



**JT**  
NEWS

THE VOICE OF

# JEWISH

WASHINGTON



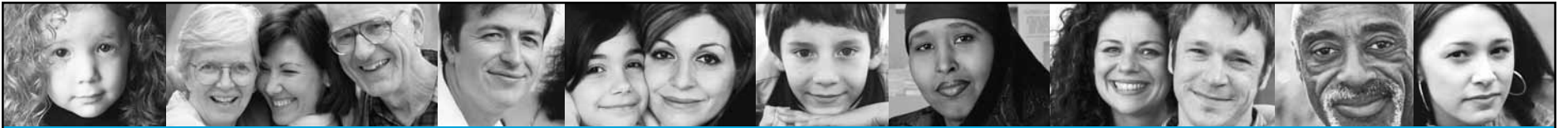
## SHANA TOVA

**THE GOVERNOR MEETS THE JEWISH COMMUNITY PAGE 6**

**A RABBI'S INDUCTION INTO THE AIR FORCE PAGE 11**

**CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY BOOKS PAGE 22**

Illustration by Andrea Rouleau



## October Family Calendar

# One in 6 Americans face hunger.



## Community-Wide Food Drive Sept. 25 – Oct. 5, 2014

[jfsseattle.org/FoodDrive](http://jfsseattle.org/FoodDrive)

Share your Food Drive collection photos and use #JFSsort.

### FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Contact Marjorie Schnyder, (206) 861-3146 or [familylife@jfsseattle.org](mailto:familylife@jfsseattle.org).



### Jewish Perspectives on Talking with Your Children & Friends about Guns

■ **Sunday, October 19 or Sunday, October 26**  
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

### Positive Discipline: Parenting with Confidence

■ **Tuesdays, Oct. 21 – Nov. 11**  
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Advance registration required.

### SAVE THE DATE

### Partners to Parents

■ **Sundays, November 2 & 9**  
3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

### FOR THE COMMUNITY

### Kosher Food Bank

■ **Wednesday, October 1**  
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Contact Jana Lissiak, (206) 861-3174 or [jlissiak@jfsseattle.org](mailto:jlissiak@jfsseattle.org).

### Letter to Anita

Seattle Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

■ **Saturday, October 11**  
7:30 p.m.

Contact Leonid Orlov, (206) 861-8784 or [familylife@jfsseattle.org](mailto:familylife@jfsseattle.org).

### Medicare 101

■ **Sunday, October 26**  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Contact Leonid Orlov, (206) 861-8784 or [familylife@jfsseattle.org](mailto:familylife@jfsseattle.org).

### AA Meetings at JFS

■ **Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.**

Contact (206) 461-3240 or [ata@jfsseattle.org](mailto:ata@jfsseattle.org).

### VOLUNTEER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Contact Jane Deer-Hileman, (206) 861-3155 or [volunteer@jfsseattle.org](mailto:volunteer@jfsseattle.org).

### Friendly Visitors for Seniors

### Family Mentors in Everett and Kent

### Food Drive Food Sort

Help sort food and toiletries collected during the Food Drive. Entrance to the event is a bag of groceries or grocery gift card for the Polack Food Bank.

■ **Sunday, October 5**  
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Contact Jane Deer-Hileman, (206) 861-3155 or [jdeer@jfsseattle.org](mailto:jdeer@jfsseattle.org) to register or learn more.

### FOR ADULTS AGE 60+

### ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

A community-wide program offered in partnership with Temple B'nai Torah & Temple De Hirsch Sinai. EO events are open to the public and are at 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

### Little Merchants: The Golden Era of Youth Delivering Newspapers

■ **Tuesday, October 14**

### Risks of Substance Abuse as We Age

■ **Thursday, October 23**

### A Morning of Song: From Schubert to Shenandoah

■ **Thursday, October 30**

RSVP Ellen Hendin or Wendy Warman, (206) 461-3240 or [endlessopps@jfsseattle.org](mailto:endlessopps@jfsseattle.org).

### IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP ARE YOU...

Changing your behavior to avoid your partner's temper?

Feeling isolated from family and friends?

Being put down?

Lacking access to your money?

Being touched in an unloving way?

Call Project DVORA for confidential support, (206) 461-3240.



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## ALL IN A WEEK'S NEWS

### Leading the homeland

"Homeland" star Mandy Patinkin has a solution for easing the tension in the Middle East. Appearing on The Colbert Report, Patinkin announced he will enter the race to be elected Prime Minister of Israel after Season 4 wraps up. He invited host Stephen Colbert to be his security adviser.

Source: *The Times of Israel*

### Bad sportsmanship

A major British sporting goods retailer has apologized after a security guard at one of its stores refused entry to a group of identifiably Jewish group of preteens, telling them, "No Jews." The group, including 11-year-old boys, said the guard pointed at the badges on their Yavneh school uniforms. Sports Direct said the guard has since been "removed."

Source: *Haaretz*

### Language barriers

A group of lawmakers in the Yisrael Beiteinu, Likud and Habayit Hayehudi parties in Israel's Knesset have proposed a bill that would make Hebrew the country's sole official language. Neither Hebrew nor Arabic is an official language in Israel. The current law, which dates back to the period of the British Mandate, calls for both Arabic and Hebrew "to be used in a wide variety of official functions." Previous efforts to drop Arabic and English from official language status have failed.

Source: *Haaretz*

### Bad education

AMCHA Initiative, an organization that fights anti-Semitism on college campuses across the U.S., has published a list of 218 Middle Eastern studies professors calling for the boycott of Israel, and urged that students check the list prior to registering for classes in order to avoid "subjecting themselves to anti-Israel bias, or possibly even anti-Semitic rhetoric."

Source: *Haaretz*

-Boris Kurbinov

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Rabbi Oren Hayon of Hillel at the University of Washington notes that during these holy days, we must be responsible for our own actions, but also for the actions of others.

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Commentator David Chivo says that while there has appeared to be a rise in anti-Semitism across the globe over the past few months, the truth is that it already existed.

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Governor Jay Inslee met with leaders from across the Jewish community to outline the challenges facing our state while expressing solidarity with what our community has done for the people of Washington.

### Samis announces its grants **7**

Aiming for more transparency in its grantmaking process, the Samis Foundation has gone public with its more than \$4 million to support Jewish education and more.

### Turning teens into leaders **8**

A new program will allow Jewish teens to spend time in Israel on an intensive leadership training program.

### The Air Force's newest recruit **11**

Rabbi (and now Captain) Elie Estrin, who has led Chabad at the University of Washington for the past decade, was inducted into the Air Force this month as a new chaplain.

### The cheder's new home **12**

After losing the building it had been working its way toward purchasing, the Menachem Mendel Seattle Cheder quickly moved into a new space and is continuing its mission.

### Rosh Hashanah Greetings

A full listing of articles and recipes to prepare you for the High Holidays can be found on page 14.

### Northwest Jewish Family

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Columnist Ed Harris has figured out a way to get some solitude in his bustling house: He can just start blowing on his shofar.

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Reviewer Rita Berman Frischer has a selection of kids' books for the High Holidays and beyond.

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Photos and fun from the first day at our local day schools.

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Though no countries have yet tipped their hands, here's a preview of what's likely to happen at the United Nations' General Assembly, which begins on the eve of Rosh Hashanah.

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A review of the bestselling book that profiles the hometown boys who beat Hitler's handpicked rowing team in the 1936 Olympic Games.

### MORE

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**REMEMBER WHEN**

From the Jewish Transcript, September 5, 1956.

In honor of the New Year, this front page of the paper featured an Israeli girl holding her pet goat while exhorting community members to send money to support Israel as it faced threats from multiple fronts.

JTNews is the Voice of Jewish Washington. Our mission is to meet the interests of our Jewish community through fair and accurate coverage of local, national and international news, opinion and information. We seek to expose our readers to diverse viewpoints and vibrant debate on many fronts, including the news and events in Israel. We strive to contribute to the continued growth of our local Jewish community as we carry out our mission.

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# THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For a complete listing of events, or to add your event to the JTNews calendar, visit [jewishsound.org/calendar](http://jewishsound.org/calendar). Calendar events must be submitted no later than 10 days before publication.

## CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

**Sept. 19.....6:53 p.m.**  
**Sept. 24, Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:43 p.m.**  
**Sept. 26.....6:39 p.m.**  
**Oct. 3, Erev Yom Kippur.....6:25 p.m.**

## SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

### 7-10 p.m. — Temple B'nai Torah Selichot

☎ 425-603-9677 or [rsvp@templebnaitorah.org](mailto:rsvp@templebnaitorah.org) or [templebnaitorah.org](http://templebnaitorah.org)

Watch "Our Buggy Moral Code," a TED Talk by Dan Ariely. How do emotions, moral codes and peer pressure affect our ability to make rational and important decisions? With a panel of rabbinic responses from TBT and Temple De Hirsch Sinai. Refreshments served. Service at 9 p.m. At Temple B'nai Torah, 15727 NE Fourth St., Bellevue.

### 7:30-9 p.m. — Rabbi Ted Falcon Selichot

☎ Ruth Neuwald Falcon at [RabbiTedFalcon@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiTedFalcon@gmail.com) or [www.rabbitedfalcon.com](http://www.rabbitedfalcon.com)

Rabbi Ted's quest for the spiritual authenticity of the High Holy Days. Music by Jenny Heutmaker, Elle McSharry, Jack Heutmaker and Paul Bruno. Presented by Paths to Awakening. All are welcome. \$18. At Unity in Lynnwood, 16727 Alderwood Mall Parkway, Lynnwood.

### 8-9:30 p.m. — Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue Selichot

☎ 206-527-9399 or [info@betalef.org](mailto:info@betalef.org) or [www.betalef.org](http://www.betalef.org)

Opening the Gates of Forgiveness. Continue your High Holy Day preparation through a meditative lens. Free. At Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue, 1111 Harvard Ave., Seattle.

### 8-10 p.m. — Kol HaNeshamah Selichot

☎ Sheila Abrahams at 206-935-1590 or [execdir@khnseattle.org](mailto:execdir@khnseattle.org) or [www.khnseattle.org](http://www.khnseattle.org)  
 Preparing for the High Holidays, enter the season thoughtfully. Free. At Kol HaNeshamah, 6115 SW Hinds St., Seattle.

### 11 p.m.-12 a.m. — Minyan Ohr Chadash Selichot

☎ Louis Treiger at 206-313-1569 or [minyanohrchadash@gmail.com](mailto:minyanohrchadash@gmail.com) or [www.minyanohrchadash.org](http://www.minyanohrchadash.org)

First night of Selichot. Free. At Minyan Ohr Chadash, 6701 51st Ave. S., Seattle.

## SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

### 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. — Walk With Friendship 2014

☎ The Friendship Circle at 206-374-3637 or [www.friendshipcirclewa.org](http://www.friendshipcirclewa.org)

Supporting children with special needs. Family 1K walk or the 5K loop. After the walk, celebrate in the park with a fun-filled, free event. Rain or shine. At Luther Burbank Park, 2040 84th Ave. SE, Mercer Island.

### 12:30 p.m. — Rav Gav on Leadership

☎ [egrbbyo@bbyo.org](mailto:egrbbyo@bbyo.org) or [israelmyle@gmail.com](mailto:israelmyle@gmail.com)

Motivational speaker Rav Gav is coming to Seattle to speak to the BBYO youth group about becoming the next generation of great Jewish leaders. At the Stroum Jewish Community Center, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

### 3-5 p.m. — End-of-Summer Pool Party

☎ 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

It may be September, but it's always summer at the SJCC pool. All ages; children six and younger must be supervised in the pool. No registration necessary. Free. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

### 5-7 p.m. — Mezcla: Jazz All-Stars from Cuba

☎ 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

Fusing Afro-Cuban rhythms with jazz, Mezcla's music is a genuine celebration of the culture and musical roots of Cuba, the pearl of the Antilles. At the door: SJCC members, students, youths, seniors \$25; guests \$30. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

## SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

### 10 a.m.-12 p.m. — Temple B'nai Torah Religious School Open House

☎ 425-603-9677 or [rsvp@templebnaitorah.org](mailto:rsvp@templebnaitorah.org) or [templebnaitorah.org](http://templebnaitorah.org)

New director of lifelong learning Debra J. Siroka and religious school teachers welcome you to this year of Jewish learning. Make sukkah decorations for the temple Sukkot celebration. No RSVP required. At Temple B'nai Torah, 15727 NE Fourth St., Bellevue.

## MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

### 7:30-8:30 p.m. — Congregation Shevet Achim Presents a Class on Yom Kippur

☎ 206-275-1539 or [info@shevetachim.com](mailto:info@shevetachim.com) or [www.shevetachim.com](http://www.shevetachim.com)

Rabbi Mendy Kornfeld will cover "Repentance: What Am I Repenting for and How?" Free and open to the Jewish community. No pre-registration required. At The Friendship Circle, 2737 77th Ave. SE, Mercer Island.

## WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER

### 3:30-4:30 p.m. — Tween Fitness

☎ 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

Kids will learn to use bands, balls and their own body weight to work on cardiovascular and weight training as well as balance, stability, and stretching. For ages 9-13. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island. Every Wednesday. Members free, guests \$5.

### 6:30-9:30 p.m. — Fall Co-Ed Dodgeball League

☎ 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

If you thought dodgeball was fun when you were a kid, wait until you try it now. Grab your friends, create a team of six to 10 players, and take this game back to the playground! Through November 19. \$75 per team. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

## SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER

### 9 a.m.-5 p.m. — NCSY's Annual Sukkah Building Fundraiser

☎ 206-295-5888 or [thehoffather@gmail.com](mailto:thehoffather@gmail.com) or [www.seattlencsy.com](http://www.seattlencsy.com)

Have your sukkah built by an army of NCSYers for \$36 for a regular sized sukkah. \$50 for a large sukkah. Contact to schedule.

### 5 p.m. — Blue Light Family Night

☎ Andrea Selix at 206-388-0821 or [AndreaS@sjcc.org](mailto:AndreaS@sjcc.org)

Activities night geared toward families with autistic children ages 4-11. Swimming activities in the gym and arts and crafts in Kidstown. Free. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

## MONDAY 6 OCTOBER

### 5:15-9:30 p.m. — Monday Night Football: Seattle Seahawks vs. Washington

☎ 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

Don your favorite Seahawks gear and watch the Seahawks battle Washington. With cold beverages, dinner, plenty of snacks, face painting, and prizes for the most spirited family. SJCC members: Adults \$8, kids \$5; guests: Adults \$12, kids \$8. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

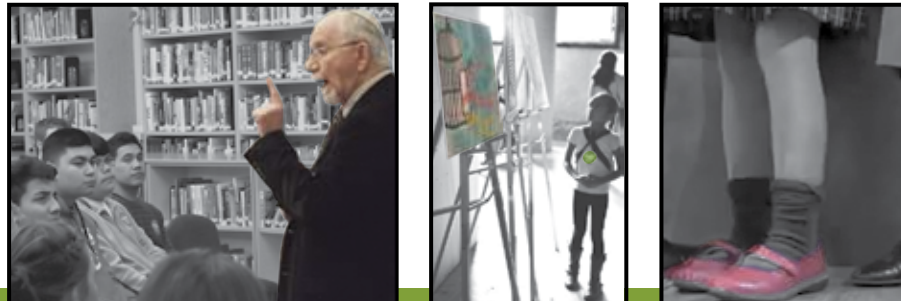
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Wednesday, October 29th

Westin Seattle | 1900 Fifth Avenue

11:45 am - 1:30 pm Luncheon Program

E D U C A T E I N S P I R E T A K E A C T I O N



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Presenting the Voices for Humanity Award to **Allan Steinman and Diane Sigel-Steinman** for ongoing support of the Center's work.

Recognizing Survivor and speaker **Josh Gortler** for his contributions to Holocaust education.

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## THE RABBI'S TURN

## During the holiest of days, we are all responsible for one another

**RABBI OREN HAYON** Hillel at the University of Washington

We call God by many names — practically as many names as there are human experiences of the Divine. Literally dozens of metaphors for God fill the pages of our sacred scriptures and our prayer books. We call God shepherd, warrior, lover, and shield; rock, parent, shelter, sovereign. But at this most awe-inspiring time of year, we refer to God most often as judge.

The metaphors of courtroom justice echo again and again through the Yamim Nora'im: We are reminded repeatedly that our deeds are recorded and analyzed and compiled, and we are urged to defend ourselves vigorously yet honestly as we stand before the judge's stern presence. And as the final days wind down before the conclusion of Yom Kippur, we tremble as we make our last appeal and prepare for sentencing.

The prevalence of this imagery is particularly interesting given the prevalence and practice of law in Jewish life. The identity of every Jew today owes its existence to an extensive root system of religious law and legal texts that have been preserved over the course of centuries. As such, the common High Holiday metaphor of God as judge can be deepened and enriched by learning



a bit more about how courtroom justice was dispensed in Jewish antiquity.

One powerful example comes from a discussion in tractate Sanhedrin of the Babylonian Talmud. The text comes from a passage discussing the rules and regulations of courtroom procedure. In particular, it comes from the rules for the sworn testimony of witnesses in a capital murder trial.

"Before the accused can be convicted," the Gemara teaches, "the witnesses against him must answer 'yes' to two questions: 'Did you warn the perpetrator?' and 'Did you recognize the victim?'"

The importance of this procedural requirement cannot be overstated. The Gemara here offers us a vital insight both into Jewish jurisprudential guidelines and into a deeper way of understanding the metaphors of the High Holidays.

The conclusion to be drawn about Jewish legal ethics here is clear: Everyone bears responsibility for his own sins and missteps, but the community at large bears a critical responsibility as well. All of us have a stake in each other's salvation and each other's spiritual destiny. Simply by

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE WHOLE LOT OF 'EM

I sympathize with Dr. Lidman's dilemma regarding the decidedly mixed reputation of Governor Rogers ("The governor was an Anti-Semite," Sept. 5). Anti-Semitism, as he points out, was common in America and Europe in that era, so was what Rogers espoused beyond the pale of "normative anti-Semitism?"

Sometimes, however, we cannot see the forest for the trees. In this case, I don't think the issue is just Governor Rogers and his anti-Semitism. I can't imagine that Rogers was an anomaly in terms of being a racist and I have to assume that we have had governors who were anti-African American, anti-Chinese, anti-Japanese, anti-Catholic, anti-Native American, etc. etc. Then the question is not simply what do we do with Governor Rogers, but rather what do we do with the entire bigoted lot of them?

**Rabbi Anson Laytner**  
Seattle

virtue of sharing space in the community, we have an obligation to each other, and as such, we are obliged to look out for others and help them find their way toward the right pathway forward.

Our job at this time in the Jewish year, then, cannot be limited merely to searching our own deeds and working toward the resolution of our own missteps. Our work also is to strengthen the relationships and connections we share with other human souls, because all of us have a stake in one another's spiritual well being. All of us have the unique and sacred opportunity to help each other prevail over our shortcomings by standing nearby and lifting each other up.

When we take this responsibility seriously, when we are willing to make the necessary sacrifices to invest in relationships with the other members of our community, we, so to speak, encourage God to move ever so slightly closer toward the

Throne of Mercy. It is a weighty invitation that Jewish tradition offers us here, and one with serious consequences: We are called to approach the other members of our Jewish community with compassion, humility, and pure, loving intention — because our salvation will always be intractably bound up with theirs. It can be difficult, all of us know, to recognize our eternal interconnectedness with others in the community; our differences and disagreements can sometimes present themselves more prominently than the close ties that bind us to one another. But we ignore the stake we have in each other at our own spiritual peril.

I am deeply hopeful that this may be the year in which all of us will take seriously our responsibility to each other, and that 5775 will see fulfilled the great human potential to bring redemption and repair to our selves, our relationships, and our world.

L'shana tova tikateivu!

## Three myths of rising global anti-Semitism

**DAVID CHIVO** Special to JTNews

The media is awash these days with coverage about the rise of anti-Semitism around the world. If we are to respond, we first need to understand that this situation is not a new phenomenon, but the rehashing of the same old story.

### Myth #1: Anti-Semitic sentiments are on the rise around the world

On one hand, the answer seems obvious. 2014 is turning out to be a bad year for world Jewry. Protests are taking place worldwide including in Berlin, where crowds recently chanted, "Hamas, Hamas! Juden zum Gas" — "Jews to the gas." Add to that the targeting of Jewish-owned businesses and sophisticated social media boycott and divestment campaigns that have rattled the likes of Starbucks. No wonder many worry about anti-Semitic resurgence reminiscent of pre-World War II Europe.

Yet, we must appreciate that we're not seeing an ideological renaissance. Indices such as the Anti-Defamation League's Global 100 point to 1 billion people worldwide harboring anti-Semitic attitudes. These feelings have festered for decades, if

not centuries. Social media helps balloon these messages and wary governments worldwide have been rather ineffectual against anti-Semitic coalitions from vocalizing their views. Together, they've popped open the anti-Semitic genie for everyone to see, but the genie was always there.

### Myth #2: The conflict in the Middle East is the cause of the current wave of anti-Semitism

Some protests related to Operation Protective Edge, the war that took place this summer in the Gaza strip, have spilled over into displays of anti-Semitism. Yet pointing at the Israel-Hamas conflict as a root cause misses the mark. Consider that in 2014 alone there are 10 other major wars involving Muslim populations. These conflicts span an area of 3.4 million square miles (roughly the size of the U.S.), impacting the lives of 572 million people and have killed (by conservative estimates) some 60,000 civilians so far this year.

Many pundits wonder why the plight of Gaza so often triumphs in the eyes of world opinion. Is it a case of Selective

Sympathy Syndrome or does the Palestinian cause strike a raw nerve that others don't?

Let's be honest: The Hamas ideology is rather hard to love. For progressives and hard-core right-wingers alike, Hamas's charter and practices are simply incompatible with their own views. What, therefore, fuels many anti-Israel movements — including boycott, divestment and sanctions campaigns — is the age-old dislike of the Jews. Peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, the Oslo Accords, and even the 2005 withdrawal from the Gaza Strip have never assuaged Israel's opponents. As such, the goal for many supposed advocates for Palestinians is simply to negate the legitimacy of the Jewish State.

### Myth #3: There is nothing you can do to combat anti-Semitism

Anti-Semites can only win if we exhibit the following behaviors: Stay silent, stay on the sidelines, and neglect our community. As such, here's how we can counter anti-Semitism:

**Be an upstander, not a bystander:** Through digital media for example, each of us is a blogger, a respondent, and an advocate. Make your voice heard.

**Take action through Jewish organizations:** Our advocacy groups and other Jewish organizations serve the interests of the Jewish people. They need our engagement, leadership, activism and financial support.

**Help build the future of our Jewish community:** Far too few people are involved in Jewish life. Involve yourself to create a Jewish community of meaning and value. No act does more to ensure a flourishing Jewish future.

Elie Wiesel famously said, "There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to act." So it must be with us, and in so doing we triumph over anti-Semitism.

David Chivo is the North American director of the Tel Aviv-based Beit Hatfutsot: The Museum of the Jewish People.

**"If you don't tell your story, people will fill in the blanks and tell their own story."  
— Rabbi Rob Toren, on why the Samis Foundation has begun publicizing its allocations.**

## Washington's governor looks to stand with the Jewish community

**JOEL MAGALNICK** Editor, JTNews

Sitting in a room full of local Jewish leaders, Washington's Democratic governor, Jay Inslee, said that our state's Jewish community has long represented the values of the people who live here.

"I'm very appreciative of this community's work on behalf of all Washingtonians," Inslee said. "Your work is not benefiting your immediate community. The kinds of things that you have advanced for decades have benefited every faith and every ethnic group in the State of Washington."

Attending the Sept. 10 meeting were representatives from the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, which hosted the event; Jewish Family Service; the Anti-

Defamation League; the National Council of Jewish Women; the American Jewish Committee; the Kline Galland Center; Temple De Hirsch Sinai; and the Va'ad HaRabanim of Greater Seattle.

Issues in the wide-ranging discussion veered from education to gun safety to seniors to voting rights. If anything tied them all together it was one thing: Money, and the need to raise more revenue to provide for the needs of everyone in the state, whether it be education, mental health treatment, clean air and water, or a roof over one's head.

It was clear from early on that Inslee faced a friendly audience, and the gover-

nor made no bones about the challenges the state faces over the coming years in the face of court-mandated education funding, the impending onslaught of Baby Boomers preparing to retire, and the effects climate change will have on the state.

### On education:

The meeting with Inslee came the day before the state Supreme Court held the legislature in contempt for not fulfilling its mandate in *McCleary v. State of Washington*, which requires the legislature to fully fund K-12 education by 2018. But the governor said he sympathizes with the high court's ruling.

"The Supreme Court has ruled that we owe our children \$5 billion in additional investment in their education just in the K-12 system," he said. "That's going to be the major debate for the legislature in the next session, and those that want to maintain services will have a big stake in that resolution."

Inslee believes that the closure of some tax loopholes can make up the funding, but made no mention of raising or enacting new taxes. Marcie Maxwell, a former House representative who now serves as Inslee's senior education policy adviser, also attended the gathering and told the group that Inslee "has said over and over he is not interested in devastating funding [for social services] in this state for education."

But Inslee also expressed concern that the \$5 billion to fund *McCleary* is "without consideration of early childhood education or for our post-high school vocational and college education system," both of which he sees as fundamental to success in both learning and work environments.

### On food security:

Rabbi Will Berkovitz, CEO of Jewish Family Service, told the governor that though the economy has improved, demand for the JFS food bank is the highest it has ever been.

"The choice is, do I pay for rent or do I buy food?" Berkovitz said.

"There's only one way to prevent these cuts from services, and satisfy the Supreme Court mandate of *McCleary*, and that's to increase revenues to the state government. That's just a numerical fact," Inslee responded. "It's pretty clear. And Washingtonians are going to need to make that choice."

Part of the discrepancy between the economy and economic hardship comes because "97 percent of the economic growth is captured by the top 10 percent of the population," Inslee said.

He said he would push to raise the minimum wage statewide to at least \$12 per hour, though he conceded it's not a solution to the problem of the people who drive food delivery trucks being unable to afford to eat at the restaurants they deliver to, for example.

### On gun safety:

Rabbi Aaron Meyer of Temple De Hirsch Sinai asked whether Initiative 594, which will ask voters in November to approve stronger background checks for gun sales, would receive support from the governor. Inslee said "it's really important that we win this," and he believes that voters will pass it, but more importantly he believes that passage needs to send a message to legislators who refused to put the initiative to a vote while in session earlier this year.

"It's just impossible to articulate why

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## Samis allocations sustain the community, locally and in Israel

**EMILY K. ALHADEFF** Associate Editor, JTNews

This past year, the Samis Foundation allocated over \$4 million to local Jewish education and camps, disaster relief, Jewish life, as well as social services and war relief in Israel.

Though Samis's work is evident across the community, these figures are not widely known. For years Samis did not publicize its granting process.

But this year, the Samis team, led by executive director Rob Toren, decided to put a full page ad in this paper with a list of beneficiaries from its large trust, established by Sam Israel in 1979.

"Instead of people wondering what Samis does, we thought we would be clear about what we fund," Toren said.

Toren said in the past the foundation has put out annual reports, but they were more effort than they seemed to be worth.

"I was somewhat inspired when I saw Federation showing its allocations [in the JTNews]," Toren said. "If you don't tell your story, people will fill in the blanks and tell their own story."

Beneficiaries of Samis Foundation grants are invited to apply for funding. That includes the local day schools, camps, and the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Washington, and a number of other programs and initiatives locally and in Israel. The foundation provides matching grants in many cases,

including allocations to education initiatives from the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle.

Another stipulation of Sam Israel was to provide funding to "widows and orphans" (a directive from the Torah), and this year Samis provided a one-time gift of \$200,000 each to the Beer Sheva Shelter for Abused Women expansion and the Jerusalem Shelter for Abused Women's renovation of its children's wing.

The foundation contributed to relief efforts from this summer's conflict with Hamas, resulting in \$165,000 in partnership with the Rashi Foundation, Jewish Federations of North America, and the Sephardic Education Center.

"We felt we needed to respond in an unusually generous degree," Toren said.

Five thousand dollars were also donated to the Oso mudslide disaster relief effort.

"Sam stipulated in the foundational documents that disaster relief would be something he wanted his foundation to support," Toren added.

Seeing the Samis allocations on paper makes clear how crucial the foundation is to the health of community institutions.

"Many [day schools] have said that 'were it not for Samis, it's hard to imagine how we would exist,'" said Toren.

"Samis Foundation funding of the Seattle Hebrew Academy is deeply valued

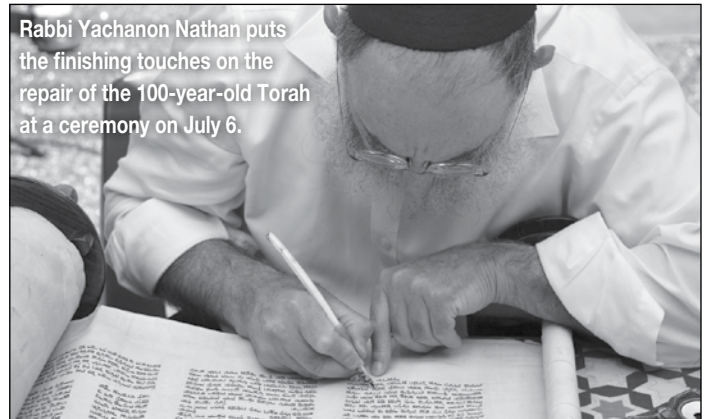
and critical to our actualization of the mission of our school," said Rivy Poupko Kletenik, the Modern Orthodox day school's head of school. "We can't imagine a Jewish education world in Seattle without the Samis Foundation."

SHA received \$654,589 from Samis this year for its operating budget. The allocation helps fill the gap between the school's massive fundraising efforts and tuition, as well as funding from the Federation and endowments.

"The responsibility of the education of Jewish children is not only relegated to their parents," said Kletenik. "It's the entire community's responsibility to educate the children. Sam Israel realized how important it was to leave his funds to the Jewish community."

Camp Solomon Schechter has been receiving an opportunities grant for about five years, which has funded a ropes course, zip line, climbing tower, sports equipment and boats.

"These things would increase the number of campers," said Sam Perlin, the



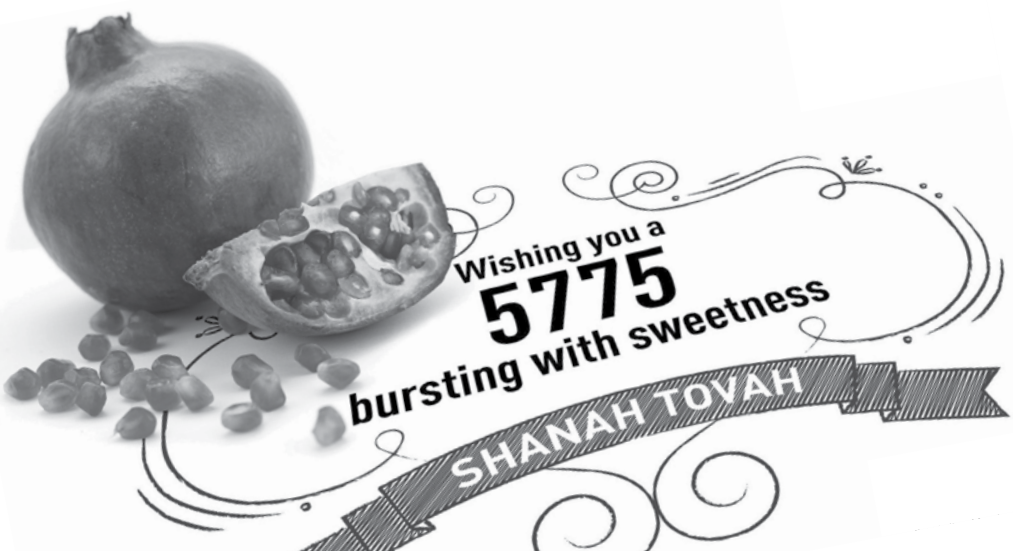
Rabbi Yachanon Nathan puts the finishing touches on the repair of the 100-year-old Torah at a ceremony on July 6.

COURTESY CAMP SOLOMON SCHECHTER

camp's director. "Truth be told, it was true. You gotta get the kids in the door. Little kids don't want to talk about learning Judaism. These are the bells and whistles."

This year, Schechter took a more formal Jewish approach, and received funding to purchase a new Torah scroll and hold a "613th mitzvah program" to welcome the Torah. The scribe came out to put the final letters in the scroll, and the kids, parents, donors, and Samis trustees were invited to the party.

"Schechter has really benefited from the Samis Foundation," said Perlin. "They adore our local camps and really understand how camps are making an impact. They're beautiful."



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## Moms for Israel to send their teens on new leadership program in Jewish State

**DAN AZNOFF** JTNews Correspondent

Every mother of a Jewish teenager will likely agree that leadership is a natural ability within most young people. And a new program that sends high school students to live in Israel for two months has been created to cultivate that inherent aptitude.

The program that will send young Jews from across the United States and Canada to the Alexander Muss High School is being coordinated in the Seattle area by Shaindel Bresler, who runs the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project that reconnects Jewish women with their heritage.

"We want to empower the next generation of ambassadors who can strengthen the bond between young Jews in the United States, their counterparts in Israel, and the Jewish homeland," Bresler explained. "As mothers, we have seen a crying need to give young people an avenue to connect with teenagers in Israel and to learn more about the issues that face Jews around the world. And we need to do that before they go off to college."

"We need new leaders who can step up to make a difference in how the world perceives the state of Israel."

The first step, according to Bresler, will

be an exchange program that sends high school students to the Alexander Muss High School beginning this coming February. Students selected for the program will spend two months at the secondary school campus in Tel Aviv in a program called the Muss Young Leadership Experience (MYLE). The young leaders will attend accredited college-prep classes on campus and spend three days each week touring religious and cultural sites in the Holy Land.

"The land becomes your teacher," Bresler said. "There is no way a young person can visit sites like Masada and discuss the options between right and wrong without maturing as a Jew and a potential leader."

The academic curriculum at Alexander Muss High School will be enhanced with instruction on the characteristics of what it takes to become a leader within their own community.

Bresler founded the award-winning Total Sunday Jewish Experience in Seattle as well. The mother of seven described MYLE as more than just a student exchange program. Alexander Muss High School has partnered with the Jewish National Fund to provide the only pluralist, non-denom-

inational, fully accredited international study abroad program in Israel for high school students.

The roots of the MYLE program date back to a trip to Israel several years ago by a group of Jewish mothers, patterned after the Birthright adventures available to teenagers.

The tour consisted of 20 women, including Bresler and three others from the Seattle area, and from countries as far away as Brazil and Australia, who bonded over the need to provide more options to Jewish youth.

"The mothers from countries outside of the United States discussed the various non-Jewish programs that give teenagers the chance to experience life from another perspective in countries throughout South America," she recalled. "We all agreed there should be a program that brought Jewish youth to Israel to help them connect with their own heritage."

Part of that came from a consensus that teens aren't having the same kind of exposure to Israel as their moms had.

"Young people need the experience of what it means to be Jewish today and throughout history," Bresler said. "The

The full cohort of the moms' trip to Israel that inspired the creation of the MYLE program.



COURTESY MYLE

Alexander Muss High School program brings that all together."

Additional information on the MYLE program is available on the organization's website at [www.myleisrael.com](http://www.myleisrael.com).

### If you go:

An information session and fundraising dinner for the MYLE project will take place Sun., Sept. 21, at a private home on Mercer Island. Information and reservations are available by contacting Shaindel Bresler at [israelmyle@gmail.com](mailto:israelmyle@gmail.com) or 206-779-4373. The event will feature "unorthodox" motivational speaker Rav Gav, whose messages resonate with teens in particular.



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## **Intensive, immersive K-12 Jewish education, formal and informal, in Washington State**

### **Day Schools**

Jewish Day School of Metropolitan Seattle Operations.....	\$475,015
Menachem Mendel Seattle Cheder Operations .....	\$255,010
Northwest Yeshiva High School Operations.....	\$780,000
Seattle Hebrew Academy Operations .....	\$654,589
Seattle Jewish Community School Operations.....	\$336,746
Torah Day School Operations .....	\$378,000
Technology Initiative .....	up to \$361,000, project-based
Hanukkah Appreciation Gifts for day school staff.....	\$30,000
Jewish Federation Day School Special Services.....	\$50,000

### **Capacity Building for Day Schools and Camps up to \$100,000, project-based**

#### **Overnight Camps**

Camp Kalsman, Mitzvah Day and Staff Training .....	\$20,000
Camp Solomon Schechter, 613 <sup>th</sup> Mitzvah Program and Sefer Torah purchase .....	\$20,000
Jewish Federation Needs-based Scholarships .....	\$55,000
Sephardic Adventure Camp Operations.....	\$20,000

**Israel Experiences** Jewish Federation Needs-based Scholarships .....

	\$38,500
--	----------

### **Programs in the State of Israel, in the areas of immigrant absorption and the disadvantaged**

Beer Sheva Shelter for Abused Women Expansion.....	\$200,000
Keren K'lita Kehillateinu ("Our Community") Program.....	\$10,000
Kiryat Malachi Early Childhood Center Operations .....	\$50,000
Nefesh b'Nefesh Lone Soldier Program .....	\$10,000
North American Coalition for Ethiopian Jewry "Summer School is not Summer School" Enrichment Program .....	\$30,000
Jerusalem Shelter for Abused Women in Jerusalem- Renovation of Children's Wing.....	\$200,000
Operation Protective Edge Relief –in partnership with the Rashi Foundation, Jewish Federations of North America and Sephardic Education Center .....	\$165,000

### **Miscellany**

BBYO Summer Leadership Program.....	\$10,000
NCSY Local Chapter and Jewish Student Union Clubs.....	\$19,000
Neighborhood House.....	\$1,500
Oso Mudslide Disaster Relief.....	\$5,000
UW Stroum Center for Jewish Studies 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary .....	\$40,000

**TOTAL: \$4,314,360**

THE SAMIS LAND COMPANY HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED THE SAMUEL ISRAEL FOUNDATION,  
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### **It has allocated the following grants for the 2015 fiscal year:**

URJ Camp Kalsman Capital Challenge .....	\$120,018 to date (total committed \$1,500,000)
Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center .....	\$6,000
Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center Capital .....	\$100,000 (total commitment)
Jewish Family Service Capital Contribution .....	\$20,000 (total committed \$100,000)
Jewish Family Service Operations.....	\$28,000
Jewish Family Service Food Bank.....	\$20,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle's Education Services.....	\$45,000
Sephardic Religious School.....	\$6,500
Congregation Shaarei Teshuvah, Jewish Prisoner Services .....	\$6,000

**TOTAL: \$351,518**

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## Two who returned

**DIANA BREMENT** JTNews Columnist

**1** “I was always looking for the mountains,” says **Rabbi Sarah Niebuhr Rubin** of her return to Seattle last month.

Raised in Seattle’s Capitol Hill neighborhood, she grew up attending Temple Beth Am. A Roosevelt High School grad, she left town to attend Ohio State University, where she developed an interest in anthropology and archeology through a volunteer job at a local museum. She got the job of documenting a collection of Native American burial artifacts, including human bones, as part of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

“I thought I was going to be looking at rocks,” she says, but instead became an osteology (bone) expert and “very passionate about it.” She then went to Indiana University to begin doctoral studies in biological anthropology.

Working at archeological digs in Israel and in Birecik, Turkey, on the Euphrates River, she found that the desire to leave human remains undisturbed was universal.

“It was clear there were issues,” even



**M.O.T.**  
Member of  
the Tribe

though the remains were ancient, she says. She struggled with the ethics of the situation, says Sarah, and it was then that she changed course.

“I dropped my application for rabbinical school in the mail on the way out of the country,” as she left Turkey in 2000.

Ordained at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Sarah served congregations in New Hampshire and Connecticut, but “I always had a desire to come

back,” she says. After her son was born three years ago, her desire to be closer to her parents, **Julia** and **Michael Eulenberg**, increased.

In May she found a position as the second grade Judaics teacher at Seattle Jewish Community School, where she’s found a “warm welcome back to Seattle” from families and staff. With students whose Hebrew skills range from zero to fluent, she enjoys teaching them not just to read prayers, but “to be strong leaders in the community.”

The part-time position also allows her to do other things. She’ll be lead-

ing Reform services at Kline Galland, teaching a writing class at Herzl-Ner Tamid’s Torahthon, and will have more time to spend with her son **Jonathan** and husband **Robert**, an academic historian who is currently working on a book ([www.conflictharmony.blogspot.com](http://www.conflictharmony.blogspot.com)).

**2** **Allyson Kolan** returned to Seattle to become the company manager for the 5th Avenue Theatre. The “linchpin role,” she explains, connects “the production department with the artistic department,” taking care of the cast’s needs from “flight arrangements and hotel accommodations to helping them find medical care,” and “even being an ear if somebody’s having a rough day.”

The southern California native lived in Seattle until three years ago, when she left to work in London for Mi7 Records as a tour manager for British singer-songwriter **King Charles**. While there she completed a master’s degree in music



COURTESY SARAH RUBIN

**Rabbi Sarah Rubin teaches at a seminar in 2011.**

business at the University of Westminster, doing most of her schoolwork “from a tour bus.”

Before England, she worked here as a music director for a Clear Channel hard-rock radio station, but left that job because “you can only go so far in radio unless you want to be a nationally syndicated host,” which she didn’t.

“A funny turn of events” led to the job at the 5th, her first in musical theater. Checking the theater’s web site on an instinct, “they happened to be looking for a company manager,” she says. It’s rare, she notes, “to just be able to jump into a

► **PAGE 11**



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## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Israel experiences connect teens to Jewish life

There is nothing like an Israel experience to help young people solidify their Jewish identities and engage more deeply in Jewish life.

The Jewish Federation awards scholarships that enable local teens to go on these life-changing experiences during the summer. For the 2014 season, the Federation awarded 28 scholarships. Teens who travel to Israel on Federation scholarships agree to submit blog posts that include their reflections about the experience – what they’re seeing, what they’re learning, and how visiting Israel has changed their perceptions about their Jewish identity and the role of Judaism in their lives.

#### Tikkun Olam

The teens often have profound things to share. After her trip this past summer, Siobahn Lawson wrote: “My trip allowed each of us to choose an individual,

*specialized program. I chose the Tikkun Olam program. Going into these four days, I thought they would be like any other Tikkun Olam project I’d participated in. I hoped that I would be able to help and that the work would be rewarding. I never expected it to change my life. These four days truly gave me the opportunity to make connections and understand the meaning of social action and how easy it is to make a difference in others’ lives. It changed my perspective, and gave me a new sense of confidence that I can make a difference.”*

#### Learning Opportunities

Strenuous hikes in Israel’s scenic back country are an unforgettable part of any teen’s Israel experience. There is more to a hike, however, than enjoying Israel’s great outdoors. Cheftziba Levin recalled an insight she gained after a hike on her Israel trip this summer: “After every hike,

*one of the counselors takes an item (something really random) from the hike, and girls on the bus are invited to share their ‘G-d Sight!’ Meaning, what she learns from this object. Something somebody said today stuck with me. She mentioned that all the girls on the exhausting hike looked out for each other, no matter who, no matter what. It was really beautiful to be part of. Couldn’t have asked for a more inspiring day!”*

Teens who have received Israel experience scholarships are thankful for the Jewish Federation donors. After returning from her experience, Siobahn Lawson shared “how thankful I am for the people who made this experience possible for me and many other teens.” She urged her peers to make an Israel experience happen, “because I promise it will be the time of your life.”

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The Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER SEATTLE



## Serving God and country

**EMILY K. ALHADEFF** Associate Editor, JTNews

Orthodox rabbis are widely known for their distinctive black suits and black Bor-salino hats. But on September 10, University of Washington Chabad rabbi Elie Estrin wore a different kind uniform: The navy blue suit and cap of the United States Air Force.

Estrin was sworn in at the McChord Airfield chapel as a military chaplain to the Air Force. Estrin is the first Chabad rabbi to become an Air Force chaplain, and the first military chaplain to have a beard since the Pentagon lifted its beard ban last year. After the ban was lifted, Estrin says he began pursuing his dream of chaplaincy.

"The concept of military chaplaincy was something always very interesting," Estrin told JTNews. "I'm not a hospice kind of guy. I deal with people who are young."

Over the years Estrin has been running Chabad at the UW, he's seen a number of military personnel come through his doors, including an 87-year-old veteran who was present at the ceremony.

"There's an automatic disconnect between civilians and military," he said. "We civilians just don't get it."

Estrin, whose 10 years of rabbinical experience qualify him for the rank of captain, will be serving Air Force members, Jewish and non-Jewish.

"Anything that would be according to Jewish law and Halachah I'm able to do,

and to assist airmen no matter who they are," he said. "I'm thrilled to help out in whatever way I can."

Estrin is working through the Aleph Institute, a charitable organization run by Chabad, that provides social services to families in critical need, supports Jewish military personnel, and works with Jews in the criminal justice system. He will need to complete five weeks of officer training in Alabama and four weeks of chaplaincy training in South Carolina this winter. He is committing to 24 days of chaplaincy work a year, but hopes more opportunities will arise.

Rabbi Sanford Dresin, director of military programs at Aleph, flew in to officiate the ceremony. Estrin was joined by his family and a number of military chaplains, as well as Rabbi Sholom Ber Levitin, director of Chabad of the Pacific Northwest, Rabbi Shmuel Heber of Chabad of Pierce County, and Rabbi Cheski Edelman of Chabad of Olympia.

Estrin wore plain clothes before changing into his uniform after the swearing in.

"It was overwhelming, it was humbling," he said the day following the cer-



Rabbi Elie Estrin is sworn in as an Air Force chaplain by Rabbi Sanford Dresin on Sept. 10.

NINA KRASNOW

emony. "I was really surprised by those feelings being as strong as they were.... You're a continuation of something that is historic and a central part of America."

Estrin said he was moved by the supportive response he received, and it gave him the hope that the work the military does is still important to people, even those who tend to be opposed to military measures.

"It was hard to wrap my head around it," he said. "I'm extremely touched. The support is far beyond what I ever would have dreamed."

◀ M.O.T. PAGE 10



JEFF CARPENTER

Allyson Kolan

field like that," and she feels fortunate.

Seattle has a density of creative talent in all fields, notes the fan of electronic music. "It must be something in the water, she quips, "because the number of creative and talented people is super high."

Allyson is getting her theatrical feet wet with the classic "A Chorus Line," running through Sept. 28. "It's incredible," she says, to work with a cast of "triple threats": Performers who can "sing, dance and act, which is truly rare." She's enjoyed watching the cast members she worked so closely with during rehearsals "and see the progress everyone has made."

The company manager has plenty to do while the show is in performance mode, and she's already at work on upcoming shows, "working on things months in advance," she says. "I don't like surprises." ("Kinky Boots" starts Sept. 30.)

Allyson, who just adopted a rescued hairless Sphinx cat, enjoys weight lifting and ceramics.

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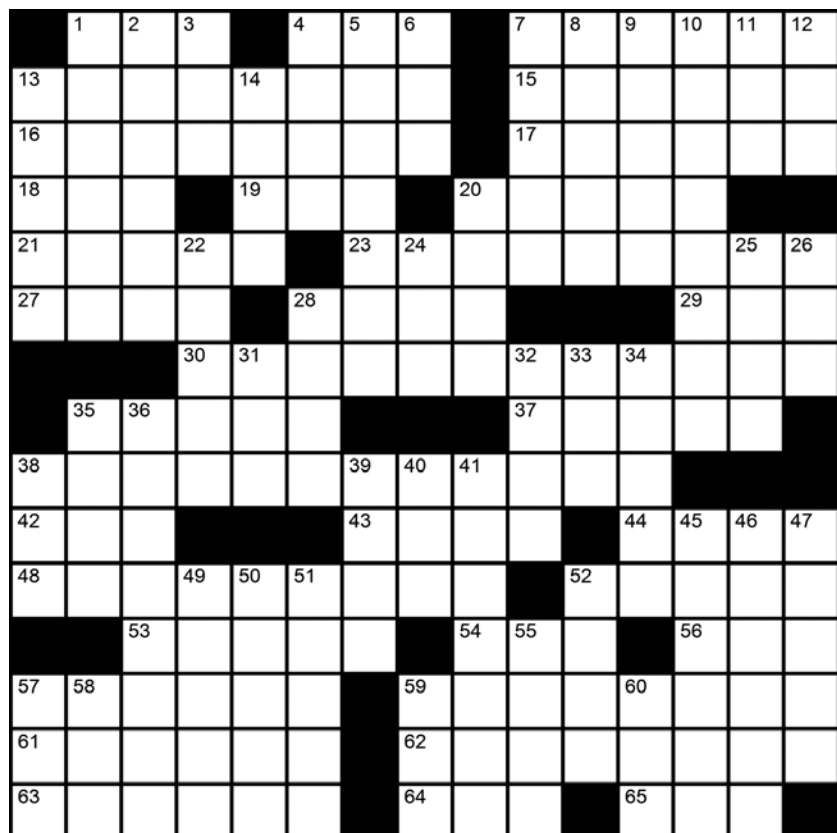
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## Dress Boldly

by Mike Selinker



*In Genesis, Joseph received a coat of many colors from his father, signifying the high status he would someday reach. His jealous brothers would have none of it, stealing Joseph's coat and selling him into slavery. But ascend to status he did, proving that the reactions of others should not dictate how you should garb yourself. Herein, you will find many colorful garments in which you may dress as boldly as you like.*

### ACROSS

- 1 Awareness ad, briefly
- 4 Diary \_\_\_ Wimpy Kid
- 7 Iditarod locale
- 13 Road surface
- 15 His name is in many Bibles
- 16 A non-playing player in college football, or a *Star Trek* crewman who's not long for the world
- 17 Loser's lament
- 18 Annex
- 19 "\_\_\_ matter of fact..."
- 20 Wave one's arms like Kermit
- 21 Rigid
- 23 Lush tract near a residential area
- 27 Sharpen
- 28 Phobia
- 29 Contest
- 30 Item quested for by Greeks
- 35 Take off
- 37 Walkway
- 38 Buzzy critter
- 42 Body part a QB might tear
- 43 Duelist's choice
- 44 Years and years
- 48 Foamy wave crests after which a B.C. soccer club is named
- 52 It might be pressed to the metal
- 53 Ex-governor of 7-Across
- 54 Take to court
- 56 He co-produced a U2 song whose title is his name reversed
- 57 Rice antihero
- 59 Layoff notice
- 61 Operate a Piper Cub
- 62 Computer security consultants, colloquially
- 63 Succeeded at a test
- 64 "Stand" band
- 65 Ocular organ

### DOWN

- 1 Admitted, in court
- 2 Depress
- 3 Summertime coolers, for short
- 4 Ned Beatty's role in *Superman*
- 5 Dined alfresco?
- 6 Suitable
- 7 Quick-footed
- 8 *Edge of Tomorrow* director Doug
- 9 Vamp
- 10 What many port cities are at
- 11 Renders unconscious, for short
- 12 Per DreamWorks, a hexapod; per Pixar, a tetrapod
- 13 Impertinent
- 14 Genghis \_\_\_
- 20 Bar plant
- 22 Majestic
- 24 Singer Carly \_\_\_ Jepsen
- 25 Hair irritants
- 26 Golf bag item
- 28 Took off
- 31 Egg: Prefix
- 32 Like forgeries
- 33 Go prostrate
- 34 Co-founder of a skincare company with Joseph Lauder
- 35 Dirty old man
- 36 ...
- 38 Aircraft motion
- 39 Grey of the X-Men
- 40 iTunes download
- 41 Poetic word meaning "yielding, as the air"
- 45 Beck album often on best-of-the-1990s lists
- 46 Microscopic robot of sci-fi
- 47 Feeds hogs
- 49 Farewells
- 50 Cheer
- 51 Referred to
- 52 Nickname of a small dog breed
- 55 *E pluribus* \_\_\_
- 57 Part of a NASCAR race
- 58 Actress Longoria
- 59 Hipster beer brand, briefly
- 60 Gendered term for a boat

Answers on page 51

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Edited by Mike Selinker and Gaby Weidling. Crosswords of Wisdom, 1538 12th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

## Chabad day school lives on despite losing its home

JANIS SIEGEL JTNews Correspondent

Despite having to leave its building in Seattle's Maple Leaf neighborhood after a six-year, post-recession, uphill financial struggle to buy it, the Menachem Mendel Seattle Cheder has found a new site and is now open and bustling. Nearly 80 students from preschool through 8th grade have followed the school to its new location in Seattle's Greenwood neighborhood.

"We were not successful in raising the necessary funds to conclude the long-term purchase of the Maple Leaf building, so the mortgage-holder took it back and is in the process of selling it," said Tziviah Goldberg, MMSC's business and advancement manager. "While we had hoped to complete the negotiation of a long-term lease with him, in the end he decided to sell."

Despite the need to leave what the dual-curriculum Chabad day school had hoped would be its permanent home, Goldberg said the school itself is thriving.

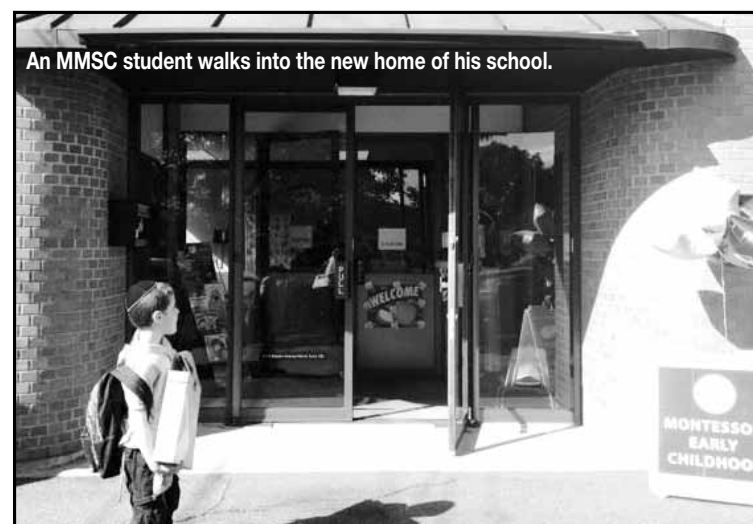
Devorah Kornfeld, MMSC's head of school, told JTNews that finding the building was a blessing.

"Our goal is to continue the emphasis on educating and nurturing leadership skills in our students," said Kornfeld, "preparing them educationally, socially and morally to meet the challenges of our world as educated Jews who will make a positive difference for all those with whom they come in contact."

MMSC received an anonymous private donation and a matching grant from The Samis Foundation that allowed them to make the move. The school was also the recipient of a \$70,000 Department of Homeland Security grant that it will use to make necessary facility upgrades.

"We believe that the economy has improved sufficiently that current donors will remain loyal and prospective donors will be in a better position to respond positively when we make the case for supporting MMSC's mission," said Rabbi Shimon Emelen, development manager at the day school. "One of the lessons we've learned from the recent challenges we

we make the case for supporting MMSC's mission," said Rabbi Shimon Emelen, development manager at the day school. "One of the lessons we've learned from the recent challenges we



An MMSC student walks into the new home of his school.

TZIVIAH GOLDBERG

"Losing the Maple Leaf building was a blow," Goldberg told JTNews, "but we're resolved to live up to the confidence all of our supporters have shown in us to ultimately overcome financial obstacles."

The K-12 school had to suspend its 9th through 12th grade girls' high school classes due to space limitations, though it plans to restore them next fall. At the same time, however, MMSC expanded its Montessori preschool program, the only Jewish program of its kind in the state, and enrolled 15 more new students. Families appear to be adjusting to the sudden change.

"The whole MMSC community rallied and mobilized over the summer to find a wonderful new facility just 10 minutes west in Greenwood," Goldberg said.

MMSC has a three-year lease on the property situated at NW 85th St. and Dayton Ave. N, with an option to renew for another two years.

The new site takes advantage of its proximity to a public library, a Boys and Girls Club that MMSC occasionally rents to augment its own outdoor play area, and a public park, Goldberg said.

faced is that we need to expand that core and broaden our base of support."

According to Goldberg, the funding shortfall for each child's tuition at the school is \$3,445 per student. To close that gap, MMSC will not only request the full financial support of its board, parent base, staff, and faculty, but it will mount a vigorous public outreach campaign toward the greater Seattle Jewish community.

It's an effort that will utilize any and all communication strategies that are available to organizers including email, phone campaigns, letters, and all social media.

"We chose the theme, 'It's your MMSC!' to emphasize that we all have a stake in Jewish community — in making the world a better place," Goldberg said. "Everyone in the community is a stakeholder in our mission of educating and nurturing the next generation of Jewish community builders."

While the MMSC leadership continues to develop plans to expand and manage the growth of its early childhood program, which will require modifications to maxi-



◀ GOVERNOR VISIT PAGE 6

we really want to make it safe for terrorists to be able to get access to firearms in gun shows," Inslee said.

**On caring for seniors:**

Jeff Cohen, Kline Galland's CEO, said that costs to pay his workers and basic overhead keep going up, but Medicaid payments for patients who can't afford necessary care have stayed static, meaning his agency is losing the ability to provide the top-quality care it stakes its reputation on.

Inslee said Cohen and his supporters need to channel the National Rifle Association's lobbying tactics and stand up to legislators who don't take into account the massive influx of baby boomers about to flood the nation's senior care facilities.

"They're cutting services to real people, who have real needs, who need real beds to sleep in, and need real people to come roll them over so they don't get bedsores, make their lives habitable, and possible, and dignified," Inslee said. "It takes people like you to call baloney on it and face 'em physically. And, frankly, we don't do that enough."

**On anti-Semitism:**

Ron Leibsohn, former board chair of the Jewish Federation and current chair of its Community Relations Council, brought up the subject of anti-Semitism, in particular given its appearance at ral-

lies protesting the war in Gaza over the summer.

"We have to be vigilant at times when it crosses the line," added Hilary Bernstein, director of the local chapter of the Anti-Defamation League.

"I hope that you'll respect that I think that's true to any bigoted behavior of any faith," Inslee responded. "It is disturbing because it is happening," but he said he believes he is up to the task of pushing back against any such behavior.

**On the environment:**

Added to all of these costly issues facing the state is one that concerns Inslee more than nearly anything: The wildfires that devastated large swaths of Eastern Washington over the summer are only going to get worse, and the state will need to pay for mitigation, evacuation and cleanup.

"Our state's under siege because of climate change," he noted, but he also voiced the challenge. "I spoke to about 400 researchers and scientists at the University of Washington about this. About 99.9 percent of them will tell you the science is abundantly clear, but I still have some folks in the legislature that refuse to recognize the damage this is doing to our state, and refuse to engage in an effort to find a way forward on this."



Gov. Jay Inslee, center, with Jewish Federation president and CEO Keith Dvorchik, right, and Federation Community Relations Council chair Ron Leibsohn, left.

JOEL MAGALNICK

Inslee did point to innovation coming out of Israel in computer and battery technology that he believes will alleviate some of the environmental pressures in the future.

While Inslee joked that this audience went easy on him with its questions, Rabbi Moshe Kletenik, executive director of the Va'ad, told the governor that, he gets it.

"The primary obligation of government is to provide for the health care, for the shelter, the nutritional needs of its citizens. That our seniors have their services provided with dignity, and we have to do that while doing everything else," Kletenik said. "Somehow everybody has to get that message."

◀ MMSC PAGE 12

mize the building's space, said Kornfeld, those watching the bottom line are also planning to gather the knowledge and experience of MMSC alumni around the world. They want to bring them into the larger Seattle cheder family of volunteers and donors.

Emlen, who also is looking at the big picture, is working toward even longer term goals.

"Sustainability isn't just about one source of support," he said, "but a diverse stream of sources, such as tuition, donations, and grants — and down the line, hopefully, an endowment."

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## To a happy and healthy New Year!

Here is a table of contents with all kinds of ways to prepare for the upcoming High Holidays.

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## Getting into the Rosh Hashanah mindset, from seat 11B

RIVY POUPKO KLETENIK JTNews Columnist

Dear Rivy,  
I know that many might feel that the world has no shortage of horrible — nay, catastrophic — flash points erupting. Still, I cannot let go of the news item that some may see as petty. But it has served as a welcome distraction during this summer of universe-on-the-brink headlines. It's about the fellow using the Knee-Defender on a United flight from Newark to Denver, preventing the woman in front of him from reclining her seat back. Without divulging where my sympathies lie, might I ask what Jewish law says about this scenario? Who was in the right and who was off base?



What's Your JQ?

Trite perhaps, though possibly a microcosm of all of the world's ills: Encroachment on other people's territory, violent knee-jerk reactions, the flaring of tempers and forced expulsion — all the ingre-

dients necessary to fit in with the rest of the world's percolating messes. It does give us a bit of pause.

At the risk of sounding slightly clairvoyant or possessing a frightening knack for divination, I actually had an outline for a column already in the hopper about airplane behavior — perhaps in anticipation of this fight that broke out on account of the dreaded extreme seat recliner! You

have to be behind one to know one. It's just one of the many, how shall I say, *annoying* things that happen during air travel. Given the high level of potential snafus midair, I offer you a treatise entitled "All I Need to Know I Learned in Seat 11B — Big Lessons in Life Learned Onboard!"

Use this guide as your very own head start on High Holiday preparations. Rule number one goes out everyone on the flight who was diverted on account of the seat-recliner offender.

### L'Shanah Tova



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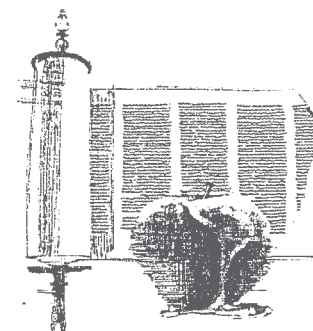
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**Rule #1: There is someone in front of you and someone behind you. Be careful.**

This world of ours might be vast, but look around — someone is always in front of you and behind you. Whether at the café, the supermarket, the gas station, on the freeway, in the classroom, or at the theater, whether real or metaphoric, we are not alone on this planet. Others are everywhere. We must be mindful of them. All the time. And for the record — wherever that record is — I officially find great offense in the extreme recliner. My personal policy is to never, ever recline my seat. It's not that I am so noble, I just really cannot bear when the person in front of me reclines into my lap. Therefore, out of an obligation to observe the mitzvah of "Love your neighbor as yourself," I have no choice. I must not allow myself to recline. Whether it is permitted to slip in a Knee Defender would depend on the rule of the particular airline. If they forbid its use, it seems like a slam dunk that you do not break that contract with them. Done and done.

**Rule #2: What you must pack, you must carry.**

Always a good policy in life, to not pack any more than you can carry. Yes friends, let's stop taking on more than we can handle. It never works out well. You've got to pay that overweight fee or check the bag at the gate or shove it into the over-

head bin. It almost always falls right on that lovely person you sit next to for the next four hours. Pare it down. We are only passing through!

Remembering always: "Such is the life of Torah, a morsel of bread with salt, measured water and upon the ground you shall sleep and a life of deprivation you shall live." Okay, within reason, but you get the idea. Though Judaism is not known for promoting asceticism, this Mishnah in Pirke Avot definitely urges some degree of awareness and restraint in regard to materialism.

**Rule #3: Instructions for safety and lifesaving information are right in front of you.**

In that seat pocket: All the information you need in case of an emergency, to save your life, could not be any closer. How many of us read it? Very few. The point? We all have "as if" in front of us, easily accessible, all we need to save ourselves, to have a good life. Do we tap into those resources? Do we make the effort to read the laminated card *right in front of us*? We all lead these lives, things inevitably happen; are we prepared? Are we ready to simply read the obvious? To see what is right in front of our eyes to prevent harm from coming our way? No. Mostly we obfuscate and ignore that which is the most apparent. As Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzato writes in his critical work, "The

Paths of the Just," the "Mesilat Yeshaim":

*I have written this work not to teach men what they do not know, but to remind them of what they already know and is very evident to them, for you will find in most of my words only things which most people know, and concerning which they entertain no doubts. But to the extent that they are well known and their truths revealed to all, so is forgetfulness in relation to them extremely prevalent.*

We know the score. We need to make the effort to read, to notice, to pay attention to what is before our eyes. This Torah we have is not in heaven, but right here before us on earth — ours for the taking.

**#4 Pay attention to the view from the window.**

Ever notice how small everything looks from way up high? How tiny those human affairs are compared to the vast heavens? A bird's-eye view is to be treasured. Zooming out of the particular pettiness of our lives and the expansion of the view from above is instructive — and humbling. If it's been awhile since you've seen how tiny the cars, the houses, the cities we live in truly are, then close your eyes and let your mind's eye take you there, at least once a day. We are not as big as we seem. This core concept is invoked by Maimonides in his outline of Basic Principles of Torah.

What is the path to attain love and fear of Him? When a person contemplates His wondrous and great deeds and creations and appreciates His infinite wisdom that surpasses all comparison, he will immediately love, praise, and glorify Him, yearning with tremendous desire to know God's great name. As David stated: "My soul thirsts for the Lord, for the living God" (Psalms 42:3).

When he continues to reflect on these same matters, he will immediately recoil in awe and fear, appreciating how he is a tiny, lowly and dark creature, standing with his flimsy, limited wisdom before He who is of perfect knowledge. As David stated: "When I see Your heavens, the work of Your fingers... I wonder what is man that You should recall Him" (Psalms 8:4-5).

With the High Holidays upon us, we've got to grab our life lessons from where we can and if "All I Need To Know I Learned in Seat 11B" has helped, then the Knee-Defender offender has done his good work.

Rivy Poupko Kletenik is an internationally renowned educator and Head of School at the Seattle Hebrew Academy. If you have a question that's been tickling your brain, send Rivy an e-mail at [rivy.poupko.kletenik@gmail.com](mailto:rivy.poupko.kletenik@gmail.com).

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# Beyond the synagogue, a shofar's call makes connections

**EDMON J. RODMAN** JTA World News Service

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — In preparation for the High Holidays last year, my community sent its shofar blower on the road.

During the month of Elul, in the run-up to Rosh Hashanah, we are supposed to hear the shofar blown every day except Shabbat. Traditionally this is done in shul.

But our small, lay-led congregation does not meet on weekdays. So my wife Brenda, who blows the shofar for the Movable Minyan, as our congregation is called, offered to visit members' homes to perform the ritual there.

"It will be more personal," I remember her saying.

Wanting to see how personal, I offered to be the chauffeur, scheduler and emcee. Once the show went on the road to our approximately 20 house-

holds spread throughout Los Angeles, I called ahead to work out the times.

Even though we had announced the shofar calls would be on Sundays, I still received a few incredulous "You're coming to do what?" kind of responses. Undaunted, we hit our first location in the Hollywood hills.

We were welcomed in and escorted to a back outdoor deck overlooking an oak and chaparral-filled canyon. In front of the family group that had gathered, I tried out my explanation as Brenda readied the small shofar she had been using for several years.

"The shofar is blown to remind us that the High Holy Days are approaching and that we should start thinking about repentance and spiritual repair," I said, suddenly aware of how personal this all was.

"Elul can be seen as an acronym for 'ani l'dodi v'dodi li' — 'I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me,'" I said, cribbing from something I had studied. "During the year God may call to us, but during Elul we must call to him — or her."

Then Brenda, who had learned to blow the shofar as the result of playing trumpet in junior high school, recited the blessing and blew.

Hearing the shofar in their homes struck people in different ways. One woman, with her cat following, took us out to her back balcony to make sure her neighbors, some of whom were Orthodox, also would hear the sound. At another home, a 7-year-old proudly brought out a full Yemenite shofar and blew it along with Brenda, much to the delight of his father.

At several homes, neighbors, as well as their children, extended family and even a boyfriend, had been invited over to hear the call.

One woman placed small figurines that she had inherited from her grandparents around the living room in hopes the sound would reach across the generations. A member in her 90s smiled and showed her appreciation by handing us a donation for the minyan.

At the home of a rabbi, it seemed the sound of the shofar was a kind of alarm, alerting her to the time she had remaining to complete writing those services outlines and sermons for the nearing High Holidays.

At a condo not far from the ocean,

Brenda demonstrated the shofar's sounds and I explained what they were: Tekiah, "the longest sound, calling us together," I said. The Shevarim: "three broken sounds resembling sighing." And the Teruah: "nine rapid sounds that can be thought of as a kind of wailing."

On the way out, the man of the house, perhaps thinking the mobile shofar



MTSO FAN/CREATIVE COMMONS

blower needed to get around in better style, showed us his classic car and hinted that it was for sale.

When we visited his home, Stuart Ziff, a neon artist, asked Brenda if she wanted to blow the shofar in front of one of his works. The spiraled glass contraption, looking like something from an old Buck Rogers movie, had at its core a Jacob's Ladder, a device that sends a crackling high voltage arc traveling upward between two wires.

As Brenda blew the shofar, Ziff joined in by pushing the "on" button, enveloping the room in a soft pink glow. Savoring the moment, he invited us to sit down for a bowl of homemade ice cream.

There were other surprises. Driving up to one location, we couldn't believe how close it was to our home; it was like finding a new neighbor.

Then there was the unexpected audience.

After sounding the shofar at a downtown condo and walking back to the car, we spotted a beautiful, long, curvy shofar in a music store window. On an impulse we walked in. With me egging her on, Brenda asked to try it out, and to the amazement of the store's mostly Latino customers and personnel who had gathered around, blew a long beautiful Tekiah.

"I can give you a very good price on the shofar," the salesman said.

As we walked down the street, recounting the ways her shofar had reconnected our community, she explained why she didn't go for the one in the store.

"I don't need it," she said. "This one works fine."

## Shana Tova!

To a Sweet and Happy New Year



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# On Rosh Hashanah, challenge the lives we have created

**RABBI DONNIEL HARTMAN** Shalom Hartman Institute



One of the beautiful ideas behind Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is the notion that we need to reflect, review, and rethink who we are and what

we have achieved in our lives. We should never see who we are and what we have created as the ultimate expression of who we ought to be. There must always be a gap between who we are and who we ought to be, between reality and our aspirations. When our aspirations are fulfilled, there must be something wrong with our aspirations.

This is the fundamental idea behind teshuvah and its challenge to us — to embark on a process of self criticism and self reflection. To embrace teshuvah is the ultimate aspiration of our humanity, for the highest level that humans can achieve is not one of fulfilling all our values, but of constantly maintaining a tension in which goals serve as a foundation to evaluate the lives we have created and to challenge us to move forward and beyond.

An expression of this idea is found in the Biblical depiction of heroes, all of whom are imperfect. We are never given a hero who embodies everything. Sometimes it's embarrassing. The Biblical heroes seem too human — permeated by too much imperfection. The Bible is teaching us that being a hero doesn't mean that one is devoid of imperfections; it means that one must do something about those imperfections.

By elevating these people to be our ideal, it challenges us to emulate them. You are going to fail like Moshe or Avraham. You are going to sin like David. There are going to be multiple dimensions of your life, whether it's in your worship of God, with your spouse, or with your children, where you're not going to be who you ought to be. Welcome to the human story. Our religion has no fantasies about human beings. It has aspirations from human beings.

For human beings to embody the aspiration of self criticism and reflection, it is not only the individual who must be open to change, but also the societies within which we live. People around us often want us to remain who we are. People don't want us to change. They have gotten used to and comfortable with our imper-

fections, for it gives legitimacy to theirs.

Some rabbis in the Talmud were deeply worried about the social pressure to maintain mediocrity and lock everyone within the status quo of their failings. As a result, in Tractate Baba Kama 94b we find the following teaching:

*It once happened with a certain man (thief) desired to repent and make restitution (to those from whom he stole). His wife said to him: Fool, if you are going to make restitution, even the clothing which is on your back would not remain yours. He consequently refrained from repenting. It was at that time that it was declared: If robbers or usurers are prepared to make restitution, it is not right to accept it from them, and he who accepts it does not obtain approval of the Sages.*

A thief's desire to complete his or her process of self-correction by making restitution is clearly understood and valued. The problem is that this standard may inhibit them from beginning the process. A lifetime of harm cannot be erased and as a result may lock us in our imperfections under the argument that one can never really begin again. "Fool, if you are going to make restitution, even the clothing which is on your back would not

remain yours."

In response, the rabbis teach that we have a responsibility toward each other to enable these new beginnings. A Jewish society is one where we make sure that reflection, self-criticism, self-evaluation, and the ability to accept new horizons and new ideas are things society fosters and encourages, even at a high cost. We are individually responsible not to merely refrain from hindering each other's growth, but that we must be willing to forgo what is rightfully ours to ensure that our fellow citizens will grow and change.

A Jewish society is not simply characterized by a high level of kashrut or Shabbat observance. A Jewish society is one where we allow others to do teshuvah, where we are not threatened by others' desires to move in a new direction. A Jewish society is one that understands that to be fully human is not to accept our failings; to be fully human is to aspire to overcome them.

Shana tova to us all.

Donniel Hartman is president of Shalom Hartman Institute and director of the Engaging Israel Project.

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Shabbat Shuvah	Saturday	9/27	9:30 am	
Erev Yom Kippur	Friday	10/3	6:15 pm	
Yom Kippur	Saturday	10/4	9:30 am	Yizkor Service
Erev Sukkot	Wednesday	10/8	7:00 pm	
Sukkot	Thursday	10/9	9:30 am	
	Friday	10/10	9:30 am	
Erev Shabbat Chol Hamoed	Friday	10/10	6:00 pm	
Shabbat Chol Hamoed	Saturday	10/11	9:30 am	
Shemini Atzeret	Thursday	10/16	9:30 am	Yizkor Service
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## To prepare for the High Holidays

**TSAFI LEV** [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

I'm advocating a new angle on Heshbon Nefesh, "soul's accounting," that we do in preparation for the High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

This soul work begins with the ancient Greek dictum "know thyself." Or, to put it more rabbinically, "know before whom you stand." I ask myself: What am I afraid of? Deep down, what are my real hopes?

An investment of time and focus in anticipation of the holidays elevates the experience. Without the prep work, is there any doubt that five-hour services could be a drag? It's like showing up to the Olympic marathon having not stretched, not worked out, and perhaps not having run in an entire year (or more). The results won't be good.

I base my approach on practices of the Penn Resiliency Project of Positive Psychology — this soul's accounting tackles our fears and hopes for the coming year head on and in a practical way.

Here are the steps. For each of the categories of your life (friends, relationships with each family member, work, personal health, etc.), do the following:

1) List three things you are most afraid

will happen in the coming year. (I encourage you to be honest with your fears — just get the realistic and unfounded flow out of you).

2) List three things you deeply hope will happen in the coming year.

3) List three things most likely to happen this year.

You've just put pen to paper about your worries and your hopes as well as what is most realistically going to happen — reality is most often found in that middle ground between worst and best.

Now, list steps to take:

A) For each of your fears listed, give yourself three simple steps to take to prevent the worst from happening.

B) For each of the things you hope will happen this year, give yourself three simple steps that would help make that happen.

Having the opportunity to be honest about our hopes and fears, and creating realistic steps about how to prevent or coax them along, has a tremendous empowering effect on our spiritual preparation for the New Year. It leads to greater joy and to greater optimism.

Rabbi Tsafi Lev is a CLAL Rabbin Without Borders Fellow. He is the rabbinic director of New Community Jewish High School in West Hills, Calif., and a lecturer for the Fingerhut School of Education Master of Arts in Education program at the American Jewish University. This story originally appeared on the Rabbin Without Borders blog on [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com).

## Where high-tech meets High Holidays

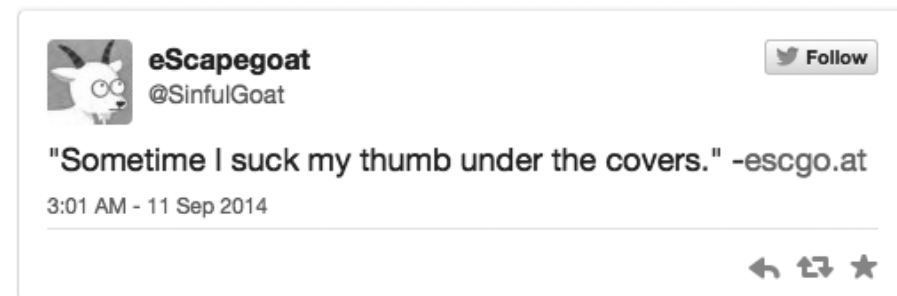
**JULIE WIENER** *JTA World News Service*

NEW YORK (JTA) — Unplugging more from electronic devices has become a commonly cited resolution for both the Jewish and secular new years.

But electronics are also increasingly becoming integrated into Jewish New

Year observances. Here are some new offerings at the junction between high-tech and High Holidays.

Year observances. Here are some new offerings at the junction between high-tech and High Holidays.



Year observances. Here are some new offerings at the junction between high-tech and High Holidays.

G-dcast, a nonprofit that is best known for its animated Torah portion videos, has been expanding its repertoire in recent years, creating videos on a range of Jewish texts and topics while also venturing into games and apps. For the New Year, it's introducing "Wake Up World," an illustrated children's ebook with an interactive shofar-blowing feature, and eScapegoat, a quirky website where one can cast off one's sins onto an animated goat and any-

Year observances. Here are some new offerings at the junction between high-tech and High Holidays.

Year observances. Here are some new offerings at the junction between high-tech and High Holidays.

► PAGE 19

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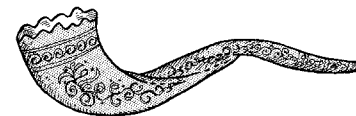
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◀ ESCAPEGOAT PAGE 18

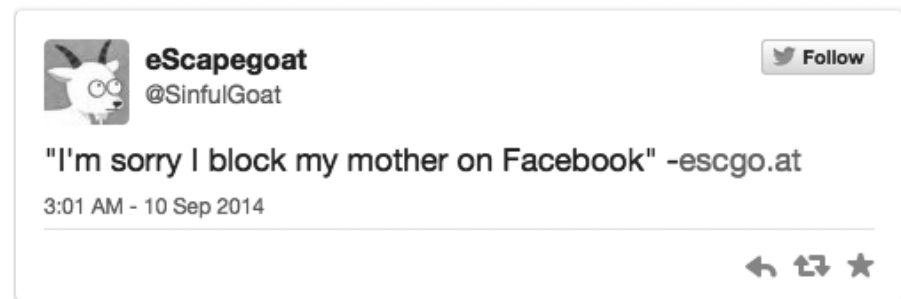
communities because the interface really encourages sharing and that gets more

of High Holidays events and services that enables young adults to more easily connect to the events' organizers. As part of the initiative, Birthright Israel alumni can also



interesting within a smaller community," Sarah Lefton, G-dcast's founder and executive director, said in a news release. "It lets people see what's bubbling in their own backyards — all the regrets are so much more powerful when you know they belong to your neighbors and friends. It also creates a safe and private place for younger users in school settings."

register to receive resources and small stipends to help host Rosh Hashanah meals, Yom Kippur pre-fast dinners, and breakfasts. Users can search the map, filtering by location and a range of preferences — from musical services to LGBT-focused events. The map also links to social media, so users can recruit friends to join them at events they're considering attending.



Meanwhile, Birthright NEXT, a program for alumni of the free Israel trips, recently introduced an interactive map

Next year, will there be an app for dipping *apples* in honey?

# Give up the guilt: A proposal for the New Year

RUTH ABUSCH MAGDER [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

SAN FRANCISCO — Here is a radical proposal for the New Year: Forget the guilt and instead lean into what you love to become the best possible version of yourself.

The liturgy for the Jewish New Year has us taking a long hard look at all the mistakes we have made over the previous 12 months. Soul searching is good, but for the most part, if we are honest, we already know where our faults lie, and if we were able to change them with ease we would have already done so.

This is not to say that we should forgo striving to be our best selves. On the Jewish calendar, the month leading up to Rosh Hashanah is called Elul. One rabbinic interpretation of this name is that it is an acronym for the Hebrew Ani L'Dodi v'Dodi Li, "I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me." A lovely romantic notion, the rabbis also take it to be a tribute to God's love for us. It is not accidental that the month leading up to the New Year is one that takes love as a main theme. Love can be a powerful force for change,

easier to embrace and more satisfying than guilt.

There are many ways to use love as a means of encouraging yourself to its best self.

Love exists on many planes; elevating any one of them improves the world. Here are three concrete suggestions that focus on love of self, love in relationships and love as an element of community.

Make a list of the things you love about yourself. The list should contain no less than five significant things. Take time to think about each of these attributes. Why do you love this about yourself? Generosity? Creativity? Silliness? Ambition? Consider how each of these qualities helps you be a positive presence in the world.

Think back to a time in your life when those elements of your self were being fully expressed. Are you making the most of these gifts right now? Ask yourself what you might do to expand the impact of that strength in the world.

▶ PAGE 20

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### ◀ GIVE UP THE GUILT PAGE 19

If you are struggling to make a list, then ask for help from those around you.

Part of the process of preparing for the New Year is repairing relationships. While I believe that apologies are important, taking time to focus on what works in relationships is important as well.

Set aside time with those with whom you are close. Tell them what you love and appreciate about them. Give them examples of how this strength inspires you or affirms something about the world. The more concrete the better.

Knowing they are appreciated and truly seen for who they are will help them start the year in a better place and strengthen your relationship. If there is repairing to be done, spelling out the love first will set the stage for positive engagement.

What do you love to do? Lean into your talents to make a difference in the com-

munity around you. Volunteering can be about need, but it can also be about sharing a passion and capacity.

Play sports? Then offer to coach Little League. Bake? Then bring cookies to firefighters, bread to shut-ins. Sing? Take your talent to the local hospital.

Sure, any of this takes time, but if you volunteer to do what you love, you will get a great bang for your buck. The parts of you that you love will have a chance to shine and your passion will inspire others. Studies show those who give feel great. And the world will be a better place.

Rabbi Ruth Abusch-Magder PhD. is the rabbi-in-residence at Be'chol Lashon and the editor of the blog Jewish&. A culinary historian and mother of two, she lives and meditates in San Francisco. Follow her on Twitter@rabbiruth. This story originally appeared on the Rabbis Without Borders blog on MyJewishLearning.com.

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## Punishment by battering ram: A High Holidays story

Abba Knows Best • By Ed Harris

You can recognize the approach of the High Holidays at the Harris household by the sight of my family members forcing their hands over their ears and fleeing the premises as if their very lives were at stake. The panic is set off rather improbably by the tiniest shofar you've ever seen. How could something so small generate so much hysteria? One reason: In my hands, a shofar is transformed from a musical instrument to a deafening assault weapon.

Our home is filled with an abundance of traditional Jewish objects. Many of these ritual items are gifts we received over the years from my generous parents: Shabbat candlesticks, a beautiful Tzedakah box, a multi-colored plate for dipping apples into honey to celebrate the sweetness of the New Year. Then there is the well-intentioned, but slightly unusual gift: The short shofar. This particular ram's horn is a mere six inches in length, as opposed to

a more typical three-footer, in quadruped terms like a miniature pony vs. a thoroughbred race horse.

I didn't know they made rams this small.

At the Jewish Day School, when our youngest, Izzy, was in 3rd grade, the teacher encouraged all the children who had shofars at home to bring theirs in for a special show-and-tell. Izzy was reluctant, fearful the other kids would tease him once they saw they our diminutive family shofar on display. It's that small.

A dream of mine is to someday be

honored with the aliyah of blowing the shofar at High Holiday services. Becoming profi-



COURTESY ED HARRIS

cient, however, is not easy. Once we received the shofar from my parents, I attempted to

learn on my own. With no one to instruct me, I assumed, incorrectly as it turns out, it was a wind instrument, like a flute, and the noise would be produced by the movement of air. Despite repeated attempts, the only sound I could generate was a thin squeak, plus the sensation that my liver was about to come flying out from the strain.

One year at junior congregation services at Herzl-Ner Tamid, the assistant rabbi provided a shofar demonstration for the kinderlach. I asked for some pointers, and learned to my surprise that the music is produced by vibrating the lips.

Armed with this knowledge, I returned home, determined to conquer this ancient primitive apparatus. But now I had the exact opposite problem: My family members begged me to stop the thunderous racket. When I play the shofar, it is not a garden

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## The High Holy Days — A time for endings and beginnings

By Rita Berman Frischer

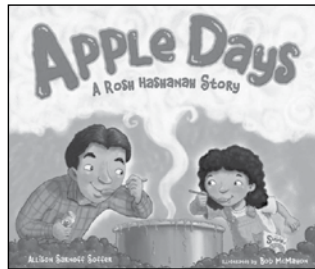
As the leaves turn, we turn — from summer's indulgences to the crisp demands of fall as school resumes and our work schedules intensify. At the same time, Judaism asks us to turn inward as well. We practice teshuvah, returning to our best selves and repenting our mistakes, as we anticipate Yom Kippur and our new beginnings.

Children's books may celebrate these holidays directly or indirectly. Kar-Ben Publishing offers us new titles that do



both. "What a Way to Start a New Year! A Rosh Hashanah Story" by Jacqueline Jules, cleverly illustrated by Judy Stead, finds Dina and her family surrounded by boxes, having just moved to a new town where they miss the security of their old home. Imagine having to eat pizza alone instead of having honey cake with your former neighbors and friends! What a relief when the family is invited to services at the new and unfamiliar

shul, where the melodies and the rituals make them feel comfortable even before new friends invite them home for brisket and apple cake for a change — signifying that something new can be delicious. (Ages 3-8)



"Apple Days: A Rosh Hashanah Story" by Allison Sarnoff Soffer, illustrated by Bob McMahon, again brings up themes of new beginnings (a new baby) and changes in a special family tradition. Katy and her mom always celebrate Apple Day, picking apples and making applesauce together, as preparation for the holiday. When Mom leaves to help with Aunt Leah's new baby, Katy is very disappointed until, with the help of her friends and a little assistance from her dad, she surprises herself and her delighted mother by making applesauce for the holiday happen after all.

It's not a children's book as such, but if you want to celebrate Apple Days in your own kitchen with your own children, may I recommend "The Delectable Apple" (Chronicle Books) by Kathleen Desmond Stang, appetizingly illustrated by Lynne Riding. Besides recipes featuring apples

(some not kosher), Stang has provided a brief overview of apples, a history of apples in America and elsewhere, a bit of science, and a lot of insight into which apples to use for what. I toss in this potential hostess gift for the baked goods particularly.

Back to children's books that are

### ◀ ABBA KNOWS BEST PAGE 21

variety horn, but a foghorn. I took my kids to the Macklemore concert this year: He needed stacks of speakers 20 feet high to produce a volume of sound comparable to what I can create with my little shofar at home.

It's said the only way to get to Carnegie Hall is practice, practice, practice. Presumably, any hope of standing at the bimah in front of the entire congregation, raised shofar pressed against my lips, would require many hours of dedicated effort. I am up to the task, but my loved ones? Not so much.

I recalled my Bar Mitzvah class, in suburban New Jersey, when the rabbi said one day as we were learning a new prayer: "Harris, don't join in. I want the other children to hear the way it's supposed

to sound." I know our ancient heritage requires sacrifice, but must it also include blows to the ego?

Jews believe the sound of the celestial shofar accompanied the receiving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai, and will be heard again with the coming of the Messiah. My practice may hasten this long-awaited day, as I let loose with ear-splitting blasts capable of triggering avalanches, gathering Jews from the four corners of the world and perhaps carrying all the way up to heaven. Ask my family, once they're done vibrating as well.

*Ed Harris, the author of "Fifty Shades of Schwarz" and several other books, was born in the Bronx and lives in Bellevue with his family. His blog, Fizz-Ed, and additional information about his books are available at [www.edharrisauthor.com](http://www.edharrisauthor.com).*

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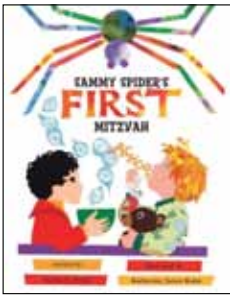
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more indirectly linked to the concepts of doing good: Sylvia Rouss is the author of the Sammy Spider series, the most recent of which is "Sammy Spider's First Mitzvah," illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn, in which Sammy observes the mitzvah of visiting the sick when his buddy



Josh gets a cold. However, as we move gratefully out of a season plagued even more than usual by fires throughout the West, I was especially moved by one story in "A World of Blessings: Inspirational Stories for

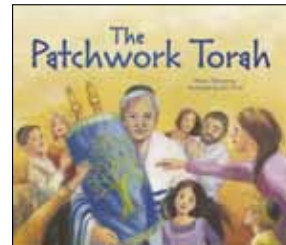


**Jewish Children,"** also by Sylvia Rouss (Apples & Honey Press). "The Rabbi and the Firefighters" is based on a true event during the 2007 California wildfires. An exciting place to live, California, but this year in Washington, too, we are grateful for the bravery of firefighters.

However, there are other kinds of bravery and other ways of making a new beginning. "Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909," by Michelle Markel, illustrated by Melissa Sweet (Balzer & Bray), is especially apt when we see the minimum wage struggle, first passed here in Washington, spreading across the country. It tells the story of Clara Lemlich, a young woman immigrant who arrived in America who doesn't speak



English, with no realization of how hard life would be working on a sewing machine in a factory, nor how unfairly the factory owners treated women workers like her. But she learned. She went to night school, learned English, and when she had had enough, she fought back. Believing they had to stand together and fight, she eventually led the largest walkout of women workers in the country's history. FYI, I also saw that Seattle Public Library has a DVD of this story available. (Ages 4-9.)



"The Patchwork Torah" by Allison Ofanansky, illustrated by Elsa Oriol, is the

perfect book for Simchat Torah, demonstrating clearly that Torah is not something that can be disposed of, but something that can be renewed and brought back to life. David, who learned his life's work as a sofer from his grandfather, inherits several Torahs damaged by war, fire, and flood, and saves them, hoping one day to repair them so they can be used again. In Seattle, where we recycle everything we possibly can, we will surely welcome the sensible suggestion young Leah makes and be happy with its execution.

Kirkus Reviews, a much respected review journal, said: "This book will be read more than once, and that seems only appropriate, as Jews are never finished reading the Torah...Readers may close the cover thinking that a picture book — like a Torah scroll — can be essential." I've never heard it said better.

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## More children's books



**Never Say a Mean Word, A Tale from Medieval Spain**  
Jacqueline Jules, illustrated by Durga Yael Bernhard  
(Wisdom Tales, 32 pp, \$16.95, ages 4-8)

Jules has reimagined a medieval tale into one about two young boys, focusing on forgiveness and starting anew, themes emphasized during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Set in medieval Spain, young Samuel, an innocent, head-in-the-clouds fellow who is the son of the vizier, has one accidental encounter after another with Hamza, the tax collector's quick-witted son. Hamza refuses to accept Samuel's apologies and taunts him with cruel names like

"Donkey brain!" and "Stupid!"

Samuel's father refuses to punish Hamza. Instead, he gives his son a broad directive:

"Make sure Hamza never says a mean word to you again."

As Samuel tries to exact a stern lesson on Hamza, the story takes a surprising turn and misunderstandings give way to an emerging friendship.

The book explores tough questions, Jules says, such as what constitutes fair punishment and how you get someone to stop calling you names.



**Shira at the Temple: a Yom Kippur Story**

Galia Sabbag, illustrated by Erin Taylor  
(CreateSpace Independent Publishing, 24 pp, \$9.99 paper/\$5.99 Kindle, ages 4-9)

Shira is a spirited young girl who wants to participate in Yom Kippur, a day she learns is the holiest of the Jewish year. But she is not content to sit back and observe the grown-ups as they pray through the long religious service. She wants to have her prayers count.

At the blowing of the shofar, Shira becomes inspired to do something, surprising the rabbi and the congregation with her own heartfelt prayer. Taylor's cartoon-like illustrations are colorful and animated.



**I Live With My Mommy**

Tzvia Ehrlich-Klein, illustrations by Dena Ackerman  
(Menucha Publishers, 32 pp, \$12.99, ages 4-9)

Told from the perspective of Rochel, a 5-year-old girl from a haredi Orthodox family whose parents are divorced. She and her younger brother live with their mother. Rochel is a believable, authentic character whose emotions, including sadness and anxiety, are universal. She is reassured by her mother's message that the divorce is not her fault and God, referred to as Hashem, loves all children. Klein deserves high marks for writing honestly

and authentically about a subject not often dealt with in children's books for haredi Orthodox families.

— Penny Schwartz, JTA World News Service

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## FAMILY CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

#### 9:45–10:30 A.M. — TOT SHABBAT

206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

Celebrate Shabbat with songs and challah on Friday mornings. Be sure to check the schedule at [www.SJCC.org](http://www.SJCC.org). Free; no registration necessary. At the Stroum Jewish Community Center, 3801 E. Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

#### 11–11:30 A.M. — PJ LIBRARY SONG AND STORYTIME, JEWISH JUNCTION STYLE

206-384-6020 or [info@jewishjunction.net](mailto:info@jewishjunction.net) or [jewishjunction.net](http://jewishjunction.net)

A free, fun storytime at a kid-friendly locally owned bookstore, coffee shop, and restaurant. Sing, dance, and play while you engage in some great PJ Library picture books. Every Friday. At Ravenna Third Place Books, 6504 20th Ave. NE, Seattle.

#### 11:15 A.M.–12 P.M. — TOTS WELCOMING SHABBAT AT TEMPLE B'NAI TORAH

[Irit Eliav Levin at 425-603-9677, ext. 209](mailto:IritEliavLevin@425-603-9677) or [ILevin@templebnaitorah.org](mailto:ILevin@templebnaitorah.org) or [www.templebnaitorah.org/SECC](http://www.templebnaitorah.org/SECC)

Led by Cantor David Serkin-Poole and Chava Mirel, Tot Shabbat includes singing, prayer, and sharing some challah and grape juice for kids under 5. Free. At Temple B'nai Torah, 15727 NE Fourth St., Bellevue.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

#### 10–11:30 A.M. — FAMILY SHABBAT MORNING

[Kate Speizer at 206-384-6020](mailto:KateSpeizer@206-384-6020) or [kspeizer@tdhs-nw.org](mailto:kspeizer@tdhs-nw.org) or

[www.tdhs-nw.org/index.php/learning/early-childhood-education/kiddish-club](http://www.tdhs-nw.org/index.php/learning/early-childhood-education/kiddish-club)

Designed especially for kids up to age 5, Rabbi Kate Speizer leads an interactive (and short) Shabbat morning service followed by Kiddush, challah, and other snacks. Then the kids get to play and craft. Third Saturday of every month and always free. No membership or experience required — feel free to bring friends! At Temple De Hirsch Sinai, 1441 16th Ave., Seattle.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

#### 9:30–10:45 A.M. — PARENTING CLASS: CREATIVE BEGINNINGS

206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org) or [Laura Selby at lauraselby.comcast.net](mailto:LauraSelby@lauraselby.comcast.net)

Parents or caregivers and children explore the richness of the SJCC Early Childhood School through art, sensory experiences, and creative play. Parents and children facilitate exploration and socialization alongside longtime ECS teacher Laura Selby. Runs September 8 through June 8. Mondays, 9:30-10:45 a.m. or 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$592-\$718. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

#### 4:15–5:45 P.M. — NEW! LITTLE ISRAEL: HEBREW IMMERSION PROGRAM

206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

In the Little Israel program kids will play games, cook, create art and science projects, sing, explore Israel, and build community, all in Hebrew. Offered once a week for kids in kindergarten through 3rd grade. Kids in grades 3-5 can choose to attend once or twice per week. \$234-\$450. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

#### 10–11:30 A.M. — LISTENING MOTHERS

[Community of Mindful Parenting at 206-275-0104](mailto:CommunityofMindfulParenting@206-275-0104) or [info@communityofmindfulparenting.com](mailto:info@communityofmindfulparenting.com) or [communityofmindfulparenting.com](http://communityofmindfulparenting.com)

A unique opportunity for parents of babies, birth through 6 months, to discover the joys of parenting. Study after study shows that today's parents are more stressed than ever before. In this program, learn easy skills to reduce stress with experienced facilitators in a non-judgmental environment with a community of like-minded and supportive parents. \$150. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

#### 9:15–10 A.M. — TOT SHABBAT AT TEMPLE BETH AM

[Alexis Kort at 206-525-0915](mailto:AlexisKort@206-525-0915) or [alexis@templebetham.org](mailto:alexis@templebetham.org) or [www.templebetham.org/community/families](http://www.templebetham.org/community/families)

This special introduction to Shabbat takes place in the sanctuary and includes a story, dancing, and a mini Torah reading. Led by a rabbi and Shoshanah Stombaugh, an expert in welcoming children to the joy of Shabbat. Open to all. At Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80th St., Seattle.

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# Should young families have to pay to pray?

ADINA KAY-GROSS *Kveller.com*

NEW YORK (Kveller.com) — Have you heard the one about the young Jewish couple who have a kid while living in a big city and find themselves searching for community around the High Holidays?

You know, the couple who decide to pony up for synagogue membership at a large congregation in their city neighborhood and then subsequently become involved through the synagogue preschool, the young sisterhood and various holiday events?

This couple basks in the warm glow of baking challah and attending Tot Shabbat services. They introduce their kids — first the one kid, then two — to more Judaism in five years than either of them had been exposed to in over 25. And they enjoy it! Never before had they yearned for Jewish connection and yet here they are, singing the prayers, making Jewish friends, teaching their kids Hebrew.

Then, as the creep of kindergarten approaches, said couple feels the need to find a new home in the suburbs. As a consequence, they leave their big warm city shul and head east. Or north.

Do you know what happens next in this all-too-familiar tale?

The couple, with their two tots in tow, feels lonely around the Jewish holidays. So they call up their old friends at the big warm city synagogue and inquire about

tickets for holiday services. But this young, participatory, involved family is told that alas, because they are no longer dues-paying members, there are no seats for them this year. “We have no room for you to join us for Rosh Hashanah services,” they are told. Shana Tova.

And so, we are left to assume that this formerly engaged young family of four will spend Rosh Hashanah not at synagogue with their community but at home, alone, or maybe even at McDonald’s. Who knows?

If you haven’t heard this story, you most likely know other stories similar. Stories where monetary, proprietary, yuck-etary issues got in the way of what Judaism and holiday worship is all about — community.

Sure, I’m being melodramatic. And yes, the family I mention above could easily seek out a congregation near where they now live and go knocking on doors, and possibly pay a few hundred dollars to sit with a community they don’t yet know. But chances are this family won’t. Chances are very high that this experience will sour the family on synagogue worship for quite some time and, truthfully, who could blame them?

The notion of paying for High Holidays tickets is an old practice and yes, in many ways, necessary for a synagogue to keep

its lights on.

In short, if you are not a member of a synagogue and you want to attend services, and there’s a rabbi and cantor who need to be paid, and a building that needs to be heated and cooled, and booklets to print up and kiddush wine to order and, you get the idea — then this sort of tithe, if you will, is necessary.

Yes, many synagogues have sliding scales for ticket prices or will offer special community services — held at off-hour times during the holidays — for those who don’t want to pay but do want to pray.

And yet I’m here to argue — looking at you again, machers — that our community isn’t doing enough to welcome in the young and exhausted, who are just trying to connect, without strings attached. Turning a young family away, when they want to come to synagogue and worship with a community? Wrong. And at the risk of sounding histrionic, the stuff that total assimilation is made of.

There are five words that the Jewish establishment must remember when thinking about how to engage young people: Meet Them Where They Are.

To wit: I recently took my kids to a PJ Library event at a local synagogue in our new town. While a friend who happens to be closely connected to this particular congregation invited me, PJ Library events

(Jewish-themed activities for young kids based around a PJ Library storybook) are open to the community. So off we went on a Friday afternoon, my twin toddlers and I, to read a story, do an art project, bake challah.

The girls had fun. The challah they “baked” actually tasted good. Everyone was incredibly friendly, hands were outstretched, introductions were made, the young rabbi of the congregation came to visit, took photos, made introductions, helped his own kid color on a challah cover. We enjoyed.

Fast forward not even a week. I’m at home. My kids are upstairs napping. The mail arrives. I run to catch the carrier before he slams our mailbox cover, setting off a domino effect of barking dog and kids awakened too soon. Top of the mail pile? Envelope addressed to my children. Not in the handwriting of their grandmothers.

Who else sends them mail?

I check the return address: It was from the shul we had just visited for the challah-baking extravaganza.

I open the envelope. Inside is a letter to my kids thanking them for coming to the PJ Library event and two High Holidays tickets, one for me and one for my husband, along with an invitation to join the

► PAGE 51

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## Who will live and who will die? Confront the ultimate question

**DASEE BERKOWITZ** JTA World News Service

JERUSALEM (JTA) — My kids are the first to tell me that God does not have a body. “But how can He write us in a book of life? God isn’t like a person, Ema!” Indeed.

The image of an anthropomorphic God is rife, however, throughout the High Holidays prayer book. God sits in judgment, counts our deeds, and records them in a grand book that captures the narrative of our past year. And while the image is one that even our children may question, the metaphor is a daunting one.

Particularly poignant is the Unataneh Tokef prayer, which we first see in the Rosh Hashanah liturgy and then again on Yom Kippur. Allegedly written by the 11th-century sage Rabbi Amnon of Mainz, it begins, “On Rosh Hashanah it is inscribed, and on Yom Kippur it is sealed.”

Next come the dreadful musings of the author: “Who will live and who will die? Who will rest and who will wander? Who by fire and who by water?”

The poem evokes a particular feeling of angst for synagogue-goers the world over, putting us in direct confrontation with our own mortality. And while we may find the poem theologically problematic — the tension between our free will and God’s

providence — it remains a focal point of our High Holidays experience.

In that moment, the curtain falls away and we are alone as we face ultimate meaning. Will we actually die this year? Will we become infirm or impoverished, or have our lives degraded in another way? Will we lose those we love?

Could we have imagined one year ago, when we were last confronted with this prayer, that we or our loved ones would have encountered difficult trials? With the benefit of hindsight, would we have acted any differently, been more compassionate and loving?

Since moving to Israel this summer with my family, I feel like a confrontation with ultimate meaning is not limited to the High Holidays — especially when you move with your husband and three kids during a war.

When I had made aliyah 20 years earlier I was single. I lived through the hope of peace with the Palestinians and the Oslo Accords, which too soon gave way to despair when Yitzchak Rabin was assassinated.

There were other painful interruptions to an otherwise carefree life of a young woman in her 20s — the second intifada, bus bombings, deaths of friends. While

it was dangerous living here, uncertainty was something we faced daily and learned how to cope with. Friendships were stronger and plans to go, to do, to experience, and to love were a part of a daily calling to make meaning. The raw beauty of life was fully seized, in part because the fear of life’s end was all too palpable.

With a family, especially during the most recent bout with Hamas, we face ultimate meaning by realizing how little is in our control. While we build a secure framework for our children of schools, playgroups and enrichment activities, ultimately the future is uncertain. No Israeli will tell you otherwise. I might think that as a parent I have a God-like ability to protect my children, but I know in my heart I am like a giant in their eyes only.

The encounter with death makes our own lives so much more vivid. Ernest Becker knew this well when he wrote “Denial of Death” back in 1973. We put up so many defenses in our day-to-day lives to feel safe and secure, to think it will all last forever, and we deny the fact that at the end of the day, we are all ultimately very fancy worm feed.

Becker wrote, “Man cuts out for himself a manageable world...he doesn’t bite the world off in one piece as a giant would,

but in small manageable pieces, as a beaver does...he learns not to expose himself, not to stand out...the result is that he comes to exist in the imagined infallibility of the world around him. He doesn’t have to have fears when his feet are solidly mired and his life mapped out in a ready-made maze.”

This is how so many of us behave during 11 months of the year. But in the month of Elul, as we prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we have an opportunity to take away the artifice of our manageable and prescribed lives and face our mortality directly. Like with the Unataneh Tokef poem, the answer to the question of “who will live and who will die,” as Rabbi Edward Feinstein notes, is “me.”

Having a death consciousness makes us healthier, more real, more daring. We stand up for what we believe in, we repair broken relationships, and we take risks — by caring about people and causes that need us.

Your life is happening right now. The metaphor of God counting our deeds in the book of life during the High Holidays enables us to make our lives count.

Dasee Berkowitz is a Jewish educational consultant and writer living in Jerusalem.

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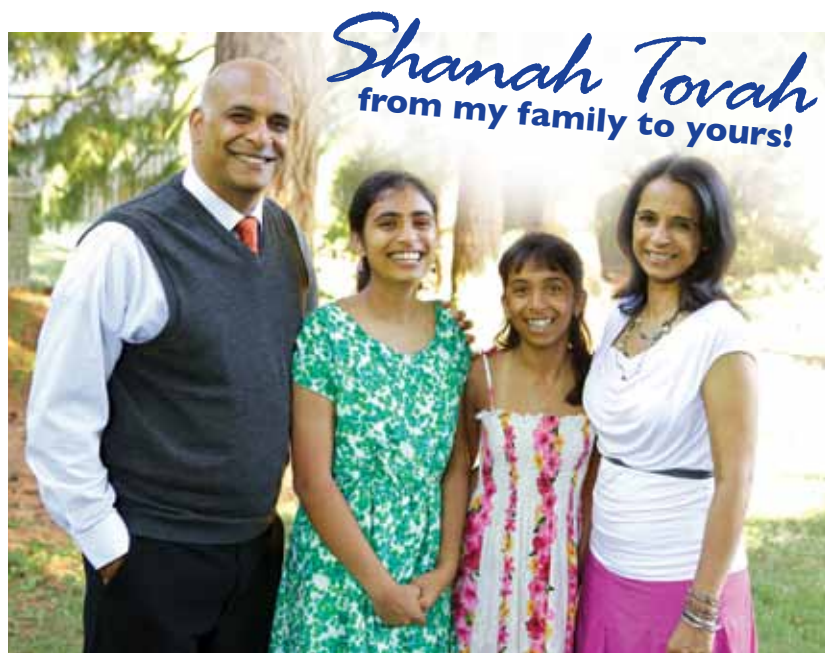


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## Save the stress: Here's an easy and pleasing Rosh Hashanah menu

SHANNON SARNA [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com)

When the Jewish New Year comes around, many people stress for weeks leading up to the holiday and break out their most complicated recipes to impress guests. But when I entertain around the holidays, I prefer to rely on a few go-to dishes that are simple to prepare, pack a delicious punch, and still impress my friends and family despite my lack of stressing.

A perfect roasted chicken marinated with citrus and herbs is a wonderful counterpoint to a rich brisket on the table. Marinating for at least several hours will ensure a moist chicken everyone will talk about.

And while challah should be served to start the meal, Balsamic Apple Date-stuffed challah is so delicious you may want to serve it as the grand finale.

Rosh Hashanah has a late start this



JAZZJAVA/CREATIVE COMMONS

year, so enjoy those last few weeks of late summer, don't stress about menu planning, and instead make a menu of simple, delicious delights that people will only think consumed your September.

### SHANNON'S PERFECT ROAST CHICKEN

- 1 whole chicken, rinsed
- 1 orange, zested and sliced
- 1 lemon, zested and sliced
- 1 Tbs. fresh chopped rosemary

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SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 24-25 2014

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The Shabbos Project

KEEPING IT TOGETHER



Shabbos Project Seattle

@SeattleShabbosP

To keep it together contact:  
 [seattle@theshabbosproject.com](mailto:seattle@theshabbosproject.com)



6 cloves garlic  
1/2 Tbs. fresh chopped thyme  
3 Tbs. olive oil  
1/4 cup white wine  
Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 400°.

In a small mixing bowl, whisk together rosemary, thyme, olive oil, wine, orange zest, lemon zest and the salt and pepper. Add the chicken to a large plastic bag that seals, and pour the wet mixture of the chicken. Add the orange and lemon slices, as well as the whole garlic cloves.

After you seal the bag, make sure the entire chicken is covered with the marinade. Refrigerate for 2 to 24 hours before roasting.

If you like, you can stuff some of the garlic cloves and citrus slices under the skin or in the cavity of the chicken. Roast the chicken for 45-55 minutes, or until a meat thermometer reads 165 degrees.

Yield: 4-6 servings

#### BALSAMIC APPLE DATE CHALLAH FOR ROSH HASHANAH

For the challah dough:

5 cups flour  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 Tbs. honey  
1/2 Tbs. salt

2 tsp. vanilla  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. nutmeg  
1/4 cup vegetable oil  
1-1/2 Tbs. yeast  
1 tsp. sugar  
1-1/4 cups lukewarm water  
2 whole eggs  
1 egg yolk

For the filling:

3 gala apples, peeled and diced  
1 cup pitted dates, chopped  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 cinnamon stick  
1/4 cup water  
1/4 cup red wine  
2 Tbs. balsamic vinegar  
1 Tbs. sugar

For top of challah:

1 egg  
1 tsp. water  
1 tsp. honey  
1 Tbs. sanding sugar  
1 Tbs. thick sea salt  
2 tsp. ground cinnamon

In a small bowl, place yeast, 1 tsp. sugar and lukewarm water. Allow to sit around 10 minutes, until it becomes foamy on top.

In a large bowl or stand mixer fitted with whisk attachment, mix together 1-1/2 cups flour, salt, sugar, honey, vanilla,

cinnamon and nutmeg. After the water-yeast mixture has become foamy, add to flour mixture along with oil. Mix thoroughly.

Add another cup of flour and eggs until smooth. Switch to the dough hook attachment if you are using a stand mixer. Add another 1-1/2 cups flour and then remove from bowl and place on a floured surface. Knead remaining flour into dough, continuing to knead for around 10 minutes (or however long your hands will last).

Place dough in a greased bowl and cover with damp towel. Allow to rise 3-4 hours.

To make the filling, place apples, dates, salt, cinnamon stick, water, red wine and sugar in a medium saucepan and bring to a boil. Continue to simmer on medium heat until the mixture is reduced. Add the balsamic vinegar and simmer another 2-3 minutes. The mixture will cook around 10-15 minutes in total.

Remove from the heat and allow to cool 5 minutes. Remove cinnamon stick. Place mixture in a food processor fitted with a blade attachment and pulse until smooth.

After the challah is done rising, cut the dough in half. To be as precise as possible, use a scale to measure the weight. Roll out the first ball using a rolling pin into a rectangle. Spread around half,

perhaps slightly less, of the apple-date mixture in an even layer, leaving 1/2 inch all around without filling. Working quickly, start rolling up the dough toward you. Try and keep the roll relatively tight as you go. Pinch the end when you finish. Create a pinwheel-shaped challah by snaking the dough around and around in a circle around itself. When finished, tuck the end under the challah neatly and pinch lightly. This doesn't have to be perfect — remember, as long as it tastes good, almost no one (maybe except that judgmental great-aunt) will care what it looks like.

Repeat with other half of dough.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Allow challahs to rise another 30-60 minutes, or until you can see the size has grown.

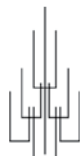
Beat 1 egg with 1 tsp. water and 1 tsp. of honey. Brush liberally over each challah. Combine sea salt, sanding sugar and cinnamon, and sprinkle over challah.

Bake for 25-30 minutes, or until middle looks like it has just set, and the color is golden.

Yield: 2 medium loaves

Shannon Sarna is editor of The Nosh blog on MyJewishLearning.com, where these recipes originally appeared.

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10:00am • Seattle

Open to Public • No Tickets Required

**Family Service**  
1:30pm • Bellevue

Open to Public • No Tickets Required

**Tashlich Service**  
Casting off our sins  
3:00pm • Luther Burbank Park, Mercer Island

**Sha'arei Tikvah\* Dinner and Service**  
4:00pm • Seattle

\* Sha'arei Tikvah is a partnership with Jewish Family Service to offer services and celebrations for Jews of all abilities.

### YOM KIPPUR OCT. 4, SATURDAY

**Kulanu: Intergenerational Family Service**  
10:00am • Seattle

Open to Public • No Tickets Required

**Family Service**  
1:30pm • Bellevue

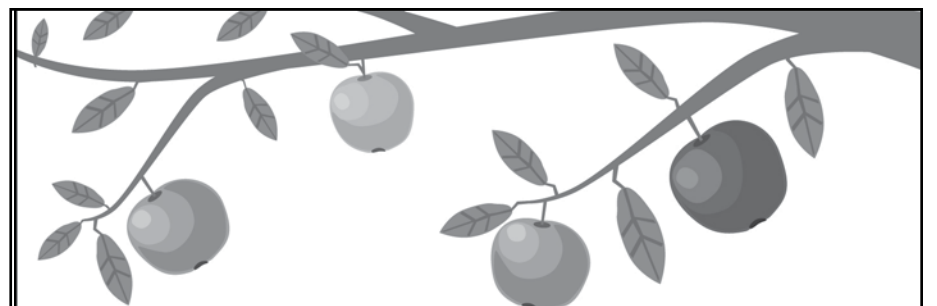
Open to Public • Tickets Required

- Temple welcomes you to a variety of High Holy Days services not listed here.

- Please contact us to purchase tickets at 206-323-8486.

High Holy Days  
Temple De Hirsch Sinai  
5775 - 2014

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Hillel offers High Holiday meals, receptions, classes and additional events for Jewish young adults ages 18-35. Visit [www.hilleluw.org](http://www.hilleluw.org).



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Karen Mayers Gamoran Family Center  
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# New Year Greetings

5775

2014

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**L'Shanah Tova**  
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of Greater  
Seattle

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Esther & Al Lott  
Jeff Lott  
Susan & Robert  
Solomon  
Bryan & Celina  
Solomon

**Happy New Year!**  
Marge Kadaner  
& Family

**L'Shana  
Tova**  
Jennifer, Joel,  
Ben and Oscar  
Magalnick

**A Good and  
Sweet Year!**

Andrea Rouleau  
& Stanley

**A Good and  
Sweet Year!**  
Toby Franco

לשנה טובה תכתבו

Ty, Emily,  
Bina & Saadia  
Alhadeff

**L'Shanah  
Tovah**  
Happy New Year  
from the  
Puterman Family  
Cheryl, Jeff,  
Shira, Dalia & Farfel

**Shalom  
and  
Happy New Year**

The  
Volchok  
Families

A Good & Sweet Year!  
from the staff of





# 5774 Year in review: chronology

## JTA STAFF

NEW YORK (JTA) — Read about the highs and lows of 5774 — and everything in between.

### September 2013

- The United States and Russia reach a deal to rid Syria of its arsenal of chemical weapons, promoting Jewish groups to suspend their efforts lobbying for U.S. strikes against Damascus.
- In his address to the U.N. General Assembly, President Obama says the U.S. focus in the Middle East will be keeping Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon and advancing Israeli-Palestinian peace. Meanwhile, in a meeting with U.S. Jewish leaders, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas says he is more hopeful now for peace than he was in the mid-2000s.
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg becomes the first U.S. Supreme Court justice to preside over a same-sex marriage, the wedding ceremony of Michael Kaiser and John Roberts.

### October 2013

- A landmark study of U.S. Jews by the

Pew Research Center finds the Jewish intermarriage rate has risen to 58 percent and that among the 22 percent of American Jews who describe themselves as having no religion, two-thirds are not raising their children as Jews. The survey also estimates the U.S. Jewish population at 6.8 million, roughly the same estimate arrived at by Brandeis University researchers analyzing 350 separate population studies.

- A day after meeting with President Obama, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tells the U.N. General Assembly that Israel is ready to go it alone against Iran should it come close to obtaining a nuclear weapon.
- Arieh Warshel, a U.S. professor born and educated in Israel, and ex-Weizmann Institute professor Michael Levitt are among the winners of the 2013 Nobel



WHITE HOUSE  
**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Barack Obama at the White House.**

Prize for chemistry.

- Israeli forces discover a “terror tunnel” running from Gaza to an Israeli kibbutz. The tunnel is full of explosives and ends near an Israeli kindergarten.
- Janet Yellen is named head of the U.S. Federal Reserve, becoming the third American Jewish central banker in a row and the first woman to hold the post.

### November 2013

- Seattle’s organized Jewish community began ramping up to promote Initiative 594, which hits the ballot this November and seeks to increase background checks on purchases of firearms.

- In a survey of 5,847 European Jews, nearly one-third of respondents say they “seriously considered emigrating” from Europe because of anti-Semitism.
- The United States and a coalition of world




ZACH CARSTENSEN

**Naomi Kramer and Charyl Kay Sedlik take part in a training session to talk about I-594 at signature gathering spots and in synagogues.**

► PAGE 36

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## Recipes from our history

With 2014 marking our 90th anniversary, we decided to take a look back at our history to help you create your High Holiday menu. What you will find here — and what you can download as an ebook by visiting [jewishsound.org/cookbook](http://jewishsound.org/cookbook) — is a selection from every single High Holiday recipe published in the Jewish Transcript/JTNews. If you're in the mood for a honey cake, or a recipe for somebody else's grandmother's tzimmes, or even a simple challah, we've got a selection here plus some fun extras.

### AVGOLEMONO (EGG AND LEMON SOUP)

*Published in 2009*

This light soup hailing from Greece and Turkey is calming to empty stomachs. Original recipes call for homemade chicken broth, but the canned broth in this version eases preparation at a busy time of year.

3 Tbs. olive oil  
1 medium onion, chopped  
5 carrots, cut horizontally into thin circles  
1/2 cup uncooked rice  
1 48-ounce can chicken broth  
1 chicken bouillon cube, dissolved in 1-1/2 cups hot water  
3 eggs at room temperature  
1-1/2 lemons at room temperature

In a medium-large pot, heat olive oil on a low flame. Add onion and stir for one

to two minutes, until softened. Add carrots and rice and stir for another couple of minutes until well combined.

Pour chicken broth and bouillon water into pot. Stir ingredients and cover pot. When broth comes to a boil, lower flame so that broth gently simmers. Simmer 25 to 30 minutes, or until rice is soft enough to eat.

Meanwhile, whisk eggs in a medium-sized bowl until frothy. Slowly drizzle in lemon juice while whisking. When soup is ready, uncover the pot and stir soup for a minute to release heat. Remove a half ladle of soup and gradually drizzle into egg mixture, whisking briskly. (If you add soup too quickly, eggs will curdle.) Repeat this three more times, until you've added two ladles of soup to egg mixture. Stir pot of soup again to continue releasing heat. Slowly drizzle egg mixture into pot of soup, whisking vigorously. Soup will appear creamy.

To serve immediately, heat soup on a low flame for about two minutes, until warmed through. Recipe can be made a day in advance, covered, refrigerated and reheated on a low flame.

Yield: 8 servings.



AKANE86/CREATIVE COMMONS

### MARAK GEZER V'TAPUZ IM TAVLANIM (CARROT AND ORANGE SOUP WITH SPICES)

*Published in 2006*

4 carrots, cut into chunks  
3-4 minced shallots  
4 minced garlic cloves  
2 tsp. olive oil  
3-1/4 cups chicken soup  
Juice of 1/2 orange  
1 tsp. fresh ginger  
Pinch ground fresh nutmeg  
Salt and white pepper to taste  
10-12 fresh basil leaves

Heat oil in a soup pot. Fry shallots and garlic until golden. Add carrots and cook, then add chicken soup, cover and cook until carrots are tender. Blend carrots in batches with half the liquid and return to a pot. Slowly add liquid until desired consistency. Add orange and taste. Add ginger, nutmeg, salt and pepper.

To serve, pour into individual bowls and

decorate with basil leaves.

Yield: 4-6 servings

### CARROT TORTE

*Published in 1964*

1-1/2 cups finely grated raw carrots  
2/3 cup walnuts, chopped medium fine  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup vegetable shortening  
4 eggs  
1/3 cup hot water  
2-1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour  
3 teaspoons double-acting baking powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Jam for spreading between the layers



CHRISTAFACE/CREATIVE COMMONS

Grease 2 deep 9-1/2 inch layer cake pans, and line the bottoms with waxed paper. Prepare the carrots and walnuts before beginning to mix the cake. Cream the sugar, shortening and eggs until light and fluffy. Stir in the carrots and nuts.

*Happy  
New Year!*



Peter & Peggy  
Horvitz

A GOOD & SWEET YEAR!



*In memory of Joe Kosher*

Rosalie Kosher  
Cary & Cathy Kosher  
Lance & Logan  
Lonnie & Michele Kosher  
Zak & Sabrina

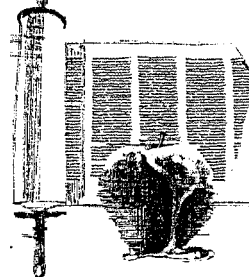
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Larry & Debbie Benezra  
Anthony, Amy, Xander & Bastian Benezra  
Jeremy & Samara Benezra  
Selena & Jason Famularo

**NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS**



FROM

**THE LOEBS**



FRANKIE & DICK  
JOELLEN, DON, DAVID & ADAM  
DIANNE, STEVE, KATY & BECKY



**Happy New Year!**  
from

Raymond & Jeannette Galante  
and the whole family



Scald the water, then pour into the measuring cup to cool slightly, as you sift the flour, baking powder, soda, cinnamon and salt together. Alternately add the flour mixture and the water to the batter, about a third at a time, and stir just enough to blend. Pour the batter into the prepared pans and bake at 350° about 40 minutes, until a light brown, and a cake tester inserted in the center comes out dry. Partly cool in the pans, then invert on racks and remove the paper. Invert again and complete the cooling on racks. Put the layers together with jam as a filling. This cake is very rich and can be served without a frosting, with confectioners' sugar sifted over the top instead. Should you wish to frost it, a parve mocha icing would be very good. When you serve the torte with dairy foods a topping of whipped cream instead of the confectioners' sugar or icing is delicious. The recipe makes a high 9-inch cake and will serve 10 generously.

**APPLE CRUSTED HALIBUT NESTLED ON GINGERED CARROT SALAD**

*Published in 1995*  
Serves 4  
4-4 oz halibut filets  
1 large apple (grated)  
1/2 cup oatmeal  
salt & pepper  
olive oil  
Mix everything but the filets and place in a shallow dish. Coat halibut with apple

and oat mixture. Sear over medium heat in non-stick pan until golden brown (approximately 3 minutes on each side). Keep warm and place on carrot salad when ready to serve.

**GINGERED CARROT SALAD**

2 cups grated carrots  
1/3 cup golden raisins  
1 Tbl cider vinegar  
1Tbl brown sugar  
1 pinch cinnamon  
1 pinch nutmeg  
black pepper  
Place grated carrots and raisins into a mixing bowl. Mix cider vinegar, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and black pepper together. Toss the dressing with the carrots and place on a lettuce leaf on each plate. Top with halibut and serve.

**TAJINE BAKHAR IM SHIZUFIM (BEEF WITH DRIED PRUNES)**

*Published in 2006*  
Oil for frying  
2 pounds shoulder beef, cut in large cubes  
6 onions, cut in long strips  
6 garlic cloves, cut  
5 tomatoes, peeled and mashed  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1 tsp. ginger  
1/2 tsp. turmeric  
1-3/4 cups dried prunes  
Oil  
1 cup almonds

Heat oil in a pot. Lightly brown meat. In a second pot, heat oil and sauté onions. Add garlic and tomatoes and cook for 15 minutes, then add the meat to the onion-garlic-tomato mixture. Add salt, pepper, cinnamon, ginger and turmeric. Cook over low heat for one-and-a-half hours. Add prunes and cook 30 minutes more. Meanwhile, heat a pan with a small amount of oil. Peel then fry almonds until lightly browned. Serve with almonds on top.  
Yield: 6 servings

**CARROT AND BEEF TSIMMES**

*Published in 1994*  
(Serves 6)  
2 lbs. Brisket of Beef (Diced in one inch cubes)  
1 lb. Carrots (Cut into 1/2 inch long sticks)  
1/2 lb. Turnips (Cut into one inch cubes)  
1/2 lb. Onions (Cut into quarters)  
1 lb. Potatoes (Cut into one inch cubes)  
1 oz. Honey  
1 Tbl. Kosher Salt  
2 Tbl. Flour  
Pinch of Nutmeg  
Place beef in a heavy stock pot over medium high heat, browning all sides. When meat is browned, add vegetables, potatoes, honey, salt and nutmeg. Cover with cold water about one inch above the contents of the pot. Reduce heat and simmer for two hours until everything is tender. Do not stir pot, but add water if

you see the liquid fall below the level of the ingredients. Mix the flour with 3-4 oz. of the tsimmes stock and return it to the stock pot. Simmer until thickened. Pour the contents into a casserole dish and bake 30 minutes at 350° or until brown on top.

**APPLE-HONEY CAKE**

*Published in 1981*  
1 lb. honey  
3 eggs  
1 and 1/3 cups sugar  
2 cups applesauce  
4 cups flour  
1 tsp. baking soda  
2/3 tsps. cinnamon  
1/2 cup raisins  
1/2 cup chopped walnuts  
Beat honey and eggs. Add remaining ingredients except raisins and nuts. Mix well. Stir in raisins and nuts by hand. Grease 2 load pans. Pour in batter. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Serves 20 slices.



OLGUCZ/CREATIVE COMMONS


Download the ebook "Shana Tova! High Holiday Recipes from 90 Years of the Jewish Transcript and JTNews," containing 170 recipes for your holiday menu, for only \$6.99 by visiting [jewishsound.org/cookbook](http://jewishsound.org/cookbook). Ten percent of proceeds will support the food bank at Jewish Family Service of Greater Seattle.

**L'Shana Tova!**  
Craig Saran  
Joani Diskin Saran  
*and Family*

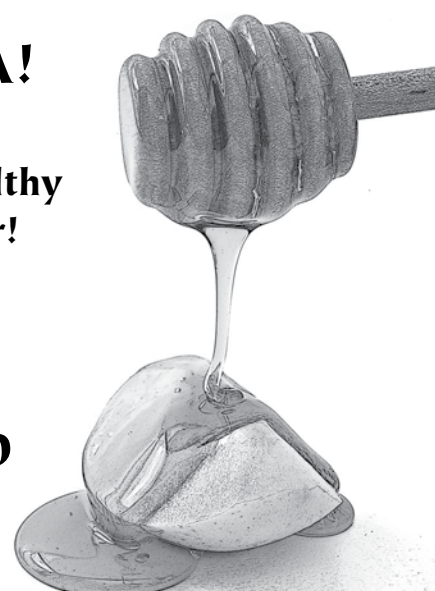
**L'Shana Tova!**  
Our best wishes for a happy new year, filled with love, good health and peace.  
To families and friends:  
Wolf Hall  
Mary, Esther, Alan, Chuck,  
Susan & Grandchildren  
& Great Grandson


**L'Shana Tova**  
*Happy New Year*  
  
Pam, Andy, Ian and  
Geoff Lloyd

**L'Shanah Tova**  
John & Anna Lukas, David,  
Sara & Judah Lukas,  
Katy Lukas &  
Tom Bowen  


*May the New Year Bring You Peace, Health & Happiness*  
  
In memory of Klaus Stern z"l  
& Carl Kitz z"l  
Paula Stern  
Marvin Stern & Family  
Marion Kitz & Family

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DAN & ELAINE MINTZ  
TESSA & JACOB  
ROB & PATTI MINTZ  
HAILEY & RYAN  
GINA BENEZRA & BEN

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Wishing the entire community a very Healthy and Happy New Year!  
  
**CARL AND JOANN BIANCO**

**A Good & Sweet Year!**  
  
Jim & Leatrice Keller  
Colman & Felice Becker  
Jessica Grace  
Scott & Ilaine Slotnick  
Keller, Molly & Stephanie Faye  
Stuart & Barbara Sulman  
Scott & Carin Jacobson  
Ryan, Luke & Jackson Stanley  
Scott Sulman & Kelly Courtney  
Nick & Michele Keller  
Caitlin, Michael & Courtney

## ◀ YEAR IN REVIEW PAGE 32

powers reach a six-month agreement with Iran to curb the country's nuclear program in exchange for some sanctions relief while negotiations for a final settlement on Iran's nuclear program are conducted. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pans the deal as a "historic mistake." The deal goes into effect on Jan. 20.

• For the only time in our lifetimes, and not happening again for another 70-something thousand years, Hanukkah and Thanksgiving fell on the same date, inspiring menu mashups, turkey-themed menorahs, and a bunch of Jews scratching their heads about what to do with themselves on December 25th.

**December 2013**

• Led locally by University of Washington professor Devin Naar, the world got its first taste of International Ladino Day, which celebrated the Sephardic language with food, music and history lessons.

• Gal Gadot, an Israeli actress who is a former Miss Israel, is cast as Wonder Woman in the upcoming film "Batman vs. Superman."

• Swarthmore's Hillel chapter becomes the first to join the so-called Open Hillel movement, which challenges Hillel International's guidelines prohibiting partnerships with groups it deems hostile toward Israel. Hillel boards at Vassar and Wesleyan soon follow suit. According to Hillel UW executive director Oren Hayon, how-

ever, "this does not indicate that Hillel as a movement is out of touch with students or local campuses when it comes to its Israel policy."

• The membership of the American Studies Association endorses a boycott of Israeli universities. The controversial decision comes after months of debate and prompts several American schools to withdraw from the association in protest and dozens more to condemn the move.

• The Native American and Indigenous Studies Association becomes the third U.S. academic body in less than a year to recommend that its members boycott Israeli universities.

• Amid a public debate in France over an allegedly anti-Semitic gesture called the quenelle, the French media publish a photo of a man performing it outside the Toulouse school where four Jews were murdered. Several French cities later announce they have banned performances by the comedian who popularized the salute, Dieudonne M'bala M'bala.

**January 2014**

• The University of Washington, joining 180 other universities and colleges in the American Association of Universities, comes out unequivocally against academic boycotts due to the boycotts enacted by academic associations against Israel.

• Ariel Sharon, the controversial warrior-turned-statesman who served as Israel's prime minister from 2001 until 2006, when he was rendered comatose by a

stroke, dies at age 85.

• The Israeli government announces that it plans to invest more than \$1 billion over the next 20 years to strengthen the Jewish identity of Diaspora Jews, particularly young Jews, but the details remain fuzzy.

• The Chief Rabbinate of Israel reaches an agreement with the Rabbinical Council of America to automatically accept letters from RCA members vouching for the Jewish status of Israeli immigrants. The agreement follows a temporary suspension by the Chief Rabbinate in accepting such letters from at least one well-known RCA member, Rabbi Avi Weiss of Riverdale, N.Y.

• A federal judge tosses out a \$380 million sexual abuse lawsuit filed against Yeshiva University by 34 former students of its high school for boys. The suit alleged that the university ignored warnings of assault by two faculty members between 1969 and 1989. In dismissing the lawsuit, Judge John Koeltl rules that the statute of limitations has expired.

• The food truck revolution in Seattle goes Jewish with the opening of Napkin Friends, a truck whose menu makes sandwiches by putting fresh ingredients between two potato latkes.

**February 2014**

JOEL MAGALNICK

In the remodeled foyer of its new auditorium, Stroum Jewish Community Center CEO Judy Neuman hands a gift to now-past president Aaron Alhadeff for his work in raising the funds to get the \$5 million project completed.

• Completing the first phase of its capital campaign, the Stroum Jewish Community Center unveils its new state-of-the-art auditorium and performance space in its Mercer Island facility.

• The government of Spain approves a bill to facilitate the naturalization of Sephardic Jews of Spanish descent.

• Staff at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem go on strike as the hospital, facing a huge deficit, teeters on the edge of bankruptcy and fails to pay its workers.

• Abraham Foxman announces he is stepping down as national director of the Anti-Defamation League after 27 years in the post. Foxman, a child survivor of the Holocaust one of the highest profile American Jewish leaders, says he will step down in July 2015.

• Alice Herz-Sommer, the 110-year-old Holocaust survivor and concert pianist whose life is the subject of a documentary that a week later would win an Oscar, dies.

**March 2014**

• For the first time in over a decade, the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle embarks upon a study of the makeup and demographic patterns of our local Jewish community. Results will be in late this year.

• AIPAC leaders emphasize bipartisanship and mutual respect at the group's annual policy conference in Washington. The conference follows a bruising period in which the pro-Israel lobby had championed a new Iran sanctions bill, only to back down when it becomes clear the bill lacked the necessary support from the White House and congressional Democrats to pass.

• In one of many low-level skirmishes

▶ PAGE 37

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◀ YEAR IN REVIEW PAGE 36

over the course of months, Israeli aircraft strike several targets in the Gaza Strip after Palestinians fire rockets into Israel, sending Israelis into bomb shelters.

- Northwest Yeshiva High School celebrates its 40th anniversary of educating Jewish teens throughout the Puget Sound region.

**April 2014**

- Washington State's Supreme Court rules in favor of the boycott of Israeli goods enacted in 2010 by the Olympia Food Co-op, despite the boycott being approved behind closed doors and outside of the co-op's bylaws. The decision put the plaintiffs on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars in penalties, as the defendants succeeded in convincing the court that their First Amendment rights had been violated by the suit.

- Casino magnate and conservative backer Sheldon Adelson buys another Israeli newspaper, Makor Rishon, making him the owner of several of Israel's major right-wing media outlets and two of the country's four major newspapers.

- Mobilized by the death of Samuel Sommers — the 8-year-old son of Rabbi Phyllis and Michael Sommers whose struggle with leukemia was documented on a popular blog called Superman Sam — 73 rabbis shave their heads to raise \$600,000 for pediatric cancer research. Two of those rabbis, Alan Cook and Michael Latz, formerly had pulpits in Seattle.

- American-Jewish contractor Alan Gross goes on a hunger strike to protest his imprisonment in a Cuban jail and the lack of American assistance. Later in the year, in ailing health and with no prospect of release, Gross bids goodbye to his family

during a prison visit.



VIA FACEBOOK

**The Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City.**

- White supremacist Frazier Glenn Miller, 73, kills a man and his grandson outside the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and then shoots to death a woman at a Jewish assisted-living facility a few blocks away. None of the victims are Jewish, an indication of the diverse constituency served by America's Jewish institutions.

- After weeks of near breakdowns in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks brokered by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, Israel suspends all negotiations after Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party signs a unity accord with Hamas, a designated terrorist organization. President Obama responds by saying it may be time for a pause in Middle East peacemaking. Kerry later expresses regret for saying that Israel risks becoming an "apartheid" state or a non-Jewish one if the two-state solution is not implemented. U.S. negotiators blame Israel for the talks' collapse.

- Gennady Kernes, the Jewish mayor of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, is shot in a suspected assassination attempt, leaving him in critical condition. The shooting comes amid growing violence between Russian-backed Ukrainian separatists in eastern Ukraine and forces loyal to the new Ukrainian government in Kiev.

Kernes is airlifted to Israel for treatment.

- Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling is banned from the NBA for life and fined \$2.5 million after being caught on tape making racist comments to his girlfriend. He is heard saying that his views reflect the way the world works, and as evidence he says that black Jews in Israel "are just treated like dogs." His girlfriend is heard countering that as a Jew, Sterling should know better than to advocate discrimination, citing the Holocaust as an example of where racism can lead.

**May 2014**

- An Anti-Defamation League anti-Semitism survey finds "deeply anti-Semitic views" are held by 26 percent of 53,000 people polled in 102 countries and territories covering approximately 86 percent of the world's population. Critics say the survey's 11 questions are not accurate gauges of anti-Semitism.

- The UW's student senate successfully turns back an effort to attempt to force the school to divest from companies that do business with Israel's military. Many Jewish students worked behind the scenes to convince the school's elected leaders that such a decision would cause more harm than good.

- Also on the UW campus, the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies, formerly known as the Jewish Studies Program, celebrates its 40th anniversary.

- Novelist Philip Roth receives an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theologi-

cal Seminary. Now considered one of the greatest living American writers, Roth had caused outrage early in his career with his sometimes stinging portrayals of Jewish life. In 2012, Roth announced he was retiring.

- The European Union says it has banned the import of poultry and eggs produced in West Bank settlements.

- A gunman kills four people at the Jewish Museum of Belgium in Brussels. Several days later, Mehdi Nemmouche, a 29-year-old French national of Algerian origin, is arrested in connection with the attack.

- Pope Francis travels to Israel and the West Bank, visiting the Western Wall, Yad Vashem and the West Bank security fence, among other sites.

**June 2014**



IDF

**The three kidnapped Israeli teens who were later found murdered.**

- Three Israeli teenagers, later identified as Naftali Fraenkel, Gilad Shaar and Eyal Yifrach, are kidnapped in the West Bank

▶ PAGE 38

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## ◀ YEAR IN REVIEW PAGE 37

from a hitchhiking post. Israel responds with three weeks of intensive searches, including mass arrests in the West Bank of Hamas members and the rearrest of dozens of Palestinians released as part of the Gilad Shalit prisoner-exchange deal. Three weeks on, Israeli authorities find the teens' bodies and announce that the boys were believed to have been killed the night they were kidnapped. The incident sparks the revenge killing by Jews of an Arab teen.

- Rather than fighting from behind, students at Western Washington University preemptively pass a resolution that the school will not enact boycott, divestment and sanction campaigns "due to their nature of origin."
- The Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center cuts the ribbon to construct its new facility, which will act as a Holocaust museum and education space.
- The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) votes 310-303 to divest from three American companies that do business with Israeli security services in the West Bank. Heath Rada, the moderator of the assembly, says it's not a "reflection for our lack of love for our Jewish sisters and brothers," but Jewish leaders say it will have a "devastating impact" on their relations with the church.



JOEL MAGALNICK

Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center education director Ilana Kennedy, third from right, cuts the ribbon to launch the buildout of its new Belltown museum and education center. Flanking Kennedy are, left, WSHERC co-founder Henry Friedman, benefactor Lucy Pruzan, right, and three winners of the annual Holocaust writing, art and digital media contest.

## July 2014

- Israel launches its third major Gaza operation in six years. Dubbed Operation Defensive Edge, the campaign begins with 10 days of intensive airstrikes in Gaza. After several failed cease-fire attempts, a ground invasion of Gaza follows. Hamas fires thousands of rockets into Israel, striking as far away as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and a Haifa suburb. In four weeks of fighting before a 72-hour cease-fire in early August, some 1,800 Palestinians are reported killed. Israel comes under heavy criticism for attacks that kill children, strike U.N. facilities and damage civil infrastructure. Israel blames Hamas for using civilians as human shields and schools, hospitals

and U.N. facilities as weapons depots. The death toll in Israel includes 64 soldiers and three civilians. Several of Israel's casualties are due to Palestinian infiltrations of Israel through tunnels burrowed under the Israel-Gaza border. Israel's prime minister says destroying the tunnels is one of the war's main objectives.

- A riot outside a French synagogue is one of several incidents related to the Gaza war that threaten Jews in Europe. The riot by Palestinian sympathizers outside the Synagogue de la Roquette in central Paris traps some 200 people inside the building. A street brawl ensues between the rioters and dozens of Jewish men who arrived to defend the synagogue.
- Iran and the major powers, led by the United States, agree to extend negotiations over Iran's nuclear program for another four months, citing progress in a number of areas. But the potential deal breaker remains: Iran does not want to reduce its number of centrifuges, and the world powers say they won't accept Iran maintaining its existing capacity for uranium enrichment.

## August 2014

- As the fighting in Gaza wanes and Israeli troops begin to pull back, Israel experiences several terrorist attacks inside the country perpetrated by West Bank Palestinians, including a tractor attack in Jerusalem.

• The 72-hour cease-fire that brought Operation Protective Edge to a halt expires, and Gazans resume intensive rocket fire against Israel. The Israeli military responds with airstrikes inside Gaza. The sides then agree to another 72-hour cease-fire, which has, at long last, continued to hold.

## September 2014

- Kidnapped reporter Steven Sotloff, who held dual American and Israeli citizenships, was the second journalist in as many weeks to be beheaded by a black-hooded member of Islamic terrorist group ISIS.
- Joan Rivers, a Jewish comic who broke barriers for women in comedy and on television, dies at age 81.
- A group of 43 reservists from the Israel Defense Forces' famed 8200 intelligence unit causes a stir by publicly vowing to stop collecting information on Palestinians. "The intelligence gathered harms innocents and is used for political persecution and for invading most areas of Palestinians' lives," the reservists write in their public letter to Israel's prime minister and IDF top brass. "Our conscience no longer permits us to serve this system." The IDF says it will take disciplinary action against the reservists.

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Sharon & Martin Lott  
Jordan, Andrea & Audrey Lott  
Jeremy, Elicia, Jossalyn & Micah Lott  
Tami, Ed, Yoni, Emma, Tova & Zachary Gelb

**Happy New Year!**  
Shana Tova

**New Year's Greetings!**  
Marcie (Halela) Maxwell

**A Good & Sweet Year!**  
L'Shanah Tovah

**Scott, Karen & Matan  
Michelson**

**L'SHANA TOVA**  
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Keith, Linda, Alec & Kylie Goldfarb  
Melissa, Todd & Brandon Reninger  
Kevin Malin

**A Good & Sweet Year!**

**Judge Gary Johnson &  
Jackie Rosenblatt  
Josh, Sylvie & Joseph**

**Happy New Year!**

Becky Zimmerman  
Michael, Beth, Bauer & Grant Zimmerman  
Esther, Rabbi Yossi, Yehuda,  
Yonah Mordechai, Raziell Yitzchak &  
Moshe David Malka  
Sharon Zimmerman & David Tutton  
Susan & Josh Stewart



# 5774: Top 10 Jewish entertainment moments

**ANTHONY WEISS** JTA World News Service

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Scarlett Johansson, Gwyneth Paltrow and the power couple Beyonce and Jay-Z (we're not kidding) are among those who made news on the Jewish entertainment scene in 5774. Here are some of the top moments from the Jewish year soon to depart.



MIKE COPPOLA/GETTY IMAGES FOR SODASTREAM

**SodaStream CEO Daniel Birnbaum announces Scarlett Johansson as the company's first global brand ambassador in January.**

**Scarlett tells Oxfam, pop off:** Actress Scarlett Johansson got an earful from the international aid organization Oxfam for promoting SodaStream, which has a factory in the West Bank. Johansson responded by dumping Oxfam (where she was an "ambassador") rather than SodaStream (where she is a paid spokeswoman). Johansson accused the British charity of supporting the boycott, divest-

ment and sanctions movement and praised the Israeli manufacturer of home soda makers for providing good jobs for Palestinians.

**Gwyneth at the mikvah?:** After consciously uncoupling from hubby Chris Martin (of Coldplay fame), Gwyneth Paltrow decided to consciously recouple with her Jewish heritage and reportedly is converting to Judaism. She proudly comes from a long line of rabbis on her father's side (some of whom shared her interest in kabbalah). Key question: Will she revive the Paltrovich family name?

**God declares: Jewish humor is dead:** Well, not God, but Mel Brooks, who is as close as one gets to divinity in Jewish comedy.

Brooks said that in a world in which we all read, watch and hear the same things, Jewish humor is no longer any different than any other kind of comedy. Somewhere, Bialystock and Bloom are crying.

**Bey, Jay-Z visit Anne Frank's house:** It's been a rough year for the first couple of hip-hop, but the superstar sweethearts proved they know what counts when their trip to Amsterdam included a long, pen-

sive visit to the Anne Frank Museum (documented on Instagram). And unlike Justin Bieber, Beyonce managed to sign the guest book without suggesting that Anne Frank would've been a fan (a Bey-liever?). Classy lady.

**Jewish Bachelorette to inmarry (kinda):** In a major cultural breakthrough, "The Bachelorette" had its first Jewish contestant, Andi Dorfman. And in a moment that warmed the hearts of Jewish continuity advocates everywhere, Andi chose Jew-ish (albeit New Testament-tweeting) bachelor Josh Murray. Truly a match made in heaven — or at least Hollywood.

**In the beginning, and then:** First, Darren Aronofsky brought back the blockbuster biblical epic with "Noah." Then Ridley Scott teased us with a trailer for his upcoming "Exodus: Gods and Kings." So, logically, the next one is Leviticus, right? Can't wait to see how they dramatize the section on ritual uncleanness.

**Sarah Silverman thanks "my Jews":** When her Emmy was announced for Outstanding Writing for a Variety Special, the raunchy comedian dashed up the stairs barefoot and opened by thanking "my Jews at CAA," referring to the mega-agency that represents her and what seems like half of Hollywood. Emmy bonus: Billy Crystal's heartfelt tribute to Robin Williams, where he recounted Williams kibitzing with

Crystal's Jewish relatives and pretending to be Jewish himself.

**The Baby Biggs bris:** Actor Jason Biggs and wife Jenny Mollen proudly announced the circumcision of son Sid with the words, "Today was not a good day to be Sid's penis" and a couple of Instagram photos (don't worry, no gore). Biggs, who is not Jewish (though he describes himself on Twitter as "The Jewiest looking non-Jew"), claims that the ceremony, which featured a mohel, brachot and a tallis-wrapped family, was not a bris. Uh huh. And what did you say happened to that pie?

**The Gaza Twitter war:** While war raged between Hamas and Israel, celebrities began taking sides. Stars like Howard Stern and the late Joan Rivers stood with Israel, while Penelope Cruz and Brian Eno slammed the Jewish state's military operation in Gaza. But the political battlefield of Middle East politics can be a dangerous place, causing more than a few celebs (such as Cruz, Javier Bardem and Rihanna) to retreat, ultimately into anodyne messages of peace and goodwill.

**Miss Margalit:** Maggie Gyllenhaal discovered her real birth name is Margalit — something even her mother didn't remember. She also earned rave reviews playing an Anglo-Israeli businesswoman on the Sundance channel miniseries "The Honourable Woman."

**A Happy & Healthy New Year  
To All Our Friends & Family**

FRANCES ROGERS  
JIMMY, ZOEY & SABINA ROGERS  
LINDA & MICHAEL MORGAN  
MELISSA, MARTY, ARIELLA & SASHA NELSON  
TODD MORGAN & WENDY LAWRENCE, OLIVER & JACOB

**A GOOD & SWEET YEAR!**

LINDA PORTNOY  
JOE, MAX, MEG,  
ANDERSON & SONIA

**A Good & Sweet Year!**

Bayla,  
Louis,  
Mordechai,  
Avraham and  
Shmuel Treiger

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO  
OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

RITA ROSEN  
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SASKIA AND ANNEKE  
STAN AND MICHELE ROSEN  
LESLIE ROSEN  
ANA & JACK ROSEN  
MIMI AND NATE GOLDBERG  
SADIE, MATILDA AND HANNAH

May the blessings of peace, good health and happiness be yours throughout the coming year.

Lucy & Herb Pruzan  
Adam Pruzan  
Aaron & Tamsen Pruzan  
Noah, Nathan & Neve  
Alan & Juliet Waller Pruzan  
Eli

**A Good &  
Sweet Year!**



Edie Adler  
Alexis Adler  
Zoe & Max Katz  
Brock & Diana Adler  
Gabriello & Rafaello

*Sara Blumenzweig  
and Family*  
**L'Shana Tova**

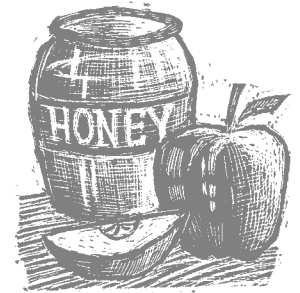


**Wishing our children  
and grandchildren  
and all our friends  
a sweet year!**

To all a  
peaceful & joyous year  
**L'Shana Tova**



Tracy Schlesinger  
Tamar & Raphael  
Hannah  
Ghelman



**A Healthy &  
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Tami, Ed, Yoni, Emma, Tova & Zachary Gelb



**Wishing all our  
family and friends  
a healthy and  
Happy New Year**



**Herman and Faye Sarkowsky**

**Best wishes  
for a happy  
new year**

Annie and Sam Shulman  
Eva and Earl Shulman  
Denise & Jamie Shulman  
and Jack  
Debbie and Rob Rosemont  
Sarah and Eddie  
Pam, Al and Scott Taylor

**L'SHANA**

**TOVA**

**TO OUR**

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**AND**

**FRIENDS**



Philip Stratiner

Louise Ruben

Jan and Steve Lewis  
Andrew, Marcie, Jacyn  
and Zachary

Scott, Heather  
Vanessa and Gibson

Gary and Cynthia Stratiner  
Matthew, Koltin and Kyle



## Additional High Holiday services

These synagogues were not included in the previous issue's listings of High Holiday services. The full list can be found at [jewishsound.org/annual-high-holiday-services-guide/](http://jewishsound.org/annual-high-holiday-services-guide/).

### Greater Seattle

#### Congregation Ezra Bessaroth

5217 S Brandon St., Seattle  
Susan Jensen at 206-722-5500 or [office@ezrabessaroth.net](mailto:office@ezrabessaroth.net)  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 6:45–7:15 p.m. Mincha/Arvit at 6:45 p.m., candlelighting at 6:44 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day One: Shacharit at 8 a.m., sermon and shofar at 11 a.m. (approx.), Mincha/Taslich and Arvit at 6:30 p.m., candlelighting after 7:46 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day Two: Shahrit at 8:25 a.m., sermon and shofar at 11:15 a.m. (approx.), Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat at 6:30 p.m., candlelighting at 6:40 p.m.  
Erev Yom Kippur: Mincha/Hatarat Nedarim at 3 p.m., Kal Nidre/Arvit at 6:10 p.m., Candlelighting at 6:25 p.m.  
Yom Kippur: Shahrit at 8:25 a.m., sermon at 12 p.m., president's message at 5:30 p.m., Ne'ilah/Arvit at 6 p.m., fast ends at 7:28 p.m.

#### Emanuel Congregation

3412 NE 65th St.  
[www.emanuelcongregation.org](http://www.emanuelcongregation.org)  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 7 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day One: 9:30 a.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day Two: 9 a.m.  
Erev Yom Kippur: 6:15 p.m.

Yom Kippur: 9:30 a.m.

#### Services with Rabbi Ted Falcon

Unity in Lynnwood, 16727 Alderwood Mall Parkway, Lynnwood  
Ruth Neuwald Falcon at or [RabbiTedFalcon@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiTedFalcon@gmail.com) or [www.rabbitedfalcon.com](http://www.rabbitedfalcon.com)  
Rabbi Ted's quest for the spiritual authenticity of the High Holy Days inspires a uniquely evolving experience each year, as he continues to explore ways of communicating and celebrating the remarkable spiritual energies of this time. Worship together in the evenings and meet in workshop on the mornings of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for teaching, chanting, meditation, personal prayer, journal writing, conversation and silence. This workshop form will allow you to expand and integrate the teachings of the Holy Days. More details and registration on the website.  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day: 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Day culminates with Tashlich, our connection to the more universal awareness represented by water.  
Erev Yom Kippur: 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Yom Kippur: 10:30 a.m.-6:45 p.m.

#### Temple Beth Or

3215 Lombard Ave., Everett  
425-259-7125  
Services led by Rabbi Jessica Kessler Marshall with Cantor Ellen Dreskin  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 7:30 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day: 10 a.m.  
Erev Yom Kippur: 7:30 p.m.  
Yom Kippur: Morning service at 10 a.m. Text study with Heidi Piel at 1 p.m. Children's service at 3 p.m. Afternoon service, Yizkor, and conclusion at 4:15 p.m.

#### Temple B'nai Torah

15727 NE Fourth St., Bellevue  
425-603-9677 or [rsvp@templebnaitorah.org](mailto:rsvp@templebnaitorah.org) or [templebnaitorah.org](http://templebnaitorah.org)  
Call for complimentary tickets.  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 5–9 p.m. Contemporary service at 5 p.m. Traditional service at 8 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day: Traditional service at 9 a.m. Youth service (grades 1-6) and teen service (grades 7-12) at 9 a.m. Contemporary service at 12:30 p.m. Children's and family service at 3 p.m. Tashlich at Phantom Lake at 4:30 p.m. Sha'arei Tikvah service at Temple De Hirsch Sinai, Seattle at 4 p.m. (jointly sponsored by TBT, TDHS and Jewish Family Service).  
Erev Yom Kippur: Contemporary service at 5 p.m. Traditional service at 8 p.m.

Yom Kippur: Traditional service at 9 a.m. Youth service (grades 1-6) and teen service (grades 7-12) at 9 a.m. Contemporary service at 12:30 p.m. Children's and family service at 3 p.m. Yom Kippur study sessions: 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. Mincha at 4 p.m. Yizkor at 5 p.m. Ne'ilah concluding service at 6 p.m. Congregational break-the-fast at 7 p.m. (Time is approximate.)

### Spokane

#### Temple Beth Shalom

1322 E 30th Ave., Spokane  
[sharonbeltz@spokanetbs.org](mailto:sharonbeltz@spokanetbs.org)  
Erev Rosh Hashanah: 7:30–9 p.m.  
Reception to follow.  
Rosh Hashanah Day One: 8 a.m. Morning services. CEE at 9 a.m., noon meal, Tashlich at 1:30 p.m. Youth service at 11:30. Tashlich at Gersh residence at 5 p.m. Services at 6 p.m.  
Rosh Hashanah Day Two: 8 a.m. Shabbat services at 6 p.m.  
Erev Yom Kippur: 6 p.m.  
Yom Kippur: 9 a.m. Youth service at 11:30 a.m. Yizkor at 1:15 p.m. (approx.) Discussion with the rabbi at 5 p.m. Mincha and Ne'ilah at 5:30 p.m. Havdalah, shofar, and break-the-fast at 7:50 p.m.

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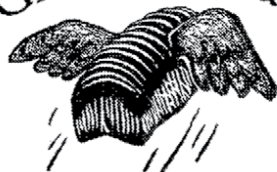
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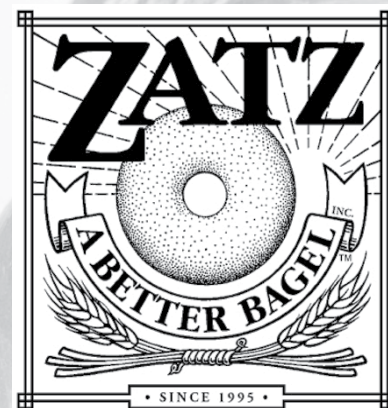


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# HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

As summer comes to an end, kids put away their swimsuits and pulled out the backpacks. Here are some celebrations of the first day at our local day schools.



COURTESY NYHS

SENIORS ARYEL TUCKER, LEFT, NORTHWEST YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL FINANCE CHAIR, ELYSE BEHAR, CENTER, COUNCIL CO-PRESIDENT, AND MARILYN GLADSTEIN, FOOD COMMITTEE CHAIR.



COURTESY NYHS

A GROUP OF STUDENTS AT NYHS DO TEAM-BUILDING EXERCISES WITH LUIS ORTEGA, A TED TALK MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER.



COURTESY JDS

JEWISH DAY SCHOOL 5TH GRADERS DALIA, LEFT, AND NAOMI ATTEND THE FIRST FRIDAY ASSEMBLY OF THE NEW YEAR.

**A Good and Sweet Year.**  
Best wishes from Marv Meyers



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Marvin Meyers

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## Happy New Year!

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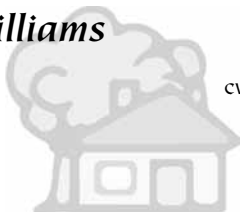
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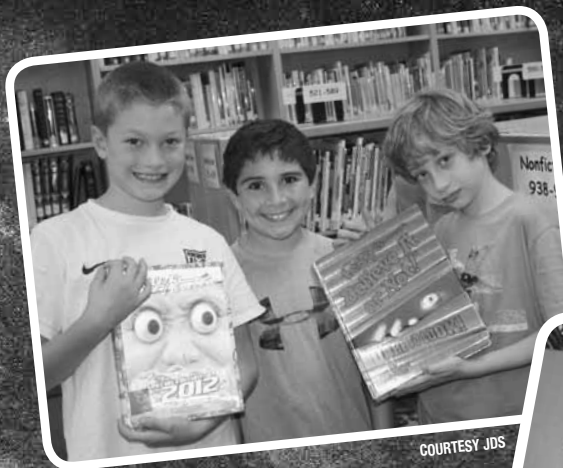
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COURTESY DERECH EMUNAH

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, ALEX, AVIVA, RACHEL, SHEVY, SIMA, BRACHA, SHOSHANA, RIVKAH AND RENA, STUDENTS AT THE DERECH EMUNAH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, PREPARE TO WALK ACROSS THE I-90 BRIDGE TO MERCER ISLAND AS PART OF THEIR STUDENT ORIENTATION ON AUG. 28.



COURTESY JDS

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, BOAZ, CHASE AND DAN, 3RD GRADERS AT THE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL, CHECK OUT BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY.



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DAVID BERKMAN, DIRECTOR OF URJ CAMP KALSAMAN, AND HIS DAUGHTER WELCOME NEW FAMILIES AT AN ASSEMBLY AT THE JEWISH DAY SCHOOL.



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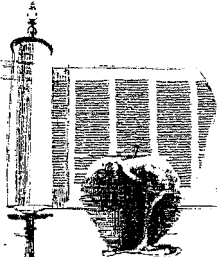


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*A Sweet and Healthy New Year  
to all our friends and family*

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Jordan and Jeremy



## At 2014 U.N. General Assembly, ISIS likely to dominate discourse

**URIEL HEILMAN** JTA World News Service  
ANALYSIS

NEW YORK (JTA) — The circus is coming to town.

No, there won't be marching elephants, lion tamers or motorcycles jumping through rings of fire. But there may be wolves in sheep's clothing, tightrope walking and motorcades blocking traffic.

We're talking, of course, about the United Nations General Assembly, held every September at U.N. headquarters in midtown Manhattan.

It's an opportunity for presidents and prime ministers to fly into the Big Apple, get their 15 minutes in front of a global audience, and perhaps engage in the kind of theatrics that will have pundits' jaws flapping and constituents cheering back home.

Two years ago, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made headlines and invited some ridicule when he brandished a cartoon image of a ticking bomb and colored it in with a red marker to underscore the imminent danger of Iran's nuclear program.

Netanyahu will be back again this year. Will he have more graphics in tow? The Israeli Prime Minister's office declined to offer details about Netanyahu's plans, but we can safely surmise a few things:

### United States

President Obama is slated to speak on Sept. 24, just hours before the start of Rosh Hashanah. In all likelihood, his message will forecast some bitterness for the year ahead.

With the administration expanding its fight against ISIS, the Islamic radical group in Iraq and Syria, expect Obama to use his address to build support for the anti-ISIS coalition. He'll probably argue that the United States is only reluctantly ratcheting up its military efforts against ISIS, try to dispel the notion that the United States has an axe to grind against Muslims and highlight the threat that ISIS poses worldwide.

"The United States will hold the presidency of the United Nations Security Council in September, and we will use that opportunity to continue to build a broad coalition and highlight the danger posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including those who have joined ISIS," U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry wrote in an Op-Ed column in *The New York Times* on Aug. 29. "During the General Assembly session, President Obama will lead a summit meeting of the Security Council to put forward a plan to deal with this collective threat."

### Israel

With Israel uneasy after this summer's war, not least because it believes the world does not have its back in its conflict with violent Islamists like Hamas, expect Netanyahu to attempt to link ISIS to the threats facing Israel.

"Hamas is ISIS. ISIS is Hamas," Netanyahu said over the summer. "They're the enemies of peace. They're the enemies of Israel. They're the enemies of all civilized countries."

The prime minister also is likely to use the U.N. stage to try to revive international concern about Iran's nuclear program, which hasn't gotten much notice lately.

The four-month extension of talks between Iran and the world's leading powers expires in November, and Tehran hasn't taken all the interim steps it promised in exchange for the temporary easing of some sanctions.

Earlier this month, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran had failed to explain research it had conducted on detonators that could be used for a nuclear weapon and calculations it made on the explosive yield of a nuclear weapon. Iran also has barred U.N. visits to a military site suspected of housing nuclear component testing and is working

on completing even more powerful centrifuges to make nuclear fuel.

Netanyahu won't ignore the Palestinian issue, but because he believes the Israeli-Palestinian conflict gets out-sized attention when people talk about the problems of the Middle East, expect Netanyahu to focus most of his talk elsewhere.

And don't be surprised if the prime minister engages in a little Israel boosterism, as he often does, noting, for example, the Jewish state's remarkable economic, technological or scientific contributions to mankind. He'll be speaking Sept. 29 or 30.

It's still unclear whether or not this U.S. visit will include a Netanyahu-Obama meeting. The two have been on the outs lately over Israel's treatment of Kerry and the White House's halting of a missile delivery to Israel during the war.

### Iran

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani is a relative moderate compared to his predecessor, so don't expect Ahmadinejad's fireworks or conspiracy theories.

When Rouhani speaks on Sept. 24, he's likely to promote the notion that Iran is a

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## ◀ UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY PAGE 46

peace-seeking nation and argue that the country has been singled out unfairly for special opprobrium. He may not come out swinging against the United States, but he'll likely knock Washington and other Western powers for double standards when it comes to the use of violence and their treatment of Iran.

"Those who harp on the so-called threat of Iran are either a threat against international peace and security themselves or promote such a threat," Rouhani said at last year's General Assembly. "Iran poses absolutely no threat to the world or to the region. In fact, in ideals as well as in actual practice, my country has been a harbinger of just peace and comprehensive security."

More interesting will be what Rouhani has to say about ISIS. On the one hand, the United States and Iran share a common enemy in ISIS, a militant Sunni group that has massacred Shiites (Iran is a Shiite regime.) On the other hand, the Iranian ayatollah has accused the United States of being behind ISIS's creation. It remains to be seen how Rouhani will walk this tightrope.

It's also not clear whether Rouhani, who will be speaking on Rosh Hashanah eve, will use the opportunity to follow up on the holiday greeting he tweeted Jews last year.

**The Palestinian Authority**

At the time of last year's General Assembly, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas had just entered into a new round of U.S.-backed peace negotiations with Israel, and he used his speech to make the case for the importance of international pressure to achieve Palestinian statehood.

Fast forward a year: Israel just concluded a bloody war in Gaza that left 2,200 Palestinians dead, no peace talks are on the horizon, and Abbas is struggling with his rivals (and unity government partners) in Hamas. One thing hasn't changed: There's still no Palestinian state.

Expect Abbas to use his U.N. speech to argue for the urgency of Palestinian statehood, criticize Israel for its settlement construction and distinguish his movement from that of violent Islamists (including, perhaps, Hamas).

PLO officials released a preview of what Abbas plans to say in another speech during his U.S. visit, at New York's Cooper Union. The U.N. speech probably will hit similar themes: "Why nonviolent protest is the best method by which Palestinians should seek their rights; his view on how peace and interreligious coexistence can flourish in Israel and Palestine with the help of the next generation; why terrorism as practiced by al-Qaeda on 9/11 and ISIS is inconsistent with Islam."

**What Obama's speech has to do with Israel and the Palestinians**

**AMI EDEN** JTA World News Service  
ANALYSIS

NEW YORK (JTA) — President Obama did not mention Israel or the Palestinians during his address to the nation last week.

But his pledge to lead a U.S.-coordinated effort to destroy ISIS could end up doing more to get Israeli-Palestinian negotiations back on track than anything Secretary of State Kerry and his team managed to produce with their shuttle diplomacy.

Reaching a final deal is hard enough when the region is calm. But it becomes significantly more difficult, if not impossible, when Islamic extremism is on the march and U.S. influence is in retreat.

Good luck convincing Israeli leaders that it is safe to abandon any part of the Golan Heights or the Jordan Valley as ISIS destabilizes the region and moves closer to its borders, especially with a U.S. president perceived as being more interested in golf and Asia than confronting the gathering storms in the Middle East.

History suggests that the most effective thing America can do to encourage Israeli risk-taking is to show that America is serious about reducing its regional threats.

It is no accident that Israel's biggest steps vis-a-vis the Palestinians — accep-



PETE SOUZA/WHITE HOUSE

**President Barack Obama delivers an address to the nation on the U.S. Counterterrorism strategy to combat ISIS on Sept. 10.**

tance of the PLO as a governing power in the West Bank and Gaza, major withdrawals, dismantling of settlements — followed the two U.S. invasions of Iraq.

Nor is it an accident that these Israeli moves toward a two-state solution have not worked out too well. They have been systematically undermined by terrorism and missile attacks carried out by Iranian-backed proxies like Hezbollah and Hamas.

So if you're someone who thinks a two-state solution is a must, then you have one more reason to hope that the president's plan for defeating ISIS pans out. And while you're at it, you may want to come up with a plan for keeping Iran in check.

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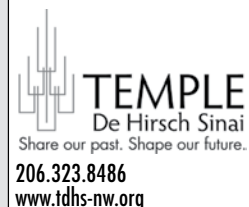
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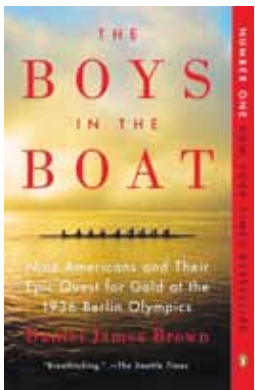
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# A big hurrah for our hometown heroes

**JOEL MAGALNICK** Editor, JTNews



For those of us who live in or grew up in Seattle, “The Boys in the Boat” (Viking Penguin) is even more special than the tens of thousands of readers that last year made

the book a silent bestseller, inspiring its paperback release earlier this summer.

That we know what happens in the end — the spoiler alert is printed right there on the cover, after all — is beside the point. This is a hometown story, and Daniel James Brown’s telling of the nine University of Washington men, who came from vastly different backgrounds to beat the heavily favored German Olympic rowing team in Berlin in 1936, more than does the story justice.

The bulk of the story is told from the

perspective of Joe Rantz, a poor country boy abandoned by his family. By the time Joe eventually got admitted into the UW, he’d lost his mother and been forced out of his home by his father’s new wife to fend for himself. Rantz was better educated about the harsh world than most other kids his age ever should have been, but he stayed in school and survived on his own devices. Given how he spent his teen years chopping wood after finishing his daily schoolwork, and as his legendary coaches on the UW rowing team quickly learned, he had what it took to be a world-class rower.

Brown takes us through Rantz’s life — mostly because he was one of the last surviving members of the Olympic team by the time the story fell into the author’s lap — but sometimes at the expense of the others’. As the team trained in Lake Washington’s cold, choppy waters, the world was in the throes of the Great Depression and the war drum had begun to beat in Europe. Brown deftly juxtaposes the budding rowers’ training amid blistered hands, biting rainstorms, and their growing popularity with Hitler’s

rise, the deepening restrictions of Nazi rule, and the continued discrimination against its Jewish population.

Because I read this book from a Jewish perspective, I noted a few interesting inconsistencies from what I’ve learned of that time: One, Brown makes the oft-repeated mistake that people on this side of the Atlantic were unaware of Europe’s murderous slide into darkness, and therefore remained silent. But even looking through copies of this very newspaper from that time would show how wrong he was.

Two, as the UW Olympic team prepared to embark on its trip to Germany, coxswain Bobby Moch’s father dropped a bombshell: Their family was Jewish, despite the elder Moch’s painstaking attempts to hide their background in their adopted Washington State — and they still had family in their native Germany. But we learn nothing about whether Bobby sought his family out, whether they survived the Holocaust, or how Bobby felt after his team eked out victory for the Olympic gold. That could have made for an even more dramatic literary finish.

And finally, as these men — along with the rest of their fellow Olympians — are taking in the (heavily whitewashed) sites of Nazi Germany, Brown uses a Jewish family in the Olympic village as an example of what happened to these regular folks after the games ended. Perhaps for readers who are less knowledgeable about the Holocaust, it could have provided insight, but the effort felt overdone and like it came out of nowhere.

But those are small quibbles for a book where in our mind’s eye we can take our place on the shores of Lake Washington to watch these champion rowers at a time when rowing was *the* sport to watch, to see the neighborhoods as they looked then — which aren’t so different from today — that slope down into Portage Bay, and the old, rickety boathouse at the end of the Montlake Cut where the boys turned into men. That we could feel each splash and each muscle’s ripple in these rowers’ rhythm is what separates “The Boys in the Boat” from an afternoon canoe ride through the Arboretum.

# Shana Tova!

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# LIFECYCLES



## SETH MICHAEL CHESTNUT

Seth celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on September 13, 2014, at the Revere Road Synagogue in Akron, Ohio.

Seth is the son of Sam and Jennifer of Akron and the brother of Martha and Jason. His grandparents are Evelyn Chestnut and Dahna Fox, and the late Steve Chestnut, the late Ruby Fox, and the late Saul Fox.

Seth is an 8th grader at The Lippman School. He enjoys baseball, skateboarding, soccer, and basketball.

### ◀ PAY TO PRAY PAGE 28

congregation at Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services as guests of the synagogue. No fee required, no RSVP necessary, no literature on synagogue membership. No "pay for pray." Just a warm and welcoming gesture from an established community to a new family in town. It was so simple, so menschy and so right.

The Talmud teaches kol yisrael arevim zeh le zeh, which basically translates as "all of Israel is responsible for one another." This synagogue took responsibility for my family. And it didn't take much. They sent a note in the mail. They made it easy for us. They let us know they wanted us around.

Temple trustees, board members, presidents and staff: During this High Holidays season, if you find yourself in a position to open your doors to the young and unmoored, do so!

Visit [Kveller.com](http://Kveller.com) for more articles about Jewish parenting.

## How do I submit a Lifecycle Announcement?

EMAIL: [lifecycles@jtnews.net](mailto:lifecycles@jtnews.net)  
CALL: 206-441-4553

Submissions for the October 3, 2014 issue are due by September 23.

Download lifecycles forms at [jewishsound.org/lifecycles-forms/](http://jewishsound.org/lifecycles-forms/).

Please submit images in jpg format, 400 KB or larger.

*Thank you!*

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**From all of us at JTNews.**

[www.jewishsound.org](http://www.jewishsound.org)

**2-for-1 "Happy New Year" Cards**

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE



## DR. MICHAEL ALAN NIEDER, DDS January 27, 1947–September 6, 2014

In loving memory of our father, son, family member and friend, Dr. Michael Nieder, who passed September 6, 2014. We love you and will cherish your memory always.

Michael was born in Seattle to Lawrence and Ann Nieder on January 27, 1947. Michael had three younger sisters, Susan Nieder Acunto, Janice Nieder, and Penelope Leopold. He is survived by his mother, Ann Nieder, and children, son Daniel Nieder and two daughters, Jillian Fisher and Devra Nieder.

His family would like to express their gratitude to his wonderful and devoted caregivers.

Michael graduated from Franklin High School and the University of Washington Dental School. In 1972, Michael opened his dental practice in Coupeville, Washington on Whidbey Island. He retired in 1995 to run the family real estate business and pursue his various hobbies.

Michael was an accomplished golfer and longtime member of Whidbey Golf and Country Club. He enjoyed a lifetime of golf with his friends and especially his daughter Devra Nieder. Coaching his son Daniel's youth baseball and basketball teams was one of Michael's priorities. He also enjoyed spending his days riding his horses, fishing, and beachcombing with his beloved dog Laeliah. He was a true cowboy, a fantastic chef and a voracious reader who loved to learn.

Per Michael's request there will be no service.

In memory of Michael donations can be made to a charity of your choice.

## L'Shana Tova

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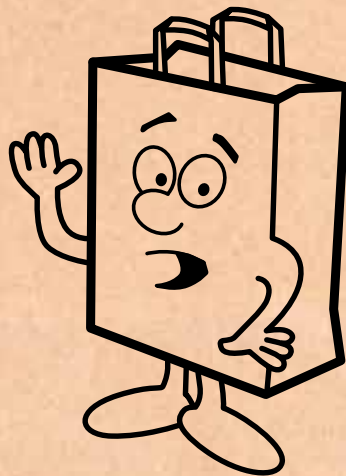
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