



Seinfeld: Playing with food in 'Unfrosted'

Netflix film has the right stuff for adults who are still kids See page 7



Who's the biggest Mideast liar? page 4



What's basis of our love for Israel?

page 11



Who's winning scholarships at Gates?

page 13



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Nova massacre survivor raises awareness

By AMELIE BOTBOL

JNS

t was very important for me that the faces of my friends Eliya Cohen and Elkana Bohbot be on the front of the dress. I did it for them," Oct. 7 survivor Laura Blajman-Kadar told JNS.

Pictures of Blajman-Kadar at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival in the south of France wearing a yellow dress emblazoned with the faces of hostages held by Hamas terrorists in the Gaza Strip went viral. She also wore a black scarf bearing the words "Bring Them Home."

French-Israeli Citizen

"It was very intimidating to go to a festival and not know whether security would let me in. I don't usually do that," she said. "We have friends in Gaza right now who were working and dancing with us three hours before they were kidnapped by Hamas. We went home, but they didn't," she explained.

Blajman-Kadar, a dual French-Israeli citizen born in France, moved to Israel when she was 8 years old. Together

Continued on page 16



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA BLAJMAN-KADAR.

Laura Blajman-Kadar wears a yellow dress highlighting the plight of hostages held by Hamas in Gaza and a black scarf calling for their release at the Cannes Film Festival.



Is there no longer an interest in the Holocaust on a local college campus?

Prof. Harvey Strum sent us this note on Sunday, May 12.

Editor:

Starting in February there has been a concerted attempt to prevent me from teaching HST 322 Final Solution and Genocide at Russell Sage in Fall 24. I put the course on the schedule, but one administrator removed. I had to appeal to a higher-up administrator and mention that my grandmother and most of my mother's family the Nazis killed in Poland during the Holocaust to get the course back on the books. However, in March, the same administrator who opposed my class scheduled a Soc course with a history designation opposite HST 322 to kill enrollments so the course would be canceled.

That was the last straw, and I filed an internal complaint of antisemitism with HR office which as not been resolved. When I suggest my spring 25 schedule including the one credit one weekend Holocaust and Genocide, I got evasive answers about when it will be scheduled. When I mentioned President Biden's commemoration of the Holocaust—no response. It appears to me that one or more administrators at Sage are seeking a curriculum cleansed of Jews. This is the new pattern in academia—if there are no courses on antisemitism and Holocaust—Jews cease to exist.

In April I filed a complaint with the regional office of ADL, and with the legal office of the national ADL. Tomorrow, I plan to mail in a complaint of antisemitism with Civil Rights Division of Dept of Education. Also, filed a complaint with the House Ed Committee. I notified seven rabbis in the area, Federation, and the Albany Jewish Community Center about my concerns. On April 20 the **Schenectady Gazette** published a letter to the editor from me on antisemitism in general.

I am the only historian left at Sage and the only faculty member who teaches about antisemitism and about the Holocaust. I see this as an effort to silence me since some Sage administrators want a Jew free curriculum. I am also the only faculty member who discusses antisemitism, Holocaust, and some aspects of American Jewish history in other classes, like U.S. II and Hollywood as Historian.

Harvey Strum *Albany*

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No more T-U

The **Times-Union**newspaper, which
had been collaborating with **The Jewish World** to provide
our subscribers with
the Sunday T-U, has
ended that program.
Alas!

Friends have suggested that without the T-U to occupy Sunday hours, readers could profitably spend time reviewing Jewish texts like Pirkey Avot!

It's Lag B'Omer: Time to get your grill on

JEWISHWORLDNEWS.ORG

By ETHEL G. HOFMAN

(JNS

ag B'Omer, which this year begins at sundown on Sunday, May 25, and ends at nightfall on May 26,, is between Passover and Shavuot. According to the Talmud, a plague that had spread among the students of Rabbi Akiva ceased on Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer—the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot. On that day weddings are permitted, music can be listened to, and haircuts are allowed. It makes for a flurry of activity!

My Special Day

For me, it's extra special; I was married on that day, and my wedding anniversaries are always celebrated with a backyard family picnic. In Israel, it's bonfires and barbecues. Since many Israelis live in high-rise apartments in cities and towns across the country, families and friends go to local parks schlepping grills and all the fixings for a festive meal. In Tel Aviv, smoke from hundreds of grills wafts over Hayarkon Park. It's a carefree time, and hopefully will be this year even with Israel embroiled in war on multiple fronts.

But it wasn't always bonfires and barbecues. When my friend Alisa was growing up in Jaffa, she remembers: "We just went to the beach, dug a hole in the sand and dropped in little potatoes. Then we covered the potatoes with hot embers, roasted them till they were brown and crisp, and ate them with brown eggs."

Treats

I'd never tasted brown eggs until I visited Kibbutz Hagoshrim, south of the Lebanese border. The Turkish cook called the Sephardic-style brown eggs charinadu, explaining that "oil keeps the water from evaporating during the long simmering process." The result is that it makes them delicious, smooth and creamy. My friend Shani, who came to the United States from Iran in the early 1980s, recalls celebrating at a wealthy uncle's home—a feast with platters piled high with cardamom meatballs smothered in tahini sauce, jeweled rice and dishes made with carob. Carob sustained Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai and his son, Rabbi Elazar, when for 13 years they hid in a cave from their oppressors, so it's customary to eat carob dishes at Lag B'Omer.

Growing up on the Shetland Islands, carob was unavailable. Instead, we used chocolate for a recipe dubbed Chocolate Crispies. My brothers and I would melt the chocolate in a pan with a bit of butter and honey, stir in cornflakes and maybe throw in a handful of dried currants. Then the mixture was spooned into heaps like haystacks and cooled on the window sill for a holiday treat. No baking needed. The recipe below includes powdered carob along with dark chocolate. Powdered carob and

carob chips are available in organic markets and stores. The recipe for veggie cheddar pasties is a variation of the portable Cornish meat pasties that workers would pack for lunch in the mines. These days, they are still easy to eat out of hand ... while keeping the other one available for grilling.

Brown Boiled Eggs

(Pareve)
Makes 12



PHOTO COURTESY OF PEZIBEAR/PIXABAY

Brown eggs.

Cook's Tips:

• Substitute 1 tablespoon of instant coffee granules dissolved in 1 cup of water to make 1 cup of cold strong coffee.

Ingredients:

12 eggs

1 cup cold strong coffee (see Cook's Tips above)

2 black tea bags

brown skins of 2 large onions

½ cup vegetable oil

Directions:

Place eggs in a large heavy saucepan with 3 to 4 inches of water to cover.

Add the coffee, tea bags, onion skins and oil. Stir gently and bring to a simmer

Cover and reduce heat to the lowest setting. The liquid should never be more than barely simmering.

Cook for 6 hours, adding more hot water as needed.

Remove from liquid. Refrigerate until ready to serve in the shell.

Oven-Roasted Baby Potatoes

(Pareve)

Serves 6

Cook's Tips:

• Cut larger potatoes into 1-inch chunks. Can use fingerling potatoes.

Ingredients:

1½ pounds baby potatoes, halved ¼ cup vegetable oil

kosher salt, freshly ground pepper, garlic powder, dried parsley to sprinkle

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Cover a sheet pan with foil. Pour oil over and spread evenly. Sprinkle with salt, freshly ground pepper, garlic powder and parsley (may add other seasonings of choice)

Place potatoes, cut side down, in pan in one layer. Spray with nonstick baking spray. Sprinkle with more salt and pepper.

Bake in preheated oven for 35 to 40 minutes, or until tender when pierced with a sharp knife. Peel potatoes off the



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABA

Grilled meat.

foil and serve.

Note: To make ahead of time, refrigerate cooked potatoes. Remove to room temperature an hour before needed. Then zap in the microwave for 3 to 4 minutes at high.

Air-Fryer Method: Toss potatoes in 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and garlic powder. Set to air fry at 400 degrees. Arrange potatoes in the pan, cut side down, at rack position. Spray lightly with nonstick baking spray. Cook for 15 minutes. If needed, cook 5 minutes longer or until tender when pierced with a sharp knife.

Cardamom Meatballs

(Meat) Serves 4-6



Meatballs.

Cook's Tips:

- May use beef, turkey or a mixture
- Meatballs may be prepared ahead of time. Cover with plastic wrap, refrigerate and cook the next day.
- •Wrap in lettuce leaves to eat in hand or stuff into pita bread with Israeli salad and tahini sauce spooned over top.
- Invest in a meat thermometer. It's essential to check doneness in all meats.

Ingredients:

1 small onion, cut into rough pieces 2-inch piece fresh ginger, peeled and sliced

½ lemon, sliced and cut into quarters3 tablespoons finely snipped mint

- 1 pound ground lamb
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- ½ cup breadcrumbs
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground pepper

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1½ teaspoons ground cardamom vegetable oil for frying

Directions:

In the food processor, place the onion, ginger and lemon. Pulse to chop finely. Transfer to a bowl.

Add the mint, lamb, egg, breadcrumbs, salt, pepper, cinnamon and cardamom. Mix well. Chill for 50 to 60 minutes. Shape into 16 to 20 balls.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a baking sheet with nonstick baking spray. Set aside.

Cover the bottom of a heavy saucepan with about one-third cup of oil. Heat over medium-high heat. Add the meatballs and brown on all sides.

Transfer to prepared baking sheet. Bake for 15 minutes until cooked through. (Ground lamb should be cooked to 155 degrees to 160 degrees.)

Serve with tahini sauce drizzled over top.

Tahini Sauce

(Pareve)

Makes a scant 1/2 cup

Cook's Tips:

- Stir tahini well to make a smooth mixture.
- •Tahini is a paste of toasted ground hulled sesame seeds, olive oil and lemon juice.

Ingredients:

½ cup tahini

2 tablespoons lemon juice pinch salt to taste

1 to 2 tablespoons cold water

Directions:

In a small bowl, mix the tahini and lemon juice.

Stir in salt to taste and enough water to make a sauce thin enough to drizzle over meatballs.

Easy Cheddar Veggie Pasties

(Dairy)

Makes 8

Cook's Tips:

- Use store-bought puff pastry.
- Buy grated sharp cheddar cheese.

Continued on page 6

Egypt's duplicity, the world's silence

By BASSAM TAWIL

gypt announced on May 12, that it will support South Africa's genocide case against Israel in the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The announcement came in response to the ongoing Israeli military operation against Hamas terrorists and bases, especially in the city of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

If the South Africans had any decency, they would not only call out the Egyptians for being hypocrites and liars, they would also file a case with the ICJ against Egypt for its role in transforming the Gaza Strip into a weapons depot and continuing to deprive the Palestinians there of humanitarian aid.

Egyp trecently refused to coordinate with Israel on the entry of aid into the Gaza Strip from the Rafah border crossing, ostensibly due to Israel's "unacceptable escalation," reported Egypt's state-affiliated *Alqahera News* satellite TV. The official also said that Egypt held Israel responsible for the deterioration of the situation in the Gaza Strip.

Why Egypt Is Upset

The Egyptians are, in reality, upset because Israeli forces on May 7 seized the Rafah border crossing between Egypt and the Gaza Strip. For the past 15 years, the Palestinian side of the terminal was controlled by Hamas and profitably used by both sides to smuggle weapons and terrorists.

Over the past few decades, Egypt, for considerable remuneration, has allowed the smuggling of weapons into the Gaza Strip from its territory.

"The expectation that Egypt will put an end to the traffic in the tunnels under the Egyptian-Gaza border is not realistic—for strategic, political and domestic reasons," according to a report by the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University.

The main thoughts of the report, although published in 2009, remain relevant:

"At the strategic level, Egypt sees Israel as a competitor in the quest for hegemony in the Middle East, and has for years turned a blind eye to the arming of Hamas via the tunnels. Simply put, it had, and still has, an interest in bleeding Israel...

"The two-faced policy being pursued by the Mubarak administration also serves a useful purpose in domestic Egyptian politics. In contrast to Europeans and other foreigners, Egyptian citizens easily recognize and comprehend their government's double-dealing. Everybody in Cairo understands that the government is facilitating the arming of Hamas; and turning a blind eye to the



HOTO COURTESY OF THE IDF.

Israeli soldiers operating in eastern Rafah, the Gaza Strip, May 9, 2024.

tunnels weakens the argument of the Islamic opposition that the government is cooperating with the Zionists. Moreover, curbing the traffic in the tunnels would worsen the economic situation in Gaza. Pictures of suffering in Gaza or of Palestinians climbing the fences to get into Egypt only help the Islamist opposition.

"Finally, Egypt's double game is also a result of a complex reality in the Sinai Peninsula. As with other Third World states, the Egyptian government is not fully in control of its territory. Thus, an international agreement on ending arms smuggling from Sinai into Gaza will face considerable problems of implementation, even if the Egyptian regime wants it to happen.

"Notably, most of the smuggling into Gaza is led by Egyptian Bedouins who live in the northern Sinai. These tribes do not speak Egyptian Arabic, they are not really an integral part of Egyptian culture and society, and they do not subscribe to Egyptian political ethos. They make a living by smuggling women and drugs to Israel, as well as arms, ammunition, and missiles to the Gaza Strip.

"Egyptian attempts to extend law and order to Bedouin areas have met armed resistance. Every time the Egyptian regime attempts to curtail the Bedouin smuggling activities, they carry out a terrorist attack on a Sinai resort, as has happened in Taba, Sharm el-Sheikh (twice), Nueiba, and Ras al-Satan. Such attacks negatively influence tourism to Egypt, an important source of income, and seem to be an effective way of 'convincing' the Cairo authorities to live and let live.

"Bribery, an important element in the Egyptian ways of doing business, also facilitates the smuggling of weapons into Gaza. Low-paid Egyptian officials in Sinai can hardly resist hefty bribes. A one-hundred-dollar bill does wonders with an Egyptian police officer at a Sinai roadblock who intercepts a truck packed with 'pipes.' The likelihood that policemen at Egyptian checkpoints will stop taking bribes from trucks transferring arms to Gaza is very low—unless the

Egyptian government decides to heavily punish such behavior. Only execution of smugglers could have a deterring effect, but such determined Egyptian government behavior is also unlikely."

Egypt's Terror Contribution

By turning a blind eye to its widespread smuggling industry, Egypt significantly contributed to transforming the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip into a major base for Islamist terrorism.

If the Egyptians actually cared about the Palestinians, instead of blocking the entry of aid into the Gaza Strip, they could easily coordinate with Israel through alternative border crossings such as the nearby Kerem Shalom terminal.

The Egyptians, however, are refusing to send aid to the Gaza Strip through Kerem Shalom. For the past week, the Egyptians have been blocking aid to the Gaza Strip by refusing to coordinate the entry of truckloads through the Rafah and Kerem Shalom border crossings.

Where Are The Protests?

The Egyptians appear to be playing the "humanitarian aid card" to pressure Israel to stop the war on Hamas. They seem to believe, perhaps correctly, that by blocking the aid to the Palestinians, the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip will escalate and the world will blame Israel, not Hamas or Egypt, for the ongoing suffering of the people there. Evidently the Egyptians would rather see the Gazans starve; the international community, as usual, would hold only Israel responsible.

That is the real problem: Where is the demand from the international community for Egypt to deliver aid to the Gaza Strip? Where are social media posts, the U.S. college campus protests and the op-eds condemning Egypt for deliberately withholding aid from Gaza's Palestinians?

Why doesn't the Biden administration pressure Egypt, and not just Israel, to allow aid to enter Gaza for the Palestinians?

Continued on page 6

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U.S./ Israel trade dispute threatens to cripple Iron Dome

By MIKE WAGENHEIM

THE JEWISH WORLD MAY 23 - JUNE 6, 2024

Thile the need for the Iron Dome has rocketed since Hamas's Oct. 7 massacre, a pair of U.S. federal government agencies are threatening to put a key manufacturer of parts for the missile-defense system out of commission. Finkelstein Metals, a small alloy exporter based in the northern Israeli city of Afula, faces customs duties and other penalties imposed separately by the U.S. Commerce Department and U.S. International Trade Commission.

Finkelstein Metals is the sole Israeli producer of brass, bronze and copper alloy products, making its 80-person operation a key cog in the industry. Its products are of particular significance to the Israeli defense industry, including producing ammunition for Iron Dome batteries.

Without Finkelstein, Israel would likely need to turn to parts imported from Europe or elsewhere to maintain the Iron Dome, a risky proposition given the current state of geopolitics.

The International Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce are responsible for conducting antidumping and countervailing duty investigations under Title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930. Under this law, U.S. industries may petition the commission and department for relief from imports sold in the United States at less than fair value, also known as dumping. Importers who benefit from countervailable subsidies provided through foreign government programs can also be penalized. Dumping and certain subsidies are considered unfair trade practices.

"The USITC [U.S. International Trade Commission] and the U.S. Department of Commerce both have roles in these investigations, but each addresses a different question," a USITC spokesperson told JNS. "Commerce determines whether the alleged dumping or subsidizing is happening, and if so, the margin of dumping or amount of subsidy. The USITC determines whether the U.S. industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of the imports under investigation."

If both the Commerce Department and the USITC reach affirmative final determinations that unfair trade practices are being carried out, Commerce issues an antidumping duty order to offset the dumping or a countervailing duty order to offset the subsidy.

That is exactly what has happened to Finkelstein, which has been determined to be undercutting American brass producers and has been paying punishing tariffs on exports to the United States as a result.

Dominant U.S. Players

The International Trade Commission refused to discuss Finkelstein Metals with JNS, saying its practice is to not comment on ongoing investigations.

According to Finkelstein, its Israeli customers—other than defense behe-



PHOTO COURTESY OF YONATAN SINDEL/FLASH90.

An Iron Dome battery in Ashkelon fires an interceptor missiles at rockets fired from the Gaza Strip at Israel, Aug. 7, 2022.

moths such as Elbit Systems and Rafael Advanced Defense Systems—are largely mom-and-pop businesses buying a few kilos of product.

While Finkelstein's copper alloy exports to the United States account for less than 3% of the U.S. market, the region is key to the company's survival, as 75% of its total sales come from America, where customers buy by the ton.

But two dominant U.S. players in the sector, Mueller Industries and Wieland Copper Products, accused Finkelstein of manipulating the market, and federal agencies have played along.

"We are tiny compared to these two manufacturers, which are making hundreds of millions of dollars," Tsachi Apeloig, chairman of the board for Finkelstein, told JNS. "These two producers, they are about 85% of the market."

The U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement is largely supposed to protect Israeli companies in situations such as this. But an exception of the Tariff Act states that if the International Trade Commission determines that a domestic industry is materially injured or threatened with material injury by reason of imports from Israel, then those imports are eligible for cumulation with imports from the other subject countries.

In Finkelstein's case, Israel has therefore been lumped together with brass rod imports from Brazil, India, Mexico, South Africa and South Korea. The cumulative effect of those imports was determined to have threatened the U.S. market, thereby exposing all of those exporters to tariffs and countervailing duties.

The American Market

Apeloig said the tariffs will "practically" keep Finkelstein out of the American market. When that happens, "we might be out of business," as the Israeli market is not enough for the company to maintain the capacity at its plant.

Apeloig lamented the situation, pointing out that while a 2018 trade petition was previously brought against the Israel Chemicals Group (now called the ICL

Group)—which held a significant share of the U.S. market—that petition was ultimately denied, and no small Israeli company has been pursued in this way before.

"With 80 employees and a turnover of \$35 million-\$40 million, how can we be materially hurting the American market? It's protectionism, and they don't care really what you tell them," said Apeloig. "Their main intention is to protect the U.S. industry, and they are very aggressive about it."

Apeloig told JNS that both the Israeli economy and industry and defense ministries were involved in defending Finkelstein and protesting against the trade petition. The defense ministry did not respond to multiple requests by JNS for comment.

The Foreign Trade Administration in the Ministry of Economy and Industry sent a statement to JNS, saying that, "Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry, as well as the Embassy of Israel in D.C., have been intensively involved in the investigation since it began and remains committed to supporting the Israeli industry throughout the process."

Apeloig told JNS that the Israeli government is "fully involved, and they are very, very concerned because this is a serious danger to the entire small industries in Israel. All of a sudden, they've decided that even a small company like Finkelstein is a serious threat. And now the government is really in panic that this will affect all the other companies, and they're certain that this is what will happen."

Finkelstein is appealing the American decision, but that process can take three to five years and the tariffs have already been imposed, though they would be returned upon a successful appeal.

"It's very costly. And God knows what will be at the end of it," said Apeloig. "By the time the deal will end, we'll most probably be dead."



It's Lag B'Omer ...

Continued from Page 3

- Substitute a mixture of favorite herbs and spices for Trader Joe Seasoning (granulated garlic, granulated onion, fresh ground pepper, parsley, oregano).
- Don't worry if pasties aren't picture-perfect. Just make sure pastry edges are moistened to tightly seal the filling.

Ingredients:

1½ cups frozen peas and carrots, thawed and drained well

- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 teaspoon dried sage
- 2 teaspoons Trader Joe 21 seasoning or homemade mixture
- 2 sheets (17.3-ounce package) puff pastry, thawed
 - 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 - 1 egg beaten

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Line a large-rimmed cookie sheet with foil. Spray with nonstick baking spray and set aside.

In a small bowl, toss together the peas and carrots, cheese, sage and 21 Seasoning. Set aside.

On a lightly floured board, roll out one sheet of pastry to approximately 10x10 inches.

Cut into 4 squares. Spread a thin layer of mustard over the center of each

Spoon 2 tablespoons vegetable

mixture on top. Moisten opposite pastry edges with water. Fold over to cover vegetables and crimp to seal, pinching the ends. Place on prepared cookie

Brush with beaten egg. Repeat with the remaining sheet.

Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes until risen and nicely brown.

Cool on a wire tray.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

Carob Tapioca

(Dairy)

Serves 4

Cook's Tips:

• Tapioca is a starch extracted from the root of the cassava plant. Pearl tapioca is used mainly for puddings. Must use instant tapioca in this recipe.

Ingredients:

1½ cups 2% milk or whole milk 1 egg

1½ tablespoons instant tapioca 1 tablespoon powdered carob 1 tablespoon sugar or to taste vanilla ice-cream (optional)

Directions:

In a medium nonstick saucepan, whisk the egg and milk to combine. Whisk in the tapioca, carob and 1 tablespoon sugar. Let stand for 5 minutes.

Cook over high heat, stirring often, until the mixture comes to a rolling boil. Cook for 2 minutes whisking constantly. Remove from heat. Add sugar to taste.

Pour into a bowl. Let stand for 30

minutes to cool and thicken.

Spoon into small glasses and top with a tiny scoop of cream or ice-cream

Mango Carob Smoothie

(Dairy)

Serves 2 -3

Cook's Tips:

- Use frozen cubed mango.
- · Pour into a thermos flask to stay chilled.

Ingredients:

³/₄ cup orange juice

- 1 tablespoon powdered carob
- 3 cups frozen mango
- 1 ripe banana, cut into 6 to 8 pieces
- 1 cup vanilla yogurt

orange wedges to garnish (optional)

Directions:

Pour orange juice into a blender jar or food processor. Add the remaining ingredients.

Blend or process until smooth. Pour into glasses and eat with a

No-Bake Carob Crispies

(Dairy or Pareve) Makes 12

Cook's Tips:

- Substitute milk chocolate for dark.
- Use 1 cup of chocolate chips for chopped chocolate.

Ingredients:

6 ounces dark chocolate, chopped



PHOTO COURTESY OF ETHEL G. HOFMAN

Carob Crispies.

- 1 tablespoon powdered carob
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 3 cups cornflakes

Directions:

Prepare a 12-cup muffin pan with paper cups. Set aside.

Place the chocolate, carob, butter or margarine, and honey in a microwave dish. Microcook at 30-second bursts until the chocolate is soft and just beginning to melt. Stir to make a smooth mixture.

Place the cornflakes in a very large bowl. Pour the warm chocolate mixture over top, stirring to mix well.

Spoon into paper cups in a muffin pan. Press down to make sure that the mixture is tightly packed.

Chill for 1 hour or until chocolate is hardened.

Ethel G. Hofman is a syndicated American Jewish food and travel columnist, author and culinary consultant.

Egypt's duplicity ...

Continued from Page 4

Instead of pressuring Israel in order to avoid targeting Hamas terrorists in Rafah, U.S. President Joe Biden could have already been on the phone with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi to urge him to assist his Palestinian brethren.

The Egyptians' decision to join the South African case against Israel at the ICJ, as well as their decision to block aid to the Palestinians, indicate that they may be nervous about what Israel will uncover regarding weapons smuggling along Egypt's border in the Rafah area.

Egypt's Blockade

The Egyptians may reasonably be worried that Israel will discover dozens of the smuggling tunnels that operated for many years under the nose of the Egyptian authorities, and were used to enlarge Hamas's military capabilities in the Gaza Strip.

Where are the self-proclaimed pro-Palestinian protesters at college campuses in the U.S. speaking out negatively about Egypt, which has been actively blocking aid as Israel is trying to get it in?

Egypt has, in fact, been imposing a blockade on the Gaza Strip for the past 15 years. Egypt allows only Gazans who pay exorbitant bribes to enter its territory, and shuts out everyone else, including those who want to flee the Gaza Strip. Where are the social media posts saying "F*** Egypt?" Where are the protesters calling to stop the billions in aid to Egypt?

They do not, of course, exist. The protests are never about helping Palestinians. They are always only about attacking Jews. Do the anti-Israel protesters on U.S. campuses know that half of the city of Rafah is located inside Egypt? Do they know that the Egyptians have demolished literally thousands of houses on the Egyptian side of the border for "security reasons"?

This same Egypt that has been displacing thousands of Palestinians from Rafah after demolishing their homes and is now blocking aid to the Palestinians, has now piously decided to join the South African case against Israel at the ICJ.

According to a Human Rights Watch (HRW) report, on Oct. 29, 2014, five days after an Islamist terror group Ansar Beit al-Magdis attacked a checkpoint near Rafah, Egypt's Prime Minister Ibrahim Mehleb issued a decree ordering the "eviction and isolation" of a buffer zone extending between five and seven kilometers from the border with Gaza and including all of Rafah.

The HRW report noted:

"Mehleb's decree encompassed a much larger area than government officials had previously described in public statements about home demolitions, which the military had been conducting throughout 2013 and 2014. A map contained in the decree delineated a zone that extended along the entire 13-kilometer border [of Egypt] with Gaza and encompassed roughly 79 square kilometers of Egyptian territory. The [prime minister's] decree ordered that those forced to leave be provided with 'due compensation' and alternative housing [presumably provided by Egypt]."

Between 2013 and 2014, according to HRW, the Egyptian military demolished at least 540 buildings. Most were within 500 meters of the border but some lay beyond a kilometer from the border. Between Oct. 25, 2014, and Aug. 15, 2015, satellite imagery analysis showed that the authorities demolished at least 2,715 additional buildings.

In total, the Egyptian military destroyed at least 3,255 residential, commercial and community buildings, including schools, mosques and hospitals. All of the destroyed buildings showed clear signs of having been deliberately demolished using a combination of heavy machinery and the uncontrolled detonation of high explosives.

The HRW report revealed:

"The start of demolitions began in July 2013, but journalists only began reporting on demolitions that September, describing them as the possible beginning of a buffer zone. Egyptian officials quoted in these media reports claimed that the buffer zone would protect Egypt's national security by preventing Gaza-based armed groups from smuggling fighters and weapons into the Sinai and fueling the insurgency there."

According to families who spoke with HRW, Egyptian authorities did not consult with Rafah residents before issuing the eviction decree on

Oct. 29, 2014, and did not give proper notice that residents would be forced to leave. Of 11 families interviewed, only five were warned of the impending eviction. Those families said they were warned by army patrols who told them that they had between 36 and 48 hours to leave. The authorities never handed out a written notice, they said. Six other families said that they received no notice, or heard about the eviction only from the news media or their neighbors.

This is just another example of how, when Palestinians become victims of oppressive measures taken against them by their Arab brothers, the world does not care a bit. About a decade ago, when Egypt demolished dozens of houses and buildings in Rafah as part of a campaign to combat terrorism, no one said a word against the Egyptians—or even bothered

Now that Israel is attempting to dismantle a terrorist group whose primary objective is the elimination of Israel, the Biden administration and many in the international community suddenly claim they are "outraged."

If they really want to help the Palestinians, they could begin by filing cases against Egypt and the Arab states in the region that, for many decades, have turned their backs on the Palestinians and paid billions to their governments to keep on mistreating them.

This is an edited version of an article originally published by the Gatestone Institute. Bassam Tawil is a based in the Middle East.

Seinfeld: Playing with food in 'Unfrosted'

Netflix film has the right stuff for adults who are still kids

By PJ GRISAR, the Forward

This story was originally published in the Forward, https://forward.com/culture/film-tv/608854/"Unfrosted"-netflix-review-jerry-seinfeld-pop-tarts/

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In the lead-up to Jerry Seinfeld's directorial debut *Unfrosted*, the world witnessed a high-fructose bloodbath.

At the Pop-Tarts Bowl in Orlando, college football players competed for the opportunity to devour a sentient Pop-Tart, who happily waved as he descended into a giant toaster, appearing on the other side as a Grand Guignol communion for the hungry athletes, who tore into its strawberry guts as Donna Summer's "Hot Stuff" piped through the stadium.

The memes were quick, the sentiment confused. Was Pop-Tarts a brand in crisis? Had it forgotten that its target market is children? A similar perplexity surrounded Seinfeld's new Netflix film, inspired by jokes from his act, about the origin of the familiar perforated breakfast pocket. Who was it for?

For kids or adults?

In a late scene in "Unfrosted," which opened May 5, Seinfeld's Bob Cabana, a product developer at Kellogg's in the 1960s, invites a pair of men from Madison Avenue (Jon Hamm and John Slattery — any resemblance to Don Draper and Roger Sterling is purely intentional) to make their ad pitch. Their presentation includes packaging of pin-up models gazing seductively at the consumer.

"You know we're a kids' cereal company, right?" Kellogg's boss Edsel Kellogg III (Jim Gaffigan), chimes in.

Unlike Seinfeld's previous cinematic venture, the instantly memeable "Bee Movie," "Unfrosted" is not for the kinderlach, who will surely miss much of its Kennedy-era references. Rather, the movie sings with the sensibilities of adults who refuse to grow up.

Set in Battle Creek, Mich., the nucleus of American breakfast innovation, the movie follows the contours of "The Right Stuff" as Cabana, who



PHOTO BY JOHN P. JOHNSON/NETFLIX © 2024.

Drew Tarver as Pop, Mikey Day as Crackle, Kyle Mooney as Snap, and Andy Daly as Isaiah Lamb (of Quaker Oats) in a deliciously dumb set piece.

perhaps not incidentally shares a name with an astronaut, courts his partner Stan (Melissa McCarthy), luring her away from her job making space food at NASA to assemble a shelf-stable pastry, cryptically codenamed "The Dingus" — a possible play on Oppenheimer's "Gadget."

Toaster espionage

Across the way from Kellogg's HQ is competitor Post, headed by Marjorie Post (Amy Schumer, playing one of the film's few real people), also hard at work on a processed toaster-friendly breakfast. The two companies engage in corporate espionage and tense, sugary-goop experiments as they jockey to hit store shelves first. The resulting antics incorporate elements of "The Godfather" as it adds five cereal families, a milkman mafia and a sugar drug lord named El Sucre to the mix.

A sendup of the emerging genre of

movies about stuff — "Air," "Flamin' Hot," "Barbie" — Seinfeld, who cowrote the script with Spike Feresten, Andy Robin and Barry Marder, takes aim at much more than just the feelgood, Oscar-bait sponcon [sponsored content]. And however much it appreciates its core product, the film is more than just a 90-minute commercial. Or at least not purely a commercial for Pop-Tarts.

Back to the '60s

The movie throws back to mid-century innovations with its crew of "taste pilots," including the creator of the Schwinn bicycle, soft-serve pioneer Tom Carvel, and Chef Boyardee himself, brought over to inspire Bob and Stan. (Thomas Lennon, as the German-born inventor of sea monkeys evasive about his whereabouts in the 1940s, suggests a sort of kitschy Operation Paperclip.)

Would-be thespians playing cereal mascots, led by Hugh Grant as an Oxbridge-accented Tony the Tiger, revolt in a scene briefly reminiscent of Jan. 6. Dean Norris appears as Nikita Khrushchev with Bill Burr as JFK, heading for a sugar-spiked Cuban Missile Crisis. A descending helicopter knocks the block off a Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robot and Cabana finds a Baby Ruth in the pocket of a suit worn by William Howard Taft.

Everything is tossed at the wall and, like Pop-Tarts' gooey filling, much of it sticks.

Amid a sea of celebrity faces — including a former senator — and gags with a formidable hit rate, Seinfeld

is giving cinematic life to what he's always excelled at: asking "What's the deal" with things most people dismiss as trivial beyond consideration.

Filling the emptiness

The stand-up who called out the arrogance of a cereal for calling itself "Life" gives us a funeral scene where a character is buried in cornflakes and the widow presented a free prize folded like a flag. The actor who delivered an indelible line read of the name "Newman," applies the same seething rage to the word "xanthan." The avowed admirer of junk adults aren't supposed to eat brings a childlike wonder to a phony history of an invention that forever upended the cereal aisle.

For all the bitter headlines he generated in April while kvetching over "P.C. crap," this is a Seinfeld who only cares for what doesn't matter, making for the rare vanity project that is actually enjoyable and even a touch sweet.

The world of "Unfrosted" is one where Walter Cronkite (Kyle Dunnigan) cracks open the Silly Putty when he's off camera and moans about his marriage. It's a universe that is thoroughly unserious and disinterested in making any sort of a statement. It's a breath of fresh air away from a lot of hot air.

Render unto Jerry that which is his
— a galaxy of the irrelevant that he fills
with new, absurd meaning. It's nice to
see him playing with his food again.

PJ Grisar is a Forward culture reporter. He can be reached at grisar@forward. com and @pjgrisar on Twitter.



Jerry Seinfeld munches on a Pop-Tart in a promo for his Netflix comedy "Unfrosted."

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FRIDAY, MAY 24

of Events

Beth Emeth Erev Shabbat Service– 5:30 p.m. in-person at 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via livestream at www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@ CBEAlbany.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 25

Beth Emeth Torah Study – 9:30 -10:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Discussion of Torah portion Behar, in-person and via Zoom. Reg.- www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Zoom link: https://Us02Web.Zoom. us/j/89304372729. Password: CBE. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@ CBEAlbany.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 26

Community Lag B'Omer Bonfire-4-6 p.m. Camp Givah, 88 Camp Ln., East Berne. Kosher chicken barbecue to purchase. Reg., Info.-518-438-7858 or timain@tialbany.org.

Beth Emeth Memorial Day Observance – 10 a.m.-12 p.m. American flags marking veterans' graves will be replaced at the Beth Emeth Cemetery, Turner Lane, Loudonville. Reg.- www. BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. - Michael Barnas, michael.c.barnas@gmail.com, 518-419-1672.

Bethlehem Chabad Lag B'Omer **BBQ, Bonfire** – 5 p.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Info., Res.- http://www. bethlehemchabad.com/bbq / info@ bethlehemchabad.com, 518-439-3310.

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Colonie Chabad Barbecue-5-7 p.m. 401 Loudon Rd., Loudonville. Post Lag B'Omer program. Free or \$10 P.P., \$25 FAMILY. INFO., RES,-518-368-7886 OR BY E-MAILING CHAI-CENTERCOLONIE@GMAIL.COM.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

JNF: Female Voices for Our Homeland-7-9 p.m. Local address provided at registration "Navigating Conversations Around Apartheid" will be the topic of Olga Meshoe, a native South African and Christian Zionist.

Free. Info., Reg. - Sara Hefez, shefez@ jnf.org, 617-423-0999, ext. 811.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Traces of a Jewish Artist: The Lost Life and Work of Rahel Szalit-7 p.m. Virtual talk featuring Kerry Wallich. Close look at art of illustrator, painter and cartoonist of Weimar Berlin. Killed in the Holocaust. Sponsored by Yiddish Book Center, 1021 West St., Amherst, Mass. Free. Reg.—yiddishbookcenter.

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Beth Emeth Erev Shabbat Service, Sisterhood Board Installation – 5:30 p.m., in-person at 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream at www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Beth Emeth Torah Study – 9:30 -10:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Discussion of the Torah portion Bechukotai led by Andrea McNellis, director of program operations. In-person and via Zoom. Reg.- www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Zoom link: https://Us02Web. Zoom.us/j/89304372729. Password: CBE. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Israel Day Parade: One Nation, **One Heart** – 11:30- 4 p.m. starts 5th Ave. and 57th St., Manhattan. Also street festival at 63rd St. Info.-local, 518-783-7800 or Marissa Lopez at lopezm@jcrcny.org , https://celebrateisraelny.org

Beth Emeth Brotherhood Bagels - 9 - 10:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Monthly planning meeting. Reg.www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. - 518-436-9761, Andrea@CBEAlbany. org., or Jay Hurewitz, JayHurewitz@ gmail.com

Beth Emeth Jewish Basics –10 -11 a.m. in-person at 100 Academy Rd., Albany or via Zoom. Twice-monthly class covering all things Jewish, led by clergy Rabbi Greg Weitzman, Cantor Emily Short and Director of Lifelong Learning Rabbi Shara Siegfeld with guest speakers. Open to all learners. Free for Beth Emeth members. \$72 for non-members (covers materials). Reg.- at www.BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org.

Beth Emeth Soup Kitchen – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Volunteers cooking and

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serving meals, Sister Maureen Joyce Center, 369 Livingston Ave., Albany. Sign up available at https://www. bethemethalbany.org/site/volunteer-registration/ Info. -Andrea McNellis at Andrea@CBEAlbany.org or 518-436-9761, ext. 236.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

JEWISHWORLDNEWS.ORG

HACD Kesher L'Yisrael Gala-6 p.m. Temple Israel, 600 New Scotland Ave., Albany. Fund-raiser, celebration of the Hebrew Academy of the Capital District and community's connections with Israel. Info.- Sandra Goldmeer, sgoldmer@hacdalbany.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

Maimonides Hebrew Day School Annual Dinner- 6-8 p.m. Shabbos House, 320 Fuller Rd., Albany. Rabbi Yossi and Leyee Rubin, Sid and Devorah Stark and Rivi Bahir to be honored. \$100. Info., Res. 518-772-7299,mail@shabboshouse.com.

Beth Emeth Pride Tie Dye Party - 6 - 7 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Info. –Andrea McNellis at Andrea@ CBEAlbany.org or 518-436-9761, ext. 236.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

The Jewish Federation of Northeastern NY Annual Meeting-7 p.m. 184 Washington Ave. Extension, Albany. Info.-518-783-7800.

What Do I do With All This Heritage? –7 p.m. Zoom theater presentation by The Braid. Asian Jews to be theme. Part of Saratoga Jewish Community Arts program. Info.-518-584-8730. (See 6/9)

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

Beth Emeth Shabbat Confirmation Service -7:30 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream at www. BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. – 518-436-9761, ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

Clifton Park Chabad Jewish Women's Circle Gala-1030 a.m. Hyatt Place, 20 State Farm Pl., Malta. Brunch, auction, Amalia Rubin to sing. For women only. \$20 before 6/2, and \$25 after. Info., Res.-cliftonparkchabad@gmail.com or 518-495-0779.

Beth Emeth Sisterhood Shpeen Memorial Donor Dinner-5 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Buffet BBQ dinner, Magician Jim Snack as entertainer, raffle drawing. \$80 p.p. fund-raiser. Info., Res. - 518-436-9761 or www. BethEmeth Albany.org.

What Do I do With All This Heritage? 2 p.m. Zoom theater presentation by The Braid. Asian Jews to be part of theme. Part of Saratoga Jewish Community Arts program. Info.-518-584-8730. See 6/6)

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Colonie Chabad Shavuot Eve Dinner, Study-7:45 p.m. 401 Loudon Rd., Loudonville. Info., Res, -518-368-7886 or by e-mailing chaicentercolonie@ gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

Colonie Chabad Shavuot Dairy Buffet-5:30 p.m. 401 Loudon Rd., Loudonville.Decalogue, ice cream featured.Info., Res,-518-368-7886 or by e-mailing chaicentercolonie@gmail.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

Beth Emeth Mah Jongg Tournament – 9 a.m.-4 p.m., play begins 9:30. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Pick the level: Tournament with timed games and cash prizes or relaxed play. Reg. -www. BethEmethAlbany.org. Info. – 518-436-9761, Andrea@CBEAlbany.org.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

Havurah Vatik Luncheon: "The Courageous Heart Of Irena Sendler"-11 a.m. Shaara Tfille Synagogue, 84 Weibel Ave., Saratoga Springs. Movie about WW11 hero Sendler who rescued 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto. Info., Res. by 6/12, havurahvatik@gmail.com, 518-584-8730, ext. 800.

Bethlehem Chabad Strong & **Proud** – 7:30 p.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Navigating anti-Semitism/ Zionism on a college campus. Free. Info., Res. http://www.bethlehemchabad.com/campus / info@bethlehemchabad.com, 518-439-3310.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

"Nathan-ism" - 2-3:30 p.m. Yiddish Book Center, 1021 West St., Amherst, Mass. Film by Elan Golod. About Syrian immigrant artist and his compulsion to create a visual narrative of guarding Nazi war criminals at the end of WW 11.\$8. Info.- 413-256-4900. (See 6/23)

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

SJCC 103 Annual Meeting-6:30 p.m. 2565 Balltown Rd., Schenectady. Refreshments, reports. Info.-518-377-

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

The JFNENY North Country Event-7 p.m. Saratoga Music Hall, 474 Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Featuring talk by Rabbi Menachem Creditor. Info.-518-783-7800.

"Nathan-ism" - 2-3:30 p.m. Yiddish Book Center, 1021 West St., Amherst, Mass. Film by Elan Golod. About Syrian immigrant artist and his compulsion to create a visual narrative of guarding Nazi war criminals at the end of WW 11.\$8. Info.- 413-256-4900. (See 6/19)

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Battle Of The Barbecues Com**petition** – 4-6 p.m. Albany Jewish Community Center, 340 Whitehall Rd., Albany. Organizations compete as a fund-raiser for the Shalom Food Pantry. Samples! Attendees taste/judge. \$25 p.p., with a reservation, through June 25, after \$30 and \$10 per child. Children 5 and under no cost. Info.-Chanie Simon, 518-439-3310.

Netanyahu slams 'outrageous' claims by ICC prosecutor

By AKIVA VAN KONINGSVELD

n his first substantial response to charges set to be filed with the In-L ternational Criminal Court, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Tuesday, May 20, that the allegations were "fallacious."

ICC chief prosecutor Karim Khan's accusations against Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant include starvation of civilians; willfully causing "great suffering"; willful killing; intentionally targeting civilians; extermination and/ or murder; persecution; and other "inhumane acts."

In an interview with ABC News on Tuesday, Netanyahu dismissed Khan's accusations against the Israeli leaders as "beyond outrageous.

False Symmetry

"He said that we deny water? He is making a totally false accusation, here and everywhere else. We are supplying now nearly half of the water of Gaza. We supplied only 7% before the war. This is completely opposite of what he's saying," Netanyahu told ABC's George Stephanopoulos.

"He's saying we're starving people? We have supplied half a million tons of food and medicine with 20,000 trucks. This guy is out to demonize Israel. He's doing a hit job," continued the premier.

Netanyahu attacked Khan's decision to demand the arrest of Hamas terror leaders Yahya Sinwar, Ismail Haniyeh and Mohammed Deif as part of the case, stating, "That's like saying, after 9/11: 'Well, I'm issuing arrest warrants for George Bush, but also for Bin Laden. Or after World War II: 'Well, I'm issuing arrest warrants for FDR, but also for Hitler."

The British-Pakistani prosecutor is "pouring gasoline on the fires of anti-Semitism that are spreading around the world," Netanyahu charged.

"He is attacking the one and only Jewish state and trying to handcuff us," Netanyahu said, adding that Khan is "creating false symmetry, false facts, and he's doing a grave injustice to the international court."

Asked about accusations that Jerusalem provoked alleged "famine" in Gaza, Netanyahu told Stephanopoulos that Hamas terrorists are looting the 20,000 aid trucks that the Jewish state has allowed in since Oct. 7.

"We don't have a deliberate starvation policy," he said. "In fact, we have the opposite policy: to allow maximum humanitarian aid, to get people out of harm's way, while Hamas is keeping people in harm's way.

"We've sent billions of text messages, phone calls, leaflets to people, doing something that no army and no government has done in modern urban warfare—giving up the element of surprise," added Netanyahu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BMARC ISRAEL SELLEM/POOL

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks during a press conference in Jerusalem, March 31, 2024.

ICC—Pariah Institution?

The premier stressed that "serious countries," including the United States, are not taking Khan's accusations seriously and said he does not fear getting arrested by one of the ICC's 124 members around the globe.

"I'm not concerned at all about our status. I think that the prosecutor should be concerned about his status, because he's really turning the ICC into a pariah institution. People are just not going to take it seriously; they're seeing it as a politicized thing," Netanyahu claimed.

"I hope the judges don't confirm what he says, because that will make them into a kangaroo court. Israel is fighting a just war—not only ours, not only our war, we're fighting the war of all democracies," he said.

Khan announced his move against Israel during an interview with CNN on Monday. In a statement published after the interview, Khan said he had "reasonable grounds to believe" that Netanyahu and Gallant bear criminal responsibility for "war crimes and crimes against humanity" committed by the IDF since Hamas murdered 1,200 people in Israel.

However, "the independent judges of the International Criminal Court are the sole arbiters as to whether the necessary standard for the issuance of warrants of arrest has been met," the statement noted. A panel of three justices from the ICC's Pre-Trial Chamber I will now consider the prosecutor's application for the arrest warrants.

A Just Fight

The war crime charges are "not only directed against the prime minister of Israel and against the minister of defense," Netanyahu warned in an initial response posted to his social media accounts on Monday night. "It is directed against the entire State of Israel. It is directed against the IDF soldiers, who are fighting with supreme heroism against the vile Hamas murderers."

"With what audacity do you dare to make a comparison between Hamas which murdered, burned, butchered, raped and kidnapped our brothers and sisters—and the IDF soldiers who are

fighting a just war that is unparalleled, with a morality that is unmatched?" he asked, adding, "I repeat what I said on the eve of Yom HaShoah [Holocaust Remembrance Dayl in Jerusalem. As the prime minister of Israel, I pledge that no pressure, no decision, no international forum will prevent us from striking those who seek to destroy us."



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Malapropisms and misuse of words—funny or failure?

BY MARILYN SHAPIRO

long-time fan of Jeopardy, I have even become more interested in recent months watching popular quiz show's championship series that pits the best against the best.

Watching it with Larry, my husband, we enjoy playing along, supplying our own questions to the clues given in numerous categories. As was true for the two of us in our Trivial Pursuit game days, I do well in the arts and entertainment areas, especially literature. Larry does well in history, geography, and sports. We don't do as well in the sciences.

NeverA Champion

I know that I will never be a Jeopardy champion. Nor do I even have hopes to come in second. My pressing that buzzer would be similar to my pressing a self-destruct button. It's not only because I don't have a head for all the trivia. I would also bomb out because of my misuse of words.

In response to the Jeopardy clue, "The French singer famous for "La Vie en Rose," I would offer "Who is Edith Pilaf?" Poor Ken Jennings would have to fight the urge to burst out laughing before getting the correct answer—"Who is Edith Piaf?"—from another contestant. "Yes," Ken would comment, "We were looking for a name, not a rice dish that sings."

Too Funny?

Maybe he would lose it when my answer to "Company created by Steve Jobs that was sold to Disney in 1986" was "What was Pixie?" Another contestant would quickly supply the correct line. "What is Pixar." I unfortunately would have no place to hide.

I used to think my problem was mispronunciations. But it's worse. I am guilty of using malapropisms. Malaprops, whose name come the eponymous character in Richard Brinsley Sheridan's 1775 play *The Rival*, occur when one uses an incorrect word

instead of another similar-sounding one, resulting in a nonsensical, often humorous sentence. An example of a malapropism is when someone says, "dance a flamingo" instead of "dance a flamenco."

I come from a long line of "malapropists." My father's misuse of words bordered on Archie Bunker territory. And my poor mother was also guilty, The one that sticks with me was her using "orgasm" when she meant "organism."

My History

My own history of mispronunciations started young. In high school, my fiery rant about the radical "Storky" Carmichael. brought my fellow classmates to hysterics when I talked about that radical "I think you meant "Stokely," suggested Mrs. Clute when the laughter died down. I was in college before I realized that Sigmund Freud and Sigmund "Froid" were one and the same Austrian psychologist.

My most embarrassing transgression came as an adult, when I walked into a garden shop in Upstate New York and asked for a well known pest spray.

"Can you tell me where I can find the Spermicide?" I asked the clerk. "Sorry, lady," the clerk responded. "You won't find any spermicide here, but I do have Spectricide." I wonder if my request has become one of their favorite stories to retell again and again.

The Berra Influence

I join a long line of famous people whose malapropisms have become part of their history. Yogi Berra was so famous that his expressions ranked their own name, "Yogisims." He once said, "He hits from both sides of the plate. He's amphibious" instead of saying ambidextrous. In another instance, "Texas has a lot of electrical votes." (electoral votes)

Yogi may have made such "errors"

an art, but other legendary historical quotes were—well—hysterical. Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott once stated that no one "is the suppository of all wisdom" instead of saying repository or depository. Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley incorrectly referred to Alcoholics Anonymous as Alcoholics Unanimous and called tandem bicycles "tantrum" bicycles.

More recent American politicians have faced ridicule for their public gaffes. President George W. Bush famously stated "The law I sign today directs new funds... to the task of collecting vital intelligence... on weapons of mass production" (destruction). In 2022, Republican Senate candidate Herschel Walker was mocked online after claiming ""this erection is about the people" (election), during an interview on Fox News. Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene has also been excoriated for her misuse of words, including references to "peach tree dish" (petri dish) and "gazpacho police" (Gestapo), and "fragrantly violated. (flagrantly), among others.

President Joe Biden also has been mocked for his verbal missteps. On March 31, 2024, he asked all his guests at the annual Easter Egg Hunt to say 'hello' to oyster bunnies." He famously mixed up the names of world leaders with their (deceased) predecessor, referring to French President Emmanuel Macron as Francois Mitterrand and German Chancellor Angela Merkel as Helmut Kohl. But he knows it. "I am a gaffe machine," admitted Biden in a 2018 speech.

Trumpisms

And then we have Donald J. Trump. In a research paper published in 2020, Dr. Sajid Chaudhry examined 500 viral tweets posted on Twitter by the former president. Along with the hundreds of misspellings of common homonyms (waist/waste; boarder/border; taxis/taxes; eminent/imminent; Barrack/Barak), the paper cited numerous malapropisms, including references to a "Smocking Gun" and a claim that

the media said that he wanted "a Moot stuffed with alligators and snake" at the Southern border. "The way he mangles words," states Dr. Chaudhry at the end of his report, "it looks like the ghost of Mrs. Malaprop haunts his vocabulary."

Jewish-related

So, it looks like I am not the only one who may experience major failures on Jeopardy. I take solace in my limited knowledge of Yiddish and Hebrew, which means I know not to call our Passover meal a "cedar," our beautiful braided egg bread a "CHA-lah," and our Day of Atonement "Yam KIP-per."

My personal favorite malapropism was spoken by a non-Jewish friend when she asked how I met Larry.

"We met at a Purim party," I said. Dead silence. Long pause.

"I can't believe you are so open about your meeting your husband at a PORN party," my friend said incredulously.

I wonder how Ken Jennings would react to that!

Sources and links

"16 of the Most Famous Malapropism Examples"

"Biden's Biggest Gaffes."

"Examples of Malapropism"

"Joe Biden 2020 gaffe machine"

"Malapropism" Wikipedia

"Mr. Malaprop: The President Donald Trump on Twitter."

"Modern-day Malapropisms: Yogiisms versus Trumpisms"

"Say hello to oyster bunnies."

"What Are "Malapropisms?"

Marilyn Shapiro, formerly of Clifton Park, is now a resident of Kissimmee, Fla. Keep Calm and Bake Challah: How I Survived the Pandemic, Politics, Pratfalls, and Other of Life's Problems is the newest addition to her line-up of books. It joins Tikkun Olam, There Goes My Heart and Fradel's Story, a compilation of stories by her mother that she edited. Shapiro's blog is theregoesmyheart.me.



How to answer Hillel's paradox If I'm not for myself, who will be? If I'm only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? In three pithy lines, Hillel presents us with a paradox central to being Jewish: my individuality is sacred; so is trying to help others. I must attend to myself and focus on my needs – and – if I don't serve others, am I truly human? And Hillel says, Solve this puzzle-now! The prophets told us the creator wants us to take care of other people, and most of us believe this is our duty. If you want to do good, you have to be alive. If we're thrown into cattle cars, smashed with rockets, raped and disfigured, abducted, and murdered, we can't do good for anybody! Our first duty is self-preservation, survival. Become stronger, more aware, and potent! Join with the Jewish people, your bulwark for 4000 years, your shield for the future. See page 2

Behar SHABBAT SHALOM

By Rabbi SHLOMO RISKIN

God spoke to Moses at Mount Sinai, telling him to speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you come to the land that I am giving you, the land must be given a rest period, a sabbath to God. For six years you shall plant your fields, prune your vineyards, and harvest your crops, but the seventh year is a sabbath of sabbaths for the land...

(Leviticus 25:1-5)

EFRAT, Israel – The Torah portion of **Behar** opens with the fundamental laws of Shmitah, the seventh year of rest for the land of Israel, paralleling the Sabbath day of rest for every Jew. During these days, when the issue of land is the ultimate question on everyone's mindfor what is the issue of peace and war in Israel if not land?—we have to remind ourselves of the seeming impossibility that, despite almost two thousand years of exile, the Jews never stopped dreaming of their return to the Land of Israel; and indeed we have returned in our generation. Was it something miraculous and mystical that sustained this relationship of a people to a land for so long? If it was, wherein lies the origin of this unique relationship?

Jewish Laws

Ordinarily, Jewish law divides along two lines: requirements between human beings and God, and requirements between one human being and another. But there is also a third realm: the requirements of a Jew toward his/her land.

In fact, the climax of the **Book of Leviticus** emphasizes precisely this third realm, bein yehudi l'artzo, between the Jew and his land, replete with laws of the tithing of produce, the necessity of allowing the land to lie fallow during the Sabbatical year, and returning all property to its original owner in the jubilee year.

Sarah's Grave

To grasp the full symbolism of a Jew's relationship to a land, and how this land is at the crux of our experience as Jews, we must take note of a much earlier biblical incident at the dawn of our history, when our first patriarch purchased a plot for his wife's gravesite, paying an astonishingly high sum for a relatively tiny piece of land.

Abraham's purchase of this property does not only provide us with biblical evidence that our deed to Hebron reaches back to our earliest beginnings; it unites our history with a specific parcel of earth, a grave site for our first matriarch Sarah, inextricably linking the founders of our faith-nation with the land of Israel in an eternal bond, within the boundaries of God's initial covenant with Abraham, a bond of eternity!

Married To The Land?

This purchase of land indelibly es-

The Jewish relationship to the land of Israel



tablishes for us the commitment, which the Bible expects a husband and wife to have for each other, a commitment which extends beyond physical life and even translates into a significant monetary expenditure. The sages of the Talmud derive our form of religio-legal obligatory engagement, kiddushin (with a ring or an object of material value), from Abraham's purchase of the plot of land that would serve as Sarah's cemetery plot (Kiddushin 2a). The Talmud deduces the "taking" of marriage from the "taking" of the land. Thus, halacha creates a metaphoric parallel between marriage, land and eternity, alluding to the unique and magnificent ideal that we must develop an eternal relationship of love and commitment to our land paralleling the eternal relationship of love and commitment to our spouse.

To understand what it means to be "engaged or married" to the land, let's first isolate three elements of marriage, and then trace these elements back to our portion of Behar. First of all, marriage contains the physical or sexual component, called "entrance" (biah in Hebrew), which expresses the exclusivity of the love relationship. Second, there are the fundamental monetary obligations the couple has to one another, specifically outlined in the Bible (Exodus 21:10) and clearly delineated in the fifth chapter of the tractate Ketubot. hird, the Torah essentially sees marriage as an eternal relationship. Abraham's obligations to Sarah continue even beyond her lifetime, as we have seen, and the prophet Hosea describes God's engagement to Israel: "I shall consecrate you unto Me forever" (Hosea 2:21).

Although divorce is an allowable option if there is no better solution, the rabbinic view at the conclusion of the Tractate Gittin remains operative: "Even the altar of the holy Temple weeps when a husband and wife are divorced" (Gittin 90b).

Our Obligations

Undoubtedly, the ideal is the eternal relationship, and even when psychologies collide, biology heals: For the birth of a child, and the eternal potential of this new

creature continuing after the death of each spouse, soon asserts the true continuity of the marital relationship.

We find that these three elements relate to the land of Israel as well! When you come into the land, utilizes the verb whose very root refers to sexual relations specific to husband and wife (biyah). When we're told to hallow the 50th year ((Leviticus 25:10), the word the Torah employs is 'kiddashtem' — the same term which is the rabbinic expression for marriage. The Torah parchment unfurled in Behar seems to weave a mystical mar-

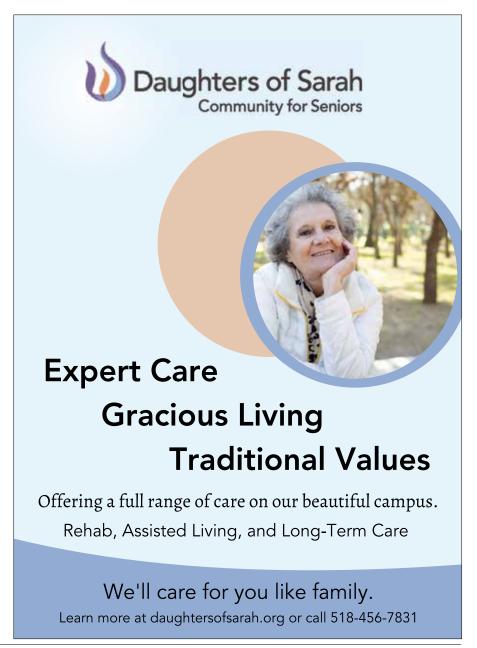
ital canopy uniting the nation Israel with the land of Israel.

Second, no sooner have we entered the land than the Torah instructs us concerning our obligation to that land (much like the obligations a husband has to a wife): for six years we are obligated to plant the fields, prune the vineyards, and harvest the crops, but the seventh year is a sabbath of sabbaths for the land... you may not plant your fields, nor prune your vineyards...since it is a year of rest for the land ((Leviticus 25:4–5). The land must lie fallow every seventh year when its produce belongs to the poor who eat freely from the crops. In a veritably uncanny, human fashion, resembling the husband-wife relationship, the land responds to our actions, or our lack thereof. If we maintain our obligation to the land, the land will respond to us with abundant produce. If not, the land will grow desolate, for as long as the land is desolate it will enjoy the sabbatical rest that you would not give it when you lived there ((Leviticus 26:35). In other words, the land will lie fallow and unproductive. Hence, a relationship of mutuality exists between Israel and its land.

Mirror Of God's Promise?

Third, just as there is an eternal aspect to marriage, there is also an eternal aspect to the land. During the jubilee, the 50th

Continued on page 15



Jewish legacy giving program secures \$16,719, 956 in commitments in less than eight years

In northeastern New York, a legacy-giving program has been established to preserve vibrant Jewish life for future generations by ensuring the long-term financial health of Jewish community organizations. This program, a collaboration between Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF), has already secured over 769 legacy commitments with an estimated value of \$16,719,956 in future and realized gifts. Participating organizations in Northeastern New York include Congregation Agudat Achim, Congregation Berith Sholom, Congregation Beth Abraham-Jacob, Congregation Beth Emeth, Congregation Gates of Heaven, Congregation Ohav Shalom, Daughters of Sarah, Hebrew Academy of the Capital District, Jewish Family Services, Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York, Maimonides Hebrew Day School, Temple Israel and Temple Sinai.

According to Jesse Holland, chairman of the Life & Legacy Committee for Northeastern New York, "This endowment-building initiative is significant to our community because it offers a way for us to ensure a sustainable Jewish world for generations to come."

Recently, community leaders joined colleagues from across the U.S. and Canada for the 2024 Life & Legacy Leadership Conference in Springfield, Mass. According to organizers, the conference was designed to provide networking opportunities and share best practices among participants to further efforts to make endowment-building and legacy-giving normative behavior and create sustainable, legacy-giving programs in local communities and organizations.

Attendees from Northeastern New York included Rabbi Moshe Bomzer, Ted Brown, David Ginsburg, David Gittelman, Deborah Goldstein, Gary

Goldstein, Rabbi Debora Gordon, Eileen Handelman, Jeff Handelman, Jesse Holland, Mindy Holland, Monna Israel, Shoshie Israel, Miriam Kean, Rabbi Ben Kean, Gail Kendall, Alan Richer, Jessica Richer, Marcia Rosenberg, Rabbi Abba Rubin, Rabbi Yossi Rubin, Rachael Schertzer, Marcy Stryker, Bess Wadler and Gordon Zuckerman.

Kathy Sarlson, Life & Legacy's national director, said in her opening remarks, "We commend you for embedding a culture of philanthropy within your communities and for modeling true collaboration among participating organizations. We celebrate your invaluable service and commitment. This conference is designed with you in mind. We've curated workshops and speakers to address your needs and goals, recognizing the vital role each of you play in shaping the future of Jewish communities throughout North America."

More than 180 participants from 40 communities attended the conference over its three days. Participants represented Jewish federations, Jewish community foundations, congregations, day schools, JCCs, Hillels, JFSs, Chabad, and other Jewish communal organizations. Highlights included a Yom HaShoah observance; a keynote by Dan Elbaum, head of North America for The Jewish Agency for Israel; workshops on a variety of topics; small group discussions and a panel discussion titled "What Makes a Successful Legacy Effort?"

Life & Legacy is an eight-year partnership program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) that assists communities across North America, through partnerships with Jewish Federations and Foundations, to promote after-lifetime giving to benefit Jewish day schools, synagogues, social service organizations, and other Jewish entities.

Eurovision handed Israel a win

By DAVID ISAAC

JNS

srael finished fifth overall in the recent 2024 Eurovision Song LContest. That surprise finish was widely celebrated by Israelis as a great success. In fact, it was a success that was maybe greater than they realized. The European public's vote for a singer was a protest vote against the anti-Israel narrative of the elites and the anti-Semitic demonstrations marching through Europe's cities by those celebrating Hamas.

Peoples' Choice

"In a competition invaded by politics, the European public decided to respond and reject the clear bias and anti-Israel trend by supporting massively the Israeli candidate Eden Golan," Daniel Shadmy, spokesperson of ELNET-Israel, a group dedicated to strengthening Europe-Israel relations, told JNS. "After the judges of the competition snubbed the Israeli candidate, the European public voted with a loud and clear voice and put Israel as their second favorite song of the whole competition. Israel got top scores from 14 countries, this year's record," Shadmy said.

Israel actually won a 15th "country." A new category, "Rest of the World," includes voters from countries that aren't participating in the contest. Among countries whose public voted Israel into the top spot were the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Switzerland, Portugal and Italy.

The Irish public, considered among the most hostile to Israel (although per-

haps that assumption should be revisited), put Israel in a respectable second place, giving it 10 votes.

Official Juries Negative

"It is noteworthy that countries that were very critical of Israel, both politically and during the competition itself, such as Belgium and Spain, were among those whose public gave the most points to Israel in a clear message of protest," Shadmy said.

Eurovision voting is a tally of two sets of votes: public and jury. Each counts for 50% of the total tally. The public televotes. The only caveat: Individuals can't vote for their own country. Each of the participating 37 countries has a jury. Each jury is made up of five music industry professionals. Voting follows a 12-point format. Twelve points are given to the first choice, 10 points to the second, eight to the third, seven to the fourth and then in onepoint increments (6,5,4,3,2...) to zero.

The public voted Israel into second place overall. The juries voted Israel into 12th place out of the 25 contes-

The Hollywood Reporter noted that while the public and jury have rarely agreed on the winners in the past the gap in Israel's case was unusual. That the answer is politics is obvious, notwithstanding Eurovision organizers' protestations that the contest is apolitical. Prima facie evidence is this year's voting gap. Take the United Kingdom, where Israel earned 12 points from the public, but zero from its jury. The same holds true for Holland, Spain, Austria,



PHOTO COURTESY OF AVSHALOM SASSONI/FLASH90

Eden Golan, Israel's participant in the Eurovision Song Contest in Sweden who came in fifth place overall, arrives at Ben-Gurion International Airport on May 12, 2024.

Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and Finland—12 from the public for Israel, zero from the jurists.

Ireland, whose public gave it the aforementioned 10 votes, offered zero from its jury. France and Germany's juries each gave Israel a somewhat better three points; still a far cry from the 12 points of their public.

In Norway's case, the jury awarded Israel more points (eight) than the public (five). One of its jury members Daniel Owen, apologized on Instagram for Israel's high score, explaining that the jurists vote separately and don't confer beforehand. Acknowledging that he had broken the rules, which forbids letting politics influence voting, Owen said his personal views prevented him from voting for Israel.

Eden Golan was snubbed by con-

testants and booed during her performance. JNS columnist Melanie Phillips noted that viewers saw "a vast mob on the streets of Malmö ... besieging a young Israeli singer to force her out of the contest. ... They saw that more than 100 police officers, a motorcade and a helicopter were needed to escort her to the competition venue. They saw this wasn't a protest but a potential lynch

Sympathy for her plight likely also motivated Europe's public-a sympathy born out of its familiarity with Islamist behavior.

As The Wall Street Journal noted, "Eurovision voting resembles E.U. voting. The voters send national representatives to the E.U. Parliament in Brussels, but the unelected European Commission overrules them."

13

SCHENECTADY – Five recipients will be honored with scholarships at a Shabbat service on Friday, June 7, at 7 p.m., at Gates of Heaven. Each recipient will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship toward his or her college education.

The 2024 Rena Weifenbach College Scholarship will be given to **Rebecca Schechter**. Schechter will enter her junior year at Wesleyan University in the fall, where she double-majors in physics and mathematics. She enjoys rowing on the Wesleyan team. She is also a member of the physics society and Women in STEM clubs at Wesleyan, where she helps promote inclusion for women in sciences. Schechter plans to continue her studies and attain a doctorate in physics, eventually teaching physics at the college level while conducting her own research.

Four students will receive a \$1000 scholarship each to their respective colleges and universities from the Marwill College Scholarship Fund. They are Alyson Brown, Olivia Kaye, Wendy Pearlman, and Luke Teter.

Alyson Brown will enter her junior year at Ithaca College in the fall, majoring in clinical health studies. Her reported goal is to attain a doctorate in physical therapy with a focus on pediatrics. She participates in leadership academy at Ithaca and is on the women's soccer team. She intends to supplement her education with an internship in physical therapy work to further develop her experience before beginning her career.

Olivia Kaye will be a senior at SUNY Fredonia this fall, where she studies theater production and design, with a focus in stage management and technical direction. She is a member of the Fredonia Performing Arts Company and the Fredonia chapter of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology. She hosts High Holy Day service watch parties fro at school, for Jewish peers who could not travel home for the holidays.

Wendy Pearlman will be a junior at the University at Buffalo, SUNY, in the fall, where she studies nutrition sciences, intending to attain a master's degree at Buffalo's School of Public Health and Health Sciences Clinical Nutrition program and become a registered dietician. Pearlman reports that she found her passion for nutrition sciences following a personal medical experience that led her to seek the services of a nutritionist and learn about the effects of nutrition on the body. She is also a volunteer at the Captain Food Pantry in Clifton Park.

Luke Teter majors in elementary education at SUNY Oswego, where he will begin his junior year this fall. The son of two teachers, Teter's interest in education and reading began early in his life, with experience at the Gates of Heaven supplemental school Gates Quest, as a madrikh (high school aide) and an internship at Schenectady Day Nursery. His passion for lifelong learning is supported by his participation in the Delta Kappa Kappa fraternity at Oswego, where he has served as academic chairman, fund-raising chairman, Inter-Fraternal Council chairman, and volunteer for fund-raising and support of the organization "For the Kids" in the local community.

Rena Weifenbach

Rena Weifenbach a devoted student of Judaism. She emphasized the study of Torah and, at an advanced age, mastered the chanting of Torah. Weifenbach knew that knowledge was central to personal fulfillment, making better Jews, better citizens, and that it made individuals more valuable to families and communities.

Ralph and Edna Marwill

Dr. Ralph Marwill was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Dental School and Columbia University. Edna Marwill was a civic and Jewish community leader with a wide variety of interests, including work on the City of Schenectady Board of Education, the Schenectady Day Nursery, and the Freedom Forum, which promoted interest in civic and educational topics. The forum brought lecturers to Schenectady and spread factual information and helped individuals discover truths concerning issues about which there are two or more points of view.

Beth Emeth Sisterhood lists donor dinner, raffle

ALBANY–Magic will be in the air as Congregation Beth Emeth's Sisterhood holds its annual Susan B. Shpeen Memorial Donor Dinner on Sunday, June 9. This year's dinner event will feature magician Jim Snack as entertainer, with his performance underwritten by The Rabbi Scott L. Shpeen Distinguished Artist Fund. It will be held at the synagogue, 100 Academy Rd., Albany starting with a cocktail hour at 5 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner by Capital City BBQ and Catering.

The dinner will include the drawing of the winning ticket for the sisterhood's raffle. One hundred tickets are being sold at \$18 each offering a chance to win a \$500 gift card to a store or restaurant of

the winner's choice. Tickets maybe purchased via the congregation's website, www.BethEmethAlbany.org.

Tickets to the dinner also are available on the website, \$80 per person at the donor level or \$110 per person at the double-donor level. The proceeds will help support the sisterhood's activities on behalf of Beth Emeth .

The annual dinner honors the memory of Susan Shpeen, the wife of Rabbi Emeritus Scott Shpeen. Susan Shpeen, who died in 2009, was an active member of the sisterhood, serving as treasurer. In her professional life, Shpeen was the executive director of the Albany Jewish Community Center.

Jewish Women's Gala in Clifton Park to feature music of Amalia Rubin

CLIFTON PARK Clifton Park Chabad Jewish Women's Circle will host its 16th Annual Jewish Women's Gala at 10:30 am on Sunday, June 9, at the Hyatt Place, ,20 State Farm Pl., Malta.

The women's event will feature a kosher brunch, raffle auction, prayers for Israel, and singer Amalia Rubin.

"This year especially, we are all in need of some extra positivity, and with Amalia's performance we will get a nice dose of just that!" said Leah Rubin, Circle director.

The event committee is Rivi Bahir, Alyla Goldman, Irina Feygin, Karyn Lefco and Layne Zagorski.

Admission will be \$20 before June 2 and \$25 after. Reservations and t raffle tickets may be obtained at at www. cliftonparkchabad.com.

Leah Rubin at cliftonparkchabad@ gmail.com or 518-495-0779 can provide details.

Decalogue and Shavuot dairy buffet set for Colonie Chabad

ALBANY—Colonie Chabad will host a Shavuot celebration and a dairy buffet on Wednesday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m. at Rabbi Mordechai and Chana Rubins' home, 401 Loudon Rd., Loudonville.

The 10 Commandments and ice cream and other dairy treats will be featured.

Three other Shavuot events are planned by Colonie Chabad.

Following a Tuesday, June 11, dinner

at 7:45 p.m. a later that night Jewish study with guest student rabbis has been announced.

Services on Thursday June 13 begin at 10:30 a.m., and will be followed by kiddush. The yizkor, memorial service for loved ones, will be at 11:30 a.m.

The Shavuot programs are free and reservations, which are required, may be obtained by calling 518-368-7886 or by e-mailing chaicentercolonie@gmail.com.



Gavin Setzen MD
Lawrence S. Kaufman MD
Siobhan Kuhar MD
Nora Perkins MD
Robert T. Adelson MD
Robert Engle MD
Jessica Riccio MD
Robert J. Hughes MD
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STEPHEN ADLER

79, of Queensbury, May 7, 2024; widower of Lydia Adler; survived by partner Karen Marks; daughters Alissa (Cliff) Farrier and Jackie (Kirt Winslow) Adler; son Douglas (Denise) Adler; sister Jane Murdock of Camas Washington; and grandchildren Reed and Taylor Farrier.

CLAIRE BRANDT

88, of Albany, May 14, 2024; widow of Paul Roth and Seymour Brandt; survived by son, Alan (Karen) Roth; daughters Elisa (the late Brian) Goldstein and Sheryl (Ross) Schoonmaker; stepson Alan Brandt; brother Howard Geffner; and grandchildren Andrew Roth, Danielle Roth, Jake Roth, Amber Roth, Joshua (Hallie) Goldstein, Jessica (Jami) Wells, Jeffrey Schoonmaker, Cory (Beth) Schoonmaker and Casey (Kristina) Schoonmaker.

RICHARD FRIEDLANDER

73, of Clifton Park, May 18, 2024; survived by wife Gail Susan Farrell of Clifton Park; sister Ruth (Terrence Holohan) Friedlander of Altamont; and brothers Barry Friedlander of Albany.

JILL LOVENHEIM

50, of Niskayuna, May 9, 2024; survived by husband Jason Goldner;

Jewish journalism counts-

Israel is at war.

The Jewish World relies for much of our news content on JNS, Jewish News Syndicate.

JNS is combating the stream of misinformation on Israel with honest and factual reporting. In order to deliver this in-depth, unbiased coverage of Israel and the Jewish

sons Alex Goldner and Grady Goldner; daughter Luann Goldner; brother Jay (Shari) Lovenheim; and parents Albert and Judith Lovenheim.

CHARISE PFEFFER

43, of Rhinebeck, formerly of Albany, May 5, 2024; survived by father, Alan Pfeffer; and stepmother Lenora Galitz.

ALAN SLOANE

81, of Boynton Beach, Fla., formerly of Albany, April 19, 2024; survived by wife Gloria Sloane; son Jaron Sloane; grandchild Ophelia; and sisters Roberta, Marilyn, and Maxine.

MELVIN (MEL) WILCOVE

89, of Voorheesville, May 14, 2024; survived by daughter Amy (Curt) Scoons of Glenmont; sons David Wilcove of Crested Butte, Colo. and Neil (Wendy Dell) Wilcove of Atlanta, Ga.; grandchildren Ben and Clare Wilcove; step-grandchildren, Sydney and Olivia Del; and sister, Deanna (Rudy) Langer.

IGOR ZISKIN

74, of Albany, May 4, 2024; survived by wife Nina Ziskin; daughters Aleftina "Tina" (William) Ziskin-Turner and Galina Ziskin; sister, Alla (Itzhak) Sakovich; and grandchildren Amillion and Faith Turner and Alexander Madera and Jayda Wilkinson.

The Jewish World publishes obituaries containing age, date of death, spouse and immediate family survivors at no cost. For other options, contact Jim@JewishWorldnews.org

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ALAN AARON SLOANE

Alan, a long time Albany resident and graduate of Albany High School class of 1961, passed away on April 19, 2024, at the age of 81. He relocated to Boynton Beach, Florida a few years ago with his beloved wife, Gloria, and devoted son, Jaron. He is also survived by his sisters - Roberta, Marilyn, and Maxine - many nieces and nephews, his granddaughter, Ophelia; and dear friends. He is predeceased by his brother Sanford, and parents, Gertrude and Benjamin Sloane.

Alan was an inveterate fix-it guy who could be counted on for his unfaltering sense of humor that endeared him to all.

Family meant everything to Alan and he will be greatly missed.

UN flags at half-mast in New York to honor 'Butcher of Tehran' Raisi



The U.N. flag is lowered to half-mast at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City to honor Ebrahim Raisi, the Iranian president who died in a helicopter crash on May 19, 2024. At right is Amir Saeid Iravani, Iranian ambassador to the United Nations, May 21, 2024.

The day after critics slammed the United Nations for holding a moment of silence for the late Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, who died in a helicopter crash on Sunday, May 19, the global body lowered flags to half-mast to honor the leader known by many as the "Butcher of Tehran."

"The United Nations has completely gone off the deep end. Lowering the U.N. flag to half mast in tribute of Iranian President Raisi, a.k.a The Butcher of Tehran," wrote the Israeli diplomat Yaki Lopez, a staffer in the Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry's digital diplomacy bureau.

"Raisi is personally responsible for the deaths of thousands of Iranians, as well as for attacks on Israel," Lopez added. "What a disgrace."

Yaari Cohen, another staffer at the Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry, wrote that readers might find themselves asking why the United Nations lowered its flag to halfmast at its headquarters in New York City.

Jewish War Vets support Hometown Heroes program in Capital Region



Shown at the JWV booth are Fred Bloomstein, Gary Hoffmann, Sherry Asher (daughter of deceased member Gerald Zuckerman) and Gene Altman.

ROTTERDAM-Schenectady Post 106 members participated in the Hometown Heroes event recognizing Veterans on Sunday, May 5, at the Rotterdam Elks Club, organized by Patriot Hills, a New York not-for-profit group that provides support to returning veterans and their families.

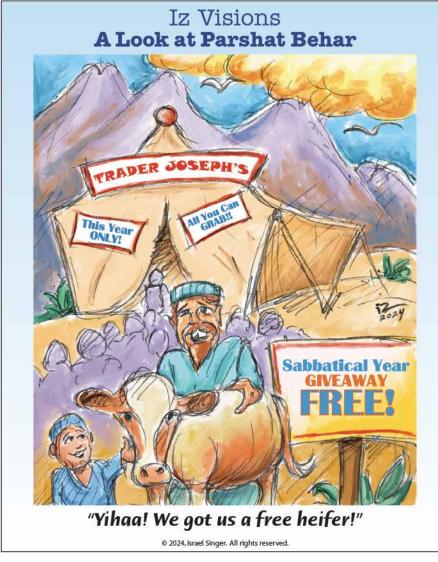
The volunteers met with high school students from Mohonasen High School in Schenectady who belong to the local "Do Something Club." The students' goal was to interview local veterans. Students asked Post 106

Commander Gene Altman about the mission and programs of the Jewish War Veterans.

The Do Something Club worked on their volunteer credit hours for their Regents degrees. Their stated goal is to create a video for PatriotHills.org to share the stories of the military veterans.

Altman said that there were various military, scouting and commercial organizations with exhibits for the estimated 200 attendees.

Altman at galtman903@aol.com. can provide details.



Our Special Connection of the week

Rabbi Leible Morrison and his wife Elisheva of Beth Tephilah in Troy, create a weekly family bulletin that has as focus the Torah portion of the week and each week includes a "special connection" section highlighting an individual who has died during the week of the portion.

YEHUDA ROTHENBERG Z'L

Yehuda Rothenberg passed away on the third portion of the parasha of **Behar**. In that portion the G-d commands the Jewish people to institute a Sabbatical year that occurs every seven years. During this time the land in Israel cannot have a planting or a harvest. The Jewish people would have to have a trust in G-d to leave the land fallow. The next harvest would not happen until the eighth year! All the food would have to come from the sixth year's planting when most of the soils nutrients are already depleted and the harvest would be smaller than the rest of the years. This is a trust in G-d that goes beyond logic and not only are the Jewish people commanded to persevere but also use this time to increase in the study of Torah even more than before their obstacle of no harvest. It is this trust in G-d that our generation is known for. Even though previous generations are spiritual gian compared to us; we still give G-d great pleasure by doing Torah and mitzvot despite our lackings. How is this possible to understand this, let us look at the life of Yehudah Rothenberg Z"L.

Yehudah Rothenberg Z'L was born in Cincinnati in the early '60s. Unfortunately, he had developed a major handicap in his twenties that he

had to deal with for the rest of his life. Yehudah tried to be always up beat and helped many people. He would maintain any friendships throughout the years. Yehuda would give all his many friends a short upbeat call before any Jewish holiday. He would always help students of the Yeshiva High School in Cincinnati by giving them rides to the airport or other errands just for the price of the gas. He went to classes to study Torah to the best of his ability. Even when mowing lawns, he would take a break to say psalms. He struggled and showed his great love of G-d and His people like a flame of a candle showing through the darkness. This answers our question of how overcoming and obstacle can give pleasure to G-d. Yehuda's approach to life through his love was everlasting. Many people came to his funeral in appreciation of this love he shared.

This is the love that G-d wants us all to have, that makes G-d's world beautiful and gives Him pleasure.

Our Special Connections is a project that takes the life experiences of our loved ones that have passed and use them as a commentary on their portion of the Torah. The "Special Connection" is that your loved one's "commentary" provides an insight for people learning Torah and provides an everlasting legacy and elevation for the soul of that special person in your life!

We are trying to make a special website that has these memories. Please share some memories with us of your loved ones. Please call Leible at 518-894-3490.

Bar Mitzvah



LEVI HAWRYLCHAK, son of Amy and Mike Hawrylchak of Guilderland, will be bar mitzvah at Beth Emeth in Albany on Saturday, June 1.

Maternal grandparents are Toby and Fred Wander of Albany. Paternal grandparents are Sandra and George Hawrylchak of Altamont.

At school, Levi is on the cross country and track teams and also plays trumpet. He is a black belt in Tae Kwon Do. This year, Levi and his team won first place at the National Future Cities Competition. He

loves reading, coding, and robotics. At Beth Emeth, Levi is a Sunday volunteer as a teen aide. His mitzvah project is with the PJ Library.

'Battle of the BBQs' slated for June 30

The Shalom Food Pantry's seventh annual "Battle of the BBQs" competition is set for Sunday, June 30. The event at the Albany JCC, 340 Whitehall Rd. begins at 4 p.m. and continues until 6 p.m. The proceeds from the competition will be given to the Shalom Food Pantry to help those in need.

The Shalom Food Pantry is an organization that provides food packages to individuals and families in the Capital Region who are struggling financially. According to Shalom pantry administrators, the food support respectfully protects people's privacy and dignity. The food pantry provides over 2,300 meals worth of groceries each month.

The goals of the barbecue competition are to bring the community together, create awareness of the Shalom Food Pantry, and raise funds for its services, said Chanie Simon, co-director of the Shalom Food Pantry.

Teams representing local Jewish organizations will compete. Attendees will get to sample each of the teams'

chicken wings, steaks, and portabello mushrooms. There will also be all-youcan-eat sides, including vegetarian options. Music and activities for children are also planned.

"The competitors will have a great time while giving back," according to Simon. "Each year, there is a great atmosphere among the teams while they are barbecuing, as teams sample one another's sauces, offer tips, and share some of their secrets."

All attending, in particular the non-competitors, may vote for the People's Choice Award.

Admission with a reservation, through June 25 is \$25 p.p. After that date admission is \$30 and \$10 per child. Children 5 and under and may attend at no cost. Organizers report that there are also honorary committee options. Reservations may be obtained for the "Battle of the BBQs," by e-mail chanie@shalomfoodpantry. com or www.shalomfoodpantry.com or by calling 518- 439-3310.

The Jewish relationship ...

Continued from Page 11

year, the Torah commands that land one may have been forced to sell returns to the original owners (Leviticus 25:13). This is called redemption of property (geulat karka). Land remains in the family for perpetuity even when dire circumstances force a sale. The eternal link between the land and its owners is the issue addressed in the haftorah of Behar when Jeremiah, the prophet of the destruction of the holy Temple, redeems his Uncle Hananel's land for him. Despite the destruction at hand, Jeremiah knows that eventually the Jews will return to the land. God's promise of an eternal covenant is paralleled in the eternal rights of a family toward its finished property.

Throughout the world, people love the land in which they are born, a love so central that one's homeland is called in most vernaculars "motherland" or "fatherland." These terms are absent in the Hebrew language; our relationship to the land is not one of son or daughter to father or mother, but is rather akin to that of husband to wife or wife to husband.

May we be worthy of the land and may the land properly respond to our love and commitment to it in this generation of return and redemption.

Shabbat Shalom.

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin is chancellor emeritus of Ohr Torah Stone and chief rabbi of Efrat, Israel.

Friday, May 24, 16, Iyar. Shabbat candle lighting at 8:02 p.m. **Saturday, May 25, 17 Iyar. Sedrah: Behar,** Shabbat ends at 9:12 p.m.

Friday, May 31, 23, Iyar. Shabbat candle lighting at 8:08 p.m.

Saturday, June 1, 24, Iyar. Sedrah: Bechukotai. Shabbat ends at 9:19 p.m.



Nova massacre survivor ...

Continued from Page 2

with her husband, Shai, she worked for the production team of the Unity festival, which took place at the site of the Supernova Music Festival a day before.

"Since it was a holiday, there were many festivals planned for that weekend. The teams of the Unity and Supernova festivals decided to do it in the same place," she recalled.

Tale Of Terror

"Our festival started on Thursday evening, went into Friday and then in the afternoon, we turned the music off, changed the colors of the decorations and Nova started. We came with a van. We thought it would be a nice weekend," she added.

At 8 a.m. on Oct. 7, Blajman-Kadar, Shai and five friends hid in the couple's van, where they spent the next six hours listening to Hamas terrorists torture and massacre 364 people.

"Very quickly, we heard terrorists arrive and yell 'Allah Akbar,' and lots of gunshots. For the first hour and a half, we were in shock, looking at each other, shaking," Blajman-Kadar told JNS.

"After a while, it became quieter because most people had already been killed. Then, they started finding people in hiding or wounded and executing them one by one. One scream, one gunshot, we could literally hear their body fall to the ground," she said.

At first, the terrorists thought that Blajman-Kadar's van was abandoned. "A terrorist came and tried to open the door a few times. We had locked it but it was a plastic lock. Then, he kept walking and we weren't sure why," she recalled.

They Came Back

"We heard him scream 'ta'al' [come] in Arabic. We understood that they had found someone else who was still alive. We heard a few screams, gunshots, and a body fall to the ground. That person saved us," she added.

The terrorists fired on the van before leaving, narrowly missing Shai. But they would be back.

"At 12:30 p.m., my husband, who speaks Arabic, heard a terrorist come very close to our window and tell the

others that we were still alive inside," Blajman-Kadar said.

"At one point, we heard them pour a liquid onto the van. It took us a few seconds to understand that they were trying to burn us alive," she added. Despite their attempts, the van would not catch fire. Some 40 minutes later, the Israel Defense Forces arrived at the scene and after a long battle, they were saved.

"When the door finally opened, we saw everything we had been hearing, all the things we had imagined while in hiding, we now could see," said Blajman-Kadar.

Became An Advocate

"I can only say that when it took weeks to identify the corpses of my friends, we weren't surprised, because we saw what they did to them there," she continued.

Since then, Blajman-Kadar has been traveling across Europe with Shai to tell their story. In March, her book **Believing in Life (Croire en la vie)** was published.

"My main job since then is to talk about my friends who are still hostage in Gaza. I started doing advocacy, giving interviews and testimonies in French and English, to explain to the world what happened on Oct. 7," she told JNS.

"It's been months that I am in Europe, and I can say that people don't know enough about the hostages, people are forgetting them. Since Oct. 7, the world has looked at Israel, asking for a ceasefire because they don't even understand why we are still fighting. That's insane but that seems to be the reality," she added.

Blajman-Kadar was approached by Collectif du 7 Octobre' a French organization advocating on behalf of the hostages, with the idea of going to Cannes

"Within 72 hours, we started working on the dress, getting tickets to the festival. I was very lucky to get help from people who believed in our cause," she said. "I am very proud that we managed to do this. I was so scared that it wouldn't work. I was amazed to wake up the next morning and see so many newspapers covering it. I got messages from families of hostages who saw the dress and were very thankful," she added.



Share Your Simchas With Us!