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Publisher/Editor

Susan C. Nieman

Art Director

Dustin Green

Art Assistant

Laura Ehrhardt

Rebecca Lynn Miller

Web and Social Media Director

Rebecca Lynn Miller

Photography Contributors

Hal Jaffe

Editorial Assistants

Betty Berlin

Emily Bernhardt

Rae Jean Lichterman

Bette Shornick

Advertising Sales Director

Larry Nieman

Sales Executive

Martin Greenberg

Chief Financial Officer

Donald Heitner

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Susan Nieman

901.827.7244

susan@jewishscenemagazine.com

jewishscenemagazine.com

For home delivery, send \$18 to:

Jewish Scene Magazine
1703 Tamhaven Ct.
Cordova, TN 38016



Dear JSM Readers,

As I write this editorial, the heat index has just gone below the 100° mark and kids are heading back to school. Where has the summer gone?

It was fun while it lasted.

Ed Wiener and Josh Kahane joined hundreds of athletes from around the world at the 2017 Maccabiah Games in Israel. With Ed at the helm, Team USA Basketball brought home the Bronze. Mazel Tov Ed and Josh! Read how this all came together on page 12.

The Israeli Scouts enjoyed a fun-filled summer at the Memphis Jewish Community Center. And the caravan performed at numerous venues throughout the city on its whirlwind trek across the states. At its evening performance at the MJCC, the family of Art Wolff, of blessed memory, was recognized for Art's devotion and long-term commitment to continue the Scout Program in Memphis (page 14).

More Memphis-Israel connections were forged when ambassadors from Shoham, Memphis Jewish Federation's Israel partner city, arrived in Memphis. They visited historic landmarks and enjoyed the hospitality of Memphis families. Read more about the partnership on page 8.

Hillel of Memphis welcomes its new director, Rabbi Jeremy Simons. With Jeremy's enthusiasm, great things are in store for college students at the University of Memphis and Rhodes campuses. More about that on page 10.

Team Soul to Sole joins other teams across the city in the 25th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Read about this group of dedicated men, women and children on page 7.

The Memphis Jewish Home is celebrating its 70th birthday this year. This is also the 25th year for its annual Golf Tournament at Ridgeway Country Club on Monday, September 18. Watch for more anniversary celebrations this fall.

The next issue of Jewish Scene will feature our Guide to Jewish Memphis. Please send us ideas and relevant stories. It's also a great issue to advertise your business!

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Shalom,

Susan C. Nieman - Publisher/Editor



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Contributors



Gila Golder is Associate, Community Development for Jewish Community Partners. A native of Baltimore, she holds a B.A. in Creative Writing from Brandeis University and enjoys writing about programs and events in the Memphis Jewish community. She and her husband, Rob, moved to Memphis in 2015 from upstate New York. They are members of Young Israel of Memphis.



Lisa I. Harris is a retired civil engineer from Memphis, Tenn., and a 21-year breast cancer survivor. She is the proud mother of three grown sons. In the past, she was an avid volunteer with Memphis City Schools, NCJW, Beth Sholom Synagogue and the Boy Scouts. Her volunteer efforts are now focused on health related issues: Team Soul to Sole and Komen MidSouth for breast cancer awareness, and the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation due to her youngest son's Crohn's Disease. Lisa also loves to travel and play competitive bridge.



Mark Hayden has been writing about Memphis sports for a variety of magazines for more than 10 years. For story ideas please contact him at marktn67@gmail.com.



Vick Patel is the owner of Great Wines & Spirits located at 6150 Poplar Avenue in Regalia, Memphis, Tenn., 38119. Contact him at 901.682.1333 or vikalp.patel@greatwinesmemphis.com.



Matt Timberlake is the communications manager at JCP Memphis. Matt writes about the people and places of Memphis, with particular interest in non-profit organizations. He's an amateur musician, gardener, chef, photographer and community activist. He lives in East Memphis with his wife and two daughters.



Upcoming Issues

→ September / October

11th Anniversary
Guide to Jewish Memphis
Senior Living

→ November / December

Tikkun Olam / Tzedakah
Hot Hanukah Finds

SOUL TO SOLE:

Memphis Jewish Community Unites For Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure

By Lisa I. Harris

Jewish women from synagogues across the city realize the need for a unified philanthropic commitment to fight breast cancer, the leading type of cancer in women. **Team Soul to Sole** has joined the list of teams participating in the 25th Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Run/Walk at AutoZone Park (200 Union Avenue) on Saturday, October 28.



Rather than creating individual teams, every synagogue and Jewish women's group pledges to join one team with the sole mission of connecting the Memphis Jewish community in the fight against breast cancer. The effort is unprecedented, especially for the Susan G. Komen Memphis affiliate. Observant Jews who want to participate can spend the night in a hotel downtown and walk to the race.

In 1977, Susan Goodman Komen was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 33. Her sister Nancy Goodman Brinker began the Susan G. Komen for the Cure with \$200 and a shoebox of friends' names after Susan died in 1980. Susan G. Komen now stands as the largest non-government funder of breast cancer research in the world.

With a similar approach, a group of passionate Germantown women gathered around a kitchen table in 1992 and started the Memphis-MidSouth Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Since its inception, Memphis Komen, through thousands of volunteers and donors, has contributed over \$3 million to national breast cancer research and over \$10.5 million to local organizations.

"There are countless noteworthy philanthropies in Memphis, but Susan G. Komen Memphis-MidSouth is the only non-government, non-insurance funder of screenings, mammograms and diagnostics in our community," said Lorraine Wolf, a founding member of Team Soul to Sole and board member and immediate past president of Memphis-MidSouth Affiliate of Susan G. Komen. "No other non-profit organization in

our community is granting dollars to our local hospitals and clinics for those medical needs. And while Susan G. Komen Memphis-MidSouth gives 25% of its funds to national breast cancer research, 75% stays here in the Mid-South to serve underinsured and uninsured women."

Along with Lorraine, other Team Soul to Sole founding members are Lisa Harris, Laurie Scheidt and Dr. Lindi Vanderwalde. Judith Stone, Marilyn Glazer, Tami Eiseman and Jan Reisman are Team Soul to Sole committee members.

The committee's groundbreaking coordination has sparked a community-wide initiative to participate in the Race for the Cure on October 28. Actual attendance at the Race/Walk is not mandatory with the Virtual Registration option, allowing everyone to participate in the cause, even if you cannot attend. To register, visit www.komenmemphis.org and join Team Soul to Sole. With all synagogues on board, flyers and promotional materials will soon enter houses of worship with additional race information. Gentlemen also are encouraged to participate.



Team Soul to Sole committee Lisa Harris, Judith Stone, Lindi Vanderwalde, Lorraine Wolf and Laurie Scheidt.

Team Soul to Sole was awarded the Top Fundraiser for Faith-Based Organizations for last year's Race for the Cure and has raised over \$30,000.

"Team Soul to Sole was formed three years ago to unite the Memphis Jewish Community in the fight against Breast Cancer," said committee chair and Race Team captain Lisa Harris. "We have been amazed at the generosity of our community and the support of our annual educational program. In fact, the Sisterhoods in

Memphis really enjoy coming together annually to learn and rally around this cause. We only hope that this continues to grow. Every Jewish woman knows a Jewish woman, and probably someone in her own family, who has or has had breast cancer."

A vast majority of Jews in the United States have central and eastern European, or Ashkenazi, ancestors. Ashkenazi Jews are much more likely to carry a rare, inherited mutation in the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene as compared to people in the general population. These mutations increase the risk of getting certain types of cancer, including breast and ovarian in women and breast and prostate in men. BRCA stands for BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene as susceptibility gene. Women with a BRCA gene mutation are seven times more likely to get breast cancer and 30 times more likely to get ovarian cancer than other women before age 70, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

Team Soul to Sole and the Women of Reform Judaism-Temple Israel Sisterhood will host a community-wide Sisterhood event on Tues., Sept. 5, at Temple Israel, 1376 East Massey Road, from 7 to 9 p.m., in partnership with the Sisterhoods of Anshei Sphard Beth El Emeth, Baron Hirsch, Beth Sholom, Chabad Lubavitch, Or Chadash and Young Israel Synagogues. The Women's Health Issues and Breast Cancer educational program will feature *Breast Cancer Screening and Treatment Update* presented by Lindi Vanderwalde, MD, Breast Surgery; *Cosmetic Surgery: Breast Reconstruction and Other Common Procedures* presented by Ellis Tavin, MD, Plastic Surgery (please note: graphic photos will be shown for illustrative purposes), and *Wellness Screening Through the Years* presented by Cindy Katz, DNP, Internal Medicine. Kosher dairy refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public.

For additional information, please contact Lisa Harris, ranevjake@yahoo.com or 901.685.8976.



The steering committee enjoys an evening at the home of Jill and Ken Steinberg.

Partnerships Blend Cultures and Build Friendships

By Gila Golder

Jews around the world and Israelis are forging lasting relationships one city at a time. And this spring, the Memphis Jewish community had the pleasure of hosting delegates from its new partner city of Shoham.

The Memphis/Shoham connection is the newest of 47 partnerships linking 550 communities around the world to communities in Israel through Partnership2Gether Peoplehood Platform (P2G), a program of JAFI (Jewish Agency for Israel). P2G was launched over 18 years ago and includes city-to-city and region-to-region partnerships.

These partnerships facilitate meaningful connections between Israelis and Jews in other countries through unique programs like school “twinning,” teen and young adult leadership projects, programming for young families and real people-to-people relationships.

Jewish Community Partners (JCP) convened a steering committee to guide the process chaired by Scott Notowich. Beni Dragutsky, Melanie Fine, Cindy Finestone, Jonathan Frisch, Lisa Kaufman, Stuart Lazarov, Marla Mounce, Kate Schaffzin, Ken Steinberg, Lynn Susser and Scott Vogel round out the volunteer committee.

“Along with the other committee members, I’m excited about this new partnership with Shoham,” said Scott, who also serves as JCP’s Vice Chair, Israel & Overseas. “It’s going to complement and expand upon our community’s already-strong ties with Israel. My counterpart in Shoham, Orly Lahat, and I are in touch on a regular basis to get this partnership off the ground. The committee was eager for the chance to reciprocate the warm and generous hospitality extended to the two Memphis delegations that have already visited Shoham.”

Both steering committees have been getting to know each other and laying the groundwork for the partnership. JCP members first step was to map existing Israel programming in the Memphis community to assess which programs could be easily “plugged in” to the Shoham partnership and to identify other needs.

“I was amazed and incredibly impressed by the depth of Israel engagement in our community,” said JCP’s Director of Community Impact and staff coordinator for the Memphis-Shoham partnership Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein. “Our relationship with the people of Shoham will enhance the ties we already have with the people of Israel.”

People in Memphis and Shoham are already leveraging real people-to-people relationships. Participants in the JCP/MJCC Kehilla trip to Israel in November 2016 spent an afternoon in Shoham getting to know the city and the people. Laura Linder, president and CEO of JCP, visited Shoham in February 2017 during a mission to Israel with Jewish Federations of North America (JNFA) for executive directors of intermediate Federations. And the MJCC has formed a relationship with the Shoham community center.

“I had a fabulous experience in Shoham meeting adults and youth who are so excited about the Memphis-Shoham relationship. There is great energy there,” said Laura.

As part of the school twinning, the Bornblum 8th grade class visited Shoham during its annual

trip to Israel. Students toured the Yahalom school and engaged in a workshop about Jewish and Israeli identity and enjoyed a traditional Israeli meal together in the Shoham community garden.

Parallel to JCP’s partnership initiative, Memphis Jewish Federation’s Lemskey Endowment Fund is providing a grant for Temple Israel’s mentorship of a budding Reform congregation in Shoham, whose rabbi, Rinat Sefania, visited Memphis early this year.

This year, Roni Gamzon, one of the two Scouts staying in Memphis for the summer, is from Shoham. The Friendship Caravan’s recent performances also included two young people from Shoham, Yonatan Kantarowicz and Yuval Jankelowitz.

During the delegates’ visit, our Shoham visitors enjoyed home hospitality from members of Memphis’ steering committee and received an insider’s tour of the city. They toured the National Civil Rights Museum, Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art and spent time at Memphis’ Jewish agencies and synagogues. During the visit, locals and their guests met to discuss the partnership and to plan joint projects for next year.

Two upcoming JCP women’s missions to Israel will feature time in Shoham as part of the itinerary – a November 2017 trip in partnership with the Jewish Women’s Renaissance Project and a February 2018 JFNA Heart to Heart Women’s Philanthropy Mission.



The group visited the National Civil Rights Museum and Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King was shot.



Shoham/Memphis committee at the Memphis JCC.



Laura Linder spends time in Shoham during a trip in February 2017.



Memphis/Shoham group in Israel.



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NEW YEAR, Exciting Changes

By Gila Golder

With new leadership in place and a second campus in its repertoire, Hillels of Memphis continues a decades-long tradition of serving Jewish college students in Memphis.

Rabbi Jeremy Simons, a Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion graduate and experienced educator, has arrived in Memphis to serve as Campus Director for Hillels of Memphis, overseeing Hillel chapters at University of Memphis and Rhodes College. His appointment marks Rhodes College's formal affiliation with Hillel International for the first time. Hillels of Memphis is a program of Memphis Jewish Federation (MJF).

Rabbi Jeremy comes from the Institute of Southern Jewish Life in Jackson, Mississippi, where he was Director of Rabbinic Services for more than 40 synagogues in 13 states.

As Campus Director in Memphis, Rabbi Jeremy will engage students on both campuses. He will facilitate programming, recruit student leaders, serve as a liaison to campus administration and promote a welcoming Jewish community.

"I have a passion for working with young adults, and I'm thrilled to serve these communities in Memphis," said Rabbi Jeremy. "I'm inspired by the community's commitment to these two campuses, and I look forward to expanding on the work of my predecessors."

Rabbi Jeremy was chosen after an extensive search committee process in partnership with Hillel International. The committee was chaired by Wendy Rotter and staffed by Jewish Community Partners (JCP) President & CEO Laura Linder and Director of Community Impact Bluma Zuckerbrot–Finkelstein. Committee members included Lawson Arney, University of Memphis Hillel Advisory Board; Carol Casey, Dean of Students for Rhodes College; Victor Coonin, Professor of Art History for Rhodes College; Hal Fogelman, chair of University of Memphis Hillel Advisory Board; Debbie Lazarov, JCP Board of Directors; Daniel Saharovich, Rhodes student; Rabbi Feivel Strauss, Senior Educator for Temple Israel; Stephen Tabachnick, University of Memphis professor and faculty advisor for Hillel; Merit Pinker, Jewish Student Organization president at Rhodes College and Justin Waldrip, past student president and past Interim Director for University of Memphis Hillel.

Through expansion onto a second campus, Hillels of Memphis continues a storied legacy dating to the middle of the 20th century. Harry

Samuels, a founder of Hillel at University of Memphis, recounts its beginnings.

"I was a member of B'nai B'rith in the late 1950s," Mr. Samuels recalled. "A couple of Jewish students said they needed money to fix a public address system. So Marvin Posner, who's since deceased, and I took off our hats and passed them around. That got me started."

Today, the Morris S. Fogelman Jewish Student Center at Hillel of Memphis boasts a kosher kitchen, regular Shabbat dinners, and programming throughout the year. Hillel's fundraiser, the Yiddische Cup miniature golf tournament, has become a popular annual date



Rabbi Jeremy Simons begins the new year as director of Hillels of Memphis at UofM and Rhodes campuses.

on the Memphis Jewish community's calendar.

At Rhodes College, the Jewish presence on campus is newly re-energized after the university's administration prioritized attracting Jewish students. With the arrival of a Jewish professional on campus, Jewish life will thrive.

Robert Shankman, Assistant Director of



Rabbi Jeremy Simons with University of Memphis Hillel leadership, Rachel Mullaney and Aaron Canales.

Athletics for Rhodes, became involved in the 1990s managing the group that was known as the Jewish Student Organization (JSO).

"Our purpose was to provide access to High Holiday services, that kind of thing," Mr. Shankman said. "It's not one of those campuses where you have 20,000 students, but it's important to provide Jewish students with the ability to connect with other Jewish students and celebrate Shabbat and holidays."

"Our ability to create a formal affiliation with Hillel International at Rhodes is due to the foundation that was nurtured by Coach Shankman," said Laura Linder. "We couldn't have come this far without his work."

The soft launch of the group as a program of MJF and a formal Hillel chapter began in spring 2017 when Amy Israel Pregulman was hired as a consultant to facilitate student programming on campus. Students enjoyed a Purim program with Rabbi Joel Finkelstein of Anshei Sphard–Beth El Emeth, which included hamantashen baking and a Passover Seder conducted by Allen Israel.

"Hillel's expansion into Rhodes is a clear example of how we'll continue to give Jewish college students a home away from home," said Aaron Canales, student board president at University of Memphis Hillel. "It wouldn't be possible without the hard work of everyone involved, and especially the insight of our incoming director."

"Rabbi Jeremy is going to be an incredible leader and an excellent addition to the Jewish community," said Merit Pinker. "He'll be a great resource to Jewish students, no matter their religious background or observance level, as well as to the Rhodes interfaith community."

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Ed Wiener and Josh Kahane celebrate the first win.

BRINGING HOME THE BRONZE

By Mark Hayden

Ed Wiener won a gold medal as part of Team USA's basketball squad in the 1953 Maccabiah Games. His competitive nature said that it was past time for another one.

This summer, with the 10-man USA team he assembled, he headed for the Games in Israel with hopes in bringing home the Gold. They were ecstatic when they delivered the 2017 Maccabiah basketball bronze in the over-35 basketball competition.

While he was excited with his team going into the Israeli competition, injuries and the tougher-style European play had a major impact. "Their players play so brutal; we're used to finesse play in the United States," said Wiener.

But, the overall memories they take away won't end on the basketball court. Basketball was their top priority for sure – Wiener's convinced they would've done better; perhaps gold – if he had known that the competition was one part basketball to one part wrestling.

Even during their hectic schedule, the men enjoyed some leisure time.

Both Wiener and Josh Kahane, who played a key role in the two-week-old play (more on that later), had the opportunity to enjoy time with relatives and close friends. The two Memphians traveled with immediate family and also visited other relatives in Israel. Of course, there was a good showing of fellow Memphians there for the competition as well.

Let's start with Wiener, the man at the top. It's been well chronicled here in Jewish Scene Magazine about Wiener's Hall-of-Fame Tennessee Volunteer basketball career, his eight games played against the Harlem Globetrotters, and even his brief stay in the NBA before entering the field of dentistry. But coaching – this was a first for the man who just celebrated a very special birthday.

Wiener's been available for individual coaching work over the years, maybe for a Memphis Margolin Hebrew Academy MACs player during their pre-season local tournament, or years ago when he reached out to help former University of Tennessee (UT) star Ernie Grunfeld with his jump shot. But being responsible for an entire team – now that was a first.

And it took a call from Kahane to convince him. Kahane, a former MACs player, former Pan American player and Maccabi USA Masters Men's 35+ Basketball co-chairman, asked Wiener last summer if he'd considered the opportunity to pilot the team. At first Wiener was hesitant.

"I didn't know if I wanted to do it, I didn't know if I could do it," Wiener said. "It's a big responsibility."

He wasn't the only reluctant party. When Kahane approached Maccabi USA officials about wanting Wiener to lead them, they thought he was crazy. After all, they could have gone with a



Ed and Josh receive the bronze medal.

Cucumber Cocktails

Provided by Great Wines and Spirits of Memphis



well-known name such as Josh Pastner, Larry Brown, Seth Greenburg or a spate of other Jewish coaches. But Kahane convinced his teammates that it was a right call, and the Maccabi officials came around.

After a few minutes, he got the response he was hoping for from the UT great. Teaching these players would be at a minimum, Kahane assured him, but instilling chemistry and teamwork in players unfamiliar with others' play might be a bit more difficult.

The players – hailing from L.A. to New Jersey, Houston to Illinois and Virginia – have all played either Division I or II basketball during their college days and are still active in summer and JCC leagues. They all love the game and maintain those competitive edges on the court and at work.

Those edges led Team USA to a 3-2 record, winning against teams from Australia, Chile and Argentina and losing to Israel and Russia but it's the game against the Russians that might hurt the most. "They were the roughest team I've ever seen on a basketball court," Wiener said. "We had them by seven with a little over one minute to go. They put a press on us; when they put a press on a team they don't go for the ball, they go for the man and strip him of the ball."

Even with those problems Team USA had a chance to win from the foul line with two seconds to go.

After that disappointing loss and four starters sidelined with injuries, it was Kahane's moment to shine. He scored 10 against Argentina, five against Chile and chipped in four against Argentina for the bronze medal. USA prevailed there, 79-68.

"Josh is a good shooter; he's got a great shot," said Wiener. "He pretty much saved the day for us."

For Wiener another medal promises retirement in his second or maybe third career. Either that or take former Griz Zach Randolph with him to patrol that tough inside play.

Now that he's gotten that bronze medal, what's in Wiener's future? "Now, I can retire," he said. But, as we all know it's hard to keep a good man down.

Summer may be officially coming to a close, but warm weather is a sure bet for Labor Day weekend, especially in the South. Have you tried a Cucumber Cocktail? It's cool and refreshing. You might be surprised! Let us know what you think.

Cucumber Fizz Cocktail

Ingredients:

- 2 oz cucumber, peeled and roughly chopped
- 1 1/2 oz Grey Goose La Poire flavored vodka
- 1/2 oz St. Germain elderflower liqueur
- 1/2 oz lemon juice • 1/2 oz simple syrup • Lemonade or club soda

Method

In a shaker, muddle the cucumber. Add the vodka, St. Germain, lemon juice and simple syrup, and fill with ice. Shake vigorously and strain into a highball glass filled with fresh ice. Garnish with mint, cucumber slices and lemon zest and top with lemonade or club soda.

Garnish:

- 1 Mint, cucumber slices and lemon zest



Cucumber Martini

Ingredients:

- 2 oz Tito's Handmade Vodka
- 1 oz simple syrup
- 3/4 oz fresh lemon juice
- 3 slices peeled English cucumber
- 3 drops green Tabasco
- Fresh cilantro

Method:

Muddle cilantro, cucumber, syrup and lemon juice. Add vodka. Shake and double strain. Add Tabasco

Garnish: Cucumber Wheel

Great Wines & Spirits is located at 6150 Poplar Avenue in Regalia, Memphis, TN, 38119. Vick Patel and his staff invite your questions and patronage. Contact them at 901.682.1333 or greatwinesmemphis.com.

Israeli Scouts Bring Joyful Message Across America

By Matt Timberlake :: Photos by Hal Jaffe



At an evening performance at the MJCC, Art's widow, Bert Wolff, was presented with a gift signed by Scouts and supporters at a pre-show tribute. Speakers, including Memphis Jewish Federation's newly elected Board Chair Ken Steinberg, praised Art for his commitment to connecting Memphians to Israel through the Scouts program.

The Israeli Scout Friendship Caravan visited Memphis in the last week of June, entertaining audience at venues around town. The Scouts' performances are always sunny and warm, and have brought smiles to Mid-South faces for decades. This year, the mood ranged from lighthearted to solemn, as the Memphis community found various ways to honor Art Wolff, z"l, for 45 years of dedication to the Scouts.

Art served on the Israeli Scout Planning Committee, helped facilitate the Scouts' yearly visit and gave a generous annual gift to Memphis Jewish Federation's Community Campaign to support the Israeli Scout program. Art's legacy will live on with the creation of an endowment fund for the Scouts, overseen by his daughter, Laura Wolff Morris.



Israeli Scouts Play Bingo with residents



Lunchtime gatherings

Shabbat with Rabbi Mordechai Harris



Father's Day celebration



Senior Prom





Brotherhood/Sisterhood
Cookout and Bonfire at
the home of Melissa and
Richard Faber



Summer Movie Nights



Live At The Garden



Stuart and Debbie
Lazarov



Jill and Ken Steinberg



To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the re-unification of the Jerusalem, the choirs of the Anshei Sphard Beth El Emeth and Baron Hirsch congregations joined forces to perform together in concert.

The fun and festivities took place on Wednesday, May 24th at ASBEE's annual Jerusalem Day Picnic & Concert



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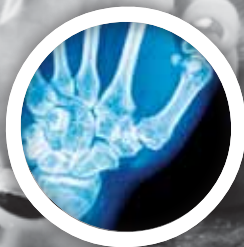
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