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GRAPEVINE

• By **GREER FAY CASHMAN**

■ **EVEN BEFORE** the two above mentioned conferences is an international virtual conference under the heading of The Road to Resilience on November 2. Organized by Latet, Israel's largest NGO dedicated to combating poverty, the aim of the conference is to find ways for the US and Israel to share collective intelligence strategies to create groundbreaking and practical solutions to the social challenges facing the two countries in the post-COVID-19 era. Here again, President Herzog will be the introductory speaker. Among the other Israeli speakers will be **Itzik Shmuli**, former MK and former minister of Labor, Welfare and Social Services, who was recently appointed director-general of the Israel office of the Jewish Federation of New York. The conference can be seen and heard from 12 noon to 2 p.m. EST and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Israeli time.

November 2, is also a very important date in contemporary Jewish history. It is the date on which Zionist visionary Theodor Herzl arrived in Jerusalem in 1907; it is the date of the Balfour Declaration in 1917, the date in 1948 on which Harry Truman was reelected as president of the United States, and on November 2, 1976, **Jimmy Carter**, who played such a crucial role in Israel's first peace agreement with an Arab country, was elected president of the United States. Coincidentally,

it was also the date in 1993, on which **Ehud Olmert** was elected mayor of Jerusalem defeating the legendary Teddy Kollek who had ruled the city for 28 years, and in New York, **Rudy Giuliani** was the first Republican to be elected as mayor in 28 years. Perhaps more interesting than that is an event of November 2, 1907, when prominent US banker J. P. Morgan locked more than 40 bankers in his library to force them to find ways of averting an economic crisis that hovered over New York. One suspects that Finance Minister **Avigdor Liberman** might enjoy doing something similar to solve the many economic crises confronting the Treasury.