

# The Jewish Post & Opinion

Indiana Edition

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Cover Art by Ann D. Koffsky (see About the Cover on p. IN 2)

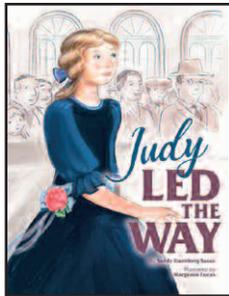
# Editorial

On Jan. 26, 2021, I watched a Zoom program where Rabbi Sandy Sasso, Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck (BEZ) in Indianapolis (co-senior rabbi with her husband, Dennis, from 1977–2013), read and discussed the writing of her new children’s book, *Judy Led the Way: The Story of the First Bat Mitzvah*. Published Sept. 1, 2020, by Apples and Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House, this is her 20th book, several of which are award-winning children’s books.



Rabbi S. Sasso

Judy Kaplan Eisenstein, daughter of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan, founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, was the brave young woman to become the first *bat mitzvah* in the United States. Much to the chagrin of her two grandmothers, the ceremony was held on March 18, 1922 – woman achieved the right to vote in 1920 – at the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in New York City, the synagogue Rabbi Kaplan led. Judy was the eldest of four daughters of Rabbi and Lena (Rubin) Kaplan. The book is about empowerment, overcoming fears, having courage and curiosity, and challenging the status quo.



The *bat mitzvah* ceremony took place in the sanctuary where they had separate seating and the women were in the back. Judy was not allowed to be on the *bimah*, so she read from below it. Also she could not read from the *Torah* so she read from a *chumash*. After the *Torah* Service was completed and the *Haftorah* was chanted, they called her up. Rabbi Sandy said that it took 30 years on the east coast before ritual equality for young women became commonplace.

# About the Cover

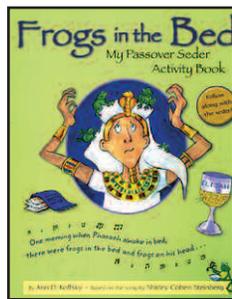
*Springtime Renewal*  
By Ann Koffsky



Ann Koffsky

For this illustration, the artist chose to focus on Passover’s other name: *Chag Haaviv*, or the Holiday of Spring, and used springtime floral designs to express that theme. She also created a coloring page of it, and if you’d like to color your own version of it, you can print one out from her blog (for free) over here: [annkoffsky.com/2019/03/25/passover-coloring/](http://annkoffsky.com/2019/03/25/passover-coloring/)

Ann is the author and illustrator of more than 30 Jewish books for kids, including *Kayla and Kugel’s Almost Perfect Passover* and *Frogs in the Bed*. You can see more of her work at [www.annkoffsky.com](http://www.annkoffsky.com) and on Instagram at [JewishArtbyAnn](https://www.instagram.com/JewishArtbyAnn). Her books are available on Amazon. Happy Passover! ✨



Usually events happen on the East and West coasts before the Midwest, so I checked with my older siblings, the oldest who became a *bar mitzvah* at BEZ in Indianapolis in 1952. They said their female peers were not encouraged to become a *bat mitzvah* to the same degree as boys were, but when they chose to, they were performing the same rituals, equal to their male counterparts.

Attempting to find out more, I spoke to Carole Tavel, the first young woman to become a *bat mitzvah* at BEZ in 1950. She concurred with my siblings and said she

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had done everything the boys were doing. She said at that time women in the United States were starting to participate in more leadership roles because they had had to assume some of the men’s jobs who were away fighting in World War II.

Tavel’s parents, Manuel and Diana Leve were very active in the congregation and (see Editorial, page IN 3)

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# One Year Later

BY RABBI DENNIS C. SASSO



A year of quarantine has passed. Since March, 2020, we have been bringing services and programs to the congregation and the community virtually.

Sacred times have been accompanied by difficult moments. Most painful have been the illnesses and losses, the anxiety and anguish of these unsettling months. Social distancing, personal stresses, and political upheaval have made this a year of unprecedented developments beyond the health crisis.

Despite challenges and turmoil, I am grateful for the support and partnership of my colleagues and coworkers at the synagogue, of dedicated lay leaders, devoted members, family and friends who have enabled our beloved congregation not merely to survive, but to retool, thrive, and transform itself to meet adversity and to keep the promise.

Last year, as the pandemic became entrenched, I quoted, in my first message to you, a passage from Anne Lamont about the art of quilt making. Admittedly, not a quilter myself, I proposed that we were living through “quilt-like times”, getting through each day “stitch by stitch, patch by patch.” A year has passed, and spring is almost upon us again. It is time to look at what we have created, the pieces we managed to salvage and the threads we used to sew the fragments together.

Our quilt, a patchwork of sorrow and loss, hope and faith, has been stitched together with heroism, altruism, and simple perseverance. May the blanket of beauty and warmth we have created embrace and enfold us as we move towards blessings of renewal, healing, and joy.

(This message will appear in the next issue of our congregational newsletter, *Besamim*).

## Helpful Tips for the Seder and Passover March 2021 / Nisan 5781

As we prepare to observe our second Passover festival during the pandemic, I'm pleased to share with you an updated version of last year's "Helpful Hints for the Seder" Even as our biblical ancestors observed the first Pesach in “lock down” as protection from the raging plagues, and then were freed, so may we experience healing, liberation, and reunion in the near future.

Even though, because of the unfolding vaccination program, many will feel freer to gather for celebration, we urge caution and observance of appropriate PPE and social distancing guidance. The first Passover is referred to in the *Torah* as

## Speak in Hebrew, Yiddish, German, Hungarian, Arabic, and English

Partnership2Gether Western Galilee offers an opportunity to practice your language skills and help someone else with theirs. Join intimate weekly virtual meetings of up to five participants in a group to practice conversational language for a period of three months. Must have basic knowledge of the language you choose. A native speaker will lead each conversation group. For more information go to: [www.westerngalilee.org.il/cafe-anglit](http://www.westerngalilee.org.il/cafe-anglit).

Questions? Contact Michele Boukai at the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, [mboukai@jfgi.org](mailto:mboukai@jfgi.org) or 317-475-4274. ✨



*Leil Shimurim*, a “Night of Vigil.” Let us celebrate with hopeful vigilance.

May these Guidelines help you find meaning and joyous satisfaction in this year's Passover observance. Next year, redeemed.

### Preparations:

1. Do what you can. Don't feel badly or guilty about not doing or keeping everything in your customary way. Adjustments to the observance of Passover have been considered (allowed) through Jewish history. Keep it familiar, but feel free to improvise.

2. Remember, Passover is the “Festival of Liberation,” not of bondage or oppression. We are living through (hopefully the end stages of) a certain experience of bondage. Let us find liberating ways of coping with and responding to it.

3. While we have been doing a lot of cleaning and disinfecting this past year, do what works for you in doing away with *Hametz*. Make a contribution to the needy or a food local Bank: here in Indianapolis, like Popsie's, Gleaners, Maurer Feed the Hungry Fund.

4. Search and *Biur* – Because, this year, Passover (first *Seder*) begins on Saturday night, it is customary to perform the “search” for *Hametz* on Thursday evening, and do the “*Biur*” or “burning of the left-over *Hametz*” on Friday morning (you set aside the *Hametz* that you will still use for *Shabbat*). Consult a *Haggadah* for this lovely and memorable opportunity for children. Whether or not you perform the ritual, you may want to consider: What is it of last year's accumulation of events, experiences, memories that you want to give up as we enter this festival of spring and freedom? What do you carry with you as you seek “to rise” to a new level of possibilities and opportunities?

5. Keep your *Seder* EASY and ENJOY-ABLE. Remember, legumes (*kitniot*), which *Sephardi* Jews have always eaten

## EDITORIAL

(continued from page IN 2)

were friends with then Rabbi William P. Greenfield who served BEZ from 1946–1960. He wanted a *bat mitzvah* and felt she would be a good candidate because she was a good student and had attended years of Hebrew school, so he asked her to do it. She said some of the more observant members of the congregation made a fuss and said it was not appropriate for women to be on the *bimah*. However, once they saw that she did a good job and everything went smoothly, they became more accepting of the idea. This “opened up the faucet” for other girls to follow suit.

This is one my favorite of Rabbi Sandy's children's books because it flowed smoothly, is beautifully illustrated by Margeaux Lucas, and the details behind the story are fascinating. Rabbi Sandy spent two years researching and revising this book. She has greatly admired Judy as a mentor and friend since rabbinical school, for which Judy's husband, Rabbi Ira Eisenstein, was the founding president. The Sassos remained close with the Eisensteins through the years.

Who better to do this than another woman of Jewish firsts? Rabbi Sandy was the first woman ordained at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, the first woman rabbi to lead a Conservative Congregation, and with her husband Rabbi Dennis C. Sasso, the first ever rabbinical couple.

At the end of the program it was interesting to hear about some of her experiences when she first became a rabbi. The full program can be viewed at: <https://kaplancenter.org/recording-of-judy-led-the-way-1-26-21/>

Blessings for a healthy *Pesach!*

Jennie Cohen, March 31, 2021 ✨



during the festival, are now considered *kosher* for Passover for *Ashkenazim* as well. Follow your most comfortable practice.

Hopefully, this will be our last social distance *Seder*. If you want to connect with family and don't have Facebook, Zoom or other social media skills, you may consider just putting a phone on the table. Wish each other love and *Gut Yomtov*, *Chag Samech*, Happy Passover! Raise your first cup of wine, and move on, on line or separately.

And remember, **Wash hands!!!** It's an old Jewish practice! *Gotta hand it to us!*

*Rabbi Dennis Sasso has been senior rabbi at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck in Indianapolis for more than 40 years.* ✨



# Chassidic Rabbi

BY RABBI BENZION COHEN

B.H.

## My Story

*Two years ago I was interviewed by JEM (Jewish Educational Media). Recently they published my story and I am sharing it with you. Check their websites to read many beautiful stories.*

When I graduated high school, the members of the Jewish community in Indianapolis, my hometown, offered me a free trip to Israel. They thought that a kid like me – who received only a minimal Jewish education and whose parents were minimally observant – needed a boost to stay Jewish. And it so happened that I came to Israel, along with another 200 kids like me, right after the end of the Six Day War of 1967. We spent two months touring, and wherever we went, we saw happy people. This made an impression on me because, back home, I rarely saw people who looked so happy.

Why were these Israelis so happy? They told us that for six months they had lived in fear of their Arab neighbors who loudly declared that they planned to push every Jew into the sea. And then, in six short days, Israel overcame all of them and recaptured vast amounts of territory, all with minimal casualties.

As a result of this experience, I decided to remain in Israel and study at Hebrew University. During this time, I was also very strongly influenced by a foray into yoga as a religious practice. I liked the idea that one should lead a simple life, be a vegetarian, and not harm other living beings. This was an idea that ran counter to the American capitalist ideal – which seemed selfish in comparison – that one should make a lot of money and buy a lot of beautiful things.

I began to practice yoga meditation – to think about the soul, about the Creator, and about helping others. After a few months, I began feeling a new sensation, which I came to identify as happiness. I was happy because every day I was doing good things. Every day, I didn't feel the lacks and frustrations that come from craving possessions like money and fancy cars.

I also spent a lot of time wandering around the Judean desert near Jerusalem, where I would see the beauty of nature that G-d created. So my belief in G-d became very strong. Crediting all this to yoga, I considered going to India for more in-depth study.

My father became alarmed, and when I returned to the US for a short time,

he arranged for his business partner – Charles Roth, who was affiliated with *Chabad* – to speak to me. Charles tried to convince me that I could find the same benefits in *Chasidic* teachings. *Chasidim* also practiced meditation and had a strong connection to G-d, he said, recommending that I delve into a book called *Tanya*, the seminal work of the *Alter Rebbe*, the founder of the *Chabad* Movement.

To make a long story short, this led me to the study of other Jewish texts and to visiting Kfar Chabad, the Lubavitch village in Israel. As a result of that experience, I enrolled in the *yeshiva* on the premises, which welcomed people just like me who had little or no background in Judaism.

Once I started studying in this *yeshiva*, I noticed that some of the students would sit quietly for five or ten minutes before prayers started, and I guessed they were meditating. I approached one of them and he confirmed this, directing me to speak to the *yeshiva's* spiritual mentor, Rabbi Shlomo Chaim Kesselman to find out more. This is how I learned the meaning of *Chasidic* meditation and its foundation in the contemplation of Chapter 41 of the *Tanya*.

I started meditating on this chapter for five to ten minutes every day. And very soon I felt myself coming close to G-d, which is a very special, very wonderful feeling. I was also succeeding in my *Talmudic* studies with Rabbi Shneur Zalman Gafni and in my *Chasidic* studies with Rabbi Hershel Hecht.

After a few months, it was suggested to me that I reach out to the Rebbe for guidance, so I wrote a letter telling the Rebbe my life story. In due course came a reply – a beautiful letter – in which the Rebbe said that he was gratified that, after my spiritual wanderings, I found the right path at last:

“In as much as you are fortunate to arrive at your destination, namely the *Torah*, the *Torah* of Truth...you will now enjoy the relief that comes after such a journey, and you will utilize all your capacities in the “four cubits” of *Torah* and *mitzvot*. And although the [*Talmudic*] expression speaks of “four cubits,” these are the “four cubits” that embrace the whole world.

“I have already had occasion many times to emphasize that, precisely in our day and age, we can clearly see how a small quantity can produce extraordinary results which are completely out of proportion. We have seen the destructive forces that can be realized from a very small quantity of several pounds of atomic material. If this is so in the negative and destructive aspect, how much more is it in the good and constructive aspect... This is why the “four cubits” of *Torah* and *mitzvot*,

even of one single individual, can have a tremendous effect on the whole world.”

The *Rebbe* went on to point out that there are those who think it is necessary to bring about change in the world through violent revolutions and loud propaganda, but this is not the way of *Torah*, which teaches us that great things can be accomplished even by small good deeds. In this context, the *Rebbe* quoted Maimonides, the great 12th century Jewish philosopher, who said, “A person should always consider himself and all the world equally balanced. Thus, at any time, when a person does a good deed, he tips the scale in favor of himself as well as the whole world.”

His letter inspired me greatly. During my second year in *yeshiva*, my mother came to visit and gave me some extra money. A short time later, we were escorting Rabbi Kesselman to the airport for a visit to the *Rebbe*. In the heat of the moment, I decided to send the money along as a contribution toward the *Rebbe's* outreach campaigns. Rabbi Kesselman later told me that, when given the donation, the *Rebbe* inquired about my progress. And when Rabbi Kesselman responded that I was succeeding in my studies and meditating before prayers, the *Rebbe* was very happy. He actually stood up and exclaimed, “Ben Zion contemplates *Chasidus* before praying! It would be great if all of the students did the same!”

Subsequently, I had the occasion to meet with the *Rebbe* in person and I asked him about my prayer practice. He answered that I should continue meditating on Chapter 41 of the *Tanya*, as well as occasionally studying the first chapter of the section of the *Tanya* entitled, “The Gate of Oneness and Faith.” This chapter talks about how G-d constantly re-creates the world, and if He would not be re-creating the world every second, then the world would cease to exist.

So now, 49 years later, I think about this every day before I pray – that G-d gives everything in the world its existence – all the time, at every moment. Realizing this helps me live a happy life, and when tests and challenges intervene, it helps me remember that G-d is everything.

This is the message that I got from the *Rebbe* and from *Chasidic* teachings. And I've been trying my whole life to give over this message to other people, wherever I go and whomever I meet.

*Rabbi Ben Zion Cohen resides in Kfar Chabad, Israel where he teaches at Yeshivat Ohr Temimim. This interview was done October 2018 and published December 2020. It can be found here: <http://myencounterblog.com/?p=3924> ✨*



# Simcha Announcements

## Mazel Tov to...

**Ann Lande** (below) on celebrating her 90th birthday on Dec. 10, 2019, however, due to COVID her family could not make the presentation until the wedding of **Daniel Lande** and **Channah Kimmelman** in November of 2020.



**Amanda Lee Berggren** (below), daughter of **Anne** and **Stephen Berggren** of Carmel, Ind., and granddaughter of **Dottie Wolf**, of Indianapolis, on her marriage to **Brian Andrew Hoffman**, son of **Karen** and **Alan Hoffman** of Dallas, and grandson of **Robert** and **Ruth Pushkin** of Los Angeles, on October 18, 2020 at the home of the bride's parents. **David Dubow**, a close and long-time family friend, officiated. Due to health concerns from COVID-19, the wedding took place in the physical presence of immediate family and bridal party only, with other guests joining virtually. Our many close friends and family were dearly missed but with us in spirit. The Matron of Honor was **Allison Forester**, close friend of the bride and the Best Men were **David** and **Aaron Hoffman**, brothers of the groom. The couple met in Carmel and continue to live there.

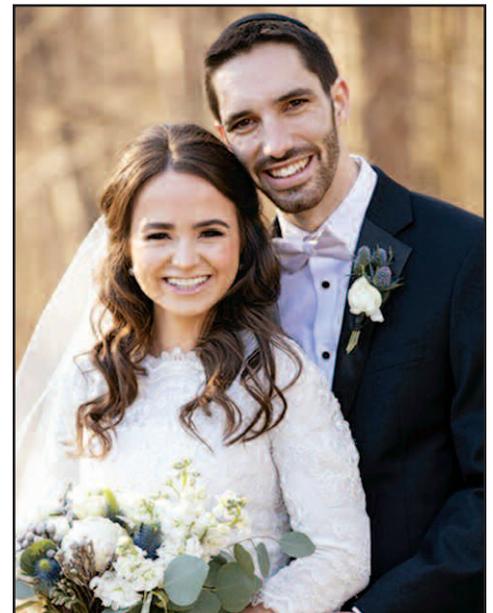


**Joe** and **Melinda Blake** on the birth of their daughter **Nora Faye** (below) on Dec. 16, 2020. Nora is for *Chanukah* (menorah) and Faye is for her maternal great-grandmother. Grandparents are **Marlene Dorfman**, **Michael Bruner**, and **Merce** and **Bob Blake**.



**Sanford** and **Dee Schwartz** (above right) on their 60th wedding anniversary (celebrated at home). They were married on Dec. 26, 1960 at Beth-El Zedeck. They have been blessed with 3 wonderful children and their spouses, who presented them with 6 wonderful grandchildren. These years have flown by at supersonic speed, but thank God they're doing well.

**Mira Shere** (right), daughter of **Mark** (see Mazel Tov, page IN 6)





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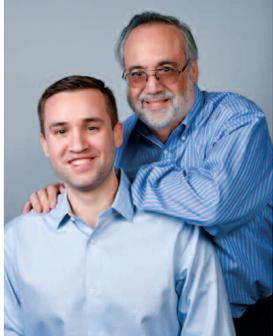


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**. . . We Are Changing Along with Them!**



### MAZEL TOV

(continued from page IN 5)

and **Colleen Shere** on her marriage to **Yoni Schreiber**, son of **Alan** and **Judy Schreiber** of Denver, on Dec. 27, 2020 at Temple Emanuel in Closter, N.J.

**Mushka** and **Mordechai Shalom Rebak** of K'far Chabad, Israel, on the birth of their son, **DovBer**, (below, held by his older sister **Rivka**, age 6) on Feb. 18, 2021. Mushka is the youngest child of **Rabbi Benzion** and **Malka Cohen** of K'far Chabad.



**Rabbis Dennis** and **Sandy Sasso** upon being presented (in a virtual ceremony) with the Indiana Bicentennial Medal (below) by Chancellor Nasser Paydar on behalf of IU President Michael McRobbie. The award recognizes the "distinguished and distinctive service" of those who, through their personal, professional, artistic, or philanthropic efforts, have broadened the reach of Indiana University around the state, nation, and world.



**Pearl Joffe** on turning 95 on Jan. 10, 2021, she still lives at home and says, "I am now an old woman with a big mouth and I have opinions about everything including politics. The only one who agrees with me is me."

**Martin** and **DeAnn Silverman** (right oval) on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 17, 2021. They now reside in Cincinnati.

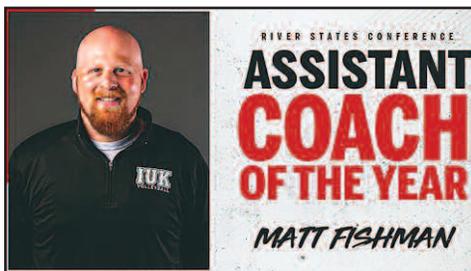
and **Esther Winter Fishman**, on being selected as 2020–21 River States Conference Assistant Coach of the Year of the women's volleyball team at IU-Kokomo.

**Rabbi** and **Mrs. Michael Hasten** on the birth of a granddaughter, **Rivka**, to their children **Esther** and **Shlomo Chill** in Monsey, N.Y. Rivka's great-grandmother is **Mrs. Anna Ruth Hasten**.

**Rabbi Avi** and **Nini Grossbaum** on the birth of their newest granddaughter (below) on Jan. 15, 2021 to their children, **Miriam** and **Rabbi Zevi Tenenbaum** of Irvine, Calif. Paternal grandparents are **Sara** and **Rabbi Levi Tenenbaum**, great-grandparents are **Dolly** and **Rabbi Betzalel Rotter**, and **Mrs. Yehudis Groner**, all of Brooklyn, NY.



**Dr. Jack** and **Sally Cotlar** on the birth of their new grandson, **Noah Nathan** (right), on Jan. 26, 2021 to their daughter and son-in-law **Michelle** and **Evan Kracoff** in San Francisco. He is named in memory of Jack's father, **Nathan**. Paternal grand-



parents are **Wendy** and **Howard Kracoff** from New Jersey. Noah weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 20 inches long. He has an older brother, **Oliver**, age 2.

**Rabbi Benzion** and **Malka Cohen** of Kfar Chabad, Israel welcoming a great-grandson, **Ariel Weiss**, on Jan. 30, 2021, through their granddaughter **Yehudis** and her husband, **Itzik Weiss**. Yehudis is the daughter of their daughter and son-in-law **Chani** and **Yehuda Kaplan**.



**Chava Gluck** (below), daughter of **Rabbi Tzurial** and **Mrs. Miriam Gluck**, for qualifying for the Indianapolis



(see Mazel Tov, page IN 9)

# Indiana Jewish Historical Society Making History

In November, the Indiana Jewish Historical Society (IJHS) elected a new board with Melanie Hughes of New Albany as President and Jill Weiss Simins of Indianapolis starting her tenure as Vice President of History. Continuing on the Board are Vice President of Membership Barbara Goldman and Treasurer Kevin Krulewitch, both of Indianapolis, and Secretary Robert Phillips of Muncie.

Michael Brown of South Bend became the organization's 4th Executive Director in August. The organization was founded in 1972 in Fort Wayne with Joe Levine as Executive Director. The IJHS is also making preparations for its 50th anniversary in the fall of 2022. Mr. Brown says, "We look forward to celebrating over 200 years of Jewish history in Indiana and 50 years of our organization."



M. Brown



M. Hughes

The organization has had to pivot and shift gears due to COVID-19, presenting its programming virtually, including the annual Jewish Hoosier Hall of Fame, the Hoosier Jewish Legends. The IJHS is currently taking applications for Hoosier Jewish Legends candidates for its ceremony in August. All applications, found at [www.ijhs.org/hoosier-legends/](http://www.ijhs.org/hoosier-legends/), need to be received by April 1st.

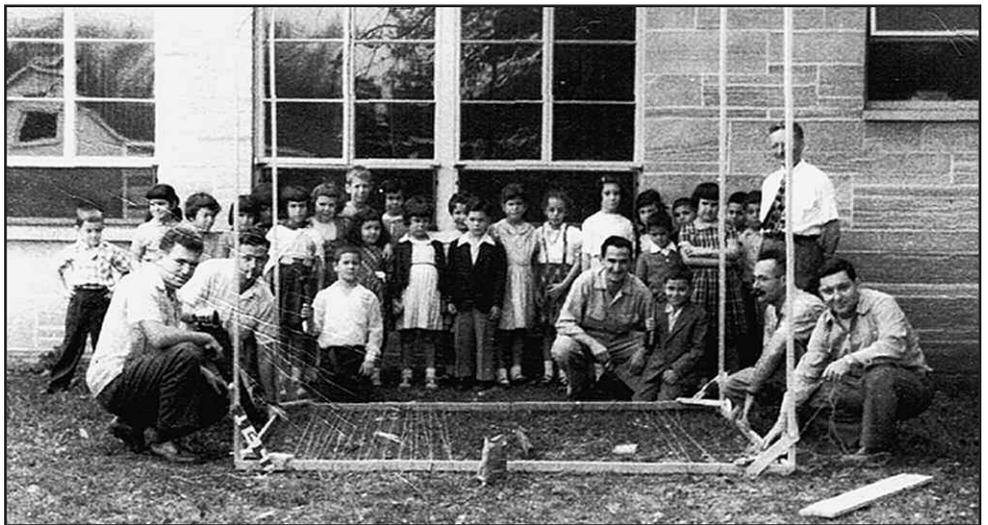
According to Mr. Brown, COVID-19 has also emphasized one of the IJHS's essential missions: to collect documents, photos, and recording oral histories, and document the state's historic structures and sites, such as synagogues and Jewish cemeteries. The organization records the history in an annual publication. The theme for this year is Jewish Women in Indiana. All paid members receive a copy of the publication.

Help the IJHS document Indiana's rich Jewish history. If you believe you have a historically relevant document or photos of your family, business, or organization that tell a story of Indiana's Jewish history, please contact the IJHS office. The IJHS is working to increase its efforts to collect artifacts for the IJHS archive housed at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis. The IJHS is also producing a podcast—please contact the IJHS if you, or a loved one, have a story to share with the IJHS. Contact Michael Brown at [michael.brown@ijhs.org](mailto:michael.brown@ijhs.org). ✨

## Purdue Hillel Celebrating 70 Years at Its Location



For 70 years, from 1951–2021, Purdue Hillel has been at its current location at 912 West State Street and is celebrating 85 years of supporting Jewish life on Purdue's West Lafayette's Campus. They intend to celebrate the whole year, so they are asking for pictures and memories. Please send in pictures and memories (email to [hillel@purduehillel.org](mailto:hillel@purduehillel.org)) and they will share them throughout the year in their newsletters and on their webpage ([www.purduehillel.org/70th-anniversary/](http://www.purduehillel.org/70th-anniversary/)) in honor of this 70th Anniversary year. Above at the site in 1950: L-R: Max Cohen, Louis Pearlman, Jacob Singer, William Cohen, Harry Pearlman, and Bert Loeb. Below: Building the Succah at the Hillel in Oct. 1954.



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# Yom HaShoah Community Memorial Service

BY PHIL LANDE

Years ago, on *Yom HaShoah* the Jewish Community of greater Indianapolis gathered together at the Holocaust Memorial Monument located in the B'nai Torah cemetery on Bluff Road to commemorate the memory of the Six Million Jews that were murdered in the streets, gas chambers, gallows, and in every imaginable and unimaginable way as a result of Hitler's Final Solution.

Time took its toll, and the monument gave way to years of weathering and crumbling concrete. Weather had always been a problem for the ceremony itself as rain, cold, and mud would inhibit attendance. The survivors decided that it was time to make a permanent change to the annual tradition and move the service into the sanctuary of different synagogues each year on *Yom HaShoah*. And so, the survivors made it clear to the community that it was their wish and desire that all future memorial ceremonies would be rotated within the community's synagogue's sanctuary.

As the survivors began to leave this world for *Olam Habah* certain individuals (none of which were survivors or immediate family of survivors) pushed to change the designated location of the service for reasons of their own. However, members of the Second Generation have and continue to believe that their parent's wishes need to be followed to honor their memory as well as those that perished.

As we approach another year's memorial service the dying wish of those who survived the concentration camps, work camps, and ghettos will once again be honored. Congregation Shaarey Tefilla, at 3085 W 116th Street in Carmel, will host this year's *Yom HaShoah* Community Memorial Service on Thursday, April 8, 2021 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The service will be broadcast via Zoom and Streamed via YouTube due to the COVID pandemic. Details will be published soon.

*Lande is a member of the JFGI Holocaust Speaker's Bureau. Phil and his brothers, Jerry and Paul, are the sons of Alexander Lande, a survivor of Auschwitz and Dachau Concentration Camps. Alex was an original member of the JCRC Holocaust Committee as well as a speaker that believed it was his responsibility as a survivor to tell the world of the atrocities he saw and experienced. He was a living example of what members of the Second Generation as well as all Jews need to do in order to live up to the perpetual statement, "We will never forget!"* ✨

# New Podcast on Civil Rights work of Rabbi Maurice Davis

Jill Weiss Simins who wrote a blog on the Civil Rights work of Rabbi Maurice Davis, z"l, who served Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation (IHC) from 1956-1967, has created a podcast on the same subject. The episode is called "I Did Not Walk Alone": The Civil Rights Work of Rabbi Maurice Davis. It will come out on March 31, 2021.

The episode looks at the rabbi's work for desegregation, equal housing, and voting rights in the context of the Civil Rights movement. It considers why Jewish Americans (and Hoosiers) joined the fight for equal rights for their Black neighbors in greater numbers than other white communities of peoples and considers lessons we can learn from it today about intersectional allyship to Black movements for equality.

The episode was researched, written, and produced by Simins. Justin Clark is the podcast host with his wonderful NPR voice. The words of Rabbi Davis are performed by IHC senior Rabbi Brett Krichiver. Original music by IHC Cantor Aviva Marer is included. The rest of the music credits and sources will be available on the blog along with a transcript of the episode.

To read the full blog and hear the podcast, go to: [blog.history.in.gov/walking-with-dr-king-the-civil-rights-legacy-of-rabbi-maurice-davis/](http://blog.history.in.gov/walking-with-dr-king-the-civil-rights-legacy-of-rabbi-maurice-davis/). An abbreviated version of the blog was in our April 2019 National edition on page 8: [jewishpostopinion.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NAT\\_4-1-19.pdf](http://jewishpostopinion.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NAT_4-1-19.pdf)

Rabbi Davis was a regular columnist for *The Jewish Post & Opinion* for many years both before and after his term at IHC.

*Jill Weiss Simins is a historian with a love for uncovering the lesser-known stories from Indiana history. She has worked for the Indiana Historical Bureau since 2008. Her ongoing project, created in concert with the United States Holocaust Museum's History Unfolded initiative examines what Hoosiers knew about the events leading up to the Holocaust through their newspapers. You can follow her posts at: <http://blog.newspapers.library.in.gov/>.* ✨



J. Weiss Simins



Rabbi Davis



Rabbi Krichiver



Cantor Marer

# GLHRC Spring 2021 Conference

The Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Committee is pleased to announce our Spring 2021 Conference, an interview with Sam Wach, a Holocaust survivor. Sam Wach's presentation from Israel, "A Survivor's Journey: Present to Past to Future," will be held at noon on April 8, 2021 via Zoom. A live Q&A will follow. The entire presentation will be reshown on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Sam was a small boy when his father was murdered by the Nazis. He and his mother went into hiding on a farm in their village in Poland. His mother was discovered and taken from him, but the farmer's wife carried Sam to his aunt, who was the cook in a forced labor camp nearby. Sam lived out the war in that camp and then, with his aunt, Bronia, emigrated to Argentina where they began their lives anew. As an adult and a widower, Sam emigrated to Israel with his two sons. There he met a woman from his village who filled in some of the missing pieces from his early life.

Sam's story is one of passages – from loss to resilience, of a journey across three continents to build a life, of discovery later in life of details of his early years. Sam concludes with thoughts about anti-semitism and the responsibility all of us have to combat the forces of hate.

To join the Zoom presentation on Thurs., April 8, 2021 (*Yom HaShoah*/Holocaust Remembrance Day) from 12:00–1:30 p.m., ET or Tues., April 13, 2021, from 7:00–8:30 p.m., ET. Please register at: <http://glhrc.org/> ✨



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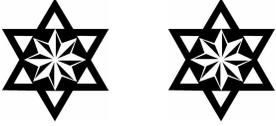
(continued from page IN 6)

Regional Spelling Bee! After winning the HHAI Bee, Chava went on to place in the top 15 at the District Bee, earning her a chance to compete at the next level. Like the previous levels, the Regional Bee will be an online test that must be completed by March 24th. *Good luck to Chava!*

**Harel Halevi** (below), son of **Ya-elle** and **Asaf Halevi**, a senior at Carmel High School, on winning 2nd place in the Feature News Story category at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) Radio and Television Awards. Carmel High School also won best high school radio station in the nation!



**Phil** and **Nikki Goldsmith** (below) on celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on March 4, 2021. ✨



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# Debbie and Michael Sapper Serve Up Wood Artistry

BY MATTHEW J. SILVER

Black locust. Ambrosia beetle. Hickory borer. Elm tree beetle. Does this sound like an insect invasion, or some Coleoptera order? Well, it's not. These 'bugs' all relate to serious woodworking, a longtime passion of Michael Sapper, who works out of his fully-equipped workshop attached to his home in Carmel.

"When I was young, when people would ask me what is your favorite day, the answer would not be my birthday or *Chanukah*. It was the days of heavy trash pickup in the neighborhood. People would put out old fans or vacuum cleaners that I could take apart and tinker with, try to fix them," says Michael. His interest morphed into woodworking, which he has been doing for decades.

He and his wife, Debbie, sell through several boutiques in the area, but mainly on Amazon Handmade Sapper Woodworking. Amazon has been a real boost to their marketing. "We send our charcuterie and cutting boards to Amazon and they do the customer service, packaging, shipping – their logistical process is simply amazing. Sometimes I send the boards to Whitestown, sometimes to a California warehouse. Amazon decides where they are needed. I prefer to be in the shop making items than doing the customer service part," says Michael, who has also been a CPA since 1991. It's worth it, he says, to pay a little extra for their service. The couple averages 600 boards annually.

Additionally, the Sappers obtain valuable supplies for their endeavor from Amazon, often within a day or two.

The non-profit Central Indiana Woodworkers (CIWW.org) has been around since the 1950s, providing infor-



Debbie and Michael in their wood shop sporting their new woodworking t-shirts.

mation, seminars and national speakers for the members. Several years ago a survey revealed over 50 percent of the 200 members were beginners, indicating, perhaps, retirees and hobbyists who were seeking something satisfying to do with their hands.

"I have given several seminars on making cutting boards. We (the CIWW) make a lot of wooden toys for disadvantaged children in central Indiana and distribute them through several charities, for Christmas. We normally average 12,000 to 14,000 each year but because of the pandemic we made about 17,000 in 2020." Says Debbie: "It is certainly one of my favorite days of the year."

The materials are donated by a company that makes roof trusses. Members make keepsake boxes for children who have lost their parents. Other items are games, sports toys, lots of trucks and race cars for boys, and baby dolls with cribs for girls. Each member receives enough material to make 13 toys. Twelve are donated and the 13th is kept by the craftsman.

Debbie also does woodworking and much of the marketing. "Sales of the merchandise have paid for the workshop equipment. It is definitely a profitable operation," she says. Power tools include a band saw, table saw, lathe, planer-joiner, a variety of sanders, a CNC machine (computer numerical control which has multiple capabilities), and an elaborate system to expel sanding dust from the shop.

"Sometimes I will acquire an unusual piece of wood, like spalted maple or walnut burl, and I won't do anything until it speaks to me, tells me what it wants to be," says Michael Sapper.

"When I was a kid and wanted to learn how to make something I would go to the library and look through numerous books and magazines, and through trial and error I could figure it out. Nowadays, YouTube will offer maybe 200 videos on how to make a wooden toy," he says. "We often learn from other association members how to perform a procedure more effectively than how we have been doing it."

The charcuterie and cutting boards are made of a variety of woods: red and white oak, cherry, walnut, maple and ash, to name the major ones. They are finished with a mixture of mineral oil and beeswax for protection. Debbie says the difference between the two boards is "a charcuterie is a beautiful way to present food, using it as a grazing board at a gathering. A customer recently ordered a number of individual charcuteries for a holiday business party. Cutting boards are typically made of end grain wood, and are used for chopping and preparing food."

Recently Michael has been making beautiful bowls from a selection of contrasting woods, mixing maple, which is a light wood, with dark walnut and natural cherry, which has a light reddish patina.



Beautiful bowls and platter designed by Michael Sapper.

CIWW members offer free classes on a variety of woodworking projects. Says Michael: "One fellow is a sculptor. He demonstrated how to make the head of a bird out of maple, the body of cherry, the beak of walnut, and he fits them together. Another class was on the use of epoxies, and another was a member who makes watches. My classes have been mostly on cutting boards." Most of the Sapper's products derive from native Indiana woods.

As for the 'bugs,' the ambrosia beetle invades maple trees, bores a hole and secretes a substance that maintains the tiny hole. Black locust is a very hard wood. The hickory borer and elm tree beetle attack the named trees, sometimes destroying them.

To experience a stunning array of finished products from the artful hands of the couple, check out Sapper Woodworking on YouTube, where you can also find video demonstrations and subscribe for a chance to win their beautiful creations. You can also see their artwork on Instagram under Sapper Woodworking.

Matthew J. Silver is an Indianapolis-based freelance writer, folk singer and restorer of wood furnishings. ✨



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# Obituaries

**Herbert L. Lebovits, 89**, of Indianapolis, formerly of Memphis, Tenn., and Fairfax, Va., passed away Nov. 9, 2020. He was born in Scranton, Pa., to Isaac and Matilda (Rosenberg) Lebovits on June 20, 1931.



Herb graduated from Scranton Central High School and matriculated to The University of Scranton where he graduated with a degree in Biology and Chemistry. After graduation he briefly attended medical school in Philadelphia before taking a fellowship in physiology at The University of Tennessee in Memphis, where he was introduced to the love of his life.

He married Ellen Haimsohn on Feb. 3, 1957 and the couple raised six children. Upon his retirement from the pharmaceutical industry for over 40 years as a sales representative, they traveled across the United States, visiting many National Parks, and regularly enjoying visits with their children and grandchildren in New York, California, Indiana, Georgia, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Herb and Ellen were lifelong members of Anshei Sphard Beth El Emeth in Memphis where they regularly attended services and post-retirement, Herb participated in morning *minyan*.

Over the years through his many travels and activities, Herb never met a stranger. He developed an extensive network of friends and an email distribution list to share jokes, music, and visual presentations to bring as much joy, laughter and pleasure to others as it brought to him.

Herbert was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen in May 2020. He is survived by his children, Judith (Richard) Lillien, Marshall (Judy) Lebovits, Stephen (Debra) Lebovits, Barbara (Mark) Moskowitz, Lisa (Gary) Shankman, and Ronald (Beth) Lebovits; 13 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and brother, Norman (Elaine) Lebovits.

Graveside services were held on Zoom on November 12th. Memorial contributions may be made to Hooverwood Employees' Appreciation Fund, Melrose/Miller Adolescent Education Fund at Congregation Beth El Zedeck Indianapolis, ASBEE-Memphis or charity of one's choice. Arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**Martin Philip Zagarinsky, 85**, passed away on Nov. 12, 2020. Martin was born in Adams, Mass., on Feb. 27, 1935 to Harry and Minnie Zagarinsky. After graduating from Bryant University, Martin joined the Army



and was eventually stationed at Fort Benjamin Harrison. There he met his beloved wife of more than 60 years, Carol.

Martin enjoyed hanging out with his grandkids, gardening, collecting clocks, boating on Lake Monroe and supporting Indianapolis sports and cultural organizations like the zoo, the Indy 500 and the Colts. He was a dedicated member of Rock Steady Boxing, the Parkinson's Awareness Association and the Jewish Community Center, where he loved to socialize and work out.

He was the loving husband of the late Carol Zagarinsky. He is survived by daughters and sons-in-law, Brenda and Charlie Tarzian; and Charlene and Leonard Gringlas; and grandchildren, Sam, Rachel, Dylan and Grady.

A memorial service was held via Zoom on November 15th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the JCC of Indianapolis.

**Mikail Kastelyanets, 91**, passed away peacefully on Nov. 12, 2020, in Coney Island Hospital in New York City. Born on December 16, 1928, in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, he lived most of his life in Moscow, Russia.



He worked as a radiologist in a Moscow hospital for several decades. He immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1993, and lived in Brooklyn.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rackil Okun and Yuri Kastelyanets; and brother, Leonid Kastelyanets. He leaves behind his three daughters, Marina, Irina, and Yulianna; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

His sharp and inquisitive mind, charm, and a great sense of humor will be missed always. The funeral was held at Beth-El Zedeck North Cemetery, in Fishers, Ind., on November 25th.

**Valentina I. (Rubenstein) Greenberg, 84**, beloved wife, mother, grandmother

and great grandmother passed away on Nov. 25, 2020. Mrs. Greenberg was born in Kiev, Russia on July 21, 1936. She was a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

Mrs. Greenberg lost her beloved husband of 60 years, Dr. Shoil Greenberg, in July of 2020. Survivors include her daughter, Anna (Gregory) Sechuga; grandsons and great-grandsons. There was a private graveside funeral in Beth-El Zedeck North Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Funeral Home**.

**Faye (Peril) Weissman, 95**, died peacefully, in the early morning Dec. 3, 2020, at Hooverwood Nursing Home, where she had been a resident for three years. She celebrated her 95th birthday a week before her death. Faye was born in Shenandoah, Pa., on Nov. 24, 1925. She moved with her family to Indianapolis as a teenager and attended Shortridge High School. The family then moved back to Pennsylvania for a few years.



Faye married Adrian Weissman and the couple returned to Indianapolis, where they made their home. She stayed at home, raising her two children until they were in high school. During those years, Faye was active in the B'nai Brith Women's Organization through Beth-El Zedeck Synagogue, was in a bowling league, and played Mah Jongg several times a week.

Later, Faye began her career in the couture fashion industry, which she loved. She started at Peacock's and then worked at Davidson's Indiana Fur for 32 years, until the store closed. At the age of 78, she was recruited to work at the Indianapolis Saks Fifth Avenue store, where after a year, she decided she was tired. Faye loved to travel and took several trips to Europe.

Faye is survived by her two daughters, Jeannie (Jack) Meadows and Pamela (see Obituaries, page IN 12)



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**OBITUARIES**

(continued from page IN 11)

Weissman (Jim Brown); two grandchildren living in Chicago, Brooke (Patrick) Brackett and Max (Leslie) Brown; two great-grandchildren, Izabella Faye Brown and Noah Scott Brackett; and a dear niece, Dana Palmer of Dallas.

There will be a luncheon after COVID-19 is resolved. Any donations may be made in Faye's memory to The Hooverwood Guild, 7001 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, IN 46260. Arrangements entrusted to **A.R.N. Funeral & Cremation Services.**

**Riva Kantin, 81**, passed away unexpectedly but peacefully surrounded by her family on Dec. 6, 2020. Riva was born in Pushkin, Russia on May 7, 1939 to Abraham Gusinsky and Sofiya Minevich Gusinsky. Riva and her family immigrated to Indianapolis in 1975, and were one of the first Jewish emigres from Russia to settle in the city. Private family graveside services were held on December 8th at IHC North Cemetery. Riva was preceded in death by her husband, Efraim Kantin; and her brother, Boris Minevich. Riva is survived by her daughters, Leah, Nina, Anne and Becky. She is also survived by

her step-daughter, Raisa Sitnikov; brother, David Minevich; sister, Musya Tayts; grandchildren; nieces and nephews. Memorial donations can be made to Hasten Hebrew Academy of Indianapolis (HHAI) or Jewish Family Services (JFS).

**Lillian (Klezmer) Brodey, 102**, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones on Dec. 11, 2020. Lillian was predeceased by her husband, Norman Brodey and her son, Barry Brodey. Born in Philadelphia on June 22, 1918, she moved to Indianapolis at the age of 2. She was the oldest of four sisters. Lillian lived a beautiful life. She loved music, dance, and travel. As a lifelong member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, she was very active in their Sisterhood for many years. She was an organizer extraordinaire.

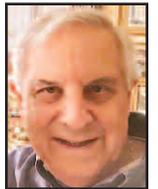
Lillian is survived by her children, Barbara and Alan Cohen and Penni and Ronnie Brodey, her sister, Edna Johnson, nine grandchildren, Jami (Jim), Alyson, Carrie (Adam), Jennifer (Lee), Erica, Anne (Craig), Laura, Sari, and Zachary, and 13 great-grandchildren: Binyomin, Sarah Leah, Dovid, Asher, Mollie, Addie, Levi, Brodey, Crosby, Bay, Atlas, Roselie, and Lillian.



Due to Covid, a private burial took place at Congregation Beth-El Memorial Park North on December 15th.

Donations may be made to the Barry Brodey SKIP fund at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, 600 W. 70th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260 ([www.bez613.org](http://www.bez613.org)), or to the charity of your choice. Friends may watch the funeral by clicking on the video link on Lillian's obituary at [www.arnmortuary.com](http://www.arnmortuary.com).

**Robert M. (Bob) Hurwitz, M.D., 79**, passed away Dec. 14, 2020. He was born on May 11, 1941 in Jamestown, N.Y., to Dr. Samuel and Matilda Hurwitz. He grew up on nearby Lake Chautauqua where he was an avid baseball player through high school. Bob went on to attend Ohio University followed by medical school at Indiana University. Upon completion of a pathology internship, Bob enlisted in the Navy to proudly serve his country in the Vietnam War. Bob was a Navy doctor who was assigned to the Marines 3rd Medical Battalion stationed in Quang Tri.



He returned from Vietnam to a Navy base in San Diego where he met Geraldine "Geri" Naughton who would become his wife of 45 years. Upon his honorable discharge from the Navy, Bob went back to Indiana University to complete a residency in Dermatology. Bob and his wife Geri remained in Indianapolis to raise their family and Bob was one of the first physicians in the St. Vincent professional building on west 86th St. Bob practiced Dermatology for over 40 years at St. Vincent, while also co-founding his own Dermatopathology laboratory. Always a student, his passion for medicine was unwavering. Bob published many papers in addition to a book on Dermatopathology. Bob loved to teach and mentor young up and coming doctors, and would often assist them on writing their own papers.

Bob is the father to Steven A. (Lainie) Hurwitz and Abigail Hurwitz Seif, and grandfather to six grandchildren: Max, Isaac, Ethan, Solomon, Tess and Teva. Bob had a passion for candy and enjoyed sharing that passion with his grandchildren. Bob's other passions were classical music and opera; he loved a good aria and enjoyed attending the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Bob was also rarely seen without his dog Vicki by his side; they were inseparable. Bob was a man of strong Jewish values and was a long time member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. Funeral services were private due to COVID-19 restrictions.

(see Obituaries, page IN 13)

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**OBITUARIES***(continued from page IN 12)*

Arrangement entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**Reyna Pauker, 77**, passed away Dec. 16, 2020. She was born in Cincinnati to the late Milton and Ida Fettner. She attended Woodward High School, University of Cincinnati, Ohio State University, and Butler University.

In her first career Reyna was a teacher, devoted to instilling a life-long joy of reading while passionately advocating for children to reach their maximum potential. Reyna continued to mentor generations of teenagers and young adults whom she employed at the Bagel Fair in Nora Plaza, a multigenerational family business that she owned and operated since her father's death in 1985. Many of her former employees kept in touch over the decades, even bringing their own children to meet her. Reyna often declared, "children will rise or fall according to your expectations," and her expectations for all of her "kids" were high. She had many wonderful qualities, though her family considers her lifelong nurturing of children and young adults to be her greatest gift.

Reyna was happiest when surrounded by her family, as she prepared numerous impromptu family meals and hosted many holiday celebrations. She was an avid and lifelong reader, an informed political watcher, and a frequent traveler to Israel, where she forged decades long friendships and loved to shop for artwork and gifts for her family. She was a creative spirit whose talent spanned sewing entire wardrobes for her children when they were young to penciling charcoal portraits of her grandchildren in later years. Reyna was a member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, where she taught Sunday School in the 1970s.

She is survived by her former husband and life-long devoted friend, Kurt Pauker, children Juli Pauker, Max Pauker, Robyn Pauker, and David Honig, and grandchildren, Lindsey Gergel, Zack Gergel, Elizabeth Pauker, Jake Pauker, Josh Honig, and Ari Honig.

The family would like to thank Dr. Zhanna Albany and Dr. Jie Xu, both of IU North Hospital, for their attentive and compassionate care. The family is deeply grateful to Heart to Heart Hospice and its team of caregivers, for providing the crucial support for Reyna to spend her final days at home with her family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Indy Book Project: Books for Children in Need, at [www.indybookproject.org](http://www.indybookproject.org), or to a local school or public

library. A private memorial was held in her honor. Friends may share a memory or condolence at [www.arnmortuary.com](http://www.arnmortuary.com).

**Celia Starr Katz, 88**, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and devoted teacher passed away on Dec. 17, 2020 in Indianapolis. Celia was born in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 7, 1932 to Michael and Bessie Starr. Celia attended the University of Maryland. She and her late husband, Richard raised their family in Philadelphia, where Celia worked as a teaching assistant for elementary and middle school students. Celia loved children and was passionate about their learning.

Celia was a member of Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia, and Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. She was a member of Compassionate Friends and a volunteer with the Lawrence School District in Indiana through her work with OASIS.

Celia is survived by her sons, Mitchell (Karen) and Larry (Coleen) Katz and her daughter-in-law, Andrea Katz; 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard and son, Bradley.

Private graveside services were held in Philadelphia. Donations can be made to the Bradley S. Katz fund at Riley Children's Foundation. Local arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**Marvin S. Crell, 88**, was born in Poland on March 4, 1932 and passed away peacefully on Dec. 20, 2020, surrounded by family, following a day of storytelling and reminiscing on the amazing and full life he led and the positive impact he had on others. Marvin exemplified the American Dream.

As a child he spent four years imprisoned in a Nazi concentration camp. He and his family survived, and eventually made it to Fort Wayne, Ind. with his family in 1948. He was 16 years old and didn't speak English.

Marvin worked hard to save the paychecks from his many factory jobs, learn English, and enroll himself in Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne in 1951. A year later he transferred to IU Bloomington, where he met his future wife, Harriet, and within 10 years from the day he set foot on American soil, earned two degrees – an A.B. in government in 1954 and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1957.

After finishing his degrees, he returned to Fort Wayne where he would practice law for more than 50 years as a partner of the law firm Tourkow, Crell, Rosenblatt & Johnston. He was the subject of many news articles about the lives of his clients on whom he had such a positive impact.



He could not enter a restaurant or other public function without a client or colleague approaching his family and recounting some way in which Marvin had helped or had an impact on him or her.

Marvin was an instrumental part of the creation and construction of Fort Wayne's first and only convention center, The Grand Wayne Center, which bears his name as counsel to the Center in its cornerstone. This had a huge positive impact on Fort Wayne's tourism and community.

Marvin believed strongly in giving back to his community and to others. He traveled abroad with Global Volunteers to Xi'an, China, where he taught English to college students whose hopes were to find international jobs in the hospitality industry. Struck by how we all share the same hopes and dreams, the experience resonated with him and he encouraged everyone to experience other cultures firsthand. More recently, to honor the time he and Harriet spent at IU, and to provide opportunities to students with financial need, Marvin and Harriet funded the Marvin and Harriet Crell Memorial Legacy Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship is designed to award financial aid to students at Indiana University-Fort Wayne who demonstrate hard work, a financial need, and a dedication to obtaining their degree.

Marvin always stressed the importance of giving students who are in a similar position to him – those who study and work hard but who have a few hurdles to cross on their road ahead – a fair chance. "I would like for them to have the opportunity that I had; a chance to get a college education and to choose a career that will enhance their future and allow them to make a good living," he shared.

In Marvin's version of the American dream, success is best when shared with others. His wish was to instill this belief in his family and others. He would be glad to know he succeeded.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Harriet Crell, his sons, Jeffrey (Linda Friedman) Crell and Steven (Amy) Crell, his grandchildren, David (Kate) Crell, Jacob Crell, Hannah Crell and Emma Crell, and his great-grandchildren, Cora Crell and Leo Crell. He was preceded in death by his brother, Melvin (Margot) Krel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to ZERO-The End of Prostate Cancer, or to Naples Jewish Congregation. Services on Dec. 24th were private, but a link to a livestream video of the services is available.

**Adele Tamler Kraft, 89**, affectionately known as "Cookie", passed away on Dec. 22, 2020. She was (see Obituaries, page IN 14)



**OBITUARIES**

(continued from page IN 13)

born in Indianapolis on Oct. 26, 1931 to the late Charles and Fanny (Odesky) Tamler. She was a 1949 graduate of Shortridge High School before attending Indiana University.

Cookie married Gerald Kraft on June 28, 1953. They enjoyed 67 years together, spending winters in Boca Raton, Fla. They traveled extensively to dozens of countries around the world when he was president of B'nai B'rith International.

She enjoyed golf, mahjong and bridge. She served as a docent at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. She was a member of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck and its Sisterhood, a life member of both Hadassah and the former B'nai B'rith Women as well as a member of the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis Lion of Judah Society.

Cookie is survived by her husband, Gerald Kraft, her daughters Karen Yoffie of St. Louis, and Leslie Katz of Indianapolis, her son Paul (Sherri) Kraft of Indianapolis, and her sister Florence Stillerman of Indianapolis. She was beloved "Bubbe" to her grandchildren Lauren Yoffie, Dr. Benjamin Katz, Kyle (Carrie) Katz, DPT, Meredith Katz, Ariana Katz, Melissa Kraft and Valerie Kraft, and great-grandson Avi Katz. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister Harriet Cobin and her granddaughter Julie Yoffie.

Private family graveside services were held at Congregation Beth-El Zedeck Memorial Park North. Memorial contributions may be made to Hooverwood Living or Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. Friends may share a memory or condolence at [www.arnmortuary.com](http://www.arnmortuary.com).

**Dorothy L. (Cooper) Berkowitz, 98**, passed away on Dec. 26, 2020, in Encinitas, Calif., where she had been living since 2004. Dorothy was born



on Feb. 26, 1922, in Louisville, Ky. She was the second daughter of Lottie and Albert Cooper. Following a flood in Louisville in 1937, her family moved and settled in Indianapolis. She married Irvin Berkowitz (deceased in 2002) in 1942.

Dorothy will be forever missed by her children, Alan Berkowitz (Beth) and Genie Hersh (Jeff) as well as 6 grandchildren (Adam, Aimee, Allie, Aaron, Harmon, and Andrew) and 2 great-grandchildren (Claire and Dylan). She will also be greatly missed by her sister, Selma Hurwitz, her loving niece Gloria Gernstein, and nephews Rick Hurwitz, Burton Dorman, Mike Dorman and Bob Dorman as well as many cousins and friends.

Besides being a great wife, mother, and fabulous cook, she volunteered many years for the Indianapolis chapter of the registered Pharmacy Association. Any donations may be made to the employee assistance fund at Seacrest Village 211 Saxony Road, Encinitas, CA 92024. Dorothy was buried in Indianapolis, in Ohev Zedeck Cemetery next to her late husband Irvin.

**Nina (Balaynovskiy) Parafeynikova, 90**, passed away Jan. 5, 2021. She was born in Cherkassy, Ukraine to the late Michael and Vera Balaynovskiy on Nov. 12, 1930. She spent her career as an aesthetician and will always be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Pavel Parafeynikov. Nina is survived by her sons, Valeriy (Alla) and Victor (Victoria); grandchildren, Yara, Valeriy, and Ryslyan; great-grandchildren, Michael, Sasha, Ilya, Zlata, Eden and Nina; and sister, Rita (Boris) Shoykhed. Private graveside services were held in the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation North Cemetery on January 6th.

**Lois (Essak) Berkowitz, 95**, passed away Jan. 7, 2021. She was the youngest daughter of Harry and Clara Essak, born in Toledo, Ohio on Dec. 22, 1925.

Lois is survived by her sons, Michael (Deirdre) Berkowitz, Marc (Alice) Berkowitz, and daughter Lori (Daryl) Hansen. She also had five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Martin Berkowitz.



Lois was extremely proud of her family and spoke often of their many talents and all the pleasure they brought her.

She enjoyed being a "home Mom" and tried to help others whenever possible. One of her favorite activities was a discussion group with 12 women that lasted over 25 years. She and her friends looked forward to these monthly gatherings.

Always a big fan of fashion, she began a successful modeling career in her late 60's. Life was good to her and she enjoyed every minute!

She was a longtime member of Beth-El Zedeck Congregation, their Sisterhood and was a life member of Hadassah. Contributions may be made in her name to Hadassah.

A private entombment was held at Crown Hill Cemetery. Friends and family may view the services by visiting [www.arnmortuary.com](http://www.arnmortuary.com). Condolences may be made there.

**Shirley (Reder) Aprison, 93**, passed away Jan. 8, 2021. She was born in Milwaukee to Jack and Helen Reder on April 27, 1927. She was married to the late Morris H. Aprison for 58 years and proud mother to Barry (Erin) and Bob (Mary Kay) and adoring grandmother to Margaret, Nathan, Evan (Jess Pollmeier) and Jenny (Tyler Jansky). She led an exemplary life of parenting, teaching, mentoring, donating, and volunteering. She was selfless beyond measure, had an uncompromising heart, made time for everyone, taught young people, and positively influenced many lives at home, in school, at the synagogue, at the Indianapolis Children's Museum, and in the Indianapolis community.



Besides caring for her husband, her sons and their families, she had daily interactions with members of an extended family, all dear friends in the community. Shirley's philanthropic support benefited Indiana University, the University of Wisconsin, Hadassah, Beth-El Zedeck, Chabad Center for Jewish Life, and other groups.

Shirley was twice president of the Indianapolis Chapter of Hadassah and held numerous leadership positions on its board. She was president of Hooverwood Guild, a member of the Guild's Board of Directors, a volunteer docent at the

(see Obituaries, page IN 15)



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## OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 14)

Children's Museum of Indianapolis, a member of the Dean's Council of Indiana University School of Medicine, a member of the Bascom Hill Society of the University of Wisconsin, and a member of Beth-El Zedeck Congregation (since 1958) and its Sisterhood. Shirley enjoyed being at shul and worshipping with her friends on Friday nights and Saturday mornings. While living at Kraft Commons in Hooverwood Shirley appreciated the frequent calls and visits from her family members, colleagues, acquaintances, and well-wishers, especially during the COVID pandemic.

In 1949 Shirley graduated from Milwaukee State Teachers College with a BS degree in education and a minor in biology. That same year she married her beloved Morrie. Shirley taught 1st grade at the Nicholas School in Madison, Wisc., for two years.

After moving to Indianapolis she taught students in the nursery school at the Jewish Community Center. During that same time period she was a substitute teacher in the Indianapolis Public School system. Then after receiving her MS degree in education from Butler University in 1971 Shirley was hired to teach 1st and 2nd grade classes at School 86 in Indianapolis. From 1971 to 1989 her instruction at School 86 positively impacted over 500 students. Many of them enjoyed Shirley's excellent lessons, encouragement, and guidance. She frequently became one of the students' most favorite teachers.

Private grave site memorial services for Shirley were held at Beth-El Zedeck North Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Hadassah.

**Gertrude (Siegel) Dock, 90**, died in Cincinnati on Jan. 9, 2021. She was born on Feb. 10, 1930 to Benjamin Aaron Siegel and Dorothy (Hartman) Siegel, the eldest of two and raised in Indianapolis. Gertie was very close to her younger sister Loretta.



She graduated from Shortridge High School in 1947, having attended Julliard School of Music at the age of 15, and The University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music in 1951 with a degree in Classical Piano Performance. At the age of 52 she earned her Master's Degree in Piano Music Theory from Butler University College of Music. She maintained her piano skills as a private student of Menachem Pressler, a world renowned pianist and professor at Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington. He noted Gertie was a dedicated and gifted pianist with grace, perfection and flair.

She was a lifelong learner and encouraged her family to be the same.

She was a very active community volunteer in organizations including Congregation Beth El Zedeck Sisterhood, President of the National Children's Asthma Research Institute and Hospital (CARIH), the Jewish Welfare Fund, Eastern Star, and Matinee Musicale of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. She taught music privately and in schools, volunteered as a girl scout leader, judged multiple Beethoven Music Competitions and World Piano Competitions, as well as transcribed music scores for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. She helped organize fundraisers and also was a piano accompanist to vocalists and played solo for multiple community fundraisers. Gertie and her husband of 52 years Bennie Dock who died in 2003 were welcoming hosts of Interlochen piano students, Indiana University School of Music professors and other guests in their home.

One of Gertie's fondest memories was playing piano for staff, patients and families with festive music at the Indianapolis Community Hospitals Network and St. Vincent's Hospital during the holiday season, which she did annually for years. Knowing that others benefited and enjoyed listening to her piano performances were what pleased her most.

Gertie gave piano recitals for various mayors of Indianapolis as well as at the Governor's Mansion. She was the recipient of the Key to the City in 1968 by Senator Richard Lugar, then mayor of Indianapolis.

She impressed upon her family the importance, enrichment and benefits of the arts in the home and community. She and Bennie were patrons of the music and performing arts and especially the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for over 50 years. Her children were required to learn to play an instrument, dance or sing whether or not they were a natural.

Gertie embraced Judaism and its values, in particular how she honored the elders in her family and in the community with dignity and respect. She looked after them with great compassion and care. Gertie's most important accomplishment and greatest passion was her family. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, daughter, sister, niece, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She is survived by four of her five children, Dr Lainey Docque, Dr Murray (Anita) Dock, Patti (Fred) Heldman and Judy Kanter, seven grandchildren (Michelle, Robbie, Ashley, Matthew, Michael, Jeremy and Adam) and one great grandchild (Jordan). Gertie also leaves behind many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, she was predeceased by her daughter, Dr. Linda Dock,

and her sister Loretta (Mike) Hirsch, her husband's five siblings and their spouses. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, or the charity of one's choice.

**John "Jack" Lee Stenacker, 82**, died in Indianapolis on Jan. 11, 2021. He was born on June 21, 1938, the only child of Sarah (McBride) and Jack Stenacker. He graduated from Indiana University in 1959 and spent his career in medical sales and will be remembered as a loving father and grandfather.



He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Barbi (Einsteadig) Stenacker; and four children, Mindy Schultz, Steve (Mary Jo) Stenacker, John David Stenacker, and Debra (Brad) Rusk; and three grandsons, Brian (Paige) Schultz, Harrison Rusk, and Taggart (Belle) Rusk who were the apples of his eye.

Private graveside services were held at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation North Cemetery. A memorial service will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Hamilton County Family Promise, Salvation Army, and the Indiana Donor Network. Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**William "Billy" Sydner Romer, 92**, passed away on Jan. 14, 2021 at the (see Obituaries, page IN 16)

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**OBITUARIES**

(continued from page IN 15)

Barrington of Carmel where he resided. Billy was born in Indianapolis to Sydney and Irene (Guggenheim) Romer on April 12, 1928. He graduated from Shortridge High School and Indiana University, relishing his time as a Sammy (in the Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity) in college. He served in the Army and was stationed in Panama. Billy married his beautiful bride, Joyce (nee Gould) when she was 20 and he was 27, and they were married for 63 years until Joyce's passing less than 4 months ago.



In 1966 Billy left the family lighting business, Romer Electric, and opened his motorcycle dealership, Honda-Triumph of Indianapolis, where he happily *kibitzed* with bikers young and old, timid and bold for 25 years until he retired.

Billy was known and especially loved by his family and friends for his quick sense of humor and his slightly devious, but adorable grin. He most enjoyed playing tennis, dabbling in the stock market, driving a succession of convertibles, and sitting on his porch in the sun for hours. Billy most loathed lukewarm soup (thank goodness for microwave ovens) and punctuality, and his family eventually figured out that it was useful to subtract two hours from the start time of any event where he was expected to show up. He was a life-long member of Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, where his family has worshipped since the 19th century.

In addition to his wife, Billy was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Bob. He is survived by his daughter Cindy, his son Scott, grandsons Michael (Breanna) and Andy Heslin, great-grandchildren Jacob and Natalie Heslin, and several nieces and nephews.

The family is forever grateful to Billy's wonderful and dedicated caregiver in his final months, Lucinda Woods. Thanks also to family friend Blair Karsch, who brought him BBQ ribs and made him laugh.

A private family graveside service took place on January 18th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, or the charitable organization of the donor's choice. Arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**Carol A. (Walke) Gould, 88**, passed away on Jan. 29, 2021 in Austin, Texas due to pneumonia brought on by Covid-19. She was born in La Porte,



Ind. on May 5, 1932 to Maurice and Lorraine Walke of Chicago. She graduated Indiana University where she met and later married Barrett (Bill) L. Gould (deceased), also a graduate of Indiana University. They married in Los Angeles and eventually moved to Indianapolis where her husband was raised in order to take care of Bill's mother. They raised two sons, Kenneth (Ken) S. Gould and Michael R. Gould, OD, in Indianapolis.

Carol was a member of the Board of Directors of Women's American ORT, the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation Sisterhood and Hadassah and B'nai B'rith in Decatur, Ill. and past president of a chapter of the Federation of Women's club in Chicago.

She was very active in Indianapolis community theatre volunteering for Theatre-in-the-Woods where she was on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center as chairman of Theatre-in-the-Woods for 10 years. In 1984 she was awarded the "Aldo Special Award" for her many years of service, leadership and contribution to Theatre-in-the-Woods. She was also a long time volunteer at Civic Theatre where in 2001 she received the "Julian Baumburger Award" for long-term contribution there. Carol also received the "Ardith Burkhard Award".

Carol was an avid bridge player, playing for over 60 year into her 80's and even earned master points. She was predeceased by her sister Jo Hurwich. She leaves behind her sons, Kenneth and Michael, whom she loved more than anything. She's also survived by her many nieces and nephews and cousins.

**Nora (Calaywan Angeles) Bernstein, 74**, passed away peacefully on Feb. 4, 2021 surrounded in person and spirit of her beloved. Nora was born and raised in San Juan, Rizal, Philippines, on June 27, 1946. For the past 50 years she lived in Washington, D.C., Indianapolis, and Boynton Beach, Fla. Her pride of being from the Philippines and her love of being an American lived deeply within her soul.



She received her college degree from Santo Tomas University, Manila, Philippines. After her college studies and before coming to America she began a lifetime interest in the arts including acting, writing, poetry, and modern dance. She was principally a textile artist, but experimented over the years with many different art mediums. Her work products were widely creative and beautifully crafted. She was extra-ordinarily wise and demonstrated a photographic memory in her early works and social interactions.

While living in Indianapolis she worked at the IU School of Nursing library, and as a pre-school teacher. She taught at Singer Learning Center, Children's Museum, Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, and Hasten Hebrew Academy. Being a child at heart, she loved her students and they loved her. Nora also worked at Lohman's Department Store as a set designer, L.S. Ayres where she was a department supervisor, and legal assistant for her husband, Howard.

She was deeply compassionate and kind to everyone she met. She exhibited a unique serenity and calmness infused with gentleness and beauty. Nora was humble and non-judgmental towards everyone, and if you were lucky enough to be her friend, you were her friend for life. She was admired by all for her compassionate devotion to her daughter, Erikka. Nora's many medical problems did not diminish her passion for life relying often on an incredible inner courage. Her beautiful smile warmed all hearts. Her hobbies included cooking, gardening, and attending local cultural events. She particularly enjoyed traveling the world which she did with Howard and Erikka many times.

Nora was preceded in death by her father, Domingo; mother, Gabriela; three sisters; and two brothers. Surviving her are husband, Howard Bernstein; daughter, Erikka (Jesus) Garcia; sister, Dhories Manalo; brother, Domingo Angeles, Jr.; and nieces, Maria Lourdes Panganiban Brown (Rob and Gabriela), Maria Theresa Nardi (Adrielle Santiago and Cholo Miguel Santiago), and Veronica Markado. Additionally, she will be remembered by in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends in New Zealand, Australia, and throughout the Philippines and United States.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks you make a charitable contribution in her memory to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck Pre-school, or a charity of your choosing. Arrangements by **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

**David Goodman, 74**, passed away peacefully on Feb. 5, 2021 in Bloomington, Ind., with the love of his family surrounding him.



David was born and raised on a farm in Indianapolis and was the eldest of three boys. Farm chores were a part of life and he soon learned to dole out the less desirable ones to his younger brothers. He attended Indiana University, where he met his devoted wife of 51 years, Joan, and together they remained in Bloomington to raise a family.

A serial entrepreneur, David's business ventures ranged from selling dorm (see Obituaries, page IN 17)

**OBITUARIES**

(continued from page IN 16)

refrigerators to helping residents of Bloomington and surrounding areas navigate the complexities of the health insurance marketplace. He left few stones unturned along the way. Many knew him for his outside personality or his knack for bartering.

He will be remembered by his wife Joan; their children, Josh (Fern), Michele (Zach) and Michael (Jodi); seven grandchildren; his brother, Mason (Rene); and numerous extended family members and friends.

David was predeceased by his parents, Frances and Lawrence, and his brother, Daniel. An online funeral service was held February 9th, followed by a private burial. Online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.thefuneralchapel.net](http://www.thefuneralchapel.net).

Memorial donations may be made to the diaTribe Foundation ([diatribe.org/foundation/](http://diatribe.org/foundation/)), founded with a mission to improve the lives of people with diabetes and prediabetes.

**Carolyn R. Leeds, 93**, passed February 9 after a brief illness. Born in Indianapolis, her family moved to Chicago, where she attended Principia and University of Chicago. Moving to New York in 1945, she worked as a fashion coordinator at Macy's. On a 1947 visit to Indianapolis, she met Dr. James P. Leeds, and they married Aug. 12, 1948. A stay at home mom until 1963, she took a 'temporary' position at the Jewish Community Center, accepting a permanent role with the Jewish Welfare Federation in 1966. Until retiring (the first time) in 1991, she held many positions, including Interim Director of the JCC. She was then asked to serve as Interim Director of Hooverwood Nursing Home, ultimately returning to the Federation to run the Capital Campaign for Simon Campus as Director of Special Projects and Endowment Department Associate, finally retiring December 2013 as Assistant Director of the Federation. In retirement, she enjoyed volunteering in the archives of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society housed at the Indiana Historical Society. In August 2019, she was honored by the Jewish Historical Society as an Indiana Jewish Legend.



Carolyn was a lifelong learner who attended several Elder Hostels, and for more than 10 years, Mini-University at IU-Bloomington. She loved politics, current events, travel, film, all performing arts, and honing her bridge skills.

Association Highlights: Appointed to

Taskforce on Aging (CICOA) under Mayor Lugar, also serving as board member; 2nd President and first woman president of CICOA; Delegate to White House Conference on Aging during the Reagan administration; Lifetime member of the National Council of Jewish Women and Hadassah; Member, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation.

Board Member: Visiting Nurse Service; Founding Board of Dialogue Today; Interfaith Council on Religion & Aging; IHC Board of Directors and IHC Foundation Board.

Carolyn was preceded in death by parents, Bessie (Auerbach) and Max Robbins, husband, James Leeds, children, Katherine Leeds Schmitt and Kenneth Scott Leeds, and sister, Marjorie Kauffman. She is survived by daughter, Margaret (Peg) Leeds, brother, Gregg Sanderson, great niece, LeAnne (Schmitt) Lund, Isaac Lund, and their children Asher, Seth, Maggie and Evi.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, funeral services were private; a Zoom *Shiva* was held. In lieu of flowers, please honor Carolyn's lifelong commitment to community by donating to the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, or to Planned Parenthood of Indiana. Friends are welcome to leave a memory or a

message of condolence at [www.armor-tuary.com](http://www.armor-tuary.com).

**Jean Weissman January, 97**, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother passed away on Feb. 12, 2021. Jean was born on Nov. 24, 1923 in Indianapolis. She was the wife of the late Helvin L. January and spent many years working alongside him in his CPA office.

Jean was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Hadassah, Beth-El Zedeck Sisterhood, City of Hope, B'nai B'rith and NCJW. Graveside services were private. She is survived by her loving son, Larry (Pauline) January; grandchildren, Melissa (Jeff) and Brian (Ashlie) and 4 great grandchildren, Samantha, Miles, Ella and Ethan. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth Shalom or Riley Hospital for Children.

**David Elliott Gurvis, 72**, passed away Feb. 18, 2021. He was born in Columbus, Ohio to Isadore and Shirley Gurvis. He was a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and doctor. David studied Business at Ohio University with the plan



(see Obituaries, page IN 18)

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## Bit of Wit

It is now possible to purchase *Kosher* computers. They are made in Israel by a company called DELL-SHALOM. The price is low (wholesale), even with the shipping from Israel. However, before you purchase a *kosher* computer, you should know there are some important changes from the typical non-*kosher* computer you are used to, such as:

1) The 'Start' button has been replaced with a 'Let's go! I'm not getting any younger!' button.

2) You hear '*Hava Nagila*' during startup.

3) The cursor moves from right to left.

4) When Spell-Checker finds an error it prompts, 'Is this the best you can do?'

5) When you look at erotic images, your computer says, 'If your mother knew about this, she would die.'

6) It comes with a 'monitor cleaning solution' from Manischewitz that gets rid of all the '*schmutz und dreck*.'

7) When running 'Scan Disk' it prompts you with a 'You want I should fix this?' message.

8) After 20 minutes of no activity, your PC goes '*Schloffen*.'

9) The PC shuts down automatically at sundown on Friday evenings.

10) It comes with two hard drives – one for *fleyshedik* and one for *milchedik* topics.

11) Instead of getting a 'General Protection Fault' error, your PC now gets '*Ferklempt*.'

12) The multimedia player has been renamed to 'Nu, so play my music already!'

13) When your PC is working too hard, you occasionally hear a loud '*Oy Gevalt!*'

14) Computer viruses can now be cured with *matzo* ball soup.

15) When disconnecting external devices from the PC, you are instructed to 'Remove the cable from the PC's *tuchus*.'

16) After your computer dies, you have to dispose of it within 24 hours.

17) But best of all, if you have a *kosher* computer, you can't get SPAM.

Submitted by Myrna Gray. ☆



## OBITUARIES

(continued from page IN 17)

of joining his father and brothers in the family business. Always one to walk his own path, he instead decided to study medicine and ultimately opened Avon Podiatry in Avon, Ind., to support an underserved community. He had a dedicated and loving staff that served with him for over 20 years. A generous doctor, he always helped those who could not pay and provided free assistance to residents of local group homes.

David loved knitting, riding his bike, photography, and spending time on the water. He was an avid reader including books and articles about ornithology, physics, advanced math, and astronomy. He had a wicked dry wit and never met an argument he wasn't willing to participate in. A proud member of the Jewish community, David contributed many hours of his technical know-how to special projects in support of Congregation Beth Shalom. More than anything else he loved spending time with his grandsons Gavin, 17, Jason, 14, and Jaxon, 4. They traveled together, enjoyed fishing all over the Midwest as well as at "Mister Mike's," and had lots of laughs.

David was predeceased by his parents and his son Joshua. He is survived by his wife Mickie, daughter Emily (Weston), his siblings Ronnie (Barb) Gurvis, Dale (Amy) Gurvis, and Cathy Gurvis, and other members of his extended family including Nina Weaver. He had a big, wonderful clan that is spread across the world – from cousins in Israel and Africa, to nieces and nephews in all corners of the U.S., and several life-long friends who will miss him.

Due to current restrictions, a private family graveside funeral was held in IHC North Cemetery on February 21st. If you are so moved, donations in David's name can be made to Congregation Beth Shalom in Indianapolis or National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Arrangements entrusted to **Aaron Ruben Nelson Mortuary**.

We will have these obituaries in our next edition: **Richard Morgan, 88**, and **Lennie Jade, 98**, both on March 11; and **Marian Ehrlich, 94**, on March 19; and **Kenneth Karsh, 72**, on March 22. ☆



## HONEYCOMB

(continued from page IN 20)

a variety of settings – Federations, schools, synagogues, community centers, foundations, camps and elsewhere. Together, these individuals and the organizations in which they work comprise Honeycomb's global network of Jewish youth philanthropy programs, which strengthen Jewish identity, develop leadership skills, and inspire a rising generation of Jewish philanthropists and changemakers.

Founded in 2006 as Jewish Teen Funders Network, a program of Jewish Funders Network, the organization initially helped organizations run different local Jewish youth philanthropy groups. When Green became Executive Director in 2017, the group began creating content and offering intensive trainings to teen-engagement

professionals. Honeycomb's new and broader field-building efforts today are helping to shape an entire generation of Jewish youth.

"Anyone who cares about meaningful Jewish youth engagement has a stake in elevating these philanthropic opportunities," says Jeffrey Solomon, Board Chair of Honeycomb and a Senior Advisor at CHASBRO. "Jewish youth want to be a part of activities, including Jewish experiences, that bring meaning into their lives. Now is the right moment for Honeycomb to expand its work and help create more meaningful ways for Jewish youth to create change. This is the future of Jewish philanthropy, and we must get it right."

A recent report, GIVE AND GROW: Jewish Teen Philanthropy's Unique, Powerful, and Lasting Impact, shows that Jewish youth philanthropy experiences strengthening teens' connections to Jewish life while cultivating a lasting desire to change the world. Even after a Jewish youth philanthropy program's conclusion, when alumni leave home, they continue to demonstrate stronger Jewish identities, a deeper connection to Jewish community, and the inspiration, skills, and confidence to become leaders and changemakers in their own communities.

The kinds of immersive youth philanthropy experiences that Honeycomb helps train organizations to provide allow youth to fulfill all the roles of a funder board – from designing and reviewing grant applications, to distributing funds and reviewing grantee achievements.

"By the end of NatanFamily, teens were so excited about selecting grantees and finalizing the process," says Adina Poupko, Director of Grants and Programs of Natan, which recently engaged Honeycomb to design and deliver a custom Jewish youth philanthropy experience for the children of its members. "They also really got a sense for what their parents do with Natan and why they spend all those hours at Natan meetings. It was wonderful to see the parents' pride in watching their child have a giving circle experience."

Regardless of the specific partnership or custom program, Honeycomb helps leaders create philanthropy experiences imbued with opportunities for youth to explore how Judaism feels relevant to their lives and future dreams; to build consensus with Jewish peers by hearing different views, listening to others, and compromising; and to make decisions that are consequential for communities and issues they care about.

"Now is the moment to deepen Jewish philanthropy experiences in youths' lives," adds Green. "We want more people and communities reaching out to us to join these efforts and becoming part of this transformative work." ☆



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**Make a gift today.** *Pesach kasher v'sameach.*



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[afmda.org/passover](https://afmda.org/passover)

# Jewish Teen Funders Network has a New Direction and Name: "Honeycomb"

## The Jewish Post & Opinion

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*Reflects Growing National Presence and New Field-Building Strategies and Resources to Advance Jewish Youth Philanthropy*

With a growing international footprint and new intensive trainings, resources, and consulting services, the Jewish Teen Funders Network has rebranded as Honeycomb (honeycomb.org), focusing on helping educators and community leaders run immersive Jewish philanthropy experiences and programs and other meaningful grantmaking activities for youth and families. The Indianapolis group has been called Youth Philanthropy Indy Teen Board (YoPhI). Following more than a decade fostering Jewish teens' philanthropy, Honeycomb recognizes the urgency – and opportunity – with Jewish youth today who want to create positive change in their communities and globally, inspired by their Jewish values and learning.



"Amid the global pandemic especially, Jewish youth see individuals and communities in desperate need and facing upheaval, and they want to make a difference," says Wayne Green, Executive Director of Honeycomb. "We see many opportunities to connect Jewish youths' strong desire to do good with philanthropy experiences that maximize impact and bring them the most meaning. Honeycomb is designed to infuse Jewish engagement efforts with the very best

practices of youth philanthropy combined with Jewish learning."

The name "Honeycomb" represents the interlocking elements of group philanthropy experiences and the richness – both in impact and in meaning – that comes from those experiences. Honey itself also carries special symbolism in Jewish traditions and stories, most notably when consumed on *Rosh Hashanah*. As part of the rebrand, Honeycomb has unveiled new programs, immersive trainings, curriculum development, and consultations available for educators and professionals who run youth philanthropy programs in (see Honeycomb, page IN 18)



Previous Indy Teen Board members: Front row: Mimi Carafiol, Alexis Maurer. Back Row: Indianapolis Director of Youth Philanthropy and Connection David Heilbron, Sam Fang, Sarah Klapper, Ruthie Snyder, Rachel Morrison, Alex Weiss, Elise Nachlis, Daniel Ehrlich, CEO of Honeycomb Wayne Green of New York City.



Some recent Indy Teen Board members with members from the Milwaukee board in Chicago in Nov. 2019: Front row: Eli Kurlander, Bella Birany, Emma Covitz, Jessica Kaufmann. Back Row: Ben Fang, Jordan Paraboschi, Jacob Kurlander, 3 Milwaukee Board members, Ryan Plaskoff, and Maddie Mundy.

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