

based on a newly released treasure trove of archival material shedding more light on the interaction between complex times and a complex personality of significant contrasts.

Ben-Gurion was a politician-philosopher-poet, or equally the other way around, which he probably preferred. Born in Plonsk, Poland on October 16, 1886 as Davede Yosef Green, he died on December 1, 1973 in Tel Aviv, Israel shortly following the traumatic Yom Kippur War. Indicative of his total attachment to realizing the Zionist dream, he regarded his arrival in Jaffa, Palestine on September 7, 1906 from Odessa, Russia as his preferred birthdate so engraved on his stateley memorial besides his wife Paula, in the Negev, Israel's mostly desert land.

Admired as likely Israel's leading founder, his finest hour, rightly identified by Segev, was his heroic decision to declare Israeli statehood on May 14, 1948 immediately following the British departure which upended its Mandate since 1917.

Early on in his budding career as a Zionist politician in Poland, he proved to be a master of detail, thoroughly studying any given subject before him, particularly recording in his notebook statistical and economic information. Ben-Gurion was also known to be a lover and obsessive collector of books, which he shipped home when abroad, amassing an impressive library. He favored Plato though he copied in ancient Greek from Aristotle; identifying with Plato's model of the philosopher-ruler he sought to blend his statesmanship for the reborn Jewish state given a long lack of sovereignty with a rabbinic tradition celebrating argumentation.

The late Professor Yigael Yadin, the famed Dead Sea Scrolls' scholar who served as IDF Chief of Staff and Deputy Prime Minister, is purported to opine that Ben-Gurion was envious of those with academic standing and thus his enormous drive for acquiring books. Ben-Gurion regarded Dr. Chaim Weitzmann, Israel's first President, who was instrumental in the breakthrough 1917 Balfour Declaration, as his archrival and refused to allow him to sign the Independence Declaration.

Ben-Gurion felt some guilt for not doing more to save fellow Jews during the Holocaust and his encounter with the surviving remnant was painful. He could not even bring himself to visit Poland at war's end and was relentless about the survivors leaving Poland for Germany's American zone through the B'richa (Escape) organization headquartered in Paris. My family and I were among some 200,000 surviving Jewish refugees enabled to leave Poland. Ben-Gurion's goal was to bring them all to the emerging Jewish state with my own family arriving there as Israel celebrated its first Independence Day. Earlier, Ben-Gurion sought to create a temporary Jewish State in Germany's Bavaria but denied by General Eisenhower, who did agree to settle in the American Zone many fleeing East European Jews.

Ben-Gurion bemoaned that the Holocaust deprived the nascent nation of its best human potential, more than the high number of Jewish victims. He credited the leadership and financial support of American Jews for making a critical difference in the 1948 War. He was concerned during the Cold War years that a Soviet nuclear strike on New York would deprive Israel of Jewish support, becoming convinced that Israel required a nuclear capability for its very survival, ever-worried of a second Holocaust. He believed in the potential of nuclear energy in developing the vast wilderness of the Negev's desert. Ben-Gurion viewed Israel as the only authentic Jewish center with "Hebrew Education" as the link with the Diaspora. Back in 1900 when he was only fourteen in Plonsk,

Poland, he established with two friends the Ezra Association, pledging to speak only Hebrew.

The multi-faceted Ben-Gurion opposed the watershed 1967 War, afterwards preferring a smaller Israel at peace with its Arab neighbors, attested in his support for the 1947 U.N. Partition Resolution. He died before witnessing Israel's negotiated peace with Egypt and Jordan along with the recent Abraham Accords, adding four more Arab countries. Ben-Gurion's single-mindedness and utter devotion to his cause of creating a Jewish state in times of unparalleled pain and messianic promise, remains his crowning glory. Both visionary and practical, Segev aptly concludes, "People believed in him because he believed in himself."

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founder of Temple Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach. He was born in Chu, Kazakhstan, in 1945 to Polish Holocaust survivors and was raised in Haifa, Israel.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE
AND LEGACY OF FRED ARBANAS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to recognize the life and accomplishments of Fred Arbanas, who recently passed away at the age of 82. A husband, father, grandfather, athlete, public servant, and Kansas City icon, Fred was widely loved and will be fondly remembered. In his youth, Fred played for the Kansas City Chiefs and set records on the field. After his retirement from professional football, Fred dedicated himself to a life of service as an influential player in the Jackson County legislature for more than four decades of stunning community development.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, Fred's introduction to Kansas City was through his time on the Kansas City Chiefs, then the Dallas Texans, as a tight end. For eight years, Fred set records for the Chiefs and helped bring them to two Super Bowls and a World Championship. Before his remarkable life came to end, Fred had been inducted into the Chiefs' Hall of Fame, the Missouri Hall of Fame, the Michigan Hall of Fame, and the Pro Football Hall of Fame's All-Time AFL Team. Even in the face of an injury at the height of his career, Mr. Arbanas continued to play and persevere, inspiring those around him.

In 1973, after his departure from the NFL, Fred joined the Jackson County legislature. Between 1974 and 1989, Mr. Arbanas served as the chairman of the legislature four separate times. His tenure in politics was dedicated to transforming the County's recreational services and amenities. Over the course of his 41-year career, Jackson County came to boast the third largest county parks system in the United States, with more than 20,000 acres of land dedicated to that purpose. Fred also played a considerable role in the paving of every road in unincorporated Jackson County and in the relocation of the county jail, projects of great importance to the county at the time.

There is no doubt that Fred Arbanas was a pillar of the Jackson County community. His dedication to the county and his place in Kansas City history will not be forgotten; his con-

tributions to his community will be memorialized in the happy memories created in the green spaces his work made possible; and his inspiring example will be carried forward by a loving family and a grateful community, whose lives were touched, in so many ways, by his devotion to service. Fred is survived by his four children and eight grandchildren. His name will also live on through the Fred Arbanas Golf Course, christened in his honor.

Fred was an icon to his community and a model public servant. His good deeds and commitment to helping others bring to mind Acts 20:35: "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Fred Arbanas embodied what it means to give rather than receive. Whether he was giving his all on the field, or giving his service in the halls of the Jackson County legislature—whether he was giving to his team or to his community at large—Fred Arbanas was always giving.

Madam Speaker, please join me in remembering the incredible, vibrant life of Fred Arbanas. Please also join me in offering condolences to his family and all those mourning his loss. Let us seek to emulate his example in the work we do here in Congress by remembering that service is about setting our talents upon the alter of change and making life better for those in our communities.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF
CHARLES GESCHKE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Charles Geschke, known to all as Chuck, a pioneer and a giant in Silicon Valley, who died on April 16, 2021, at the age of 81, at his home in Los Altos, California. He was born on September 11, 1939, and grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, where his father was a photoengraver and his mother a paralegal.

Chuck was a deeply faith-filled man who once considered entering the Catholic priesthood. He attended a Jesuit high school and studied liberal arts at Xavier University in Cincinnati. He earned a master's degree in mathematics there and later earned a Ph.D. in computer science at Carnegie Mellon. He worked as a math professor, then at the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency. He was hired by Xerox to work at its Palo Alto Research Center where he met John Warnock, Ph.D., and they joined together in leaving Xerox to found what is now Adobe Inc.

Chuck created a highly successful and important company, one of Silicon Valley's greatest, that enabled desktop publishing which has had worldwide impact. The New York Times, (4/20/2021) opened its obituary of him by asking,

"If you sent a PDF on your computer today, thank him. In 1980, he and a colleague created a way of sending digital documents to a printer, starting a company, Adobe." In the same piece, the Times quoted him as saying this regarding his immense success: "Engineers dream of building something that millions of people will use; that's their ultimate goal."

I don't think many engineers are motivated by money. They're motivated by having an impact."

Chuck was a gentle person with a self-deprecating sense of humor and was unrelentingly generous. With his wife Nan, they donated millions to non-profits and universities. He was a fair-minded boss and with Dr. Warnock, employed the "golden rule" in the treatment of employees. He was a man of great faith and a model for corporate leaders to emulate.

He received numerous well-deserved awards, including the National Medal of Technology and Innovation Award in 2009, with Dr. Warnock, and served on many foundation boards. He was proud of what he created in business, but his family was his greatest treasure.

I had the privilege of knowing Chuck for decades and shared an enduring friendship with him. I sought his wise counsel and practical advice, always learning from him and appreciating his depth of knowledge and integrity.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our condolences to Chuck Geschke's wife Nan, his sons Peter and John, his daughter Kathy Orciuoli, and his seven beloved grandchildren. We are a better, stronger nation because of this great and good man.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR JEFF WILLIAMS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a friend and the retiring Mayor of Arlington, Texas. Warren Jeff Williams is a dedicated public servant and an advocate for Arlington. His leadership will be missed but I know he will continue to be an active member of our community.

Jeff grew up in Sherman, Texas but often visited relatives in Arlington and attended Texas Rangers games as a child.

His father and grandfather worked in the construction business but Jeff had a plan to go to law school until he got to Texas Tech University where he became interested in engineering and ultimately received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1981. Texas Tech is also where Jeff met his wife, Karen, a photography student.

Jeff and Karen, now have 3 adult children, Natalie, Suzanne, and Ryan, and 7 grandchildren, all under the age of 6. They moved to Arlington in 1984, and their children grew up attending Arlington public schools.

Jeff is the President and CEO of Graham Associates, a civil engineering and surveying firm based in Arlington. He has been the Civil Engineer on many landmark projects including AT&T Stadium, Globe Life Park, Parks Mall, IH-30 Three Bridges, and River Legacy Living Science Center. Jeff has been recognized as a Distinguished Engineer by his alma mater and is a member of the Civil Engineering Honor Fraternity at both Texas Tech and the University of Texas at Arlington.

In addition to his success as an engineer, Jeff is also dedicated to serving his community. He has served on the boards of the Ar-

lington Chamber of Commerce, the Cotton Bowl Association, the Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Arlington YMCA, River Legacy Foundation, and Project Restore Hope Foundation; as a co-chair of the Salvation Army annual luncheon; as a committee chairman and Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church Arlington; and as chairman of the 2014 Arlington school district bond committee.

Jeff is completing his final term as Mayor of Arlington in June 2021, drawing to a close a remarkable tenure of civic service that has spanned six years, between 2015 and 2021; and Mayor Williams came into office with a message that it was time for change and, during his tenure, played a vital role, championing municipal projects such as the Abram Street rebuild, a new Downtown Library and City Center, and two new recreation centers (the East Arlington Branch Library and The Beacon); downtown development including Urban Union, East Main, and the Levitt Pavilion expansion; and innovation including on-demand transit, high speed solutions, and an Envision Center.

He supported important economic projects including redeveloping the old Six Flags Mall into the Arlington Logistics Center; opening Summit Racing, Rent the Runway, a UPS regional hub, and Nanoscope Technologies in Arlington; and relocating the national headquarters of DR Horton, Texas Health Resources, and Six Flags Hurricane Harbor to Arlington.

And, over the past six years, the entertainment district exploded. Texas Live, Live by Loews, and the new Globe Life Field opened to the public. Globe Life Park was repurposed. The National Medal of Honor Museum chose Arlington to be its future home. Mayor Williams helped to safely bring the World Series, Professional Bull Riders World Finals, and National Finals Rodeo to town during the pandemic.

He worked to establish a Unity Council to study equity and equality in our community and Unite Arlington Weekends to serve those in need.

Mayor Williams's efforts have not gone unnoticed across our nation. He was selected by the U.S. Conference of Mayors to serve as the Chairman of the prestigious U.S. Metro Economies committee for his incredible results and experience in economic development. He was also selected as 1 of 20 Mayors to participate in the Harvard Bloomberg Leadership program as well as the Yale School of Management for CEO's and Mayors. Mayor Williams worked tirelessly to seek pandemic relief funding on a national scale.

Mayor Williams's adept and forward-looking leadership has helped guide Arlington through a transformative period in its history, and his many valuable contributions will continue to resonate in the years to come.

Jeff has a gift of empowering citizens, fostering partnerships, and encouraging us to all Dream Big.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mayor Jeff Williams and extending our best wishes to him for continued success in his future endeavors. He has given his time and talents to Arlington, which is a better place because of his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Mr. GIBBS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes in Washington, D.C. due to a health issue which prevented me from traveling from my home district. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 123; NAY on Roll Call No. 124; YEA on Roll Call No. 125; YEA on Roll Call No. 126; NAY on Roll Call No. 127; YEA on Roll Call No. 128; NAY on Roll Call No. 129; YEA on Roll Call No. 130; YEA on Roll Call No. 131; and NAY on Roll Call No. 133.

HONORING THE HEUVELTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of the brave first responders of the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire Department as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding. From the beginning, this fire department has shown tremendous dedication to protecting and serving the village of Heuvelton and surrounding municipalities in St. Lawrence County.

First established on April 17, 1921, the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire Department has grown from its original membership of 26 volunteers to a network of local firefighters, emergency medical technicians, divers, and fire police capable of responding to any emergency. Under the direction of its inaugural chief, Claude H. Preston, the fire brigade once rushed to fires with a hand-drawn cart and buckets at the sounding of the church bells at St. Raphael's Catholic Church. Now, since the installation of the town's first fire siren in 1932, a test siren can be heard every day at noon, except Sundays, as it has for the past 90 years. The Department today can service any emergency call in the Heuvelton area and often aids neighboring departments.

Despite its humble beginnings and starting with one "modern" Sanford fire engine, the department now has a fleet of engines and emergency vehicles and a dedicated team equipped with modern medical technologies. Currently, the Sanford engine is still in use after undergoing multiple restorations and can frequently be seen in local parades. In an expansion of additional services still provided today, Heuvelton and Ogdensburg firefighters partnered together to create a joint "First Responders" program in 1989, intending to be first on the scene, even prior to the Rescue Squad's arrival. Volunteers of the Heuvelton crew faithfully assist in the time of need and display the compassionate spirit and lending hand that is customary in the North Country.

Members of the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire Department serve as extraordinary examples of those who sacrifice for the good of the community. Throughout the strain of the current pandemic, they continue to put out fires and to