

# The Jewish Post & Opinion • Indiana Edition

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*L'Shanah Tovah U'Mitukah*



Cover art by  
Jackie Olenick  
See About  
the Cover, p.5.

# Simcha Announcements

## Mazel Tov to...

**Barbara and Arthur Bennett** on their 48th wedding anniversary Aug. 21.

**Jerry and Gayle Ancel** on their 49th wedding anniversary Aug. 21.

**Jacob (Jake) Lewin and Deena Wertman** (below) on their engagement. A party was held in their honor on Aug. 24 at Congregation Shomrei Torah in Fair Lawn, NJ. Jake is the son of **Arnie Lewin** and **Harriet Greenland** and **Deena** is the daughter of **Reina** and **Paul Wertman**.



**Leia Shulamit Pfeffer**, daughter of **Dr. Amy Kressel** and **Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer** became a Bat Mitzvah Aug. 30 at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. Seven rabbis were in attendance.

**Naomi Pescovitz**, daughter of **Drs. Ora** and the late **Mark Pescovitz** on joining WTHR 13 Eyewitness News on July 9, as weekend morning anchor. Pescovitz anchors both the Saturday and Sunday editions of the newscast. In addition, she serves as a 13 Eyewitness News reporter three days a week.



Pescovitz grew up attending Congregation Beth-El Zedeck with her family and graduated from North Central High School. She earned a double major in Journalism and International Studies from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Her previous position was at KSTP in Minneapolis where she served as reporter and fill-in anchor since August of 2011. Before arriving at KSTP Naomi spent two years as a reporter at KVOA in Tucson, Ariz. While there on Jan. 8, 2011, she was one of the first reporters on the scene when Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was shot outside a grocery store. Naomi has also

served as a reporter at WIBW in Topeka, Kansas and KULR in Billings, Mont.

**Ora H. Pescovitz, M.D.**, a nationally recognized pediatric endocrinologist and researcher and the former CEO of Riley Hospital for Children, on returning to Indianapolis to work for Eli Lilly and Co. On June 1, 2014, after serving five years, Pescovitz, stepped down from her position as the University of Michigan's Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and Health System CEO.



According to an *Indianapolis Business Journal* article from June 11, she "will join Lilly in October as a senior vice president, medical. Initially, she will work under Dr. Tim Garnett, Lilly's chief medical officer, focusing on medical policy issues, such as Lilly's relationship with health care professionals, expanding access to Lilly medicines, and patient support programs."

"Pescovitz led Riley, which is part of the Indiana University School of Medicine and the IU Health hospital system, from 2004 to 2009. From 2000 to 2009, she was head of research at the IU medical school. She spent a total of 21 years working at the IU medical school. Pescovitz did her medical training at the Northwestern

## Kidney still needed for Drew

Drew, age 11, is suffering from Alport's Syndrome. If you have type "O" blood and would like to be considered, please call (317) 944-4370, ask for Kelly. See [www.facebook.com/kidneydrew](http://www.facebook.com/kidneydrew) and [ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-1081282](http://ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-1081282). ★

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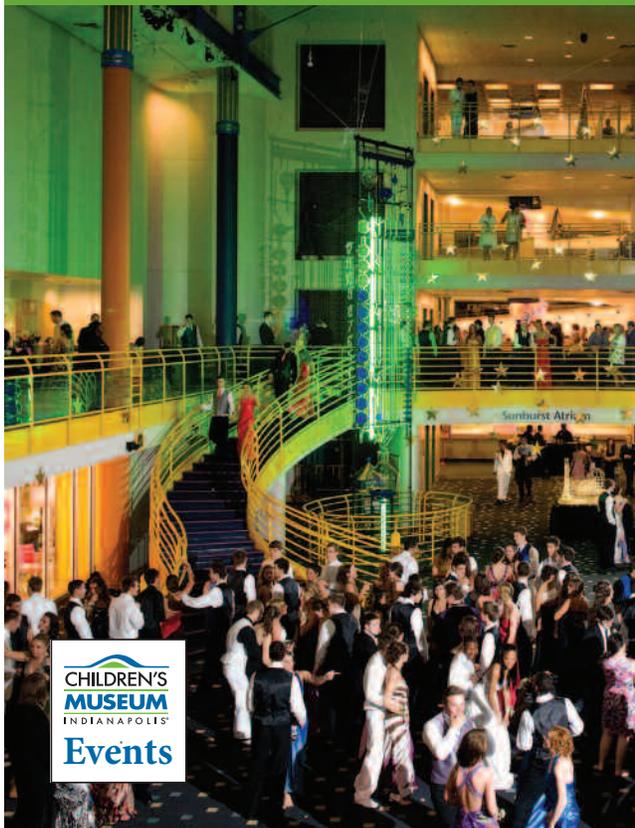
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University School of Medicine and at the University of Minnesota."

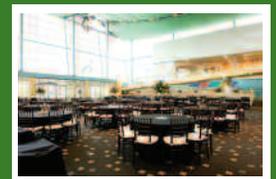
Besides Naomi (see left), Pescovitz has two other children Aliza and Ari. ★

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# Editorial

Below in italics is the Ethical Will Rabbi Steven Z. Leder created for his children. While ordinary wills tell our loved ones what to do with our material possessions, an ethical will teaches our values that we hope will live on. *Elul*, the Hebrew month before *Rosh Hashanah*, is a good time to create an ethical will because the goals of both are similar.

They both ask one to think about one's priorities. Once one deciphers what is really important to him or her, that person can begin aspiring to achieve those ideals. This can be a great motivator because, like our vows to improve in the new year, ethical wills cannot simply be lipservice. We do not have to achieve all of our goals, but we have to demonstrate that we are striving to do so.

More about ethical wills or leaving a spiritual legacy can be found in books such as, *So That Your Values Live On* by Jack Reimer and Professor Nathaniel Stampfer. Also one can find different examples of ethical wills – some going back hundreds of years – on the Internet. These are valuable for the insight they give us into the cultural and social life of the individual Jew of some particular land at some specific period.

Dear Aaron and Hanna,

*Most of all I want you to know that you and your mother are the joy of my life. All other accomplishments pale by comparison. I want you always to be good Jews because then I know you will be good, charitable, loving, disciplined, decent people. Live more for today than for tomorrow. Be forgiving to a fault. When you do something, do your very, very best. Tell many jokes both dirty and clean. Always try to have enough money so that you are never afraid to have someone else's power over you but use your money to help the powerless. Never pick a fight but if someone picks one with you never back down. If you have done someone good, see it as a small thing. If someone has done you wrong, see that as a small thing too. See the world, dance and give. Let good food, warm bread and wine grace your table. Study Torah diligently. Be welcome in each other's homes. Light a *yahrzeit* candle for your mother and me when we are gone. Most of all remember that I love you deeply and forever. Dad*

*Rabbi Leder is senior rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple, Los Angeles.*

In a similar fashion, the following *Bat Mitzvah* Blessing was bestowed upon Leia Shulamit Pfeffer, daughter of Amy Beth Kressel, M.D., and Rabbi Bruce Pfeffer.

Written by Kressel, it was spoken by both parents on the pulpit of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

After the service, Dr. Kressel explained to me that when she was thinking of what blessings she wanted to give her daughter, she realized that she did not necessarily want to bless her with smooth sailing all the time because weathering challenges could help her grow. Like the Ethical Will above, and the Jewish person's task for *Elul*, she had to give considerable thought to what is important to her:

*May Adonai bless you with long life, your strength undiminished, and your sight undimmed, like Moshe Rabeinu.*

*May you be blessed with health.*

*May you be blessed with the success you want for yourself.*

*May you be blessed with loving family and good friends.*

*May you be blessed with both the courage to take necessary risks and the wisdom not to be reckless.*

*May you be blessed with just enough struggle to grant you both resolve and compassion.*

*May you not face hardships that will break you.*

*May you be a blessing to your family, your people, and the world.*

*Kein Yi'hi Ratzon. May this be Adonai's will.*

# Inside this Issue

<b>Simcha Announcements</b> .....	2
<b>Kidney still needed for Drew</b> .....	2
<b>Editorial</b> .....	3
<b>Community Events</b> .....	4
<b>JFGI Endowment Recognition</b> .....	5
<b>About the Cover</b> .....	5
<b>Rabbi Ben Zion Cohen</b>	
<i>(Chassidic Rabbi)</i> .....	7
<b>Obituaries</b> .....	8
<b>The next "Max Baer"?</b> .....	8
<b>OU Solidarity Mission to Israel</b> .....	9
<b>Jerusalem opens at IMAX</b> .....	10
<b>Rabbi Audrey S. Pollack</b>	
<i>(The Shofar sounds)</i> .....	11
<b>Rabbi Brian Besser</b>	
<i>(High Holidays)</i> .....	12
<b>The Hidden Jewish Jewel</b> .....	13
<b>HHAI ISTEP scores 8th in IN</b> .....	14
<b>HHAI students support soldiers</b> .....	15
<b>Rainbow of Happiness</b> .....	17
<b>Hadassah's Young Judea tour</b> .....	19
<b>CNN: Auschwitz liberation</b> .....	19
<b>Share the Blessings</b> .....	22
<b>B'nai Torah awards dinner</b> .....	24

Our writers and staff at *The Jewish Post & Opinion* wish you, our dear readers, a safe and secure 5775.

Jennie Cohen, September 3, 2014 ✪

WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A HEALTHY NEW YEAR  
L'SHANA TOVA TIKATEVU

# 5775

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## Community Events

### 2nd annual Festival of Faiths

On **Sun., Sept. 7** from 1–5 p.m., outside the Veteran's Memorial Plaza and inside the War Memorial located downtown at the intersection of Meridian & Michigan Streets. Event is free and open to everyone. This event is organized by the Center for Interfaith Cooperation (CIC) [www.centerforinterfaithcooperation.org](http://www.centerforinterfaithcooperation.org).

### AARP Driver Safety Class

Presented by The Reuben Center on **Sept. 9** from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., at the Arthur M. Glick JCC. AARP members \$15/Non-AARP members \$20. RSVP to Cindy Wides at 259-8048.

### A Day in Indianapolis presented by Hadassah and the JCC

Join us **Sept. 9** to explore the Indiana History Center, enjoy lunch at Shapiro's, and experience the Eiteljorg Museum with a great group of friends. Guided tour and free time are included. Bus leaves the JCC at 9:30 a.m., and returns at 4:30 p.m. \$36 JCC & Hadassah member; \$54 non-members. Cost includes everything except lunch. RSVP to 317-475-4278 or [Indianapolis@hadassah.org](mailto:Indianapolis@hadassah.org).

### Young Leadership Division of JFGI Save the Dates

**Fri., Sept. 12:** Shabbat dinner with Congregation Beth Shalom; **Sat., Nov. 22:** Jegas! YLD's biggest event of the year is a night of Vegas-style entertainment, casino games and prizes.

### Annual Sephardic Bake Sale

The Deborah Sisterhood of Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation will hold their famous bake sale on **Sun., Sept. 14** in the Laikin auditorium at the Arthur M. Glick JCC. Doors open at 11 a.m. Come early because they usually sell out by 2 p.m.

### Hadassah Book Club

On **Mon., Sept. 15** at 7 p.m., at the home of Shirley Aprison with Mary Jo Erdberg facilitating. This month's book is *The Nights of Awe* by Harri Nykanen. This is a mystery about an eccentric Jewish policeman in Helsinki, Finland who investigates the murder of four Arabs. For more info contact the office at 317-475-4278 or email [Indianapolis@hadassah.org](mailto:Indianapolis@hadassah.org).

### Writing a History of Judaism – Edward A. Block Lecture in Jewish Studies

On **Tues., Sept. 16**, 5:30 p.m., University Club, Faculty Room (IMU, 2nd Floor) will be a lecture by Martin Goodman who is

Professor of Jewish Studies at Oxford. He is a Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford, and a Fellow of the British Academy. Dr. Goodman's research interests include the history of the Jews in the Roman empire and the history of Judaism since antiquity. He has written numerous books, including the Ruling Class of Judaea (1987); Rome and Jerusalem: The Clash of Ancient Civilizations (2007); The Roman World 44 BC-AD 180 (2nd ed. 2012); Judaism in the Roman World: Collected Studies (2007); and Toleration within Judaism (2013). His current projects include the reception history of Josephus, Jewish War and attitudes to variety within Judaism at different periods in Jewish history. This event is free and open to the public. If you have a disability and need assistance, arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Please contact [iujsp@indiana.edu](mailto:iujsp@indiana.edu).



M. Goodman

### Fall "Kick-Off" Hadassah

Taste of Hadassah **Sept. 17** at 6 p.m., at the JCC "Huddle" over appetizers and mini book review, "Pass" main course, and "Tackle" Lunch & Learn. It's a "Touchdown" dessert with a Hadassah

Field Goal! Cheerleaders assignments: A–G Appetizers; I–O Salads; P–Z Desserts. RSVP by Sept. 5 to 317-475-4278 or [Indianapolis@hadassah.org](mailto:Indianapolis@hadassah.org).

### JERUSALEM the movie

**Sept 19** IMAX at Indiana State Museum showing the film *Jerusalem*. See article on page IN 10.

### Hooverwood Guild annual luncheon

**Wed., Oct. 8** at 11 a.m. at Broadmoor Country Club. Raffle tickets are on sale now for \$10 each. All proceeds from the raffle go to enhance the lives of our residents. Join us for this year's luncheon and a new experience featuring Christian & Katalina as they present 45 minutes of mind reading, psychological illusions, comedy and mental surprises that appeals to all ages. You will be stunned and laughing at the same time.

For more info, email [guild@hooverwood.org](mailto:guild@hooverwood.org) or call 317/493-2782.

### Hadassah Lunch and Learn

Join us at the JCC at 11:30 a.m., on **Oct. 15**, for Jennie Grossinger, "Hostess to the World" presented by Regina Globerman, starting with a pitch-in luncheon from the recipes of Jennie Grossinger's Cookbook.

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**Collector's Closet Sale**

The Temple Sisterhood of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC) is hosting a sale of Designer Handbags, Jewelry, Furs and other boutique items to raise money for their social justice and educational projects. A VIP Preview Sale is scheduled for **Sat., Nov. 15** at 7 p.m. A \$35 donation allows for first access to shop the sale, participate in a silent auction, sip, snack and socialize. Pre-registration is necessary, as space is limited. Reservations can be made at [www.ihcindy.org](http://www.ihcindy.org). Open sale on **Sun., Nov. 16** from 10 a.m.–4 p.m., (no admission charge). You can get sale (see Events, page IN 21)



**2014 JFGI Endowment Recognition**

Please join us for, "The Words We Say" on **Sun., Sept. 14** at 3 p.m. in The Riley Room of the Central Library, 40 East St. Clair Street.

Our Guest Speaker, Dr. Khane-Faygl Turteltaub, who a Yiddish teacher at Northwestern University, will speak about how Yiddish has influenced English today.

Dessert reception to follow (dietary laws observed). Free Parking. Please RSVP to [www.jfghi.org](http://www.jfghi.org) or call 726-5450. \$15 couvert per person.



**About the Cover**

"Shehekianu"

By Jackie Olenick

We recite this beloved blessing on special occasions and holidays. The image is illuminated by a festive holiday fruit basket. This is a wonderful gift, especially for the holidays. This can be personalized for birthdays, anniversaries or a special tribute to honor someone. Shipping and personalization are free! Framed and double matted 16" x 18" in the frame. Printed with archival ink on fine art velvet paper.



Jackie Olenick

Jackie Olenick is a Judaic artist and jewelry designer residing in Boynton Beach, Fla. Her work can be seen on her website: [www.jackieolenickart.com](http://www.jackieolenickart.com). ☆

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# Chassidic Rabbi

BY RABBI BENZION COHEN

## Wondrous times

We are living in wondrous times. During the past 50 days the terrorists in Gaza fired about 2,500 deadly missiles at us. Miraculously no one was killed. I seriously think that this is an all time new world record for miracles.

Here is an amazing miracle that I read about. Yishai is an officer in an elite unit of paratroopers in the Israeli army. His unit was one of the first units to enter Gaza a few weeks ago.

On Friday he was told to attack a group of terrorists who were fortified in Khan Yunis.

"We quickly got organized. I took a bottle of wine to make *Kiddush*...and an extra bottle, just in case someone else might need it."

"Together with us was another unit, commanded by Nadav, a good friend of mine. Even though we had served together for many years, and had many discussions about religion, he still called himself a non-believer."

"We made final checks and began to move. All the way I prayed for success and Divine protection for all of our soldiers. The tension was great. We knew that this would not be easy."

"At one point they really opened fire on Nadav and his unit. I could hear the gunfire and explosions. Then they opened fire on us. The battle lasted an hour. Many terrorists were killed, and none of our soldiers were harmed."

"We entered one of the empty houses that we had just taken over and began to get organized for the night. I looked at my watch. It was time to make *Kiddush*. As I was making preparations, Nadav got in touch with me."

"He said: Yishai! You won't believe the miracle that I just went through! When they opened fire on us, they also threw three hand grenades at me. One fell on my right, one fell on my left, and one in front of me! All three of them blew up right near me, and I not only came out alive, but didn't even get scratched! Now I see that you are right. There really is Someone up there, and He is looking after me! By the way, I noticed that you packed up a bottle of wine. Can I come over and make *Kiddush*?"

We want *Moshiach* Now! The time of our redemption is here. Our forefathers were slaves in Egypt for many years. *Hashem* sent Moses to redeem them, and made many miracles. After the ten plagues, the Egyptians finally set them free. Now is the time of our final redemption. *Hashem* is showing us now even greater miracles and

these miracles are part of our redemption.

*Baruch Hashem* we are no longer slaves to the Egyptians, but we are still in exile. We cannot always feel *Hashem*, our Father and our King. Even those who are fortunate to live in Kfar Chabad are still in exile. Here we all believe in *Hashem*, but we are not always aware of His presence. The miracles that we are witnessing help us to come closer to *Hashem*. The closer we are to *Hashem*, the less we are in exile.

For those of us who as yet don't know *Hashem*, now is a golden opportunity to look for Him and find Him. Think for a minute. If the terrorist had fired 10 deadly missiles at us and no one was killed we could just say "They had good fortune".

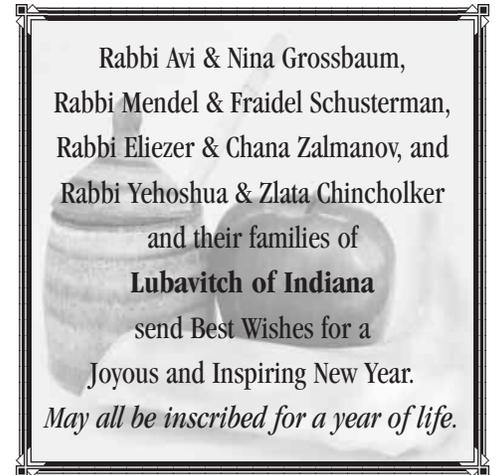
If they had fired 100 missiles at us and no one was killed, it would be harder to just ignore the miracles. However, people have their beliefs. Sometimes they have had these beliefs for many years and they are comfortable with them. For one reason or another they may be afraid to consider the possibility that there is a Creator. "If there is a Creator, then I can't decide myself any more what is right or wrong. I'll have to fulfill His 613 commandments, and maybe give up some pleasures!

In truth, it is really a pleasure that I no longer have the responsibility to

decide what is right or wrong. I am happy to leave that up to *Hashem*. When we live a life of Torah we do have to give up some physical pleasures. However, we gain tremendous spiritual pleasures. We give up one dollar to earn ten million.

We are now approaching the High Holidays. Now is the time to come closer to *Hashem*, to learn His Torah and fulfill His Mitzvahs in order to bring the complete and final redemption to ourselves and to the entire world. We want *Moshiach* now!

*Rabbi Cohen lives in K'far Chabad, Israel. Email him at bzcohen@orange.net.il. ★*



*The Rabbi, Board of Directors, and Members of Congregation B'nai Torah and its Sisterhood extend the best New Year's wishes to the entire Jewish Community!*



# Obituaries

**Bonnie Autumn (Neumeyer) Goodman, 96**, was a lifelong resident of Indianapolis. She passed away Aug. 4. She was born Nov. 27, 1917 to Henry and Florence Neumeyer and graduated from Washington High School. Later, Bonnie was hired at Goodman's Department Store by the future love of her life, Bernard. The two dated, Bernie went to war, and upon returning they married in 1950. After Bernie's death, Bonnie continued to run the family shoe store, Goodman's Shoes, alongside her youngest son, Gary.



Bonnie was preceded in death by her infant son, David; brother, Reese; and sisters, June and Margaret. She is survived by her children, Beth Ann (McCurley) Greene, Jay Goodman, and Gary (Patty) Goodman; and grandchildren, Bernard and Abigail.

Graveside services were held at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck North Cemetery on Aug. 6. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent Hospice.

The family wishes to send special thanks to all Bonnie's friends and caregivers for their assistance and support. Arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary** ([www.arnmortuary.com](http://www.arnmortuary.com)).

**Joan Ossip**, Poway, Calif., passed away peacefully on Aug. 8. She was known by all as having a warm loving spirit. She will be in our hearts forever. Joan was born in New York City to Jay and Ray Kramer. She graduated from high school in the Bronx and went to business school in Manhattan.



She met the love of her life Ken Ossip and was married on Jan. 27, 1951. They moved first to Chicago to be close to his sister and brother-in-law, Rosa and Dr. Artie Zimble. Then they moved to Indianapolis

to be close to his other sister and brother-in-law, Sylvia and Robert Finn.

Together on Aug. 5, 1952 they established Ossip Optometry in Broad Ripple in Indianapolis. She worked hard side by side with Ken building a practice and putting the patients first with quality, technology and personalized care. They raised three children, Eric, Gregg, and Sharon. Joan had so many friends who she loved and adored.

Joan was active in Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC), its Sisterhood, Hadassah and her children's schools. She was a volunteer for the Head Start, Cub Scout Den Mother and took Early Childhood Education courses.

Joan and Ken moved to San Diego in 1983 after retiring to enhance their lives. There she quickly made many friends, and her friends became her family. She became involved in Brandeis, Hadassah, and City of Hope. She volunteered at Kaiser Permanente and ushered at many local theaters.

Joan loved to read the newspaper and magazines with scissors in her hands to cut out articles that she thought her friends and relatives would find interesting. She loved to play games with her friends: MahJong, Rummikub and Mexican Train. She was a master at crossword puzzles doing them in ink. She was an avid reader and enjoyed her book club.

Joan is survived by her loving children, Eric Ossip (Marilee) of Asheville, NC, Dr. Gregg Ossip (Joani) of Indianapolis, and Sharon Ossip Cohen (Brad Fisher) of Schenectady NY, grandchildren, Erica, Zachary, Hillary, Samuel, Hannah, Sophie and Oliver; great-grandchildren, Skye and Willow; her sister-in-law, Audrey Ossip, White Plains, NY; her many nieces and nephews and extended family members.

Donations may be made in her memory to City of Hope, Brandeis, Congregation Beth Israel of San Diego, IHC, or the charity of your choice.

**Alekander Gleyzerman, 89**, of Indianapolis was born Oct. 25, 1924 and passed away Aug. 13, 2014. Funeral services were held Aug. 15 at the **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**. Burial followed in the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation North Cemetery.

**Edward Eli Mitchell, 84**, of Indianapolis passed away Aug. 13. He was born on Sept. 24, 1929 to Joseph and Ida Mitchell. Edward attended Indiana University and was the governor of Elliot Quad, member of the Board of Governors. Edward was one of the organizing founders of the



(see Obituaries, page IN 22)

## The next "Max Baer"?

Samuel Horowitz is a 30 year old Jewish boxer from Chicago, and his sponsor is Glenn Muller of Merrillville. He has an upcoming fight in Hammond at the Horseshoe Casino on September 19 and would like to inform the Jewish community.



Sam observes most holidays especially Passover. This past one he had *Seder* with his family in California. He also tries to get to synagogue for holidays, although he says he could definitely go more. He likes to go to services at *Chabad* when he goes. He says he always represents the Jewish community and his support of Israel wherever he goes. And he loves bagels with lox specifically at New York Bagels and Bialys in Lincolnwood, Ill.

To read a recent article about him and his goals written by Pauline Dubkin Yearwood in *The Chicago Jewish News* go to: <http://chicagojewishnews.com/2014/06/20/nice-jewish-boy/>.

This is an interesting story of how he made it to the place where is his now with help along the way, such as training five to six days a week with his boxing coach, Sam Colonna, and working on strength and conditioning with another coach. Training consists primarily of running, sprinting and agility drills.

Horowitz had boxing trunks made with Stars of David on them, just like in the 1930s when 26 world champion boxers were Jewish. He said he had a difficult childhood struggling more than most people but he managed to turn things around. His message is that anybody can do it if the person works hard.

For his first fight, Horowitz's opponent will be Mike Reiter, a veteran of four fights since 2001. As the first fight of the night, "it will be a huge show," he says. ✨



**Aaron Ruben Nelson**



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# OU Solidarity Mission to Israel

July 25–28, 2014 (27 Tamuz–1 Av 5774)

BY RICK BENTLEY

On July 15 at about 11 p.m., I received an email from my son-in-law Avi Rovinsky saying the OU is organizing an Israel Solidarity mission – it leaves in two days! I felt I had to go. The next day I mentioned the trip to my boss – a fundamentalist Christian who loves Israel – and he gave me a thumbs up to take unscheduled time off. I tried booking a flight on El Al but it was full (*Baruch Hashem*). I was able to get on a United flight that was under an FAA ban on flights to Israel. The FAA lifted its ban Thursday and I was on my way to Israel.

I arrived in Israel Friday morning and met about 45–50 others on the mission. It was a diverse group of men and women including *shul* rabbis and community leaders. The ages ranged from 8 to 80. Some of the communities represented included New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Potomac, Dallas, and Toronto.

We left Ben Gurion and headed south to Sderot. Our first trip stop was to visit Golani soldiers near Gaza. As you may know, Golani are like the US Army Rangers and usually the first to see combat. Several Golani soldiers were (*nebech*) wounded and killed in the first days of Operation Protective Edge.

A Golani soldier boarded our bus and introduced himself as “Adam from Indiana.” I jumped out of my seat and called out, “Adam Stufflebeam!” We ran down the aisle toward each other and hugged. Amazing – *hasgacha pratit* (Divine Providence)! Later our group distributed donated food and supplies. One timely and much appreciated gift were generators so soldiers could charge their phones and call home.

We then visited an Iron Dome missile site outside Sderot. We thanked the soldiers for their service. Just as we left, the unit fired two missiles – we saw two direct hits in the sky above us – as I heard Rabbi Chaim Eisenman from Netiv Areyah put it – it was like the *ananie havod* – the clouds of glory in the *Midbar* (wilderness).

We had an amazing *Shabbos* in Sderot staying in the bomb-proof dorms of the Hesder Yeshiva. The experience of praying, dancing and singing with the soldiers and yeshiva students was moving – the *achdut* (unity) palpable! The Hesder Yeshiva has a powerful presence in Sderot and is a key moral force for not only the students but the citizens of Sderot. About 600 soldiers, mostly from the Gefen Brigade were camped nearby on Shabbat.

Shabbos day our group was split up to be



Rick Bentley (center) with some of the Golani soldiers near Gaza, including Adam Stufflebeam, formerly of Indianapolis (second from left).

with families. I ate with the Tzadik family. They were proud, long-time residents of Sderot. I was moved to hear the resolve not to be deterred by the rockets that have been falling for more than 13 years.

The rockets still take a toll. The Tzadik kids sleep in bomb shelters every night. When I asked their nine-year old boy if he knew how to swim I learned they don't let the kids swim because you can't hear the *tevuah odom* (sirens) under water.

Josh Hasten join us on Sunday to be our tour guide. As you may know, Josh is active in Sderot and works closely with the Rabbi David Fendel, the Rosh Yeshiva of the Hesder Yeshiva.

That morning we visited wounded soldiers at Barzilai Medical Center in Ashkelon. One dramatic success story was a soldier who was shot in the jaw but received reconstructive surgery and was now eating solid food – I wish him *“b'tayavon”* (Bon Appetit!) in addition to a *“refuah shelaymah ma'artzot habrit* (A complete healing from the United States)! I was reminded of the *gadlus* (greatness) of the Jewish people, when the General Director of Barzilai, Dr. Chezi Levi pointed out to us that they are currently treating two wounded Hamas terrorists.

We then visited Soroka Hospital in Be'er Sheva. It is a seven minute helicopter ride from Gaza. This is where the more seriously wounded soldiers are flown. The soldiers and their families were most appreciative when we came to wish them a *refuah shelaymah* (complete healing)!

On Monday we visited Dimona and Kiriat Malachi in the south. These are cities targeted for years by Hamas rocket attacks. OU sponsors youth programs in these poorer communities where children have grown up for the past 13 plus years



to *tzeva adom* (red alerts).

The final day we had a briefing by Col. Benjy Gruber – he mentioned the moral challenges facing our *chayelim* (soldiers) – as Hamas use children as human shields and hide in ambulances – they often have only seconds to react. (Note: Col. Gruber is going to be the US in October. I would love to get him here to speak to us, and more importantly to college students at IU and IUPUI.)

It was an intensive four-day trip. This was the shortest of my ten trips to Israel but in many ways one that will probably leave the biggest impact. The level of resolve to uproot Hamas was palpable.

In conclusion: *Karas hatov* (gratitude) to: my wife Caryn for her *bracha* (blessing) to go to Sderot with less than 48 hours notice; the brave soldiers who we *daven* (pray) for every day; and OU for its leadership and in particular to our trip organizers and leaders – Rabbis Tvi Weintraub, Steven Weil and Avi Berman (Note: Next time you buy something with an OU *heckscher*, keep in mind a portion of *kashrut* funding goes directly to Israel and its *kiruv* and youth programming in places such as Kiriat Malachi, Dimona and Ofakim.) Lastly, (see Solidarity, page IN 12)

# JERUSALEM to open at downtown Indy IMAX Theater®

On September 19, the downtown Indianapolis IMAX will premiere *JERUSALEM*, – narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch, presented by National Geographic Entertainment – a captivating new film that explores on a grand scale the intersection of science, history and religion in this mysterious city. *JERUSALEM* follows three young women of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths who call the city home.

*JERUSALEM* gives audiences a rare glimpse of the ancient, storied city, as well as exclusive access to iconic holy sites and little-known parts of the region – including the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Dome of the Rock, the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee, and the mountain fortress of Masada.

Filmmakers were granted special permission in the region’s strict no-fly zone, enabling them to capture the first-ever large format aerial images of the Old City and throughout the Holy Land.

An original production from Cosmic Picture and Arcane Pictures and distributed by National Geographic Entertainment, the 43-minute large format film was executive produced by the late Jake Eberts, legendary producer of movies such as *Gandhi*, *Chariots of Fire*, and *Dances with Wolves*; produced by Taran Davies, George Duffield and Daniel Ferguson; and written and directed by Daniel Ferguson. Large format industry veteran Reed Smoot, ASC is Director of Photography.

For a chance to win free tickets, follow @IMAXIndy on Twitter. To stay updated on ticket information, like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/imaxindy](http://www.facebook.com/imaxindy) or visit the official IMAX Indy website, [www.imaxindy.com](http://www.imaxindy.com).

(see Jerusalem, page IN 11)

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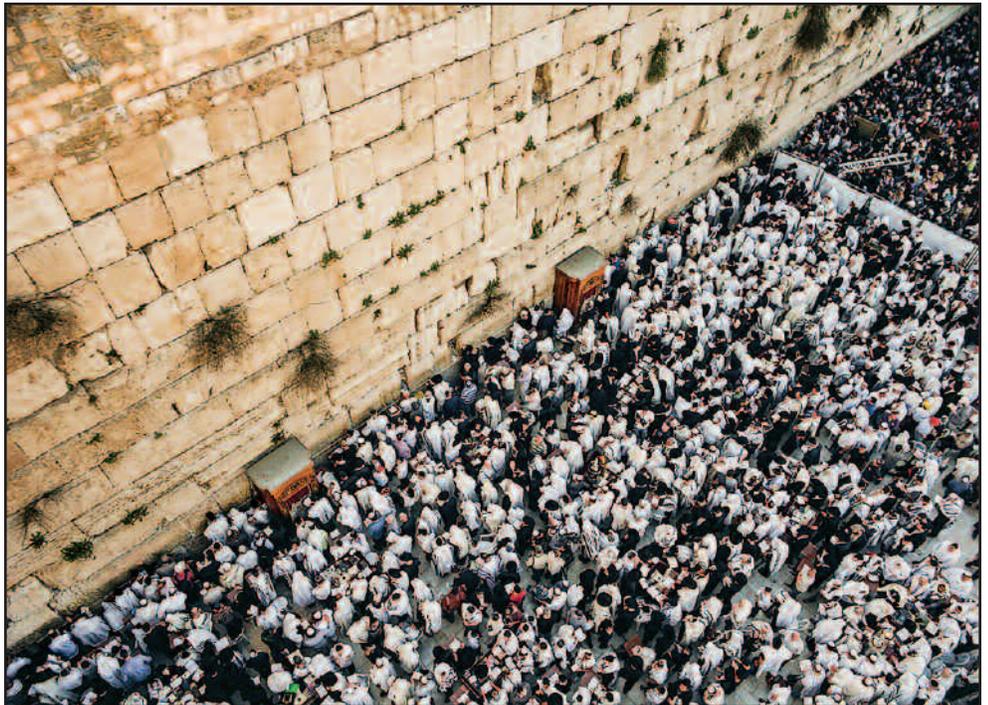


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Images from Jerusalem: (above) Worshippers gather at The Western Wall; (below) Sun sets over the hills of Jerusalem.



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## Ayecha - Where are you? The Shofar sounds



BY RABBI AUDREY S. POLLACK

*Suddenly you are awakened by a strange noise, a noise that fills the full field of your consciousness and then splits into several jagged strands, shattering that field, shaking you awake. The ram's horn, the shofar, the same instrument that will sound one hundred times on Rosh Hashanah, the same sound that filled the world when the Torah was spoken into being on Mount Sinai, is being blown to call you to wakefulness. You awake to confusion. Where are you? Who are you?*

~ Excerpt from *This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation*, by Rabbi Alan Lew.

Welcome to *Elul*. The month of Elul ushers in the season of awakening, on our way to the new year that awaits, as we move through the cycle of the *Yamim Noraim*, the Days of Awe. It is traditional to hear the sound of the shofar every morning in Elul, reminding us that we need to wake up and realize who we really are, and where we have been on our journey. The shofar calls us to come back, to return to God and to who God created us to be. The sound of the shofar calls us to wake up to how we are living and how we want to live, how we want to change. We are entering the new year. The shofar calls to us: "What am I doing in this moment of my life?"

Have you thought about how you would like to grow and change in the coming year? The sound of the shofar calls to us: You are more than your long list of errands to check off this week, you are more than the report that you need to write, you are more than the shortcomings that you see in yourself for all that you have not done. Where are you? Who are you? Who have you been? Who would you like to be in the coming year?

The shofar's call reminds us to pay attention. As we go on this journey of life, we are not alone. Others are walking in front of us, beside us, and behind us. God's presence is with us. We must give careful attention to what we do, what we say, what we think, and how we respond to those whom we meet along the way. The blast of the shofar echoes within us. What are we called to do? Who have we been created to be? Are we living each day with mindfulness, with purpose, with awareness? When we hear the shofar's call, we awaken to the journey that we are all on, each and every day, that is most often buried beneath the layers of everything we think is important. The

shofar calls us back to our center and reminds us of what is of real importance: reconnecting with our souls, with who we are, with our family, our friends, our God. This journey of return, this path of *teshuvah* is not a ten-day process between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. It is not only a yearlong journey, but a lifelong journey of our souls. We need to look at ourselves each day and see who we are and where we are going.

We are all on a journey. Where that journey will take you in the next 60 days is up to you. May this year 5775 be for all of us a year of blessing, health, joy,

and return.

*Rabbi Pollack has led Temple Israel in West Lafayette, Ind., since 2002. ★*



### JERUSALEM

(continued from page IN 10)

For more information on *JERUSALEM*, including links to the trailer and behind-the-scenes videos, visit [www.jerusalemthemovie.com](http://www.jerusalemthemovie.com). Become a fan on Facebook at [facebook.com/jerusalemthemovie](http://facebook.com/jerusalemthemovie). Or follow us on Twitter @Jerusalem\_Movie, #jerusalemfilm. ★

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## High Holidays

BY RABBI BRIAN BESSER

### My Kol Shofar 5775 message

When I first began my meditation training (through the Institute of Jewish Spirituality), I figured success would be measured by the ability to maintain focus on the breath for longer and longer periods of time. However, the instructor taught that the essence of meditation is not the breath itself but *returning* the breath. Distracting thoughts are an inevitable product of the human brain. The sudden realization that the mind has wandered – the *aha* moment, the coming alive, the reawakening into the present – *that's* the precious gift of meditation. In that instant the task is to congratulate oneself for regaining awareness, to register without criticism where the mind has strayed, and to gently escort it back to the breath.

The process of meditation is an exact blueprint for *teshuvah*. The point of righteous living is not to maintain a state of blamelessness for longer and longer stretches. Rather, the primary aim of righteousness is to commit to repentance as soon as we become aware that we have transgressed. When we deviate – not if we deviate, but when we deviate – our job is to register where we have strayed and to gently escort ourselves back to our True intention. These moments of *teshuvah* are more precious, more productive, and, ultimately, more joyful than extended periods of virtuousness, as the Talmud confirms: “where the *ba'al teshuvah* stands, the *tzaddik* cannot stand.” (*bBerachot* 34b)

Throughout this High Holiday season and beyond, may we be blessed with bountiful moments of recognition that we have wandered off our path, and may we accompany ourselves back with courage, compassion, and conviction.

*Rabbi Besser has been leading Congregation Beth Shalom in Bloomington, Ind., since 2012. ★*



### SOLIDARITY

(continued from page IN 9)

*karas tov* to our own Josh Hasten for the great tours and commitment to the people of S'derot.

Finally, please continue to show your support for Israel by: sending financial contributions; writing letters to Congress thanking them for Iron Dome and

## Best wishes for a sweet New Year

Congregation Beth-El Zedeck  
Rabbis Dennis & Sandy Sasso  
Rabbi Hal Schevitz  
Cantorial Associate Melissa Cohen  
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Join us in the New Year for many enriching programs in The Alan and Linda Cohen Center for Jewish Learning and Living.  
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### SELICHOT EVENING

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Be inspired by the music of internationally-acclaimed singer/songwriter Michael Hunter Ochs, whose work has been featured in major motion pictures and on soundtracks of popular television series. He is internationally recognized for his Hebrew and Jewish worship music.

### LIGHT, LIVING, LAUGHTER and HOPE:

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Saturday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.

at Christian Theological Seminary

Join Rabbi Sandy Sasso and Quaker songwriter Carrie Newcomer for a very special interfaith evening of stories and songs that express the common quest of the soul. *Fee: \$20; students and retirees, \$15*

*Presented by The Alan and Linda Cohen Center for Jewish Learning and Living at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck and Christian Theological Seminary in partnership with Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University, Indiana Writers Center, and Storytelling Arts of Indiana. This program is part of the Spirit & Place Festival.*

supporting Israel; and visiting Israel and on your next trip include Sderot – it's a beautiful city and the people are amazing!

*Am Yisrael chai!*

*Rick Bentley is a member of Congregation B'nai Torah in Indianapolis. ★*

## South Bend: The Hidden Jewish Jewel



BY PAUL CREEGER

After completing a challenging final semester at Yeshiva University, I was ready for a break from the pace and pressure of New York City. Feeling both excited and adventurous, although slightly apprehensive, I boarded the small plane that would take me to my new home for the next three weeks, South Bend, Ind.

Descending from the small plane that landed in an even smaller airport, I passed a sign that read "Welcome to Northern Indiana, the RV Capital of the World". I started to imagine walking into synagogue and seeing shotgun-toting men in red plaid shirts, each with a hefty beard and a trucker's cap. Though I was feeling many emotions, apprehension was surely the most dominant.

Suddenly, a car pulled up next to me. In it was a man in his 30s wearing a big smile (but no shotgun, trucker's cap, or plaid shirt). Recognizing me as the spaced out Jewish kid, he steps out of his car and introduces himself, "You *must* be Paul". He put my bag in the car, and we began to drive towards the Jewish community.

After settling down and attending synagogue for afternoon prayers, I no longer had the fear of an urban city dweller stranded in a stereotypical small town. The community was extremely warm and inviting, hospitable in a way that made me feel at home, not just a visitor being hosted for a few weeks.

Although small, the Jewish community had an amazing atmosphere of respect for all, a desire for growth, and passion for Torah. From what I saw and heard, the members of the community only had the nicest things to say about the rabbi, a rarity in this day and age. Furthermore, there were always community members in the study hall at nights learning alongside the members of the local Kollel. It was clear that Torah was always on everyone's minds.

Every night of the week, we (myself and the other intern) ate at a different home in the community, an opportunity we cherished because it gave us a broader understanding of the South Bend Jewish community. Day after day, I grew more impressed by the way families were raising their children. I am surely no expert on child rearing, but it was clear that they were all doing something very right. The respect children gave to their parents, their willingness to listen, learn and grow, reflected the kind and genteel culture of the community in which they were being raised.

Outside of the Jewish community, my internship was truly an enjoyable learning experience as well. The people I worked with, mainly machinists and engineers, were such unique and colorful people that just meeting them and hearing each individual's story was enlightening. But they imparted professional wisdom as well, each of my coworkers teaching me important lessons on a daily basis.

My immediate supervisor made sure that I was constantly busy on real tasks while also receiving a broader view of the kinds of things handled by engineers. In speaking with the employees and working in the environment myself, the consensus was that the success of the company was due to the respect afforded to each employee and the practice of hiring only wholesome individuals who genuinely cared for each other.

The way the staff looked up to the Jewish company owner was an amazing *Kiddush Hashem* (sanctification of G-d's name). I had never seen anything quite like it before. They respected him for giving them the respect they deserved. It was beautiful in its simplicity.

I am grateful for having the opportunity to spend time working on an internship in South Bend. I enjoyed the hands on experience and direct mentorship, and I

will treasure my memories of the daily exposure to Jewish pride, love of Torah and Kiddush Hashem on a grand scale.

My summer internship opened my eyes to many things, among them the true nature of America's small Jewish communities. I didn't quite know what to expect, but now I know that South Bend is a small, dignified, and cohesive community that lives according to true Torah values.

*Paul Creeger, a resident of Olney, Md., is an undergraduate student at Yeshiva University. This summer, he spent three weeks in South Bend, Ind., as part of YU's Center for the Jewish Future summer internship program. ★*

## L'SHANAH TOVAH



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## שנה טובה

# Greetings for a sweet and joyous 5775!



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## HHAI leads private schools in ISTEP gains

Indianapolis private schools score high, but most saw ISTEP drops. The share of Indianapolis private schools that lost ground on ISTEP exceeded the state average.

By SCOTT ELLIOTT

**Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis** (HHAI), in Washington Township, was the highest scoring private school in Indianapolis and also had one of the biggest gains over last year.

While many Indianapolis private schools were among the state's very highest scoring on this year's ISTEP test, a surprisingly high number of them saw lower scores than in 2013.

Statewide, about 43 percent of about 300 private schools did worse this year than last year. In Indianapolis, it was a majority of private schools – 55 percent – that lost ground from the prior year.

There are some factors to consider in those results.

ISTEP is only given in grades 3 to 8, so private high schools, some of which tend to be high-performing, are not included. Also, not all private schools with elementary grades take the state test. It is not required for private schools. And many of the schools that lost ground from the prior year were only down slightly from where they were.

That appeared to be the case for several Indianapolis Catholic schools that dropped less than two percentage points from the prior year but still saw more than 90 percent of kids pass.

Helping fuel strong Catholic school results each year is consistency, said Greg Otolski, a spokesman for the Indianapolis Archdiocese.

"Students who attend Catholic schools are well prepared and do well on the test," he said. "A lot of that has to do with what we get with kids who come to our schools. We get them early and they tend

to stay. When we can get kids in early grades and keep them, we do a very good job of teaching them the basic building blocks to be good students through their entire lives."

In Marion County about one-third of private schools rank in the top quarter for percent passing both English and math on ISTEP among more than 1,800 schools who took the exam statewide. That percentage is four times higher than the percentage of schools ranked in the state's top quarter for all eight Marion County townships combined (8%) and almost eight times more than Indianapolis Public Schools (5%) and all of the county's charter schools combined (4%).

Five of the state's top 10 schools for percent passing ISTEP were private schools, including **Indianapolis' Hasten Hebrew Academy, ranked eighth with 98.2 percent passing.**

**Principal Miriam Gettinger** said Hasten made a concerted effort to reach for very high scores this year that paid off.

The school has had a long run of very high passing rates in the range of 90 to 95 percent passing, but last year slipped to a still very high 89.3 percent.

Gettinger said the staff went to work figuring out what their students needed help with.

"After last year we did some very careful data analysis of our school and their scores," she said.

The school does not have access to diagnostic tests that public schools use to prepare for the state test, Gettinger said, so teachers created their own mini-tests with ISTEP-like questions focused on areas they identified as weaknesses for their students.

One example was math problem-solving. Teachers wrote ISTEP-style questions that students took each week to check on how well they were learning the concepts from class and figuring out how to apply them for the state exam.

In writing, students got more practice in ISTEP-like essay questions, writing narrative or persuasive essays each week.

At the same time, Hasten is solidifying a curriculum change it made about five years ago, with a heavier focus on critical thinking skills and writing in all subjects, even art, music and physical education.

"At the end of gym, they'll write a reflection on the activity or a social scenario, like competition," Gettinger said.

The curriculum changes, she said, made Hasten a stronger school.

"We absolutely will not teach to a test," Gettinger said.

In Marion County, eight of the top 10 ranked schools for ISTEP passing rate are (see ISTEP, page IN 21)



*L'Shana Tova to the Jewish community from*

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The Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis is a Jewish coeducational school whose purpose is to educate students of the entire Indianapolis Jewish community from preschool through the eighth grade. Committed to serving the entire Jewish community, the Academy welcomes children from a broad range of backgrounds and beliefs, recognizing and respecting the dignity of those beliefs.

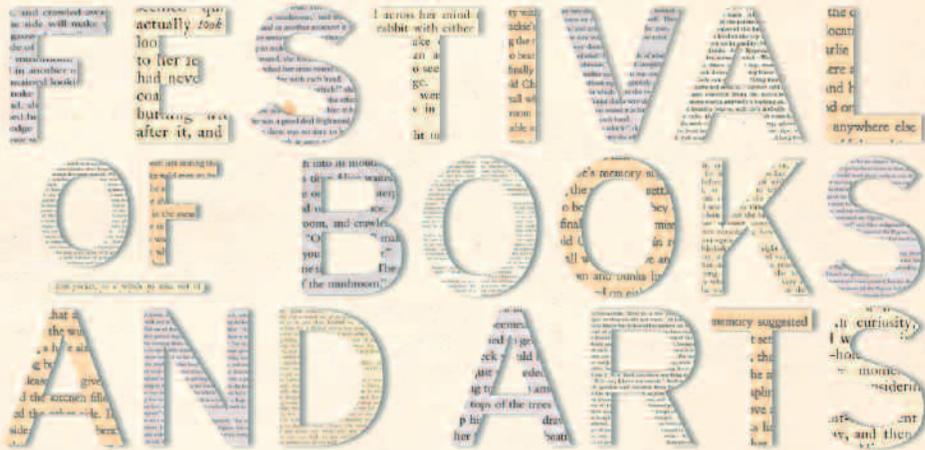
### Students attending the Hasten Hebrew Academy benefit from:

- ✓ Pilot school for ISTEM (Instruction of science, technology, engineering, mathematics) Science Literacy connection/inquiry program sponsored by Purdue University
- ✓ Excellent ISTEP scores: Ranked 8th in the entire state of Indiana for 2013-2014 with Science scores 25 points above the state average, and rated an A school by the Indiana Department of Education
- ✓ Four Star Accreditation (only awarded to schools with high ISTEP+ scores)
- ✓ Reggio Emilia based Early Childhood program
- ✓ Early Childhood CCDF Certification (vouchers available to attend quality preschools)
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# Rainbow of Happiness

BY PEARL SCHILLER JOFFE



The little girl was disgusted. She was walking home quickly to tell what had happened at school that day. She had been looking forward to the annual Worldwide Fourth Grade Pageant, and now it was all over for her. Her mother knowing how much the Pageant meant to her daughter greeted her at the door.

"How did it go?" she inquired.

"It was terrible," the little girl answered.

"What happened?"

"Well," the little girl lamented, her long red curls bobbing across her freckled face. "There were all kinds of pretty costumes and stuff," she hurried on, "and Nanci put on a black wig, Carol Ann got to wear wooden shoes, Mary tried on one swirly skirt after another and I got to try on nothing."

And like all good mothers would have said, "Well, dear, I'm sure you'll be in it next year."

"But I am in it this year," she wailed.

"You are? Will you be helping backstage?" asked her mother.

"No. I don't get to wear a dark wig for the Spanish Girl, I don't get to wear wooden shoes like the Dutch Girl, and no swirly skirts at all. And then, in a resigned voice, she blurted out, 'I'm the "All-American Girl." I just go the way I am."

The father had just come in and upon hearing the end of his daughter's sorry tale, took the hand of his wife who by now had tears in her eyes. Why were the parents so moved by their daughter's feat? Why were my parents? (Of course I was that little girl).

They came to America as Russian Jews during the Tsarist era. They lived to see a symbolic honor bestowed to their prickly-sweet adored daughter in the very next generation. Could that have explained the happy tears?

Why am I having this recollection of a past event? The Hebrew year of 5774, that's why. Every year during the High Holidays, I muse not on what might have been, but, rather on what already has taken place.

In our small town of Elkhart in northern Indiana, there were few Jewish families and no Sunday school. For the Holidays, a young rabbinical student would conduct services in a hall above a retail store. It was an informal setting. The men wore fedora hats and yarmulkes while noisy children darted back and forth to their parents' chairs.

Someone thought, one day, that they should try to have a Sunday school experience for the few children that were part of the dwindling Jewish community. They would use the back room of the

larger facility used for the High Holidays.

I still recall my first day at Sunday school. The room was dark with plain walls. I thought the surroundings looked terrific. I would be able to tell my cousins in the larger Jewish communities that I was going to Sunday school, too.

The volunteer teacher handed out pages of biblical characters. We were to fill in the figures. On the first sheet of paper was the face of Moses. I carefully colored his face a bright orange because I wanted his face to stand out. I don't think Sunday school lasted too long but I never knew why.

Since my playmates were all Gentile, but kind, I went where they did, including visiting their churches. Maybe that's the reason I was always hungry for anything pertaining to Judaism.

Once on a Friday, we visited relatives on the northwest side of Chicago.

As I entered the foyer of the four-apartment building, I detected the wonderful aroma of gefilte fish in the whole complex. I thought what a great place this would be to live.

My cousin, affectionately known as Aunt Handel, lived to be 109 and was thought then to be the oldest woman in Indiana. Before I gloat over our family's possible future longevity, I must confess that I also had an uncle who succumbed

to a sudden heart attack at age 42.

A highlight in Aunt Handel's life was the visit of Golda Myerson (later Golda Meir, the fourth prime minister of Israel) as her house guest. Meir had come to South Bend to speak to a controversial Jewish group. I believe it was called the Workmen's Circle.

Another Israeli icon comes to mind. One year at a friend's gathering we were having a discussion about David Ben Gurion, the first prime minister of Israel. My father listened intently to the conversation and then chuckling, he said, "If you ever come across Ben Gurion, you might mention that I am a much better chess player now than I was then."

In 1912, my father was on a ship going to Turkey before immigrating to the United States. On board was David Ben Gurion and he and my father played chess together. Also on the ship was Yitzhak Ben-Zvi who later became a president of Israel. My dad thought that Ben-Zvi was the better speaker of the two patriots.

The year 5774 will not let go of me yet. It is taking me back to long stored memories, not all of them happy. In my hometown, there was not all that much to do for entertainment. We all loved the movies, especially me.

(see Joffe, page IN 18)



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in the East Building of University High School,  
2825 West 116th St. Carmel, IN 46032

*All Services are Open to the Community*

Erev Rosh Hashanah	September 24,	7:30 PM
Rosh Hashanah	September 25,	10:00 AM
Tashlich (at Carmel West Park)	Following AM service	
Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre	October 3,	7:30 PM
Yom Kippur Morning Service	October 4,	10:00 AM
Afternoon Rabbinic Discussion		2:30 PM
Afternoon Service		4:00 PM
Yizkor/N'Eihlah		5:00 PM

More about our Congregation and Services is available on our Website

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

**JOFFE**

(continued from page IN 17)

Wednesdays were movie nights. I cannot recall the movie playing that night but I shall never forget the *Movietone News* that evening. On the screen they were depicting Nazi soldiers marching to “*Deutschland Uber Alles*” (*Germany Over All*). As I was tapping my foot audibly on the bare floor to the rhythmic music, I felt my father’s heavy work shoe pressing down hard on my tapping foot until the Nazi segment was over. No spoken words of disapproval could have more effectively made the point to me. Even though I was a youngster, I understood. We were not to tap to the message of evil.

With the advent of World War II, nothing was ever the same. My brother Arthur like so many thousands of young men was drafted into the service. When he left to go into the army infantry (with 3rd degree flat feet), we took our turns saying good-bye. He kissed me, then our Mom and walked over to Dad. My Dad did not believe in kissing his children because he thought old people could give young people germs. Not this time!

He hugged my brother and then kissed his only son on the lips. At one point during the war, we had not heard from him in three months. My parents were

beside themselves with worry. Finally, a letter arrived. It had fallen out of the mailbox into the snow. A neighbor walking his dog found it and brought it to the door. It was from my brother.

The letter went something like this: “Dear Folks, Sorry I couldn’t write sooner. There has been heavy fighting here. Hope you’re all ok. Love, Art”

He was never that much on writing. My parents though, must have thought it deserved the Pulitzer Prize for Literature, they were so happy and relieved. He survived the war gaining a Bronze Star. Another member of our family was not so fortunate.

One summer, my cousin Buddy, while attending military school in the south, visited us at our lake home in Michigan. He was tall and good-looking with long blonde hair. Buddy was knowledgeable on any subject. I was somewhat of a scholar then, and not too thrilled having a cousin that bright – sort of a cousin rivalry.

He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the army. During the “Battle of the Bulge” he volunteered to lead a scouting mission into enemy territory. He was mortally wounded there. Because of intense fighting, his body was not found for a month. He was 19 years old.

What has motivated me so to look back and center my thoughts on World War II?

Could it be because the scurrilous seeds of anti-Semitism are again streaming throughout Europe? I don’t know the answer, but I do know that in My America, we squash those sinister overtures of hate quickly.

One last memory was of May 8, 1945, and light rain had fallen. I remember it vividly as I also recall the spectacular arc of a rainbow which had suddenly emerged. It was perfectly formed and seemed to beckon, “It’s alright, you can come back in, the war is over now.” That “Rainbow of Happiness” seemed to offer hope for the future. Yes, VE Day had come forth.

Finally, 5774 is ending its hold over me. As my personal journey into the attics of the past subside, may 5775 breathe in the fresh air of a better world for us all.

My secret wish, though, is to be transported one more time into that back room with the bare walls at Sunday school. I want to color again the face of Moses, this time with a darker, more somber hue of orange. After all, he’s been through a lot with our people. Besides, he’s a little older.

*Pearl Joffe is a free-lance writer who lives in Indianapolis. She has written for the Indianapolis Times, the Register, the Saturday Evening Post and other publications. She has also done live interviews, including one with Ginger Rogers. ☆*

## ETZ CHAIM SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION

B”H

Shana Tova  
Tizku leshanim rabbot

Best wishes, good health and happiness to the entire  
Community for the coming year



## Hadassah's Young Judea summer tour



BY NAOMI FARAHAN

It's two in the morning in Carmel, Ind. I can't sleep. I've been home from Israel for more than two weeks now. I was there from July 3–Aug. 1. Writing about Israel is hard, because deep inside I know that I cannot fully capture what this summer meant to me. I can name my favorite sights, and I can tell you about the funniest moments. We can sit for coffee and I can say, as I have said countless times, that I have been moved and changed. I can explain that rather than become a different person, I became a better defined version of myself. But I cannot really put these feelings into words. This is my best attempt.

I have always been proud of my Judaism. My religion has never held me back. But before this trip, I wasn't quite sure what being Jewish meant to me. It was passed on by my parents, and it was something I wanted to continue for the sake of my children. But I wasn't sure why. This summer, I connected to parts of myself that I can't quite name. I guess I call that religion.



Jerusalem. Photo by Naomi Farahan.

This does not mean that I returned home observing more *mitzvot*, but I do feel more Jewish regardless. My friends on the trip felt the same way, as if this spirituality had awoken in us. My Jewish identity no longer exists because it's expected of me, but because I experience it, I breathe it and I feel it in everything I do.

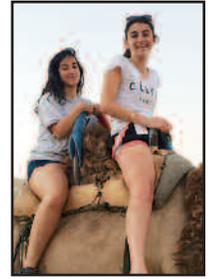
I was incredibly nervous to meet the other kids on my tour. Looking back, I had every reason to be. My life will never be the same. Every friend that I made is important to me for a different reason. I learned something new from everyone that I came across. I feel exceedingly blessed to have spent five weeks with some of the most incredible people I have ever met. We came into each other's

lives very quickly, and I hope we never leave. I know that I will never forget how they made me feel. Those things just don't go away.

For several days after I got home, my eyes were glued to the television screen. Back in the States I feel so removed from the situation in Israel. Everyone welcomed me back with open arms, exclaiming, "You must have been so scared!" All the while, I just want to go back to Israel. I just want to go back home. I now have a much better grasp of what Zionism means to me. No matter where I am, what I'm doing, Israel is my home. As a part of the Discovery program, I gained the proper tools to speak out as an advocate for my home. I am a more realistic, knowledgeable ambassador for Israel.

I feel inclined to be honest here. I have realized that I am incredibly self-centered. Perhaps it's ingrained in our "Selfie Culture," and maybe it's just me. But now when I watch the news, I know that there is so much more to the story. This leads to me to wonder about the millions of other

(see Farahan, page IN 22)



## CNN to air documentary on the 70th anniversary of Auschwitz liberation

Wolf Blitzer, CNN news anchor and reporter, with Eva Kor, Holocaust survivor and founder of C.A.N.D.L.E.S. Museum in Terre Haute, Ind., at Auschwitz for filming of documentary airing in January 2015.



# Rosh Hashanah

September 24 through September 26



**For all your Kosher needs please visit our stores at:**

**2550 Lake Circle Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 45268**

**1365 East 86th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46240**

**EVENTS**

*(continued from page IN 5)*

updates and see samples of some of the items for sale on their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/collectorsclosetsale](http://www.facebook.com/collectorsclosetsale).

If you would like more information, please contact Sonja Kantor at 317-253-3815 or email [sonja.kantor@gmail.com](mailto:sonja.kantor@gmail.com). We are still taking donations of jewelry, purses and furs. Contact her to arrange pick-up or drop it off at IHC. Donation receipts are available

**Congregation Shaarey Tefilla – Torah on the Road new format**

Instead of being a monthly program held at downtown and northern locations, our new program, Weekday Torah, will be a **weekly** study session of the Torah portion of the week held in the synagogue library. Day and time to be decided.

*The Observant Life* Book Discussion is held on the **1st** and **3rd Wednesdays** monthly at CST from 7:15–8:30 p.m.

**Jewish and Personal Ethics class**

Ongoing class on Jewish and Personal Ethics from the Ram Chal (Moses Chaim Luzzato) has been meeting on **Wednesdays** at Hooverwood at 10:30 a.m., but the time is flexible and can be changed if need be. Call facilitator Marty Silverman 513-1418 to confirm the day and time.

**Libby Fogle Lunch Bunch**

Meets at noon at the Arthur M. Glick JCC **every Tues. and Thurs.** except on holidays. Suggestion donation for kosher lunch is \$2. Reservations not required except for special holiday lunches. Transportation available within a limited area at a minimal cost. For more info call Ruthie Gal 557-2265 or Christy Morris 259-6822. ★



**ISTEP**

*(continued from page IN 14)*

private schools, along with two IPS schools: Sidener Academy, a magnet school for gifted students which ranked No. 1 statewide at 100 percent passing, and School 84, a Center for Inquiry magnet school, which ranked 20th statewide with 96.3 percent passing.

Most of the county's top 10 are Catholic schools, led by Immaculate Heart of Mary School on Indianapolis' north side at 94.7 percent passing.

*Excerpt reprinted with permission from August 26, 2014 on [inchalkbeat.org](http://inchalkbeat.org) (see full article). Chalkbeat Indiana is a nonprofit Indiana education news website that is independent, but philanthropy funded. Elliott can be reached at [selliott@chalkbeat.org](mailto:selliott@chalkbeat.org). ★*



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

**Indiana Jewish  
Historical Society**



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**OBITUARIES**

(continued from page IN 8)

Little 500 at Indiana University. He proudly served in the United States Army with a top secret clearance during the Korean War. Edward was a successful businessman, owning liquor stores in Indianapolis. He also owned and operated a collection agency until his retirement in 2004.

He was an avid bowler, bowling in seven different leagues each week and was the winner of the Indianapolis Match Game Championship in 1958. Edward was a lifetime member of Sertoma, The Service Club of Indiana, B'nai B'rith, and was a former member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck and Congregation B'nai Torah.

He is survived by his wife, Anita C. Mitchell; children, Greg (Marla) Mitchell and Julie (David) Nelson; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Aug. 24 at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the American Heart Association.

**Steven Harlan Ancel 77**, of Carmel, Ind., was born Feb. 26, 1937 and died Aug. 14 surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by the love of his life and wife of 56 years, Sorelle; three daughters, Robin

(Bob) Zacharias, Kim (Mark) Greenhall, and Cori (Steve) Katz; brother, Jerald (Gayle) Ancel; ten grandchildren, Josh, Alli, Jeremy, Lauren, Evan, Sarah, Jordan, Haley, Lindsey, and Campbell; brother and sister-in-laws, Janine (Dean) Rothschild and Jean (Martin) Lewis; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Steve graduated from Shortridge H.S., Indiana University, and Indiana University Maurer School of Law. An accomplished commercial lawyer, Steve headed Indiana's largest bankruptcy reorganization firm. He was a 30-year distinguished panelist on the Indiana Continuing Education Bankruptcy Law Seminar, and Director & Chairman of the Bankruptcy & Insolvency Section of the Indpls. Bar Assn. He was elected a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. He was listed in the Best Lawyers in America for 28 years, since its inception until he retired, and was named the 2012 Indiana Bar Foundation Legendary Lawyer.

Funeral services were held on Aug. 17 at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. Memorial donations may be made to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck or the charity of your choice. Arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**. ✨



# Share the Blessings

BY RABBI JUDY SHANKS

In the New Year that begins now, these are my wishes for you...

May you see a good play, hear a great piece of music and see no flashing police lights behind you.

May you have bread to eat, a roof over your head, and clothing to wear, and may you provide them for the hungry, the ragged, and the homeless.

May strangers greet you with smiles, and little children with wet kisses.

May you have enough wealth to be able to give to charities, and enough left over to provide you with necessities.

May the water you drink be pure and the majority of your thoughts be the same.

May your stocks rise and your interest payments fall.

May you discover a hidden talent, and may your pill box gather dust on the shelf.

May you bypass the latest things and hold on to the lasting things.

May you make a living, but never neglect making a life.

May peace reign over Israel, and the world become safe to live in.

And if Elijah brings the Messiah into your home next *Pesach*, may you recognize and welcome him...or her.

And if the Messiah doesn't come, may you try to make this a better world, and maybe the Messiah will come next year.

And in the meantime, may God be with you...and may you know it.

*Rabbi Shanks serves Temple Isaiah in Lafayette, Calif.* ✨



## FARAHAN

(continued from page IN 19)

stories that are happening in the world right now that I am unaware of, and suddenly my problems are so small. I have spent so much time worrying about my next step and my own future, when there are so many next steps and futures that I have not taken the time to learn about.

But none of this makes me feel small or insignificant. More than ever, I intend to harness my skills and become a leader that speaks out for Israel. None of us are small. It's not that at all. All of our perspectives add up to be something very big and I hope to shape someone's perspective someday. The Young Judaea Discovery Program has certainly shaped mine.

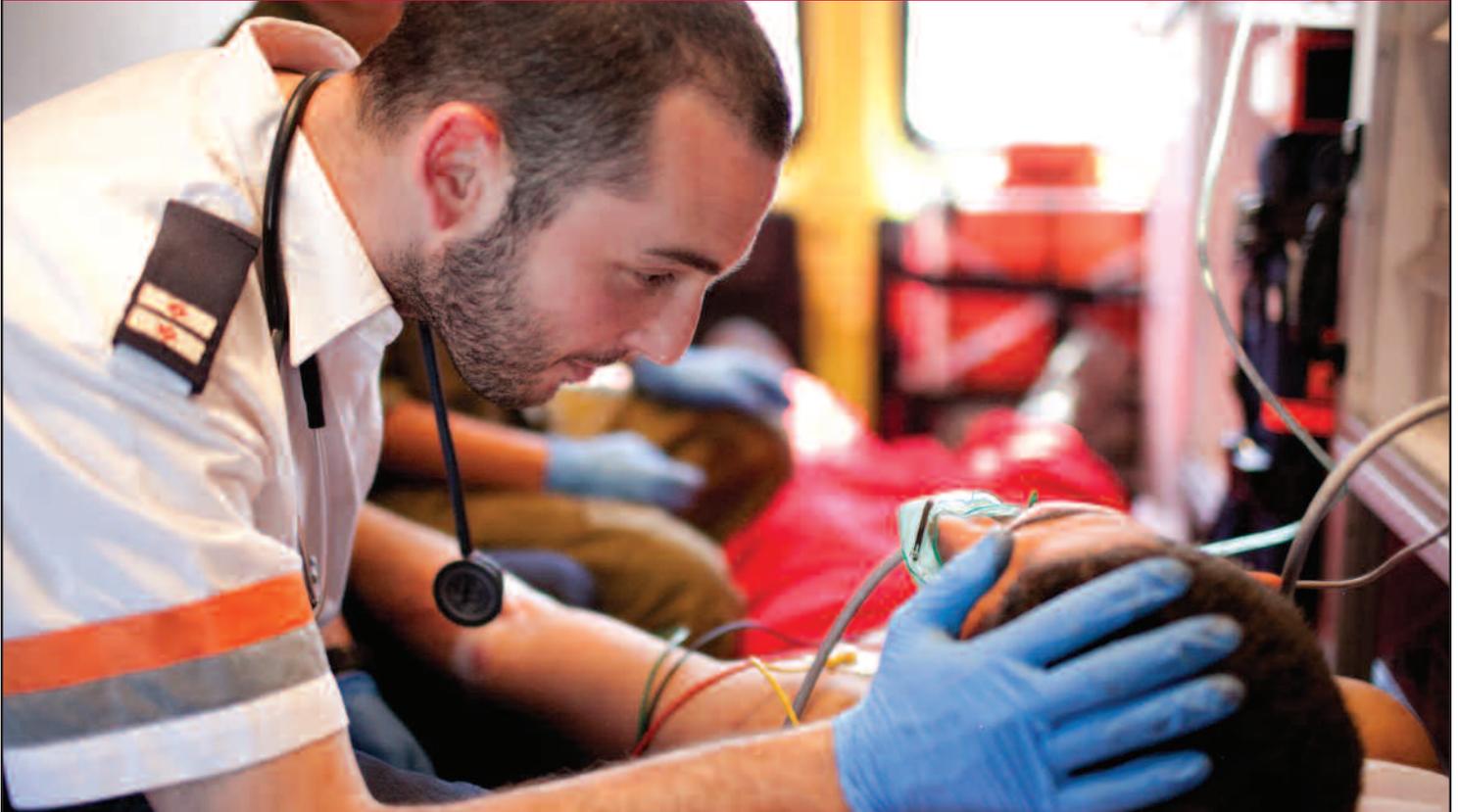
*Naomi Farahan is a senior at University High School of Indiana in Carmel, Ind. She is the recipient of Hadassah's Young Leaders of Tomorrow Award. This award allowed her to travel with Young Judaea to Greece and Israel as a part of a summer tour.* ✨

The Board of Directors  
and the Foundation of  
**Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation**  
along with its Brotherhood, Sisterhood,  
Youth Groups, Staff and Members wish you  
**L'Shana Tova!**  
May 5775 be a Happy, Healthy, and  
Prosperous year for us all.



**Rabbi Brett Krichiver**  
**Cantor Janice Roger**

# At Magen David Adom, saving lives is what we do.



Whether the emergency is a rocket attack or a heart attack, the paramedics of Magen David Adom, Israel's emergency medical response and blood-banking agency, save lives in Israel every day. As we enter the new year hoping for peace, we must continue to prepare for routine and terror-related emergencies, replenishing supplies depleted during Operation Protective Edge. If you're looking to make a difference for Israel and secure the nation's health and safety for the coming year, there's no better way than through a gift to MDA. **Please give today. Shanah Tovah.**



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# Congregation B'nai Torah honors Mark and Anna Ruth Hasten and Dr. Larry Greenbaum

## The Jewish Post & Opinion

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Indianapolis, IN 46260

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Congregation B'nai Torah held its annual dinner Sunday, August 24, this year honoring Mark and Anna Ruth Hasten with a Lifetime Achievement Award and Dr. Larry Greenbaum with the Jeff Frank Synagogue Service Award. The full hall of well-wishers enjoyed the catering Dina Cohen. ✨



Dr. Larry Greenbaum with his son, Aaron.

Mark and  
Anna Ruth  
Hasten.



## NOW MORE THAN EVER, IT'S TIME TO LOOK BEYOND OUR LABELS

Let's use this Rosh Hashanah to create a sweeter New Year by standing together. Because no matter how we label ourselves—we are all Jews. That's what matters. You can do that by giving generously to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. Your gift helps support our brothers and sisters in Indianapolis, Israel and in our entire global community.

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