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Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM 24 TISHREI, 5782 SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 VOL. 100, NO. 4

National Library of Israel releases rare photographs of Sukkot during 1973 war



A makeshift sukkah built on an Israeli army vehicle in the Golan during the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Photo by Nathan Fendrich, Courtesy of the Pritzker Family National Photography Collection at National Library of Israel.

(JNS) – Nearly 50 years after the Yom Kippur War, the National Library of Israel has released a number of rare photos showing how the festival of Sukkot, or "Feast of Tabernacles," was celebrated during the conflict, even as war raged in the Sinai and the Golan Heights.

Also known as the 1973 Arab-Israe-li War, the Yom Kippur War took this name because it broke out on the Day of Atonement, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. Because of its name, many forget that Sukkot, which begins just

a few days after Yom Kippur, also fell during the height of the fighting.

A biblical injunction commands Jews to sit in a temporary dwelling called a sukkah during the festival. Due to the circumstances during the war, the chief military rabbi had declared soldiers exempt from fulfilling this commandment, yet many soldiers built improvised sukkahs on jeeps and other military vehicles anyway, some even in enemy territory.

The photos include a number taken

by the photographer Nathan Fendrich, a then-39-year-old American tourist who had come to Israel to document historical and archaeological sites. Stuck in Israel at the outbreak of the war, he decided to travel between the various fronts, armed with his camera.

Fendrich recently donated his collection, including hundreds of previously unpublished photographs, to the National Library of Israel in Jerusalem.

By the end of Sukkot, the turning point in the war had come as the Israel Defense Forces moved from defense to offense. One contemporary newspaper report from deep in Syrian territory described finding an improvised sukkah on the way to the site of the critical battle at Hushniya junction, with one soldier recounting, "The guys from the armored division set up the sukkah. Yes, they managed to fulfill the mitzvah of sitting in it before they were called to destroy the last enemy pocket..."

The photos are part of the Pritzker Family National Photography Collection at the National Library of Israel, the world's leading collection of its kind, providing a visual record of Ottoman and Mandatory Palestine, and Israeli society and culture from the mid-19th century to the present. The collection includes more than 2 million items, among them photo albums, individual photos, postcards, personal collections, and archives of private photographers and photographic agencies. **HW**

Norwegian church hosts photo exhibition saying Palestinians are 'crucified daily'

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) – Several church groups in Norway are organizing a photo exhibition from the West Bank, to be displayed in a cathedral, whose text states that Palestinians undergo "daily crucifixions."

The exhibition, which has prompted protest by the country's Jewish community and a pro-Israel group, is part of Church Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel, an annual event that takes place in various locales in Norway and in the past has featured calls to boycott Israel.

"The 'Church Week' has been problematic with its one sidedness and demonization of one party," Ervin Kohn, the head of the Jewish community in Oslo, wrote on Facebook last Thursday. "This year's event is sinking even lower," he added.

The description of the exhibition is the "most problematic" because it evokes a centuries-old form of Christian antisemitism that blames Jews for the death of Jesus, he added.

The West Bank has divine "protection," the exhibition text states. "Not least, this becomes clear when we look at the people. Those who live with daily 'crucifixions,' but who still stay," reads the organizers' text on the exhibition, which began on Sept. 9 and ended Sunday.

The 2015 Church Week featured a prayer for the fall of Israel's security barrier, which the priest who led the prayer called "a wall used for murder."

MIFF, a pro-Israel group in Norway, wrote in a statement last Wednesday that in the description of the exhibition, which is at the cathedral of Bergen, a city located about 150 miles west of Oslo, "The Palestinians are Jesus. The Jews are the horrible criminals who not only crucified Jesus, but who crucify him again. Daily."

Two of the groups that organize the event, the Interchurch Council of the Church of Norway and Norwegian Church Aid, have not responded to a request by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for comment. **HW**

Members of lost tribe of Bnei Menashe celebrate Sukkot in northeastern India



Members of the Bnei Menashe community in northeastern India in the process of building a sukkah, September 2021. Credit: Shlomo Kipgen, courtesy of Shavei Israel.

(JNS) – Like many Jews around the world, members of the Bnei Menashe community in India are gathering to celebrate Sukkot this week. In their festival prayers, they offered a special plea to fulfill their age-old dream to make aliyah during the coming year.

"Even in the farthest reaches of northeastern India, the Bnei Menashe have continued to uphold the ancient tradition of building Sukkot in honor of the festival," said Shavei Israel founder and chairman, Michael Freund. "We fervently hope that next year they will be able to do so in Israel."

The Bnei Menashe – or "sons of Manasseh" – claim descent from one of the 10 Lost Tribes of Israel, who were sent into exile by the Assyrian Empire more than 27 centuries ago.

Their ancestors wandered Central Asia and the Far East for centuries before settling in what is now northeastern Their ancestors wandered Central Asia and the Far East for centuries before settling along the borders of Burma and Bangladesh.

India, along the borders of Burma and Bangladesh.

Throughout their exile, the Bnei Menashe continued to practice Judaism just as their ancestors did, including observing the Sabbath, keeping kosher, celebrating the festivals and following the laws of family purity.

To date, Shavei Israel has made immigration to Israel possible for more than 4,500 Bnei Menashe and plans to help bring more of the estimated 6,000 members of the community to Israel. **HW**

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Survey finds nearly twothirds of Jewish students feel unsafe, half hide identity



Credit: Andrii Koval/Shutterstock.

(JNS) – A new survey has found an alarming level of anti-Semitism experienced by Jewish students on college campuses, with students who claim a strong sense of Jewish identity and connection to Israel feeling unsafe and the need to actively hide their identity.

The survey, which polled 1,027 members of the predominately Jewish fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) and the leading Jewish sorority Alpha Epsilon Phi (AEPhi), found that nearly 70 percent of the students surveyed personally experienced or were familiar with an anti-Semitic attack in the past 120 days, with more than 65 percent of these students feeling unsafe on campus and one-in-10 fearing physical attack. Furthermore, 50 percent of students said they have felt the need to hide their Jewish identity.

The poll was conducted between April 14-20 by the Cohen Research Group in conjunction with the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law. It was the first to specifically examine rates of anti-Semitism among college students who claim a strong sense of Jewish identity, with more than 60 percent of the students surveyed belonging to Hillel and nearly half to Chabad on Campus, and more than 80 percent supportive of Israel and 60 percent having visited Israel.

The survey noted that campus anti-Semitism is most often experienced through words and offensive statements targeted at Jews as a community, including comments such as Jews are "greedy" or "cheap." Additionally, it found that Jews have a collective responsibility for Israel's military actions was "relatively common," noting that it was conduct-

ed before the May 2021 Gaza conflict, which saw a major spike in anti-Semitism across the United States.

"Students are experiencing traditional anti-Semitism in the form of anti-Semitic tropes and a newer form of anti-Semitism as it relates to Israel," according to the survey. "It is significant that the anti-Zionism and anti-Israelism reported in this survey was experienced before the recent Israel-Gaza hostilities. It is likely that had the survey taken place in May, the number of anti-Semitic incidents relating to Israel would have been higher and the percentage of students expressing fear of being targeted would have been greater than reflected."

Kenneth L. Marcus, former assistant U.S. secretary of education for civil rights, and founder and chairman of the Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, said the findings ring some "consequential alarms" and more "closely resembling previous dark periods in our history, not the 21st century in the U.S."

"They reveal that students for whom being Jewish is a central or important aspect of their identity are feeling increasingly unsafe visibly expressing their Judaism for fear of harassment, social bullying and other anti-Semitic attacks," he said. "And they expose that increased anti-Semitic acts, which attempt to hold Jews responsible as a collective, for the actions of the Israeli government, are driving more and more students to hide their support for Israel."

Similarly, Jim Fleischer, CEO of AEPi, called the results "staggering and alarming."

He said more needs to be done not only to "push back against the rise of

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Memphis Candlelighting Time

Weekly Torah Portion: Bereishit

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anti-Semitism on campuses but to make sure that every Jewish student who wants to express their pride in their heritage or religion can do so without fear of violence or harassment."

"In 2021, Jewish undergraduates should not have to hide their identity," said Sharon Raphael, national president of AEPhi. "We are in a time when college students are leading the way in equity and inclusion, Jewish students must be included in that activism." **HW**

Netflix renews 'My Unorthodox Life' for second season

By Gabe Friedman

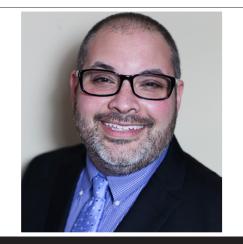
(JTA) – Netflix is bringing back "My Unorthodox Life," the reality series about a formerly Orthodox fashion mogul and her family, the streaming giant announced last Monday.

No details about the content of season two or any approximate release date were disclosed.

The series follows Julia Haart, who left the Orthodox community she grew up in in Monsey, New York, to become CEO of the Elite World Group fashion model agency. Over the course of nine episodes, she and her four children wrestle with how to adapt their varying levels of Jewish practice in secular New York City society.

The show sparked a wide array of debates in different Jewish communities and drew some criticism for its portrayal of Orthodox communities as harshly restrictive.

"Before you judge the show, maybe you might want to watch the show?" Haart told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after the series debuted in July. "Because they had the word 'unorthodox' in it, people have made a thousand assumptions without actually taking the time to listen to what I actually have to say." HW



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Commentary

'Good riddance, Merkel,' says Jewish-German newspaper publisher



German Chancellor Angela Merkel during a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem on Oct. 4, 2018. Credit: Hadas Parush/Flash90

By Orit Arfa

(JNS) – Rafael Korenzecher, publisher of the conservative Germany Jewish monthly, Jüdische Rundschau, does not spare any nicety in his parting words to German Chancellor Angela Merkel, whose successor will be determined after the German federal elections on Sept. 26.

"It is a real pity you haven't been dismissed from office much sooner," he wrote in a statement following his video interview with JNS. "So leave now, and hopefully, never, ever come back. Germany and we the people will not miss you for a second but will, unfortunately, have to suffer the terrible consequences of your horrible and almost endless mislead of this country."

More particularly, he will never forgive Merkel for her controversial 2015 immigration policy that saw millions of migrants enter Germany from Middle Eastern countries whose cultures are steeped in Islamic Jew-hatred.

"Your suicidal open-border immigration politics and your import of masses of violent Islamic Jew-haters and enemies to our secular democratic systems has destroyed the stability our democracy and the security of the people of this country – mainly, the security of the Jewish community," he continued.

He believes he needs to compensate for the words that no one will utter from the established Jewish community in Germany – by "established," he means state-sponsored Jewish leaders. The Central Council of Jewish Communities in Germany (Zentralrat der Juden), the umbrella Jewish representative body, receives a budget of around 13 million euros a year, essentially making it an employee of the state rather than an independent agency. The Zentralrat has coddled Merkel as her party has suffered double-digit losses since 2015.

That's why he took matters into his own hands and revived Jüdische Rundschau (translated as Jewish Spectator), the name of a Zionist German-Jewish newspaper published in Berlin from 1902 until it was banned by the Third Reich. He believes that the Jewish establishment has betrayed the interests of the people they're supposed to protect. As a completely independent endeavor, the newspaper (with a print circulation of about 13,000) takes considerable time and effort to operate, but it's a price he's glad to pay for speaking what he

believes is truth to power.

Korenzecher lost his Polish Jewish family, except for his parents, to Majdanek death camps and has spent his life dedicated to Jewish causes. Today, he says he feels compelled to fight against what he sees as both a German and Jewish betrayal of the Jewish people. He notes missing the "glory days" of Germany in which he grew up and which allowed him to build a family and business in peace and security. He says he receives hundreds of letters from readers who thank him for providing them an uncensored outlet.

He fears for the future of the next Jewish generation. These days, he wouldn't send children to a public German school. "The much-praised 'new Jewish life' takes place to a large extent under police protection," he says.

He doesn't foresee any of the mainstream political parties, even the more conservative-leaning Christian Democrats (CDU), truly standing up for Jewish interests despite their lip service to the contrary.

"They all say the same about Jews," he says. "We value the Jewish presence in today's Germany very much. Jews are very important to us. 'Never Again' is such a wonderful slogan."

The current CDU-SPD coalition, for example, has been relentless in forging diplomatic and economic ties with the Iranian regime that vows to wipe Israel off the map. If this is the behavior of a so-called "centrist" government, he fears the rise of a coalition with the Greens, which lag behind the Social

Democrats (26 percent) and CDU (21 percent) in the polls at 18 percent. (The AfD remains steady at 11 percent.)

'We have new voices of anti-Semi-

The one party that seems to have broken this trend is the right-wing Alternative for Deutschland, which is why Korenzecher disagrees with the Jewish establishment's singular assault on the AfD. Recently, about 60 Jewish organizations (most beneficiaries of state funding), issued a statement asking Jews not to vote for the AfD, calling it an anti-Semitic and racist party. The AfD is the only party to oppose Merkel's Muslim immigration.

During Merkel's last term, AfD introduced anti-BDS and anti-Hezbollah legislation in the German parliament and voted in favor of an FDP motion to change Germany's anti-Israel voting pattern in the United Nations. It was the only party to abstain from a parliamentary motion condemning any Israeli plan to apply sovereignty to Jewish communities Judea and Samaria. In recognition of AfD's pro-Israel record and also in sympathy with its immigration stance, a Jewish faction was formed in October 2018.

"The AfD clearly has right-wing problems in the expressions of some of their politicians and that cannot be overlooked," says Korenzencher. "It's not tailor-made nor our desired child, but this is what we got if we look at the other parties and their behavior towards Israel and their true behavior towards the Jews."

All German parties, he says, host their share of anti-Semites, particularly on the far left, some of whose members openly support the boycott against Israel. The Jewish establishment, adds Korenzecher, would not dare condemn those other parties lest they lose their funds and kavod, "honor."

"How can they talk about anti-Semitism without mentioning the most active, most dangerous, most violent part of anti-Semitism today?" he asks. "We can't go on and talk all the time about the old-school Nazi hate. We have new voices of anti-Semitism, which are much stronger than the right."

Korenzecher views Merkel's potential successor as head of the CDU, Armin Laschet, as her loyal follower who will protect her legacy, which includes environmental policies the German voter should expect from the Greens, such as the phasing out of coal and nuclear energy. The rise of the SPD and the Greens hints to Korenzecher that German society at large still has little interest in transforming itself into a truly pro-Jewish, pro-Israel country.

"Wisdom of the German voters is infinite," he says sarcastically.

He particularly laments the waning freedom of expression in Germany. "Cancel culture" and especially the fear of being called a "racist" have created an atmosphere in which people feel scared to reveal their true opinion about Muslim immigration, the ruling coalition and other hot-button issues, such as coronavirus regulations and climate change.

"By supporting the Greens and the left," he concludes, "you have caused the biggest reactive political right-shift ever in the postwar history of this country. You are the true mother of the AfD, and they cannot thank you enough for their political appearance and their votes." **HW**

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Pushed off mainstream platforms, QAnon's antisemitism spiked

By Arno Rosenfeld

Printed with permission Forward.

Antisemitism within QAnon has intensified in recent months, with the movement's most popular supporter praising Hitler and other influencers posting increasingly blatant anti-Jewish messages on social media.

The shift is documented in a new report from the Anti-Defamation League in what it describes as one of the most comprehensive studies to date on the role of antisemitism in the sprawling QAnon conspiracy theory and social movement, which organized around the belief that the Democratic party is controlled by Satan-worshipping pedophiles.

Antisemitism is hardly new to QAnon. It was incubated four years ago in online forums teeming with neo-Nazis who trafficked in antisemitic tropes, focusing on Jewish scapegoats like philanthropist George Soros and the Rothschild family. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a Georgia Republican who embraced QAnon during her campaign for Congress, made headlines early this year when it emerged that she had once posited that the Rothschilds had started California's wildfires with a space laser.

But explicit forms of bigotry aimed at Jews were largely kept at bay until this spring, when many of the leading QAnon influencers were pushed off mainstream social media platforms, the ADL's Center on Extremism found.

In 2018, at the height of QAnon's activities, its large number of evangelical conservative followers – many of whom feel warmly toward Jews and supportive of Israel – meant the movement was then less hostile toward Jews, the report's authors conclude.

But following the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, which included rioters affiliated with QAnon, mainstream social media companies like Twitter banned most of the accounts promoting QAnon beliefs, driving them to smaller platforms like Telegram where more offensive content – including praise of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler, for example – is tolerated.

"That's one of the tensions that exists in combating all kinds of hate," said Aryeh Tuchman, associate director of the Center on Extremism. "It, ironically, retreats into those less regulated areas of the internet where it doesn't need to temper itself to be socially acceptable."

So while QAnon's audience has shrunk, its anti-Jewish vitriol has spiked.

"There have been people who have said, 'I'm out, this is obviously antisemitic – that's not what I thought QAnon was about," Tuchman said, "and you've had other people – the majority of people, apparently, who have thought, 'No, this is OK.""

The most popular account promoting QAnon on Telegram is GhostEzra, an anonymous user who has amassed a following of more than 300,000 people and began posting clearly antisemitic posts and images last spring.

"They try and make you feel guilty for being white because of all the Zionist programming," GhostEzra wrote in one post cited in the ADL report. "From WWII to all the Spielberg propaganda movies. It's all well planned. Racism is created by the Zionists."

GhostEzra, who was identified last month by fact-checking website Logically as Robert Smart, a Florida entrepreneur, has also shared antisemitic memes promoting Holocaust denial and describing the "Synagogue of Satan."

The report, "QAnon's Antisemitism and What Comes Next," was released last Tuesday and shared in advance with the Forward.

GhostEzra's started posting antisemitic content after he had amassed a large following, according to the ADL report, and some active in online QA-non communities have described unsubscribing from the account's content after it started promoting Hitler and other anti-Jewish conspiracies.

Other influential accounts have also been reluctant to directly criticize GhostEzra's antisemitic content, despite not engaging in it themselves. The ADL report cited Jordan Sather, an early QAnon influencer who has declined to call out antisemitism within the movement and CJTruth, another leader, who denounced "disinformation" generally but not specific posts targeting Jews.

Tuchman said some of the tension within the QAnon movement is due to Trump's loss in January and Q, the anonymous leader of the movement, going silent in December. That has led to a dearth of new content to fuel the conspiracy and a desperate scramble by influencers to find new ways to attract and retain followers.

While few appear to have followed GhostEzra's descent into antisemitism, Tuchman said he is worried the size and influence of GhostEzra's account could catapult antisemitism into the QAnon cannon and effectively force other influencers to promote similar tropes.

"What becomes conventional wisdom on one channel," he said, "may push other channels to take similar lines." **HW**

Last Canadian suspected of Nazi war crimes dies before he can be deported



Helmut Oberlander as a young member of Einsatzkommando 10a. Credit: Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs.

(JNS) – Helmut Oberlander, 97, the last Canadian facing allegations of Nazi war crimes, died last Monday before the federal government could complete its 26-year-effort to deport him, according to Canadian media reports.

Oberlander had been in a legal battle with Canada's federal government since 1995, when Canadian authorities opened an investigation into his alleged involvement in atrocities during World War II, according to The Globe and Mail. The government claimed that during his 1954 immigration, Oberlander had hidden his role as a Nazi death-squad interpreter. He obtained citizenship in 1960.

The government argued that his citizenship had been received through "false representation or fraud," and a Canadian court agreed that he had "significantly misrepresented his wartime activities when he and his wife applied to enter Canada," according to the report.

However, the effort to deport him got bogged down in appeals. It was only in December 2019 that the Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear another appeal from Oberlander, opening the way for his deportation. In February, a hearing to decide whether he should be deported was delayed.

Shimon Koffler Fogel, CEO of Canada's Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, called the decision "the latest obscene abuse of the Canadian justice system," reported the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Oberlander was conscripted at 17 into the Einsatzgruppen "mobile killing units" that followed the German army into conquered territory and carried out mass executions of civilians, according to the Globe and Mail. Oberlander claimed that he only served as an interpreter and didn't take part in any killings.

In 2012, the Simon Wiesenthal Center added Oberlander to its list of 10 most wanted Nazi war criminals.

Oberlander died at home in Waterloo, Ontario, reported Canada's Globe and Mail.

"Notwithstanding the challenges in his life, he remained strong in his faith. He took comfort in his family and the support of many in his community," his family said in a statement, said the paper.

Irwin Cotler, a former Canadian member of parliament who was recently named Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism, told the Globe and Mail that Canada needed to review "the whole process of bringing war criminals to justice." **HW**

Kathryn Hahn's next Jewish role: Joan Rivers

By Gabe Friedman

(JTA) – Showtime is producing a limited series on the late Jewish comedy legend Joan Rivers, and its lead actress should not come as a surprise.

Kathryn Hahn, the non-Jewish star known for playing a rabbi on the very Jewish series "Transparent" among other Jewish roles, will portray Rivers, who died in 2014 after complications from a surgery.

The series "The Comeback Girl" will focus on the years in the 1980s after Rivers dealt with a string of professional defeats and contemplated suicide. Rivers often referenced her Jewishness in her stand-up comedy and left donations to several Jewish institutions in her will.

Hahn, who grew up Catholic but is married to Jewish actor Ethan Sandler, will also soon appear in "The Shrink Next Door" on Apple TV+, an adaptation of a 2019 reported podcast about a Jewish psychiatrist on the Upper West Side of Manhattan who takes control of the life of one of his Jewish patients.

In 2016, Hahn talked to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency about her research for the role of Rabbi Raquel on "Transparent."

"Playing a rabbi on this show has changed me in so many ways I can't articulate. It's perfect timing for me in my life as a mom with two kids and wandering spirituality," she said at the time. **HW**



Kathryn Hahn at Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, Sept. 19, 2021. Credit:Rich Fury/Getty Images

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Congressman Cohen Statement on Mass Shooting at Collierville Kroger

WASHINGTON – Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09) is being kept apprised of developments involving the mass shooting in Collierville, and made the following statement:

"The shooting in Collierville [Sept. 23] is another horrific incident caused by someone who undoubtedly had mental health issues and a firearm. That is a deadly combination. My thoughts are with the victims and their families and with all in Collierville and the Greater Memphis community." **HW**

Meet Memphis BBYOers



Morgan Schrier

When I moved to Memphis right before the start of my ninth-grade year, the first thing I did was join BBYO. I hoped it would bring me a sense of community and help me adjust to this new setting. However, I had no idea that it would one day become one of the biggest parts of my life. Being a leader in BBYO has taught me so many life skills that I use every day. And it's allowed me to step out of my comfort zone. Through leading on a regional level, I have met so many incredible people and have overcome fears of public speaking; of which I couldn't have done anywhere else. I am so grateful for my BBYO experience and am so excited to continue to bringing experiences like mine to others. HW

Riders are ready to roll out to support education in Memphis

Bike enthusiasts from across Memphis and surrounding communities will take to the roads in the community's inaugural Ride for Education on Oct. 24 at 8 a.m. The multi-event bike ride will raise funds for three local educational non-profits: Bornblum Jewish Community School, Memphis Opportunity Scholarship Trust (MOST) and Thrive Memphis. The event features a 36-mile ride, an 18-mile ride and a family fun ride.

The Ride for Education offers biking enthusiasts an opportunity to roll out en force for the benefit of Memphis students. The event, which begins and ends at Bornblum Jewish Community School (6641 Humphreys Blvd.) is open to riders of every level. The Family Fun ride is geared toward those with young children. Routes will take riders through East Memphis, Germantown and Collierville.

Registration is \$36 for both the 36-mile and 18-mile rides, which includes an event shirt. The Family Fun ride is \$5,

and shirts will be available for purchase. To register and for more information on the event, visit www.RideForEducation. com or email info@rideforeducation.

Bornblum Jewish Community School is a Jewish community school serving students from Kindergarten through eighth grade, providing a rigorous and pluralistic Judaic and general studies curriculum that inspires its students to achieve their individual potential.

Memphis Opportunity Scholarship Trust gives Memphis-area families the opportunity to send their children to the schools of their choice by offering partial need-based scholarships to qualifying families who wish to send their children to private schools.

Thrive Memphis enriches the lives of those with intellectual disabilities by meeting their social, recreational and continued educational needs through holistic programming in a safe, welcoming community for individuals with a variety of disabilities. **HW**

Memphis PJ Library families share the fruit of their labor



PJ Parent Leader Laura with Max and Ayla and their Bubbie, Sylvia Albert

More than 80 parents and kids picked pears with Memphis Jewish Federation's PJ Library at Jones Orchard on a recent Sunday morning, including Laura Wilons, her kids Max and Ayla, and their bubbie, Sylvia Albert. PJ Families loved gathering with

one another in a safe setting and filling their buckets with fresh, delicious fruit. They were also eager to donate some of their pickings to help Federation stock the Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service Food Pantry. **HW**

Roselle Kline Chartock to speak at opening Virtual Meeting for JHSMM

The Jewish Historical Society of Memphis the Mid-South (JHSMM) will have their first virtual meeting of the new year on Sun., October 3, 2021, at 2 p.m. Central Time.

Noted professor, author and artist Roselle Kline Chartock will offer a new look at a topic very familiar to many Memphians as she gives a unique presentation about her recent book, "The Jewish World of Elvis Presley." She will delve into the nature of the personal relationships Elvis had with members of the Jewish community in Memphis in cluding the "merchants and members of his inner circle - the Memphis Mafia and those he met in the music and movie industries. She will also bring together all the surprising threads of Elvis' Jewish heritage and how it informed his values and personality and life.

"We are so excited to welcome Professor Chartock to our opening meeting and re-visit familiar stories and those that are newly revealed about our own local and international icon Elvis Presley. It will be a fascinating journey to reflect on how Elvis impacted and was impacted by our own Jewish community," said JHSMM President Lorraine Wolf.

Hal Lansky, co-owner of Lansky Brothers (better known as Lansky's) will introduce the author. Mr. Lansky has written the introduction to the book by Chartock and has many stories about Elvis that are included in the book. Hal's father, Bernard Lansky, sold Elvis his first suit before he became famous and became his primary tailor from then on.

Roselle Kline Chartock is Professor Emerita of Education at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and has taught high school social studies and given workshops in many places. She is co-editor of an anthology on the Holocaust and author of two education texts. After 45 years of teaching on all levels, Chartock is now an artist and writer and lives with her family in the Berkshire Hills.

For more information and for the Zoom link, visit jhsmem.org. **HW**



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Why do you need a health care directive?

Provided by Mike Stein, Managing Director - Investments

A heath care directive is a legal document that lets you express your health care preferences and, if you wish, designate authority to someone to make care decisions for you if you cannot make them yourself. Some may think this is needed only near the end of life, but that's not its only use. There other times when it can prove useful:

- Any time you become severely ill or incapacitated even if for just a short time period
- If you are a young adult who is over 18 and heading to college

Health care directives generally do three things:

- One part, often referred to as a Living Will or Advance Directive, lets you express your preferences about medical treatment if you become unable to make decisions yourself.
- A Power of Attorney (POA) for Health Care (also known as a Durable POA for Health Care or Health Care Proxy) lets you designate a trusted person to make decisions for you when you are unable to communicate or make them yourself.
- A privacy authorization under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) makes it possible for health care providers to share private medical information with the agent you designate.

Short-term incapacitation

While the coronavirus is top-of-mind, other serious illnesses or limiting medical conditions could create incapacitation. Examples include surgery that will require a longer-than-usual recovery period, cancer treatments, side effects from specific medications, and mental health issues.

During such times, it may give you peace of mind to have someone you trust who will be able to communicate with medical professionals, share that information with you later, and even make decisions for you if necessary.

Potential benefits include:

- Helping to ensure that doctors communicate important medical information with your agent, who can keep other family members or caregivers informed.
- Allowing an authorized person to communicate with insurance companies, billing departments, and pharmacies, and schedule appointments on your behalf.

This documentation can be especially important for unmarried individuals. Designating someone in advance is important – not just for you, but so children, parents, partners, friends, or others who care about you are not left powerless to help.

A health care directive for an adult

If your child is age 18 or older, you may want to make sure he or she executes a health care directive and names an agent, either you or a trusted friend or relation, who can make decisions.

This is important to ensure that parents, if named as agent, retain the ability to talk with doctors and hospitals and make health care decisions if your child is unable to communicate or incapable of making decisions on their own. It's a scenario a parent never wants to consider, but you will be thankful for this document if you ever need it.

You may also want to consider the need for parents to communicate with doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, and insurance companies. HIPAA prevents medical care providers and insurance companies from releasing information about a person's medical records or current condition unless authorization has been given. In many families, young adults understand why it's beneficial to ensure that parents can help in the event of a serious illness or medical emergency.

Protecting yourself just makes

Creating a health care directive can be part of a wider conversation about estate planning strategies. You will want to consult trusted professionals, including your financial advisor, estate planning attorney, and accountant. They know questions to ask and can help you avoid potential pitfalls.

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Torah scroll the Nazis stole for their post-Holocaust 'Jewish museum' returns to service in Prague



A Torah scroll that the Nazis stole from a Czech congregation on display at The Memorial Scrolls Trust in London. Credit: Courtesy of the European Union for Progressive Judaism

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) – A Torah scroll that the Nazis stole from for their planned museum on Judaism in Prague will return to use there on Simchat Torah, the holiday that celebrates the seminal Jewish text.

Memorial Scrolls Trust, a London-based nonprofit that preserves Torah scrolls and other scripture, last Sunday said it will transfer scroll no. 1052, as it is catalogued there, to the use of Ec Chaim, a Progressive Jewish congregation in the Czech capital, ahead of the holiday that began on Sept. 27.

In 1942, the Nazis seized the scroll, which was written in 1890 in Brno, a city situated about 100 miles southeast of Prague. They had the scroll shipped to the Central Jewish Museum, an institution that they wanted to use to showcase thousands of liturgical objects they had stolen from Jewish communities they pillaged. That museum has become the Jewish Museum of Prague, which is owned by the local Jewish community.

On Sept. 27, the Ec Chaim congregation, which is a member of the European

Union for Progressive Judaism, plans to celebrate the scroll's return with a party at its synagogue, in the presence of congregants and dignitaries, including Leslie Bergman of the United Kingdom, a former president of the European Union for Progressive Judaism.

Separately, the Hungarian Jewish Museum and Archives and the National Library of Israel have bought from an auction house a collection of records from Jewish communities in Hungary.

The seven documents, ledgers, registers and other communal papers dated 1851-1948, had been put on the block by an auction house, the National Library said in a statement earlier this month. It did not name the auction house, which sold the documents to the buyers after protests by activists working to preserve Jewish heritage.

A spokesman for the National Library, Zachary Rothbart, declined to say how much was paid for the documents. The National Library had no indication that the documents had been stolen, he added. HW

A German police officer allegedly sent fan mail to the gunman who attacked a synagogue on Yom Kippur

By Toby Axelrod

(JTA) – A female police officer allegedly wrote fawning letters to the imprisoned gunman who attempted to attack a synagogue in Halle, Germany on Yom Kippur in 2019.

The unnamed officer, a police commissioner in the Dessau-Roßlau district, has been suspended pending a further investigation, according to the German news agency DPA. The gunman, Stephan Balliet, is currently serving a life sentence for the attack, in which he killed two people near the synagogue.

Tamara Zieschang, interior minister for the state of Saxony Anhalt, where Halle is located, said she would provide the state legislature with details on the case this week. According to German news reports, the officer had no connection to the arrest of Balliet and was not guarding him, nor was she ever in-

volved in investigations into hate crimes or the protection of Jewish institutions.

She reportedly wrote admiring letters over a period of months to the right-wing extremist, expressing sympathy for his crime. The case came to light after colleagues overheard the commissioner express admiration for Balliet, and reported it to their supervisors.

More than 10 letters from the officer were found in his prison cell; she reportedly had used a pseudonym, which was why prison officials had not noticed them earlier. Other correspondence he received is now being reviewed.

The chairman of the Jewish community in Halle, Max Privorozki, told the Suddeutsche Zeitung newspaper that he trusted the police, "despite this insane case." He added, "Unfortunately, there seem to be such lunatics everywhere." HW

OBITUARIES

Paul Bronstein

Paul Samuel Bronstein, age 65, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Friday, September 17, 2021. He attended White Station High School and Tulane University. Paul defied medical odds after suffering a traumatic brain injury in 1979 and lived a far more productive and meaningful life than medical experts could have ever predicted. He lived his life as if he had no limitations. He became a tutor at Wells Station and volunteered at Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab and anywhere else that he could lend a helping hand. His instincts and warm heart ultimately made him an indispensable caregiver around the clock to his aging parents. He was a wonderful and caring son, brother, brother-in-law and uncle and a dear friend to so many. Anyone who knew Paul knows that he will be greatly missed. He flourished in great part through his relationship with Temple Israel and his Rabbi.

Paul is predeceased by his parents, Dr. Maury and Mary Bronstein. He leaves his sisters, Diane Halperin (Mark) and Susan Woodman (George), his nephew, Jake Woodman, and his niece, Rachel Woodman.

A graveside service was held at the Temple Israel Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests any memorials be sent to Jewish Family Service, 6560 Poplar, Memphis 38138; Temple Israel 1376 East Massey, Memphis 38120; or Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab, 36 Bazeberry Road, Cordova TN 38018. **HW**

Dr. Wanda Burch



Dr. Wanda Burch, an educator, was born June 22, 1928, in Sweetwater, Tennessee, and died September 24, 2021, in Memphis, Tennessee. She was preceded in death by parents, Larkin and Pearl Fox Campe; sister Blanche Campe Webb, widow of Rep. Charles Burch, atty (died 1979).

She is survived by her son, Charley Cowden Burch, grandson Zachary Cowden Burch, niece and nephew Susan and Gary Webb and her German Shepherd, "Baby" Burch.

She was a graduate of Peabody Vanderbilt and obtained two master's degrees at Memphis State University. She received her doctorate in education in St. Petersburg, Russia. She was a professor at Lemoyne Owen College and several other local schools for 28 years. She was a realtor and G.R.I. for 40 years and owned and managed rental properties with her son, Charley.

She was a member of Hadassah and Sister Eastern Star Normal Whitehaven Lodge. She was a member of Temple Israel, Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth, Baron Hirsch and Beth Sholom (where she was Rebbetsin to Rabbi Pinchas Aloof) synagogues.

Traditional Jewish Graveside Services took place on Sunday, September 26 at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis. **HW**

Marcia Bluestein Notowich



Marcia Bluestein Notowich, 79, passed away peacefully on September 18, 2021, after a long struggle with the after affects of a stroke in 2009. She resided at Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab since then, where the staff lovingly cared for her in an exemplary manner.

She was the treasured wife of Alvin Notowich for 59 years. They were child-hood sweethearts for five years, before marrying in 1962. She is survived by her children, Sarna Notowich and Sam (Lauren) Notowich; and her grandchildren, Jake Notowich, Chloe Notowich and Brooke Notowich.

She was the daughter of Edward and Madeleine Bluestein, and the sister of Myra (Murray) Alperin and Patricia Zeitlin (Donald) of blessed memory.

Marcia was born in Memphis and attended Central High School. After marriage, they moved to Nashville, where she worked while he attended Vanderbilt University. After his graduation, they moved to Memphis for a few years, then Pittsburgh and Milwaukee, and returned to Memphis in 1970. When Alvin started a new business with his brother, Herbert Notowich, of blessed memory, and another partner, Larry Welch. Marcia chose the name, Plastico, for the company.

Marcia had numerous talents including art, clothing design, needlepoint, crocheting, cooking and baking. She joined with Carol Lipman, for five years, in a dessert catering business named "Straight From The Oven." Above all, she was the paramount wife, mother and grandmother. She taught many people many of her skills and was a friend to all

She was an active member of the Beth Sholom Synagogue Sisterhood and a member of Hadassah. She and Alvin were the first couple to be married at Beth Sholom.

She was buried at Anshei Sphard Synagogue Cemetery on September 19, 2021. Canale Funeral Directors had charge.

The family requests donations be made to Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab, Beth Sholom Synagogue, the Anshei Sphard Synagogue Cemetery Fund or a charity of the donor's choice. **HW**

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Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan give \$1.3 million to Jewish causes



Priscilla Chan and Mark
Zuckerberg attend the 2020
Breakthrough Prize Red Carpet
at NASA Ames Research Center in
Mountain View, California on Nov.
3, 2019. Credit: Ian Tuttle/Getty
Images for Breakthrough Prize

By Asaf Shalev

(JTA) – Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, are contributing \$1.3 million to 11 Jewish groups, eJewish Philanthropy reported, citing a spokesperson for the couple.

News of Zuckerberg and Chan's donations comes as the couple has gradually emphasized its Jewish identity in public in recent years. Privately, Zuckerberg and Chan have also been meeting with rabbis and scholars to discuss Judaism and the Jewish community, according to eJewish Philanthropy.

"Mark and Priscilla have made some personal commitments in the past, but these new grants reinforce their interest in learning and deepening their connections with the community," a spokesperson was quoted as saying.

Two of the grantees are national organizations: One Table, which supports

Shabbat dinners hosted by young Jews, and PJ Library, which distributes Jewish children's books and music for free.

But the rest primarily serve local needs in the San Francisco Bay Area. Three educational institutions received funding: Contra Costa Jewish Day School in Lafayette, Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School in Palo Alto and the Jewish Community High School of the Bay. Three summer camps in California, URJ Camp Newman, Camp Ramah in Northern California and Camp Tawonga, also were beneficiaries.

The Oshman Jewish Community Center in Palo Alto and the local Jewish Family and Children's Services are also receiving funding to boost their local offerings. Meanwhile, a grant to the Jewish Community Relations Council will pay for a new social media campaign to educate the public on antisemitism.

"Mark and Priscilla are proud to support the important work each of these organizations does in building communities, education, celebrating traditions and faith, and giving people a voice – especially in fighting antisemitism," the spokesperson told eJewish Philanthropy.

The couple that controls much of Facebook became a major philanthropic power in 2015 when it launched the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, pledging to donate 99% of their Facebook fortune to charity. The recent spate of Jewish donations was made out of the couple's family office, separately from the initiative, according to eJewish Philanthropy. HW



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Emmys 2021: 'Ted Lasso' star, 'Queen's Gambit' director make up few Jewish wins, while acceptance speech angers crowd



Brett Goldstein, winner of best supporting actor in a comedy series for "Ted Lasso," poses in the press room during the 2021 Emmy Awards, Sept. 19, 2021. Credit: Rich Fury/Getty Images

By Gabe Friedman

(JTA) – It was a tale of two speeches: One Jewish actor delighted with his acceptance speech, while a Jewish director earned the scorn of the internet with his.

At the Emmy Awards last Sunday night, Brett Goldstein, a co-star of the smash hit comedy "Ted Lasso," won best supporting actor in a comedy series, and proceeded to delight the audience with an acceptance speech that riffed on his character's penchant for swearing.

"I was very, very specifically told I'm not allowed to swear, so..." the Jewish actor said, before cursing in a line that was edited out of the live broadcast. "So this speech is going to be f—ing short."

Goldstein's Roy Kent character, the gruff captain of an English soccer team that gets a new coach – in the form of Ted Lasso, an ever-optimistic American played by fellow Emmy winner Jason Sudeikis – had delighted Apple TV+ audiences as well. The feel-good tale captured four of the ceremony's top awards, including best comedy series.

Goldstein, who was bar mitzvahed in his native England, first joined the show as a writer, before taking on the role. Besides Goldstein, the show also features Moe Jeudy-Lamour, who recently spoke with JTA sister site Alma about being a Haitian Canadian Jew who lives in Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, Scott Frank – a respected screenwriter and director who co-created the Netflix drama "The Queen's Gambit," which took home two top awards – had the opposite effect with his acceptance speech, during which he ignored the show's music telling him to wrap up a total of three times. Frank had won in the best directing for a limited series category for his work on the show, which is based on a novel that follows a troubled chess prodigy.

Those two series, both of which aired on streaming platforms, epitomized the main takeaway of the night – that streaming services have come to completely dominate the world's biggest TV awards night. Netflix's "The Crown," created by Peter Morgan – who was born to a German Jewish father who fled the Nazis – also earned a slew of honors.

Further down on the Jewish wins ledger, "Saturday Night Live" – the pioneer sketch comedy series created by Lorne Michaels that has been a launching pad for countless Jewish comedians – won best variety sketch series for what feels like the millionth year in a row.

There were several big Jewish names who came up short on Sunday:

- Jurnee Smollett, nominated for best lead actress in a drama series for her role in "Lovecraft Country," lost to Olivia Colman of "The Crown."
- Michael Douglas, nominated for best actor in a comedy for "The Kominsky Method," lost to the aforementioned Sudeikis. (But he won in the same category in 2019.)
- Tracee Ellis Ross, who has been nominated for best lead actress in a comedy series for years for her role in "black-ish" but has never won, lost again this year, to Jean Smart of HBO's "Hacks," which also garnered several wins.
- But the Jewish star of "Hacks" did not join the winners - breakout Jewish comedian Hannah Einbinder, who plays Smart's sidekick, lost in the best supporting actress in a comedy category to Hannah Waddingham of "Ted Lasso."
- And Daveed Diggs, nominated for best supporting actor in a limited series or movie for the Disney+ broadcast of "Hamilton," lost to Evan Peters of HBO's "Mare of Easttown." HW

Jewish groups urge public funding for private schools ahead of Supreme Court case

(JNS) – Several Jewish groups have filed friend-of-the-court briefs in support of a case that could determine whether public funding could be given to parochial schools for secular education.

In Carson V. Makin, parents of parochial-school students argued that the Maine Department of Education discriminated against their children by denying them tuition assistance available to nonsectarian schools.

The First Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the Maine Department of Education. Now, the U.S. Supreme Court will consider whether the state is in violation of the free exercise of religion or the equal protection clause of the Constitution by prohibiting otherwise qualified students from state aid programs because they attend religious schools.

"Excluding religious-school students from a state aid program that benefits other private-school students is discriminatory and unconstitutional," said Rabbi Chaim Dovid Zwiebel, executive vice president of Agudath Israel of America, which has expressed its support for the plaintiffs. "We hope that this case will pave the way for religious-school students in Maine and elsewhere to receive state tuition aid."

Agudah is one of several Jewish groups that filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of the plaintiffs through the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs. The commission also represents the Rabbinical Council of America and Torah U'Mesorah, a consortium of some 675 Jewish day schools and yeshivahs educating some 190,000 students.

In its filing, the Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs noted that the state of Maine requires children to learn secular subjects.

"If a child is enrolled in a school that teaches only secular subjects, the child's education is subsidized from public funds," the brief said. "If, however, a child is enrolled in a 'sectarian' school – one that teaches religious observance as well as a legally adequate secular

curriculum – public funds are denied. In such circumstances, the expense of both the secular and religious programs must derive from private funds such as tuition or voluntary contributions."

"Imposing such a financial burden on parents who are obliged by religious conscience to enroll their children in 'sectarian' schools," the Jewish law commission continued, "is an obvious burden and disincentive for religious observance."

Also filing in support of the plaintiffs is the Orthodox Union, which "is concerned that if the decision below is permitted to stand, it would perpetuate discrimination against minority faiths and license the greatest discrimination against faiths such as Orthodox Judaism that observe religious rules and rituals in nearly every facet of everyday life."

"In particular," wrote the O.U. in its amicus brief, "this case affords the court an opportunity to end once and for all the discrimination against religious minorities perpetuated by state Blaine Amendments and similar enactments, and hold that states may not discriminate against faith-based institutions in administering neutral and generally available government funding programs."

The Blaine Amendments are state laws that prohibit state funding for religious schools. The Supreme Court has never ruled on whether the laws themselves are legal or violate a person's First Amendment right to freedom of religion.

Others who have filed amicus briefs include a group of Republican senators who believe that the first circuit's ruling "would prevent students from receiving tuition assistance if they choose to attend schools that Maine considers "sectarian," violates the Religion Clause of the United States Constitution and is at odds with centuries of federal legislative practice."

Among the signatories are Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), Mike Lee (R-Utah) and Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

Arguments on the case are expected to begin on Dec. 8. **HW**

Middle school goes virtual due to COVID outbreak at Chris Christie's nephew's bar mitzvah

By Ron Kampeas

(JTA) – A middle school in New Jersey went virtual for at least a day to stem a COVID-19 outbreak that followed the bar mitzvah of one of its students – the nephew of former state Gov. Chris Christie.

The New York Post quoted Mendham Township schools Superintendent Salvatore Constantino, who said that Mendham Township Middle School went virtual last Friday because of an outbreak reported last Thursday night.

Constantino said the school had fewer than half a dozen cases stemming from the bar mitzvah the previous weekend and other existing cases, and predicted the kids would be back in the building that Monday.

Todd Christie, 56, the former governor's brother, refused to respond to queries from the Post. His wife, Andrea Lessner Christie, is Jewish. The couple has five children.

Chris Christie, who survived a bout with COVID he believes he caught when he attended a White House event when Donald Trump was president, told the newspaper his brother had been vac-



Chris Christie speaks at the Concordia Annual Summit in New York City, Sept. 23, 2019. Credit: Riccardo Savi/Getty Images for Concordia Summit cinated.

Christie, 59, was the governor of New Jersey from 2010-2018. He was among the first of Donald Trump's rivals in the 2016 Republican presidential primaries to drop out and endorse Trump. He is now considering a 2024 run and is taking steps to distance himself from Trump, who still controls much of the party. **HW**

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ANDREW BOSHWIT

A private investigator observed a Cleveland-area synagogue during the High Holidays. Its worshippers are outraged.



Rabbi Eric "Yitz" Frank addresses the City Council of University Heights, Ohio, on Sept. 9, 2021, saying women and children were traumatized by the presence of an unmarked SUV outside a local Orthodox synagogue on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Credit: Screenshot via Cleveland Jewish News

By Jane Kaufman

(Cleveland Jewish News via JTA) – An Ohio city hired a private investigator to observe Jews entering and exiting a local synagogue on the first day of Rosh Hashanah as evidence for an ongoing lawsuit, outraging Orthodox Jews there and further inflaming tensions in a local dispute over worship protocols.

University Heights officials said the investigator, who had been hired by the mayor at an undisclosed cost, was there to monitor the number of people entering the Aleksander Shul to determine if the congregation was adhering to court-ordered rules on maximum occupancy. The city also said the community outrage was the result of miscommunication stemming from the local federation's failure to alert the synagogue to the investigator's presence.

The Aleksander Shul has had a long, drawn-out dispute with University Heights, an area with a large Jewish population and many synagogues. Operating out of a private residence, the synagogue was cited in 2019 for not

complying with local code and zoning ordinances that prohibit a private residence from serving as a "house of assembly." Earlier this year, the city tried to block its operation and fined the shul's owner \$65,000 over building code violations – he has appealed the fine – as a prelude to suing the Aleksander Shul in June.

In addition to operating unlawfully as a house of assembly, the suit alleges, the synagogue also performed work and construction without building permits or city inspection. Lawyers for the Aleksander Shul countered that the mayor was discriminating against Orthodox Jews.

After attempting to shut down the shul in July, the city's order was temporarily stayed on July 27 by a Cuyahoga County judge, who issued an amended order that allowed the Aleksander Shul to continue operations on Shabbat and the High Holidays through Sukkot, provided maximum occupancy in the building was limited to 36. But the city said

the worshippers violated the occupancy limit on Rosh Hashanah.

"The investigator observed 50 people entering the house, in seeming violation of the court's order limiting capacity to 36," University Heights Mayor Michael Dylan Brennan told the Cleveland Jewish News in a Sept. 13 email.

Yet it was the investigator's presence that drew the ire of the local community.

At a Sept. 9 City Council meeting, Rabbi Eric "Yitz" Frank, executive director of Agudath Israel of Ohio, which represents Orthodox families and day schools, called the incident "an absolute outrage."

"Mothers walking with their children to synagogue ... were deeply traumatized by this event," he said at the meeting

Michele Weiss, the vice mayor of University Heights who is Jewish, criticized Brennan and the law firm that authorized the move at the council meeting.

"A city should not be spying on its own residents ever, especially during one of the holiest days of the year for our Jewish residents," Weiss said at the meeting. "It's unconscionable that if this was Easter or Christmas that this would even be contemplated. City Council is shocked by the behavior of the mayor and the outside law firm and will look at our options in dealing with the situation."

Weiss told the Cleveland Jewish News that the situation could have been handled in other ways that would not have inspired fear. She added that she first heard about the investigator when neighbors came to her house on Sept. 7, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, to inform her.

"Wednesday evening I was just fielding phone calls and texts all night," she said. Weiss said she spoke with the police chief and law director on the morning of Sept. 9 "to understand what this meant."

In a Sept. 13 email to CJN, Brennan laid the blame on the Jewish Federation of Cleveland's security contractor, JFC Security. Brennan and other city officials said they had alerted the federation's security director that an investigator would be present outside services at the Aleksander Shul. But the contractor, Brennan wrote, "did not disseminate word of this to those working in the field, resulting in the confusion the city expressly sought to avoid."

Federation President Erika B. Rudin-Luria strongly disputed Brennan's account in a Sept. 17 statement. "At no time did the Jewish Federation of Cleveland or its security provider, JFC Security, LLC, have any advanced, specific details of the mayor's plan with the private investigator he hired to monitor certain members of the University Heights community," Rudin-Luria wrote.

Brennan, who was not present at the Sept. 9 City Council meeting owing to the sudden illness and death of his father, told CJN that "the city nevertheless remains willing to go to mediation to bring about a mutually agreeable resolution."

At the council meeting, Frank said it was incumbent on the city to foster a community feeling.

"We have a responsibility to take overt steps to promote our sense of community, sense of safety and unity, and this is just one sad example of that breakdown," he said. "I'd like to make sure that this type of activity never happens again. And if residents continue to feel targeted or threatened, that in itself is a breakdown."

A version of this story originally appeared in the Cleveland Jewish News. It has been reprinted with permission. **HW**

Bar-Lev: Arab crime families have 'declared war' on Israel Police

By Itsik Saban and Idan Avni

(Israel Hayom via JNS) – Israeli Public Security Minister Omer Bar-Lev has warned that Arab crime families have "declared war" on the police by firing at the home of a senior officer.

On September 10, gunmen opened fire at the home of Israel Police Maj. Gen. Jamal Hakroush in the northern Israeli Arab town of Kafr Kanna. No injuries were reported, but the building sustained damage, the police said in a statement.

Hakrush heads a task force seeking to fight surging crime in the Arab Israeli

sector

"This shooting is nothing short of a declaration of war by the [Arab] crime families on the Israel Police, who stand at the forefront of protecting Israel," said Bar-Lev on September 11.

"That was a very big mistake on their part. Maj. Gen. Hakrush and the police will not be deterred. This incident will only fuel our plan to eradicate crime on the Arab street."

This article first appeared in Israel Hayom. **HW**

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Jewish man assaulted in France after confronting men who called him 'dirty Jew'

(JTA) – Police in France have arrested one suspect in connection with the gang beating of a Jewish man on a Lyon street.

Five men ganged up on the victim after calling him a "dirty Jew," the Actu 17 news site reported. The Jewish man, who was wearing a kippah while walking down the street, suffered minor injuries.

The alleged assailants had ordered the Jewish man to leave the Gabriel-Peri square in the city's 7th District. He confronted them verbally and challenged them to make it physical, according to an account that police believe reflects the occurrences on the incident on Sept. 8 at approximately 8 p.m., Actu 17 reported.

The suspect is a teenager under the age of $18.\,\text{HW}$

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Candy is dandy



Editor's note:
This story is being
reprinted in memory
of Ted Roberts in
appreciation of his
longtime service
as a newspaper
columnist.

By Ted Roberts

I made a whopping fiscal planning error when I laid out my retirement budget. I neglected to figure in the probability that my granddaughter – our first one – would return to the land of our forefathers and foremothers. Who could know?

How does that affect my budget, ask all you fiscal planners out there who DON'T have grandchildren in Eretz Yisrael? Well, a one-ounce letter costs a buck and if you enclose in the letter a neatly folded, green picture of Avraham Lincoln or Benyamin Franklin, you're on Bankruptcy Boulevard.

Me and my Israeli granddaughter have long been pen pals. She and her family have always lived away. And aside from occasional phone calls, I've always resorted to the written word to gain her attention and smooth the rough edges of her juvenile persona. Didn't the Creator put us here to critique our kids' child rearing mistakes? Isn't our ultimate responsibility - besides cooking for Pesach (that's Bubbe's job) and running the Seder (my assignment) the civilization of our grandchildren, who are trying to mature in a world that seems to be ruled by the Philistine gods of pre-Israelite Canaan? They need all the help they can get.

Even when she was a toddler, I'd send her outlandish pictures or a flat stick of gum. Her absentee father had a bad case of Shpilkes of the soul. Spellbound by the open road, he'd left soon after her birth. She needed an older man in her life.

We were bonded, you might say, by my early packages containing treats. Sort of a form of imprinting.

Kids are fascinated by this form of communication, ranking it well above that plastic thing that rings all day long and interrupts their TV dependence and never yields candy, pictures clipped from the newspapers, and mystery gifts in my envelopes, which are flat and two dimensional. Letters are a vestige of civilization, which may disappear in a decade or two as postal rates rise and internet, email, and electronic bulletin boards replace folded, rectangular pieces of paper. None of the electronic vehicles above work with grandkids. You can't enclose a reward in an electronic message or push a nice, flat Hershey Bar through the internet. That's what I do with my letters. I always include something - candy, gum, pictures.

The trick is in the packaging – the combination of letter and treat. The letter can be pretty drab; like, "Dear Sarah – How are you? I am fine. Bubbe says hello, too. THE END." (Kids like formal endings so they don't have to search the page for more letters.)

You say a smart grandchild will lap up the sweets and not read the letter? Not if you're smarter than he is and make part of the letter a COUPON that he must mail back for a bonus chocolate!

Post-epistle phonecon: "Sarah, did you like the candy?"

"Yeth, I like candy."

"Great. You know I had another one here, but you didn't send me back the coupon for another candy. So, I gave it to the cat. She loved it."

Long pause while the full horror of this error of omission sinks in. Then as an aside to mother: "Mommy, where's the coupon?"

I've never known a kid – at least not one of my team – to make that mistake a second time.

Sometimes, just to get the youngster to take her first plunge into the mail system, I'll send a sweet trinket along with a self-addressed post card. I'll put four or five statements on the card with a space for the illiterate correspondent to check off.

___ Loved the candy, but next time send the ones with peanuts. Still, you're the greatest grandfather in the world. (I use this one a lot.)

____ Thanks for the chocolate. See you soon. I hate my little brother – he's busted all my toys. DON'T send him a letter.

___ I love my grandfather – I hope grandmamma is treating you with the respect you deserve.

___ I love my grandfather – when you're older and I'm a big success, I'll send you a monthly check.

___ I love my grandfather and he looks exactly like Brad Pitt.

Anything to get them started. Their mother gives their reply to the mailman and a couple of days later I call and discuss our correspondence.

My critics in the family call my technique bribery – like paying for good grades. So? Life rewards courtesy, kindness, and attentiveness to one's fellow man or woman as well as communication skills. Kids need to learn this as soon as possible.

How better to stimulate the adventurous, young mind than a secret code of English letters arranged in words and sentences on a rectangular piece of paper in a sealed envelope? Best of all, the content of that sealed envelope is a mystery that will cry out to the curious, juvenile mind for solution, creat-

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ing a strong personal incentive to read. And the puzzle is delivered to the door by a blue-uniformed messenger in the employ of the U.S. Government. (Kids love uniforms.)

Reading's important, reflects the youthful intellect, so you can understand all that writing underneath the animal pictures in the big book that mama reads to me, and I wonder what the writing means that comes with my gum and candy from Pops – maybe it tells me how to get more whenever I want it. HMMM, I better master this skill as soon as possible.

There's a payoff to my letter writing campaigns: I like the return mail, even the post cards. And maybe decades from now when I'm old and feeble and full of sleep, and my poor old grinders are loose and wobbly, my mail will be full of attentive notes and soft, easy to chew gum, and Hershey Bars. Bread on the waters, you know.

The syndicated humor of Ted, the Scribbler on the Roof, has appeared in newspapers around the U.S., on National Public Radio, and numerous websites. **HW**

Memphis Athletics Launches Tiger Leadership Circle

Memphis Athletics has launched the Tiger Leadership Circle (TLC), an annual leadership giving society focused on increasing contributions above and beyond ticket donations. The TLC plans to boost annual revenue to sustain and invest in programmatic success by incentivizing donors with VIP gameday experiences and exclusive access perks.

The launch will be commemorated with the inaugural Tiger Leadership Circle Stakeholder Weekend, where members will enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at Memphis Athletics on Friday and football gameday VIP events on Saturday.

TLC members will gain access and invitations to Tiger Athletics experiences such as:

- TLC Field Lounge at football games his fall
- Courtside Club at FedExForum
- 'Travel with the Tigers' opportunities
- Exclusive events with head coaches and athletics leadership

• Student-athlete mentorship program "Our leadership team used the past year to prepare several strategic planning initiatives, including a new leadership annual giving society - the Tiger Leadership Circle - which will prove to be the catalyst for the next critical step in our journey," Memphis Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Laird Veatch said. "This program honors Memphis' rich history of giving, while encouraging additional philanthropy and cultivating new relationships within our community.

"In this ever-changing time in college athletics, we need philanthropic leader-

ship to continue to position us for future opportunities," continued Veatch. "The initial response to our program has been overwhelmingly positive, demonstrated by the AD's Circle 'Challenge' pledges from the Graf Family, the Moore Family and the Presley Family. Their leadership commitments to the growth of our department have already helped inspire several others to join them. We'll need many more to join the Circle in order to achieve our aggressive Vision for the 2020s."

"When we were approached about supporting, our answer was simple. We are 'All-In', just like Coach Silverfield's mantra," AD's Circle Challenge participant Alan Graf said. "Our family couldn't be more excited to be leaders for this new and creative initiative. Now is the time for Memphians to support however they are able. Whether that's ticket purchases or leadership philanthropy, we need our whole community to push the Tigers forward in the constantly changing world of college athletics."

"As a member of the Ambassador Club for Memphis Athletics, we have felt the pull to support the Tigers for quite some time," said Jack and Betty Moore. "With the recent developments in college sports and the athletic department leadership's strategic plan, we decided to commit once again to helping drive Memphis Athletics forward. We are so excited to be part of this group and can't wait for what's to come."

"I can remember going to school at then Memphis State and getting together whatever I had to try to see the Tigers in the Coliseum," said Jeff Presley, founder and principal at SouthWorth Capital. "I, like many fans from that time, remember those games fondly, and that's what made this such an easy decision for us. This city, our great university and Tiger Athletics has come a long way since those days, but we have more to do. I'm proud to support the university and be part of the group that's pushing athletics at the University of Memphis to new heights. When we sat down with athletics leadership, their vision and priorities are clear, and I believe in them. Our time is now to hit the gas."

"As a lifelong Memphian and former football player for the Tigers, I am proud of the progress made, just since my time on campus, and I understand the significant role the University and Memphis Athletics play in our great city," said Clay Presley, partner at SouthWorth Capital. "Jeff and I, along with our families and entire SouthWorth Capital team, are excited to be part of the group that helps raise our national profile through philanthropic support of the university's ongoing efforts to invest in Tiger Athletics."

Since the program's soft launch in the spring of 2021, the TLC has helped secure annually recurring unrestricted gifts totaling over \$1.5 million. The initial goal is to raise \$2 million in annual recurring TLC gifts by the end of this year and eclipse \$4 million by June 2023.

"We are really encouraged and enthusiastic about the response to the initiative during our 'quiet phase," said Associate Athletic Director for Development Blair DeBord. "We started with 52 members in the TLC last spring and now recognize 101 members giving at least \$15,000 above and beyond their tickets annually. In addition, the majority of our members have made multiyear commitments, including nine new pledges totaling \$500,000 and five of \$1 million or more. We have great momentum towards achieving our goals and we're excited about the financial support this program will provide our student-athletes, coaches and sport programs."

For more information, interested donors can visit www.GoTigersGo.com/TigerLeadershipCircle, contact the Tiger Scholarship Fund office at 901.678.2334 or send an email to TSF@ memphis.edu.

How to follow the Tigers: For complete information on Memphis Tigers Athletics, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the department's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. HW



Poway synagogue shooter pleads guilty to 113 federal hate crimes charges



A view of the Chabad congregation in Poway, Calif. (Google Street View) By Ben Sales

(JTA) – The man who opened fire on a synagogue in Poway, California, in 2019, killing one and injuring three, has pleaded guilty to a 113-count federal hate crime indictment.

The guilty plea comes with a recommended sentence of life in prison plus 30 years. The charges the shooter faced, which also relate to his arson of a mosque a month earlier, carried a maximum sentence of the death penalty.

"The defendant entered a synagogue with the intent to kill all those inside because of his hatred for Jewish people, and days earlier used fire in an attempt to destroy another sacred house of worship because of his hatred for Muslims," said Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco in a statement last Monday. "There is no place in American society for this type of hate-fueled violence."

On April 27, 2019, the final day of Passover, John Earnest, a white supremacist, walked into the Chabad syn-

agogue in Poway, California, near San Diego, and began shooting at worshippers. The attack occurred six months to the day after the Tree of Life synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, which killed 11 Jews at prayer.

Earnest killed one woman, Lori Gilbert Kaye, and injured three others, including Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein and a child. In a manifesto, he mentioned the shootings at mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand six weeks earlier.

Two more fatal antisemitic attacks would occur later that year, in Jersey City and Monsey, New York.

"This nation stands with Lori Gilbert Kaye's family and the survivors of these unspeakable acts of terror," said Acting U.S. Attorney Randy S. Grossman in a statement. "We emphatically reject the defendant's hate, racism and prejudice, and we hope the conclusion of this case brings some measure of comfort to all those affected by his heinous crimes." HW

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Rebecca Winestone and Noam Liss

On Thursday, October 14, Rachel Sarah Winestone and Noam Chaim Liss will marry at Memphis Botanic Garden. Rachel is the daughter of Amy and David Winestone. She is the granddaughter of Ted and Jocelyn Winestone and the late Tillaya Lusky, and Hermine Salky and the late Bennie Salky. Noam is the son of Mindy and Marty Liss and the grandson of Mae Liss and the late Melvin Liss, and Paula and Arnie Dubrow.

Rachel and Noam met during their gap year in Israel. They both graduated from the Yeshiva University. Rachel is a paralegal at Erwin and Marcus P.C. in New York City. Noam is a consultant with Carleton Energy Consulting of New York City.

Rabbi Levi Klein of Chabad Lubavitch will officiate the ceremony with Cantor Ricky Kampf of Baron Hirsch Congregation. The couple will live in New York City after the wedding. **HW**

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Sheila Bromberg, Jewish harpist who was first woman to play on a Beatles album, dies at 92



Sheila Bromberg shares a laugh with Ringo Starr on a BBC talk show in May 2011. Credit: YouTube/Screenshot

By Ron Kampeas

(JTA) – Sheila Bromberg kept busy as an in-demand harpist in London in the 1960s, but when she got a request for a gig at EMI's Abbey Road studio from 9 p.m. to midnight she felt she couldn't turn it down: She was, after all, a single mother to two small children

Yet it wasn't until the Jewish harpist heard a male with a Liverpudlian accent behind her that she realized she was about to make history.

"Well, what you got on the dots?" she recalled Paul McCartney asking her that night early in 1967. McCartney, who could not read music, wanted to hear her play the score he had dictated to Mike Leander, a music arranger.

Bromberg, who died at 92 on Aug. 17 at a hospice in Aylesbury, England, was

about to become the first woman to perform on a Beatles album. She played the harp accompaniment on "She's Leaving Home," the agonizing snapshot of the void between parents and a daughter, on the Beatles' music-changing album, "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band."

In a 2011 profile on the BBC, Bromberg, who had a pitch-perfect ear for accents, mimicked McCartney struggling to explain precisely what he wanted from her and the string orchestra.

"No, no, I want something, eh ..." she quoted him as saying. "He couldn't describe it, he couldn't express it, and he was waiting for someone to bring it out of the air."

George Martin, the Beatles' producer, was, atypically, on another gig; McCart-

ney was missing the one man who could explain what he wanted.

Bromberg and the orchestra went through three hours of takes. At midnight, Bromberg recalled, Erich Gruenberg, the German-born Jewish lead violinist who had trained in Mandate Palestine and who was also much in demand as a session musician, "tucked his violin under his arm and said, 'Now it is midnight, ve have to go home because ve are vorking in ze morning."

"Well, I suppose that's that then," Mc-Cartney responded, according to Bromberg.

When the album came out, she realized McCartney had gone with her first take, but dubbed it so it had a doubling effect. "That's what he was after," she recalled herself thinking. "Yes! Clever!"

Her delicate arpeggios set the scene for a young woman "silently closing her bedroom door, leaving the note that she hoped would say more."

The parents' anguish – "Daddy, our baby's gone," the mother cries out – cut to the bone of a generation watching their children drifting away. "Something inside that was always denied for so many years," McCartney sings, as Bromberg's gentle strokes reemerge at the end of the track.

Bromberg was born in London. Her paternal grandfather was a noted Jewish musician in Ukraine before fleeing because of pogroms, and her father and son also were orchestral musicians.

Bromberg recorded with other artists such as Frank Sinatra, Dusty Springfield and the Bee Gees. She appeared on "Monty Python's Flying Circus" playing the harp in a wheelbarrow and performed on the soundtrack of two James Bond movies.

She got nine British pounds for her Beatles gig – about \$190 in today's money. She seemed for a period resentful that the song was the apparent apex of her career. "I'm noted for four bars of music," she once said. "I found that a little bit bizarre."

Her listing on a music teacher website concludes, after listing her qualifications ("I studied Harp with Gwendolin Mason for whom Ravel wrote the 'Septet'") with a throwaway: "I also worked with the 'Beatles.""

But as she settled into retirement in Lane End, a village in Buckinghamshire in south-central England, she felt more comfortable with her role. "It was an awfully long time ago now but still it's a worthwhile project and I enjoyed playing with them," she told her local paper in 2013 (the article noted that Bromberg, then 84, was still available to teach music, and added an email address). In her retirement, she trained to use music to counsel children with mental disabilities.

On the BBC in 2011, she appeared live in the studio with Ringo Starr and surprised him with a rendering on the harp of "Yellow Submarine," one of a handful of Beatles songs on which the drummer sang lead.

"It does feel a bit good," she told the BBC about her "Sgt. Pepper's" participation. "Thinking about it now, I really feel very proud to have been part of it." HW



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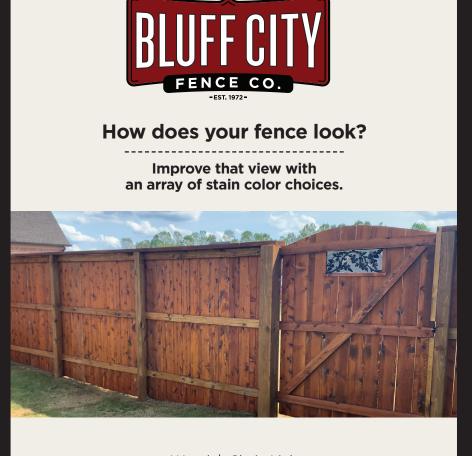
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