

that because the accepted recommended age for beginning mammograms is 40, younger women wrongly assume they can't develop breast cancer. Her bill calls for a \$9 million educational campaign that pays particular attention to minorities such as African-Americans and Ashkenazi Jews.

In a strange way, cancer brought Wasserman Schultz closer to her heritage. Until she was tested, she had no idea that Ashkenazi Jews are more likely to carry the BRCA2 mutation and the discovery, she says, "physically and emotionally connected me to my Judaism."

"I represent a district with a very large Jewish population," Wasserman Schultz says; Broward County alone has more than 260,000 Jews in a total population of about 1.8 million. However, as late as the 1950s, Jews couldn't buy real estate in Broward, and hotels wouldn't accept them as guests. In 1950, barely one percent of the 183,000 people in the county were Jewish. In the decades since, as Cubans, who vote overwhelmingly Republican, moved into Miami, Jews migrated north into Broward. These include many of the Jewish retirees who live in huge high-rises in Hollywood and Hallandale and who, Wasserman

Schultz says, think of her as a... "It was like they sort of wished... what they wished for their own... and kind of propelled me into... their sentiment." Wasserman... young Jewish family is one... further inland, in affluent... towns like Weston (where she... Davie, Plantation and Sunrise.

"I have a very strong Jewish... and I'm very proud of my heritage... says. The family belongs to a... synagogue, B'nai Aviv in Weston... is giving her children a more... upbringing than she had. They... Hebrew school and, unlike her, they... have bar and bat mitzvahs. "Assimilation... has become such a problem for us... Jewish community," she says. "I... believe that it's important for... continuity for the next generation... understand our values, our heritage... culture, our history. I expose my... children to as much about our religion... as I can."

Two of her legislative achievements... have been of particular interest... her Jewish constituents. During... her first term in Washington, Wasserman... Schultz worked with Senator Arlen... Specter of Pennsylvania, a Jewish... Republican, to promote the creation... of an annual Jewish American Heritage... Month to educate the wider public... about Jewish contributions to American... history. In April 2006, President Bush... signed a proclamation designating... May of every year for the celebration... After being denied insurance because... she intended to visit Israel, Wasserman... Schultz introduced a bill, which passed... in the House but not the Senate... barring life insurance companies from... discriminating against those who want... to travel to "dangerous" countries such... as Kenya and Israel.

Wasserman Schultz describes her... inaugural trip to Israel, in 1995, as "one... of the most incredible experiences of my... life." She has visited several times since.

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THE CREAK OF THE DOORS LEADING IN TO THE TEMPLE
A free translation of a Talmudic passage in B. Yoma 39b

The creak of the doors leading in to the Temple
—The intimate chamber, the Holy of Holies—
Resounds for a distance—for eight times the distance—
That one is permitted to walk on Shabbat.

The scent of the frankincense burned on the altar
—The cinnamon, saffron; the cassia, myrrh—
Is smelled for a distance—a ten parsas distance—
Jerusalem-Jericho, traveled by foot.

The goatherds of Jericho's gated-in grazing ones
—Speckled and spotted, give glory to God!—
Sneeze tickled in nostril—a goat-a-choo nostril—
When breathing in frankincense wafted on high.

The brides of Jerusalem's sages and scholars
—The henna-haired gazed-ats, gazelle-like in womb—
Purveyed not a perfume—forewent every fragrance—
The cinnamon, saffron; the cassia, myrrh.

My father raised goats in the high hills of Michmar
—Raised he-goats and she-goats and get-at-your-goats—
Who sneezed in a tempest—a lift-your-lamp tempest—
Who shuddered in pleasure from frankincense, myrrh.

An old man once told me: I went once to Shiloh
—The city of ruins, the mishkan dismantled—
I rested my face (My) between her two walls (God!)
The cinnamon, saffron! The cassia, myrrh!

—Ilana Kurshan