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The Four Firsts: Women Rabbis in American Judaism

You are invited to witness the unfolding of a historic moment in Indianapolis: The first women rabbis from each of the four movements in American Judaism will come together to tell their stories of unparalleled struggles for acceptance, recognition, and equality.

Rabbi Sally Priesand, Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, Rabbi Amy Eilberg, and Rabba Sara Hurwitz will share their inspiring narratives and experiences in a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Gary Zola, Director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.

What was it like to be the first? How different were their lives as a result? How different are our lives because of women like them? How much has changed, and what is the future? Join them for the answers to these and other questions, or pose your own.

On December 6, 2010, the four rabbis met for the first time at Temple Reyim in Newton, Massachusetts. With a group of about 30 other women rabbis, they lit Hanukkah candles and spoke about their experiences in an open forum.¹

Priesand, Sasso, Eilberg, and Hurwitz met again on June 3, 2012 at Monmouth Reform Temple in Tinton Falls, New Jersey for a celebration honoring the four first



Rabbi Sally Priesand
Reform
Ordained in 1972



Rabbi Sandy Sasso
Reconstructionist
Ordained in 1974



Rabbi Amy Eilberg
Conservative
Ordained in 1985



Rabba Sara Hurwitz
Orthodox
Ordained in 2009

women Jewish spiritual leaders to be ordained in their respective denominations, and the 40th anniversary of Priesand's ordination.¹

And now they gather again – this time near the 30th anniversary of Eilberg's ordination – **Thursday, April 30, 2015** at 7:00 p.m. at Congregation Beth-El Zedek for *An Extraordinary Evening in Indianapolis*.

The program is free and open to the public – made possible through the Judaism, Arts, Interfaith and Civic Engagement Fund in honor of Rabbis Dennis and (see **Four Firsts**, page IN 3)

Matisyahu played at Israelpalooza

Students Supporting Israel at Indiana University and the IU Hillel presented the much loved Jewish musician Matisyahu at their Israelpalooza: Declare Your Freedom Music Festival on April 14 in Dunn Meadow in Bloomington, Ind. A good turnout led to a successful event with good interaction between the students and the different narratives of Israel. This event was promoted and sponsored by the Israeli *shaliach* program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis. ✪



(L-R): Guitar player, Aaron Dugan, Community Shaliach, Roy Swisa, and Matisyahu before the concert.

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Simcha Announcements

Mazel Tov to...

Elyse Hershenson (below), daughter of **Marvin** and **Michelle Hershenson** married **Kenny Freed**, son of **Richie** and **Nancy Freed** of Houston on March 1, 2015 in Sunny Isles, Fla. Kenny is a tax attorney and an Associate at Crady, Jewett and McCulley, LLP. Elyse was formerly a TV News Reporter and Anchor for News 12 of Long Island. The couple is now residing in Houston.

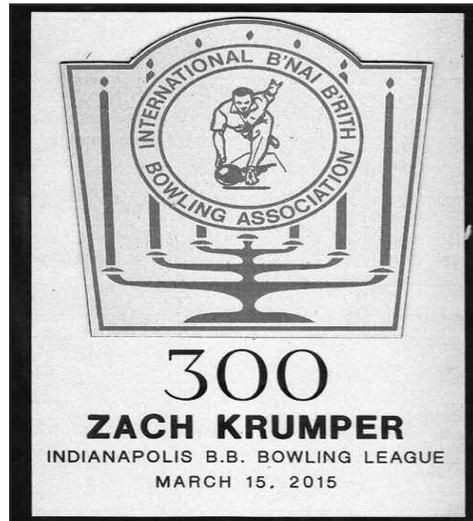


Melissa Cohen has been appointed to the position of Cantor at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. She has worked in the field of Jewish education and counseling, community service and pulpit duties for the past 20 years. She has enriched High Holy Day and *Shabbat* and holiday services, as well as other events in the community, with her skills as a musician, worship leader, teacher and spiritual model of Judaism. She has brought her passion and spirited voice to encourage participation in the life of the synagogue. She will continue to pursue her studies and be mentored by Rabbi Sasso. *Announced by Congregation Beth-El Zedeck President Ellen Gabovitch.*



Zach Krumper, 23, bowling in the Indianapolis B'nai Brith Bowling League at Woodland Bowl rolled a perfect 300 game on Sun., March 15. This was his second perfect game this season making his high 3-game series 725 for the current season. Zach is the son of **Robbie** and **Paul Krumper** of Carmel, Ind. His mother and younger brother, **Brandon**, also bowl in this league with a total of 24 bowlers. The officers of the league are **Adam**

Gilman, president; **David Sklar**, vice-president; **Robyn Ackerman**, secretary; and **Alan Atlas**, treasurer.



Marcia Goldstein on her retirement. It is a bittersweet time at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. After more than 25 years, we will be saying goodbye to Marcia Goldstein as our incredible Director of Lifelong Learning during her Retirement Celebration Weekend May 1–3. We hope you will all plan to join us for *Shabbat* services on Fri., May 1 at 6:15 p.m. as we honor Marcia and wish her well in the next chapter of her life. Sisterhood will be honoring Marcia with an extended *Oneg Shabbat* and we hope you will stay to help us continue to celebrate Marcia! On Sun., March 3 from 10 a.m.–noon, Religious School Families and Friends are invited to join us for breakfast, activities, ice cream and another chance to say, “Good Luck Marcia!” Please plan on joining us for both events. For more information or if you would like to write a message in Marcia’s online guestbook to tell her what she has meant to you and your family, share a memory or funny story or just wish her well, please visit www.ihcindy.org.



HHAI Letters About Literature contest winners (below). Every year, 7th and 8th grade students at HHA I enter the Letters About Literature contest, sponsored by the Library of Congress. Students write to an author to describe how a book influ-



enced their lives. This year, 7th grader **Elise Nachlis** won 2nd place and both **Michaela Geller-Montague** and **Maris Brail** won Honorable Mention.

Cy Orentlicher, HHAI 8th grader, and younger sister, 5th grader **Shayna** represented HHAI at the Marion County Regional Spelling Bee in March. Cy won first place, while Shayna finished in the first half of the competition. Cy will be advancing to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., in May. They are the children of **Dr. David Orentlicher** and **Judy Failer**.



Marcia & Bruce Sklare on their new granddaughter, **Maya Ruth**, born March 14 to their son and daughter-in-law **Nathan & Anne Sklare** of Deerfield, Ill.

Amichai Shmuel Pollock Star was born on March 15 (below with his older brother **Yossi** who is two and half.). He is the son of **Dr. Michael Star** and **Ariel Pollock Star**. His paternal grandparents are **Dr. Louis** and **Janie Star** of Indianapolis. His maternal grandparents are **Dr. Judy Pollock** of Pittsburgh and **Bruce Pollock** of Toronto. His great-grandfather is **Alex Star** of Indianapolis.



Hart and **Simona Hasten** on the marriage of their grandson **Ely** to **Jessica**. Ely is the son of their daughter and son-in-law **Renee** and **Eyal Halevy**. The beautiful wedding took place on March 22, 2015 with over 500 in attendance.

Charlie Joseph Freel on his *Bar Mitzvah* at Temple Beth El in South Bend on March 28. He is the son of **Chelly** and (see Mazel Tov, page IN 6)

Editorial

I have said before I receive an enormous amount of press releases every week by email but one recently stood out relating to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) which caused a fiasco here. I found this statement By Andrew R. Klein in italics below to be uplifting.

Klein is dean of the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. This press release from April 1 was regarding the annual Birch Bayh Lecture at the school that was cancelled. Afterward I will explain why I am including it now.

It is with great disappointment that I announce the cancellation of this year's Birch Bayh Lecture at the IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law, which was scheduled to take place on April 2. We were contacted today by our speaker, Marcia Greenberger, the co-president and founder of the National Women's Law Center, who indicated that she feels unable to speak at our school because of the recently-passed Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

The McKinney School of Law is a place where a diverse range of viewpoints can always be expressed in a civil fashion. As a part of the state's namesake university, we take seriously our position as a leader in higher education, and we will use that position to bring together students, residents, businesses and institutions with the common goal of making Indiana a place of enrichment and opportunity. At this law school, and throughout Indiana University, everyone is welcome and valued. We will never condone or tolerate discrimination.

I join many who are concerned that the resulting national discussion of the new law has had a negative impact on our community. Regardless of what happens to this legislation, it will not change how the IU McKinney School of Law does business or treats its students, employees or guests. Tolerance, equality and a commitment to diversity will remain bedrock values of Indiana University and the McKinney School of Law.

April 19 is the 8th *yahrzeit* for my father and founder of this newspaper, Gabriel M. Cohen. As he faced discrimination for being Jewish in the 1930s, he understood how this unfair treatment felt and perhaps this is why in the 1960s when many would not hire "colored people" he gave them a chance. Back in 2004, I received a phone call from Jeffrey Jones, the son of one of those people.

He said my father had hired his father, Johnny Jones, of blessed memory, an African American from Springfield, Tenn., with only a sixth grade education. Jeffrey

FOUR FIRSTS *(continued from Cover)*

Sandy Sasso. Dessert reception to follow. Sponsorship opportunity available. For more information contact Jennifer Hodes, 317/253-3441 or jhodes@bez613.org.

1. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sara_Hurwitz
(See articles about Rabbi Sasso's new book, *Anne Frank and the Remembering Tree*, on page IN 9, and Rabbi Eilberg's book, *From Enemy to Friend: Jewish Wisdom and the Pursuit of Peace* on page IN 11.) ✨



Jones wanted me and my family to know how much he and his family appreciated my father's courage. After his father got a start putting address labels on newspapers with this newspaper, he went on to become a very successful businessman in Indianapolis owning a variety of different businesses, and he had ten children.

The son explained that his father was one of the first successful Black entrepreneurs in Indianapolis. He said what my father did for his father is still making a difference. At the time of this one good deed, the number of people who benefited from it was small. But it grew exponentially as the family grew and eventually even Jeffrey's children and grandchildren reaped the benefits.

Since his father owned several businesses, this benefitted his employees and their families, all of his customers, other merchants who provided goods and services for his businesses, the list goes on and on.

In a similar fashion, I learned from my father another way of not discriminating. His graphic artist for more than 20 years from approximately 1981-2002 was David Edy, a gay man. When one of the columnists wrote a prejudiced statement about gays, my father gave up his usual spot in the next edition of the newspaper to let Edy respond.

In our Oct. 31, 2001 edition was a news story and photo of David Edy with Amy Minick Peterson (wife of then Mayor Bart Peterson):

P-O art director David Edy was honored last week with the 2001 Mayor's Community Service Award. Indianapolis First Lady Amy Minick Peterson stepped in for her husband to honor Edy and 32 other recipients of the award.

Edy's neighbors nominated him for the award to recognize his direct personal service and initiative in volunteer activities for the Fletcher Place neighborhood.

He has played a crucial role in the revitalization effort, renovating four homes, serving as an officer of the neighborhood association since 1991 and he has been instrumental in determining the best use of neighborhood funds for projects such as tree

Inside this Issue

Four First: Am. Women Rabbis ...Cover
Matisyahu at IsraelpaloozaCover
Simcha Announcements.....2
Editorial.....3
Community Events4
Mini Hoosier reunion in Israel5
Lawyers Without Rights Exhibit.....5
Obituaries7
Kidney still needed for Drew.....8
2015 HAI-Life Awards Dinner.....8
Sasso pens new children's book
(Book Review).....9
Rabbi Benzion Cohen
(Chassidic Rabbi).....10
Dr. Miriam Zimmerman
(Holocaust Educator)11
Seniors in Place14

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Simchas Welcome! *The Jewish Post & Opinion – IN Edition* welcomes your announcements for placement in our *Simcha* section (see page IN 2). Submit photos and text to: jpostopinion@gmail.com. **Next Deadline: May 4, 2015.** All decisions on publishing, date of placement, size of photo, and length of announcement are at the sole discretion of the publisher.

plantings, fencing the community center and installing historic signage.

Edy also serves in numerous other capacities, such as chairing the semi-annual home tour, putting together the neighborhood newspaper and working on membership drives and the website.

"I was pleasantly surprised to learn that three people from my neighborhood association nominated me for this award," Edy said. "I feel honored to be among such a diverse range of community volunteers."

Edy also accepted the International Year of the Volunteer commemorative pin from President Bush's Roundtable on the steps of the Admiral Raymond A. Spruance Basin, near 11th and West Streets.

These stories demonstrate what a difference one small act can make. The results are similar to a stone thrown in a lake, making a ripple in the water that gradually grows wider and wider.

Jennie Cohen, April 15, 2015 ✨

Community Events

Campus Superstar presented by the Helene G Simon Hillel Center

Sun., April 19 from 5:30–9 p.m., at the Tobey Theatre of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Campus Superstar is a statewide vocal competition attracting the most talented vocalists from colleges and universities across the state of Indiana. College students from around the state competed in 2 rounds of competition over the past 3 months in this show that is modeled after the hit TV show *American Idol*. In this Final Show, the top ten vocalists are competing at the Tobey Theatre of the IMA at 7:30 pm. The Campus Superstar winner will be crowned and awarded a \$5,000 cash prize.

This is the 11th year of Campus Superstar, the Helene G Simon Hillel Center's annual fundraiser. There is a VIP dinner and silent auction for sponsors at 5:30 p.m. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. For information about the show, sponsorship or tickets, go to indianacss.com or call Hillel at (812) 336-3824.

Hadassah Book Club

This month's Book Club will be held on **Mon., April 20** at 7 p.m. Hostess: Carol Arenstein. The book is *The Orphan Train* by Cristina Baker Kline. For more info call 317-844-4309 or email therussells46032@aol.com or the Hadassah office at 475-4278.

Israel Memorial Day – Yom HaZikaron

Tues., April 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Laikin Auditorium of the JCC. Guest speaker: Jake Steinberg, brother of Lone Soldier Max Steinberg, ז"ל, who was killed during Operation Protective Edge in Israel. It is customary to wear a white top and dark bottoms.

City of Carmel

Holocaust Observance Program

Wed., April 22 from 12–1:30 p.m., at the Monon Center, 1235 Central Park Drive East, Carmel, Ind.

2nd Indianapolis Jewish Film Festival: April 23–May 3

The Festival will host a "Jewish Wedding" themed Gala beginning at 6:00 p.m. on **Sun., April 26**. A klezmer band will play during the dinner hour and we will enjoy kosher style food including: whole poached salmon, bagels and lox, kugel, blintzes, etc. The cost is \$35.00 per person. After the dinner, several remarriages will be performed by Rabbi Stanley Halpern. Following the service the film, *Crossing Delancey*, will begin. For more details, go to: www.jewishfilmfestival.com. or email ijff2013@gmail.com.

Movie dates include: **Thurs., April 23** at 7 p.m. at HHAI – *A Woman Called Golda*, free; **Sat., April 25** at 9:30 p.m. at HHAI – *The Chosen*, \$10; **Sun., April 26** at 6 p.m. at Central Public Library – Gala and *Crossing Delancey*, \$35; **Mon., April 27** at 7:30 p.m. at Landmark Theatre – *Killing Kasztner: the Jew Who Dealt with Nazis*, \$10; **Tues., April 28** at 7:30 p.m. at Landmark Theatre – *Lemon Tree*, \$10; **Wed., April 29** at 7:30 p.m. at Indiana History Center – *Above and Beyond*, \$10; **Thurs., April 30** at 7:30 p.m. at Christian Theological Seminary – *The Jewish Cardinal*, \$10; **Sun., May 3** at 3 p.m. at HHAI – *A Bottle in the Gaza Sea*, \$10; and **May 3** at 7:30 p.m. at HHAI – *Arranged*, \$10.

New Jewish Learning Institute class

This class titled, "Judaism Decoded: The Origins and Evolution of Jewish Tradition" will be held three different times all at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 2640 W. 96th St., Carmel, 46032.

The first is on **Sundays beginning April 26**, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., the other two are on **Tuesdays, beginning April 28**, one from 10:30 a.m.–noon and the other from 7–8:30 p.m. For more information call Rabbi Schusterman at (317) 698-6423 or email jlindiana@gmail.com.

Brief overview: Just as science follows the scientific method, Jewish tradition has its own system to ensure its authenticity remains intact. *Judaism Decoded* sheds light on the mysteries surrounding biblical interpretation.

JCC Earth Day Community Celebration

Sun., April 26, 1–4 p.m., FREE. The JCC's 4th Annual Earth Day Community Celebration sponsored by Citizens Energy Group attracts more than 2,000 visitors to the JCC's 40-acre campus. More than 45 organizations will offer family-friendly, environmentally-focused activities, including Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab at Marian University, Green BEAN Delivery, the Purdue Solar Racing Team, Purdue Extension Marion County and Girl Scouts of Central Indiana. Participants of all backgrounds and faiths are welcome to join in the spirit of making our neighborhoods, and our city, a better place.

Israel Independence Day Celebration

Sun., April 26 at 4 p.m., at the Sablosky Outdoor Pavilion (rain location: Domont Auditorium BJE). Picnic-style celebration with bounce houses, arts and crafts, Frisbee competition, and musical performance by Hallelujah, a group from our Partnership2 Gether region. *Kosher* barbecue will be available for purchase. Bring a blanket and chairs. Come early and enjoy the JCC's community Earth Day Celebration from 1–4 p.m.! For more information, contact

Roy Swisa at 317.800.9350 or shaliach@JFGI.org or visit www.jewishindianapolis.org.

Hooverwood Guild annual luncheon and card party

Thurs., April 30 at 11 a.m., at Broadmoor Country Club, 2155 Kessler Blvd. West Dr. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring your games and cards to play after lunch. Cost \$22. Your check mailed to Hooverwood Guild, 7001 Hoover Rd., is your reservation. Home baked desserts. Door prizes \$1 per ticket. Get your friends together and come.

Einstein

On **Wed., May 6**, this one man show – a hit throughout North America – in cooperation with Indy Fringe (indyfringe.org/) debuts at the JCC Laikin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20; JCC Member: \$15; Students: \$12. Family (Up to 5 people including up to 2 adults): \$40. Pre-register at jccindy.org/ Einstein, by calling 251-9467 or at a JCC membership desk. Space permitting, tickets will be on sale the night of the event.

For more info contact Lev Rothenberg at 715-9233 or lrothenberg@jccindy.org.

Religion, Spirituality and the Arts: Dreams and Sacrifice Stories of Genesis Reimagined

May 5 – June 26. Opening reception – **Thurs., May 14**; 6–6:45 p.m. at the JCC. Meet the artists and join us for light refreshments. Performance pieces directly follow at 6:45 p.m. in Laikin Auditorium.

This exciting and eclectic gallery show is the result of a prominent and creative group of local visual and performance artists' explorations with Rabbi Sandy Sasso to uncover the personal significance of the biblical story of Jacob, his dreams and his angelic confrontations. This is a follow-up to the artistic/spiritual work on the Binding of Isaac that culminated in the highly acclaimed program at Christian Theological Seminary in 2014.

The gallery exhibit will include the outstanding works of painters, sculptors, poets, musicians and other performers. The performance pieces will be part of the reception evening. Artists/performers will include Dawn Batson, Gabrielle Cerberville, Dan Cooper, John Domont, Pam Blevins Hinkle Sofiya Inger, David Landis, Bruce Lowenthal, Ray Marquette, Rabbi Sandy Sasso, and Wendy Vergoz.

BJE Dalet graduation

Sun., May 17, Dalet graduation ceremony at 5 p.m., for Smulyan-Stolkin Education Center Bureau of Jewish Education (BJE) in the Laikin Auditorium at the JCC, followed by a party for the children at 6 p.m., in the Domont Auditorium at the BJE.

Indianapolis Chapter of Hadassah Donor Day

Hadassah is hosting a High Tea to honor their donors on **Sun., May 17** at 2 p.m., at the Ritz Charles in Carmel. Invitations

will be in the mail shortly. Please “stay tuned” for further information. Committee members are Beverly Bercovitz, Lynn Davis, Brenda Freedman, Helaine (see Events, page IN 8)

Lawyers Without Rights Exhibit

This traveling exhibit focuses on the fate of Jewish lawyers, judges, law professors and civil servants throughout Germany who were disbarred and stripped of the right to practice law shortly after the Nazis came to power in 1933.

In 1998, an Israeli lawyer asked the regional bar of Berlin for a list of Jewish lawyers whose licenses had been revoked by the Nazi regime. The bar decided not only to compile the list of names but to try to find out what happened to the lawyers. Some were able to leave the country, but many were incarcerated or killed. The Berlin bar’s research was transformed into the “Lawyers Without Rights” exhibit, with other regional bars adding their own information.

The exhibit will be on display at IU McKinney School of Law: Ruth Lilly Law Library on the first floor of Inlow Hall, 530 W. New York St., **Mon.–Fri., April 20–28**, 7:30a.m.–5 p.m.

An opening day reception for “Lawyers Without Rights” will take place at 10:30 a.m. April 20 at the IU McKinney School (see Lawyers Exhibit, page IN 14)



Mini Hoosier Reunion in Israel: Jerusalem, March 30, 2015 – (clockwise from bottom left) Chaim Weissmann, Cyrelle Simon, and Alice Weissmann from Lafayette, Ind.; Eddy Epstein, Judy Epstein, Sylvia and Michael Blain formerly from Indianapolis). All but the Blains made Aliyah and live in Israel.



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MAZEL TOV

(continued from page IN 2)

Rob Freel and has an older sister **Naomi** (in photo below). Grandmother **Mary Kay Freel** from South Bend was there. Paternal grandparents **Loretta** and **Robert Frank** of Granger, Ind., their son **Seth (Kim) Frank** of South Bend were in attendance with their daughter **Izabelle**.



Helaine (Avrum) Herman and **Arthur Stein** of Indianapolis are Loretta's siblings as is **Karen** and her husband **Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg** of Waterford, Conn. All of them and their grandchildren **Ezra** and **Maayan** of New Jersey were able to be there. Robert Frank's brothers, **David** and **Bill Frank**, and their **Aunt Rene Frank** were also in attendance.

Some of the other friends and relatives who came in support of Charlie, several from Indianapolis or former residents were **Marcia** and **Bruce Sklare**; **Jay** and **Jeremy Rosenstein**; **Jodi** and **Michael Friedman** and their sons, **Josh** and **Daniel**. Other relatives from Brooklyn were **Elon Rosenberg**; and **David** and **Lisa Rosenberg** and their daughters **Aleah** and **Hazel**. Other relatives and friends of the Frank and Freel families were there for Charlie.

Jolie Irina Mallah, daughter of **Deborah Lynn Mallah**, granddaughter of **Lee** and the late **Joseph L. Mallah**, niece of **Gina** and **Jay Berger**, **Larry Mallah**, **Gloria Mallah**, and **Lynn Smith**, will be *Bat Mitzvah* on May 16 at Beth-El Zedeck.

Her *Torah* portion will be *Bechar-B'chukotai* – Finding the *Tzedek* in *Tzedakah*. She says the Hebrew word *tzedakah* comes from the root word *tzedek*, which means, not charity, but "justice." *Tzedakah* is justice in action. Since she was four years old Jolie has been saying that she wants to get her law degree and then become a judge. She says this portion is trying to find the "justice," which is, or ought to be, at the root of all our "righteous deeds." She feels this portion will

really help her throughout her life.

When asked about her *mitzvah* project she replied, "At Beth-El we don't have just one Mitzvah Project. We have a series of tasks that we perform that relate to different portions. The *Avodah*, *Torah*, etc...I'm doing many different things like reading to the elderly, visiting the elderly, taking care of young children, saying my *Shema* every night before bed. There are 17 tasks in all that I will need to perform."



When asked what the most difficult and easiest parts of preparing for her *Bat Mitzvah* are she said, "In general, just

learning the Hebrew is the hardest part and the easiest is that I know many of the prayers already."

Her favorite part of her *Bat Mitzvah* training was picking out her *tallit*, *kippah* and *yad* with her grandmother Lee Mallah. Although she anticipates being nervous on the *bimah*, she is looking forward to seeing some of her and her mother's cousins and two of her mother's closest friends who will be coming from out-of-town.

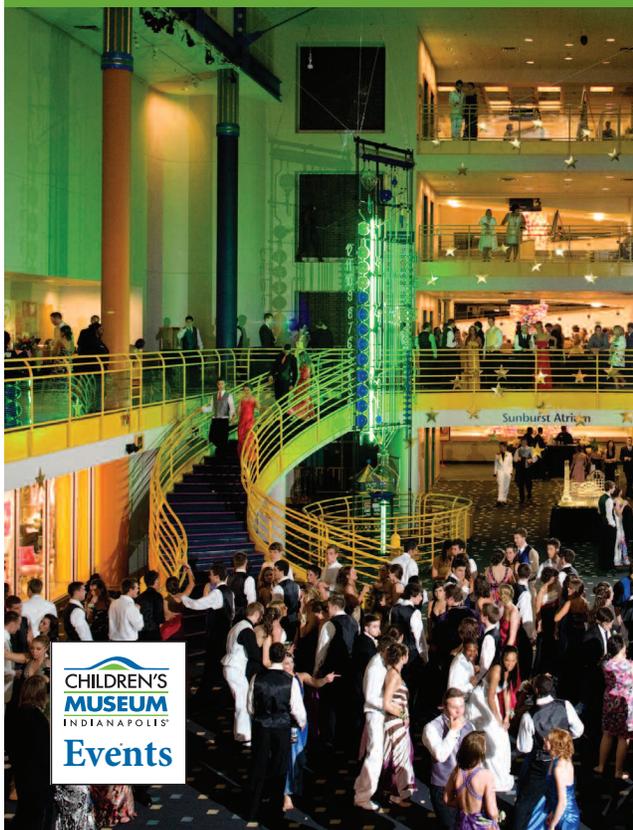
If she were to give advice to someone else who is preparing for her *bat mitzvah* she would tell her that it is extremely hard at first but eventually it does get easier even if you never believe it is going to happen.

She would like to thank the following mentors who have helped her to learn and prepare for her *Bat Mitzvah*: Cantor Melissa Cohen and Rabbi Hall Schevitz from Beth-El Zedeck; Mr. Yossi Cohen, Cantor Meyersberg and Rabbi Paula Winnig from the Bureau of Jewish Education.

When asked how she feels about becoming a responsible adult and having to follow the Jewish laws and rituals she responded that she feels good about it. "I am generally good at following the rules," she replied.

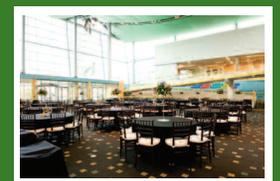
(see Mazel Tov, page IN 8)

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Obituaries

Samuil Sheyn, 83, of Indianapolis, passed away March 27. He was born in Proskurov, Ukraine on April 20, 1931 to Moshe and Paulina Sheyn. Samuil was a chemistry professor. He is survived by his wife, Nina Makshanova; stepdaughter, Irina (Urin) Rzhanov; grandchildren, Tatiana of Scotland and Anton of New Hampshire; and expected great-grandson, Samuel. Funeral services were held March 30 at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**. Burial followed in Congregation Beth-El Zedeck North Cemetery.

Howard Jules Glass, 85, died at home in Indianapolis on April 2. He was born Aug. 2, 1929, in Brooklyn. He leaves behind his wife of 27 years, Elizabeth Binford; two sons, Jonathan and David Glass; sister, Beverly Gingold; sisters-in-law, Sarah (Peter Racher) Binford and Rebekah (William Versteeg) Binford; mother-in-law, Martha Binford; ten nieces and nephews; and five great nieces and nephews.



Howard was an avid birder, a master craftsman, a nature photographer, an Industrial Arts teacher, a watchmaker/jeweler, a calligrapher and all-around artist. He loved to be active, enjoying swimming, hiking, skiing, and kayaking. Howard loved music, especially classical music and loved to play guitar music by Spanish composers. One of his many gifts was his ability to sit down and talk to anyone, anywhere. His infectious laugh would always make you laugh with him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Louis Benjamin Glass and Hannah (Weinstein) Glass, as well as his brother-in-law, Marvin Gingold.

Funeral services were held at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary** on April 6. Burial followed in Etz Chaim Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to

the donor's favorite charity. Friends may leave a memory or message of condolence by visiting the online obituary at www.arnmortuary.com.

Irving L. Fink, 95, who practiced law in Indiana from 1949 until he was hospitalized a few weeks ago, died at home in Indianapolis on April 5. He died peacefully, in the presence of his wife of 69 years, and several children and grandchildren.



Fink, the son of Jewish immigrants from Poland, was born in Youngstown, Ohio, on March 25, 1920, and grew up in nearby Newton Falls. He earned a B.S. in Northwestern University's School of Speech in 1941, then spent four years in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Great Britain for some months through the time of the D-Day invasion, and Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant during his time in France after D-Day. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

He met Beatrice Borman of Toledo, Ohio, during a stateside leave before shipping overseas. They exchanged letters during the war, and married on Sept. 2, 1945. Fink studied at the University of Michigan Law School and received a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree in 1948. He was admitted to the Indiana Bar in March 1949.

His strong sense of justice led him often to represent the underdog and to take many cases that involved civil liberties and issues of freedom of religion and speech. He represented African-American students from Crispus Attucks High School who were refused service at an Indianapolis restaurant. He represented a Jehovah's Witness who was fired from his job as a public school principal because he would not pledge allegiance to the flag. During the Vietnam War, he represented soldiers and draftees who resisted service in the military as well as Marian College students who were arrested for picketing their president's house.

Poetry and musical composition were an important part of Fink's life from the age of four, when he memorized the World War I poem, "In Flanders Fields," by Canadian John McCrae, and was asked to recite it at the Newton Falls town commemoration of the war (known then as Armistice Day). He recited it for the small-town gathering every year until he left for college. He composed the melodies and lyrics for hundreds of songs, including "Songs from the Zoo," a compilation of children's animal-themed songs made into a 78 rpm record and sold at many zoos around the country in the 1950s. He gifted his wife a new song for each of their

first ten wedding anniversaries. Until his death, he loved to recite passages from Shakespeare, Rudyard Kipling, Vachel Lindsay, and others from memory. His children and grandchildren all sing numerous songs he wrote and taught them for the Jewish holidays. With the help of his grandson, Gideon Fink Shapiro of New York City, in 2012 he published a book of his poems, *To Stretch a Heart*.

Fink was among the founders of the ACLU of Indiana (formerly known as the Indiana Civil Liberties Union). He was also a founder of the Indiana Legal Services Organization. He is the former Vice President of the Indianapolis Bar Association, past President of the Indianapolis Children's Bureau, past President of the Jewish Community Relations Council, past President of the local chapter of the American Jewish Congress, past President of the Indianapolis Polio Foundation, and past President of the Indianapolis Lawyers' Commission.

Over the course of his illustrious career, Fink received the David Cook Award from the Jewish Welfare Federation, the Robert Risk Award from the Indianapolis branch of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, the Certificate of Merit from the Christian Theological Seminary, and the Brotherhood Award from the Brotherhood of Christians and Jews. In 2013, the Indiana State Bar Association awarded him the General Practice Hall of Fame Award "in recognition of dedicated service to clients, community and legal profession."

Fink pursued an interest in sports as an avid tennis player, a fan who for many years had season tickets to the Butler Bulldogs basketball team, and a coach of youth, including his own sons. He was three times champion of the Indianapolis Bar Association doubles tennis tournament.

Fink had two older brothers, Stanley and Ben who predeceased him. His older sister, Gertrude Phillips, lives in Sun City, Ariz. In addition to Bea, his wife, a retired special educator for Indianapolis Public Schools, he leaves behind five children: Leon Fink (Susan Levine) in Chicago; Dale Fink (Betty Zimmerberg) in Williamstown, Mass.; Elaine Fink (Robert Shapiro) in Cincinnati, Hugh Fink in Los Angeles, and Laurel Fink (Larry Lingenfelter) in Indianapolis. He is also survived by eight grandchildren, Anna, Simon, Gideon, Ben, Lilly, Jacob, Julia and Claire, and three great-grandchildren, Nina, Naila, and Julius.

Funeral services were held at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation on April 7. The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to the ACLU of Indiana. Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

(see Obituaries, page IN 10)



Aaron
Ruben
Nelson



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MAZEL TOV

(continued from page IN 6)

Dr. Jerry Abrams (below) on receiving the Sagamore of the Wabash Award. ☆



EVENTS

(continued from page IN 5)

Herman, Joan Katz, Phyllis Russell, Lyla Spath, and Carol Steinfeld. If you have questions please call the office at 475-4278. New office hours are Mon., Wed., and Fri., from 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Mega Challah-Bake

Sun., May 17 from 7–8:30 p.m., at Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 2640 West 96th St., Carmel, Ind. Join one hundred Jewish women in first ‘Mega Challah-Bake’. Learn about the significance of baking challah from traditional and Kabbalistic sources. This is a hands-on project, and each participant will go home with their own challah. This event is open to all women and girls over the age of 12. \$18 online pre-registration. RSVP chabadindiana.org/megachallah or 317-251-5573.

Eskenazi Water Park at the JCC

Opens for the season on **May 23!**

Farmer’s Market Outdoors at the JCC

Open **Sundays, beginning May 31**, from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Shop with us for fresh local produce, baked goods, dairy products and more.

Sunday morning Tefillin Club

Starting at 9 a.m., at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life, 2640 W 96th St, Carmel. Get your week off to a great start! *Tefillin* – feed your soul; Breakfast – feed your body; Study – feed your mind. No experience necessary. Women are welcome too!

Libby Fogle Lunch Bunch – ongoing

Meets at noon at the Arthur M. Glick JCC **every Tues. and Thurs.** except on holidays. For more info call Ruthie Gal 557-2265 or Christy Morris 259-6822. ☆

Kidney still needed for Drew



Drew, age 12, a Jewish child in Indianapolis, has been suffering from a very rare disease Alport’s Syndrome, which causes hearing loss and kidney failure, along with eye problems, since age six. She attended the Hasten Hebrew Academy until she was too weak to complete full school days. Her condition worsened last summer requiring her to start daily dialysis.

A transplant team is actively searching for a live kidney donor. If you have type “O” blood and would like to be considered, please ask for Kelly at (317) 944-4370. See www.facebook.com/kidneydrew and ireport.cnn.com/docs/DOC-1081282. ☆



2015 HAI-Life Awards Dinner

On Sun., May 31 the 44th annual HAI-Life Awards Dinner will honor well known ophthalmologist and community philanthropist Dr. John Abrams for his commitment to education. President of Abrams EyeCare, and team eye physician for the Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever, Dr. Abrams and his wife have dedicated themselves to providing scholarship and opportunities for students.



Dr. J. Abrams

Mr. Matt Tucker will be honored with the Distinguished Teacher Award for his contribution to the educational growth of the students in the area of Mathematics. The eight graduating eighth graders will also be honored. The event will be held 5–9 p.m., at the Hasten Hebrew Academy Cultural Arts Center.



Matt Tucker

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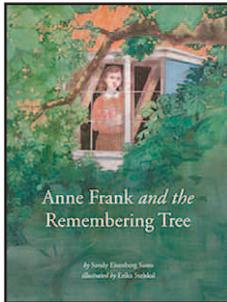
Book Review

Sasso pens new book

Anne Frank and the Remembering Tree. By Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso. Illustrated by Erika Steiskal. The Children's Museum of Indianapolis and Skinner House Books, 2015. 32 pages. \$16.

An age-appropriate way to introduce children ages 6–9 to the Jewish Holocaust.

A much needed resource, this beautifully written and illustrated book will be an enormous aid to teachers and other adults to help demonstrate to children the importance of accepting the differences in others.



Told from the perspective of the horse chestnut tree that stood outside the Secret Annex where Anne Frank, her family and friends hid during World War II, it also calls attention to 11 places in the United States that have or will be planting a sapling from that 170 year old tree from Amsterdam that finally succumbed to the elements in 2009.

The places receiving the saplings were chosen because they had a strong desire to combat the horrible consequences of intolerance, racism, hatred and discrimination. Saplings from this tree have also been planted in 32 countries including Argentina, Canada, England, France, Holland, Israel, Japan and Spain.

The first sapling was planted in the United States on April 14, 2013, in front of The Children's Museum in Indianapolis. The museum has a permanent exhibit that is a replica of the Secret Annex. Part of an exhibit titled, "The Power of Children: Making a Difference," Anne Frank's section is called "Facing Hatred: Daring to Dream" and is subtitled "The Power of Words."

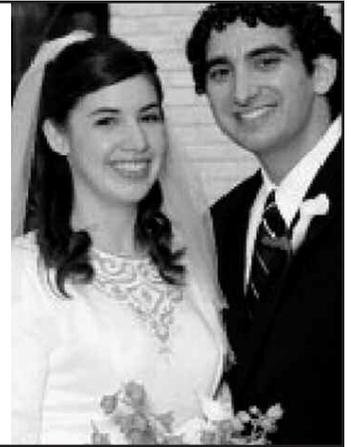
Anne Frank wrote fondly about the chestnut tree in her diary. It gave hope to a teenage girl who was barred from the outside world for two years. In this children's book, the tree responds back with that same admiration. Children will be able to easily identify with this conversation and the delightful, colorful illustrations will help make this topic comfortable for them.

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso is an award-winning author of thirteen books for children, including *God's Paintbrush*, *The Shema in the Mezuzah* (winner of a National Jewish Book Award), and *Creation's*



(see Sasso, page IN 13)

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OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 7)

Helen Talesnick Fichman, 99, formerly of Indianapolis, died in Atlanta on April 7. She was born Sept. 8, 1915 in Lafayette and lived in Indianapolis until the age of 89 when she moved to Atlanta. She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, Rose (Galterman) and Louis Talesnick; beloved brother, Irvin Talesnick; and her very beloved husband, Dr. Philip Julius Fichman.

Mrs. Fichman was a graduate of Shortridge High School. As a teenager, she was Queen Esther of the JEA Purim Ball circa 1932. Mrs. Fichman graduated from Indiana University with a Master's degree in Social Work. She worked for the Red Cross after a flood in southern Indiana and then for several years at Jewish Family Services and the former Bornstein Home. One of her most meaningful experiences was when she was responsible for the in-transit and settlement of all German Jewish youths who arrived in Indianapolis circa 1938–39 for the "Indianapolis Jewish Welfare Society". After her children were grown, she worked for the Jewish Federation of Indianapolis and then at Ayres in Glendale.

During the years she was raising her daughters, Mrs. Fichman devoted many hours to volunteer work. She was a member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Hooverwood Guild, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, and Hadassah. She served several terms on the board of IHC, led several campaigns for the Jewish Federation of Indianapolis, and served in many positions with Hadassah, including President of the Indianapolis Chapter and on the Regional Board. One of her most cherished times with Hadassah was when she helped launch the Haima Group (The Mothers) from which came many future Hadassah leaders. She always referred to them as her girls and maintained relationships with some of them until the time she moved to Atlanta.

Mrs. Fichman is survived by her dear brother, Stanley Talesnick; daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Arthur Shorr; daughter, Lynne Savage; grandchildren, Ross and Jody Daniels, Rachel Daniels, Robert Daniels, Benjamin and Laura Savage, and Rose (Savage) and Alan Gross. She is also survived by her great-grandchildren who brought joy and pleasure in her later years, Michael and Andrew Daniels, Hannah and Danielle Gross, and Jacob Philip Savage. Additional survivors are her nieces and nephews, Jill Talesnick Wilkins, Jane Talesnick, Kay Talesnick Gilmore, Alan Talesnick and Steven Talesnick with whom she shared a special bond.

Her daughter, Lynne, and granddaughter, Rose, extend their thanks and gratitude to Mrs. Fichman's dedicated caretakers for the last several years; Freddie Newel, Christine Cash and Sheila Jackson and to the dedicated staff at Huntcliff Summit especially her dear friends, Charity and Deborah.

Funeral services were held at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary** on April 12 with interment following at the IHC South Cemetery, Indianapolis. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the LOUIS & ROSE TALESNICK Immigrant Education Fund c/o Indianapolis Jewish Federation or the Indianapolis Chapter of Hadassah. There will be a Memorial Service at Huntcliff Summit in Atlanta, Georgia at a date to be announced.

Becky Cohen Profeta, 85, life time resident of Indianapolis, passed away on April 10. Becky was born on Dec. 8, 1929 to the late Samuel and Regina Cohen. She was a graduate of Manuel High School. Becky worked in various sales positions during her career with the last ten years at Gidding-Jenny at the Fashion Mall, where she was a sales associate.

She is survived by her beloved family; her sons, Sam and Louis A. Profeta; daughter, Sharon; brothers, Leon Cohen of California and Morris Cohen of Florida; grandchildren Michelle and David; niece Renee Nocera and many additional nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband David Profeta, sisters, Fritz Saltiel, Lee Isenberg and Bella Cohen and brother, Gilbert Cohen.

Becky was a long time active member of Congregation Etz Chaim and the Deborah Sisterhood. In addition she loved reading, cooking and gardening. A funeral was held at **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary** on April 13 with burial following in Etz Chaim Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or Congregation Etz Chaim cemetery fund or the building fund.

Michael Dean Haskell, 57, died suddenly of a heart attack on April 11, 2015. A graduate of Purdue, he was Director of PNC Capital Markets Group. Devoted to his family, son of the late Russell Dean Haskell, survivors include his wife, Susan (Schornstein) Haskell; son, Matthew Haskell; parents, Bertie Darlene Weagley, Fred Weagley and Cheryl Haskell; and brother, Brad Haskell.

A memorial service was held Tues., April 14 at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Indianapolis JCC or a charity of choice. Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary.** ✨

Chassidic Rabbi

BY RABBI BENZION COHEN

The Torah

In my last column I explained that in the *Torah* are the instructions and teachings that *Hashem* gave us on how to lead a good and happy life. However, it is not enough to just read the Five Books of Moses. We also need to carefully learn the deep explanations given by the great Rabbis of all the generations, and especially by the Lubavitcher Rebbes. Here is more of my personal experience.

Growing up, I wanted to be popular, to have a lot of friends. I figured that if I would succeed in sports I would have more friends. I spent long hours working out with weights and drank special protein supplements in order to build my muscles. It didn't help. I didn't make the football team, and I had few friends. I remember four of them, and thank them for being my friends.

At the age of 18, I dropped out of Hebrew University and started to learn in the Chabad Lubavitch Yeshiva in Kfar Chabad, Israel. At the end of my first year, I had over 50 close friends! Now I have hundreds of close friends, scattered all around the world. I am not in touch with all of them, but if we happen to meet each other, it is a beautiful and happy occasion.

How did this happen? In Lubavitch, I learned to love my fellow man. The *Torah* commands us to "Love your neighbor as much as yourself". But how is this possible? Our Rebbes taught us that we each have a body, and a soul. If we devote ourselves only to our body and physical pleasures, we will not experience very much love for anyone, even our own selves. If someone gives us pleasure, we will feel some love for them. When we stop getting pleasure from them, we stop loving them. This is temporary love. True love is eternal.

In Lubavitch, I learned that I also have a soul, a spark of *Hashem* (G-d). This is my real essence. When I devote myself to my soul, to *Hashem*, and to my fellow men who also have their own spark of G-d, I can experience real unity and love. We are all one. We are all part of *Hashem*. When we learn the *Torah* that *Hashem* gave us and we fulfill His commandments, we come closer to *Hashem*, and also to all of His creation, our brothers and sisters. To live a life of *Torah* and *Mitzvahs* makes it possible to truly Love our neighbor.

Here I was, 18 years old, learning *Torah* and running after *Mitzvahs* together with (see Benzion, page IN 14)



Holocaust Educator

By MIRIAM L. ZIMMERMAN

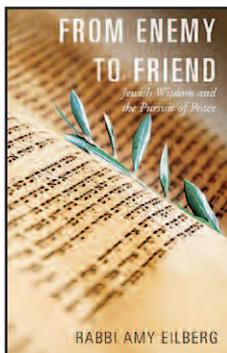
Can enemies become friends in a world of intolerance and xenophobia?

The old year, 2014, ended for me with hope and optimism. Technology and friendship inspired me to conclude that we humans will, indeed, figure out ways to live together in peace. The annual “Season of Light” celebration by the Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group of San Mateo included participants from the Middle East, West Africa, and North America, representing nine different “peacebuilding” organizations.

Billed as a “Three Continent Video Bridge,” technology facilitated participation by geographically diverse groups, all of which share an ideology of peace through face-to-face relationship building. Each of us creates as friends, people whom our governments define as our enemies. All of us choose to become “peacebuilders” within our respective communities. After many years as an active participant, I am now on leave from the Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group as other responsibilities have dominated my life.

During this season, I read a relevant book, *From Enemy to Friend: Jewish Wisdom and the Pursuit of Peace*, by Rabbi Amy Eilberg (Orbis Books 04/14 Paperback, ISBN: 9781626980617). Rabbi Eilberg’s scholarship provided a religious and spiritual rationale for peacebuilding endeavors, grounded in Jewish scripture and commentary. This book validated my own personal efforts at peacebuilding, as modest as they might be in comparison to some of the other participants.

On Dec. 6, 2014, Zoom technology set up in the living room of Len and Libby Traubman, the founders and leaders of the Jewish-Palestinian Dialogue Group, made it all possible. A large screen stretched across one end of the living room. Len’s computer projected images of the participants onto a dozen rectangles.



This is a complete listing of organizational names. Only individual names of the first group are included, both for security and brevity purposes. **Top row, (L-R):** Members of my own Living Room Dialogue Group: Nahida Salem, Ellen Rosenthal, Judy Serebrin, Nedal Saleh, and Fadwa Musleh; Hagar; Jewish-Arab Education for Equality, Beer Sheva, Israel; and The Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF), Jerusalem, Israel-Palestine. **Middle row:** Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel, Kfar Kara, Israel; Interfaith Encounter Association, Jerusalem; and United for Peace Against Conflict International (UFPACI), Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. **Bottom row:** Sharing Life Stories & Music as Bridges, Nataf and Wahat al-Salam ~ Neve Shalom, Israel; Palestinian Peace Society – Cooperation Circle of United Religions Initiative, Hebron, West Bank, Palestine; and Interfaith Encounter Association, Jerusalem.

We connected; we communicated; and we celebrated our stories, all of which share a vision of a world living in peace and unity. Even though I met most of these people for the first time, they already felt like friends.

Rabbi Eilberg defined the psychological work involved in transforming one’s enemies into friends. In her words, it is a “movement from the heart and mind closed in fear and wounding to a state of openness and curiosity about another human being (p. 3).”

Her implicit exhortation is for the reader to “move from hatred to caring, from suspicion and fear, beyond tolerance, to embrace of the other.” According to the Rabbi, to be able to do so is the greatest heroism, as delineated in both rabbinic and Koranic teachings. To explicate these teachings and thus explore “this inner work of peacebuilding,” is the goal of her book.

Although most of the participants in the Season of Light celebration would probably not define their efforts in such terms, I believe they have intuitively managed such a progression and have been able to convert enemies to friends. In doing so, all are the greatest of heroes, according to both Jewish and Islamic traditions.

In the Video Bridge, the names of the participants reveal their diversity; their organizations’ names describe the work they do (see the picture above).

The Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF), Jerusalem, Israel-Palestine is a grassroots organization of bereaved Palestinians and Israelis, who have lost loved ones in the wars between the two peoples. The PCFF promotes reconciliation as an alternative to hatred and revenge. Members of this group are, unfortunately, intimate experts on the

destructive horror of war.

The magic of technology brought us together in one living room. For a complete list of these organizations, see the website of The Season of Light Three-Continent Video Bridge at this link: <http://traubman.igc.org/light2014.htm>.

It is easy to apply the wisdom from Rabbi Eilberg’s text to members of these organizations. She pointed out that in the *Torah*, the admonition “to love, reach out to, and do justice to the stranger” is repeated more than any other commandment, 36 times (p. 34). In the Jewish mystical tradition of *gematria*, in which letters have numbers, 36 is “double *chai* (“*chai*” means “life” in Hebrew,)” a very lucky number.

Rabbi Eilberg used new research findings from the field of neuroscience to explicate the dynamics of this commandment, as processed by the brain. “In developing the value of hospitality and care for the stranger, religion both reflects and nurtures the development of the frontal cortex, the part of the mind that can evaluate and sometimes supersede physical sensations of danger when, on reflection, there is really no need for fear.

“These religious values positively empower the frontal cortex to pause and reflect on the veracity of a potential threat, to question limbic panic more often, and to supersede the automatic instinct to fear the other in the absence of real danger (p. 35).”

The participants in the Season of Light celebration are acting from their neo-cortexes and not from their amygdalas, part of the primitive limbic system in the brain. We have chosen not to fear our

(see Zimmerman, page IN 12)

ZIMMERMAN

(continued from page IN 11)

enemies, but to extend hospitality and make them our friends. Rabbi Eilberg sprinkled research findings from neuroscience throughout the text, an approach greatly appreciated by this academic.

On Jan. 7, 2015, just a month and a day after the Season of Light Video Bridge, the annihilation of 12 journalists of the weekly French satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo* by Islamic terrorists in Paris was followed by the murder of four Jews two days later at a Parisian kosher butcher shop by another Islamic extremist. My Season of Light optimism transformed into despair.

How can I write about peacebuilders, given the reality that so many fanatics want to destroy their fellow humans simply because they do not share religious beliefs? How can Rabbi Eilberg's teachings apply in such circumstances? Can such enemies ever become friends?

The *Charlie Hebdo* massacre kept my amygdala active for 24 hours. My daughter Leah and her husband Ian, both academics, spent two weeks in Munich and one in Paris over the winter break. They stayed in friends' apartments in each city. I had just received an email from my daughter with a picture (below) of her holding my

granddaughter in front of the Eiffel Tower.

With Paris exploding and extremists targeting Jews, I panicked for the safety of my daughter and her family, somewhere in the City of Light. My neo-cortex told me they were safe, but my amygdala took charge, causing me to rail against Islamic terrorists who threatened my people,

my family.

Finally, an email arrived from Leah, now safely back in Munich. "The apartment we stayed in was very close to the *Charlie Hebdo* offices where the shooting occurred. The attacks occurred around the time we were leaving for the train station" to return to Germany. Irony supplanted anxiety as I realized that Germany provided a safe haven for my Jewish daughter and her family. I said a prayer of thanks for personal delivery from danger when I



From her website, <http://www.rabbi-amyeilberg.com/>: Rabbi Amy Eilberg is the first woman ordained as a Conservative rabbi by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.



After many years of work in pastoral care and hospice, Rabbi Eilberg now serves as a spiritual director, directs interfaith dialogue programs in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN, and teaches at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. She serves as a co-chair of the Civility Initiative of the Jewish Council on Public Affairs and teaches the art of listening and peacebuilding in venues throughout the country. Photo taken by Marcie Stein; used with permission.



Clay E. Jones, O.D., Bettye-Jo Rawls Lloyd, M.D., FACS, Deborah E. Mann, O.D., and Michael A. Rothbaum, M.D. JJ Abrams, O.D. and John H. Abrams, M.D., FACS

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learned that her friend's apartment was in the same arrondissement (neighborhood) of Paris as *Charlie Hebdo*.

I turned to Rabbi Eilberg's book to help me understand how to think about the events in Paris. On page 84, she explicated the calling for Jews to serve as a "light unto the nations" (Isa. 42:6). "It is essential for Jews to develop the capacity to see the world as others see it, as well as through the lens of our own experience. If we never fully open ourselves to global perspectives, how can we serve the nations?"

As a light unto the nations, we are "to help bring the world to God and to justice, but not to persuade the peoples of the world to live as Jews (p. 85)." With the creation of Christianity and Islam, we successfully brought God to the gentiles. But there is more work to do. *And that is the work of the heroes of the organizations listed above.*

A light bulb went off somewhere in my brain, probably not in my amygdala. We Jews need to teach the world that there are many paths to God, a continuing religious imperative, grounded in our responsibility to be a light unto the nations. Are you listening Isis? This is a commandment from God: you need to learn that your way is not the only way.

The last chapter, "The Ways of Peace," is like a how-to manual for peacebuilders, including both theory and exercises that individuals can activate in everyday life. As an academic, I appreciate her translating peace theory into peace practice. Many concrete ways of thinking and behaving were presented in that concluding chapter, that, with conscientious effort, anyone can incorporate into their own lives.

On p. 240, she referenced rabbinic teaching that Amalek (the collective name for the enemies of Jews; the opposite of what is godly and pure) is our own evil inclination. In the face of conflict, we are to ask what is our own role in this battle? What have we contributed to get here? "Thus, the 'inner Amalek' idea exhorts us to stop shouting the enemy's name and stop pointing fingers. Instead, we are to look deeply inside ourselves to see how we ourselves might contribute to the conflict and how we might instead work for its resolution (p. 241)." "The shouting is, 'I'm right; you're wrong.'"

That challenge was too much for me, given the activation of my amygdala by the *Charlie Hebdo* murderers and my fears for my daughter's safety. On page 260, Rabbi Eilberg acknowledged that Jews are commanded to defend themselves in the face of threat. "Judaism is not a pacifist tradition. A clear preponderance of Jewish sources defends – even requires – responding with violence when necessary to protect life."

These seemingly contradictory commandments must be mediated by our

neo-cortex, so that we choose appropriate responses that could result in peace. I admit I have a great deal of work to do to be able even to think about Islamic terrorists as potential friends.

Rabbi Eilberg gave me tools for understanding peace work by connecting and dissecting the religious, spiritual, psychological and neurobiological dimensions of human interaction in the face of conflict. Her section, "Listening from the Heart" reinforced what I have done implicitly throughout my career as a communication professor. I have taught the importance of listening to one's adversary in almost every communication course I have ever taught.

Finally, the book is a personal reflection on the Rabbi's own journey engaging in this work. She shared realizations she made in encountering texts and in her experience of the teachings of rabbinic sages, both ancient and contemporary. Her insights into peacebuilding became mine. The reader feels her presence, her voice, throughout the text.

In juxtaposing the Season of Light participants with murderous religious fanatics, I realize how challenging it is to engage in the work of peacebuilding. Interacting with those who are already peacebuilders is easy; the test is to apply Rabbi Eilberg's teachings to those who would destroy us.

SASSO

(continued from page IN 9)

First Light. Visit her at www.allaboutand.com. She is the Director of the Religion, Spirituality and the Arts Initiative at Butler University.

Erika Steiskal grew up in Ohio and received a BFA in illustration from the Columbus College of Art and Design. Her book and editorial illustrations have appeared in Spectrum, 3x3, and Communication Arts, and her work received a gold medal from the Society of Illustrators Los Angeles. She lives in Seattle. ✨



Each of us can become a hero, by transforming enemies into friends. Self-reflection is critical to begin this work. Rabbi Eilberg pointed out that it must begin from a place of humility regarding one's self and generosity toward those who are different from ourselves. It will not be easy; we have to start by understanding and taking control of our own amygdalas, acknowledging our own role in the conflict. Let the work begin.

Dr. Zimmerman is professor emerita at Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) in Belmont, Calif., where she continues to teach the Holocaust course. She can be reached at mzimmerman@ndnu.edu. ✨

Spring Greetings!

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Singing Club

Mon., April 20 at 2 p.m., meeting at the home of Pat & Velma Ratley. Call Carol Kirk 253-3244 if you are coming.

Knitting Club

Thurs., April 23 at 10 a.m., meet at Pleasant View Lutheran Church, Rm 114. For additional info call Dorothy Kerriagn 254-1123.

Civic Theatre *Spamalot*

Thurs., April 23 leave the JCC at 5:30 p.m., Transportation \$7. Join King Arthur and his knights in this hilarious retelling of the movie *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. One of the funniest Broadway Musicals in recent years. It's chocked full of witty lyrics, clever plot twists, beautiful showgirls and even killer rabbits. RSVP to Janet at 251-8881.

Itzhak Perlman at the Palladium

Sun., April 26, depart JCC at 6:30 p.m., \$49 includes concert and transportation. Reigning virtuoso of the violin, Itzhak Perlman is beloved for his charm and humanity as well as his talent, and he is treasured by audiences around the world who respond to his remarkable artistry and his irrepressible joy for making music. RSVP to Janet to reserve your seat.

Classic Movie Club

Mon., April 27, at 2 p.m. The movie is *Jane Eyre* at Rita Casy's home. RSVP to Rita 202-9234. No charge.

Tim Needler – Musical Interlude

Wed., April 29, leave the JCC at 1:30 p.m. We will be visiting the home of Tim Needler on N. Meridian St. Mr. Needler will be giving us a tour of his home which is full of musical instruments. He plays all of them beautifully and will perform some of them for us. \$10 charge for transportation. RSVP to Janet.

Carmel Community Players Club Morocco

Thurs., April 30, leave the JCC at 6:15 p.m. This is a musical. The only cost is \$10 for transportation. The show is free. Featuring music of the 1940s.

Good-Night Caroline

Sat., May 2, enjoy the hilarity that enhances the usual calm and quiet. Night becomes chaotic, comedic and all-together ridiculous. A collection of three one-act vintage comedies premiering at the Presidential home of Benjamin Harrison. Each play is performed in a different room of the mansion complete with candlelight and the rich ambiance of original President Harrison furnishings. RSVP to Janet. Leave JCC at 7 p.m., cost \$30 includes transportation and play.

PF Changs

Wed., May 6, Hole in the Wall, located at Keystone at the Crossing. Serving a variety of Chinese and Asian food. RSVP to Jackie Hayden 253-7268

Bingo at Donato's

Fri., May 8, 11:30 a.m. next to Marsh at 86th & Ditch sponsored by Harcourt Terrace. Come and join us for another delightful afternoon of Bingo and Pizza, salad, drink and big chocolate chip cookie for dessert. Bingo prizes. No cost. RSVP to Janet at 251-8881.

Singing Club

Mon., May 11, at 2 p.m., meeting at the home of Mary Hank. We will be rehearsing for our part in the upcoming Spring Fling. Call Carol Kirk 255-3244 for info.

Book Club & Libby Fogle Lunch Bunch

Tues., May 12, at the BJE at 10:30 a.m., is the book club. Call Monica Rosenfeld 255-3604 for additional info. At noon is the celebration of Older American Month at the Libby Fogle Lunch Bunch at the JCC. This exciting program and lunch is \$2.

Dance Kaleidoscope and Knitting Club

Thurs., May 14, *The Next Wave*, leave JCC at 9 a.m. Another exciting performance from this great dance group you won't want to miss. We will stop for brunch at the Illinois St. Food Emporium and then proceed to the program. \$10 for transportation and lunch at your expense. Also on this date at 10 a.m., the Knitting Club meets at the Pleasant View Lutheran Church, Rm 114. Call Dorothy Kerrigan 254-1123 for more info.

Spring Cooking Class

Fri., May 15, at 11:30 a.m., with Katherine Matutes at the JCC, cost is \$5. RSVP to Janet at 251-8881.

Spring Fling

Sun., May 17, from noon to 5 p.m., at Lions Head Clubhouse. \$10 per person in advance/\$12 at the door. 2nd Annual Fundraiser. Enjoy a leisurely lunch fol-

LAWYERS EXHIBIT

(continued from page IN 5)

of Law. Those interested in attending may RSVP to Shawn Dankoski at sldanko@iupui.edu or 317-274-4789. For more information go to: www.lawyerswithoutright.com. ✨



BENZION

(continued from page IN 10)

200 fellow students. There was a whole lot of love and unity. Friendship blossomed. From day to day my life became more beautiful and happy. Many years have passed since then, but my life is only getting better. Here is a recent example.

Part of my work is to visit the geriatric ward in our local hospital. Here are elderly patients, all in wheel chairs. Many of them stay for years. I love all of them, and many of them are now close friends. Every day I help them to pray and do *Mitzvahs*. I give them a smile and cheer them up, and they return the smile and cheer me up too.

One of the ladies there has two sons who often visit her. Over time they have also become my friends. One day one of the sons came with his wife. His wife saw me and said, "Wow! I have a nephew who joined *Chabad* a few years ago. Do you know him?" It turned out that her nephew is a good friend of mine. She told me that he had just gotten engaged, and that in 2 months he would be getting married in Kfar Chabad!

On the morning of his wedding, I ran into another old friend. We were happy to see each other. Then he told me his daughter is getting married that night and he invited me to her wedding. I told him that I would be delighted to come, and that I already heard about the wedding from the groom's aunt. I told him that his future son-in-law happens to be a good friend of mine! That night I had a great time celebrating with the uncle (the son of the woman I visit in the hospital), his nephew the groom, the father of the bride (also my friend) and many of our common friends.

We want *Moshiach* now! Learn *Torah* and do *Mitzvahs*. Bring love into your life and into the world. This will bring closer the End of Days when all mankind will live together in peace and harmony.

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



lowed by musical entertainment, raffle and games. Contact Shirley Mark 257-1838 or Sheila Seleman 517-9745 to RSVP. For additional info, call Janet at 251-8881. ✨

This Yom HaAtzma'ut, celebrate red, white, and blue.



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