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# NEWS & VIEWS

October 3, 2019 | 4 Tishrei 5780  
Blog Edition

## 70 FACES OF TORAH

Posts from this [Hebrew College-hosted blog](#) are published weekly in [Patheos](#).

### How Moses Comes to Terms with Mortality

*Parashat Vayeilech (Deuteronomy 31:1-30)*

By Rabbi Jim Morgan, Rab`08  
Director, Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership



In my work as a geriatric chaplain in a Jewish setting, I have found that the story of Moses's death — and God's decision to deny him the satisfaction of entering the Promised Land — often resonates with people who are themselves struggling with the reality of their own mortality. One man in particular, a regular attendee of religious services who died recently, would begin raising questions about God's justice whenever the topic of Moses's death arose throughout the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy. I can only wish that I recognized at the time how clearly his complaints reflected his own fear and rage in the face of his own inescapable demise. If I had, I might have suggested that we read *Parashat Vayeilekh*, this week's Torah portion, together, to see how Moses himself moved from the desperate pleadings of *Parashat Vaethanan* to the calm reassurance of a man who has come to terms with death.

The first words of the portion, *Vayelekh Moshe* —“Moses went,” hints at this shift. Commentators debate as to where in fact Moses went, but quite possibly the movement in question is psychological rather than physical, especially since his first words to the Israelites here include an acknowledgement that he can no longer function as he once did: “And he said unto them: I am a hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in; and the LORD hath said unto me: Thou shalt not go over this Jordan” (Deut. 31:2)

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## IN THE NEWS

Early Childhood Director **Rachel Raz's** [article](#) “*Jews and Judaism in Outer Space*” appeared in the September 29 issue of The Times of Israel.

Hebrew College President **Sharon Cohen Anisfeld** was quoted in a September 11 [Jewish Advocate article](#) entitled “Hebrew College raises \$2 million.”

Rabbinical student **Alex Matthews** was featured in an August 28, 2019 [The Jewish Advocate article](#) entitled “A new leader for Newburyport’s Ahavas Achim.”

An [article](#) by Early Childhood Institute Assistant Director **Linna Ettinger** entitled “In Which Society will our Children Flourish and Thrive” was published in the August 25, 2019 issue of eJewish Philanthropy.

An [article](#) by **Jarad Matas, JLDC`14** entitled “Are Your Students Partners in Creation?” appeared in the August 25, 2019 issue of eJewish Philanthropy.

**Rabbi Misha Clebanar, Rab`19** was featured in the August 22, 2019 [article](#) “J-Wire: Digital Jewish News Daily for Australia and New Zealand” article entitled NSTE Welcomes Rabbi Clebanar.

**Rabbi Art Green's** [article](#) “Trump Doesn’t Understand American Jews. We Will Always See Him as a Greater Threat than the Left” was published in the Aug. 21, 2019 issue of “The Forward.”

**Rabbi Jessica Lowenthal, Rab`19** was featured in an August 20, 2019 [Wicked Local article](#) entitled “Melrose, Temple Beth Shalom welcomes Rabbi Jessica Lowenthal.”

Hebrew College Board of Trustees member, **Tara Mohr**, was mentioned in the August 13, 2019 [eJewish Philanthropy article](#) “The Look on his Face was the Data We Needed” for her research on job application gender equity.

Incoming Rabbinical School of Hebrew College student **Beni Summers** was profiled in an August 9, 2019 [Jewish Journal article](#) entitled “The Millennials: Beni Summers.”

**President Sharon Cohen Anisfeld** and her poem “Prayer for Immigrant Children and Families” was featured in an Aug. 7 [Jewish Journal article](#) entitled “Bend the Arc’s Jeremiah Fellows Fight for Immigration, Criminal and Housing Justice.”

# EVENTS

## OCTOBER

### Beatrice Wool Prints Art Opening and Reception

October 6 | 3-5 pm  
Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

### Azamra: Alternative Shabbat Community Minyan

*Join Rabbi Lev Friedman, Rab`18 for a morning service in the Hebrew College Beit Midrash, followed by a pot-luck vegetarian kiddush luncheon. Occurs monthly. Supported by the [Hebrew College Innovation Lab](#).*

October 26 | 10 am-12 pm  
Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

## NOVEMBER

### A New Hasidism: Study, Reflection, Celebration

*Celebrate the publication of Hebrew College Rector Rabbi Art Green and Dr. Ariel Mayse's new work on the history, development, and contemporary practice of Neo-Hasidism.*

November 3 | 2 - 8 pm  
Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

### Blossoming: The 2019 Hebrew College Jewish Education Conference

*The two-day conference will focus on the blossoming of educators, professionals, students, families, organizations and the Jewish family.*

November 11-12  
Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

## DECEMBER



### Birthday Tribute to Rabbi Allan Lehmann

December 5 | 7 pm  
Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

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# IN MEMORIAM



We are saddened to share the news of the passing of Hebrew College alumna **Sheila Chasen Adler (Yaffa Yehudit Chasen)** z"l following an illness. The funeral and shiva were held earlier this week.

Sheila received her Bachelor's Degree in Jewish Education from Hebrew College in June of 1961. She forged relationships at Hebrew College more than 60 years ago that still exist today. Her time as a student at Hebrew College, and those valued relationships, deeply influenced her career, which included work as a Hebrew teacher, a Hebrew School principal, and director of multiple programs at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Sheila was an inspiring role model to her loving family, a number of whom have followed in her footsteps to pursue careers in Jewish education. She is survived by her husband Richard S. Adler, her three children, and five grandchildren.

Hebrew College extends heartfelt condolences to Sheila's entire family, including her beloved brother, Harvey Chasen, a Trustee of Hebrew College.

May they be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

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We are also deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of Ronen Eliezer Labovitz, son of Bob and **Cantor Hinda Labovitz, Can` 14**, and brother of Judah and Devorah. Ronen was 39 days old. The funeral was held earlier this week. Shiva will be observed as follows:

At the Eisen Residence, 10 Ridge Terrace, West Caldwell, NJ 07006.  
 Thursday, October 3: Minchah 4:00 PM, Ma'ariv 8:00 PM  
 Friday, October 4: Shacharit 8:30 AM

At the Labovitz Residence, 8900 Maine Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Visitors may pay condolences from 7:00 AM until 10:00 PM, with minyan at the following times:

Sunday, October 6: Shacharit 8:00 AM, Minchah 5:00 PM, Ma'ariv 8:30 PM  
 Monday, October 7: Shacharit 8:00 AM, Minchah 5:00 PM, Ma'ariv 8:30 PM  
 Tuesday, October 8: Shacharit 8:00 AM  
 Shivah is halted early by the onset of Yom Kippur.

Hebrew College extends heartfelt condolences to the Labovitz family. May they be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

*If you would like to make a gift to Hebrew College in memory or in honor of a beloved member of the Hebrew College extended community, please [visit our website](#).*



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