations. The product, called “IAMBot” asks potential customers a series of questions to help them determine the feasibility/cost effectiveness for 3D printing products. While the market for the existing product is somewhat limited, YBI believes that the platform could be expanded to support a larger segment of the market (including industrial applications). Currently has beta sites in Holland and Australia.

**Potential Outcomes/Follow-Up**

- Employees in Youngstown? (long term) Exploring business options in the U.S.
- Exploring a relationship with Freshwater (Australia)
- Potential healthcare IT connections

**Potential deal flow for Valley Growth Ventures**

**Business Meeting – SOSA, Carmit Oron, Head of Value Creation – An entrepreneurial “ecosystem” that is part incubator/accelerator and sponsored by major VCs, private investors (including Mark Zuckerberg) and Fortune 500 companies. Oron interested in YBI diaspora list.

**Potential healthcare IT connections**

**Day 6 – January 17, 2017**

Business Meeting – Rick Schottenstein, former director of Ohio Trade Office in Israel: Office closed when all of the state’s ED work was transferred to Jobs Ohio which ended Ohio presence in multiple foreign countries. Now privately works with Israeli companies to create matches for funding and other opportunities.

**Next month: More on the meetings and follow-ups.**
Just a couple of kids on a teeter-totter? The “kids” here are David Wilschek and his wife YAJF Program Coordinator Sarah Wilschek. And the significance is far more than child-like fun. Just over the hill is the Lebanese border. Note the military communication installation in the upper right hand corner of the photograph.

Despite the proximity of Israeli foes, families have built their homes here as well as a playground for their children.

David Wilschek participated in the business track and enjoyed seeing the benefit of a thriving small business thanks to the connections and work of Partnership.

In her staff role, Sarah Wilschek has been one of the Federation’s most active participants, organizing the trip and many of the activities at the meetings.

She said, “It was exhilarating to see our dollars at work. After hearing stories about our Partnership region, and the good that we do, it was inspirational to see it in action. Our Youngstown delegation was fun, excited, and inspired throughout the conference. We enjoyed each others company, whether it was dancing to music in a bar, packing boxes of food for Shabbat parcels, learning about the new frontier of kibbutzim and education, or sharing in many coexistence experiences. I cannot think of a time we weren’t happy, smiling, and honored to be where we were.

“I hope others are motivated to get involved!”

Melissa Bateman said, “I immensely enjoyed my trip to Israel and the P2G steering committee meetings. It was an education to visit the facilities and programs where our Federation dollars go, and that was the most enjoyable part for me.

I participated in the Tikkun Olam and Educational tracks where we got to volunteer time in a food bank, visit a Druze preschool/kindergarten and an urban kibbutz.

“Our trip to Israel and the P2G steering committee meeting provided me with an invaluable and tangible connection to Israel which has fostered and strengthened my Jewish faith and identity,” explained Aaron Hively. “It also provided me the opportunity to see first-hand how well the Federation and campaign dollars that go to Israel are actually being utilized in furtherance of our commitment to Tikkun Olam."

This was Jeff Vickers’ first visit to Israel, and he said, “hopefully it will not be my last. I could not think of a better group to be with and connecting with everyone from the P2G group. I can honestly say I really enjoyed everything from touring Jerusalem to swimming in the Dead Sea and meeting such an amazing group of people.”

Megan Vickers said, “This was my second time in Israel, the first being Birthright and now with Partnership2gether. Connecting with everyone and seeing where/what Youngstown supports is something that is indescribable. I am so proud of what our community does. From the Tennis Centers, the Hospital, ACAT and schools and so much more. We were fortunate to stop and visit these places and everyone knew Youngstown and how much we support, I was honored to say I was from Youngstown! I am eager to start working with Partnership2gether and see what else we can do.”

At the end of the day . . .

The sun will set over the Mediterranean Sea as viewed from the beaches of the Western Galilee, but thanks to the efforts of the Consortium and the Akko and Matteh Asher regions, the sun will keep rising on better days for all the people and communities involved.

Federation Fellows (from left) Jeff Vickers, Megan Vickers, Melissa Bateman and Aaron Hively represent an important segment of Youngstown’s Jewish Community.
Darlene’s Destinations

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
Winner of five 2015 Tony Awards including Best Play, this adaptation from the National Theatre of Great Britain is the Tony Award-winning new play by Simon Stephens. Fifteen-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain; he is exceptionally intelligent but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. When he falls under suspicion for killing his neighbor’s dog, he sets out to identify the true culprit, which leads to an earth-shattering discovery and a journey that will change his life forever. Price includes orchestra seat, transportation and tip for the bus driver. Dinner on your own.

Date: Sunday, April 9
Location: Cleveland, OH
Leave JCC: 1:00 p.m.
Return: 7:30 p.m.
$65/Member $85/Non Member
Register online at jccyoungstown.org or with the JCC Bursar: 330-746-3250 Ext. 195

Movie and Lunch Bunch

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
Based on the best-selling novel by John Boyne, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas is the tale of curious 8-year Bruno. Bored in his new home, Bruno wanders off into the nearby woods where he discovers an unusual fence, behind which is a boy dressed in black and white pajamas. Bruno embarks in a most unusual friendship with the boy, one that proves both ordinary and remarkable, both inspiring and tragic, in this unforgettable motion picture experience. A light lunch will be served.

Date: Thursday, March 16
Time: 12:00-2:30 p.m.
Location: JCC Multi-Purpose Room
$5/Member $7/Non Member $10 after March 13
Register online at jccyoungstown.org or with the JCC Bursar: 330-746-3250 Ext. 195

Chamber Music Concert

Youngstown Chamber Music is honored to have the opportunity to present a program commemorating Eran Raib-Ptichkin is a well-trained and experienced local dance teacher collaborating with the JCC as the artistic director of the School of Dance. This new program teaches children the technique, artistry and discipline of dance in a cheerful and positive learning environment. Children develop a
variety of translatable listening and learning skills in a classroom setting, while being physically healthy and having fun! To learn more about our new dance program go to jccyoungstown.org.

**JCC School of Music**
Introducing the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown School of Music. This exciting program will featuring piano, violin, guitar, percussion, and voice lessons housed at the JCC. Visit jccyoungstown.org to learn more and to register for JCC School of Music lessons contact the JCC Bursar's Office: 330-746-3250 ext. 195.

**Liz Rubino Studios**
For more information on the studio offerings contact Liz Rubino at 330-509-0891 or coaching@lizrubino.com

**Private Sessions**
Liz Rubino offers private sessions in voice, acting, drama therapy, junior voice, and junior acting. All sessions are 55 minutes long with the exception of junior lessons which are 30 minutes long.

**Triple Threat**
An elite training and national performance troupe for ages 10-21. Studio students study voice, drama and dance both privately and in a group atmosphere over two semesters with opportunities for local as well as nationwide performances in NYC, Walt Disney World and more.

**FITNESS**
For more information on fitness programs, contact Sheila Cornell at 330-746-3250 Ext. 182 or sornell@jewishyoungstown.org

**Get fit fast with Personal Training at the JCC!**
**Personal Training Benefits**
- Personalized safe and effective fitness programs
- Achievement of goals in a short time period
- Improved muscle coordination, strength, endurance, and flexibility

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**Health and Wellness Program**

**Colon Cancer Awareness**
Dr. James Smith will discuss signs and symptoms of colon cancer and the importance of screenings for early detection. A light lunch will be served.

**Date:** Friday, March 24
**Time:** 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
**Location:** JCC Multi-Purpose Room

**R.S.V.P. required to Sheila Cornell by Mar. 8.**

**GROUP EXERCISE**

**Cardio Low**
This low-impact fitness class will challenge your cardiovascular system and strengthen your muscles without putting stress on your joints.

**Date:** Mon/Wed/Fri
**Time:** 9:00-9:55 a.m.

**Total Body Fitness**
This all-over strength workout will utilize barbells, dumbbells, risers, and your own body weight. Build long, lean muscle while burning calories.

**Date:** Tues/Thurs
**Time:** 4:30- 5:25 a.m.

**AQUATICS**
For more information on Aquatics, contact Shawn Chrystal, 330-746-3250 ext. 112 or aquatics@jewishyoungstown.org.

**Aquatic Classes**

**NEW Aqua Strength Training**
Aqua strength and conditioning is a total body routine filled with high intensity cardio for ultimate fat burning. Aquatic weight training is used for sculpting and reshaping the body.

**Date:** Thursdays
**Time:** 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**You & Me Baby**
In this monthly class, parents assist their children in the water. Children will learn how to float and improve their water skills. Recommended ages: 6-36 months. Swim pants or swim diapers are required.

**Date:** Saturdays, 9:30-10:00 a.m.
**$30/Member  $40/Non Member**

**Learn-to-Swim ages 3 & up**
Children will be placed into the appropriate level by the swim instructors.
- **Level 1:** Children are taught basic swimming skills such as floating, blowing bubbles and the correct body positions for freestyle and backstroke.
- **Level 2:** Children are taught the arm motions for freestyle and backstroke as well as the correct breathing patterns for both strokes.
- **Level 3:** Children are taught the basics of breaststroke, butterfly, and diving as well as refining freestyle and backstroke techniques.
- **Level 4/5:** Children will continue to refine the four swim strokes and diving.

**NEW Game Time-Birthday Bash**
You and your party guests can play basketball, volleyball, kickball, soccer, wiffleball or whatever you like in our full size gymnasium; then enjoy time in our party room. Borrow our gym equipment or bring your own.

**$125/Member  $150/Non Member**

**$50/hr. for additional time in the gymnasium**

**Pricing includes one hour in our spacious gymnasium and one hour in our private party room.**

**Contact Kelli McCormick at 330-746-3250 Ext. 284 for more details.**

**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**

**$72/Member $110/Non Member**

**P.A.L.S. – Persons with Autism who Love to Swim**
The JCC offers free swim lessons especially geared towards persons on the autism spectrum. Our instructors have gone through special training and 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.

**Kicking Up The Waves**
**Date:** Weds
**Time:** 7:45-8:30 a.m.

Put on your dancing shoes and let's make some waves in this one-of-a-kind class in the pool. Enjoy dancing to a variety of line dances, including both classic and newer routines.

**Aqua Cardio Blast**
**Date:** Mon/Wed
**Time:** 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This 60 minute cardio class will help strengthen all of your major muscles. Come workout in an inspiring, motivating group environment with fantastic music. The fun-filled class will make you forget you are exercising! No swimming ability required.

**Treasure Dive**
**Friday, March 24, 2017**
**3:30-5:30 p.m.**

Become a JCC explorer and search for treasure at the bottom of our pool. Kids can also visit with a real Pirate and swim with mermaids! Light refreshments included.
NEW YORK—Masa Israel Journey, the leader in immersive international experiences in Israel, announced today that it will double the number of participants in its flagship Masa Israel Teaching Fellows program, beginning this coming school year.

The expansion will bring 300 young professionals into classrooms across Israel to teach English as a second language. It is made possible through a partnership with the Ministry of Education and is part of the Ministry’s plan to strengthen English as a second language programming nationwide.

Masa Israel Journey and the Ministry of Education launched Masa Israel Teaching Fellows in 2011 for recent college graduates ages 21-30 who are native English speakers.

Since then, more than 800 native English speakers have served as fellows in the 10-month program.

To account for increasing needs in the Israeli school system, Masa Israel and its partners at the Ministry, Israeli Government, and Jewish Agency for Israel are expanding the program’s presence. Many of the schools in which the teaching fellows serve have been identified by the Ministry as among the lowest performing in the country and in need of additional support.

In the fall, as part of the expansion, Bat Yam and Eilat will be added to the current list of 12 cities where fellows teach.

Beginning this September, the fellowship will offer a new track for teachers who are certified to teach in their home countries, who will, after initial trainings, lead their own classrooms with English as a second language curricula. As in the past, individuals with undergraduate degrees will serve as teaching assistants alongside elementary and middle school full-time teachers.

“Masa Israel Teaching Fellows are serving in communities that are on the margins of society and in need of good, passionate, young teachers,” said Naftali Bennett, Israel’s minister of education.

“They do very important work, and the Ministry is proud to have them in our classrooms.”

Tamar Zilbershatz, director, Gap & Service Programs at Masa Israel Journey, said, “Masa Israel Journey is thrilled to partner with the Ministry of Education to bring more highly qualified English teachers into the Israeli school system through our teaching fellowship. This program offers young teachers the rare opportunity to develop their professional skills and engage in self-discovery while having a deep impact on the ground in Israel. We invite all educators to join us for this rewarding experience.”

All teaching fellows will have the opportunity to boost their résumés while immersing themselves in Israeli culture through tailored trainings, certificate programs, community service projects and guided tours across the country.

Nitzah Santiago-Horseman served as a Masa Israel Teaching Fellow in the city of Ramla in 2013-2014. Today, thanks to her experience as a fellow in Israel, she teaches high school special education in Syracuse, NY, while pursuing a master’s degree in early childhood special education at Syracuse University.

Ms. Santiago-Horseman was a public school teacher before working in Israel, but as she shared, “After my Masa Israel teaching fellowship, I’m a different teacher. I experienced significant personal and professional growth and change in a very short amount of time. As a teacher today, I’m more confident, more capable—and grateful for the time I spent alongside teachers and students in Israel.”

Masa Israel Journey is the leader in immersive international experiences in Israel. Masa Israel connects young people ages 18-30 who are seeking to enrich their personal and professional growth with the top gap year, study abroad, service-learning and career development opportunities.

An initiative of The Jewish Agency for Israel and the government of Israel, Masa’s subsidized, individually tailored programs immerse participants in the community as they embark on a journey that will change both the course of their lives, and of the Jewish people’s future. More information can be found at @Masaisrael and on Facebook.

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Celebrate Purim
Camp Wise is coming to Y-town

Are your kids ready for sleep-away camp? Give them an unforgettable experience at Camp Wise.

An informational event with pizza and games for current and interested campers in grades 2-11 and their families will take place at the Jewish Community Center, 505 Gypsy Lane, Youngstown, OH 44504 on Sunday, March 5, from noon until 1:30 p.m.

A summer at Camp Wise is filled with kayaking and jet skiing on our private lake, horseback riding, archery, mastering the high ropes course, creating pottery, performing and singing and ending the week with beautiful Shabbat celebrations.

In a supportive environment your children will learn new skills, gain confidence, make life-long friendships and strengthen their Jewish identity.

Camp Wise is located in Chardon, OH.

Questions? Contact wisekids@mandeljcc.org • 216-593-6250 • campwise.org

Rentals
The JCC is now booking Graduation Parties in our beautiful Multi-Purpose Room. We can accommodate up to 250 people. Dates are filling up fast! Contact Kelli McCormick to book your party today. 330-746-3250 ext. 284.

Our goal at mvi HospiceCare is to ensure quality of life to those facing life-limiting illness

Pain & Symptom Management • Volunteers • Skilled Nursing • Social Services • Spiritual Support

Youngstown Regional Office
4891 Belmont Ave
Youngstown, Ohio 44505
330-759-9487 • 800-449-4(mvi)

Columbiana Regional Office
2350 E. State St., Suite H
Salem, Ohio 44460
330-332-1272 • 866-849-4(mvi)

www.mvihomecare.com

Join LRS at the JCC for Glee: After-School Edition! Students will sing, dance, and act to develop a mini performance with professional instructors.

For children ages 7-12. No experience necessary - everyone is welcome!

Maximum Participants: 15

Wednesdays, March 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2017
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. | JCC
$30/Member | $40/Non Member

Register online at www.jccyoungstown.org

Emily Collins
ecollins@jewishyoungstown.org
330.746.390 Ext. 152
**In Memorium**

**Hope Jolley Bard**

HERMITAGE, PA – Hope Jolley Bard of Hermitage passed away on Saturday, February 4, 2017, in Nugent Convalescent Home, Hermitage. She was 74.

Mrs. Bard was born February 15, 1942, in Sharon, a daughter of William and Louise Dale Jolley.

She was a 1960 graduate of Sharon High School and matriculated to the State University of Buffalo in Buffalo, New York, where she graduated with a bachelor's of science in occupational therapy.

Hope, along with her husband, Stanley relocated frequently, both nationally and internationally, due to his husband's career.

She worked as a registered occupational therapist primarily in schools and the home health field. Most recently she was employed by the Sharon Regional Health System as a home health occupational therapist.

She was a member of Congregation Rodef Sholom, Youngstown, Ohio.

Hope was the president of the local Hadassah. She was an active member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters while living in Cincinnati, Ojio. Hope was certified to teach Lamaze child birth education and natural breastfeeding courses, often hosting classes in her own home. Although she traveled often, she always found a way to actively volunteer in the local community as an occupational therapist or devoting her time to various organizations.

Surviving are her husband of 52 years, Stanley H. Bard, whom she married January 16, 1965; a daughter, Rachel B. Mitchell and her husband Michael of East Dundee, Illinois; a son, David J. Bard and his wife Veronica of San Pedro, California; two sisters, Bethany E. Jolley of Sharon and Pamela L. Persson of Birmingham, Alabama; two grandchildren, Alec R. and Logan W. Neuschaefer both of East Dundee, Illinois. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Hope was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Miriam L. Bard; a grandson, Anderson Dale Bard and an infant sister, Mary Jolley.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Anderson Dale Education Fund. Donations may be made by visiting http://dbimaging.com/anderson/.

Services were held on Tuesday, Feb. 7 with Rabbi Frank Muller, Congregation Rodof Sholom, officiating.

Interment at Temple Beth Israel, Farrell.

**Minerva Nudel**

YOUNGSTOWN – Minerva Nudel, 93, passed away Saturday, Feb. 18.

Mrs. Nudel was born June 8, 1923, to Abraham and Sarah Chazanoff.

She graduated from North High School.

Minerva was the wife of Ben Nudel, who preceded her in death in 1971. Together, they owned and operated Nudel's Delicatessen on Youngstown's north side at the corner of Elm Street and Dennick Avenue.

Minerva's three siblings, Sidney Chase, Aaron Chase, and Mildred Slepian, preceded her in death.

The Nudel's had five children. Beverly passed away in infancy and their oldest son, Howard, has also passed away.

Minerva will be missed by her surviving children, Stanley Nudell (Jody) of Liberty, Carol Sherman (Bruce) of Boardman, and Marc Nudel (Merle) of Cape Coral, Fl.; her grandchildren, Bryna (Greg), Rachel (Phil), Bradley (Courtney), Conrie (Rob), Ben, Shaine, Will, Brian (Amanda), Lorie (Jon), Miriam and Scott (Jocelyn); her nine great-grandchildren, Matthew, Sammi, Sarah, Jake, Landon, Jules, David, Nathan and Ella; as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

Minerva was a member of El Emeth Temple and a life member of Pioneer Women/Na'Amat USA.

She was an avid reader and was very appreciative of the Public Library of Youngstown for the many years of reading pleasure they provided through their outreach program. She also enjoyed bridge and mah jongg.

The funeral took place at El Emeth Cemetery Chapel, 50 Struthers-Liberty Road in Coitsville, on Monday, Feb. 20.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions be made to Hospice of the Valley or Heritage Manor.

Arrangements by Shriver-Allison-Courtley-Weller-King Funeral Home.

**Gregory Moysseevich Lerman**

YOUNGSTOWN – Services were held on Wednesday, Feb. 22, at noon in El Emeth Granada Cemetery Chapel for Gregory Moysseevich Lerman, 64, who passed away peacefully on Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017, at University Hospital in Cleveland.

Born in Starokonstantinov, Ukraine to Moysyev Abramovich and Reyzya Benjuminovna Lerman.

He was a retired custom clothing designer. In his spare time, he enjoyed going to sauna, socialize and cracking jokes with his friends and family he loved so much. He lived to the fullest with a lot of love, laughter and generosity.

Gregory was extremely loving and proud of his two daughters, and their families, Victoria Lerman Gillis, her husband, Jeff Bellar Gillis, and their two sons, Marc Lerman and Brandon Ryan Gillis, and Tamara Lerman Minerd, her husband, Chris Minerd, and their son, Nolan Minerd. He is also survived by his loving wife of 39 years, Zina Lerman; his two brothers, Alik Lerman and his wife, Inna Lerman, of Israel, and Boris Lerman of Israel; as well as his many loving nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Contributions may be made to the Temple El Emeth.

Arrangements by the Shriver-Allison-Courtley-Weller-King Funeral Home.

**Alberta E. Tosi**


“Bertie” was born Nov. 11, 1927, in Blairsville, Pa., a daughter of Albert and Frances Minhinett Smith.

She was a homemaker who took pride in her baking. She was a member of the Poland Presbyterian Church, where she was a deaconess. Alberta was also a member of Meals on Wheels and the Red Hats.

Her husband, John, whom she married April 29, 1950, died June 2, 2004.

She is survived by one daughter, Susan Pitt of Poland; two sons, John (Debra) Tosi of Canfield and Dave Tosi of Blacksburg, Va.; and eight grandchildren.

Besides her parents and husband, Alberta was preceded in death by two brothers, Richard and Wallace Smith.

Services will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Poland Presbyterian Church. Interment will follow at Poland Riverside Cemetery.

Family and friends will be received Wednesday from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at the church.

Although flowers are beautiful the family suggests donations be made to Hospice House, 9803 Sharrott Road, Poland, OH 44514, or Meals on Wheels, Calvary Towers, 1806 Market St., Youngstown, OH 44507.

Arrangements by the Cunningham-Becker Funeral Home in Poland.

**May their memories be only for a blessing.**
March 2017
The Jewish Journal Monthly Magazine

March at El Emeth

Feeling Jewish: more than keeping kosher

By Mary Lou Finesilver

I think most of you know that I am Jewish. I was born Jewish and raised in a kosher home, until at 13, we moved to Weirton, WV, where it became difficult to continue the requirements of a kosher home.

Of course, there is more to being Jewish than keeping kosher. I have always felt that fundamentally, Judaism was based on the love and respect for one G-d and “do unto others as you would have them do to you.”

Now I am sure the rabbis will tell you that is an over simplification, but I think it works for me. I just finished reading Jack Benny’s autobiography in conjunction with his daughter Joan. A very interesting and funny book. He was raised in an Orthodox home, but once having left home he never practiced his religion. According to his daughter, on Yom Kippur he would say he should go to Temple to honor his father, but he never did.

I found it interesting that like Mr. Benny, we just take for granted that we are Jewish and that is that. But I think we are missing something. Since my parents died and then my husband, I go to Shul more than when I was younger. It seems to be the foundation of what makes my life complete. It gives me a focus other than myself to be able to pray and be with friends every week.

Those who attend the services on a regular basis have become another family in my life and I feel so fortunate that I have my wonderful family, but I also...

(Continued on page 19)
Holocaust Resource Center natural development from JCC library

By Jesse McClain
YAJF Holocaust educator and library coordinator

It is a pleasure to be asked to place an article in the Jewish Journal that keeps everyone informed of what is going on in the Holocaust and Library Resource Center at the JCC.

First I’d like to pay tribute to Joy Elder, who without her insight and drive, the library would not exist. Joy loved the library and made it what it is today, a place where one’s heritage, past and future is recorded and accessible to the entire community.

When Joy retired, MaryLou Henne-man took over and kept the spirit alive. Devoting countless hours and love, MaryLou maintained the excellence Joy established as the JCC’s criteria for the library.

Today, the library assumes an additional role, that of being a Holocaust resource center and repository. Nothing will change, only additions will be made to what one can receive from this facility. The Vegh and Kinast exhibits, when not on display, will be housed here as well as numerous artifacts relating to the Holocaust. Even materials donated by Dr. Saul Friedman’s wife and family will be housed and catalogued for use by professionals and community members alike.

What good is history if not remembered and learned from? In February alone, the exhibits have been to Butler Community College, the Boardman Methodist church on Market Street and the World War II Heritage Society’s monthly meeting.

Materials and talks are always offered to any group hosting Bill and Henry’s exhibit. In this month alone, hundreds will view and digest what the exhibits have to offer.

No value can be placed on a deeper understanding of a very complex and emotional topic. My goal is to make the Library and Holocaust Resource Center a place where what happened in the Shoah is never forgotten, and we have documentation to prove it.

Please feel free to stop in, examine the materials and above all else, spread the word about our resources and activities like the annual Holocaust Student Writing Contest. If you know a teacher or know someone who does, give them a copy of the contest entry and encourage them to encourage their students to participate.

The Henry Kinast Exhibit was in Pennsylvania at the Butler Community College at the beginning of February and at the Austintown Public Library at the end of the month. William Vegh’s exhibit was at the Boardman Methodist church in mid-February and at the World War II Heritage Society’s banquet in Canfield at the end of the month.

This month’s Yiddish “library” word is der ksav-yad (n) “manuscript”
New York Financial Services Superintendent Maria T. Vullo has announced that a 17th century painting lost as a result of Nazi persecution has been restored to the estate of a German-Jewish art dealer through the efforts of the Holocaust Claims Processing Office of the Department of Financial Services (DFS).

The Dutch Old Master painting was restored to the estate of Dr. Max Stern on Wednesday during a ceremony at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York.

“The return of this painting to Dr. Stern’s estate provides a measure of justice to those who suffered through the unspeakable horrors of the Holocaust,” Superintendent Vullo said. “We must continue to fight for justice all around the world, and DFS and HCPO will continue to work alongside other law enforcement agencies to restore property lost or stolen during Nazi persecution to its rightful owners.”

In May 2015, the estate of Dr. Stern and HCPO learned through an anonymous tip that the painting was being transported to New York to be exhibited (and sold) at the Spring Masters Fair at the armory.

Upon learning that the painting was in New York, HCPO reached out to the U.S. Attorney’s Office and provided information to substantiate the Estate’s claim to the painting. Soon thereafter, the Federal Bureau of Investigation seized the painting and it now has been returned to Dr. Stern’s estate.

A total of 16 works of art have been returned to the Stern estate since 2002 when the estate began pursuing restoration of artwork lost from the Stern collection. The Stern gallery had been established in 1913 and included many Dutch Old Master paintings.

In 1935, the Nazi government notified Dr. Max Stern that he was legally prohibited from buying and selling art because he was Jewish. As a result, Dr. Stern was forced to sell more than 400 pieces from his gallery for a fraction of their market value. Dr. Stern later fled Germany and became a refugee.

He eventually settled in Montreal, where he became one of Canada’s most influential and important art dealers. He died in 1987 after bequeathing his assets, including any potential recovery of lost art works to Hebrew University, Concordia, and McGill.

HCPO was created in 1997 to help Holocaust victims and their heirs recover lost assets, such as dormant bank accounts, unpaid proceeds of insurance policies and artworks stolen or sold under duress.

It is the only government entity in the world that provides such comprehensive services free of charge or commission. To date, HCPO has helped return over $174 million in assets to victims’ families while also recovering 130 works of art.

### Mary Lou Finesilver (cont’d from p. 17)

I have my friends at Shul who are now also my family.

I have always taken being Jewish for granted. I have come to realize I have probably short changed myself because I haven’t delved much further in Judaism or Torah. I look at our converts and realize that they actually are more Jewish in thought than I am.

That seems to hold true for most converts. I still remember as a kid, my mother talking about a woman who converted to Judaism when she got married and how devout she became. I think those Jews who were another religion in life at one time know and feel more than a lot of us who take being Jewish for granted. I try to go to Temple at least two or three times a week. I admit that as far as studying Torah, I am a lazy student.

But I am Jewish and proud of it. It gives me the values that I try to place on everyday life and the rudder to keep me focused on being a better person. I feel everyone needs something in which to believe to make life richer and happier.
30 women FIDF supporters in first mission to Israel

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 – Thirty leaders and supporters of Friends of the Israel Defense Forces from all walks of life and from across the U.S. will arrive in Israel next month to join the first-ever FIDF Women’s Mission to Israel, getting a rare glimpse into the Israel Defense Forces and showing their solidarity with and appreciation for Israel’s brave soldiers.

The mission, March 3-10, will bring women of FIDF’s 15 chapters together with officers and soldiers of the IDF. Mission participants will receive in-depth briefings by senior military officers, meet with state leaders, including former Defense Minister Moshe “Boogie” Yaalon and members of the Knesset, hear from Israeli women inventors and trailblazers who have changed the face of Israeli society, tour strategic IDF bases to get a behind-the-scenes look into the Israeli military, and experience Israel in an entirely new way.

Co-chairing this inaugural FIDF Women’s Mission will be FIDF New England board member Sharon Mishkin and Brig. Gen. (Res.) Gila Klifi-Amir, a 30-year veteran of the IDF who served as the chief of the general staff’s advisor on women’s affairs and handled all matters relating to women’s service in the Israeli military.

“This first-of-its-kind mission will allow our supporters to forge even deeper bonds with the brave women of the IDF,” said Mishkin. “These soldiers risk their lives protecting the State of Israel and Jews worldwide. This is an excellent opportunity for FIDF supporters to witness and experience the impact of their life-changing contributions to the well-being of Israel’s soldiers, and it’s a wonderful chance for us to personally thank the IDF soldiers for their service.”

“As a woman officer, I often found myself trying to break the glass ceiling. When I was serving in the IDF, it felt as though this ceiling was made of concrete. But I was able to break through and open the way for future generations of women,” said Klifi-Amir. “Up until 20 years ago, women in the IDF served in a narrow range of administration and support roles.

“Today, 95 percent of all jobs in the IDF are open to women, who serve as pilots, infantry soldiers, artillery combat soldiers, electronic warfare specialists, and anti-aircraft and naval officers – and as many as 11 percent of combat soldiers drafted every year are women. In the last five years, due to increased motivation of women to join combat positions, this number grew by 400 percent.”

The FIDF was established in 1981 by a group of Holocaust survivors as a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit organization with the mission of offering educational, cultural, recreational, and social programs and facilities that provide hope, purpose, and life-changing support for the soldiers who protect Israel and Jews worldwide.

Today, FIDF has more than 150,000 loyal supporters, and 15 regional offices throughout the U.S. and Panama. FIDF proudly supports IDF soldiers, families of fallen soldiers, and wounded veterans through a variety of innovative programs that reinforce the vital bond between the communities in the United States, the soldiers of the IDF, and the State of Israel. For more information, please visit: www.fidf.org.

Unique collaboration (continued from p. 26)

auspices of the Cuban Ministry of Culture and the Jewish Community Center of Cuba, El Patronato. The Celebration will be a major cultural event in Cuba and promote cultural and artistic collaboration between the United States and Cuba in this time of opening relations.

Composed by Frank London of the Klezmatics, the opera is based on a 1931 epic poem written by Oscar Pinis, a Ukrainian refugee whose family fled the pogroms and settled in Cuba and edited a Yiddish newspaper there. He later took the name Ascher Penn.

Elise Thoron (writer) and Frank London (composer) have joined in a historic cultural and artistic collaboration with Ulises Aquino Guerra, the founding director of the Opera de la Calle, to bring this new opera to the people of Cuba. Ulises relishes this opportunity to bring this new perspective on the legendary Cuban hero “Hatey” to his audiences, uniting the hero-myth, the story of Jewish immigration in Cuba, and the fusion of Spanish and Yiddish song.

“Hatey – Memory of Fire” has been developed with support for symposiums and creative residencies from Slika Center at Yale University, Sundance Institute Theater Program, Music Theatre Group, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund’s Pocantico Center.

Maestro Ulises Aquino Guerra, Director General, Compañía Ópera de la Calle.

The leading figure in Cuban Opera, Ulises founded Opera de la Calle in 2006 to integrate Cuban popular traditions with opera. Hugely successful, Opera de la Calle company of more than 120 singers, actors, and musicians now has annual attendance of thousands, performing not only in its two theaters, but also in plazas and theaters throughout Cuba. Described as “authentic, energizing, and joyful,” Opera de la Calle performances are a must see for Cuban audiences and visitors alike.

Elise Thoron, librettist

Ms. Thoron is a playwright, director, educator, who brings stories which have not been widely heard to life on stage. She previously collaborated with Frank London to create Green Violin, based on the story of Marc Chagall and the Soviet Yiddish Theatre, commissioned by the Prince Music Theater, Philadelphia (Winner 4 Barrymore Awards); Teatr Mokhovaya, St. Petersburg; Jewish Music Festival, Amsterdam; Jewish Museum, New York; published in Nine Contemporary Jewish Plays.

Frank London, composer

Frank London co-founded the Klezmatics in 1986, and plays trumpet and keyboard and sings with the group and he’s written many of the Klezmatics’ most popular songs. But his mile-long resumé has also seen Frank adding virtuosity to hundreds of concerts and recordings by everyone from John Zorn to They Might Be Giants, Mel Torme to Iggy Pop, Pink Floyd, Youssou N’dour, LaMonte Young, Allen Ginsberg and LL Cool J! Called the “mystical high priest of Avant-Klez jazz,” he has made 30 solo recordings and is featured on over 400 CDs.

Ruth Behar, organizer

Ms. Behar is the organizer of the first ever Celebration of Jewish Culture festival in Cuba, March 1-5, 2017. Ruth was born in Havana, Cuba, and grew up in New York. She is the Victor Haim Pereira Collegiate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan. Ms. Behar has worked as an ethnographer in Spain, Mexico, and Cuba, and is known for her humanistic approach to understanding identity, immigration, and the search for home in our global era. Her many books explore these themes. Ruth was the first Latina to be awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellows Award.

Diane Wondisford, co-producer

As producing director of Music-Theatre Group, Diane Wondisford, oversees the making of music-theatre from scratch; ranging from quiet work with composers, writers, directors and designers in the conceptual phase of their creations to the controlled chaos of the performing company’s first attempts to physicalize the words and music, to sitting amidst the audience at a performance of MTG’s work and providing timely feedback to the creators and their company.

Michael Posnick, Co-producer

A graduate of Yale Drama School, Michael has directed more than 100 plays in venues including Manhattan Theatre Club, Yale Repertory Theatre and Lincoln Center. His interest in theatre celebrating Jewish themes spans decades; he served as Artistic Director of the Mosaic Theatre at the 92nd St. Y. A Professor Emeritus of Manhattanville College, he has taught at Yale, Hunter College, the National Theatre Institute and the National Theatre of the Deaf. He co-authored Nine Contemporary Jewish Plays, published by University of Texas Press. He is married to Asher Penn’s daughter, Eileen.
Looking forward to spring

By Rabbi Frank Muller

It’s hard to believe that winter is almost over and the first day of spring is just a few weeks away. Here at Temple that means we’re gearing up for the home stretch of the 150th anniversary celebration.

I hope you have marked your calendars for the remaining special events, including the grand finale weekend May 12-13.

Rabbi Rick Jacob, president of the Union for Reform Judaism will be our guest speaker at the Friday night evening service. Neshama Carlebach and Josh Nelson will perform at the gala dinner event on Saturday night. There will also be a special family service that morning featuring guitarist/singer/songwriter Marc Rossi from the Columbus area. All of this will be a spectacular conclusion to our year-long sesquicentennial celebration. Don’t miss these wonderful events!

To get us warmed up for Temple once again after this cold winter, Rabbi Rick Block, senior rabbi of Temple Tiferet Israel in Cleveland, will be our guest speaker at services on Friday, April 7. Rabbi Block is one of the most prominent rabbis in the entire Reform Movement, if not the American Rabbinate as a whole.

In addition to leading the congregation once headed by the great rabbi and Zionist leader, Abba Hillel Silver, Rabbi Block has served as past president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and as executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism in Jerusalem. He is a brilliant orator, and I know you will get much out of his talk on “Are we serious Jews? Reflections on Jewish identity.” Please consult your 150th anniversary program guide for more complete bios on Rabbis Block and Jacobs.

And don’t forget, Purim will be observed at Rodef Sholom on Friday, March 10 beginning at 6 p.m. with our traditional hot dog (kosher, of course) dinner to be followed by a short Purim service and then a performance of “A Frozen Purim” starring the wonderful youth of our congregation. Should be a fun evening.

Much to celebrate at the Synagogue

Those who attended Friday night service at Temple, Feb. 10, were rewarded with a special treat, as Rabbi Muller had prepared our children to lead the service, featuring Andrew, Brady, Laura, and Cara Bresnahan; Marina and Alex Levy; Josh Greenbaum, Henry Miller, Esther and Arthur Lamb; Violet, Ivy, and Thomas Rawl; Zachary Bostocky, Sofia Farhan, and the Kunkel sisters, Karina and Hannah.

The little ones were adorable; the older ones, simply awesome. They performed their roles with aplomb and a smile. I did my best as the baritone on the pulpit, fully appreciating the advantages of not being a fiddler on the roof.

Beautiful bouquets were contributed by Pauline Berkowitz in loving memory of her husband, Rabbi Sidney Berkowitz, and by Mrs. Eleanor Katz and family in loving memory of Jon Katz.

I do not exaggerate in comparing the pride experienced by both parents and children to the excitement generated for their fans by the comeback Superbowl victory of the Boston Patriots, in both cases a highly spiritual event.

The service was followed by a special Oneg featuring the consumption of seven fruits with prayers of appreciation on the eve of Tu B’Shevat, the festival of trees bearing fruit. It was truly a special night.

As if this were not enough, on Sunday, Feb. 12, as part of our sesquicentennial speaker series, we enjoyed a wonderful lunch by Kandy Rawl with a talk by Bill Lawson on “Jewish History in the Mahoning Valley,” featuring the co-emergence of Temple Rodef Sholom with the development of Youngstown as a city in the late 1800s.

Don’t forget to have your copy of the forthcoming book on the subject signed by the three authors in mid-May, featuring historical material gained by interviews with several members of our congregation. Bill spoke for more than an hour — all without notes — displaying pictures of Youngstown’s growth in parallel with the elaboration of our Temple building. This further displayed his command of the subject matter as executive director of the Mahoning Valley Historical Society.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that we are moving forward rapidly with a committee led by Herb Soss and Marilyn Oyer on a project to clean, repair, and renovate Strauss Hall, with the initial work intended for completion before the concluding dress ball on May 13 which will celebrate the finale of our 150th anniversary.

L’Chaim,

Arthur Greenbaum, M.D.
President, Rodef Sholom
**JCC Association celebrates 100 years**

In January, Michael Rawl, executive director of Youngstown JCC attended the JCC Association’s Executive Leadership Seminar in Tampa, FL with about 85 other executive directors from around the country.

Convening the strengths of the JCC executive leadership network allows chief executives at JCCs and independent overnight camps to engage in discovery and learning targeted to their specific challenges.

This annual seminar offers the opportunity to connect on different levels, including by size of JCC, region, JCC facility or program offerings, or through general interest topics.

Outside facilitators provide workshops and presentations that offer insights, tools and strategies to benefit JCC executives. Structured meetings and impromptu networking over a few days allows attendees to see colleagues as resources, and to experience their greater connection to the JCC Movement.

Topics at the seminar included everything from operations to fundraising to security.

2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the JCC movement. Founded in 1917, the JCC Association began as the Jewish Welfare Board, charged with serving Jewish communities’ social needs as well as the chaplaincy needs of Jewish soldiers in the military.

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**Warmer feelings toward Jews (cont’d from p. 7)**

Americans tend to rate their own faith groups highest, the survey found. Jews rated themselves at 91 and rated Muslims at 51, up from 35 three years ago. Jews rated themselves the highest compared to other groups; the next highest was Catholics at 83.

The survey showed a divide between older and younger Americans. While Jews received a 74 from respondents aged 65 and up, the age group’s second-highest ranking behind Mainline Protestants, respondents aged 18-29 ranked Jews at 62 and gave their highest ranking to Buddhists at 66.

Religious groups also were rated higher by respondents who knew someone from that religion. Those who knew Jews gave them a 72, and those who do not know any Jews gave them a 58.
Leah Adler, mother of Steven Spielberg and popular restaurateur

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Leah Adler, the mother of director Steven Spielberg and a well-known restaurateur, has died.

Adler, also a former concert pianist and accomplished painter, died Tuesday at her home in Los Angeles. She was 97.

Most of America and the world first heard her name when Spielberg kissed her and described her as “my lucky charm” while accepting an Academy Award as director of the film “Schindler’s List.”

Although invariably linked to her famous son, for the past four decades Adler earned almost equal renown as proprietor, greeter and presiding presence at The Milky Way Restaurant, a strictly kosher eatery in Los Angeles that was popular with Orthodox rabbis, show biz luminaries and tourists.

Born Leah Posner in Cincinnati, she was raised during the Roaring Twenties and the subsequent Depression. At 5, she learned to play the piano and studied at her city’s music conservatory.

Shortly before the United States entered World War II, she had a single date with Arnold Meyer Spielberg, corresponded with him while he served with the Army Air Corps in the Pacific, and married him following his discharge in 1945. Over the next 10 years, the couple had four children — son Steven and daughters Anne, Sue and Nancy — all raised in a somewhat chaotic home environment that encouraged their different talents.

As Arnold Spielberg evolved into one of the pioneers in computers and system engineering, he moved frequently from city to city, taking his growing family with him. Along the way the family encountered the prevalent anti-Semitism of the times. For instance, in Scottsdale, Arizona, a neighboring family used to stand outside the family home chanting “The Spielbergs are dirty Jews.”

One morning, Adler recounted, she received a hysterical phone call from the neighbors. It seemed that 10-year-old Steven had sneaked out of the house during the night and smeared all their windows with peanut butter. Characteristically, the mother did not scold her son for this prank. As she recalled the incident later, she commented, “Wasn’t that ingenious of Steven? I was so proud of him.”

Also in Arizona, Adler often did piano solos and performed with chamber music groups. She also owned The Village Shop in Scottsdale, showcasing the works of local artists.

Leah and Arnold Spielberg divorced in 1965 and two years later she married Bernard Adler. In the late 1970s, the couple opened The Milky Way Restaurant, with the husband handling the business end and his wife as hostess, greeter and reigning presence. She was also in charge of the hallway art gallery, featuring posters of each of her son’s movies.

The petite hostess became a popular, frequently quoted public figure who counseled foreign tourists on the fine points of kosher cuisine and on general life problems.

Leah Adler is survived by her four children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Arnold Spielberg turned 100 this month. Bernard Adler died in 1995 at 75.

Mildred Dresselhaus, “Queen of Carbon”

JTA -- Physicist Mildred Dresselhaus, the daughter of impoverished Polish Jewish immigrants whose pioneering research into the thermal and electrical properties of carbon earned her the nickname “Queen of Carbon,” has died at 86.

She was an advocate for women in science fields.

Her research was foundational to the field called nanoscience, in which matter is manipulated at an atomic and molecular level. Her pioneering work earned her the $1 million Kavli Prize in Nanoscience in 2012, the National Medal of Science, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and IEEE Medal of Honor, the highest award of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Dresselhaus had gained wider fame in recent weeks with her starring role in a television commercial promoting General Electric’s efforts to promote women in science. The commercial, titled “What If Scientists Were Celebrities?” imagines a world in which young girls dress up as Dresselhaus, glossy magazines feature her on their covers and gossip columns keep tabs on her comings and goings.

Abbi Jacobson, the Jewish actress who stars in “Broad City,” appears briefly in the ad as a Dresselhaus fan.

Dresselhaus, née Mildred Spiewak, was born in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn in 1930 and grew up in the Bronx.

“The Bronx, I remember, was a very poor neighborhood, but that was all that immigrants could afford at that time,” she recalled in a 2013 interview. “Life was tough. I grew up — my father didn’t have a job, but there weren’t too many people who did have jobs.”

The prestigious Bronx High School of Science was not open to girls in her day, so she attended the selective Hunter College High School in Manhattan. She received a bachelor’s degree in 1951 from Hunter College, where she took an elementary physics class with another daughter of Jewish immigrants, Rosalyn Yalow, a future Nobel laureate in medicine.

Dresselhaus often said it was Yalow who pushed her to go down the path of science and physics at a time when educated women were expected to become secretaries, nurses or teachers.

Dresselhaus went on to earn a master’s degree from Radcliffe College and a doctorate from the University of Chicago.

Two years after her marriage to fellow physicist Gene Dresselhaus in 1958, both were offered faculty positions at MIT. In 1968 she became a professor at MIT, where her research led to advances in carbon-based materials used in solid-state electronics.

As early as the mid-1970s she became a public advocate for women in engineering and science, and mentored countless young women during her time at MIT. Later in her career, MIT named her institute professor emerita, its highest distinction, and she continued teaching and researching until shortly before she died.

“I’ve been lucky,” she said in 2013. “I’ve been at a place that’s a meritocracy. It doesn’t really matter that much what your gender is if you do the work well. I think women benefit from being in places and having positions where the quality of work is the criteria, not what you look like. Not every place is like that.”

Dresselhaus is survived by her husband, their four children and five grandchildren.

Herbert A. Newman

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS – Herbert A. Newman, 77, passed away Feb. 6, 2017, at his home.

Born May 13, 1939, in Cleveland, he was the son of Ben Newman and Gertrude Flate Newman.

Mr. Newman was retired from Allstate Insurance Company and spent his spare time taking art classes and painting portraits. Herbert was a die-hard Cleveland sports fan. He served his country with pride as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

He is survived by his son, David and his wife, Karie and their three children, Emily, Joshua and Seth.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Newman was preceded in passing by his beloved wife, Marilyn.

Visitation was held at the R. Cunningham Funeral Home & Crematory Inc., 2429 Wilmington Road in New Castle, Pa. The funeral service was held immediately following at the funeral home. Rabbi Franklin Muller of Congregation Rodef Shalom officiated.

Burial took place at Tifereth Israel Cemetery in New Castle.

Please visit www.cunninghamfh.com where online condolences may be offered.
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