

The Jewish Post & Opinion • *Indiana Edition*

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Praise For Creation

*Author of life,
Architect of creation,
Artist of earth,
Your works declare Your Holy Name.*

*Mighty rivers,
Turbulent seas,
Towering mountains,
Rolling hills,
Vast spaces of brilliance and grandeur.*

*You created palette and paint,
Color and hue,
Shape and form,
Abundant and beautiful,
Glorious and majestic,
Full of mystery and wonder.*

*Blessed are You,
With Divine love You
created a world
of splendor.*

Cover art by Jackie Olenick
Prayer by Alden Solovy
(see About the Cover, p. IN 2).

Simcha Announcements

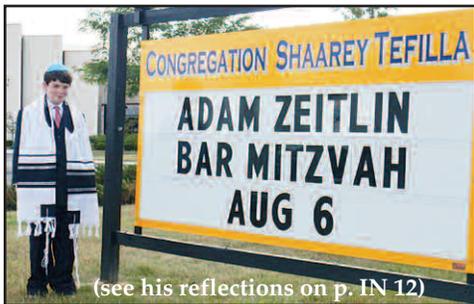
Mazel Tov to...

Dr. Gad and Fran Flaumenhaft on the birth of their grandson **Yosef Chaim** on June 30 to **Dan and Danielle Flaumenhaft** of Michigan.

Debbie Bolotin-Cooper and Joel Cooper celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary on July 8.

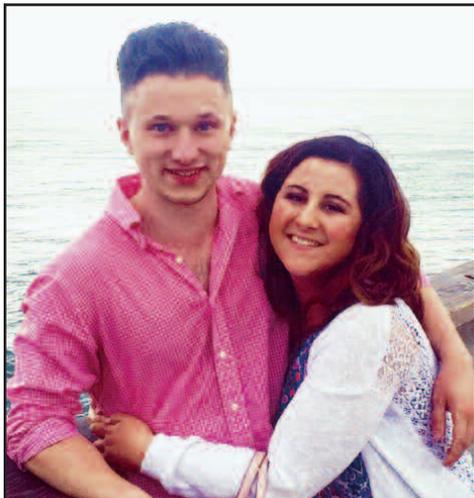
Reuben and Lee Shevitz celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on July 10.

Adam Zeitlin (below) on becoming a *Bar Mitzvah* Aug 5–6 at Congregation Shaarey Tefilla. Adam is the son of **Debbie** and **Robert Zeitlin** and he has a younger brother **Alec**. Adam was also awarded his Ner Tamid Boy Scout Merit Religious Emblem from Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow. This recognition shows Adam's diligent work for the continued study of Judaism.



(see his reflections on p. IN 12)

Barbara and Samuel Profeta of Indianapolis announce the engagement of their daughter **Michelle Rene Profeta** to **Ian Jeffrey Powers** (below). Ms. Profeta is the granddaughter of the late **Becky and David Profeta, Florence Weinman** and the late **Leonard Weinman** of Indianapolis. Mr. Powers is the son of **Beth and John Powers** of Cincinnati and the grandson of the late



ANNOUNCING!

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★ All orders and payments must be received by Sept. 9, 2016

★ Pick up at Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation on September 25 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

James and Geraldine Powers of Hartford, Conn., **John D. Ertel** and the late **Elizabeth Ertel** originally from Covington and Bellvue, Ky. Ms. Profeta and Mr. Powers are both graduates of Indiana University in Bloomington and reside in Indianapolis currently working in their respective fields of Commercial Real Estate and Finance. The couple plan to wed August 26, 2017 in Indianapolis.



About the Cover

"Shalom Landscape"

Art by Jackie Olenick

The colorful fine art giclee is a vision of a mystical peaceful world inspired by Olenick's granddaughter Abigail Rose, at the time of her *Bat Mitzvah*.

Jackie Olenick is a Judaic artist and jewelry designer residing in Bloomington, Ind. Her work can be seen on her website: www.jackieolenickart.com



Jackie Olenick

"Praise For Creation"

By Alden Solovy and tobendlight.com
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A poet and liturgist, Solovy spreads joy and excitement for prayer. His work has been used by people of all faiths throughout the world, in private prayer and public ceremonies. He's written more than 600 pieces of new liturgy, offering a fresh new Jewish voice, challenging the boundaries between poetry, meditation, personal growth and prayer. He's a teacher, a writing coach and an award-winning essayist and journalist. He also leads ManKind Project Israel.



A. Solovy

Originally from Chicago, Alden has led writing workshops and has been scholar in residence in the United States, Europe and in Israel. He has authored two books *Jewish Prayers of Hope and Healing* and *Haggadah Companion: Meditations and Readings*. Look for his new book coming out in 2017. He'd love to come to your synagogue. For more information, check out his website: www.tobendlight.com. Also join the To Bend Light Facebook page

(see Cover, page IN 4)

Jet Bautista (left) on becoming a *Bar Mitzvah* on Aug. 4. Jet's parents are **Ron Bautista** and **Danielle Cohen-Bautista** of Palm Springs Calif., maternal grandparents are **Karen and Chuck Cohen** of Indianapolis and paternal grandparents are **Frank and Ruth Bautista** of Palm Desert, Calif. The *Bar Mitzvah* was held at Camp Moshava in Wild Rose, Wisc. (see reflection on p. IN 15)

Michael and Sylvia Blain on their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 19.

Leo and Myrna Fang on their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 26. ★

Editorial

I was at services at Beth-El Zedeck on Saturday, July 9, 2016, the first Sabbath with new Assistant Rabbi Shelley Goldman. She grew up in Oak Park, Ill., and was ordained at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College on June 5, 2016. The shooting attack on police officers in Dallas had taken place just two days before and a month prior to that was the Orlando nightclub shooting, the deadliest mass shooting in recent U.S. history.

I very much appreciated Rabbi Goldman's sermon that day. She said she was feeling sad, but also glad. She acknowledged her sadness about these shootings, but at the same time she had just graduated from rabbinical school and was finally realizing her life-long dream to become a rabbi. She was very happy about this.

In this edition, on page IN 16, is the story about Walter Sommers of Terre Haute, Ind., being honored by the German government. Born at the end of 1920 in Frankfort, Germany, his family businesses were destroyed on Nov. 9, 1938 during "Kristallnacht" or "Night of Broken Glass". That name comes from the shards of broken glass that littered the streets after Jewish-owned stores, buildings, and synagogues had their windows smashed. His family left for the United States in January 1939.

This reminds me of an editorial by my father, Gabriel Cohen, z"l, in our Sept. 23, 1938 edition. He was 30 at the time and was getting married to my mother the day before the edition came out so he had to write his editorial in advance. It starts out with: "When you read this, I shall already have been married. I wish you a Happy New Year, too."

Then in June 1939 my parents had a baby boy, the first of eight children. They didn't know then they were going to have seven more or that my father would continue to publish this Jewish newspaper weekly for 67 more years, and my mother would write a "The Woman's Viewpoint" column for 27 of those years while raising children. My mother was also very active in Hadassah and the Sisterhood of Beth-El Zedeck where they attended Saturday services every week with their growing family. By the time my father passed away in 2007, he had 25 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Nor did they know the magnitude of what was going to take place in Germany, although in my father's editorial – six weeks before Kristallnacht – he predicted there would be a wave of anti-Semitism. Below is what he wrote as his remedy for that situation on the same page 8 of the

following link: <http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/JPO/id/1632/rec/24>.

"People Of The Book, Return To The Book! This paper is sure that you readers, in a message on New Year, want reassurance. Reassurance that events in Europe will revert to a better day for Jews, reassurance that the wave of awareness by non-Jews of a peculiarity in the position of Jews will disappear in a more prospering economic milieu.

This paper cannot honestly give sugar-coated pills. Advice yes, but opiate no. To Jews this paper advises for the next year a search for a more fundamental knowledge of things Jewish. A familiarity with the work and sayings of the prophets; a knowledge of the evolution of Judaism into its present high ethical status; background of Jewish history."

Although this was way before the internet bringing instant news from around the world and before the worst of the news yet to come out of Europe, my father was obviously aware of something brewing in Europe, but my parents were busy building their new lives together. My father's immediate concern had to be making a living for his growing family, and with no relatives living in Indianapolis to help my mother with her first newborn, she had her hands full. Even though tragic events were taking place in the world at this time, with their honeymoon so recent, it must have been a happy time for them.

The point I am trying to make is that, yes, this may be a turbulent time in our history, but other times have been worse. (See CANDLES event featuring Henry Oster on page IN 4 and Walter Sommers article on page IN 16.)

Of course, one must do as much as one can to work toward improving the injustices that are taking place, but at the same time, one can live a productive and prolific life with many happy, joyful times as well as the sorrowful ones. Good and bad circumstances are taking place simultaneously, and a lot of good is currently taking place now even though it might not be publicized in the media. This may be easier to recognize after the fact because not knowing what the future will bring can be scary.

Secondly, even at the time when big challenges are taking place, it does not mean they will last forever. Walter Sommers and Henry Oster were in their teens when they faced unimaginable trauma. Again it is easier with hindsight to see the good outcomes that resulted, but in the 1930s and 1940s, I doubt if they were able to foresee those accomplishments. Now years later one can see the great good that they made out of a horrific

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Simchas Welcome! Had a recent joyous occasion in your family or Jewish organization? *The Jewish Post & Opinion – IN Edition* welcomes your announcements for placement in our *Simcha* section (see page 2). Submit photos and text to: jpostopinion@gmail.com. **Next Deadline: Sept. 1, 2016.** All decisions on publishing, date of placement, size of photo, and length of announcement are at the sole discretion of the publisher.



situation, and we are very grateful for the example they set.

Jennie Cohen, August 17, 2016 ✨

Community Events

High Holiday Prep Class: Maimonides on Teshuva – The Psychology of Change

Thursday Nights (beginning **Aug. 18**) 8–9 p.m., at Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation, 6930 Hoover Rd. Never did Judaism possess a greater mind in philosophy and psychology than Maimonides. Here, in his laws of Teshuva, he illuminates the Talmudic traditions and associated laws, while providing the student the insights and guidance necessary to achieve the Torah's goal. Come and walk this path of introspection with us! Light refreshments will be served. For more info, contact Rabbi Gingold-Altchek at rabbi@etzchaimindy.org or (561) 413-4080.

BJE Back to School Party featuring Toby Tobias

Sun., Aug. 21 from 3–7 p.m., join us for outdoor fun and great entertainment for people of all ages. Free. For more info contact Rabbi Paula Winnig 317-255-3124 or Pwinnig@bjeindy.org.

Israeli Film Festival August 21–24

The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis and the JCC are presenting Indianapolis' first Israeli Film Festival to show Israel as a lively and innovative nation and to spotlight its thriving film industry. The Festival explores Israeli society through Israeli features and documentaries and through conversations with visiting Israeli filmmakers. This year's festival presents provocative, humorous, inspiring, and controversial films. They will be shown in the Laikin Auditorium at the Arthur M. Glick JCC. **Sun., Aug 21** at 3 p.m. *Sabena Hijacking: My Version*; **Sun., Aug 21** at 6 p.m.; *The Green Prince*; sponsored by John and Diane Abrams and Gadi Boukai – Realtor/Broker F.C. Tucker Co. 2-hour film followed at 8 p.m., by a one-hour community conversation with the star of the film via Skype; **Mon., Aug 22** at 7 p.m., *Apples from the Desert*; **Tues., Aug 23** at 7 p.m. *The Kind Words*; **Wed., Aug 24** at 7 p.m., *Mekonen: The Journey of an African Jew*, sponsored by Irwin and Iliana Levin and Alpha Epsilon Pi International Fraternity. A 45-minute mini-documentary followed by a live community conversation with Eden Adler, the commander in the film and the film's producer, Matt Weisbaum.

Parents Night Out

Sun., Aug. 27 from 6–10 p.m., at the Arthur M. Glick JCC. Join us for our Parent's Night Out for families with special needs children. Drop off your

children and enjoy the evening knowing that they are well cared for and supervised. Siblings are welcome and encouraged to join the fun! Cost \$5. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Contact Rachel Kesner at rkesner@jfgi.org. Future Parents Night Out Dates: Sept. 24, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18, March 18, April 22 and May 13.

CANDLES Museum "Be the Change" Film and Speaker Series

Sat., Aug. 27, 6:30 p.m., at CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center 1532 South Third Street, Terre Haute, Ind. Admission is free and open to the public.

"Even in Hell, There is Hope" with special guest **Henry Oster** who was a carefree kindergartner in Cologne, Germany, when Hitler and the Nazis seized power in 1933. For the next 12 years, Henry struggled to live while his family, friends, and the Jews of Europe were overwhelmed by the Holocaust. Henry hid his mother from the SS in an attic in the Lodz, Poland Ghetto. He escaped a firing squad in Auschwitz and endured a death march through the Polish winter. He formed a life-long friendship in the nightmare barracks of the Buchenwald concentration camp. He came within hours of starving to death before his liberation by General Patton's 3rd Army. Henry rebuilt his life from nothing, arriving to the U.S. with no English, no money and no education. And from the ashes of a ruined past he built a life full of love, joy, and compassion. For more information on this and other museum events, please call 812/234-7881 or visit us online at www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org

YLD – Who's Bad: Music of Michael Jackson

Sun., Aug. 27 from 7–10 p.m., at Conner Prairie Join YLD for Symphony on the Prairie! Thrilling fans for more than a decade, the Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band brings the chart-topping music and jaw-dropping dance moves of the undisputed King of Pop to Conner Prairie. Sing and dance along to your favorite Michael Jackson hits such as "Beat It", "Thriller," and so many more! Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and join us for a fun evening outdoors while enjoying music from one of the most famous musicians of all time. Cost \$21. For more info contact Rachel Kesner at yld@jfgi.org.

JCRC's Annual Political Action Workshop

Thurs., Sept. 8 from 7–9 p.m., at the Arthur M. Glick JCC. The workshop will feature a debate among candidates running for office. Contact Lindsey Mintz at 317/926-2935 or lmintz@indycrc.org.

COVER

(continued from page IN 2)

and follow To Bend Light on Twitter to get announcements about new prayers and stories posted. ✨



Jewish Foodies of the World Unite – Foodies Finale

Tues., Sept. 13 at 7 p.m., at Chabad Center for Jewish Life 2640 West 96th St., Carmel, Ind. Cocina Latina – Cuban Jewban with Betty Heisler author of *The Last Minyan in Havana*. RSVP to 251-5573 or chabadindiana.org/foodies. Cost \$12.

2016 Annual Festival of Faiths

Sun., Sept. 18 from 1–5 p.m., for more info contact Michele Boukai mboukai@jfgi.org.

Hadassah Book Club

Mon., Sept. 19, at 7 p.m., *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsberg* by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik. Hostess: Phyllis Kaplan and facilitator: Phyllis Russell. **Mon., Oct. 17** at 7 p.m., *My Life on the Road* by Gloria Steinem. Hostess: Annette Gross and facilitator TBA. For more info or to RSVP contact Helaine Herman at helaine1@gmail.com. ✨



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Arnold C. Hanish selected to the FEI Hall of Fame

Financial Executives International (FEI), the association of choice for CFOs and other senior-level finance executives, announced the selection of Arnold C. Hanish to the FEI Hall of Fame. He will be honored at FEI's annual Hall of Fame gala on Nov. 13, 2016 at the New York Marriott Marquis. This gala marks the Hall of Fame's 11th year recognizing exceptional achievement in the finance profession.



Hanish is the retired Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer of Eli Lilly and Company. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Omeros Corporation and chairs their Audit Committee. Hanish is also a member of the Dean's Business Advisory Council for the University of Cincinnati – Lindner College of Business, the Advisory Council for the Department of Accounting and was recognized in 2011 as a distinguished University of Cincinnati alumnus. Additionally, he serves on the Advisory Council for the Department of Accounting at Butler University in Indianapolis and the Audit Quality Review Council of Deloitte and Touche.

Hanish served as the Chair of FEI's Committee on Corporate Reporting (CCR) from 2007–2010. The Indiana CPA Society named him "Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry" in 2009. Hanish was included as one of Treasury & Risk magazine's "100 Most Influential People in Finance" in 2008 and 2009 and was recognized by Business Finance in its "Influencers" issues in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

The FEI Hall of Fame inductees were nominated by their peers and were selected by a committee of current and past FEI leaders and FEI Hall of Fame members. The nominees were evaluated on their exceptional attributes in categories considered essential to executive excellence, including individual and organizational performance, leadership, integrity and respect for others, contributions to the betterment of their respective organizations and the profession as a whole, innovation and community involvement.

These were his comments about receiving this honor: "This significant professional honor from Financial Executives International caps a career that has spanned over 45 years. Much of what I accomplished nationally within the accounting and financial reporting world would not have been possible without the support I received from my colleagues during my 29 years with Eli Lilly & Company, many of which were served as



Purdue Hillel students with Purdue President Mitch Daniels at his house in April 2016. **Front:** Elizabeth Hann (Indianapolis), Rachel Steiner, Lilly Steiner, Haley Vapnik, Purdue President Mitch Daniels, Alex Goldberg, and Aline Esquenazi; **Back:** Elia Lichtenstein, Graham Tallian, Jon Webb, Jake Merel, Kelly Hann (Indianapolis), Colin Milhaupt, and Melanie Mason.

the Chief Accounting Officer. The impact we made on accounting and reporting rules and regulations thru FEI and the Pharmaceutical Accounting and Reporting consortium, which I led for many years, has been significant. It is truly

a privilege to be recognized by FEI and my peers. I am honored to join the list of distinguished financial executives currently in the FEI Hall of Fame and I look forward to celebrating with everyone on November 13."★

The Bureau of Jewish Education of Indianapolis
Wishes all a "Rocking", Healthy & Peaceful New Year

רק עברית



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Obituaries

Arthur H. Sendrow, father of Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow (the spiritual leader of Congregation Shaarey Tefilla (CST) in Carmel, Ind.) passed away peacefully in his South Jersey home on June 28 with his family at his side. Arthur was predeceased by his beloved wife of 55 years, Florence, of blessed memory.



In addition to Rabbi Sendrow and his wife Arlene, Arthur is survived by his son David and David's wife, Lisa Coco, and by his adoring grandchildren, Lauren Greenberg (nee Sendrow) and her husband Chadd, Evan, Sam, and Rachel Sendrow.

Arthur will be remembered for his kindness, ethics, and wonderful sense of humor. At his home synagogue, the Florence Sendrow Memorial Lecture Series was renamed the Arthur and Florence Sendrow Memorial Lecture Series. Donations in memory of Arthur Sendrow may be made to CST or the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund at CST.

Rosalie Dermer Singer, 81, of Henderson, Nevada, formerly of Indianapolis, peacefully passed away on June 28, 2016. Rosalie was born on December 20, 1934 in Chicago to Nathan and Martha Dermer.



She is survived by her sons, Bruce Singer of Henderson, Nevada; Jay Singer (Grace) of Thornwood, N.Y., and Joel Singer (Robin) of Carmel, Ind. Rosalie was a proud grandmother of Robert Singer, David Singer (Nicole), Julie Singer (Andrew Keeler) and Emily Singer. She is also survived by Chopper, her furry child. Rosalie was predeceased by her husband Theodore (Ted) Singer, her parents and her sister, Maida Matzner.

Ted and Rosalie were both very happy to

have reached their 50th anniversary in August of 2006. They traveled the world together and enjoyed experiencing many different sights and cultures. Rosalie was always an avid reader and interested in the arts. She was the first of her family to graduate college and became an elementary school teacher before having children.

In addition to being interested in the arts, Rosalie was talented at needlepoint and knitting. Many of her needlepoints are still proudly displayed by their owners today. She also ran an art gallery in Indianapolis and became a great source of information regarding modern art. Rosalie also loved animals and served as mom and grandma to many furry children and grandchildren.

During the past few years she was involved in the knitting group, Stitches For Comfort, making items such as blankets and prayer shawls for patients of the Veterans' Administration and Comprehensive Cancer Centers of Nevada.

Many thanks to the doctors, nurses, therapists, aides and friends who took such good care of her during the past year. Your caring acts and kindnesses are most appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favorite animal rescue group, cancer charity or the Jewish National Fund to plant a tree in Israel.

Evelin Arriaza, 18, passed away on June 29, 2016 in Denver. She was born April 28, 1998 in Costa Rica. She moved to Indianapolis with her family when she was three and attended Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI) until she graduated in 2012. Her family moved to Colorado and in May 2016 Evelin graduated from Herzl/Rmha Denver Campus Jewish Education School.



A funeral was held on July 3 in Denver and a memorial service was held at the HHAI on July 17. She is survived by her parents Alejandro and Naomi Arriaza, older brother Tony (Dovid), grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins in Canada and Costa Rica.

At the memorial service one of Evelin's teachers Mrs. Sherry Hamstra said Evelin was a young woman who worked hard at staying positive. She said Evelin was as strong as she could be for as long as she could be.

Colleen Shere shared memories of Evelin written by her daughter Mira who was in Israel. Mira remembers the first time she met Evelin on Shabbat at B'nai Torah and after that they were "hanging out" almost every Shabbat afternoon. When Mira was with Evelin, everything

came with laughs. Mira always admired Evelin's free spirit; it was contagious. Mira knew that Evelin's smile affected many people besides herself. Mira wrote that Evelin was a friend to all and united people of different ages, languages and cultures. Over 200 Facebook messages told Mira that.

Anat Berday-Sacks spoke about Evelin's love of art and her interest in pursuing photography.

HHAI is establishing a memorial fund in Evelin's honor to help her family with funeral expenses and to underwrite a special middle school art elective every year in Evelin's name so that the school can remember her light and passion. "Evelin was a vivacious student," remarked HHAI Principal Mrs. Miriam Gettinger. Call Christina at the school to donate 317-251-1261.

Louis Schabler, 91, was born May 11, 1925, celebrated his birthday on Mother's Day and passed away peacefully on the 4th of July. At age 7, Lou's father (a known Barber) died suddenly and Lou started to work by acquiring a paper route. He rode his bike to Union Station to sell newspapers and out to Speedway 500 mile track. A newspaper then cost 3 cents, and he was paid a nickel and told to keep the change.

Lou attended Manual High School and worked part-time at Shapiro's Delicatessen. In the evening he also worked at Atkins Saw Company that made airplane parts. Because of this experience, Lou was assigned to the Armored Division at Fort Knox, Ky., after he was drafted into the US Army during World War II.

At age 19, Lou received his Barber license. He did not use this skill until he went into the army where he cut hair for army officers and received extra weekend privileges. After an Honorable Discharge, he finished his education at Butler and Indiana University. He attended Indiana University School of Law, got married and raised a family.

He worked for the State of Indiana and the Internal Revenue. He became a licensed real estate broker and began developing his own subdivision of residential homes in Meridian Hills and apartment complexes. Lou was the Secretary and Treasurer for the Indianapolis Hebrew Credit Union for over 30 years. He was the joint owner with his wife of the Memory Gardens Cemetery and Crematory for Pets.

Lou never retired. He loved to tell a repertoire of jokes. He loved to watch sports and was an avid gin rummy player spending relaxing afternoons with his card buddies. Lou was a member of Broadmoor

(see Obituaries, page IN 8)



Aaron Ruben Nelson



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OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 7)

Country Club, American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Metropolitan Board of Realtors.

He loved Florida and took the family numerous times. He loved traveling and cruises with his wife. His favorites were Antarctica, New Zealand, Australia, Egypt, Israel and a cooking class in Sicily. He was the beloved husband and closest friend of his wife Bernice for over 67 years. He was also THE most devoted father and grandfather to his children.

Survived by spouse Bernice, three children, William, Natalie and Jeffrey (Julie) and two adorable grandsons Colten and Westen. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to: Jewish National Fund's Forestry and Green Innovations or Water Solutions programs.

Graveside services were July 8 at the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation Cemetery North at 1300 East 161st Street. Arrangements entrusted to Indiana Funeral Care.

Edith Gold Garfield, 101, passed away on July 5, 2016 in Indianapolis. She was born to Sam and Sadie Gold on Dec. 10, 1914 in Muncie, Ind. She was a

graduate of Muncie Central High School, where she was the state Latin contest winner. Edith received her undergraduate degree from University of Michigan and then received her law degree from Indiana School of Law. She successfully passed the Indiana State Bar.

Edith was a long time member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck and Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, a life member of Hadassah and a long time volunteer at area hospitals. She will be remembered for her keen wit and considerable intellect.

She is survived by her daughters; Marcia Torobin and Joyce (Ron) Nelson; granddaughter, Jessica Fields, 2 great-granddaughters, and nieces, Florence Lapin and Rochelle Popkin. Her beloved husband, Dr. Martin Garfield, preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held July 10 in Beth-El Zedeck South Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hadassah. Arrangements entrusted to **ARN Funeral & Cremation Services**.

Ronna "Ronnie" Crespy Cohen, 78, passed away July 7 in California. She was born August 2, 1937. She is survived by her beloved family; her husband of 57 years, Leon; daughter, Esther (Bret); sons, Sam (Becky), Dave (Jody) and Gil (Kim);

grandchildren, K.T., Dylan, David, Quentin, Monya, Max and Ben. She is also survived by her brother, Morty (Marilyn) and sister, Tilly. Ronnie was preceded in death by her parents, Mary and Isaac, and 9 siblings.

Ronnie grew up in Philadelphia and later moved to Indianapolis to marry Leon and raise their family. Ronnie and Leon spent their later years in Northern California to be near kids and grandkids. Ronnie enjoyed finding treasures at nearby flea markets and garage sales, stopping whenever and wherever a sign caught her eye. Frequently referred to as Mother Nature, she loved indoor plants and her "green thumb" was not only a hobby but an inspiration to others. Family was the most important thing to Ronnie and "family" will miss and love her always.

Funeral services were held on July 14 at **Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Mortuary** and burial followed in Etz Chaim Sephardic Cemetery.

Stephanie Michelle Toof, 29, of Carmel, Ind., passed away on July 9. She was born Nov. 13, 1986. She was a 2005 graduate of Carmel High School and a graduate of Purdue University Krannert School of Business.

Stephanie grew up watching animal shows with her father, and formed a lifelong love of animals. She also was passionate about world travel and aspired to work for a study abroad program. Stephanie was also an inventive cook. She was a member of Beth-El Zedeck, the Wesley Foundation at Purdue University and Alpha Phi Omega.

She is survived by her parents, Joel and Cheryl, her brother, Russell (Bridget) and sister, Deborah and aunts and uncles: Michael (RoseAnn) Toof, Norman Shore and Dr. Richard (Allyson) Shore. Her beloved grandparents Robert and Mildred Toof and Mort and Blanche Shore preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held July 12, at **ARN Funeral & Cremation Services**. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, www.nami.org. Friends may leave a memory of Stephanie or a message of condolence for her family at www.arn-mortuary.com

Shirley Ann Daniels Cohen, 76, of Indianapolis, passed away July 10, 2016. She was born in Bakersfield, Calif., to Bish and Maxine Daniels on Feb. 10, 1940. Shirley and her husband, Robert, owned and operated a successful carpet business for many years.



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She is survived by her husband, Robert Cohen; daughters, Lori (David) Hirsch, Joy (Darrell) Nugent, and Debra Ellis; grandchildren, Alex, Leah, Aaron, Megan, Danielle and Jared; great-grandchildren, Makiah, Gavin, Nora and Jackson; and sister, Rhonda Charley. Shirley was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Barry Daniels.

A Memorial Service was held at Lori and David's residence July 20. Arrangements entrusted to **A.R.N. Funeral & Cremation Services**.

Dr. Louis Lemberger,

loving husband, father and Poppy, passed away peacefully on July 13, surrounded by his adoring family. He was preceded in death by his parents, Max and Ida Lemberger, and his sister, Rozy Pavloff.



He leaves behind his wife of nearly 57 years, Myrna Diamond Lemberger; brother David (Donald Heurlin) Lemberger of Milwaukee, Wisc.; daughters Harriet (Neil) Schor of Youngstown, Ohio, and Margo of Manhattan, N.Y.; and granddaughters, Alyssa and Meryl Schor.

The son of two Orthodox Jewish Eastern European immigrants, Dr. Lemberger was raised in Woodridge, N.Y., and exemplified the American Dream. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy (now Long Island University), which named him its 1990 Distinguished Alumnus and awarded him an honorary Doctorate in 1994 and the 1998 President's Award. He got his MD and his PhD in Pharmacology degrees from Albert Einstein College of Medicine and in 1971, moved his family to Indiana to accept a position at Eli Lilly & Company.

As a scientist and ultimately Director of Clinical Pharmacology and the Lilly Laboratory until his 1993 retirement, Dr. Lemberger discovered and developed many life-saving drugs, including Prozac, Zyprexa, Cesamet, Strattera, and Permax. He was the first physician to administer these compounds to a human being, as well as the first person to simultaneously hold a scientific and administrative title for the company. He was also a respected professor (now Emeritus) of Pharmacology, Toxicology, Medicine and Psychiatry on the Indiana University School of Medicine faculty.

Dr. Lemberger was a board member and president of numerous professional societies, and was showered with a myriad of awards for his accomplishments. He was on the Board of Directors for the Jewish Studies Department, and a member of the Well House Society, the Varsity Club,

the Presidents Circle, the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, and the Children's Museum of Indianapolis.

Like most men of his generation, Dr. Lemberger was a member of our military, serving at the National Institute of Mental Health during the Vietnam War. He was enormously proud of his service, and held the rank of Commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 114.

He was fortunate that his career took him around the world, taking his family along whenever possible. Those trips are among the family's best memories. In addition, Dr. Lemberger was a rabid Indiana University basketball and football fan, and a huge Colts supporter. He never missed a performance or game in which his daughters participated, and he and Myrna made frequent trips to Youngstown and beyond to do the same for his granddaughters.

Dr. Lemberger authored two books: *The Physiologic Disposition of Drugs of Abuse* and the nearly cult-classic *Indiana: Where Basketball Is King, or Is It Knight? Confessions of An Indiana Hoosier Fan*. All profits for the latter were donated to Indiana University's Bobby Knight Library.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University or

the American Cancer Society. A calling and funeral service was held at **ARN Funeral & Cremation Services** on July 17. Burial took place in Fallsburg, N.Y.

Mary Rosen Weiss Bronicki, 90, former resident of Indianapolis, passed away July 24 in Florida where she had lived for the past 8 years. She was born on Feb. 29, 1926, leap year, in Cluj, Romania a Holocaust survivor who came to Indianapolis in 1950. Two years later, in 1952, her beloved husband, Izak Weiss died. In 1955 she remarried Lipa Bronicki, who also preceded her in death.

Survivors include: sons, Dennis Weiss of Delray Beach, Fla., and Shlomo Weiss of Israel and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her daughter, Esther Schwartz preceded her in death.

Funeral services were held July 27 at **ARN Funeral & Cremation Services**. Burial followed in Erzas Achim Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation B'nai Torah, 6510 Hoover Road, Indianapolis IN 46260, where she was a long time member.

Irene Leventhal Weintraub, 85, life resident of Indianapolis, passed away (see Obituaries, page IN 10)



L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu!

From our Board, Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow, President Sidney Dunn, and our membership at Congregation Shaarey Tefilla, we wish you and all your loved ones a *Healthy, Sweet, and Good* New Year!

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OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 9)

on July 27 in Cincinnati, where she had moved to be closer to her daughter. Irene was born in Indianapolis on May 20, 1931 to Michael and Esther Leventhal. She was a graduate of Shortridge High School and Indiana University.



Irene and her late husband, David, were long time members of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, and Irene served as president of Congregation's Sisterhood. She loved playing mahjong and spending time with friends and family.

She is survived by her daughter, Julie (Alan) Solomon of Cincinnati; son, Jeffrey (Audrey Lyon) Weintraub of Silver Spring, Md.; grandchildren, Stuart (Kate), Andrew Solomon and Lila, Hannah, and Naomi Weintraub; sister, Pearl Roth of Indianapolis; brother, William Leventhal of California; and many nieces and nephews. Irene was preceded in death by her siblings, Sander, Jack and Ruben Leventhal. She will be deeply missed.

Funeral services were held July 31 at **A.R.N. Funeral & Cremation Services**. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck or Temple Sholom of Cincinnati's Dena Solomon Memorial Camp Fund.

Charles E. Sydney, 86, of Indianapolis passed away Aug. 3. He was born in Indianapolis on Nov. 18, 1929 to Sidney O. Sydney and Eva (Kroot) Sydney. After graduating from Kemper Military High School, Charles attended Southern Methodist University. He worked for a family owned business, K & F Industries, for almost 50 years.

Charles was a former member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck; and supported the Boy Scouts of America and the Humane Society. He loved to dance and entered many dance contests. He also worked out regularly at Hoffmeister's Gym and followed all sports. Charles especially enjoyed attending Butler basketball games. He will always be remembered as a gentle, and very kind man.

Charles is survived by his friend and companion, Carol Walker; and his numerous cousins with whom he loved spending time. Graveside services were held at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck South Cemetery on Aug. 8. Arrangements entrusted to **A.R.N. Funeral & Cremation Services**.

Marilyn Prince Schankerman, 84, passed away peacefully Aug. 9. She was born in Indianapolis on Jan. 26, 1932 to

the late Ben and Esther Prince. Marilyn was a graduate of Shortridge High School, received her B.S. in Education from Indiana University and a Master's in Education from I.U.P.U.I.



In 1957, she married Maurice "Moe" Schankerman. Marilyn and Moe enjoyed 46 loving, happy years together. Marilyn taught kindergarten in the IPS School System and in Washington Township. She then taught first grade at Greenbriar Elementary School until her retirement in 1998. Many students successfully began their education under the wonderful guidance of Mrs. Schankerman.

Marilyn worked on the preschool staff at the Jewish Education Association (BJE) where she launched the first program for 2-1/2 year old children in the entire community. In 1972, Marilyn joined the Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis original Board of Directors. She also served on the school's Education and Personnel Committee. Along with her husband, Moe, Marilyn received the Hasten Hebrew Academy HAI-Life Award in 1999. Marilyn served on the board of the Hooverwood Guild and was currently serving as VP of Membership. She was a life member of Hadassah. Her many

other affiliations included AMIT Women, Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, National Education Association, Washington Township Education Association, Association for Early Childhood Education International, and Ohev Zedeck Cemetery Association. Marilyn was a member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck.

Marilyn had a strong traditional Jewish background and no celebration was complete without her famous homemade *challah*. Her greatest joy in life was her family.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her loving husband, the late Dr. Maurice (Moe) Schankerman. She is survived by her children, Ellen (Jamie) Gray, Mike (Karen) Schankerman and Jeff (Nancy) Schankerman; sister, Shirley (Dr. Gerald) Kurlander; brother, Irwin (Eileen) Prince; grandchildren, Elizabeth (Jack) Firestone, Jessica (Yoni) Serfaty, Abbie (Marty) Lande, Andrew Schankerman, Max Schankerman (fiancé Alexa Friedenber), Rebecca Schankerman, Sara Schankerman, and Gavi Schankerman; and great-grandchild, Morrison (Mo) Firestone. Marilyn is also survived by several adoring nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at **Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Mortuary** on August 11. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hooverwood Guild or Camp Kesem. donate.kesem.org/gma, ★

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and the Foundation of
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L'Shana Tova!

May 5777 be a Happy, Healthy, and
Prosperous year for us all.



Rabbi Brett Krichiver
Rabbi Scott Fox
Cantor Janice Roger

Jordan Levy's special Bar Mitzvah

BY ALAN COHEN

I had the pleasure of attending my cousin Jordan's Bar Mitzvah in Dix Hills, N.Y., on July 8, 2016. My Uncle Hymie Levy, Jordan's grandfather, also celebrated his 95th birthday that weekend. Jordan's grandmother was Lee Baruch, my aunt, and his father was Joel Levy, both of blessed memory. They know Indianapolis well having kept their ties here for many years as members of Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation.

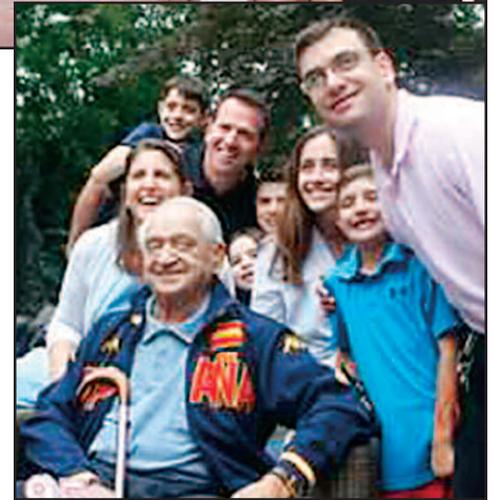
In today's world birthdays and *bar mitzvahs* seem like common events, but this *Shabbat* was very special for everyone in attendance. My uncle, still very active, lives in Florida and has many friends here in Indianapolis. He was fortunate enough to see all his nieces, nephews and friends to help celebrate his birthday, but more importantly he was there to be part of Jordan's Bar Mitzvah.

Jordan, along with three other young adults, celebrated their *B'nai Mitzvah* at Dix Hills Jewish Center. They have been studying *Torah* and preparing for this day with their tutors, the rabbi and many others who helped in making this a special weekend. These are Jews with special needs so a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* was deemed an impossible challenge when they were 13 years of age, but when they got in their 20s and 30s, it became more tenable. For those in attendance it was a truly special *Shabbat*. They helped lead the service, all read their prayers, and each had a *Torah* portion they chanted in Hebrew.

It was special because of their hard work and that of their families and volunteers – but more importantly – it energized their feelings of celebrating their Judaism. For more than 200 of us in attendance it was something everyone will remember. The *New York Times* published an article about it which really details the accomplishments of Jordan, Ariel Goller, Ben Kaplan and



Above: *B'nai Mitzvah* around the table (L-R) – Ben Kaplan, Jordan Levy, Ariel Goller, Jamie Metzger, surrounded by family and friends. **Right:** Hyman Levy sitting and Jordan to his far right. Behind him (L-R) is Jen Levy, Howard Levy, and Nikki Levy, with Hyman's four great-grandchildren mixed in.



Jamie Metzger. *Mazel tov* to them and to all those who made this such a memorable weekend! Read more about it at the following link: (http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/08/nyregion/jews-with-special-needs-prepare-for-a-rite-of-passage.html?_r=0). ✨

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Adam Zeitlin reflects on his Bar Mitzvah

My *torah* portion was a double *parsha*. The *parshiot* were *Mattot* and *Masei*. While studying for my *bar mitzvah*, I learned about the laws of personal vows, where the Jews went after leaving Egypt, and the laws of unintentional murder.

I thought I was going to be nervous, but I was not. The most surprising thing about my *bar mitzvah* was how many people came to services. I enjoyed seeing all of my out-of-town relatives, and I was sad when they all had to leave.

I would like to thank all of my teachers at the BJE including Mrs. David-Smith, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Linkon, and Cantor Meyersberg. I would also like to thank my teachers at Congregation Shaarey Tefilla including Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Silverman, and Rabbi Sendrow. I enjoyed going to my lessons with Rabbi Sendrow, since we discussed my *haftorah* as well as sports.

Of all the different things I had to learn, my *haftorah* was the most difficult. I feel proud, and I cannot wait to fulfill my duty of being a Jewish adult. If I were to give advice to someone preparing for his or her *bar* or *bat mitzvah*, I would tell him or her to pick a time to study every day and enjoy learning your parts. (see Adam on p. IN 2) ★



The Two Sids: (left) Sidney Dunn received the Sigma Alpha Mu (SAM) Sidney H. Guller Interfraternal Service Award at their banquet on Aug. 13, 2016 at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone at the Crossing. Sid was so pleased that Sid Guller, attending his 65th Convention, was able to be there. He is a legend in SAM and within the Interfraternal World. The award is presented to an individual who is not a member of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity whose service to the fraternity movement are deemed such as to merit recognition by the Fraternity, in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Octagon.

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Rosh Hashanah (Children's)	October 3,	9:00 AM
(Full service)		10:00 AM
Tashlich (at Carmel West Park)		Following AM service
Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre	October 11,	7:30 PM
Yom Kippur (Children's)	October 12,	9:00 AM
(Full service)		10:00 AM
Yom Kippur Rabbinic Discussion		2:30 PM
Yom Kippur Afternoon Service		4:00 PM
Yizkor/N'eila		5:00 PM

*More about our Congregation and Services is available on our Website
www.BethShalomIndy.org*

Child Care will be provided for Morning Services 9:30 to 12:30
No reservations are necessary, but an RSVP is kindly appreciated for staffing purposes
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Chassidic Rabbi

BY RABBI BENZION COHEN

Prophecy

Today I want to share a story that happened 35 years ago. I was born and grew up in Indianapolis. I graduated Broad Ripple High School in 1967, and went to college at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. My first year in college was spent learning Hebrew, Math, Chemistry and Physics. In addition I started to learn and practice Yoga. A new chapter opened up in my life. I did meditation and spent time in nature. I realized that there was more to life than just the material and the physical. I discovered that in addition to my body, I also have a soul, and that the world has a Creator.

A year later I spent a *Shabbos* (Sabbath) with *Chabad* and was really impressed. Soon afterwards I dropped out of college and went to learn in *Yeshiva*. I entered a new and wonderful world. I learned Torah, the infinite wisdom of *Hashem* (G-d). I learned *Chassidus*, the deep inner secrets of the *Torah*. I devoted my life to fulfill the *Mitzvahs*, the commandments of *Hashem*, especially the *Mitzvah* to Love Your Neighbor.

After learning in the *Yeshiva* for nine months I traveled to 770 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, N.Y., to meet the Lubavitcher Rebbe. This meeting gave me great strength to live a life of Torah. To live a good life, a life of *Torah*, is wonderful, but not easy. There is still a lot of evil out there, and inside of each of us. Over the years I have visited the Rebbe in 770 many times, to find inspiration and recharge my spiritual batteries.

Do yourself a big favor and go to 770. Your local Chabad Rabbi can arrange for you to spend a very special *Shabbos* with one of the Chabad families there. Thirty-five years ago I went to the Rebbe for one of the Holidays. At the end of the Holiday the Rebbe made a *Farbrengen*. Several thousands gathered together in the big *Shul* in 770, to see the Rebbe, to hear him speak, to sing together and say *l'chaim* (to life).

The Rebbe spoke for several hours and then we all prayed together *Maariv*, the evening prayers. Then the Rebbe made *Havdalah*, the blessing that we make over a cup of wine at the end of *Shabbos* and holidays.

After *Havdalah* everyone stood in line to receive a personal blessing from the Rebbe, and some wine from *Havdalah*. I waited in line, and finally my turn came, and I stood face to face in front of the

Rebbe. The Rebbe looked at me and poured some wine from his cup into mine. I raised my cup and said "*l'chaim*". The Rebbe answered "*L'chaim uliv'racha*" (To life and for blessing). I then drank a little of the wine and moved on. Two seconds later the Rebbe called me back.

The Rebbe asked me if I was planning to visit my parents. I said yes. The Rebbe then poured some more wine into my cup and said "This is for your father". The Rebbe then poured some more wine into my cup and said "This if for your mother".

A few days later I was in Indianapolis. I told my parents that the Rebbe sent them some wine. They were happy and made blessings and drank the Rebbe's wine. I returned home to Israel just a little curious. This had never happened to me. What did all this mean?

Two months later I received a letter from my mother. (In those days there were no cell phones, and almost all communication between Israel and the U.S. was by mail). She wrote that the doctor had found that she had a tumor, and they were planning an operation to remove it.

A month later I received another letter informing me that they had found a tumor in my father's throat. Both tumors were removed and treated. Even though they were malignant the disease did

not spread.

Now I understood why the Rebbe sent wine and blessings to my parents. He knew that they had serious medical issues. Now I was sure that they would recover, and told all the family not to worry. *Baruch Hashem* both of my parents recovered from their operations and treatments and lived long and healthy lives. My father lived till the age of 98.

How did the Rebbe know? We believe that the Rebbe is a prophet. He received a message from *Hashem* that my parents were not well, and he sent his blessings.

Do you need a special blessing? Are you in doubt and need to make an important decision? Ask the Rebbe! Your local Chabad Rabbi can show you how to ask the Rebbe, or you can go to www.igrot.com.

The Rebbe told us that in our generation *Moshiach* will bring the complete and final redemption. At that time there will be no more war or sickness. We will live forever. This is a prophecy, and it will surely be fulfilled. When? We don't know. The Rebbe told us that this is dependent on us. We have to pray every day to *Hashem* to redeem us, and learn more *Torah* and do more *Mitzvahs* to bring *Moshiach* Now!

Rabbi Cohen lives in K'far Chabad, Israel. He can be reached at bzcohen@orange.net.il. ✨

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Shana Tova

Fall Jewish Studies Program at Purdue

All members of the Purdue University community and the public are cordially invited to attend these free events offered by the Jewish Studies Program.

9th Annual Larry Axel Memorial Lecture in Religion, **Monday, September 26** ~ Krannert Auditorium ~ 8:00 p.m. Tzvi Novick, Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame, "God in the Lab: Technical Expertise and Rabbinic

Authority". Co-sponsored by the Purdue Jewish Studies and Religious Studies Programs Noon Lecture and Discussion Series.

Wednesday, September 21 ~ Beering Hall, Room B222 ~ 12:30 p.m., Jules Janick, James Troop Distinguished Professor of Horticulture, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Purdue University, "A Kabbalah Sephirothic Tree, the New Jerusalem, and the Voynich Codex: Understanding a Bizarre 16th Century Manuscript of New Spain".

Wednesday, October 26 ~ Stewart Center, Room 313 ~ 12:30 p.m., Arman

Kavalekar, Winner of the 2016 Edward Simon Essay Prize in Jewish Studies, "Judaism Through the Eyes of Global Media".

Wednesday, November 16 ~ Stewart Center, Room 313 ~ 12:30 p.m., Hernan Matzkevich, Graduate Student, Spanish, School of Languages and Cultures, Purdue University, "Messianic Hope and Its Parody in Spanish Golden Age Theater".

For more info contact Alice Wenger at wengera@purdue.edu or 765-494-7965. ✨



Seniors in Place

For additional events such as movies, singing club, knitting club, bingo and more, or to RSVP for these listed below, please call Janet at 251-8881 unless stated otherwise.

Classic Movie Club – My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2

Mon., Aug. 22 at of College Park, 8810 Colby Blvd., at 3 p.m. Popcorn and drinks will be served. Movie, popcorn & drinks FREE. Stay for dinner for only \$5.

Knitting Club

Thurs., Aug 25 at 10 a.m., meet at Hooverwood, 7001 Hoover Road. Call Dorothy Kerrigan at 253-3244 for additional info.

Indianapolis Museum of Art: Tour of Grounds & 19 Stars of Indiana Art

Thurs., Sept. 1, leave the JCC at 3:30 p.m. Enjoy a guided tour of the grounds and the 19 Stars exhibition, which celebrates the artistic achievements of men and women who were born, raised or worked in Indiana. Dinner in the café will follow. Transportation \$10. Dinner at your expense.

The ISO and the Doo Wop Project: A World Premiere!

Fri., Sept. 16, leave the JCC at 9 a.m. Five former members of Broadway's *Jersey Boys and Motown*: The Musical perform everything from classic Frankie Valli and Smokey Robinson to Michael Jackson. \$46 includes concert, transportation, pastries, coffee/tea.

Indiana repertory theatre: The Three Musketeers

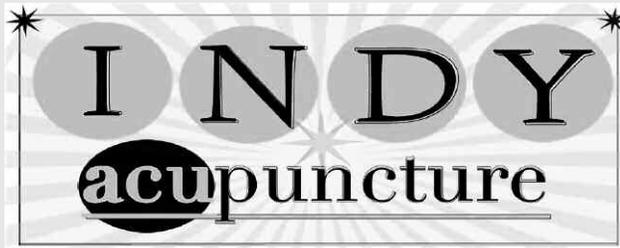
TBA. When an eager young lad from the provinces comes to Paris to join the king's guard, he finds intrigue, love, and plenty of crossed swords. A legendary tale of danger and daring, royalty and romance vibrantly comes to life on the IRT stage.

Cooking class at the JCC

TBA. June class rescheduled for Sept. ✨

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Reflections on Jet from his camp counselor

On the first day of camp two years ago I was very excited not only because I was back in *machaneh* and the summer was finally getting started, but also because I had a *chanich* who was new to camp, his name was Jet (Bautista) (see *Jet on p. IN 2*) and he was coming all the way to Wisconsin from Palm Springs. As I met Jet that night, we got to talking and he told me he was a little nervous because he wasn't so familiar with all the Jewish stuff. I told him that we both had a lot of time together and we could help each other out. So that night we made a deal I would help Jet out with the Jewish stuff and he would help teach me how to be cool. That night me, Noah, and Elliot taught Jet the *Shema* and from there he's flown. That summer and the following I had the privilege of either being Jet's counselor or being his *chavruta* on *Shabbat* afternoon. I'm not sure how much cooler I've gotten but Jet has made tremendous strides in "the Jewish stuff" and has taught me and many others so much along the way. One big lesson I learned was last year on *Shabbat* afternoon. I had asked Jet why *Shabbat* was

SOMMERS

(continued from page IN 16)

was about celebrating her father's spirit.

"He has chosen optimism over pessimism," she said. "He has chosen hope over fear. He has chosen education over ignorance. He has chosen cultural understanding over isolationism." This spirit is the gift that Sommers has given to his family and the community, she said.

Born and raised in Frankfurt, Germany on Dec. 29, 1920, Sommers was a teenage apprentice there when Nazi sympathizers destroyed his family's businesses on "Kristallnacht" or "Night of Broken Glass" which took place on Nov. 9, 1938. His father was taken to Buchenwald concentration camp and released after one month. Nazi officials promised the family that they could leave Germany if they sold



his favorite day besides for the *shabbos* walks. He answered with something that sticks with me every week. "On *Shabbat*" he said "everyone has a place and everyone can join no matter who they are or where they came from". I'm so proud of Jet and all that he's accomplished and I am so happy to have him as a part of my *Moshava* family. *Mazal tov* kid and see you soon. ✨

their businesses and turned the money over to the government. His parents agreed and left for the United States with Walter and his sister, Lore, in January 1939.

In 1942, Sommers entered the U.S. Army's 306th Field Artillery Battalion, 77th Infantry Division, and fought in three major engagements in the Pacific. In the decades following the war, he became a successful businessman, helping Meis Department Stores grow from one store in Terre Haute into 10 stores in Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. Sommers and his wife Louise raised two children and remained active in the Terre Haute community, devoting many hours to a variety of community services.

Now at age 95, Sommers still speaks at churches, schools, and community organizations. He shares his personal story and his vast understanding of European history with visitors at CANDLES. Through these activities he helps to repair the world and make it a more respectful and humane place for everyone.

Information for this article came from the Terre Haute Tribune-Star by reporters Dianne Frances D. Powell and Jim Avelis (also photo credit). More information about the museum is available online at www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org. ✨

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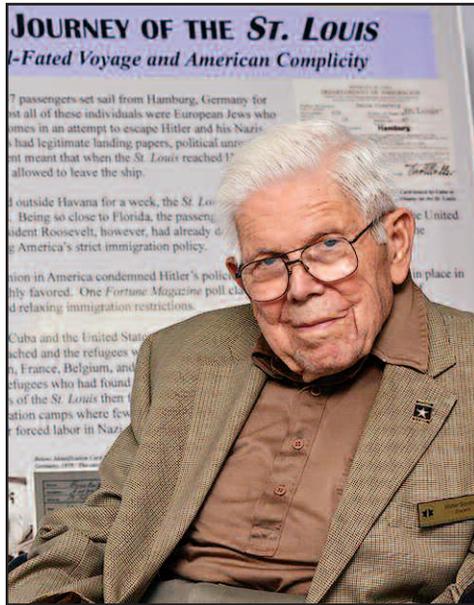
Walter Sommers receives German civilian award

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On Aug. 6, Holocaust survivor Walter Sommers (below) of Terre Haute, Ind., received the highest civilian award from the German Consul General Herbert Quell at the CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center there. In



the presence of family, friends, community leaders and local and regional media, the docent and long-time supporter of the museum received the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. Presented on behalf of German President Joachim Gauck, it is the highest tribute that Germany bestows on individuals – Germans and foreigners – for social, political, economic, charitable or philanthropic services to its nation.

The crowd at the museum gave Sommers a standing ovation after receiving the medal and shaking the hand of Quell, who had said that Sommers was chosen

for the award because of his outstanding contribution to German-American relations and his life of volunteerism and reconciliation with his country of birth.

Quell, who traveled from Chicago for the ceremony, told the *Tribune-Star* that he believes Sommers is the only Order of Merit recipient in the Terre Haute area and one of a few in Indiana, but hundreds have been given the award globally in the last year.

Sommers' daughter, Nancy, said her dad taught his children to live each day with optimism. She said Saturday's celebration (see Sommers, page IN 15)

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