

Sigal Kanotopsky to speak at Federation Campaign opening events on Sept. 18

Sigal Kanotopsky, director of The Jewish Agency in the Northeast Region of the U.S., will speak at the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania Campaign opening events on Sunday, August 18. She will speak at Scranton Jewish Community Center, 601 Jefferson Ave, Scranton, at 11:30 am. There is no charge to attend the event. Sigal will also attend a dinner at Temple Israel of the Poconos, 711 Wallace St., Stroudsburg. The dinner will begin at 5:30 pm with Sigal speaking at 7 pm. There is a cost of \$20 per person to attend. Those interested in attending the dinner should RSVP by Friday, September 9, to Dassy

Ganz at 570-961-2300, ext.2.

Sigal has recently assumed the role of director of The Jewish Agency in the Northeast U.S. Region. Prior to joining The Jewish Agency, Sigal served as vice president of resource development at MAOZ and prior to that, as CEO of Olim Be'yachad, an NGO acting to change perceptions and eliminate racism within Israeli society through employment and media. As CEO, Sigal led Olim Be'yachad toward remarkable achievements. Among them, expanding into the media strategy,



Sigal Kanotopsky

establishing the alumni network, significantly increasing the budget and income, establishing an impressive cadre of business volunteer mentors, and solidifying the Board of Directors and diverse professional staff. With Sigal's leadership, the organization received many awards.

Sigal herself was recognized as a leader in social change, receiving awards such as the Rappaport Prize for women leading breakthroughs and selected as one of the 50 most socially influential leaders by the *Yediot Aharonot*

national newspaper for 2018.

Sigal has significant experience in public speaking in Israel and for Jewish communities around the world.

Sigal holds an M.A. in conflict management from Tel Aviv University, is certified as an arbitrator, and holds a B.A. in international relations from the Hebrew University. Sigal is a member of the International Women Federation (IWF), a member of the Center for Ethiopian Jewry Heritage, as well experience in serving on the board of several NGOs and foundations.

Sigal is married to David and mother to Shachar, Harel, Maor and Matan.

The Aronzons named chairpersons for the 2023 Annual Campaign

Cantor Vladimir Aronzon and his wife, Mila, have been named as chairpersons for the 2023 Annual Campaign. Having served as chairpersons for last year's Annual Campaign, the Federation is thrilled that they happily agreed to provide their stewardship again for this crucial fund-raising endeavor.

The Aronzons became part of the Northeastern Pennsylvania community in 1999. They graciously share the story of their lives before Scranton and how the Jewish Federation (and Jewish Family Service) has been an integral part of it.

Vladimir was born in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, in the former Soviet Union. A passion for

singing and music was evident and at age 15 he was hired by the Samarkand Opera theater as a choir singer. During his time at Tashkent Musical Conservatory he received two master's degrees while simultaneously working in the choir at the Opera Theater of Tashkent.

Ludmila Flexer-Aronzon hails from Moscow, Russia, in the former Soviet Union. During her high school senior year, a class trip to Tashkent changed the course of her life. Having lost her wallet while attending the Opera Theater of Tashkent, she stayed after the performance to try to find it. As she and her classmates left the theater,



Cantor Vladimir and Mila Aronzon

so did Vladimir. Needing directions, her future husband struck up a conversation as he led them to the subway. Discovering that they are both Jewish and also had many other commonalities, they

exchanged contact information. And, the rest is history!

Vladimir and Mila married one year later. After living in Tashkent they moved to Moscow where Vladimir was hired as a soloist in the Jewish Choral Synagogue, the first Jewish Choir established after the fall of the Soviet Union. When the Jewish Choral Synagogue opened a cantorial school, Vladimir was one of its first students. After completing his studies there, Vladimir served as the cantor of the Moscow Choral Synagogue.

Mila completed midwifery school and set her sights on becoming a medical doctor. She began her medical studies while working as a midwife at a labor and delivery hospital in Moscow.

See "Aronzons" on page 4



Happy Rosh Hashanah 5783

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu

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Rosh Hashanah

Local synagogues announce their High Holiday services; online resources; and holiday recipes.

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Hope Spot in Israel

Israel's deep-sea Palmahim Slide has been declared a Hope Spot critical to sea and ocean health.

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Archive sharing

Israel and Argentina have signed an agreement to share their Holocaust archives.

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CANDLE LIGHTING

September 2	7:16 pm
September 9	7:04 pm
September 16	6:52 pm
September 23	6:40 pm
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September 26	after 7:36 pm
September 30	6:28 pm
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JHEP unveils new brand as Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, A Jewish Senior Life Community

The Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania has been renamed Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, A Jewish Senior Life Community. Over the next several months, the facility and its associate organizations will transition to a new naming structure to more accurately represent the relationship of the three organizations.

“The name will change, but what remains is our mission to provide high-quality, dignified and compassionate care and services to all residents as well as enrich the experiences of older adults through a broad range of housing and support services that reflect their individual spiritual, social and cultural values,” said Administrator Mary Rose Applegate. “It is the dawn of a new era, but with the same quality and range of services.”

The services provided by these entities throughout the northeast region will be under the leadership of Jewish Senior Life of Eastern Pennsylvania.

◆ The Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania will now be referred to as Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, A Jewish Senior Life Community.

◆ Elan Gardens, will now be Elan Gardens Senior Living, A Jewish Senior Life Community.

◆ Webster Towers will now be called Webster Towers Independent Living, A Jewish Senior Life Community.

“Our Board of Directors has implemented strategies to more closely align us with our sister organizations, Elan Gardens and Webster Towers,” said Board President Jim Alperin. “Our intent is to create an organizational structure, which more accurately represents the three entities as a provider of a full continuum of senior care. We look forward to investing further to enhance our current service repertoire that includes independent liv-

ing, personal care, transitional care, memory-impaired services and skilled nursing/ long-term care.”

More than 100 years ago, the organization began as an orphanage, The Jewish Home for the Friendless. Today, the multi-site senior living provider offers a full continuum of independent living, personal care, transitional care, memory-impaired services and long-term care to seniors from all faiths and from communities throughout eastern Pennsylvania.

Under the new structure, senior citizens from all faith communities will continue to benefit from the leadership and innovation that Jewish Senior Life, Elan Skilled Nursing, Elan Gardens and Webster

Towers provides, continuing its long-standing reputation as both a provider and employer of choice in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, A Jewish Senior Life Community – formerly the Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania – seeks to provide high-quality care, and dignified and compassionate services to all residents in need of long-term care, as well as to provide enriching experiences to older adults through a broad range of housing and support services that reflect the spiritual, social and cultural values of their tradition. Elan is a faith-based nonprofit organization that is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Congregation B’nai Harim High Holidays

The High Holidays are coming up. If you would like to join us at service, call the temple message service at 570-646-0100. Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset on Sunday, September 25. Yom Kip-

pur begins at sunset on Tuesday, October 4.

Congregation B’nai Harim is located at 5349 Pocono Crest Rd., Pocono Pines, PA, at Route 940 and Sullivan Trail. Its mailing address

is PO Box 757, Pocono Pines, PA 18350.

For further information, call the message center at 570-646-0100 or visit the website at www.bnaiharimpoconos.org.

TI of the Poconos High Holiday service schedule

Temple Israel of the Poconos announced its High Holiday service schedule:

◆ Saturday, September 17: at 8:30 pm, Ice Cream Social; 9 pm, Preview to High Holidays; and 10 pm, Selichot service.

◆ Sunday September 18: 11 am cemetery visits: Rt. 209 Cemetery, 12:15 pm, Laurelwood Cemetery.

◆ Sunday September 25, *erev* Rosh Hashanah: *Maariv* service.

◆ Monday September 26, Rosh

Hashanah services day 1: *Shacharit* 9 am-12:30 pm, *Tashlich* 2 pm at pond.

◆ Tuesday, September 27, Rosh Hashanah services day 2: *Shacharit* 9 am-12:30 pm.

◆ Tuesday, October 4, *erev* Yom Kippur: *Kol Nidrei* service, 6 pm. The fast begins before sundown.

◆ Wednesday, October 5, Yom Kippur: *Shacharit* 9 am, *Yizkor* at approximately 11 am; healing services 4 pm, *Mincha* service 5 pm, *Neilah* service 6:15 pm and

Tekiah Gedola 7:20 pm. The fast ends at 7:17 pm.

There will be meals after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. If you will be joining us for the meals, call Lucinda to make your reservations before Thursday, September 1. The cost prepaid for members is \$18 per meal or three for \$50. The cost prepaid for non-members is \$20 a meal or three for \$55. No reservations will be accepted after September 1.

High Holiday online resources

BY REPORTER STAFF

A variety of Jewish groups are offering educational and recreational online resources for the High Holidays.

◆ A Way In will hold the virtual class “Turn and Return: A Journey through Elul to the Shores of the New Year” on Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21 and 28, at 7 pm. The class will explore the spiritual practice of *teshuvah* (return). For more information or to register, visit www.awayin.org/classelul2022#elulregistration-1.

◆ The Jewish Theological Seminary will hold the “JTS High Holiday Webinars: Rosh Hashanah Yom

Kippur” on Mondays, September 12 and 19, from 1-2:30 pm. To register, visit www.jtsa.edu/torah/high-holiday-webinars-2022/.

◆ The Jewish Grandparents Network will hold the virtual “Bring the High Holidays to Life for Grandchildren” on Sunday, September 13, at 7 pm. The workshop will show activities that use creativity, theater and play to activate Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with children ages 3-8. Those who register can receive a recording of the session if they are unable to attend at that time. For more information or to register, visit [https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYtc-Gt-](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYtc-Gt-pz4sGtxZKSj_c-uVPtT1g-YgiAUy)

[pz4sGtxZKSj_c-uVPtT1g-YgiAUy](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYtc-Gt-pz4sGtxZKSj_c-uVPtT1g-YgiAUy).

◆ The Museum at Eldridge Street will hold the virtual program “Why Did Jonah Run? Exploring the Yom Kippur Reading” on Thursday, September 29, at 7:30 pm. Rabbi Aviad Bodner will the central question of the story: Why did Jonah run away from God? There is a suggested donation of \$12. For more information or to register, visit https://www.eventbrite.com/e/why-did-jonah-run-exploring-the-yom-kippur-reading-tickets-390131994297?aff=odeimcmailchimp&mc_cid=d186dd25a9&mc_eid=b-1c53698a8.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

A renewal of commitment

September 25 is *erev* Rosh Hashanah; what does it mean from a Federation perspective? The New Year, in Jewish tradition, is a renewal of our commitment as Jews – our relationship with Torah, with God and with the Jewish people. As a Federation, it is our opportunity to renew our commitment to the past, present and future of the Jewish people.

We renew our commitment to the Jewish past by supporting our local Jewish schools, so that a new generation of Jews can learn of our history, our language and our culture. As a people, we are nothing without our past, from biblical times to our American Jewish experience and the rebirth of the state of Israel in our ancestral land.

We renew our commitment to the Jewish present by supporting those in need at home as well as in Israel and around the world; reaffirming our

unity with *Klal* Israel – our conviction that we are one. We support our present by supporting the Jewish state in its struggle for peace and security. We support the Jewish present by fighting antisemitism in all its forms and by standing up to those who would deny us our rights as citizens and our rights as Jews.

We renew our commitment to the Jewish future

by supporting the idea of *tikkun olam*, that we may leave to our children a better world than we received.

And in our Jewish tradition, past, present and future merge into the Jewish experience. We were at the Exodus of Egypt, we received the Commandments at Sinai; we were in Europe when the Nazis murdered our people; and in Tel Aviv when Ben Gurion read Israel’s Declaration of Independence. We are together helping the Jews in Ukraine, in Ethiopia, in South America and around the world. We will also stand together to ensure the continuous thriving of our tradition.

We renew our commitment to Jewish Identity in all its different expressions. None of it would be possible without community support to the Federation annual Jewish community Campaign (UJA) which provides the funds to make it all possible. This year, join us and renew *your* commitment to our common past, present and future.

L’shanah tovah tikateivu v’tchateimu.

L’shnat shalom u’bitzur kocheinu.

May you be inscribed and granted a good year for a year of peace and the fortification of our strength.



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DANIEL CHEJFEC, PH.D.

by supporting Jewish education, so we may have a new generation of Jews cognizant of who they are; we support the Jewish future by defending our right as a people for self-determination; we support the Jewish future by promoting Jewish creativity. We support the Jewish future by supporting our local Jewish organizations and

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Russian court delays verdict on shuttering Jewish Agency for 30 days

Moscow’s Basmany District Court during a hearing over the Aug. 21 weekend postponed by 30 days its verdict on whether to shutter the Jewish Agency for Israel’s operations in Russia, according to Russian media. Russia claims that the Jewish Agency, which helps Jews immigrate to Israel, broke laws by collecting private data

on Russian citizens. The reports said that Jewish Agency lawyers asked for the additional time in order to gather evidence that the organization had not violated any laws, and to outline steps already taken to modify its activities in accordance with Russian Justice Ministry directives. During a meeting held in Israel on July 24 to discuss the matter, Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid said that “closing the Jewish Agency offices would be a serious event that would affect relations.”

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DEADLINES

The following are deadlines for all articles and photos for upcoming *Reporter* issues.

DEADLINE	ISSUE
Friday, September 9.....	October
Friday, October 14.....	November
Friday, November 11.....	December
Monday, December 12.....	January



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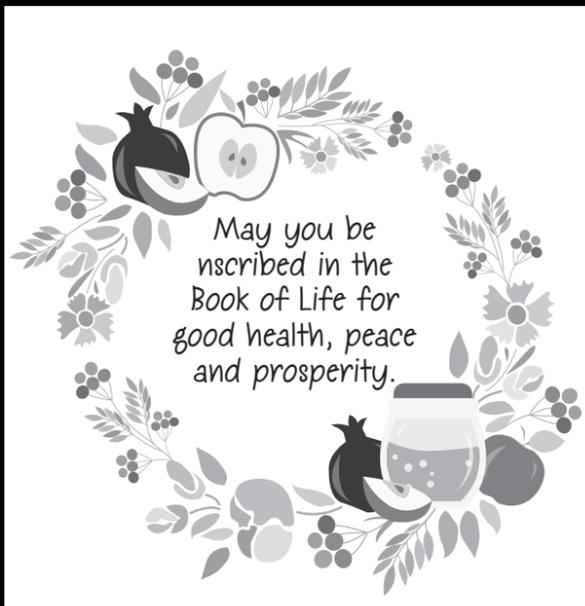
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Published by the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania



May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for good health, peace and prosperity.

Webster Towers

Jewish online resources

BY REPORTER STAFF

A variety of Jewish groups are offering educational and recreational online resources. Below is a sampling of those. *The Reporter* will publish additional listings as they become available.

◆ The Museum of Jewish Heritage will hold the virtual and in-person program “Researchers Remember” book talk on Tuesday, September 6, from 1-2:30 pm. Judy Tydor Baumel-Schwartz and Shmuel Refael, editors of “Researchers Remember: Research as an Arena of Memory for Descendants of Holocaust Survivors,” will discuss how when “descendants of Holocaust survivors who became researchers and scholars, whether they devoted their professional lives to the Holocaust or to other topics, the Holocaust often accompanies their professional lives like a shadow.” Jacqueline Heller, Dan Carter, Dorota Glowacka, Sam Juni, Abraham J. Peck, Liat Steir-Livny, Zehavit Gross and Eva Fogelman will also discuss how their parents’ or grandparents’ Holocaust experiences affected their personal and professional trajectories. For more information

or to register, visit <https://898a.blackbaudhosting.com/898a/tickets?tab=2&txobjid=fd3f54cb-4174-4522-849b-07c0ad61cdb2>.

◆ ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal will hold “8 Forms of Love in the Tree of Life” on Sundays, September 4, 11, 18 and 25, at 7 pm. The cost to attend is \$54. Elly Malka Faden will teach about the “8 Steps of Love in the Tree of Life” through Reb Zalman’s “4 Worlds and the Sephirot” to discover new forms of love and thoughts. To register, visit <https://aleph.org/civircrm/event/register/?reset=1&id=471>.

◆ The Jewish Theological Seminary will offer a year of online learning for Jewish teens across North America. Five courses of 6-8 sessions each will be offered with topics including “What to Wear? Jews, Clothing, and Identity”; “Sodom: The Evil Society”; “A Just Death? Capital Punishment in Jewish Law”; “Jewish Migrations”; and “Gender and the Garden of Eden.” All courses will meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:45 pm. The cost will be \$215 per course. For more information about specific

courses or to register, visit www.jtsa.edu/online-teen-learning/.

◆ The Yiddish Book Center will hold the virtual program “The House of Memory: Jewish Stories from Jewish Women of Latin America,” with Marjorie Agosin, on Thursday, September 15, at 7 pm. “The House of Memory” was the first anthology of Latin American Jewish women’s writing to be published in the United States. Agosin, editor of the anthology, will be joined by Yiddish-speaking writers’ Andrea Jeftanovic and Perla Sneh whose work was included in the collection. For more information or to register, visit https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BviVPuSWQ4WlqzZ-VhRGh0g?utm_source=newsletter.

◆ Hadassah-Brandeis Institute will hold the virtual program “Seven Species, Three Generations: Adele Bacow in Conversation

with the Seven Schön Family Artists” on Thursday, September 8, at 7 pm. The Schön family artists will share stories about their art, how they became a family of intergenerational artists, and their feminist interpretations of the seven species: olives, dates, figs, wheat, barley, grapes and pomegranates. To register for the program, visit, https://brandeis.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zWNyOoNiR9a8JZ1hV_PZWw.

◆ The Hadassah-Brandeis Institute will hold a program of the Sandra Seltzer Silberman HBI Conversations Series featuring Rachel Barenbaum, author of “Atomic Anna,” on Wednesday, September 14, at 7 pm. To register for the virtual version of the program, visit <https://brandeis.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEsf-mprzIuGdRrI4qst-4DAP6lmXbcab-QT>.

See “Resources” on page 12

Aronzons. Continued from page 1

In 1992, Vladimir’s brother, Edward, left Moscow and relocated to Scranton, PA. In 1999, Vladimir and Mila made a very scary and difficult decision – to leave post-Soviet Union, Russia, and move to the United States with their two small children, Leo and Sasha. By that time, they had two children, Leo and Sasha. Leaving a familiar language and environment and moving to a foreign country is not for the faint of heart, even if life in post-Soviet Union Russia was challenging.

Expecting to stay at Vladimir’s brother’s apartment when they arrived in Scranton, the Aronzons were shocked, surprised and delighted to learn upon their arrival that the Jewish Federation of NEPA had secured for them a furnished, three-bedroom apartment with a fully stocked refrigerator! It is a day that the Aronzons will never forget and are eternally grateful for the help from the Federation. A year later, Mila’s parents joined the family with the assistance and support of Federation and the large

er NEPA Jewish community. One month after arriving in Scranton, Vladimir accepted a cantorial position at Temple Israel in Scranton. Five years after arriving in Scranton, Elizabeth, their only American-born child, arrived.

The Aronzons reflect on how fortunate they are to have been so warmly welcomed into the Scranton and greater NEPA community and felt an immediate sense of belonging. “We are thankful to have experienced acceptance and inclusion even though we came from a different world, had a different mentality, didn’t speak English very well, and had nothing to offer in exchange except for thank yous and smiles,” recalls Mila.

Grateful for all of the individuals, families, organizations and agencies that helped them acclimate to NEPA, the Aronzons are committed to giving back. Along with passionate volunteers, Vladimir and Mila are committed to giving back to strengthen Jewish life and assist Jews in need in Scranton, Israel, and around the world.

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My recent trip to Israel

BY JACOB NIVERT

Jacob Nivert spoke about his trip to Israel.

Shabbat shalom, everyone! I'm here to talk to you about my recent trip to Israel, and the effect that it had on me as a Jewish American. But first, I think some thank you's are in order. First, I want to thank Rabbi Spitzer for giving me the opportunity to speak today. I really appreciate being able to tell you all about my experience. I also obviously want to thank my grandparents, or as I like to call them, generous benefactors. They not only made it possible for me to have this experience, but they made it amazing just by being there.

One final person that I want to thank is Lee Glassman, our amazing tour guide. Some of you may know him; he's from around here, and now he lives in Jerusalem. He was a huge part of my experience and, being a Jewish American who lives in Israel, he had a great perspective that I really identified with. He has done a lot of work in archaeology, which really helped me learn about the incredibly storied history of Israel. And boy, is it a history. It's been occupied by Romans, Muslims, Christians and now, finally, the Jewish people. Learning about this history gave me a new perspective on Israel. Before, I had just thought of it as an always-Jewish land. But after seeing all of the cultures that had occupied it, I came to appreciate even more the Jewish people's struggle for their holy land. This left me with a question, however: Why Israel? What made this land, which used to be so barren, attractive to so many people? The answer that I found came to be the same reasons that I was visiting it.

One reason that I found was that Israel is a beautiful land. And I'm not just talking about the hotel buffets, even though they were up there with some of the most won-

derful things I've ever seen. No, I'm talking about the plethora of amazing and historic places. From the beautiful Sea of Galilee in the north to the epic view from Mount Masada in the east, it is hard to go anywhere in Israel without stumbling upon its natural beauty. One great memory that I have from the trip is when we were being driven down to Eilat. Our driver mentioned that we were taking a slight detour, and I wasn't sure why until I saw it; the vast Negev desert spread out before my very eyes. It was one of the most beautiful things that I saw on the trip, and it's a sight that I will never forget. It shows that even in its barren state, Israel is an incredibly picturesque land, and it is easy to see why it has been such a historic land throughout the centuries.

However, there is another, deeper reason why I, and hundreds of millions of other people, have been coming to Israel for millenia. I think this reason is best encapsulated by an experience that I had while at Mount Masada. It is a beautiful place, but it is also a very important one, both from a historical and religious standpoint. That is why I think it is extremely fitting that after walking around for a bit up there, Lee, my grandparents and I said a *Shehechyanu*. It was a small moment, sure, but I don't think that there could have been a better place to do it than Masada, a land that, just like Israel, is hugely important both religiously and historically. Of course, I would be negligent to talk about my trip and not bring up Jerusalem. It's an incredibly rich city, but the spot that stood out to me the most was the Kotel, the Western Wall. The moment that it hit me was when I walked into the inner part and heard nothing but the pure, unbroken sounds of prayer echoing through the chamber. It felt

See "Trip" on page 6



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Deep-sea wonderland in Israel is declared a Hope Spot

BY ABIGAIL KLEIN LEICHMAN

(Israel21c via JNS) – Sunlight does not reach the Palmahim Slide, a rare geological formation deep in the Mediterranean Sea about 30 kilometers (19 miles) off the coast of Tel Aviv. And yet unique creatures flourish in this pitch-black, 1,000-square-kilometer (386-square-mile) hilly habitat of coral gardens, methane seeps, brine pools and other underwater wonders.

Formed in antiquity by a gradual landslide onto the seabed, the Palmahim Slide is a biodiversity hotspot where blackmouth catsharks breed and bluefin tuna spawn, according to international studies led over the past decade by Yizhaq Mankovsky of the University of Haifa and Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Research.

In July, the Palmahim Slide (also called a “disturbance”) became the first Israeli Hope Spot designated by Mission Blue, oceanographer Sylvia Earle’s organization dedicated to exploring and protecting significant marine areas.

“The diversity discovered there is nothing like anything seen before in the southeastern Mediterranean Sea,” said Earle, who was the first female “aquanaut” in Jacques Cousteau’s legendary ocean explorations.

Mission Blue has identified 144 Hope Spots deemed critical to the health of oceans and seas.

Earle urged Israeli policymakers to “follow in the Hope Spot’s steps in declaring 850 square kilometers of the Palmahim Slide as a no-take, give-back marine reserve large enough to protect the marine life that is there and allow no destructive activity in the reserve and its vicinity.”

Earle’s endorsement provides a spot of hope for marine projects coordinator Hadas Gann-Perkal and marine ecologist Ateret Shabtay of the marine program of the Society for the Protection

of Nature in Israel (SPNI).

Together with Israel’s Nature and Parks Authority, Gann-Perkal and Shabtay have been lobbying Israeli and international authorities, such as the Italy-based General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, to declare most of the Palmahim Slide a protected area.

“Getting international recognition for the fact that this spot should be protected has already helped in our talks with the decision-makers responsible for the marine environment,” said Gann-Perkal.

They want to shield the Slide from habitat-destroying oil and gas exploration and deep-sea fishing while preserving it for scientific research that ultimately would benefit humankind.

“Deep-sea coral gardens that took thousands of years to grow could be gone with one swipe of a fishing net,” Gann-Perkal told ISRAEL21c.

“If the Palmahim Slide is declared protected, these beautiful ecosystems could continue growing and provide a whole new frontier for research and exploration,” she continued. “With submersibles and robots, we can get pictures and videos of what goes on there. As Sylvia Earle says, we can’t protect what we don’t know.”

Using new technologies, said Gann-Perkal, “we can now find out tons of stuff about the deep sea. Fifteen or 20 years ago, you’d see this vast blue sea and not understand the amazing biodiversity it contains and how this affects our life here on Earth.”

One way it affects the environment is that the deep sea is a carbon sink, absorbing and sequestering some of the environmentally harmful carbon we create. A better understanding of this function could have implications for climate-change research.

“Instead of vast areas of sand and mud as you might expect, this area of the deep sea with unique geological features is a complex area with different kinds of habitats where each animal can find its own niche,” said Gann-Perkal.

Life is slow-paced down here. Without the photosynthesis of the sun, plant life is nourished by chemosynthesis – nutrients carried gradually deeper on streams of water starting from the surface of the sea.

Gann-Perkal noted that the Mediterranean covers about half of Israel’s are – 4,000 square kilometers of territorial waters and 22,000 square kilometers of exclusive economic zone (EEZ) waters. If the Hope Spot is declared a national marine reserve, it would be the first in Israel’s EEZ. “The deep sea hasn’t been studied well, so it’s very exciting,” said Gann-Perkal. “It’s like exploring outer space. We need to bring back information from 1,000 meters under the sea.”

This article was first published by Israel21c.

Trip.Continued from page 5 almost surreal to me, to be so surrounded by so many different people with one goal: prayer. It helped me realize the basic unity that I, as a Jew, share with all of my Jewish brothers and sisters across the world. The unity that we all share in a synagogue, on the street, or in the place that is bonded to our hearts and the hearts of the Jewish people: Israel. Thank you.

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Israel, Argentina sign agreement to share Holocaust archives

BY MAAYAN HOFFMAN

(JNS) – Argentina agreed to share archival records about Jews who fled the Holocaust to the country in a new agreement signed between Yad Vashem-The World Holocaust Remembrance Center and the Archivo General de la Nación (General Archive of the Nation) in Buenos Aires. In addition, the countries agreed to increase Holocaust-education programs in the Latin American country.

“Holocaust remembrance, education and research are the keys to fighting intolerance, hatred and antisemitism,” said Yad Vashem Chairman Dani Dayan, who signed the agreements on behalf of Israel. “Argentina took an additional step in the right direction to bringing meaningful and historically accurate knowledge about the Holocaust to its youth and future generations, as well as to allow for the expansion of our repositories of documentation of the events of this dark chapter of our not-so-distant past.”

He added that “with the opening of Argentinian National Archives, Yad Vashem will be able to delve deeper into the multifaceted elements – and meanings – of the Holocaust.”

The agreement was signed in the presence of Argentinian Interior Minister Eduardo de Pedro.

Yad Vashem was established in 1953, less than a decade after the conclusion of World War II and the Holocaust. Since then, it has been gathering relevant archival documenta-



Yad Vashem Chairman Dani Dayan (Photo by Alex Kolomoisky)



Argentinian President Alberto Fernández. (Photo by Esteban Collazo via Wikimedia Commons)

tion from around the world and bringing it to the Mount of Remembrance as the bases for all of its commemorative and educational efforts. Today, the museum houses more than 222 million pages of Holocaust-related documentation, which over the years has been made available to researchers and the public at its Jerusalem campus and online.

According to the cooperation agreement, which JNS reviewed, the Argentinian General Archive will provide access for Yad Vashem representatives to the research tools and archival materials, as well as allow full-text copying of related documents. Yad Vashem may place digital copies of the reproduced documents in its own

archive and can also open them up to the public for personal, educational or research purposes.

“It is our unwavering mission at Yad Vashem to gather all possible information relating to the Holocaust,” Dayan said after signing the agreement. “The archival documentation we collect is the basis for our multidisciplinary activities and enhances Yad Vashem’s mission to connect the pieces of the puzzle of the Holocaust in order to transmit its messages for all humanity.”

Yad Vashem Archives director Masha Pollack Rosenberg told JNS that the keys to uncovering the history of the Holocaust are hidden within archives scattered around the world. “The Holocaust is one giant puzzle consisting of pieces of various sizes and significance,” she said. “Each individual, community and society have their own stories to tell and pictures to paint.”

“Yad Vashem is here to not only put the pieces of the puzzle back together, but also to see how each of the stories and pictures interact within the larger framework of European and North African Jewry and the Holocaust,” she continued. “We never know what piece of the puzzle might interlink with another seemingly unrelated element in the history of the Shoah, deepening our greater understanding of the events of 80 years ago. These are the endless possibilities that exist when we begin to investigate new archives.”

See “Archives” on page 14



2022

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GIANT
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Nefesh B’Nefesh welcomes 75,000th *oleh* on summer *aliyah* charter flight

BY JNS STAFF

(JNS)—A total of 225 new immigrants from North America landed at Ben-Gurion International Airport on August 17 as part of the 63rd Nefesh B’Nefesh chartered *aliyah* flight through El Al Airlines. The flight was coordinated in partnership with Israel’s Ministry of Aliyah and Integration, the Jewish Agency for Israel, Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael, Jewish National Fund-USA and Tzofim-Garin Tzabar.

Participants come from a variety of backgrounds, culturally and demographically – hailing from 19 U.S. states and one Canadian province. The flight also carried a diverse group of professionals who are bringing their talents to communities throughout Israel: 27 medical professionals arrived and 72 people on the flight are part of the Nefesh B’Nefesh-KKL “Go Beyond” initiative aimed at developing Israel’s peripheral regions and Jerusalem.

In addition, the flight brought 40 future lone soldiers. They will join the 3,500 men and women from

around the world who are currently serving as part of the FIDF-Nefesh B’Nefesh Lone Soldiers Program. Once they become Israeli citizens, these men and women will be required to enlist in the IDF, as are all Israeli citizens at the age of 18.

Some 80 percent of the future lone soldiers on the flight are part of Tzofim-Garin Tzabar, a Friends of Israel Scouts program. Before and throughout their military service, the soldiers are adopted by Israeli communities that serve as their home away from home. Their absorption period includes Hebrew studies, educational tours in Israel, and an introduction to the military structure and the different positions.

Tomer Schorr, director of the Tzofim-Garin Tzabar program, said, “These young men and women, in choosing to make *aliyah* and serve the state of Israel, illustrate the importance of developing and maintaining the strong connection between Israel and North American Jewry.”

“Although I have traveled to



Sam Leeman, the 75,000th *oleh*, or new immigrant to Israel, arrived on a Nefesh B’Nefesh flight that landed at Ben-Gurion International Airport on August 17. (Photo by Shahar Azran)

Israel many times, it is surreal to finally be landing as an official Israeli citizen,” said Sam Leeman. “Being recognized as Nefesh B’Nefesh’s 75,000th *oleh* [new immigrant] makes this moment even more meaningful, and I am really looking forward to beginning this new chapter of my life here in Israel as a medical student at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev’s Medical School for International Health and a future physician in the Israeli medical system.”

Rabbi Yehoshua Fass, co-founder and executive director of Nefesh B’Nefesh, said, “Every *aliyah* flight carries hundreds of inspiring *olim* who are fulfilling their dreams of making Israel their home. This summer, we are celebrating the 20th

anniversary of Nefesh B’Nefesh as well as our 75,000th *oleh*, and we remain steadfast in our mission to facilitate, advocate, educate and celebrate the miracle of the Jewish state.”

Nefesh B’Nefesh is expecting to conclude the summer with approximately 2,000 new *olim*, among them 494 families, 315 single men and women, 205 retirees and 626 children, with the oldest immigrant 101 years old and the youngest a 2-month-old baby. The leading cities where they have chosen to settle are Jerusalem, Beit Shemesh, Modi’in-Maccabim-Reut, Tel Aviv-Jaffa, Ra’anana and Netanya. About 330 new immigrants have chosen to settle in the south, the north and the capital of Israel.



A total of 40 future lone soldiers arrived at Ben-Gurion International Airport on August 17 to serve in the Israel Defense Forces. (Photo by Shahar Azran)



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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israeli researchers develop program to find cancer-related genes using artificial intelligence

Researchers at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem have created a first-of-its-kind artificial intelligence program to recognize cancer-causing mutations. “Today, we can already say that carriers of a TP53 gene mutation have an increased risk of developing cancer at an early age,” Dr. Shai Rosenberg told i24News. “Cells in the human body where certain genetic changes have occurred are very likely to become cancer cells. Each of us carries a gene called the TP53 gene, whose function is to protect the normal cells of the body by correcting genetic changes. When too many changes occur, the gene causes a planned ‘suicide’ of the cell, thus preventing the cell from becoming cancerous,” Rosenberg explained. The first breakthrough was published in the journal *Briefings in Bioinformatics*. The article states that the Israeli researchers were able “to create an unprecedented, thoroughly validated and clinically oriented classification model.”

American Airlines deal with Boom Supersonic poised to cut U.S.-Israel travel time in half

American Airlines and Boom Supersonic announced Aug. 16 that the airline has agreed to buy up to 20 Overture aircraft, with an option for an additional 40. The Overture is expected to fly twice as fast as today’s fastest commercial aircraft, which would cut the travel time from New York and Tel Aviv from around 10-and-a-half hours to slightly more than five. American has made a non-refundable deposit for the first 20 planes.

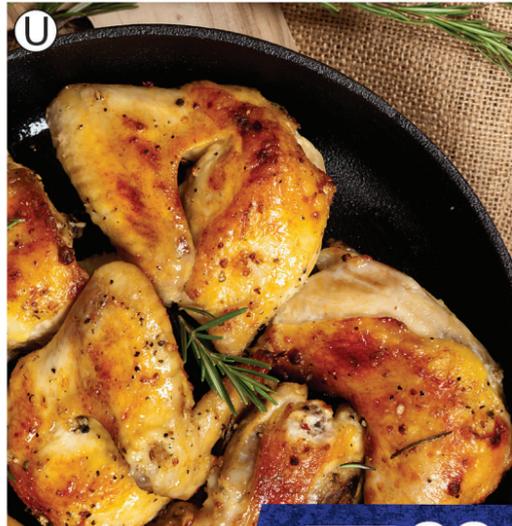


L'Shana Tova!

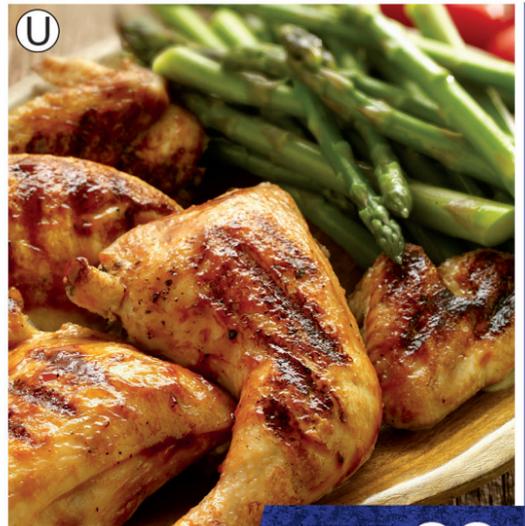
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Lessening the labor of Rosh Hashanah

BY ETHEL G. HOFMAN

(JNS) – I know, I know; it’s summer (or it is as I write this)! Must we think of all the cooking now? With the sun beating down, camp finishing up and vacations still in the works, and long evenings to sit outside and drink something cool, it doesn’t seem like fall schedules are around the corner.

Who’s ready for packing book bags and lunches? Well, some of us, of course – the ones who were home last year as children grappled with Zoom classes and being indoors too much of the time. In many parts of the country, this year looks much more promising as schools are open and services are slated to go, with the benefit of the warm weather making outside gatherings possible and comfortable. Maybe a bit warm, but better than bundling up for Rosh Hashanah.

This year, the holiday starts the evening of September 25 and lasts through the evening of September 27.

With the tastes of summer still lingering on our palates, make the menu fresh, local and lighter than the traditional brisket and kugels. For inspiration, I pulled out works that long ago were my culinary Bibles: “The Settlement Cookbook” and anything by Betty Crocker. I flipped through old cookbooks by my foodie colleagues, Claudia Roden in the United Kingdom and Phyllis Glazer in Israel. I pulled out half a dozen of my own books (recipes tested and true) and reread, with awe, my food columns going back to when I was Philadelphia’s “Instant Gourmet.”

Back in the kitchen, I adapted old favorites – lively flavors reminiscent of overseas travels along with the variety of fresh fruits

and veggies still abundant in an Indian summer. At a taste-testing supper, each dish received resounding accolades. With Ben’s Mint Refresher (the fizzy drink is cooling and palate-clearing), Chicken Masala (simmered in a mellow coconut-ginger sauce; if frozen, you may need to add more fresh ginger to the thawed dish), Sweet Potato and Squash Tzimmes (not a carrot in sight; best made one to two days ahead of time and kept in the fridge) and Josie’s Plum Kuchen (melted margarine is blended with vinegar, flour and a little sugar; no need to roll) the hands-down favorites. The Mint Refresher and the Plum Kuchen are easy enough to prepare at a vacation house; then pack in a cooler and transport them home. Just add seltzer to the mint “muddle” to serve.

The recipe for Oma’s Noodles and Blueberries came from my late husband’s grandmother, a German-Jewish summer dish and simple to put together at the last minute. And for non-meat-eaters, nothing could be easier than the salmon recipe. Make one to two days ahead, or cook same day and chill; it’s a standby for quick supper anytime.

Anne, my sister-in-law, a good cook in her own right, will sandwich the crisp Mocha Meringues with Nutella, while I opt for vanilla ice-cream or frozen yogurt. And the bonus recipe: Best-Ever Honey Cake. A triple infusion of honey, molasses and brown sugar, along with canned pumpkin, gives this cake a moist, rich syrupiness – guaranteed to become a traditional holiday favorite.

L’Shanah Tovah – to a sweet, joyous and healthy New Year!

BEN’S MINT REFRESHER (PAREVE)

Serves 6

Cook’s tips:

- ◆ Make Herb Refresher. Combine equal quantities, fresh basil and mint.
- ◆ Simple syrup may be made ahead of time. Extra may be refrigerated for three weeks.
- ◆ To muddle ingredients means pressing ingredients against the side of a container to release flavors.

¼ cup sugar

¼ cup water

4 to 5 sprigs mint, coarsely snipped

3 Tbsp. freshly squeezed lime juice

1 bottle (about 1 quart) seltzer

In a small saucepan, stir sugar and water over medium heat until sugar is dissolved. Lower heat. Simmer for 1 minute. Pour into a bowl.

Add the mint, cover and steep for 30 minutes at room temperature.

Add the lime juice to the cooled syrup mixture. “Muddle” the mint to release flavor.

To assemble: Just before serving, stir in the seltzer. Pour over ice. Garnish with a sprig of mint and a slice of lime.

CHICKEN MASALA (MEAT)

Adapted from a recipe in Claudia Roden’s “Book of Jewish Food.”

Serves 6-8

Cook’s tips:

- ◆ Substitute cumin for turmeric. You’ll get the flavor but not the yellowish-orange color.
- ◆ Don’t worry if coconut milk appears curdled. Tiny flakes of coconut all but disappear in cooking.
- ◆ If chicken breasts are large and thick, cut

in half.

- ◆ Make ahead, cover tightly and freeze.

2 large onions, coarsely chopped (in processor)

4 Tbsp. sesame oil

1 Tbsp. bottled minced garlic

2½-inch piece ginger root, grated on the coarse side of a grater

2 tsp. turmeric

6 chicken breasts, boneless and skinless (about 2½-3 pounds)

Freshly ground pepper and ¼ teaspoon salt

1 lb. little potatoes, quartered

1 can (13 to 14 oz.) unsweetened coconut milk

1 tsp. cinnamon

Water to cover

2 tsp. cornstarch

¼ cup water

⅓ cup each of cashews and raisins

¼ cup snipped fresh parsley (optional)

Sauté onions over low heat until soft and golden. Stir in garlic, ginger and turmeric.

Sprinkle the chicken with pepper. Add to the onion mixture. Cook 5 minutes over medium heat, turning occasionally. Add salt, potatoes, coconut milk, cinnamon and enough water to barely cover (1 cup or less).

Cover and simmer for 45 minutes, or until chicken is tender. Mix cornstarch and ¼ cup cold water to a smooth paste. Stir into the chicken mixture.

Simmer 2 minutes longer, stirring often. Adjust seasoning with pepper and salt.

Stir in the cashews and raisins.

Serve with hot rice, spiked with snipped fresh parsley (optional).

SWEET POTATO AND PUMPKIN TZIMMES (PAREVE)

Serves 6-8

Cook’s tips:

- ◆ Buy squash from the market already cut up.
- ◆ Chinese Five spice is usually a combination of cinnamon, fennel, anise, cloves and pepper. You can substitute ¼ teaspoon each cinnamon, ground cloves and pepper instead.
- ◆ Refrigerate 2-3 days ahead of time. Do not freeze.

1 lb. butternut squash, cut in ½-inch pieces

3 sweet potatoes, about 2 pounds, cooked

1 Granny Smith apple, peeled and cut into coarse 1-inch chunks

½ cup dried cranberries

½ cup dried apricots, halved

½ cup frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed

3 Tbsp. margarine, melted

¼ cup honey, warmed

¾ tsp. Chinese Five Spice

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a large baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Set aside. Place squash in a microwave-safe dish. Sprinkle with 1 tablespoon water. Cover and cook on High for 3 minutes. Drain.

Peel sweet potatoes and cut in ½-inch slices.

Place the sweet potatoes, squash, apple, cranberries and apricots in a prepared baking dish. Add the orange juice, margarine and honey. Sprinkle with Chinese Five spice. Stir gently to mix.

Cover and bake in a preheated oven for 30 minutes.

Reduce heat to 250°F. Bake uncovered, for 15 minutes longer or until bubbly.

Serve hot.

See “Rosh” on page 11

NEW YEAR GREETINGS



Rosh.....Continued from page 10

OMA'S NOODLES AND BLUEBERRIES (PAREVE)

Serves 6

Cook's tips:

- ◆ For blueberries, substitute diced blue plums or a pinch of raisins and salted walnuts.
- ◆ Rinse and drain blueberries before use. Pat dry with paper towels.
- ◆ To liquefy honey: Set the container in a bowl of hot water for three to four minutes. Do not try to microwave honey in a plastic bottle.

- 12 oz. medium egg noodles
- ¼ cup honey
- 3 Tbsp. freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 pint blueberries, rinsed and drained
- 3 Tbsp. margarine, melted

Cook noodles according to package directions. Drain well.

While noodles are cooking, in a small saucepan, mix honey, lemon juice, blueberries and 3 tablespoons water. Bring to a boil over high heat, stirring. Immediately remove from heat.

In a large bowl, toss hot noodles with margarine. Pour blueberry mixture over top.

Serve hot.

PLUM KUCHEN (PAREVE)

Serves 8-10

Cook's tip: Substitute butter for margarine if making a dairy dish.

- 1 stick (4 oz.) margarine, melted
- 1 Tbsp. distilled white vinegar
- ⅔ cup, plus 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 1¼ cups, plus 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1 Tbsp. cinnamon
- 1 lb. plums, pitted and quartered
- 3 Tbsp. water

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In a medium bowl, mix the margarine and vinegar. Blend in 2 tablespoons sugar and 1¼ cups flour to make a smooth dough. Press into the bottom of a 10-inch pie plate. Prick all over with a fork. Bake in preheated oven for 10 minutes.

In a medium bowl, mix the remaining 2 tablespoons flour, cup sugar and cinnamon. Add plums and toss to coat.

Arrange plums, cut-side up, on top of the dough to cover. Sprinkle any remaining flour mixture over the plums. Sprinkle with 3 table-

spoons of water.

Bake in a preheated oven for 40 minutes or until pastry is golden at the edges. Cool before cutting into wedges.

SIMPLE SALMON (PAREVE)

Serves 4

Cook's tips:

- ◆ Any other fish, such as haddock or cod, may be substituted.
- ◆ May prepare one to two days ahead of time and refrigerated.

- Boiling water
- ¼ cup distilled white vinegar
- ¼ small onion, sliced thinly
- 1 to 2 bay leaves
- 4 (4- to 5-oz. each) salmon steaks, ½- to ¾-inch thick

Pour about 1-inch boiling water into a large heavy skillet. Add vinegar, onion and bay leaves.

Arrange salmon on top in a single layer. Add more water to almost cover if needed.

Bring to simmer over medium heat. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes or until salmon is opaque when flakes are separated with a knife.

With a wide spatula, transfer salmon to a serving dish. Pour a little liquid around to keep it moist.

Serve warm, chilled or at room temperature.

MOCHA HAZELNUT MERINGUES (PAREVE)

Makes 15-18

Cook's tips:

- ◆ Substitute flaked coconut or other nuts, such as walnuts, for hazelnuts.
- ◆ Bring egg whites to room temperature before whipping. Cold whites won't whip up well.

- 3 egg whites
 - ¾ cup sugar
 - 2 tsp. unsweetened cocoa powder
 - 1 tsp. instant coffee
 - 1 cup hazelnuts, coarsely chopped
- Preheat oven to 225°F.

Spray 2 cookie sheets with nonstick cooking spray. Whisk egg whites to soft peaks. Gradually beat in sugar, ¼ cup at a time, whisking well after each addition. Fold in the cocoa and coffee, then hazelnuts. Drop by heaped tablespoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheets.

Bake in a preheated oven for 2 hours. Turn

off the oven.

Leave in oven overnight without opening door. No peeking. Transfer to wire rack. Let stand one to two hours.

Store in an airtight container in a cool, dry place. Do not refrigerate.

BEST-EVER HONEY CAKE (PAREVE)

Makes 1 average loaf (approximately 8×4 inches), plus 3 mini-loaves, or bake in a Bundt pan to serve 15-18 people.

Cook's tips:

- ◆ All-purpose white flour may be used instead of a mixture of whole-wheat and white flours
- ◆ Use canned pumpkin, not pumpkin-pie mix.
- ◆ Substitute 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1 teaspoon nutmeg and ¾ teaspoon cloves for Chinese Five Spice.
- ◆ Can use dried cranberries instead of raisins.

- 4 eggs
- ½ cup water
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- ¾ cup molasses
- ½ cup honey, warmed
- 1 cup dark-brown sugar
- 2 cups whole-wheat flour
- 1 cup all-purpose white flour
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 Tbsp. Chinese Five Spice
- 1 cup raisins

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray loaf pans or Bundt pan with nonstick baking spray with flour.

In a large bowl, beat eggs and water to blend. Add remaining wet ingredients. Mix well.

Stir in the brown sugar and flours, about ½ cup at a time.

Add the baking soda and spices with the last ½ cup of flour. Fold in raisins.

Spoon the batter into the prepared pans.

Bake 50 to 60 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Mini-loaves will bake in 35 minutes or so.

Cool 10 minutes in pan. Loosen edges by running a knife around.

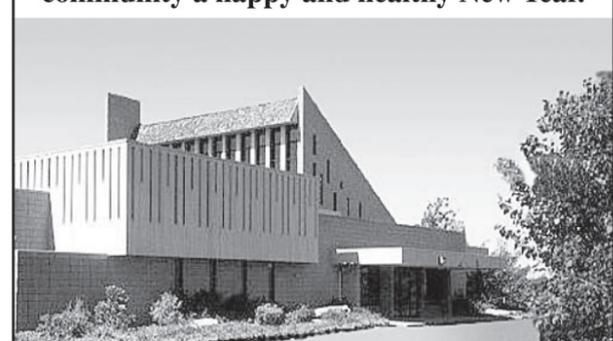
Turn onto a wire tray to cool completely.

To freeze: Wrap tightly in aluminum foil.

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

 **New Year Greetings from these Community Institutions** 

Temple Hesed wishes the entire Jewish community a happy and healthy New Year.



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Rosh Hashanah Greetings
from **THE REPORTER GROUP**

➔ Check out the Federation's new, updated website at www.jewishnepa.org or find it on Facebook

Resources. Continued from page 4

◆ The Jewish Book Council will hold the virtual talk “Koshersoul: A Conversation with Michael Twitty and Adeena Sussman” on Thursday, September 15, from 12:30-1:30 pm. They will hold a conversation about identity, food, culture and intersectionality. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/events/koshersoul-a-conversation-with-michael-twitty-and-adeena-sussman>.

◆ Maven will hold the virtual program “One Hundred Saturdays: A Testament to Remembrance and Friendship” on Tuesday, September 6, from 3-3:45 pm. Michael Frank will talk about his book “One Hundred Saturdays,” which was the recipient of the Jewish Book Council’s Natan Notable Book Award, and tells the story of 99-year-old Stella Levi. Levi talked to Frank about Jewish Rhodes, where she once lived, and the deportation to Auschwitz that extinguished 90 percent of the community. For more information or to register, visit <https://maven.aju.edu/events-classes/program/one-hundred-saturdays-a-testament-to-remembrance-and-friendship>.

◆ The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research will hold the virtual program “Nusakh Vilne Memorial” on Sunday, September 11, at 1 pm. Justin Cammy will discuss the poetic legacy of Yung-vilne and Avrom Sutzkever. A mini concert will feature musical settings of poetry of Avrom

Sutzkever following Cammy’s presentation. For more information or to register, visit www.yivo.org/NusakhVilne2022.

◆ The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research will hold the virtual book talk “Hidden Heretics: Jewish Doubt in the Digital Age” on Thursday, September 22, at 1 pm. Ayala Fader will speak about her book, which “investigates religious doubt and social change in the digital age.” For more information or to register, visit www.yivo.org/Hidden-Heretics/.

◆ The Center for Jewish History will hold a program about a virtual panel of editors and authors of “Jewish Noir II: Tales of Crime and Other Dark Deeds” on Wednesday, September 7, at 6:30 pm. The book has been called “a new collection of short stories by Jewish and non-Jewish writers, including numerous award-winning authors, exploring the light and dark sides of religion and culture, examining such issues as the enduring legacy of negative stereotypes amid rising antisemitism, prejudice, assimilation and questions of regional, national and ethnic identity.” For more information or to register, visit <https://programs.cjh.org/tickets/jewish-noir-2-2022-09-07>.

◆ The Museum of Jewish Heritage will hold several virtual “Modern Jewish Sounds Concert”: Daniel Kahn on Thursday, September 8, from 7-8 pm (<https://mjhnyc.org/events/modern-jewish-sounds-concert-daniel-kahn/>); Jake Sherman Dream Band on Thursday, September 22, from 7-8 pm (<https://mjhnyc.org/events/modern-jewish-sounds-concert-jake-sherman/>); and Dida Pelled on Sunday, October 2, from 2-3 pm (<https://mjhnyc.org/events/modern-jewish-sounds-concert-dida-pelled/>).

◆ Maven will hold the virtual program “The Rebirth of Poland’s Jewish Community” with JCC Krakow CEO Jonathan Ornstein on Tuesday, September 20, from 1-2 pm. The cost to attend is \$21. He “will speak about the landscape of Jewish life in Poland today, including the stories of young Poles discovering their Jewish roots and the unexpected role that non-Jews have played in the restoration of Krakow’s proud Jewish heritage.” For more information or to register, visit <https://maven.aju.edu/events-classes/program/the-rebirth-of-polands-jewish-community>.

◆ The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion will hold the virtual program “From Rachel and David to Maya and Ezra: Trends in American Jewish Personal Names” on Sunday, September 11, from 1-2:30 pm. A panel of professors and researchers will explore the results of a new study of American Jewish personal names, based on a survey with more than 11,000 responses. For more information or to register, visit https://huc-edu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5JwZX9yXROGZjhMMVP7r-w.

◆ Maven will hold the virtual event “RBG: May Her Memory Be a Revolution” on Tuesday, September 13, from 3-3:45 pm. There is no cost to attend. Nadine Epstein will discuss the impact Ginsburg had on American life with Rabbi Michael Berenbaum. Epstein had collaborated with Ginsburg to publish the book “RBG’s Brave and Brilliant Women: 33 Jewish Women to Inspire Everyone.” For more information or to register, visit <https://maven.aju.edu/events-classes/program/rbg-may-her-memory-be-a-revolution>.

◆ The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion will hold its Fall Library Series with a variety of programs: “From Cairo to the Cloud; The World of the Cairo Geniza” on Wednesday, September 14, at 7 pm; Dr. John Kampen on “The Gospel of Matthew: Both Jewish and Sectarian” on Thursday, October 20, at 12:45 pm; Rabbi Tamar Duvdevani, Ph.D., on “‘What Have the Romans Ever Done for Us?!’ Parallels in Monty Python’s ‘Life of Brian’ with Rabbinic Writings” on Thursday, November 17, at 12:45 pm; and Adam Krupnick on “Stolen Books: Recovering Our Family’s Legacy” on Wednesday, December 7, at 1 pm. For more information or to register for individual programs, visit <http://huc.edu/libraryseries/fall>.

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Quick Reference Guide to Planned Giving

Use this planned giving quick reference guide to help determine the best strategy for achieving your philanthropic and financial goals.

For more information or to discuss these planned giving options, please contact Daniel Chejfec, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of NEPA, 570-961-2300 (x1) or daniel.chejfec@jewishnepa.org.

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Receive guaranteed fixed income that is partially tax-free	Create a charitable gift annuity	Current & future savings on income taxes, plus fixed, stable payments
Avoid capital gains tax on the sale of a home or other real estate	Donate the real estate or sell it to a charity at a bargain price	An income tax reduction plus reduction or elimination of capital gains tax
Avoid the two-fold taxation on IRA or other employee benefit plans	Name a charity as the beneficiary of the remainder of the retirement assets after your lifetime	Tax relief to your family on inherited assets
Give your personal residence or farm, but retain life use	Create a charitable gift of future interest, called a retained life estate	Tax advantages plus use of the property
Make a large gift with little cost to you	Contribute a life insurance policy you no longer need or purchase a new one & designate a charity as the owner	Current & possible future income tax deductions
Receive secure, fixed income for life while avoiding market risks	Purchase a charitable gift annuity or create a charitable remainder annuity trust	Tax advantages & possible increased rate of return
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The
Reporter

Published by the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania

Bar-Ilan University researchers develop new nanotechnology to fight cancer cells

BY JNS STAFF

(JNS) – Newfound technology enables the use of nanoparticles to assist the body’s own immune system to fight cancer. The technology, developed by a research team at Bar-Ilan University, uses nanoparticles to eliminate obstacles in the malignant tumor’s environment that impede the normal activity of natural killer cells (a special sub-type of white blood cells called lymphocytes). The research was published in the journal EMBO Molecular Medicine.

Natural killer cells (NK cells) are a potent defense weapon of the body that assists the immune system in its fight against viral infections, tumor growth and the spread of cancerous metastases. Cancer researchers have known that natural killer cells have important potential to treat cancer by immunotherapy since they have the ability, under certain circumstances, to readily and efficiently kill cancer cells and attack them directly.

Natural killer cells can produce a potent immune response in the vicinity of the tumor, known as the tumor microenvironment. Still, despite their great promise, several obstacles make it difficult for researchers and physicians to utilize killer cells for immunotherapy, including the need to manipulate them by means of molecular/genetic engineering outside the body



Professor Mira Barda-Saad (Photo courtesy of Life Sciences/ Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan)

in order to enhance their therapeutic efficacy against cancer.

Moreover, no clinical study performed to date has demonstrated the superiority of NK-cell-based treatments in patients with advanced cancer. The reason is due to the fact that the tumor microenvironment (TME) usually activates inhibitory mechanisms that suppress the activity of NK cells.

To overcome these obstacles, Professor Mira Barda-Saad and her research associates at Bar-Ilan’s Mina and Everard Goodman Faculty of Life

Sciences developed a mechanism to incorporate lipid-based nanoparticles into the NK cells. The procedure “packs” RNA molecules in a lipid envelope, and once penetrated, they interfere with the expression of the gene responsible for inactivating the NK cells.

The nanoparticles target the killer cells inside the patient’s body, are incorporated into them and by means of a biochemical reaction enable them to fulfill their task – namely, reducing the tumor mass. The significance of this innovation is that this novel nanotechnology mechanism can prove to be very efficient in applying already established medical approaches based on NK cells, as well as other treatments.

Lipid particle nanotechnology used as an

RNA vehicle is a field-proven technology, as was demonstrated in the COVID-19 vaccine, but in contrast to the immune system, Barda-Saad uses it in her laboratory to temporarily “silence” gene expression aimed at enhancing the immune response in pathological conditions.

“Our research proved the feasibility of using nanoparticles to enhance immune-system activity, in this case of NK cells, against human hematological malignancies. Going forward, particles will be created that can be administered orally to patients,” says Barda-Saad. “This strategy must still be submitted for pre-clinical and clinical safety testing, as is customary for any drug. Its use can be extended beyond cancer only; viral infections and other pathological conditions can also be addressed by NK cells as well as by other cell types in the immune system, such as T or B lymphocytes, and for other pathologies.”

The idea to develop nanoparticles is derived from the fact that they eliminate the need to purify and isolate patients’ cells outside the body as in the strategies currently used for treating blood cancers, such as chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-NK or CAR-T. The nanoparticles are administered to the patient, and they can independently identify the specific target cell while in the body, penetrate it and alter its behavior according to their contents.

See “Cells” on page 14

The Reporter

Published by the Jewish Federation of Northeastern Pennsylvania



Friends of The Reporter make big news!

The Federation is asking members of its communities to support its “Friends of The Reporter” Campaign which seeks to raise \$5,000 to assist in funding the newspaper.

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The Reporter is the primary intercommunal newspaper of the Jewish communities of Lackawanna, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties. Supplementing synagogue newsletters, bulletins and e-mails, The Reporter is issued to hundreds of Jewish households throughout our region. Over the past several years, the publishing cost of the newspaper has increased dramatically although the newspaper continues to be provided at no charge to members of our Jewish communities in northeastern Pennsylvania. The Federation has assumed the financial responsibility of funding the newspaper at a cost of \$23,990 per year and asks only that its readers assist it in raising \$5,000 as part of its “Friends of The Reporter” Campaign to offset a small share of these expenses.

Your gift to fund our regional Jewish newspaper matters a great deal to our readers and we would be very grateful for your financial support.

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Daniel Chejfec, Executive Director
Jewish Federation of NE Pennsylvania
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Archives Continued from page 7

The Argentinian National Archive is particularly interesting despite the Holocaust having taken place in Europe—thousands of miles away from Argentina, according to Rosenberg. She said there were ties connecting the country to the Holocaust both on the sides of the victims and the perpetrators.

“While during the war Argentina remained neutral with ties on both sides of the hostilities, after the war, many Nazis escaped Europe and sought refuge [there],” she explained. “Similarly, on the victims’ side, the Jewish community in Argentina – many of whom were ex-pats from Europe – had families directly affected by the events of the Holocaust. In addition, a sizable group of Holocaust survivors immigrated to South America, and specifically Argentina, after the war seeking to rebuild their lives.”

In addition to the agreement about the archives, in a meeting with Argentine Education Minister Jaime Perczyk, Dayan signed the first-ever agreement between Yad Vashem and the Argentinian Ministry of Education pledging to strengthen efforts to promote education and commemoration of the Holocaust in Argentina.

“Holocaust education is key to our fight against intolerance and the baseless hatred of antisemitism,” said Dayan. “Argentina took an additional step in the right direction to bringing meaningful and historically accurate knowledge regarding

this dark chapter of our not-so-distant past to the youth of today and generations to come.”

The agreement, which was also viewed by JNS, is specifically between Yad Vashem and Argentina’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology. It includes four initiatives: the coordination of professional and accredited educational activities for instructors both in formal and informal educational settings in Israel and Argentina; optimization of the use of Yad Vashem’s various resources, including the archives, museums, exhibitions and pedagogical framework for educational activities; facilitation of discussions between Argentine and Israeli teachers over pedagogical practices; and the planning and carrying out of preparatory annual and multi-annual follow-up programming.

“I am pleased that... relations between Israel and Argentina have reached a very high level,” said Israeli Ambassador to Argentina Galit Ronen.

The agreements were signed as part of a week-long visit made by Dayan and other leaders working to fight antisemitism, including U.S. Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism Deborah Lipstadt.

Dayan also met with Argentinian President Alberto Fernández and other high-ranking Argentinian officials, and participated in the Latin American Forum to Combat Antisemitism. “In my discussion with the president, I expressed

our deep appreciation for his support that has led to the signing of two important agreements,” said Dayan.

He noted that he and Fernández talked about the rise of hate speech and antisemitism around the world. “I also took this opportunity to raise the issue of the terror attack on the headquarters of the AMIA [Argentine Jewish Mutual Association] in Buenos Aires 28 years ago, and the fact that despite the deaths of 85 victims, justice has not yet been served, with no one prosecuted to date,” said Dayan. “President Fernández expressed great frustration at this issue.”

Dayan was born in Argentina and immigrated to Israel as a young boy. He spent Shabbat with the Argentinian community before holding official meetings.

Cells Continued from page 13

In this research, the nanoparticles specifically identify the NK cells, thanks to the antibody attached to their surface. The NK cells target the nanoparticles, engulf them and the material enclosed therein is released inside the cell, enabling the natural killer cells to perform their task.

Barda-Saad adds that immunotherapy, especially that which is based on NK cells, is gaining increasing importance in medicine. “At present, the scientific world is focusing on treatment strategies involving NK cells, because it has been proven that in some aspects, they are superior to T cells, another variety of immune system cells,” she explains. “Therefore, therapeutic strategies with NKs are evolving. The nanoparticles we developed can further empower these strategies.”

Barda-Saad has no doubt that this technology is a sign of the future. “The use of nanoparticles in this innovative and groundbreaking domain of next-generation immunotherapeutic drugs enhances the immune response against pathogens that cause illness,” she says. “We saw that this technology was successful in Pfizer’s and Moderna’s COVID vaccines, and I firmly believe that by combining it with the right molecules detected in our laboratory we will be able to harness it in the fight against cancer.”

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