

Passover Edition

Historic Haggadahs Offer

'Snapshot' of Passovers Past

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Jewish Senior Life Names New President and CEO

Jewish Senior Life announced on Wednesday that Mike King has been named President and CEO effective immediately. King has served in a senior leadership role with JSL for 10 years, most recently as chief operating officer. King is succeeding former President and CEO Dan Katz, who recently resigned for medical reasons after an extended medical leave. King had been acting president and CEO since January.

"The Board is thrilled to have someone of Mike King's character and experience to lead the



organization," said Ted Axelrod, chairman of Jewish Senior Life. "Mike and Dan have worked side by side for more than 10 years, guiding Jewish Senior Life through numerous expansion and operating initiatives on behalf of our residents, employees, and the greater Rochester community. The Board is unanimous in its support of Mike and confident that he is the ideal leader to guide JSL on its continued mission to deliver the highest quality and most comprehensive level of

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A page from the 14th century Wolff Haggadah, at the National Library, showing a Medieval Jew holding bitter herbs Photo: Ilan Ben Zion/Times of Israel.

BY ILAN BEN ZION

Brawny, sword-brandishing Maccabees and nude Israelite slaves aren't your typical Seder accompaniment. Nor are agnostic prayers for protection from a deity of one's ancestors.

Composed in 1944, the Jewish Brigade Haggadah's traditional text is embellished with unconventional passages that reflect the "New Jew" ethos of the Zionist pioneers who joined the British (Historic Haggadahs – Page 15)

'David's Sling' Missile Defense Test Successful

BY KOBY FINKLER

A series of experiments for the "David's Sling" missile defense system were successful, the Homa Directorate at the Defense Ministry and the American Missile Defense Agency (MDA) announced Wednesday.

"David's Sling," also known as "Magic Wand," is Israel's short-range ballistic missile defense system, which is being developed jointly by Israel's state-owned Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and the U.S.'s Raytheon.

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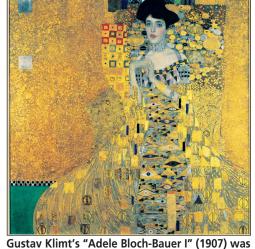


The Story Behind 'Woman in Gold': Nazi **Art Thieves and One Painting's Return**

BY PATRICIA COHEN

There are many reasons that among the hundreds of thousands of cases involving artwork looted by the Nazis the story of Gustav Klimt's "Adele Bloch-Bauer I" would particularly appeal to filmmakers. For one, there is the mesmerizing gold-flecked painting itself, which set a record price of \$135 million when it was sold in 2006. Then there is the David-and-Goliath tale featuring a feisty octogenarian heroine -Bloch-Bauer's niece Maria Altmann — taking on a recalcitrant Austrian government. And finally there is the satisfying conclu-





returned to the owner's heirs. Photo: Neue Galerie

sion. Altmann gets the portrait back. Justice prevails.

Yet even today, viewers may not realize how rare such justice is when it comes to the return of art looted during the Nazis' reign

of terror to its rightful owners or — as is now more likely, seven decades later — to their descendants.

As the new film "Woman in Gold," starring Helen Mirren as the indefatigable Maria Altmann, acknowledges in a brief written prologue before the credits roll, more than 100,000 stolen works of art are still unaccounted for.

When Altmann first sought to reclaim some of her family's

paintings in 1998, there were reasons to think that the odds of restitution — crushingly low for so long - might have finally improved. After decades of neglect

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Amid Inquiry, Menendez Finds Well Of Support Among Jewish Leaders



Senator Robert Menendez addressed a crowd Sunday morning at the Barnert Temple, a Reform synagogue in Franklin Lakes, N.J. Photo: Damon Winter/The New York Times.

BY ALEXANDER BURNS

ator Robert Menendez spoke in a level, matter-of-fact tone, but his words were grave. Anti-Semitism is on the march around the world, he said. Negotiations with Iran, he warned, have reached "the witching hour," with the security of both the United States and Israel at stake.

Addressing a Sunday morning crowd at the Barnert Temple, a Reform synagogue in northern New Jersey, Menendez promised that his listeners could count on him to be vigilant.

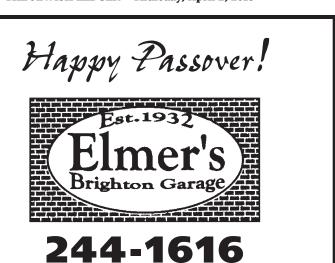
"There can be no denying the Jewish people their legitimate right to live in peace and security," he said, vowing just days before the Passover holiday that

he would stand with Israel "so FRANKLIN LAKES, N.J. — Sen- long as I have a voice and a vote in the United States Senate."

> It was the closest the senator came to acknowledging his recent troubles. For weeks, Menendez, a New Jersey Democrat, has battled to keep his standing in the Senate amid an unfolding investigation into his relationship with a political benefactor, the Florida eye surgeon Salomon Melgen, and whether Menendez improperly influenced policy on his behalf.

> In his moment of political peril, Menendez, who has denied any wrongdoing, has found perhaps his deepest well of support in the expansive pro-Israel community, including prom-

> > (Well of Support - Page 24)



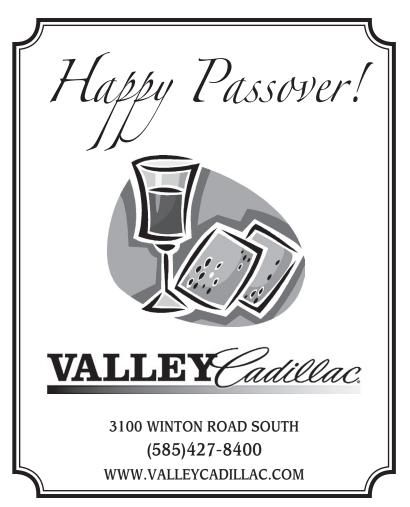


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Passover Humor ...

The 10 Real Plagues of Passover

BY NERYS COPELOVITZ

(Kveller via JTA) — Each year, the thought of Passover makes me want to run away. It's a labor-intensive, heavy-on-thesighing holiday, especially in Israel. The traditions and message are nourishing, but for me they get lost in the pre-holiday hype, in the burden of preparation, and in the myriad prohibitions that turn us back into disgruntled slaves.

If the 10 biblical plagues paved the way for the Israelites liberation, the 10 modern plagues of Passover have me reaching for my passport and looking for a simpler way to celebrate freedom.

- 1. We go over the top. We can't just have a cozy little family meal, tell an epic story, and go home to eat unleavened bread for a week no. We have to clean our houses from top to bottom, buy new clothes, change our cutlery, crockery and cooking utensils, buy presents (huh?), prepare and eat a feast extraordinaire with a huge crowd of relatives, and take the kids out for an adventure every day of the holiday! This is meant to celebrate our liberty?
- 2. Everyone complains the whole time. Women complain about cleaning and men complain about the women cleaning. Everyone complains about the shopping, cooking, food, indigestion, traffic jams, family, and the long school vacation.

Another glass of whine please!

- 3. Supermarket hell. Straight after Purim, supermarkets completely reorganize their shelves to make room for the Kosher for Passover products, forcing you to wander around searching out your groceries like a dysfunctional GPS. Then comes last-minute shopping with the multitudes, not to mention the Mother Hubbard's Bare Cupboard of a store during the festivities.
- 4. And a healthy dose of guilt for me, please. Passover is like manna from heaven for charities; they go into turbo-charged overdrive, inundating us with texts, calls, collections in the supermarket, at school, at work, and at shul. And we should help, the cost of all that food is staggering.
- **5.** The "Most-es" competition. Who painted their house from top to bottom as well as cleaning? Who's more kosher? Who has more guests? Who slaved the longest and cooked the most dishes? And the winner is ...
- 6. The traffic jam shuffle. Evening of the seder in Israel, and it feels like it would be quicker to make the exit from Egypt to the desert via the Red Sea than from Tel Aviv to the North. Are we nearly there yet?
- 7. Seder blues. Who wrote the Haggadah and what were they on at the time? Probably some lawyers who were hoping to confuse us with their long-winded clauses and high-

falutin language. And let's be honest, who has the patience to wait for cousin Shmuel to read and interpret every single line when all everyone really cares about is, "When do we eat?!"

- 8. Just one more matzo ball. Somehow, despite the limited number of foods we can eat, we still manage to stuff ourselves silly, gain weight, and groan about diets. Pass the mufleta.
- **9. Constipation.** It's a plague. Enough said.

10. Family overdose. *Mishpacha*, you know we love you, but there's a limit. You can have too much of a good thing.

And yet, despite the burdens, we will clean and shop and cook and have a BIG FAT Passover, because that's what we do, and without it we are lost in the wilderness. Whats more, these tribal traditions spawn cherished memories; the annual unveiling of Bubbe's brisket, our family's galloping rendition of "Chad Gadya," the predictable argument over which cousin really found the afikomen, and the pride and prejudice when it's your little one's turn to ask the Four Questions.

So, this year, I will not run away, but say *Chag Sameach* and *L'Chaim*.

Kveller is a thriving community of women and parents who convene online to share, celebrate, and commiserate their experiences of raising kids through a Jewish lens. Visit Kveller.com.

Jewish Senior Life

(Continued from Page 1)

services for healthy aging."
Axelrod added: "The Board

also extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to Dan Katz for his years of service and leadership to our organization. Dan was instrumental in bringing a number of important programs at JSL to life, including the Physician House Calls Program and enhanced memory care at both Marian's House and The Lodge at Wolk Manor. His vision has been a driving force behind our planned campus expansion. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dan and his family, and we wish him a complete and speedy recovery."

In his new role as president and CEO, King has announced three other senior leadership promotions. Joel Weiss has been named senior vice president of advancement. Weiss joined JSL in 2013 as vice president of advancement and has guided the successful "Power of One" campaign that is supporting the transformation and expansion of JSL's Brighton campus and community services. Weiss has more than 35 years of nonprofit leadership and fundraising experience.

Susan Bussey has been named senior vice president of housing. As vice president of housing, Bussey has guided JSL's operations at The Summit at Brighton, an independent living community; Wolk Manor, an assisted living community; and The Lodge at Wolk Manor, a specially designed assisted living community for memory care.

Michele Schirano has been named senior vice president/administrator of The Jewish Home of Rochester and will now lead operations at the Jewish Home, including nursing services. Schirano has been instrumental in various nursing leadership positions at the Jewish Home for the past 20 years, including her most recent role as vice president of nursing services.

"The leadership and vision

provided by Joel, Susan and Michele has been key to our success on many fronts," said King. "Please join me in congratulating them on their accomplishments at JSL. I am excited to work with them to serve our residents and families." King now leads one of the area's largest nonprofit employers with more than 1,000 employees.

David's Sling

(Continued from Page 1)

The system, which is designed to intercept medium range missiles from nearby Gaza, Syria, and Lebanon, was tested in November 2013 with great success; it is part of a large-scale multi-layered missile defense project which includes the Arrow 1, 2, and 3 systems and the Iron Dome missile de-

fense systems.

During the tests, David Sling's MMR radar successfully identified targets shot from the air and from the ground, officials said Wednesday, and submitted reports on the targets to the firing center, to calculate a defense strategy.

"This is a unique weapons system: the interceptor is small and agile," Homa Directorate chief Yair Ramati stated Wednesday. "The system should be introduced to the Israeli Air Force (IAF) by next year."

The Defense Ministry added that the system will be used to detect, and shoot down, unmanned aircraft (i.e. drones).

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