

NOTED & QUOTED

A House Committee recently unanimously passed the **Taylor Force Act**, which would cut funding to the P.A. unless it stops paying monthly stipends to the families of Palestinians who have killed Israelis.

Michael Rosbash, a professor at Brandeis, was one of three co-winners of the 2017 Nobel Prize for medicine/physiology. The award is for discoveries about “circadian rhythms” explaining how living things adapt their biological rhythms to synchronize with the Earth’s revolution. Rosbash was born in America to German-Jewish refugees; his father was a cantor. The Physics Nobel was also shared three ways, by **Rainer Weiss**, **Barry Barish** (both Jewish), and **Kip Thorne**. They made major contributions to the LIGO detector and its observation of gravitational waves in outer space. Weiss was born in Germany and came to the US in 1938. Barish was born in Omaha and grew up in Los Angeles. All of his grandparents were from Poland; his grandfather and great-uncle founded a Ford dealership that refused to distribute Henry Ford’s anti-Semitic publications. ~Nate Teibloom

Naperville native **Max Sterling** is the assistant director of the new theatrical adaptation of Chaim Potok’s classic novel *The Chosen*, playing in Connecticut.

A rapidly expanding student group on college campuses offers college students experiential learning through business in Israel. Founded in 2008 at the University of Michigan, **TAMID Group** is now on 46 college campuses, offering more than 2,200 student members numerous ways to combine their passion for business with the dynamic Israeli landscape in this arena—from experiential business learning through interactive classes, to consulting with Israeli companies, to internship experiences in Israel, to managing investment portfolios with Israeli companies, and more. **The University of Chicago** started its chapter earlier in the fall. TAMID now has chapters at all eight Ivy League schools (with the addition of Brown) and is at 16 schools that are in the top 20 of rankings for U.S. News and World report.



Photo credit: Rich Master Photography, Inc.

Hedy Diop of Evanston, **Grigory Dvorkin** of Wheeling, and **Patty Noomano** of Wheeling were recognized as **CJE SeniorLife’s** Employees of the Year at the organization’s 45th Annual Meeting in October. Nominated by their peers, Employees of the Year candidates exemplify CJE’s core values of respect, advocacy, compassion, intention, innovation, and accountability. That evening, the leadership of CJE SeniorLife elected a new slate of officers. New members of the Board of Directors, each slated for a three-year term, include **David Macknin** of Highland Park, **Nancy Shalowitz** of Deerfield, and **Abbe Temkin** of Chicago. Pictured: CJE’s 2017 Employees of the Year with VP of Human Resources & Learning Ron Roman, honorees Hedy Diop, Grigory Dvorkin, President & CEO Mark D. Weiner and honoree Patty Noomano.



More than 350 Jewish teens and young adult leaders from the former Soviet Union celebrated their role in strengthening Jewish life at the **American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee’s Active Jewish Teens (AJT) Conference** in Kharkov, Ukraine in November. The gathering, created and run with the AJT teens, included participants from JDC and BBYO networks in Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Estonia, Israel, and for the first time, America. Pictured: The opening ceremony of the Active Jewish Teens (AJT) Conference, which welcomed hundreds of Jewish teens from 10 countries. Photo credit: American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Aliza Goodman, director of professional development at Chicago’s **iCenter**, was one of five emerging Jewish educators awarded the **2017 Covenant Foundation Pomegranate Prize**. The Pomegranate Prize, inaugurated in 2011, is designed to honor rising leaders who have been in the field of Jewish education for up to 10 years.

Welcoming Chanukah Harry (Potter)



Maybe the student at the **Loyola Hillel** didn’t use wands to cast an “Incendio” spell to light their menorahs this past Chanukah—but they did have a **Harry Potter Chanukah week**. “I never thought to look at Harry Potter from a Jewish perspective,” Loyola student Sarah Steiner said, “but when comparing it to Chanukah, the similarities are immense!”

The week featured a Harry Potter Chanukah Miracle photo booth, the conjuring of hanukkiyot (Chanukah menorahs), and wands while enjoying latkes, movie nights, and an interactive museum-style exhibit. The “Chanukah and the Deathly Hallows” evening examined Jewish values and discussed Chanukah as a rededication of the Jewish people, using Talmudic text and concepts from Harry Potter. The week concluded with A Harry Potter Hanukkah Shabbat at Silverstein Base Hillel. The meal included British-inspired dishes, chocolate frogs, Bertie Botts Beans, and polyjuice potion, plus a Tri-Wizard Tournament involving trivia, clay transfiguration, and “dragon eggs.” Pictured: Loyola students Clara Lerner and Suzanna Coyne help create a mural during the interactive museum-style exhibit entitled, “An Exploration of Light.” In addition to the mural, the exhibit consisted of many “light” related pieces with inspiration drawn from pop culture, science, and Judaism. For each piece, students responded to prompts by writing about their personal thoughts and experiences. (Photo Credit: Katie Wall)

The **Associated Talmud Torahs** of Chicago recently recognized top educators at its 88th Annual Banquet in November. **Susan Feuer** was presented with the Barney Goldberg Paragon of Education Award for her many decades of work in special education, while the Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year Awards were presented to **Stacy Daybook**, of Arie Crown Hebrew Day School, **Alise Gold**, of Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School, and **Rabbi Yoel Rosenberg**, of Yeshivas Tiferes Tzvi.

BY THE NUMBERS:

6,000

In 2017, JUF’s Chanukah Coat Club gave more than 6,000 articles of winter gear to people in need in the Chicago area, with more than \$100,000 raised. Participants each gave \$18 to the Chanukah Coat Club, and their loved one received a card saying that the winter clothes had been donated in their name.

For more information, visit juf.org/Chanukah or call (312) 357-4835. JUF’s Chanukah Coat Club is conducted in partnership with Jewish Child & Family Services and the Chicago Chesed Fund.

An inaugural cohort of 28 have been selected for the **Board Member Institute for Jewish Nonprofits**. Launched in partnership with the **Kellogg School's Center for Nonprofit Management**, the Institute will prepare participants for the wide scope of responsibilities board members face in guiding, governing, and stewarding Jewish nonprofit organizations. All of those accepted have demonstrated a passion to strive for excellence in volunteer leadership and a strong desire to make lasting social impact in the Jewish sector. An emphasis of the curriculum is to both enhance the knowledge and volunteer leadership skills of the cohort, as well as to give them the ability to transfer key learnings to all of the 35 diverse organizations they represent.



On the first night of Chanukah, Mayor Rahm Emanuel visited the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago to light the menorah. The mayor was joined by Aviv Ezra, Israel's Consul General to the Midwest, and the Chicago Jewish Day School children's choir.

To help more Jewish day schools infuse Israel into all aspects of school life and learning, **The iCenter**, a national Israel education organization, welcomed nine new day schools across North America-- including Solomon Schechter Day School of Metropolitan Chicago—into its initiative, *iNfuse: Israel in Jewish Day Schools*. Each school now is creating a plan to make Israel education and experiences a deeper part of all aspects of school life, including classes such as science, the arts, Jewish studies, Hebrew language, all-school Israel engagement, and Israel travel. The initiative, currently with its second cohort, is funded in part by **The AVI CHAI** Foundation and through matching funds raised in the schools' community. Applications for Cohort 3 of this exclusive program will open in the summer of 2018. For more information on becoming part of iNfuse, visit www.theicenter.org/initiative/day-schools.

THIS MONTH IN JEWISH HISTORY: JANUARY

1654—Brazil, conquered by the Portuguese from the Dutch, passes edict expelling Jews. Some go into hiding in Brazil, finding jobs on ranches in the country's remote interior. Some Jews return to Europe, some move to Caribbean islands like Curacao—and 23 move to New York (then called New Amsterdam) to become the first Jewish settlers in America.

1919—J.D. Salinger is born, son of a kosher-cheese merchant. He publishes a story in *The New Yorker* about a disaffected youth named Holden Caulfield, and later bases his novel *A Catcher in the Rye* around him. Salinger serves in World War II, seeing combat on D-Day, meeting Hemingway, and visiting a liberated concentration camp. His other works are mainly short stories, compiled in *Nine Stories*, *Franny and Zooey*, and other anthologies.

1974—Shuttle diplomacy by Secretary of State Kissinger leads to an initial military disengagement of forces agreement between the Israeli and Egyptian governments, ending conflict on the Egyptian front of the Yom Kippur War. Signed by Israel and Egypt on January 18, the Sinai Separation of Forces Agreement came to be known as "Sinai I." In it, Israel gave up its advances reaching beyond the Suez Canal, while still holding nearly all of Sinai. Thus, Sinai I became the first "land for peace" agreement.

1991—Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, fires eight Scud missiles into Israel during Operation Desert Storm (a.k.a. The Gulf War), but fails to provoke a retaliation by Yitzhak Shamir's Israel, per the request of George H.W. Bush. Tel Aviv, and Haifa are hit, starting at 3:00 a.m. Despite fears, the missiles are not armed with chemical weapons; there was one death and 46 were injured.



In November, over 300 alumni gathered to celebrate **Ida Crown Jewish Academy's (ICJA)** 75th anniversary. Today, ICJA has educated nearly 5,000 alumni around the world who are leaders in their fields and in Jewish communal life. Pictured: Anniversary year co-chair Eric Rothner spoke at the celebration.



Nicole Reich, of Chicago, recently participated on the Israel Bonds National Women's Division 2017 Israel Delegation. Reich, a business development manager at Groupon, serves on the Israel Bonds Chicago New Leadership Council. Nicole Reich (left), and Carolina Gartenberg (right), of Washington, D.C., met with MK Sharren Haskel during a visit to the Knesset in November. Photo credit: Yossi Zamir.



The Solomon and Dora Einhom Glenbrook Mikvah celebrated its grand opening in November. The *mikvah*—or ritual bath—located in Northbrook, has a kelim mikvah for toyveling dishes, as well as a women's *mikvah* and two preparation rooms.



Congregation Beth Judea's USY (BJUSY) chapter in Long Grove was awarded the organization's Chapter of the Year Award at USY's International Convention in Chicago in December. Pictured: Teens from BJUSY chapter and Youth Director Marc Sender (center) receiving the award for USY's Chapter of the Year at CHUSYFest in Camp Chi's Perlstein Resort in Lake Delton, Wisc.

- 1** An Israeli startup, Sirin Labs, has hired Argentine soccer star Lionel Messi as its brand ambassador. The company has developed what it says is an ultra-secure mobile phone using blockchain technology, which is a continuously growing list of computer records linked and secured using cryptography. In 2013, Messi visited the Western Wall and sent a message to the Argentine Maccabiah team, the next year, he supported a soccer match organized by Pope Francis between Israelis and Palestinians. ~JTA
- 2** *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, one of the most thoroughly Jewish shows on television, capitalized on its strong reviews by earning a Golden Globe nomination for best television series, musical, or comedy. The Amazon Studios sitcom created by Amy Sherman-Palladino, the Jewish writer who is best known for the early 2000s hit *Gilmore Girls*, follows a 1950s Jewish housewife who becomes a standup comedian. The Golden Globes will be awarded on Jan. 7 on NBC.
- 3** Three people were arrested for firebombing a synagogue in Gothenburg, Sweden; the attack happened hours after hundreds marched through the city in protest of the U.S. recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Reporting on that statement, the broadcaster of state-run SVT added that the "Jewish lobby in the US is incredibly strong." Also in December, demonstrators in Malmo, Sweden called for their own "intifada" and threatened to shoot Jews; police in that city found flammable fluid near a Jewish cemetery. ~David Stavrou, *Ha'aretz*; JTA
- 4** In December, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a bill to help Holocaust survivors and the families of victims obtain restitution or the return of Holocaust-era assets. The Justice for Uncompensated Survivors Today, or JUST Act, which was introduced in February by Sens. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc., and Marco Rubio, R-Fla., received unanimous approval on Dec. 12. The measure requires The State Department to report on the progress of certain European countries toward the return of or restitution for wrongfully confiscated or transferred Holocaust-era assets, including property, art, and other movable property. It also requires a report specifically on progress on the resolution of claims for U.S. citizen Holocaust survivors and family members. ~JTA

