

# THE JEWISH WORLD

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# Biden claims ‘The center has held’: Biden makes farewell U.N.G.A. speech

U.S. President Joe Biden delivered his final address to the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday, Sept. 24, describing to world leaders the “sweep of history” he has seen over the course of his career as an elected official. The 81-year-old touted his accomplishments in office while noting that his half-century of involvement in American foreign affairs was drawing to a close.

“I was first elected to office in the United States of America as a U.S. senator in 1972,” Biden said. “Back then, we were living through an inflection point, a moment of tension and uncertainty. I truly believe we’re in another inflection point in world history,” he said.

### Three Important Minutes

Biden devoted about three minutes of his nearly 25-minute-long speech to the Middle East, Israel and Gaza.

Speaking just days before the anniversary of the Oct. 7 attacks, he called on world leaders not to “flinch from the horrors” of that day.

“Any country would have the right and responsibility to ensure that such an

attack could never happen again,” Biden said. “Thousands of armed Hamas terrorists invaded a sovereign state, slaughtering and massacring more than 1,200 people, including 46 Americans in their home and at a music festival. Despicable acts of sexual violence. Two-hundred and fifty innocents taken hostage.”

### Innocents Suffering

“I’ve met with the families of those hostages. I’ve grieved with them. They’re going through hell,” he continued. “Innocent civilians in Gaza are also going through hell. Thousands and thousands killed, including aid workers. Too many families dislocated, crowding in the tents, facing a dire humanitarian situation. They did not ask for this war that Hamas started.”

### The Only Path?

Biden called on Israel and Hamas to accept the ceasefire-for-hostages that he first outlined in May and that has stalled ever since. He said that the deal would ease suffering in the Gaza Strip and result in greater security for Israel, a Gaza “free from Hamas’s grip” and bring an



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAURA JARRIEL/U.N. PHOTO.

*U.S. President Joe Biden addresses the U.N. General Assembly’s 79th session in New York City on Sept. 24, 2024.*

end to the war.

The terms of the deal that the administration has previously outlined do not include removing Hamas from power.

Biden added that a diplomatic solution was “the only path” to resolve the Israel-Lebanon border crisis, and he also pressed for the creation of a Palestinian state.

“We must also address the rise of violence against innocent Palestinians on the West Bank and set the conditions for a better future, including a two-state solution,” the president said. “Where Israel enjoys security and peace and full recognition and normalized relations with all its neighbors. Where Palestinians live in security, dignity and self-determination in a state of their own.”

He claimed that progress towards peace between Israelis and Palestinians would make it easier to confront the threat posed by Iran and said that Iran must never obtain a nuclear weapon.

### Love Of Country

Most of Biden’s speech, however, was devoted to other conflicts and developments ranging from Ukraine and Sudan to artificial intelligence and the Mpox virus.

In one of the longest sections of the speech about ongoing global crises, Biden quoted William Butler Yeats’ 1919 poem “The Second Coming.”

“Things fall apart; the center cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,” Biden recited. “Some may say those words describe the world, not just in 1919 but in 2024. I see a critical distinction. In our time, the center has held.”

Biden also explained to the 192 other U.N. member states—about half of which are non-democracies—why he decided not to seek another term.

“Being president has been the honor of my life,” Biden said. “There’s so much more I want to get done. As much as I love the job, I love my country more. I decided, after 50 years of public service, it’s time for a new generation of leadership to take my nation forward.”

He added: “My fellow leaders, let us never forget, some things are more important than staying in power.”

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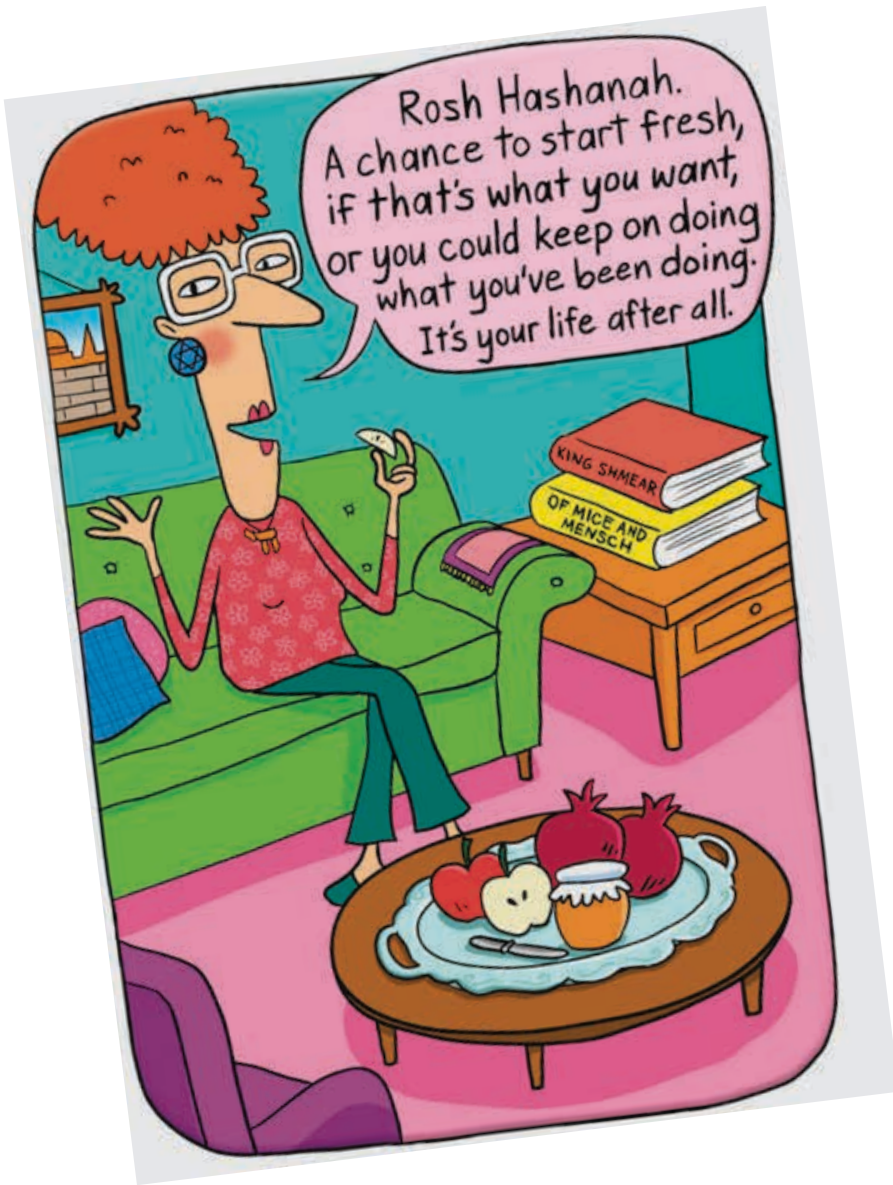
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future and swear that **it's going to be good!** Band with us as we move slowly toward the light.

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# Be aware of deception, misinformation and malicious lies as political tools

By SHMUEL KATZ

JNS

For too long, self-serving foreign and domestic operatives have been trying to influence all of us about the ways that we think and about the choices that we make. A very popular avenue used by these individuals is to convince people not to communicate with or even listen to people who may have different points of view.

We are entering the final stages of a very important election season in the United States, which may have serious consequences on our economic well-being, personal safety and freedom and the peaceful coexistence in our neighborhoods, our nation and across the globe.

## Double Check

It is imperative, that we try to “fact check” any information that we are provided with, from all sources, from all sides. We must make sure that if people are sharing quotes from other individuals with us, especially if the quotes are of their opponents, that we check the original text or video recording to verify that we have received the correct

information, in its true context.

When politicians are bragging about their previous achievements, we must check if the information is accurate. At the same time, if they deny some previous statements or actions, we must check the original information so that we can make a well-informed and proper decision.

We should be able to address general feel-good statements and hard evidence of practical actionable performances, as all of them will have a direct effect on our lives.

## Beware Buzz Words

We hear many feel-good words that we can identify with, words like freedom, democracy, joy, values, common sense, going forward, etc. These words, by themselves, are empty buzzwords if they cannot be uttered in a well-documented context. Take for example the word “freedom.” Is this word including freedom of religion, freedom to buy the car of your choice, freedom of speech, freedom to pick the school of your choosing for your children, freedom to educate and care for your children in your own tradition, freedom to respect

other people for what they are, freedom to be equal under the law, freedom to be protected from criminals, etc.?

## Ask Relevant Questions

Therefore, to be able to make a wise informed decision about how to vote, we should be able to answer as many as possible, of the following examples of some relevant questions:

Do you want to have a low rate of inflation and stable buying power for your money?

Do you want the United States to be energy-independent?

Do you want to have cheap gasoline for your car?

Do you want to pay less for your groceries?

Do you want to have safe and protected borders?

Do you want to have well-financed strong and honorable police?

Do you want to have a strong military and a powerful national security?

Do you want to have the freedom to have a gun?

Do you want to live in a safe neighborhood?

Do you want to pay less taxes?

Do you want the government to be careful about how it spends your hard-earned tax money?

Do you want to minimize government interference in your life?

Do you want to have the freedom to define yourself and not let other people impose their values on you?

Do you want to have the freedom to choose the car of your choice?

Do you want to have the freedom to practice your religion of choice?

Do you want to have a secure, legal and honest voting system?

Do you want to have a legal system that will judge every person objectively and equally?

Do you want to be able to hear all the original responsible opinions, without malicious distortions?

Do you want to have the freedom to send your children to a school of your choice?

Do you want to have schools where they will teach and nurture your children and not indoctrinate them?

Do you want to share honorable patriotic values with your children?

Do you want to have your children appreciate and respect the Constitution?

Do you want to give your children an equal opportunity to excel, or do you want them in a system of imposed equity, which will prevent them from reaching their full potential?

Do you want to have your children read age-appropriate books?

Do you want to have the option of getting a private medical insurance of your choice?

Do you want to breathe clean air and eat safe food?

Do you want to have responsible abortion options?

Do you want reliable leaders who will keep their word?

Do you want leaders who understand the differences between the culture and mentality of the West, of the East and of the Middle East, and their effects on our freedom, liberty and safety?

Do you want to have leaders able to distinguish clearly between good and evil?

Do you want to have leaders who know how to distinguish between liberty and tyranny?

Do you want to have leaders who will support our allies and challenge our enemies?

Do you want to have leaders who believe in a true democracy?

Do you want to have leaders who will be brave enough to share with the people their hopes, their challenges, and their plans?

Do you want to have leaders who will look out for the interest of the people and not for their own selfish

**Continued on page 10**

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*[When we combined lists, some errors may have crept in: if you have a question about your renewal date, please call us.]*

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# Jewish comic's pro-jihadi gay persona scorches social media



L.E. Staiman as Lyle Culpepper makes nice with Yahya Sinwar

BY CANAAN LIDOR  
 Shortly after Hamas invaded Israel, Lyle Culpepper knew that his comfortable life as a gender studies professor at a prestigious American university was about to change. A self-professed ex-lover of several Hamas leaders, Culpepper suspended his academic career to advocate for Palestinians so passionately and effectively that his popular social media videos are followed and liked even by prominent Zionists, including jurist Anne Herzberg; ADL executive Andrew Srulovitch and senior Israeli diplomats David Saranga and Naor Gilon.

Laughing Or Crying?  
 At least, that's what Culpepper would probably say.  
 In reality, though, Culpepper is a character created by Florida-based Jewish actor L.E. Staiman, whose popularity has soared after Oct. 7 thanks to his caricaturing of the clueless campus cronies of Iran's global jihad.

In one of his most popular videos, with nearly 800,000 views and 10,000 likes on X, he mourns the loss of the Iranian drones that Israel shot down over its territory in April.

"Forty percent of those drones were children," Lyle says in that video, his voice cracking with emotion as his bleached, disheveled hair—a wig—quivers over a khaki keffiyeh of the kind favored by Hezbollah terrorists.

"These are drones that will never experience filming a landscape, of a big shot of a city, or a Jake Gyllenhaal ambulance chase scene," he continues. He asks viewers to "pray for the drones of Iran" in mockery of the anti-Israel narrative that ignores armed terrorists by focusing on minors—including those who engage in terrorism.

Art Imitating Life  
 Staiman, a professional actor, director/producer and singer, has Lyle star in additional hits across genres, including

music videos such as "Intifada in the U.S.A." (500,000 views) spoofing a Miley Cyrus similarly titled number. Then there's Staiman's own "Tunnel of Love," a lustful serenade to former lover and Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, AKA "the George Clooney of Khan Younis" who makes Lyle want to "tap that Ham-ass."

Another genre of Lyle videos features video montages where Lyle speaks alongside terrorists, pro-Palestinian celebrities, Democrat politicians and campus activists, who sometimes sound almost indistinguishable from his caricature.

Lyle goes on real-life awareness-raising missions occasionally, including at the recent Democratic National Convention in Chicago, where he documented people congratulating him on his plan to "spread light and love through global jihad"—before eventually being

recognized and booed.

A recent trolling assignment on Washington Square Park in New York had Lyle and keffiyeh-clad sidekick Abu Fauci signing up passersby for a nonexistent "anti-Zionist dating app"

called Jihotties, which they advertise to receptive listeners as "Zionist clean, with no Jews."

Lyle's success has been such that Staiman and his business partner are now

**Continued on page 16**

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# A sweet 5785 to a somber Jewish people: Iranian Jewish dishes

By **ETHEL G. HOFMAN**  
JNS

Jews the world over will celebrate Rosh Hashanah beginning the evening of Oct 2 this year. Sweet dishes are served to welcome in 5785 with wishes for a sweet year ahead. And for peace! After a year like this one, the Jewish people need some resolution. They need the estimated 100 hostages returned from nearly a year of captivity in the Gaza Strip after the Hamas terrorist attacks and atrocities in southern Israel last October. They need calm in Israel's north and the country's borders to be secure. Jewish people need the world to put away its anger at us and to focus on resolving regional ills caused by its main puppeteer, Iran.

Shani Feinstein, who lives in the Philadelphia suburbs, knows that firsthand. Vivid memories remain of her last Rosh Hashanah in Tehran in 1979. She had just graduated college and was settled in a job. She recalls that "demonstrations against the shah had started in June, but we didn't pay much attention. Then, before Rosh Hashanah, floods of angry people—men and women—spilled into the streets. They became more intimidating. The ayatollah made empty promises. Women had to cover Western clothing and wear a chador—a full, body-length black garment—or face punishment. It was the end of freedom under the shah's regime."

The Jewish community—between 70,000 and 80,000 people in all and one of the oldest in the diaspora—laid low so as not to draw attention to themselves. Before going to shul, Sion, her father, would wrap his tallit bag in a newspaper. Shopping at the market for all the holiday foods, Shani's mother, Tuba, wore a chador and stayed to herself. That year, Rosh Hashanah was celebrated quietly with family.

The political atmosphere grew darker in the country. Most Jews lived in Tehran, with lesser concentrations in Shiraz, Kermanshah and Isfahan. Shani recounts that "the shah had left, and the ayatollah returned and replaced the government." She told her mother that she didn't want to live in such an environment. But where to go? Communication with Israel had been cut off. In February 1980, word spread that the Chabad-Lubavitch movement was ready to take young people out of Iran to New York. The fear was of another Holocaust. Shani went to the passport office every day for two months until she received her passport. "It was the happiest day of my life," she says.

Eventually, the rest of her family came over, save for one sister. Shani went on to marry and have three children.

Shani carries on the Sephardic culinary traditions she grew up with, reminiscent of a home she can no longer see. There are no Western-style meal courses in Iran. No soups, no challah, no honey or apple cake, as in Ashkenazi holiday meals and tradition. Rather, a sumptuous array of Rosh Hashanah dishes is set out on a long table, buffet-style. Symbolic foods consist of flatbreads, pomegranate seeds, pumpkin, red beans, leeks and dates—for a sweet year and for the eradication of enemies.

A simple salad reflects the Iranian use of just a few fresh ingredients. Alongside, a tray of assorted fresh herbs like fresh tarragon, watercress, radishes and green onions is typically served to dinner guests. Dessert comes in the form of baklava, accompanied by a platter of seasonal fruits and nuts.

## PERSIAN SALAD (pareve)

Serves 4-6

**Cook's Tips:**

- May substitute any fresh herb such as mint, watercress or parsley for the cilantro.

- Two to three limes, depending on size, yield ¼ cup lime juice.
- Limes and lemons yield more juice at room temperature.

### Ingredients:

3 to 4 Persian cucumbers cut into ½-inch pieces

2 to 3 medium tomatoes, cut into wedges

¼ Vidalia onion, finely chopped

3 tablespoons chopped cilantro

### Dressing:

¼ cup freshly squeezed lime juice

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

pinch of salt and 3 to 4 grinds freshly ground black pepper

### Directions:

Place all ingredients into a serving bowl. Set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together the dressing ingredients. Pour over the vegetables in a bowl.

Serve chilled or at room temperature.

## RICE WITH CANDIED ORANGE PEEL (pareve)

Makes 6-8 servings



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE FEINSTEIN.

*Shani Feinstein measures saffron for a holiday dish.*

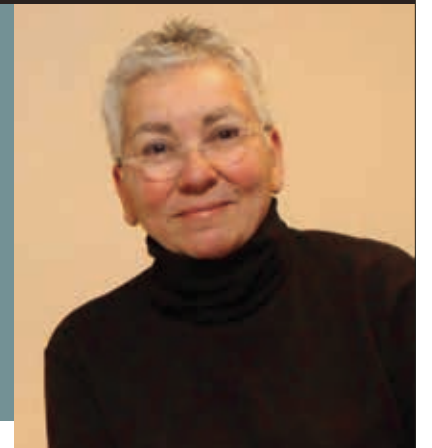
### Cook's Tips:

- Use store-bought shredded carrots.
- Slivered orange peel is available online on Amazon. If preparing at home, make sure no white pith remains on the peel.

**Continued on page 12**

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### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

**Agudat Achim Great Moments in History: "Important Dates in November: The Balfour Declaration, Kristallnacht, the United Nations Partition Plan, and the American Upcoming Election. The Golden Age of American Jewry: Hollywood, Spielberg, Uris, and Wiesel Changed Our View of Jewish Life"**—7:30 p.m. Agudat Achim Synagogue, 2117 Union St., Schenectady. Prof. Stephen Berk to lead discussions. \$18. Info., Reg. —518-393-9211 or <https://www.agudatachim.com>.

**The Siege of Sidney Street: The East End of London Shootout**—7 p.m. Zoom. Historian Andrew Whitehead—author of *A Devilish Kind of Courage: Anarchists, Aliens and the Siege of Sidney Street*—will discuss what the shootout revealed about London's Jewish East End in 1911 and Yiddish-speaking anarchist movement. Free. Sponsored by Yiddish Book Center. Reg., Info.—[yiddishbookcenter.org](http://yiddishbookcenter.org).

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

**Beth Emeth Erev Shabbat Service**—5:30-6:30 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream at [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org).

[CBEAlbany.org](http://CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761, [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**Capital Region Community Selichot**—8 -11:45 p.m. Agudat Achim Synagogue, 2117 Union St., Schenectady. Havdalah. Film, *"The Believer,"* selichot prayers, preparation for Rosh Hashanah. Info., Reg. —518-393-9211.

**Beth Emeth Torah Study** — 9:30-10:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Discussion of the Torah portion **Nitzavim-Vayeilech**, in-person and via Zoom. Reg. —[www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Zoom link: <https://Us02Web.Zoom.us/j/89304372729>. Password: CBE. Info. — 518-436-9761, [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

**Beth Emeth Selichot Service** — 6:30 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream, [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). High Holy Days preparation service of prayers, changing of the Torah covers and the sound of the shofar. Info.— 518-436-9761, [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**SJCC Family Rosh Hashanah Crafts**—3-4:30 p.m. Schenectady Jewish Community Center, 2565 Balltown Rd. PJ Library, songs, crafts. \$5 per family. Info.—Judy Ben-Ami, 528-377-8803.

**Beth Emeth ARBA for Fours** — 9:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Intro for 4-year-olds to Jewish traditions twice monthly on Sundays, beginning with

the High Holy Days. Info., Reg.— [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org), [School@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:School@CBEAlbany.org) or 518-432-1392.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

**Clifton Park Chabad Community Rosh HaShanah Dinner**— 7 p.m. 495 Moe Rd., Clifton Park. Res. Info.—<http://www.cliftonparkchabad.com>, 518-495-0772.

**Colonie Chabad Community Rosh HaShanah Dinner**—6 p.m. 401 Loudon Rd., Loudonville. Following services. Res., Info.—[www.ColonieCJC.com/High-Holidays](http://www.ColonieCJC.com/High-Holidays), Info.—518-368-7886.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3/4

**Bethlehem Chabad Rosh Hashanah Shofar Sounding** — 12 p.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Info., Res.—518-439-3310, [bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com](http://bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com).

**Bethlehem Chabad Rosh Hashanah Family Service** — 11 a.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Info., Res.—518-439-3311, [bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com](http://bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com).

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

**Albany Community Tashlich**—4:30 p.m. Buckingham Lake Park. Berkshire Blvd., Albany. Info.—518-783-7800.

**Bethlehem Chabad Tashlich Service** — 5:30 p.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Info., Res.—518-439-3310, [bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com](http://bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com).

**Beth Emeth Rosh Hashanah**—100 Academy Rd., Albany. Family Service for kids, — 9 -10 a.m., Congregation service — 10:30 a.m. Reform liturgy including Torah and haftarah readings, shofar. Dessert reception follows. Also on live-stream. Reg. [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761, or [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

**Shofar In The Park**—5 p.m. Newtonville Park Gazebo. Tashlich, Oct. 7 Memorial. 6 p.m. Siena College Campus Center. Res., Info.—518-368-7886, or [ChaiCenterColonie@gmail.com](mailto:ChaiCenterColonie@gmail.com).

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

**Beth Emeth Shabbat Shuvah Service** — 5:30 p.m. in-person at 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream at [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761 or [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

**Beth Emeth Torah Study** — 9:30 -10:30 am, 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Discussion of the Torah portion **Ha'azinu**, in-person and via Zoom with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell. Reg. — [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Zoom link: <https://Us02Web.Zoom.us/j/89304372729>. Password: CBE. Info. — 518-436-9761, [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

**We Have Not forgotten You!** 1 p.m. 100 Great Oaks Blvd., Office Park. Guilderland. Vigil for hostages and Israeli soldiers on Western Ave., followed by 2 p.m. march (westbound to near Crossgates Mall entrance). Amidah—Albany and Run For Their Lives. Info.—Ami-

[dahalbany@gmail.com](mailto:dahalbany@gmail.com), <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kvEfl0jcSmCJo8B-5jpeEt8smwz5s801fv/view>.

**SJCC's The Kalanit (Anemones) Project**—2-3:30 p.m. Schenectady Jewish Community Center, 2565 Balltown Rd. Planting to remember Oct. 7 Israeli victims. Exhibit of Anemones photos. Art activities to create Anemones reproductions. Info.—Judy Ben-Ami, 528-377-8803.

**Beth Emeth Cemetery Service** — 11 a.m. Beth Emeth Cemetery, 57 Turner Lane, Loudonville. Annual memorial service with the recitation of the names of congregants who died since last Rosh Hashanah and are interred in the cemetery. Info. — 518-436-9761 or [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

**Beth Emeth ARBA for Fours** — 9:30 a.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Intro for 4-year-olds to Jewish traditions twice monthly on Sundays, beginning with the High Holy Days. Info., Reg.— [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org), [School@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:School@CBEAlbany.org) or 518-432-1392.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

**Capital District Commemoration of October 7**— 7 p.m. program, 5:30 p.m. start. Beth Emeth Synagogue, 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Commemoration and unity gathering to mark the October 7, 2023, attack on Israel. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of NENY and the Capital District Board of Rabbis and Cantors. Info.—518-783-7800. Reg. required, [jewishfedny.org/october-7](http://jewishfedny.org/october-7).

**Pittsfield Commemoration of October 7**—7-8 p.m. Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Rd., Pittsfield, Mass. Candle ceremony. Reg. also via live-stream, [knessetisrael.org/livestream](http://knessetisrael.org/livestream), 413-442-4360.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

**Beth Emeth Lunch & Learn** — 12 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. Participants bring lunch and learn from congregational leaders about aspects of Judaism. Reg.— [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761 or [ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org).

**Beth Emeth Youth Group** — 5:30 -7 p.m. 100 Academy Rd., Albany. All Jewish high schoolers are invited to CBEYG's weekly meeting. Info. — 518-436-9761, [CBEYG@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:CBEYG@CBEAlbany.org).

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

**Beth Emeth Kol Nidre/Erev Shabbat** —5 p.m. early service, 7:30 p.m. later service; 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream, [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Reg. required to attend in person, [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761 or [Info@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:Info@CBEAlbany.org).

**Clifton Park Chabad Yom Kippur Services**, —. 495 Moe Rd., Clifton Park. Res., Info.—<http://www.cliftonparkchabad.com>, 518-495-0772.

### FRIDAY, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11/12

**Bethlehem Chabad Yom Kippur Services** — 6 p.m. 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Info., Res.—518-439-3310, [bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com](http://bethlehemchabad.com/hh58/info@bethlehemchabad.com).

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# Amsterdam exhibit focuses on neglected aspect of the Holocaust: looted Judaica, household items



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES/COLLECTION SPAARNESTAD/ANP/DAAN NOSKE. | NATIONAL ARCHIVES/COLLECTION SPAARNESTAD/ANP/DAAN NOSKE

Stolen household goods from deported Jewish inhabitants. Amsterdam, March 18, 1943.

By **MENACHEM WECKER**

JNS

**S**tories about art looted during the Holocaust abound, but they tend to focus on major works by noted artists worth vast amounts of money.

“Beyond the masterpieces, there remains a largely hidden world of lesser-known looted items, from household goods that belonged to deported Jewish neighbors to objects from Jewish places of worship, community buildings and private libraries and archives,” according to the catalog accompanying the exhibition “Looted” (through Oct. 27) at the Jewish Museum and the National Holocaust Museum in Amsterdam.

The exhibit and catalogue, “Dispossessed: Personal Stories of Nazi-Looted Jewish Cultural Property and Postwar Restitution,” are co-productions of Amsterdam’s Jewish Cultural Quarter and the Rijksmuseum, which is more than 225 years old, and among the world’s most visited and largest museums.

## Eight Lost Collections

The show traces the stories of eight collections the Nazis seized: Leo Isaac Lessmann (Judaica), Franz Oppenheimer and Margarethe Oppenheimer—(Meissen porcelain), Albert Heppner and Irene Marianne Heppner— Krämer (paintings), the Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana (books), illustrator M.C. Escher’s teacher Samuel Jessurun de Mesquita (art), Louis Lamm (books), Dési Goudstikker (widow of art collector Jacques Goudstikker) and Margarete Stern-Lippmann (art).

In the instance of the Heppners, who were German-Jewish refugees, the couple’s then-7-year-old son Max saw officials confiscate his parents’ collection. “I witnessed the theft with my own frightened eyes, even though I didn’t really know about everything that was at issue,” he said, per the catalogue. “All I knew was that my family’s space

was being invaded and our family’s possessions were being stolen. Of course, later I learned that the Nazis also were scheming to take our lives.”

## Help?

When German troops entered Amsterdam in May 1940, the Heppners tried in vain to flush “incriminating” documents down the toilet or to burn them on the stove. “In the end, they sank a pile of anti-Nazi magazines in a nearby canal,” per the catalogue. “Around sunset, on their way back home, they saw many little fires burning elsewhere in their neighborhood,” adding that “anxious” neighbors were, like they, “harmoniously burning together the contraband.”

The collectors’ non-Jewish family doctor refused to bury their jewelry in his garden. “Our doctor was a good friend of the family. My mother trusted

him fully. But when we were in need, he didn’t help us,” Max said, according to the catalogue. “He said he wanted to comply with the new regime, and he thought it wise for everyone to do the same.”

‘Made two needs possible’  
“Chillingly,” the catalogue adds, the doctor offered the Heppners poison, “because he suspected that things would not end well for the family.” Instead,  
**Continued on page 10**

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## Be aware of deception ...

Continued from Page 4

benefits?

Do you want leaders who will educate the population for mutual respect and unity, and avoid conflicts and divisions?

Once you have made an informed selection of the items that you feel will be in your interest and to the benefit of the country, you should follow the following steps:

### Focus

1. Stay focused on the issues. That will help you evaluate the narratives and ideas political parties and current candidates push these days.

2. Find out the real reasons behind presentations and promises by the candidates, which may not match with the ways that they were governing, when they were in charge, during their

respective administrations.

3. You must understand that the future of the free world, including that of the United States and Israel, depends on solid leadership not being controlled or influenced by anti-American forces.

4. You must understand that your well-being will depend also on the decisions that you are going to make.

5. You must understand that empty promises are useless and may even be dangerous. Real attention must be given also to documented previous actions

and to properly document problematic past threats and statements.

6. Each person must be empowered to become an ambassador for a good cause, who also recruits others to vote wisely.

7. Special attention will have to be given to prevent voting fraud and to challenge any illegal activity. All of us must keep in mind that should the wrong people prevail and gain political power, they may not look out for your interests.



## Calendar of Events

Continued from Page 8

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

**Beth Emeth Yom Kippur Services**—Family service—9 a.m., Congregation service—10:30 a.m., Moments with ark—1 p.m. Renewal service—2 p.m. Afternoon service—3 p.m. followed by Neilah/ yiskor at 4 p.m. and ending with havdalah. A break-the-fast nosh. 100 Academy Rd., Albany, or via live-stream at [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Reg., required to attend in person, [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761 or [Info@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:Info@CBEAlbany.org).

**Clifton Park Chabad Yom Kippur Break Fast**—7 p.m. following services, —

495 Moe Rd., Clifton Park. Res., Info.—<http://www.cliftonparkchabad.com>, 518-495-0772.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

**Beth Emeth Sukkah Raising** — 11 a.m. 100 Academy Rd, Albany. Brotherhood and others put up the sukkah. Reg., Info.—[Brotherhood@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:Brotherhood@CBEAlbany.org).

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

**Clifton Park Chabad Sukkot dinner** —6 p.m. 495 Moe Rd., Clifton Park. Res., Info.—<http://www.cliftonparkchabad.com>, 518-495-0772.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

**Beth Emeth Sukkot, Shabbat Service** — 5:30 p.m. 100 Academy Rd, Albany. Followed by Sushi in the sukkah, 6:30 p.m. Reg. required, \$18 per adult, no cost for children; [www.CBEAlbany.org](http://www.CBEAlbany.org). Info. — 518-436-9761 or [Info@CBEAlbany.org](mailto:Info@CBEAlbany.org).

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

**SJCC Robert J. Ludwig Community Service Awards Gala**— 6 p.m. Schenectady's Museum of Innovation and Science (miSci), 15 Museum Dr., Schenectady. Karen and Gerald Hausler will receive the Community Service Award. Mohawk Honda to receive the Corporate Partnership Award and Jewish Family Services of Northeastern New York to receive the Philanthropic Leadership Award. Reg.—Joslyn McArdle at [jcardle@jccsofthecapitalregion.org](mailto:jcardle@jccsofthecapitalregion.org).

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

**High Holy Days Art**—7-8 p.m. Virtual. Nancy Kotz, marketing and

speakers bureau director of Jewish Arts Education, will discuss Rosh Hashanah/ Yom Kippur artwork over the last 1,500 years. Reg., Info.— Rabbi Daveen Litwin, 413-442-4360, <https://www.jewishberkshires.org/>.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

**SJCC Film Fest: "Beyond October 7th: The Story Of The Gad Family From Be'eri"**—7:30 p.m. Schenectady Center, 2565 Balltown Rd., Schenectady. Individual tix, \$7 for JCC members, \$13 for non-members. Full fest, \$45 for JCC members and Friends of the Arts, \$85, non-members. Info.— <https://schenectadyjcc.org/Jewish-Film-Festival>, 518-377-8803.

## Amsterdam exhibit focuses on ...

Continued from Page 9

they found others to hide their belongings. "A friend took charge of two of their silver candlesticks, on condition that she would not be expected to polish them. A washerwoman also helped to spirit some of their things away," the catalogue records. "According to Max: 'Each time she came to collect our laundry, she would hide things in it that she would then keep safe at her home. At the end of the war, every single thing was given back—and that was by no means always the case.'"

Mara Lagerweij, a provenance researcher at the Rijksmuseum and curator of the exhibition, told JNS that the museum "has been conducting World War II provenance research since 2012." (Provenance is the history of an object's ownership.)

"This involves looking at all acquisitions from 1933 onwards," Lagerweij told JNS. "Currently, these reports are also being translated into English. Next year, a report will also be published on donations to the museum from German Jews who fled the country (Germany), often while simultaneously applying for Dutch citizenship."

The collaboration between the Rijksmuseum and the Jewish Cultural Quarter "made two needs possible," according to Lagerweij, "to make an exhibition on both art and Judaica and to work with historical locations."

"Jewish Museum is a historical location from which the looting of books and Judaica took place," she said. "National Holocaust Museum is

a historical location where you can put looting in the context of the Holocaust (and) dehumanization."

The catalogue and the exhibit have a lot to say about what it means to people to be stripped of their prized possessions.

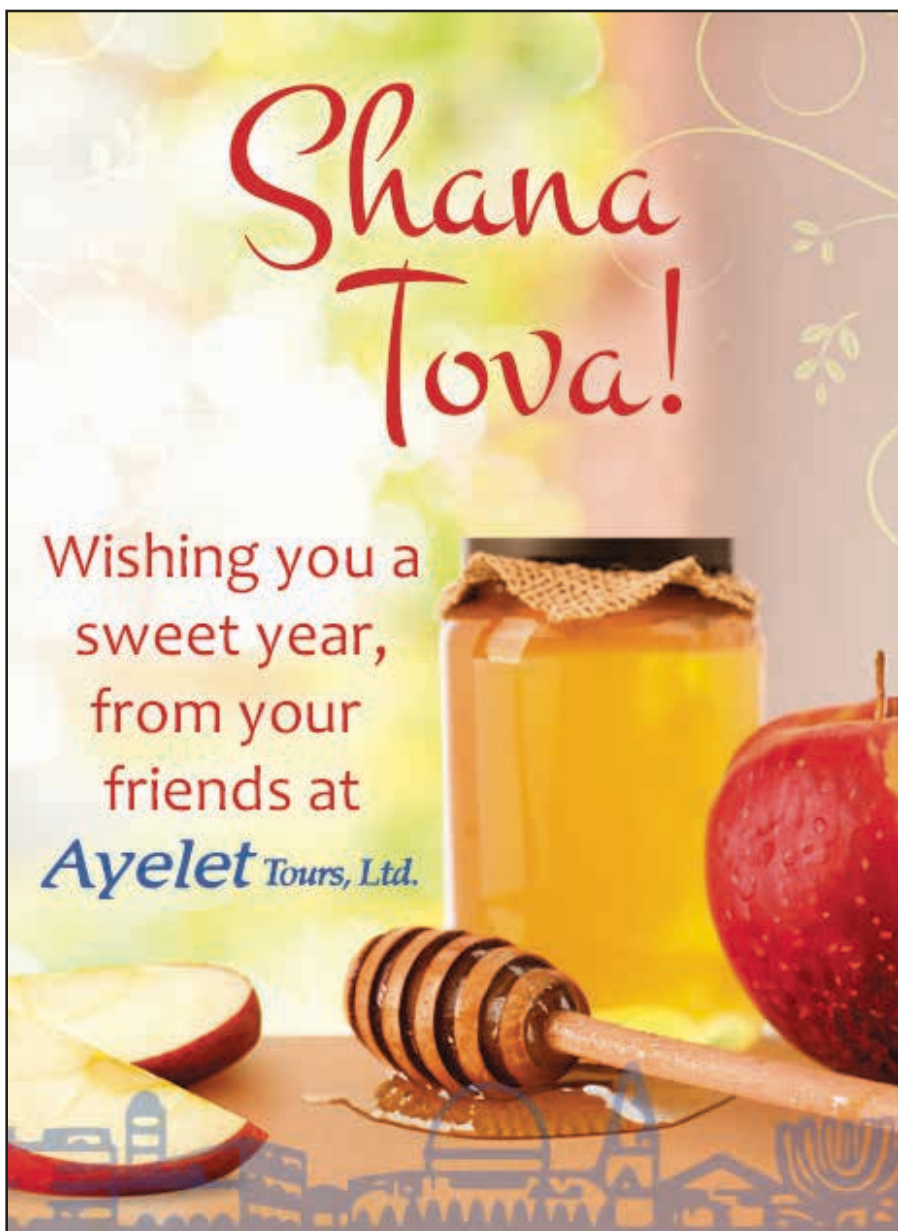
### 'Part Of Dutch History'

"The organized, systematic theft of property was one component of the process of the dehumanization of Jews during the Second World War that culminated with the Holocaust," according to the catalog.

"Now that almost no survivors of the Holocaust remain, it is ever more important to keep telling the story of what happened to them," it adds. "The Jewish Cultural Quarter and the Rijksmuseum are therefore committed to reconstructing and telling the stories of theft, confiscation or loss of property under duress from the Nazi regime, in order to perpetuate them as part of the Dutch history of the Holocaust."

"For many years, the Netherlands remained stuck in the conceptual dichotomy of the right or wrong side in the war, and lived under the illusion that most of the Dutch had been involved in resisting the Nazi occupation," added Emile Schrijver, general director of the Jewish Cultural Quarter, in the catalogue.

"Acknowledging the many shades of gray between black and white was a taboo that it took decades to overcome," Schrijver added. "Evidently, only the passage of time made it possible to face uncomfortable truths."



# Shana Tova!

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# Growing up in old Bialystok

*Hard work, deception, bagels, learning, schnapps, and pranks*

Published in 1948 in the *Bialystoker Shtime* [The Voice of Bialystok]

By **CHARLES (ZACHARIAH) GOLDBERG**

A story from *Tales of Bialystok*, translated from Yiddish and published by Phyllis Ross of Slingerlands. The author, her father, Charles Zachariah Goldberg, left Bialystok, Poland, after a pogrom in 1906. He came to America and published poignant stories in the New York City area in the 1930s and 1940s about his experiences in Europe and in America.

Since in the last issue of the *Shtime* were several articles about old Bialystok, I would like (although I'm no writer), as much as my poor pen will allow, to tell about my beloved Bialystok. I will not write about the Bialystok of the great factories and wealthy businesses. Nor about Navelifeh or Veshlikaveh Streets with their wealthy shops. Several others have already done this, and better writers at that. Here I will write about a little street in Bialystok that most Bialystokers knew little of.

## Who among you remembers Menkhes Gesel (street)?

Yes, that's where I was born. My cradle used to stand in Lazer's courtyard in one of the poor little houses. That's where I spent my childhood, played with the other little boys, there experienced my entire youth until, three days after the pogrom of 1906, I went away to America. My father (may he rest in peace) was a poor weaver, worked for Zelig Yashinovski, and later for Leybl Mavshovski.

I used to see my father very seldom. He worked from early in the morning until late at night. And from those long and difficult hours he barely eked out a living. And my mother had to spin yarn and do other work in order to help earn enough so we would not suffer from hunger. My Menkhes Gesel with its poor little houses stands before my eyes now, forty years later. I believe that I would still be able to recognize every little stone of its broken cobblestone pavement.

## Not paved with gold

There were no wealthy people in our little street. We didn't have any Mordechai Gordons or Leon Zackheims. Most of the men and boys were poor artisans. I will try to describe one of them.

He was called Reb Leyb. He was a cobbler, a poor Jew who made his living from putting a patch on a torn shoe. He never complained about his fate and was a very cheerful soul. To make jokes and play tricks was a pleasure to him. And when Erev Shabat or Erev Yom Tov came and Khasa Malka asked him for money to buy something in the mar-



ket, Reb Leyb, not getting up from the cobbler's bench, would mutter into his beard: "Don't worry yourself so. The Master of the World who feeds a little worm in the earth will also not abandon us."

One time it was close to Pesach. Malka was pacing around the house and said to Leyb, "What will happen? It's almost Pesach already and there's no sign of matzah, or eggs, or wine that we need for Pesach." And Leyb, according to his nature, turned his head and said to her, "Malka, don't worry. We'll have Pesach just like all the Jews."

Soon it was Erev Pesach in the morning. Jews got up early and hurried to the synagogue to pray and to observe the Fast of Bekorim. Reb Leyb was seen wandering around outside hither and yon and from his eyes poured tears. "What happened, Reb Leyb?" asked the neighbors. And Reb Leyb related that a tragedy had befallen him the previous night. Someone had stolen his entire Pesach. The matzah, the wine, the eggs, and the schmaltz (rendered chicken fat) ... all were stolen. "What will I do now?" he said. The Jews, having pity on him, comforted him. "Don't worry, Reb Leyb, you'll have everything you need for Pesach."

And it didn't take long for the women to begin to bring everything that was needed: matzah, eggs, schmaltz, and enough wine for four cups. And Reb Leyb had a good Pesach. Right after Pesach Reb Leyb told the truth, that the night before Pesach he was not robbed. Because there was nothing to steal. So what happened? He saw that it was already Erev Pesach and not a groshen (a coin of little value) was in the house, and this was the only remedy so that they would not be hungry on Pesach.

## Oh, the teachers

And here is another Jew from our little street, the Yeshinovker, he was called, a teacher of the youngest Jewish children. A small, thin man who taught little ones the alphabet. As short as he

was in stature, so great was his soul. A good-natured man.

And not far away was the Shereshaver teacher, a tall Jew with stern eyes, a very irascible man. He taught Rashi and Pentateuch to the young boys. And if a father said to his young son that this time he was going to the Shereshaver's kheder (Hebrew schoolroom), the boy would be terrified because the teacher beat the students.

And here is another rabbi of mine, Reb Mordechai Aharon, teacher of

Gemarah, a Jew of stately appearance. He put his whole life into his students so that something would become of them. Every page of Gemarah that he studied with his students remained with them forever. We loved him with all our hearts and souls. He never laid a hand on any student. Always with kindness.

## Our royalty

And who can forget Reb Motel Vasserfierer at the corner of Menkhes and Shmuel Shmids Streets? A Jew who considered himself one of the well-to-do, he had a spice shop. He sold water by the bucket. In his house was a kettle with hot water that was always simmering and he would sell a glass of tea for a groshen or a kopek (a coin of little value). He also kept a few cows to provide the poor people with a bit of milk to whiten up their barley soup. He was the rich man of our little street.

I also remember Reb T'nachum Beker. A tall Jew with broad shoulders, a mighty man. It was said of him that he would wrestle in the circus with the professional strongmen. He had a bagel bakery. Always standing in a pit near the burning oven, he shaped each bagel on a stick and then threw it into the pot of boiling water, cooked the bagel, and

Continued on page 14

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## A sweet 5785 ...

Continued from Page 7

### Ingredients:

1 cup slivered orange peel  
4 cups water, divided  
1 cup carrots, cut into thin strips  
2 tablespoons vegetable oil  
1 cup sugar  
½ teaspoon saffron dissolved in 2  
tablespoons hot water  
3 to 4 cups hot cooked rice

### Directions:

In a medium saucepan, place orange peel and 3 cups water. Bring to a boil over high heat.

Cook for 10 minutes. Drain. Rinse with cold water and set aside.

In a small skillet, sauté the carrots



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE FEINSTEIN.

*Candied orange peel.*

in oil over medium heat for 5 minutes. Set aside.

In a separate saucepan, place the orange peel, carrots, sugar and 1 cup water. Bring to a boil over high heat.

Reduce heat. Simmer over medium heat for 10 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in the saffron.

Transfer to a bowl. Drizzle this mixture over rice and serve.

### CHICKEN WITH POMEGRANATE PASTE (meat)

*Serves 4-6*

### Cook's Tips:

\*Pomegranate molasses is a Middle Eastern condiment made from boiled-down pomegranate juice. It's available online from Sadaf.

\*Turmeric is a flowering plant of the ginger family, ground and used as a spice.

### Ingredients:

1 medium onion, thinly sliced  
3 to 4 tablespoons vegetable oil  
1 teaspoon turmeric  
½ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon pepper  
1 large (4 to 5 pounds) chicken, cut into 8 pieces  
¼ cup pomegranate molasses dis-

solved in ¾ cup warm water

10 pitted prunes  
8 pitted dates  
¼ cup honey  
pomegranate seeds and fresh parsley (optional)

### Directions:

In a large skillet, sauté the onion in oil over medium-high heat until golden brown.

Add turmeric, salt and pepper. Add the chicken and fry on each side for 5 minutes.

Add the dissolved pomegranate molasses, prunes, dates and honey. Cover and cook on medium heat for 10 to 15 minutes.

Reduce heat, cover, and continue cooking for 30 to 40 minutes longer.

Arrange the chicken pieces on a platter. Drizzle the sauce over top.

Decorate with pomegranate seeds and parsley, if using.

### ROASTED STUFFED CHICKEN (meat)

*Serves 4-6*



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE FEINSTEIN.

*Shani Feinstein with a platter of roasted stuffed chicken.*

### Cook's Tips:

• Substitute 1 ½ teaspoons bottled minced garlic for 3 garlic cloves.  
• If there is extra stuffing, wrap in foil and bake alongside the bird.

### Ingredients:

½ cup water  
7 to 8 tablespoons olive oil, divided  
½ cup basmati rice  
1 large onion, chopped  
3 garlic cloves, minced  
5 dried apricots, chopped  
5 pitted prunes, chopped  
2 tablespoons raisins  
¾ cup fresh mixed herbs such as chopped parsley, dill, coriander  
1 ½ teaspoons turmeric  
½ teaspoon saffron dissolved in 2  
tablespoons hot water  
1 teaspoon each salt and pepper  
1 (4 to 5 pounds) roasting chicken  
1 tablespoon paprika  
Parsley sprigs to garnish

### Directions:

In a medium saucepan, bring ½ cup water and 2 tablespoons oil to a boil.

Rinse the rice in cold water, drain and add to the boiling water. Cover and simmer for about 10 minutes until the water is absorbed. The rice will be half-cooked.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a medium skillet, sauté the onion

and garlic in 3 tablespoons olive oil over medium heat until the onion begins to brown.

In a large bowl, mix the rice, onion, garlic, dried fruit and herbs, turmeric, salt and pepper. Fill the chicken cavity with the mixture. Seal by sewing or trussing the bird.

Brush the remaining olive oil over the bird. Sprinkle with paprika.

Roast in preheated oven for 1 hour or until juices run clear when pricked in the thigh.

Transfer to a platter and garnish with parsley.

### PERSIAN BAKLAVA (pareve)

*Makes 18-20 pieces*



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE FEINSTEIN.

*Baklava.*

### Cook's Tips:

• Traditionally uses filo dough. Shani's shortcut: Pepperidge Farm Puff Pastry.

• Ground almonds, cardamom and rose water may be bought from a spice shop.

### Ingredients:

**For the syrup:** 2 cups sugar, 1 cup water, 6 tablespoons rose water

**For the filling:** 2 ½ cups ground almonds, 1 ½ cups confectioners' sugar, 3 tablespoons ground cardamom

1 (17-ounce) package puff pastry, thawed

¾ cup margarine, melted  
ground pistachios (optional)

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

**Prepare the syrup:** Mix the sugar and water in a medium saucepan. Stir to dissolve the sugar. Bring to a boil over a medium-high heat. Add the rose water. Set aside.

**Prepare the filling:** In a bowl, combine the almonds, sugar and cardamom. Set aside.

**To assemble:** On a rimmed cookie sheet, spread one sheet of pastry. Brush generously with melted margarine.

Sprinkle the almond filling over top, spreading evenly to cover. Top with a second pastry sheet. Brush with remaining melted margarine. With a sharp knife, cut the baklava into small squares. Bake in a preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes. If not golden brown, place under the broiler for 3 minutes. Watch carefully! Remove from broiler or oven. Pour the syrup over top. Garnish with ground pistachios. Arrange on a platter. Serve warm or at room temperature.

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

## Quick and easy fish for fall dinners

### Foil Packet Lemon & Herb White Fish



*Is there anything better than a home-made fish dinner with virtually no clean up? May we introduce you to foil packet fish heaven? This recipe is a winner whichever fish you choose for dinner — each fresh or frozen 4-ounce serving is a great source of high-quality protein, easy to season and savor!*

### Serves 4

Cooking Time: 17 minutes

### Ingredients

• 4 pieces (6 to 8 ounces each) white fish such as Wild Caught Icelandic Haddock Fillets or Wild Caught Alaskan Cod Fillets  
• 2 tablespoon PICS extra virgin olive oil  
• 1 lemon sliced

*Recipe adapted from the Seafood Nutrition Partnership, accessed 9/12/2024.*

*Recipe provided by Price Chopper/Market 32. The kosher store has moved to the new Market 32 location at the former ShopRite, 1730 Central Ave. The Jewish World has a commercial relationship with Price Chopper.*

• Sprigs fresh thyme  
• 1 teaspoon kosher salt  
• Freshly ground black pepper

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 400° F.
2. Place each piece of fish on a piece of aluminum foil.
3. Top fish with olive oil, a slice of lemon and 2 sprigs of thyme.
4. Season each with 1/4 tsp. salt and black pepper to taste.
5. Fold in edges of foil to create a packet.
6. Place packets on a sheet pan and bake for 12 to 14 minutes or until fish is opaque.
7. Allow to cool for 5 minutes, serve with fresh lemon slices.

## Parshat Nitzavim-Vayelech



By Rabbi SHLOMO RISKIN

*Behold, I give before you this day the life and the good, the death and the evil... blessing and curse; and you shall choose life, so that you will live, you and your seed...(Deuteronomy 30:15, 19)*

**EFRAT, Israel** – What does it mean, to choose “life”? Is it really an individual choice as to whether one lives or dies? I believe it worthy of note to raise another linguistic curiosity within this context: the Hebrew word chayyim (life) is a plural noun, ending in the two Hebrew letters yod and mem to signal the plural case. I do not know of any other language in which the word for “life” is a plural form; Why is it so in the Hebrew language? Chasidim have a cute play on words which provides an interesting insight explaining the composition of the Hebrew word for “life”: on an occasion of joy such as an engagement, marriage or birth it is customary to celebrate with a “drink,” but only when drinking wine or liquor do we call out, le’hayyim, “to life.” Why not also say le’hayyim when drinking water, which is so basic to the formation of life (remember the amniotic fluids which “break” before an impending birth) and to the continuity of life, which is impossible without water?

**Two Yods?**

They answer that the Hebrew word for wine, yayin, has two yods, as does the Hebrew word for liquor, yash (literally yayin saraf, “fiery wine”). The Hebrew letter yod is phonetically and homiletically tied to Yid (Yehudi), or “Jew”—a toast usually being invoked to celebrate two Jews coming together in marriage, in joining for a birth celebration, or generally within the familial context of kiddush on Friday evening. The Hebrew word for water, mayim, has only one yod, and God has declared

# Community choosing continuity with a l’chaim and tikkun olam



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEPOSIT PHOTOS, BY MONKEYBUSINESS

*On an occasion of joy such as an engagement, marriage or birth it is customary among Jews to celebrate with a “drink,” and we toast with a call out, le’hayyim, “to life.”*

that it is not good for the human being to be alone” (**Genesis 2:18**).

Hence, say the Chasidim, the Hebrew word for life consists of four letters, the exterior letters being het and mem, spelling hom, warmth, love—surrounding two yods completely together and not separated by any other letter. The beverages that go along with the toast also require two yods (Jews) together as in the Hebrew words yayin and yash.

**God Within**

Despite the sweetness of this explanation, allow me to present an alternative interpretation, which proves a profound theological truth at the same time. In attempting to pictorially describe the creation of the human being, the **Bible** states: *And the Lord God had formed the human being [Adam] of dust from the ground, and He exhaled into his nostrils the soul [breath] of life, making the human a living being* (**Genesis 2:7**). Apparently the **Bible** is here explaining in more graphic language the difficult term tzelem Elokim, image of God,

used in the first creation chapter, *And God created the human being [Adam] in His image, in the image of God created He him...* (**Genesis 1:27**). The sacred Zohar adds a crucial dimension to the imagery of God’s exhalation into the nostrils of the clay-dust form: *Whoever exhales, exhales from within himself, from the innermost essence of his existential being.*

What this teaches us is arguably the most important insight into the essence of the human being defined by the **Bible**, the one element which qualitatively separates the human from all other creatures of the earth: a “portion” of God from on High resides within every human being, to which the **Tanya** (written by Rav Shneur Zalman of Liadi, late 18th century, known as the Alter Rebbe, founder of the Chabad movement) adds: mamash, really, palpably, within the very physical human being “resides” the spiritual essence of the Divine, the eternal and transcendent soul.

**Bestial Or Celestial?**

This idea has enormous ramifications

as to how we see the human being, as to how we look upon ourselves. The human being is indeed a composite creature; homo natura and homo persona (see R. Soloveitchik, *Family Redeemed*), a part of the natural world with many of the instincts and limitations of the other physical creatures, but at the same time apart from the natural world, endowed with a portion of divinity which enables him to create, to change, to love, to transcend both himself as well as the physical world into which he was created; the portion of God within the human being lives eternally just as the God without and beyond is eternal, and empowers the human being to perfect God’s world and redeem God’s world.

The challenge facing each of us is which aspect of our beings we choose to develop, the bestial or the celestial. Idolatry idealized the physical, the bestial: power (Jupiter), speed (Mercury), physical beauty (Venus), a golden calf; Judaism commands that we idealize the spiritual, the celestial: love, compassion, lovingkindness, truth... The good news is that to help us in this existential struggle within ourselves is that very portion of God from on High who dwells within us, and that the human being is never alone, that God is always with us, within us, the still small voice which we must listen for and hearken to. Yes, God is above, but even more importantly God is also within!

That is why the Hebrew word for life, chayyim, is a plural noun; the “soul of life” is the God who resides within each of us, the essence of our personalities to whom we must return and with whom we must live our conscious lives if we are to realize our truest human potential, if we are to truly live eternally, together with our partners and progeny in a perfecting world.

**Shabbat Shalom.**

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

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## Growing up in old Bialystok ...

Continued from Page 11

then took it out with the same stick. He then placed it on a large, flat paddle, made sure the bagel was nice and circular, and put it into the oven. What beautiful, browned bagels came from his hands, what delicious bagels those were. Even now the taste lingers in my mouth.

### Bagels and Gemara

In the same courtyard was the Grodner bagel maker, a Jew who knew the shvartze pintelakh (fine points of Jewish learning) but who did not engage in the

baking. He always went about with his hands behind him, humming a little nigun (melody) from the Gemarah, never a loud word was ever heard from his mouth. The one who ran the bakery was his son-in-law, Nissen. A sturdily built young man, he kneaded the dough and baked the bagels; he was a hard worker.

Across the way was Abraham, the Hebrew teacher. He taught young boys and girls grammar. In the evening, he hurried about giving private lessons. And there was Moshe-Nachum, a stitcher, a Jew who was by no means a scholar. He supported the shoemakers' shul (synagogue) with wood and gas for

the lamps. His payment for that was the pulpit. For a kabalat shabbat, (ushering in the Sabbath) he provided a measure of wood.

### Just say kaddish

As for the pious man who devoted himself exclusively to the study of the sacred books and who sat in the shoemakers' House of Study day and night, no one could find out where he came from. He lived on bread and water. When the women brought him some cooked food, that was fine; if not, a dry piece of bread was enough. One beautiful morning they found him dead. In his pockets they found a piece of paper that stated that the only thing he wanted was that someone would say Kaddish (the prayer for the dead) for him and would observe the anniversary of his death.

And who from our little street does not remember the Karliner house of worship above the shoemakers' House of Study. The evening meal ushering out the Sabbath and observation of the anniversaries of deaths were observed there. What bliss the Chassidim enjoyed from a small glass of shnaps. Such fiery Chassidim as Yehoshe Hillel, the synagogue warden from the voluntary committee and Mordechai Itche, the weaver, and other such Chassidim drowned their poverty in a glass of whiskey and dined on a little dancing.

I will never forget how one Simchas Torah the cantor was standing near the lectern and singing all kinds of melodies

as is the custom for this holiday. Fellow Chassidim brought in a tub of water and placed it behind the cantor. When the cantor was at the point of singing Osey Shalom, he stepped back a few steps and fell into the tub of water. Do you think, Heaven forbid, that he became angry? No. The water ran from him and, soaking wet, he joined in with the other Chassidim in a dance, and the sounds of the dancers rose to Heaven itself. And when a "real" rabbi once came there on a Shabbat, don't even ask about what excitement went on in the House of Prayer.

In such an atmosphere did I spend my youth. Is it then any wonder that Bialystok lies deep in my heart? All the years that I've spent in America I hoped that a time would come when I would again be able to step on the ground of Bialystok. Now I know that my sweet dream will never come true. My native city lies in ruins. Every little stone is soaked in the blood of my family and friends, destroyed in violent deaths, burned in the ovens, buried alive. The murderous Nazis exceeded with their cruelty all the Hamans of diaspora history.

May their bones be cursed for ten generations. May Jewish blood not be silent like the prophet Zakharia's was not silent. May they be erased from this earth.

*Of interest—home movie of visit to Europe in 1938:* <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/03/movies/three-minutes-a-lengthening-documentary.html>

### 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

*Maybe you'll get everything you wished for ...  
Maybe you'll get more than you ever could have imagined ...  
Who knows where life will take you ...*

*What we do know is you  
Will always get more at the ...*

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## Jewish comic's pro-jihadi gay ...

Continued from Page 5

developing a television show centered around Lyle for distribution in Israel and the United States, said Staiman. It would bring Lyle to Israel and Gaza for the first time, he said, but declined to reveal anything more about the production.

### "The Ultimate Idiot"

Lyle, whose major in university was "debunking the myth of the Holocaust through the collective interpretive experience of the indigenous bisexual Women of the Wall," has a well-developed backstory, Staiman assured JNS. For now, though, Staiman would only say that Lyle grew up in "an affluent conservative home and is suffering the trauma of being ignored as a child, which sets him on a path of doing whatever it takes to have his voice heard."

Asked about the secret to Lyle's popularity, Staiman, a 36-year-old father of one, said: "Lyle is the ultimate idiot. He is someone who deeply believes in a cause that he knows nothing about. He's misinformed and also really, really confident."

### Reaction To Bin Laden Fans

Lyle's character was born on a whim as an improv at a Jamba Juice cafe, Staiman said. "I just grabbed a wig I had lying around, borrowed my wife's glasses, threw on a keffiyeh I'd bought in Dubai and we started filming on a cellphone," he recalled.

The video had an unscripted interruption when a Jamba Juice employee asked Staiman not to film there as he was recommending to the camera Osama bin Laden's "Letter to America" ("It is Mein Kampf good," Lyle said, adding that Bin Laden was a freedom fighter and that the cannibalistic serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was a "freedom eater.") Lyle shouts back at the employee: "Maybe take your Western, colonial, Zionist values and go shove 'em up your f..." before the video abruptly stops.

An observant Orthodox Jew who was in Israel on Oct. 7 for the Simchat Torah holiday, Staiman decided to create Lyle after seeing the document by Bin Laden gain popularity on social media in November.

Staiman, who had recently directed and starred in a romantic comedy titled "Love Virtually" about the virtual reality scene, had not done political commentary at that point, he said. But that changed after Staiman watched 20-year-olds get excited about bin Laden shortly after returning from a grieving Israel, where thousands of Hamas terrorists had murdered some 1,200 people on Oct. 7 and abducted another 251.

"Looking back on it now, it's pretty tame compared to what's happened since then," Staiman told JNS about the bin Laden text. "But at the time, it showed how crazy the world's become and I felt like addressing that. It became my mission to use this voice to call out hypocrisy and break new stories in a funny way and just show this far-left pro-jihadi perspective."

### Martyrs Or Mental Illness?

Ridiculing aspects of a crisis that has developed into a regional war that has brought tragedy to millions of people does present potential pitfalls, Staiman acknowledged. "I do have guardrails, but they're very close to the edge," he said.

One of Staiman's edgier videos is a montage showing Lyle encouraging the late pro-Palestinian activist Matt Nelson to "slow cook" himself so he could "suffer more for Palestine" as Nelson reads out his manifesto before fatally setting himself on fire on Sept. 11 near the Israeli consulate in Boston. Nelson, the third man known to self-immolate in the United States since Oct. 7, said it was to protest "the genocide in Palestine."

Staiman considered not making the video because Nelson was "obviously mentally ill," calling into question the morality of poking fun at his actions, he said. "If this were condemned by the other side as just a tragic thing done by someone struggling with mental illness, I wouldn't make fun of it because it's horrific. It's sad," Staiman said.

Yet both Nelson and Aaron Bushnell, who self-immolated in February, "have been completely lionized by their side as heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice. In reality, they killed themselves for nothing and now their families have to suffer for it," said Staiman. "So I think it's my responsibility to make fun of the notion that they're martyrs."

## Ukraine asks Jewish pilgrims not to come to Uman this year!

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry recently urged Jewish pilgrims to avoid traveling to the city of Uman for Rosh Hashanah this year due to the war with Russia.

### Threats And Restrictions

"Russia's ongoing full-scale military aggression against Ukraine poses real threats to people's lives and safety," the ministry said in a statement, adding that the conflict "makes it impossible to guarantee the safety of foreign citizens on the territory of Ukraine."

Kyiv noted there is a "regime of martial law which provides for a number of additional regulations, including restric-

tions on freedom of movement, a curfew and enhanced patrols, a ban on holding mass events and gatherings, as well as the application of coercive measures against persons who will not comply with the established restrictions."

The governor of the region where Uman is situated has issued a similar warning to Jewish worshippers ahead of Rosh Hashanah. In his statement, Cherkasy region head Igor Taburets did not say that the pilgrims would be prevented from coming. Preparations are underway to accommodate those who still intend to visit, with enhanced security measures and the establishment of an operational headquarters, he added. Ukrainian officials have issued

similar warnings since 2020, first due to COVID-19 and later because of the war.

### Moldovia Says No

Moldovan officials have said that they would not allow pilgrims to pass through their country, whose Chisinau airport last year had served as the main entry point to



Jewish men in the street near the tomb of Reb Nachman of Breslov in Uman on eve of Rosh Hashanah, Sept. 25, 2022.

Ukraine for about 20,000 pilgrims, mostly from Israel. The Moldovan officials cited financial expenditures on security and the limited capacity of their facilities.

Uman, a city in central Ukraine, receives tens of thousands of Jews each year, who travel there to visit the tomb of Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century luminary who founded the Breslov Chasidic movement.

### Complicated Journey

Commercial flights to Ukraine have been largely unavailable since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, complicating the pilgrimage. This year, an alternative route into Uman is being prepared through Romania.

Ukrainian officials imposed an entry ban on pilgrims in 2020 and 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. The United States recently issued a travel warning for Uman, urging American citizens not to visit the city due to the tense security situation.

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## Berkshire Jewish Film Festival lists winners of the Best Of Festival Awards

PITTSFIELD, Mass.— [Sept 10] – The Berkshire Jewish Film Festival (BJFF) has announced the winners of its Best Of Festival awards.

This year’s festival, held on six consecutive Mondays from July 8 to Aug. 15, in Lennox showcased a diverse selection of films from around the world. The awards honor films that not only achieved artistic excellence but also resonated deeply with festival-goers.

Winners are:

Best Narrative Film: **“Kidnapped”** – Directed by Marco Bellocchio

Best Documentary: **“Catskills”** – Directed by Lex Gillespie

The awards were announced after calculating over 3,000 evaluation forms from Festival attendees.

“Each year, the BJFF strives to showcase films that not only entertain but also enlighten and inspire,” said Beth Kruvant Festival artistic director. “This year’s award-winning films exemplify the diversity and richness of Jewish storytelling, and we are thrilled to honor their creators.”

Information about the Berkshire Jewish Film Festival and to view a complete list of films and awards, is available at [www.berkshirejewishfilm-festival.org](http://www.berkshirejewishfilm-festival.org).

## JFNENY Jewish Coalition For Literacy seeks volunteers

ALBANY– The Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York (JFNENY), working with the Jewish Coalition for Literacy, is creating a group of volunteers to work with school children in the Albany City School District. The Jewish Coalition for Literacy is looking for Albany-based volunteer reading coaches. To become a coach, interested participants must volunteer for at least one hour a week to read with children in kindergarten through third grade in one of the participating Albany schools to.

According to the National Literacy Institute, approximately 40% of students across the nation cannot read at a

basic level and almost 70% of low-income fourth grade students cannot read at a basic level.

“The Capital Region Jewish community wants to do its part to bring a love of reading and learning to students,” said Lauren Iselin, chairwoman of the JFNENY’s literacy committee. “We’re proud to partner with Albany City Schools on this program which can make a difference in many young lives.”

Miriam Kean, literacy coordinator, at [mkean@jewishfedny.org](mailto:mkean@jewishfedny.org) or 518-783-7800, ext. 239, can provide details about joining the Jewish Coalition for Literacy.

## I Scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!



### Forward

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– Rachel Fishman Feddersen, Publisher and CEO, The Forward

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The first day at Maimonides Hebrew Day School in Albany featured an ice cream theme. Each student was offered a soft-serve ice cream along with loosely figurative school messages connected to ice-cream and learning including:

“School is Cool!,” “Torah is Tasty,” “Sprinkle Extra Goodness,” “Study is Sweet,” “Flavors of Friendship,” and “Smooth Year!” and other messages.

Rabbi Israel Rubín, head of school, asked, “Can you top this?”

## 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!

# Can you hear the future calling?



**Life & Legacy**  
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**Warm wishes for a sweet and healthy new year!**



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Contact Deborah Goldstein, Director of Planned Giving & Endowments, to discuss your legacy gift:  
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# Looking inward and making a difference in the 5785 world

By MARILYN SHAPIRO

The High Holy Days is a time for us to turn inward, to reflect on our lives, not only where we have been, but also where we hope to go in the coming year. So much of the world needs our help. What can one person do? How can one person make a difference?

In the *Pirkei Avot*, Rabbi Tarfon writes, "It is not incumbent upon you to complete the work but neither are you at liberty to desist from it." That quote has been in my e-mail signature for several years and serves as a reminder to me and those that read my e-mails that we can all make a difference. No, maybe we cannot save the world. But our inability to do everything does not give us a pass on doing nothing.

## Starfish Moments

This truth is found in the often-told starfish parable. An old man is walking along the beach in which hundreds of starfish have been washed along the shore during high tide. As he walked, he came across a little girl who is throwing the starfish back into the ocean. "You realize that you will not be able to make

much of a difference?" the old man asks the little girl. She picked up another starfish and threw it as far into the water as she could. She said, "I made a difference to that one."

It reminds me of my recent "starfish" moment. On a trip to the beach, Larry, my husband, and I were walking along the edge of the water. As Larry was enjoying the waves and the birds, I was picking up garbage and sticking it in a plastic bag I had brought with me for that purpose. A broken styrofoam cup. A short length of cord. A lone flipflop. And a dozen or so plastic caps from water bottles.

"You can't pick up every bit of litter on the beach," Larry said.

"Yes. But I can do something!"

Yes, Larry was right. I am not going to pick up every piece of litter on a beach. But I can at least fill up a bag with some of it.

## My Efforts

Giving away my freshly baked challahs also gives me a chance to do something. Early into the pandemic, I started baking three or four challahs a week. At least one of the challahs went

to someone in our community who needed cheering. He first one went to a friend whose wife was in a memory unit at the hospital. Week after week, we delivered challahs to people who had lost their spouse, who faced illness, who got bad news from their families. My small challahs were small tokens of love and caring. My challah baking has slowed down in recent months, but I usually make extras to tuck in the freezer to pull out as needed. It just filled my need to do something!

For the past 10 years, my writing has also been a way for me to feel as if I am making a difference. Initially my writing focused on my family stories. In the past eight years, I have become captivated to tell other people's stories, particularly the lives of Holocaust survi-



DEPOSIT PHOTO COURTESY OF KAREN R.

*Starfish on the beach.*

vors. So much has been written already: fictional accounts, memoirs, graphic novels, poetry, plays. Many of have become classics: Elie Wiesel's *Night*; Prima Levi's *Man's Search for Meaning*; William Styron's *Sophie's Choice*, and Anne Frank's *Diary of a Young Girl*.

Why do I continue to interview Holocaust survivors and their families?

**Continued on page 21**

*Here's to a year filled with peace,  
happiness and good health.  
L'Shanah Tovah!*

Happy New Year from your friends  
at Pierce Communications

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## Looking inward and making a difference ...

Continued from Page 20

Writing these stories allows me to do my part to make the world never forget. Each story is a statement against Holocaust denial. Each story published has brought me feelings of pride, comfort, and maybe some peace to the subjects of the story and their families.

Following Rabbi Tarfon's advice, my inability to write everything doesn't mean I cannot continue to do something.

### Pitching In To Help

Fortunately, I am surrounded by people in my Florida 55+ community who are also doing their part to help people in the greater Poinciana area. Solivita has over 200 clubs, and many of them support the local community. The Do Unto Others Initiative (DUO) has raised over \$260,000 in 11 years to support the work of the St. Rose of Lima Food Pantry. Another club, Solivita Friends Helping Those In Need, provides similar support for St. Vincent de Paul St. Ann's Food Pantry in Haines City. Solivita Friends of Elementary Education Schools (SoFEEs) provides nourishment, school supplies and seasonally appropriate clothing to local elementary schools. The Solivita Performing Arts Council (SPAC, Inc.) has raised over \$139,000 since its inception, providing grants to help local schools purchase and maintain instruments, fund band and choir concerts, produce school theatrical productions, fund thespian

workshops and support art projects. SOLABILITY, a club consisting of individuals of varying abilities, provides activities accessible to all. Members of the Butterfly Club provide financial support for a beautiful butterfly garden; volunteers keep it weeded and in control. The Book Circle, which has over 30 book clubs under its umbrella, donates books and financial help to Polk County Schools. The Shalom Club makes an annual contribution to the Perlman Food Pantry or to Jewish organizations supporting local families.

The organizations mentioned represent only a small sample of ways individuals have joined together to help those in need. There are many ways of giving back in your area too.

So, yes, one person can make a difference.

Wishes for a sweet, healthy 5785. May it be a year in which each of us makes a difference for good.

*Marilyn Shapiro, formerly of Clifton Park, is now a resident of Kissimmee, Fla. Keep Calm and Bake Challah: How I Survived the Pandemic, Politics, Pratsfalls, 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.*

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תשפ"ד-תשפ"ה  
5784-5785

ברוך  
עלינו  
את  
השנה  
הזאת

MAY WE BE  
BLESSED THIS  
COMING YEAR

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A VERY HAPPY, HEALTHY,  
AND SWEET NEW YEAR.  
MAY YOU BE INSCRIBED  
FOR A BLESSING  
IN THE BOOK OF LIFE.

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# Happy Rosh Hashanah

Sending you and your loved ones warm wishes this New Year from your friends at the Albany and Schenectady JCCs

## Shanah Tovah



# ‘Let Here Be Light’ tour visits Albany



University at Albany President Havidan Rodriguez, Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Christakis, Dean of Students Clarence McNeil with UAlbany student leaders, Rabbi Mendel and Raizy Rubin of Shabbos House and the Let HERE Be Light!™ tour team, a Jewish cultural awareness activity fair, which traveled to 40+ campuses around the United States this September.



University at Albany Jewish students pictured on stage with rapper and singer Nissim Black, center, following his concert at UAlbany on Sept. 9 continuing the spirit of the “Let HERE Be Light!” tour, an effort to boost Jewish pride and positive vibe and energy for students and community. The concert was co-sponsored by Chabad on Campus, the Jewish Federation of Northeastern NY, UAlbany Hillel, the Shabbos House L’Chaim Student Group, Sanford and Dina Rosenblum, Ronn Torossian (’96) of SWPR, Rachel Serkin (’05) and family, and The Shabbos House Fund at the UAlbany Foundation.

## Students hold memorial for slain hostages



Albany Hillel and Shabbos House at the University at Albany recently held a memorial for the six hostages murdered by Hamas just prior to

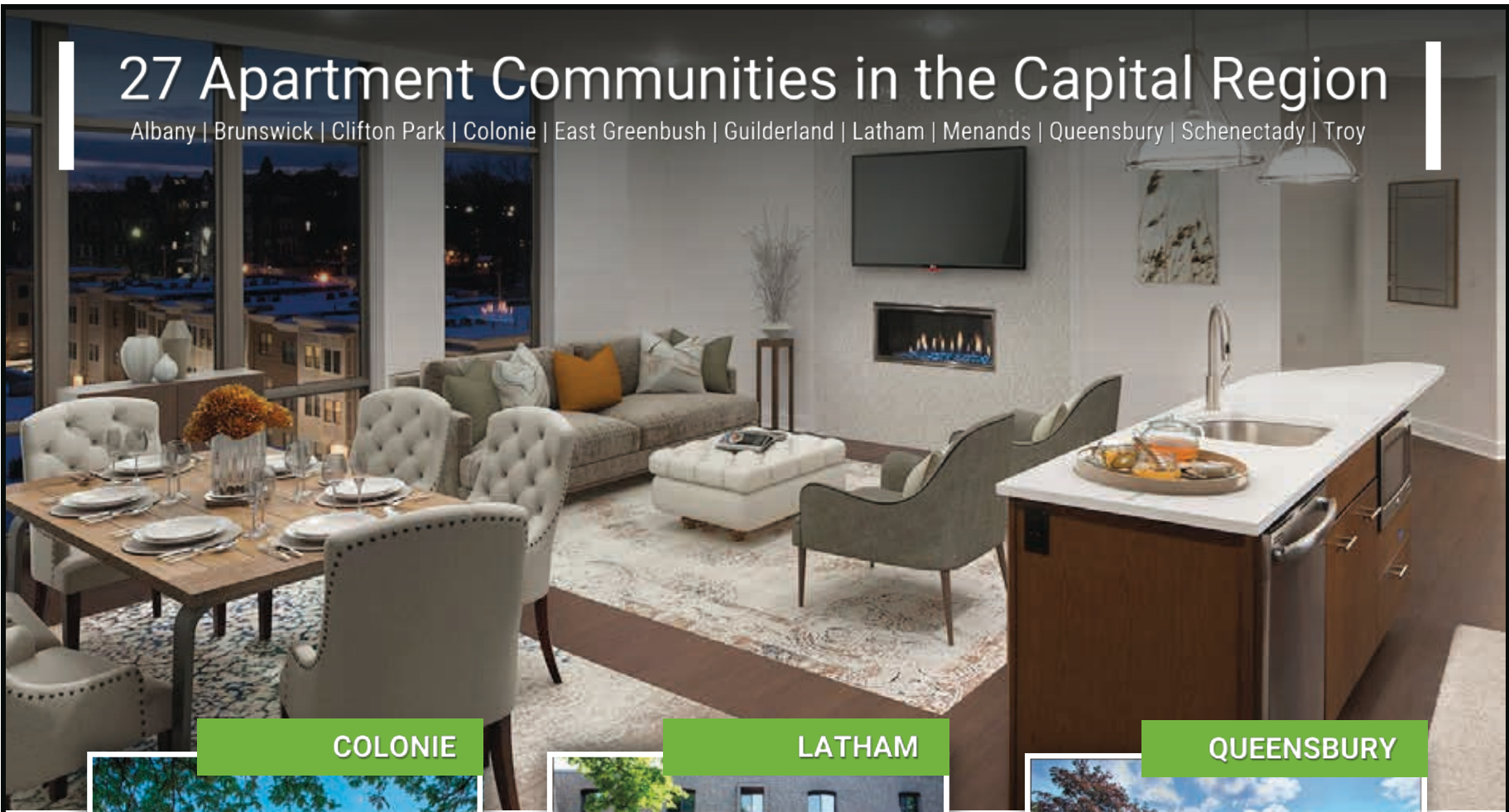
their attempted rescue this September. The program in the UAlbany Campus Center Multipurpose Room featured readings by students of

psalms and poems, and bios of each of the six: Hersh Goldberg-Polin, Alex Lobanov, Almog Sarusi, Carmel Gat, Eden Yerushalmi and Ori

Danino. Each student was offered a yellow flower to take to his or her dorm as some of the families have been doing in Israel.

# 27 Apartment Communities in the Capital Region

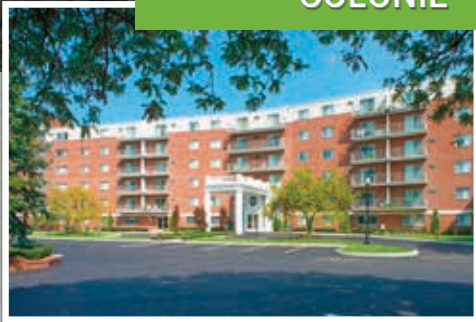
Albany | Brunswick | Clifton Park | Colonie | East Greenbush | Guilderland | Latham | Menands | Queensbury | Schenectady | Troy



COLONIE

LATHAM

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### Towers of Colonie

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518-459-7417

### Fenimore Trace

13 Fenimore Trace, Watervliet  
518-273-1981

### Regency Park North

140 Cronin Road, Queensbury  
518-793-6422

RENSSELAER

SCHENECTADY

TROY



### Capitol View

7 Elm Court, Rensselaer  
518-465-9767

### Sheridan Apartments

1275 Gerling Street, Schenectady  
518-377-2203

### Park Ridge

3B 25th Street, Troy  
518-272-7445

## L'SHANAH TOVAH!

*May your year be full of peace,  
prosperity and abundance.*

Scan this QR code to view all of our communities



*Hayom Harat Olam*

Wishing all of our CBE family and friends  
good wishes for a Sweet and Healthy New Year!  
We welcome you to our

**5785**

**High Holy Day Services**

Greg D. Weitzman, Senior Rabbi  
Emily H. Short, Cantor  
Spencer Mandell, Rabbinic Intern  
Melissa Greenberg, CBE President

*Today, the World is Born Anew*



Find your place.  
Find your people.

CBEAlbany.org 518.436.9761  
100 Academy Rd. Albany, NY

## Services and celebrations for High Holidays scheduled at Beth Emeth

ALBANY—“Hayom harat olam” (Today the world is born anew) will be the theme for the High Holy Days at Congregation Beth Emeth. Congregants will be urged to think about the possibilities for themselves and the world implied in those words. Senior Rabbi Greg Weitzman, marking his third year in Albany, noted: “Our prayers beckon us back to the beginning of time. We are invited to imagine the world as utterly new — a pristine universe of potentiality stretched out before us. Throughout our worship services and sermons, we will highlight this idea of looking out at the possibilities and opportunities that each of us are offered every day and every year.” Director of Lifelong Learning Rabbi Shara Siegfeld, said that her message will include, “Ultimately, the High Holy Days serve as a poignant reminder of the continuous cycle of creation and reflection, urging each of us to strive for a world where every individual’s actions contribute positively to the greater whole, while remaining acutely aware of our own mortality and limitations.”



RABBI GREG WEITZMAN

Services of the nation’s fourth oldest Reform congregation will include some innovations to make the experience more accessible, according to organizers. For example, an early Kol Nidre/Erev Shabbat service will be held at 5 p.m. to accommodate families with children or those who don’t wish to drive at night. At 7:30 p.m., the traditional service will start. Transportation to the synagogue for non-drivers is also being offered for services on both holidays, including stops at the Massry, Daughters of Sarah, Beverwyck and the Avila Retirement Community. Services also may be viewed on the congregation’s live-stream.

The start of the season, Selichot (Forgiveness) prayers are set for Saturday, Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m., with havdalah and the changing of the Torah covers to white ones ceremony, representing purity, repentance and the hope of forgiveness.

The Erev Rosh Hashanah service is slated for 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 2. On Thursday, Oct. 3, there will be a family service at 9 a.m., with children’s programming beginning at 10 a.m. The main service will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by a dessert reception. Shabbat Shuvah—the Shabbat of Returning — will be celebrated on Friday, Oct.

4, at 5:30 p.m. Beth Emeth’s Cemetery Service, will include the recitation of the names of members who died since last Rosh Hashanah on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 11 a.m. at the cemetery in Loudonville.

Yom Kippur observances will begin with an early service of Kol Nidre at 5 p.m, followed by a later repeat of Kol Nidre at 7:30 p.m., On Saturday, Oct. 12, the full day of worship begins with a family service at 9 a.m. for those with young children, followed at 10 with children’s programs. At 10:30 a.m., the morning service for Yom Kippur is slated, followed at 1 p.m. by a Moments with the Ark service, offering a chance to connect spiritually in front of the open ark.

The Service of Renewal, at 2 p.m., conducted by the ritual committee and with selections by the volunteer choir, offers the hope of physical, emotional and spiritual healing. Beth Emeth’s high school youth group will lead the afternoon service at 3 p.m. At 4 p.m., the Yizkor Memorial Service will take place, followed by Ne’ilah and havdalah at 5 p.m. After havdalah, there will be a break-the-fast nosh.

Both members and non-members wishing to attend any of the services must register with Beth Emeth at CBEAlbany.org. For guests of members, there will be a charge of \$54 per person. Non-members who live in the area may purchase tickets at \$180 per person or \$250 per family. Tickets include entrance to all of the services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Information may be obtained at 518-436-9761 or info@CBEAlbany.org.

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## SHANAH TOVAH 5785

*May you have a good and sweet New Year*



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688 Clifton Park Center Road  
Clifton Park, NY 12065  
(518) 371-0608

[Bethshalomcp.com](http://Bethshalomcp.com)

**All are welcome to attend services**



# JNF – USA Breakfast for Israel on Nov.7 to focus on Negev rehabilitation facility

ALBANY—One month after the first anniversary of the October 7 terrorist attacks, community members from across the Capital Region are invited to unite at the Jewish National Fund-USA’s annual Breakfast for Israel to stand in solidarity with the people of Israel and to learn how they can support rehabilitation, resilience, and renewal in the Negev. The 7:30 a.m. breakfast is by registration only.



**ELIE KLEIN**  
Jewish National Fund-USA’s Liaison for ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran.

announced that the free program will feature keynote speaker, Elie Klein, Jewish National Fund-USA’s Liaison for ADI Negev-Nahalat Eran, a rehabilitation facility for people with disabilities located 12 miles from the border with Gaza.

The 40-acre state-of-the-art village features fully accessible residential villas for people with multiple disabilities and complex medical conditions, an intensive care hospital wing, a special education school, green care farm, hydrotherapy and sports therapy complexes, a therapeutic horse stable and petting zoo, and The Harvey and Gloria Kaylie Rehabilitation Medical Center — the first rehabilitation hospi-

tal in Israel’s south.

According to organizers, the rehabilitation hospital is central to the Jewish National Fund-USA’s plan to attract high-quality job opportunities to Israel’s remote south, as the hospital employs doctors, nurses, therapists, and other roles requiring advanced degrees. It also enables and reassures families relocating from Israel’s big cities that they will have world-class care for their parents or children who may have a disability.

“On October 7, 2023, Israel’s southern region was ravaged by the most gruesome violence in the modern era,” said Klein. “In the months that followed, the Negev has become a symbol of strength and resilience, rising from the ashes to rebuild its communities, rehabilitate its war-wounded soldiers and civilians, and ensure the health

and safety of even its most vulnerable citizens.”

“We want as many people as possible to hear Elie’s firsthand accounts about how people with disabilities in Israel’s south, including rehab patients and PTSD victims, best illustrate the unbreakable spirit of Israelis,” added Jewish National Fund-USA’s President, Capital Region Board of Directors and Women for Israel Chairwoman Lauren Iselin. “The resilience shown by the residents of this incredible rehabilitation hospital, especially during and after the events of October 7, proves that superheroes do exist—and they live just 1.5 hours south of Tel Aviv.”

Information and registration may be obtained by contacting Emily Pfeffer, associate director, New England and the Capital Region at [epfeffer@jnf.org](mailto:epfeffer@jnf.org) or 617-423-0999, ext. 812.

## Holiday celebrations set by Clifton Park Chabad

CLIFTON PARK—Clifton Park Chabad invites the community to join in celebrating the upcoming High Holidays, offering a variety of services and festive events throughout October. According to Codirector Rabbi Yossi Rubin, “From Rosh Hashanah to Sukkot, there will be opportunities for all ages to engage in the holiday spirit.” He added, “During the High Holiday services, special prayers will be recited in honor of Israel.”

Rosh Hashanah services and a community dinner begin the celebration (October 2-4) on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. Services during the holiday will include traditional prayers, the sounding of the shofar, and the Tashlich ceremony.

Yom Kippur services are set for Oct. 11-12, culminating with the Ne’ilah service. A Break Fast will take place after Yom Kippur on the evening of Oct. 12, at 7 p.m.

Sukkot will feature a variety of community events. A Sukkot dinner held in the traditional sukkah is slated for Oct. 16, at 6 p.m. Children and teens will have a chance to celebrate Sukkot with interactive and creative activities on Sunday, Oct. 20. CKids will have the “Sukkah Space Station event” at 11 a.m., while CTeens will host the “Spatter the Sukkah Party” with art activities inside the sukkah at 4 p.m.

The community is invited to attend “Sushi in the Sukkah Party” on Tuesday, Oct. 22, starting at 5 p.m. The party will feature live klezmer music, soups and desserts and lulav shakes. Information about service times, dinner reservations, and event details may be obtained at [www.cliftonparkchabad.com](http://www.cliftonparkchabad.com) or by contacting the rabbi at 518-495-0772.

**START THE JEWISH NEW YEAR WITH THE SCHENECTADY JCC AT A ROSH HASHANAH THEMED EVENT**  
Sunday, September 29 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

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To hear Rosh Hashanah songs and PJ Library stories read by Lakota Lustig.

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**Shanah Tovah!**

**JFS wishes you and your family a meaningful, happy & sweet new year.**

Thank you for volunteering, for donating, and for seeking help for yourselves and for others.

JFS is here for our whole community.  
Whether you need assistance or wish to support us, please contact:  
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## Obituaries

**VIRGINIA "CONNIE" DUBINS**

96, of Boca Raton, Fla., formerly of Albany, Sept. 17, 2024; widow of Dr. Henry B. Dubins; survived by daughter, Wendy (Dr. Lawrence) Perlmutter of Slingerlands; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren.

**ELIZABETH "LIBBY" GODFRIED**

100, of Albany, Catskill, Rensselaer, Sept. 21, 2024; widow of Dr. William Godfried; survived by daughters, Betsy (Donald) Feldstein and Susanne (Gerald) Segelman; grandchildren Michelle Feldstein and Rabbi Micah (Michal) Segelman; and great-grandchildren, Shira, Shmuele Moshe, Ayelet Aidel, Chaim Zev, Hadassah Bina and Yechiel Yackov.

**SUZON R. GORDON**

Sept. 13, 2024; widow of David Gordon; survived by daughters Debora, Lisa, and Adina Gordon; sister Janet Karon; and grandchildren John, Jacob,

Joshua and Rose of Troy, Lisa Gordon (Garrett Derner) of Evanston, IL. and Adina Gordon of Hinesburg, VT.

**EDWIN PHILLIPS**

90, of Albany, Sept. 13, 2024; survived by wife Fern Phillips; son Gary (Christine) Phillips; daughters Debra Breckenridge and Shelley Kisselback; brother, Nathan Phillips; grandchildren, Jennifer (Sean Rivage) Kisselback, Rebecca (Jesse) Lyon, Brendan (Victoria) Kisselback, Erin (Kyle) Riffe and Joshua Breckenridge; and great-grandchildren, Laurel, Lennox and Nevan.

**BERTOLD WEINBERG**

98, of Albany, Sept. 21, 2024; widow of Irma Weinberg; survived by son Daniel (Susan) Weinberg; brother, Gerhard Weinberg; grandchildren, Francis (Megan) Waplinger, Ashley (Patrick) Besch, Andrea (J.P.) Berdick, Nathan (Rachel) Weinberg, Kim (Victor) Quartuccio and Carli (Jack) Hallam; and great-grandchildren, Valentina Besch, Ava Berdick, Harrison Quartuccio, Kenny Hallam and Hailey Hallam.

*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](mailto:Jim@JewishWorldnews.org)*

# Our Special Connection

*Rabbi Leible Morrison and his wife Elisheva of Beth Tephilah in Troy, create a weekly family bulletin that has as a focus the Torah portion of the week and each week includes a "special connection" section highlighting an individual who has died during the week featuring that portion. Shown here is **Ki Tavo**, which was read in the synagogue on September 21.*

**DR. NORMAN SPECTOR Z"l**

Dr. Norman Spector Z"l passed away on the seventh portion of the parasha **Ki Tavo**. In that portion Moses tells the Jewish people to guard and do all the words of the Torah so that they may succeed. The word succeed in Hebrew can also mean understand. In other words, by doing the commandments of the Torah, the Jewish people will gain a greater sensitivity to G-d and thus internalize their purpose as Jews to elevate the world through their commandments from the Torah suggesting that the commandments were given not just to be followed but also to give us a sense of responsibility in our purpose in life.

To understand how this metamorphosis takes place let us look at the life of Dr. Norman Spector Z"l. Spector was born on November 18, 1917 in St. Louis, Mo. to the late Nathen and Dora Spector. He was predeceased by his wife of 48 years, Sarah Herskovitz

He attended the University of Louisville and received his Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) from the University of Pittsburgh Dental School. In the month of June 1941, he graduated college, married and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Following World War II, he was discharged with the rank of captain. He practiced dentistry for 52 years in Troy, from 1946 until his doctor-mandated retirement at the age of 80 in 1998. Upon entering practice, he found himself in the position of slowly breaking down local racial and religious prejudice based upon his belief in the inherent dignity of every human being. As a dentist, he was so gentle he hardly ever used Novocain. He learned this in the army during the years that there was a shortage. He was the past commander of the Jewish War Veterans Post 15, past president of Temple Beth El, member of the Apollo-King Solomon's Lodge of the Masons, member of the Third District Dental Society, A.D.A., board member of the Beth Tephilah Synagogue and volunteer staff dentist at the Daughters of Sarah Nursing Home in Troy. Many of his patients became his friends and they loved him. He enjoyed being the shuttle driver for Beth Tephilah's minyan for many years. He always took an active role in responsibility for whatever situation he was in. In his later years at Beth Tephilah Synagogue, he always found ways to help others and to show his enthusiasm to keep the minyan strong. Dr. Spector grew more focused on his religious observance and spent more time with shul activities. The maturity and wisdom he had shown in his earlier years was now directed to his Judaism. He prayed at home if there was no minyan and he also said psalms. He donated many books of the translated psalms like the one that he read from so others could grow in their Judaism. He internalized and connected every aspect of his life to Judaism.

When he could not drive anymore, Leible Morrison would go with Charlie Freedman Z"l to pick up Dr. Spector. Morrison tells the following story: One day during the winter Dr. Spector did not come out when we honked. We did not have cell phones in those days, I thought that he had overslept or somehow found another ride down to shul. We were running late and I wanted to go, but Freedman said we should see if he was all right. I knocked on the door, no one answered. We decided to go in, I think the door was not locked. We found Spector flat on his back in his bed mumbling his morning prayers! We tried to talk to him but soon realized he had carbon monoxide poisoning! We called 911 and later Dr. Spector recovered.

In every aspect of his life, he had a sensitivity to G-d. He walked the earth with his ways of pleasantness that gave G-d great pleasure and that is what is meant when the Torah says that "you will succeed in all that you do."

**Continued on page 27**

# Shana Tova

CONGREGATION  
**GATES**  
OF HEAVEN

May 5785 be a year of calm and serenity, peace and hope, health and well-being for you and your loved ones. May G-d write and seal you in the Book of Life for a blessing.

All High Holy Day information such as full service schedules, children's programs, annual appeal, and more can be found on our website at [cgoh.org](http://cgoh.org) or by calling us at 518-374-8173.

## Schedule of Services

- Erev Rosh Hashanah Service: Wednesday, October 2, 8:00 PM
- Rosh Hashanah Morning Service: Thursday, October 3, 10:00 AM
- Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day Event: Friday, October 4, 10:00 AM
  - Collins Park, Clifton Park
- Kol Nidre Service: Friday, October 11, 8:00 PM
- Yom Kippur Morning Service: Saturday, October 12, 10:00 AM
- Yom Kippur Afternoon Service: Saturday, October 12, 3:00 PM

A ticket is required for entry to each service. Non-members and guests may contact the office to request a ticket at [info@cgoh.org](mailto:info@cgoh.org) or 518-374-8173. All services will also be live-streamed at [cgoh.org](http://cgoh.org)

Shana tova u'metukah!

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Iz Visions  
Shanah Tovah 5785



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Colonie Chabad lists new location for Shofar in the Park service

ALBANY –Various High Holiday programs and services have been planned by Colonie Chabad.

A Shofar In Park / Tashlich service and an Oct. 7th Memorial with local dignitaries has been scheduled by the Colonie Chabad. The programs will begin on Thursday, Oct. 3 at 5 p.m. at the Newtonville Park and gazebo, across from Siena College. The park is behind the Colonie Town Hall. A shofar service will also be held in the Siena Campus Center on the Academic Quad Plaza at 6 p.m.

“We wanted to announce to all, our new location for the Shofar in the Park. This new location is also better that it’s near Siena College where we continue to grow our Jewish programs and activities,” said Rabbi Mordechai Rubin codirector of the Colonie Chabad.

According to Rubin, details of the Colonie Chabad’s High Holiday schedule may be obtained at [www.ColonieCJC.com/HighHolidays](http://www.ColonieCJC.com/HighHolidays). Information and reservations are also available from the rabbi at 518-368-7886, or by e-mail at [ChaiCenterColonie@gmail.com](mailto:ChaiCenterColonie@gmail.com).

Bat Mitzvah



CHLOE BARNES, daughter of Jamie Barnes of Delmar and Ken Barnes of Glens Falls, will be bat mitzvah Beth Emeth in Albany on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024.

Maternal grandparents are Susan and Jerome Silverstein of Delmar.

Chloe has a love for dance and music, particularly singing. She is a member of the select choir at school. She is passionate about helping children and loves babysitting. She is a teen aide at Beth Emeth.

Spending time with friends and family is very important to Chloe, particularly her aunts in Wisconsin. Chloe has a love for the beach and for traveling to new destinations.

Our Special Connection ...

Continued from Page 26

“Our Special Connections” is a project that takes the life experiences of loved ones that have passed and uses them as a commentary on each using a 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 website that has these memories. Please share some memories with us of your loved ones. Please call Leible at 518-894-3490.

Friday, Sept. 27, 24, Elul. Shabbat candle lighting at 6:25 p.m.  
Saturday, Sept. 28, 25, Elul. Sedrah: Nitzavim-Vayeilech. Shabbat ends at 7:23 p.m.  
Wednesday, Oct. 2, 29, Elul. Rosh Hashanah 5785 candlelighting is at 6:16 p.m.  
Thursday, Oct. 3, 1, Tishrei. Rosh Hashanah candlelighting is after 7:14 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 4, 2, Tishrei. Shabbat candlelighting is at 6:12 p.m. (Light from pre-existing flame)

Saturday, Oct. 5, 3, Tishrei. Sedrah: Ha’azinu. Shabbat ends at 7:10 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 11, 9, Tishrei. Yom Kippur, Shabbat/holiday candlelighting is at 6:01 p.m.

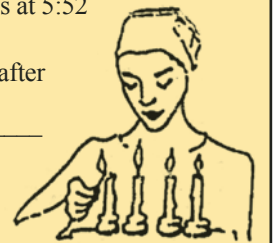
Saturday, Oct. 12, 10, Tishrei. Shabbat /Yom Kippur fast ends at 6:59 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 14, Tishrei. Sukkot candlelighting is at 5:52 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 17, 15, Tishrei. Sukkot candlelighting is after 6:51 p.m. (Light from pre-existing flame)

Friday, Oct. 18, 16, Tishrei. Shabbat candlelighting is at 5:49 p.m. (Light from pre-existing flame)

Saturday, Oct. 19, 17, Tishrei. Shabbat ends at 6:48 p.m.



CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

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[When we combined lists, some errors may have crept in: if you have a question about your renewal date, please call us.]

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