



THE

Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM

8 TAMMUZ, 5782

JULY 7, 2022

VOL. 100, NO. 44

Tribute to Outgoing Foundation Board Chair Anthony Morrison was Highlight of Jewish Community Partner’s 7th Annual Meeting



JCP, Foundation and Federation leaders: Jason Salomon, Anthony Morrison, Cindy Finestone, Laura Linder and Scott Vogel. Credit: Diane Reich.

Jewish Community Partners (JCP) and its managed organizations Memphis Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Memphis celebrated meeting the needs of the Jewish community at its recent Annual Meeting. Framed with the themes of Our Global Responsibility

and Securing Our Future, the program featured the myriad ways Federation and Foundation collaborated with donors and lay leaders to address needs and facilitate charitable giving during the last 12 months, while working together to strategize for a shared future.

The meeting was held on June 22 at 7 p.m. in the Belz Social Hall of the Memphis Jewish Community Center.

JCP Board Chair Scott Vogel, Federation Board Chair Cindy Finestone, outgoing Foundation Board Chair Anthony Morrison and JCP President and Chief Executive Officer Laura Linder shared highlights from an impactful year still marred by COVID-19 and under the new shadow of the war in Ukraine. Board members, officers and members whose terms ended were applauded for

their commitment to the Memphis Jewish community and global Jewry, and new leadership was elected.

“The fiscal year ending June 30 has been incredibly impactful for Jewish Community Partners, Memphis Jewish Federation and the Jewish Foundation of Memphis,” said Scott Vogel, JCP’s Board Chair. “Our Annual Meeting is an opportunity to share our accomplishments with the community as well as our pledge to continue working dili-

(See **Meeting** Page 3)



Anthony Morrison being congratulated for his many years of service to the Jewish Foundation of Memphis and the Memphis Jewish community. Credit: Diane Reich.

Memphis Jewish Federation’s Lion of Judah Spring Reception Honored 50 Years of Jewish Women in Philanthropy



Jill Steinberg, Jill Menuskin, Debra Saharovich, Beni Dragutsky, Jolie Kisber, Molly Wexler, Judy Felsenthal, Rhonda Saslawsky, Myrna Halperin, Beverly Buchalter, Diane Wruble, Lisa Kaufman and Janice Ringel enjoy this year’s annual Lion of Judah Spring Reception. Credit: Paige Miller.

Memphis Jewish Federation’s Lion of Judah celebrated 50 years of global Jew-

ish philanthropy with a Spring Reception honoring the 135 women who wear the Lion pin in Memphis. More than 65 Lions attended in-person and virtually, enjoying a kosher luncheon at Erling Jensen – The Restaurant to celebrate a half-century of impact.

Through volunteerism, activism and philanthropy, this sisterhood of dynamic, philanthropic Jewish women embody a deep commitment to tikkun olam. The

(See **Lion** Page 2)

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Lion...
(Continued From Page 1)
Lions play a vital role in the fight for social justice while aiding the vulnerable, preserving human dignity and building Jewish identity in our community. Together, the Lions contribute 80% of Memphis Jewish Federation’s Annual Community Campaign, providing kosher meals for seniors, Jewish education and camp opportunities for children, initiatives to combat antisemitism, and so much more.

The Spring Reception kicked off with a brief welcome from Marty Kelman, co-founder and chairman of Federation’s Corporate Partner Kelman-Lazarov, Inc., followed by a champagne toast celebrating the milestone anniversary by Lions Co-Chairs Debbie B. Lazarov and Shelley Robbins, who led the program.

“In 1972, Miami philanthropists Norma Kipnis Wilson and Toby Friedland had a revolutionary idea – women could make a personal statement about their values and commitment to the Jewish people with an individual gift of at least \$5,000 to the annual Federation campaign,” said Debbie. “This marked the creation of Lion of Judah, with Memphis Lion of Judah launching in 1985. We would not be here today without the commitment from local founders Marilyn Belz, Sarah Belz, Donna Goodman, Beattie Leach, Annette Lichterman, Lottie Lichterman, Ruth Lowenberg, Jocelyn Rudner, Louise Sklar and Harriet Solmson. These pioneering philanthropists paved the way for all of us to understand the meaning behind the Lion of Judah pin.”

“Women choose to create lasting impact using a broad definition of philanthropy,” said Shelley. “We’ve all heard of giving the three Ts – time, talent and treasure. But to Lions, we have two more Ts – ties and testimony. What good is our passion for philanthropy if we don’t pass it on to our ties – our family, our networks and our community? And our testimony speaks volumes, sharing our values, our commitments and our responsibilities.”

“Each of us are here today because we care deeply about Jewish life. Through our time and through our gifts, we have changed the lives of countless Jewish families for the better. I’m very proud to be a Memphis Lion of Judah,” said Laura Linder, CEO and President of Memphis Jewish Federation, before introducing Sheliah Gruber, Sherry Hecht

Katzman, Betsy Libby, Jaclyn Marshall, Tracey Mendelson, Stefanie Mintz, Julie Brander Neiman, Jennifer Roberts and Lynn Susser; the nine women who became Lions of Judah in the last year. “I’m so excited to welcome you all to Memphis Lion of Judah.”

Alla Olswanger Lubin was honored as this year’s recipient of the Kipnis-Wilson Friedland Award, a national recognition given every other year to a Memphis Lion of Judah-level donor who has set a high standard for philanthropy and volunteerism. Alla was chosen by her peers as a ‘woman of valor’ with a lifetime of commitment to the Jewish world.

“Once in the receiving line, now and forever in the giving,” she said, acknowledging her gratitude at being recognized with this prestigious award. “I love my Memphis Jewish community and being Jewish!”

“Like our mothers and fathers before us, we have taken on the awesome task of making sure Jewish life continues long after we are gone,” said Legacy Committee Chair Marlene Gerson, celebrating the women who have made their donations permanent through endowments, before the candle lighting ceremony honoring the nine women whose endowments live on beyond them. “The most tangible example of this are the women of Lion of Judah who have made plans to ensure that their gifts go on forever. “Memphis can be proud of the 35 women who have made commitments to ensure their gifts will live on long after all of us.”

Special tributes to the two newest Forever Lions, Mimi Grossman and Ronna Newburger, were then given by Andie Uiberall and Louise Sklar.

The luncheon concluded with a call for Memphis to have a large cohort at this year’s International Lion of Judah Conference, to be held in December in Phoenix, Ariz. In addition to Alla being formally recognized as the Memphis recipient of the Kipnis-Wilson Friedland Award, there will also be an exciting reveal. Hatched in Memphis but soon to be a world-wide Lion phenomenon, the Lion Behind the Pin philanthropic legacy kit will make its debut at the conference.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Lion of Judah, please contact Judy Lansky at 901.767.7100 or jlansky@jcpmemphis.org, or visit jcp-memphis.org/lion-of-judah. **HW**

THE

Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

Established September, 1925
By Leo I. Goldberger (1902-1989)

MAILING ADDRESS
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THE HEBREW WATCHMAN (USPS #807-360) is published weekly every Thursday for \$36 per year by JEWISH LIVING OF THE SOUTH, Inc. THE HEBREW WATCHMAN PO Box 770846 Memphis, TN 38177-0846 Periodical postage paid at Memphis, Tenn.

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to:
THE HEBREW WATCHMAN
PO Box 770846
Memphis, TN 38177-0846

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Memphis and Mid-South \$36
Out-of-State \$50
Payable in Advance

Submissions
Send editorial submissions (calendar items, news releases, event photos, and letters to the editor) at least 9 days prior to publication date to info@hebrewwatchman.com

Advertising
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The Hebrew Watchman is a Member of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and Jewish News Service

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7/7/2022



Memphis Candlelighting Time

Erev Shabbat, Fri. July 8, 2022 / 9 Tammuz, 5782 7:59 p.m.
Havdalah, Sat. July 9, 2022 / 10 Tammuz, 5782 9:01 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion: Chukat

Correction

In the June 30, 2022 edition, the email address to order Honey From The Heart at Beth Sholom was listed with a line break. The correct address to order is bsholomhoney@gmail.com



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Meeting...

(Continued From Page 1)
gently to improve lives while sustaining Jewish Memphis, and promoting Jewish continuity in our hometown, in Israel and around the world.”

Board members nominated for election or re-election for Jewish Community Partners were Jordana Berger, Mitch Hodus and Josh Sanderson. David Greenberg was elected to serve as Treasurer/Secretary.

“While the factors we rally against can shift, Federation remains rooted where it was planted decades ago,” said Federation Board Chair Cindy Finestone. “I had a challenging time crafting my comments tonight because there is so much I would love to share with you our lay leaders, community leaders, board members, donors and friends. The dollars contributed by 1,300 families help support the infrastructure of our local and global Jewish community. This includes programs that serve everyone in the community, from the earliest stages of life like Shalom Baby and PJ Library programs, to teens and young adults, including BBYO, Birthright and Hillel. We also support programs and services for more seasoned adults like missions

to Israel, community programs and services for seniors. We strive to make sure everyone is cared for, connected and engaged at all stages of life.”

Board members elected or re-elected for Memphis Jewish Federation were Hal Fogelman, Jan Groveman, Martin Klazmer, Michelle Katz, Sarah Lewis, Jimmy Ringel, Adam Saslawsky, Jill Shanker, Daniel Snyder and Jason Sussner. Steve Libby and Jimmy Ringel will serve as Annual Community Campaign Vice Co-Chairs.

In an emotional farewell as Board Chair, Anthony Morrison shared past-year successes and future plans for the Foundation.

“Today we are proud to have grown into a \$118 million dollar Foundation, and last summer began shaping a new Strategic Plan to chart a course for our future,” he said. “Concurrent to the planning, Foundation continued helping donors achieve their philanthropic goals through funds and endowments, training the next generation of donors through the B’nai Tzedek teen philanthropy program, building our Professional Advisory Group and setting new benchmarks through these and other initiatives.”

Launched in 2020 when it was award-

ed posthumously to its namesake, the Raymond Shainberg Professional Advisor Award was created in memory of the long-time Jewish community leader who was instrumental in the formation of the Jewish Foundation of Memphis and helped encourage a culture of charitable giving among local attorneys, CPAs and other allied professionals. It is awarded annually to a Professional Advisor who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership, dedication and commitment to the Foundation.

Anthony Morrison presented this year’s award to Sandy Blockman, CPA and a tax advisor with Watkins Uiberall. A past president of the Jewish Foundation of Memphis, Sandy is a trusted advisor to many and has been devoted to strengthening the Jewish community for decades.

Board members elected or re-elected for the Jewish Foundation of Memphis were Lawson Arney, Pace Cooper, Ron Lazarov and Elkan Scheidt. Jason Salomon was elected to replace Anthony Morrison as Foundation Board Chair and named Jeff Wallace as his special appointment to the board.

Agency appointees to the Foundation Board of Directors were Dot Bilsky, Judy Bookman, Marlene Gerson, Paula Jacobson, Emily Lennon, Alla Ols-wanger Lubin, Laura Paller, Judy Royal and Elaine Wagner Skopp.

“As my time as Board Chair of Jewish Foundation of Memphis ends with this meeting, I’m filled with a sense of gratitude – for living in a Jewish community as generous as Memphis and for having the opportunity to help lead such an incredible group of lay leaders and staff,” said Morrison. “Foundation has become an important part of my family history and will continue to be a huge part of my life for years to come.”

Following a video tribute and special

presentation to Morrison, he then welcomed Foundation Chair-elect Jason Salomon into his new position. Salomon, an estate planning attorney with Harkavy Shainberg Kaplan PLC, has served several terms on JCP, Federation and Foundation boards, as well as other non-profit organizations in Memphis, including a recent term as chair of the board for Plough Towers.

“I’m truly honored to be elected as the chair of the Jewish Foundation of Memphis. It is humbling to be among a group of leaders that include Anthony, Charles Jalenak, Ken Steinberg, Sandy Blockman, Kay Saslawsky, Nick Ringel, Ronna Newburger, Nat Landau, Jerome Makowsky, L.R. Jalenak, and last, but certainly not least, Ronald Harkavy,” said Salomon. “I look forward to working with the new slate of board members, as well as Laura, Sheri and the entire staff in the upcoming term to accomplish the goals of the Foundation.”

JCP President and Chief Executive Officer Laura Linder offered closing remarks. “The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity to recognize the achievements of JCP-managed organizations as well as share plans for the future,” said Linder. “It has been an honor to lead this organization and work with outstanding leaders such as Anthony, Cindy and Scott. Although we will miss Anthony’s leadership, we know he will continue to be committed to the mission and ideals of both Memphis Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Memphis.”

Ms. Linder continued by sharing priorities for the coming year including a year-long celebration of Israel @ 75 including five specialty missions to Israel, a beautification project for Hillels of Memphis and the launch of a new program for Memphis Lions of Judah.

“We don’t know what the coming year will bring. But what we do know is that whatever it might be – we will be ready,” said Linder. “Together, we build the foundation for a strong community today so that we can respond to the urgent needs of tomorrow and help ensure flourishing Jewish communities around the world always.” HW

**New York Republican
Gubernatorial
Candidate Lee Zeldin
Targeted with Anti-
Semitic Death Threat**

(JNS) – U.S. Congressman and Jewish candidate for New York governor Lee Zeldin (R-N.Y.) was recently targeted with an anti-Semitic death threat, The New York Post reported.

A swastika was spray-painted on a Zeldin campaign lawn sign in Huntington, Suffolk County, along with the number 187, the Long Island congressman’s campaign said in a statement last Sunday. The incident came only days before the Republican gubernatorial primary.

The number 187 is the California penal code’s designation for murder and “has been universally adopted as a common death threat,” the Zeldin campaign explained.

Zeldin campaign representative Katie Vincentz added, “In the United States, we settle our scores at the ballot box, and this type of raw hate must never have any home on Long Island or anywhere else in our state and country. Congressman Zeldin is thankful for the Suffolk County Police Department as they work to identify the perpetrators.”

Zeldin faces opponents Rob Astorino, Andrew Giuliani and Harry Wilson in Tuesday’s primary. If elected, he will be the first Jewish Republican governor of New York. HW


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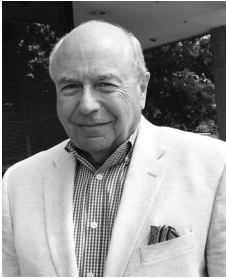
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Mazel Tov

Cooper-Fox Wedding



Kira Fow and Elan Cooper after his proposal at Wagner Cove in Central Park.

The wedding of Elan Cooper of Memphis and Kira Fox of Englewood, N.J., took place on July 4 at Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle, N.Y. The couple's wedding date marked American Independence Day and a grand celebration of bringing two families together.

Elan is the son of Aileen and Pace Cooper of Memphis, Tenn., the grandson of the late Bernice and Irby Cooper of Memphis and the late Frieda and Dr. Arthur Herman of Searingtown, N.Y. Kira is the daughter of Drs. Michal and Natie Fox of Englewood, N.J., the granddaughter of Marcelle and the late Dr. Saul Agus of Englewood, N.J., and of Barbara and Dr. Jack Fox of Chicago, Ill.

The couple's wedding ceremony was

officiated by Rabbi Eli Ciner, principal and head of school of the Frisch School. Kira is especially close to Rabbi Ciner, as she excelled at The Frisch School.

Elan, 23, graduated from Cooper Yeshiva High School for Boys in 2017, then studied in Yeshiva for a year at Yeshivat Eretz Hatzvi in Jerusalem, Israel. A 2022 graduate from Columbia University, Elan will be working as a software engineer at Capital One.

Kira, 22, graduated from The Frisch School in 2018, then studied for a year at Midreshet Torat Chesed in Netanya, Israel. She is a rising senior at Barnard College in New York, N.Y., where she majors in psychology.

The couple will reside in New York City. **HW**

Moskovitz-Weitz Wedding



Mallory and Samuel Weitz

Jeri and Mitch Moskovitz of Memphis, Tenn., and Cheryl and Lane Weitz of Dallas, Texas, are pleased to announce the wedding of their children, Mallory Moskovitz and Samuel Weitz.

The couple were married at Temple Israel on March 12, 2022, with Rabbi Micah Greenstein officiating.

The wedding party included Maid of Honor Zoe Toporek, Best Men Charlie Weitz and Michael Weitz. Bridesmaids: Cori Finglass, Hallie Rubin, Alyssa Paris, Ally Eisenberg, Stacey Stanfield, Abby Felsenthal, Lia Toporek, Margo Franklin, Leah Baer, Rachel Rabinovich, Junior Bridesmaids: Wren Woodman, Mollie Felsenthal and Flower Girl Rosie Felsenthal.

Groomsmen: Matt Moskovitz, Greg

Fetter, Tucker Rubin, Chris Bowman, Nathan Zucker, Michael Falkenstein, Ryan Flink, Daniel Carr, George Sayah, Adrian Allen and Eli Brook.

Mallory and Sam met at a BBYO CLTC leadership training at B'nai B'rith Beber Camp but didn't begin dating until attending the University of Georgia where they graduated in 2016.

At Georgia, Mallory earned a Bachelor of Arts in journalism and Sam earned a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Italy.

They will reside in Atlanta where Mallory is a marketing copy writer at ParkMobile. Sam is an Account Sales Manager with Uber Eats Corporate. **HW**

David Ross to Lead the Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South



Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South Incoming President David Ross presents Immediate Past President Lorraine Wolf with a gift.

On Tuesday, June 21, David Ross, newly elected president, welcomed the new board of the Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South (JHSMM) with a meet-and-greet board meeting in person at Beth Sholom Synagogue along with a virtual Zoom option.

"It was wonderful after two and half years to have an in-person meeting," said

Lorraine Wolf, immediate past president.

David is no stranger to the JHSMM. He has been a board member and a leader for many years, including president of JHSMM from 2013-2015. In addition, David has been an advisor to Peres AZA, past chair of the Jewish Student Union at the University of Memphis and past president of Beth Sholom Synagogue.

David has also served on the board of the Jewish Children's Regional Service (JCERS), was the co-founder of the Special Olympics King Bowling League and has worked with several other organizations.

"I am very excited about working with the board and membership of the JHSMM to continue to bring Jewish ed-

ucational programs to our community beginning this fall, continuing the long history which has been the hallmark of this organization since its inception," said David. "We are also excited about restarting the Oral History Archives program among many other initiatives, which we hope to share with our community."

The Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South was formed in 1986 by a group of visionaries that saw a need to collect, preserve, present and interpret the history of Jews in Memphis and the Mid-South. The first president of the society was Harriet Stern of blessed memory.

The new executive board for the term 2022-2024 is President David Ross, President-Elect Greg Siskind, Vice Chairmen of Programming Phyllis Groskind, Susan Labovitz and Jan Reisman, Treasurer David Kruger, Recording Secretary Robin Tauer, Corresponding Secretary Ida Eleazer, Membership Chairman Mimi Clemons, Archives & Oral History Chairman Fred Brode, New Project Chairman Lynnne Mirvis, Newsletter Chairman Marcia

Levy, Webmaster Dick Rubin, Publicity Chairman Lulu Abdun and Immediate Past President Lorraine Wolf.

Board members at large are Linda Bedrin, Ellee Lazarov Breit, Francine Brown, Shoshana Cenker, Herman Goldberger, Barbara Hellman, Jennifer Kollath, Joyce Lazarov, Phyllis Levine, Sheri Lipman, Mindy Lipson, Jackie Mandell, Ron Perel, Harry Samuels, Elaine Stegman, Jason Stec, Russell Strauss, Sharon Tabachnick and Beverly Tsacoyianis.

JHSMM thanks the outgoing board members, Norma Loren and Edward Lazarus for their service in preserving the past and enhancing the future of Jewish history in Memphis and the Mid-South.

As our 2022-2023 program year begins in early fall, JHSMM is planning to begin transitioning to in-person programming with a virtual Zoom option. Please follow us on our website, www.jhsmm.org, or on our Facebook page, Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South, and be on the lookout for a great program line up for 2022-2023. **HW**

Mazel Tov

Bornblum Jewish Community School Announces New Director of Admissions & Parent Engagement



Danielle Zelig

Bornblum Jewish Community School welcomes Danielle Zelig as Director of Admissions & Parent Engagement for the 2022-2023 school year.

A former kindergarten through sixth grade teacher, Zelig’s teaching career took her from Toronto, New York, California, Florida, and now, to Memphis. On top of teaching, she ran one of the largest afterschool programs in Manhattan with a focus on student athletics and musical theatre.

For the past five years, she’s taught in private Jewish day schools.

“That’s my happy place, my sweet spot,” she said.

Zelig began substitute teaching at Bornblum when she moved to Memphis and noticed the vibrant, engaging atmosphere.

“When I came to substitute, the kids looked really happy,” she said. “They were sweet and polite, very creative. I was impressed with what was being done here: the integrated curriculum, the garden, the Design Lab, the podcasting room, the chicken coop. All of these creative and out-of-the-box educational opportunities. You could tell there was a lot of joy in the learning that was being done.”

With her background in social-emo-

tional coaching, Bornblum’s Makom Shalom Room stood out to her. Previously, she coached teachers to help with relationship building and classroom management by offering tools and strategies to support continued learning for successful learning environments.

“I’ve had experience working with kids who need a quiet, peaceful place like that,” she said. “The fact that the school sees the importance of social-emotional learning is impressive. A lot of times, schools don’t recognize kids sometimes need a little break.”

Bornblum Head of School Dr. Daniel R. Weiss brought Zelig onboard to increase admissions and develop deeper relationships with parents and the community.

“I was impressed with Danielle’s positive energy and rich educational background,” he said. “Her love for the Jewish community goes hand-in-hand with Bornblum’s mission. We look forward to seeing how Danielle helps Bornblum grow.”

Outside of Bornblum, Danielle teaches Pure Barre classes and spends time cultivating her love of coffee. She lives in Germantown with her two dachshunds – Schmeckel and Nudnik – and her husband, Ari, who is a Bornblum alumnus. **HW**

Birth of Baby Boy Freiden

Mazel Tov to Yoni and Aviva Freiden on the birth of a baby boy.

Mazel Tov to siblings Benny, Dahlia and Margalit.

Mazel Tov to grandparents Debbie and Hugh Freiden and Harriet and Elliot Jacob.

Mazel Tov to great-grandparents Noreen and Bernard Freiden and Pesha Gordon of Jerusalem. **HW**

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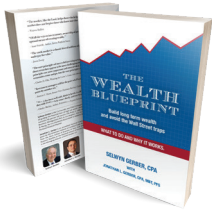
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The MJCC Larisa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Club Happenings

Lunch is Monday–Friday at 11:30 a.m. All programs start at 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, July 12
Team Trivial Pursuit
Last time we played Trivial Pursuit, we had a tie breaker! Most of the questions are from the 50’s and 60’s and everyone had a blast. Come join us and test your memory.

Thursday, July 14
Guest Speaker Rabbi Yosef Braha of the Memphis Kollel
Rabbi Braha will talk about “The Glory of Mourning!” Why Mourn the Temples Destruction? What’s wrong with just remembering? After his last talk, everyone asked to hear from him again. Please come join us for this informative talk.

Please join us from Monday through Friday for a delicious Kosher lunch from the Kitchens at the Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab. The cost is only \$2 for seniors. Reservations are required the day before by 1 p.m. by contacting Steve Kaplan, Adult Services Coordinator, at 901-259-9220, at stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org or calling the front desk at 901-761-0810. [HW](#)

Tuesday, July 19
Ways to Prevent Falls
Presented by Ginny Oceguela with SRVS. Falls are one of the major causes of seniors having medical issues. These will be simple, easy tips for you or a loved one to prevent this from happening.

Thursday, July 21
Super Bingo
We will play another game of Super Bingo with a new batch of fun prizes. Come join us and have some fun with your peers. No Charge!

Iran and the U.S. Resume Indirect Nuclear Talks in Qatar

(JNS) – Indirect nuclear talks between the United States and Iran resumed last Tuesday in Doha, Qatar, Iranian state media reported.
Iran’s chief nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri Kani and U.S. special envoy for Iran Robert Malley are negotiating from separate rooms in a Doha hotel, reported Reuters. The talks aim to revive the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran, the U.S. and other world powers.

Kani met with European Union envoy Enrique Mora, who is shuttling between the two sides. Iran refuses to hold direct talks.
One Iranian and one European official told Reuters last week that Iran had dropped the demand to remove its Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) from the U.S. Foreign Terrorist Organization list. However, Iran still has two remaining demands, one involving sanctions. [HW](#)



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Bennett, Israeli Prime Minister, Won't Run in Election Set to Replace His Collapsed Government Coalition



Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett attends a cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem, March 27, 2022. Credit: Abir Sultan/Pool/AFP via Getty Images

By Andrew Lapin

(JTA) – Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett won't run in his country's upcoming elections this fall, his office announced last Wednesday, after he served as head of a fragile, now collapsing Knesset coalition for a little over a year.

The announcement caught many in Israel by surprise given that Bennett had led the country for just a year and, as the leader of the Yamina right-wing party, might well have won a role in any future government coalition. He indicated in his final speech to the Knesset that he would continue to support Yair Lapid, his foreign minister who is set to assume the prime ministership on an interim basis this week.

"I don't intend to compete in the coming elections, but I will remain a loyal soldier in the service of this country," Bennett said.

Bennett will continue to serve as alternate prime minister under Lapid's caretaker government, which will begin as soon as the Knesset holds its formal vote to dissolve the government and end when a new coalition forms after the next elections in October or November. These will be Israel's fifth elections in just over three years, further exacerbating the country's ongoing political stalemate, and providing ousted Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with an opportunity to retake power even as he continues to face corruption charges.

Bennett's coalition, which held only a one-seat majority in the Knesset, ended after two defections, and political observers speculate that Netanyahu's behind-the-scenes gamesmanship is to blame.

Bennett had previously hinted his interest in leaving politics following the coalition's collapse. He also named a rising right-wing political star, Interior Minister Ayelet Shaked, as the new head of Yamina. Polls indicate Netanyahu would have to win Yamina back to his side in order to retake the Knesset.

As Lapid and other Israeli politicians thanked Bennett for his service, the country's first new head of state in 15 years leaves behind a mixed legacy. He made repairing relationships with American Democrats a top priority of his after more than a decade of Netanyahu cozying up to the Republican Party

and became the first Israeli prime minister to visit the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain in the wake of the Abraham Accords brokered under Netanyahu.

But Bennett showed little interest in reopening talks with the Palestinian Authority, saying that Israel wasn't focused on them. He has also resisted outside calls (including from the American Democrats he sought to reconcile with) to open a criminal investigation into the shooting death of a well-known Pal-

estinian-American journalist. Outside observers have said Shireen Abu Akleh was likely killed by the Israeli military, although Israel has called on the Palestinian Authority to release the bullet that killed her.

Though Bennett built his political name on his support of religious settlers, his government collapsed when the Knesset failed to extend a law granting full Israeli legal rights to settlers in the occupied West Bank. [HW](#)

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Pension or Lump Sum: Which Should You Choose?

Provided by Mike Stein, Managing Director - Investments, Wells Fargo Advisors
Questions for Mike? You can reach him at 901.761.8151 or Michael.Stein@WellsFargoAdvisors.com

Traditional pensions, which promise lifetime income payments in retirement, have become less common in the private sector, with only about 10% of workers currently participating in a traditional pension plan. However, pensions are still widely offered in federal, state, and local government employment, and 61% of workers expect a pension to be a major or minor source of retirement income.¹

About half of pension plan participants can choose to take their money in a lump sum when they retire.² In addition, companies may offer pension buyouts to vested former employees who are working elsewhere, and even to retirees who are already receiving pension payments.

By shrinking the size of a pension plan, the company can reduce the associated risks and costs, and limit the impact of future retirement obligations on current financial performance. However, what's good for a corporation's bottom line may or may not be in the best interests of plan participants and their families.

A Critical Decision

For most workers, there are clear mathematical and psychological advantages to keeping the pension. However, a lump sum could provide financial flexibility that may benefit some families. The prospect of a large check might

be tempting, but cashing out a pension could have costly repercussions for your retirement. One study found that one out of five people who took a lump sum depleted the money within five and a half years, and an additional 35% were concerned that the money would run out.³

Given the risks, it's important to have a long-term perspective and consider the following factors when a sizable lump-sum offer is on the table.

Terms of the offer. The amount of a lump sum is based on the discounted present value of an employee's future pension, set by an IRS formula based on current bond interest rates and average life expectancies. Keep in mind that a pension's lifetime income may be more valuable for women than for men because women tend to live longer, but gender is not considered when calculating lump sums. In addition, companies may not include the value of subsidies for early retirement or spousal benefits in their buyout offers, the latter of which could be a major disadvantage for married couples.

Taxes and potential penalties. Pension payments (monthly or lump sum) are taxed in the year in which they are received. Cashing out a pension before age 59½ may trigger a 10% federal income tax penalty, unless the lump sum is rolled into an IRA or to an employer-sponsored

retirement plan (if allowed), which postpones taxes until withdrawals are taken later in retirement. IRA and employer plan distributions are also taxed as ordinary income, and withdrawals taken prior to age 59½ are subject to the 10% federal income tax penalty, with certain exceptions. Annual minimum distributions are required starting at age 72 (70½ if born before July 1, 1949).

Financial resources. A lump sum might be helpful for someone with little cash in the bank for emergencies or with debts to pay off. Those who are able to live comfortably on other sources of retirement income might also benefit from a lump sum.

Fewer Active Participants

More than 34 million people were covered by PBGC-insured single-employer or multi-employer pension plans in 2020. However, the proportion of active participants covered in their current job has declined dramatically since 1980, while the percentages of retirees and participants who are separated from the employer but vested in the pension have risen.

Risk tolerance. A lump-sum payout transfers the risk from the pension plan sponsor to the participant. Individuals who opt for a lump sum must then manage that money and determine for themselves how much risk to take in the financial markets. Often the amount is not enough to replace the pension income given up, unless the investor can tolerate exposure to stock market risk and is able to achieve equivalent returns over time.

Health status. A lump-sum payment might make sense for a participant with potentially life-threatening medical issues, because pension payments end when the plan participant (or a surviv-

ing spouse) dies. Money held in an IRA could be withdrawn and spent as needed on health-related costs and/or custodial care. Any IRA funds that are preserved can be passed down to heirs.

Pension's prospects. A pension plan's "funded status" is a measure of its assets and liabilities that must be reported annually; a plan funded at 80% or less may be struggling. Most pensions are backstopped by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), but retirees could lose a portion of the "promised" benefits if their plan fails. For single-employer plans, which are most common, the PBGC annual maximum is \$69,750. However, for a multi-employer plan (created between employers and a union), the guarantee is much lower at \$12,870.⁴

All investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there is no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful. Investments seeking to achieve higher rates of return also involve a higher degree of risk.

- 1) Employee Benefit Research Institute, 2020
- 2, 4) Kiplinger, July 19, 2020
- 3) AARP, September 11, 2020

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AI Facial Recognition Tech Identifies Rocker Geddy Lee’s Mother in Anonymous Holocaust Photos



Geddy Lee attends the 13th Annual Artists for Peace and Justice Fundraiser in Toronto, Sep. 11, 2021.

By Jackie Hajdenberg

(JTA) – Rockstar Geddy Lee found never-before-seen photos of his mother’s family thanks to a new effort to apply artificial intelligence facial recognition technology to photographs from the Holocaust.

Lee’s mother, Holocaust survivor Mary Weinrib, died last summer at 95 years old. But the researchers of the AI technology, From Numbers to Names, managed to find a photo of Weinrib from her time at the displaced persons camp in Bergen-Belsen – a photo that then led Lee to find other photos of his mother’s extended family from the Yad Vashem photo collection.

Aside from her love for cooking and baking for her family during the Jewish holidays, Weinrib was an early supporter of Lee’s band Rush. The documentary series “From Cradle to Stage,” created by Foo Fighters musician Dave Grohl, explores the influence of mothers on their rock star children. The final episode of the first season from last year focuses on Weinrib and Lee’s relationship.

Created by Daniel Patt, a Google engineer and the descendent of four Holocaust survivors, From Numbers to Names allows users to upload a photo and then suggests 10 other photos with faces that could be a match. The technology is now being used by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s photograph collection. The museum collection, which already had more than

34,000 photos, will now include access to an additional 1 million photos to “improve the scope and quality of the tool,” according to the From Numbers to Names website.

Patt told the Times of Israel he was inspired to create an AI product while on a 2016 trip to the POLIN Museum on Polish Jewish history in Warsaw. “I couldn’t shake the feeling that I had potentially walked past a photo of a family member without even knowing it,” he said.

“We make no software-based assertions about identifications and leave this judgment to individuals using the site,” Patt told TOI. “We simply show results, with similarity scores, and let individuals decide whether the results contain a positive identification.”

Patt says N2N has analyzed nearly 500,000 photos with around 2 million faces, and hopes to partner with museums, schools, research institutions and other Holocaust education organizations to share identifications. N2N is also beginning to analyze videos from the Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive at the U.S. Holocaust Museum.

AI technology has been widely used in preserving and presenting Holocaust testimony in recent years. Second gentleman Doug Emhoff recently spoke with an interactive video AI bot of a Holocaust survivor at the University of Southern California’s Shoah Foundation. [HW](#)

Hamas Releases Video of Israeli Captive in Bed Receiving Oxygen

(JNS) – The Hamas terror group released a video last Tuesday showing captive Israeli citizen Hisham al-Sayed lying in a bed and receiving oxygen.

“Spreading the clip of a sick man is despicable and an act of desperation,” Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said after the video was released, reported Ynet.

Bennett said Hamas was delaying any chance for a prisoner deal and violated international law by detaining two mentally ill Israeli civilians.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid stated that “Hamas is responsible for the well-being of the civilians it is holding in violation of international law.”

The video, seen as a move to pressure Israel to make a deal, came a day after the group said Sayed’s health situation was worsening.

Hamas is also holding Avra Mengistu. He and Sayed crossed into the

Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip on their own accord. [HW](#)

Huge Fire Breaks Out at Maryland Jewish Summer Camp, No Injuries Reported



Camps Airy & Louise Credit: www.airylouise.org

(JNS) – A massive fire erupted at Camp Airy for Boys, a Jewish overnight camp, last Wednesday morning, with no injuries reported.

Officials said that smoke rising from the fire and flames could be seen miles away, reported WUSA9. The fire quickly spread from the dining hall to other floors in the building, according to police.

Emergency services received calls around 7:30 a.m. about a fire at the camp.

Police said the dining hall was empty when the fire began. The fire is under control as firefighters were working to

put out the fire, according to the report.

A spokesperson for the camp stated that “we wanted to advise everyone that all campers, counselors and staff are safe and accounted for. No one was injured in the event.”

A mobile food kitchen has been set up and, according to the camp’s Facebook page, camp activities are continuing as scheduled.

Camp Airy for Boys, and its sister Camp Louise for Girls, turned 100 this year. The Airy dining hall, which was completely destroyed in the blaze, was among the camp’s original buildings. [HW](#)

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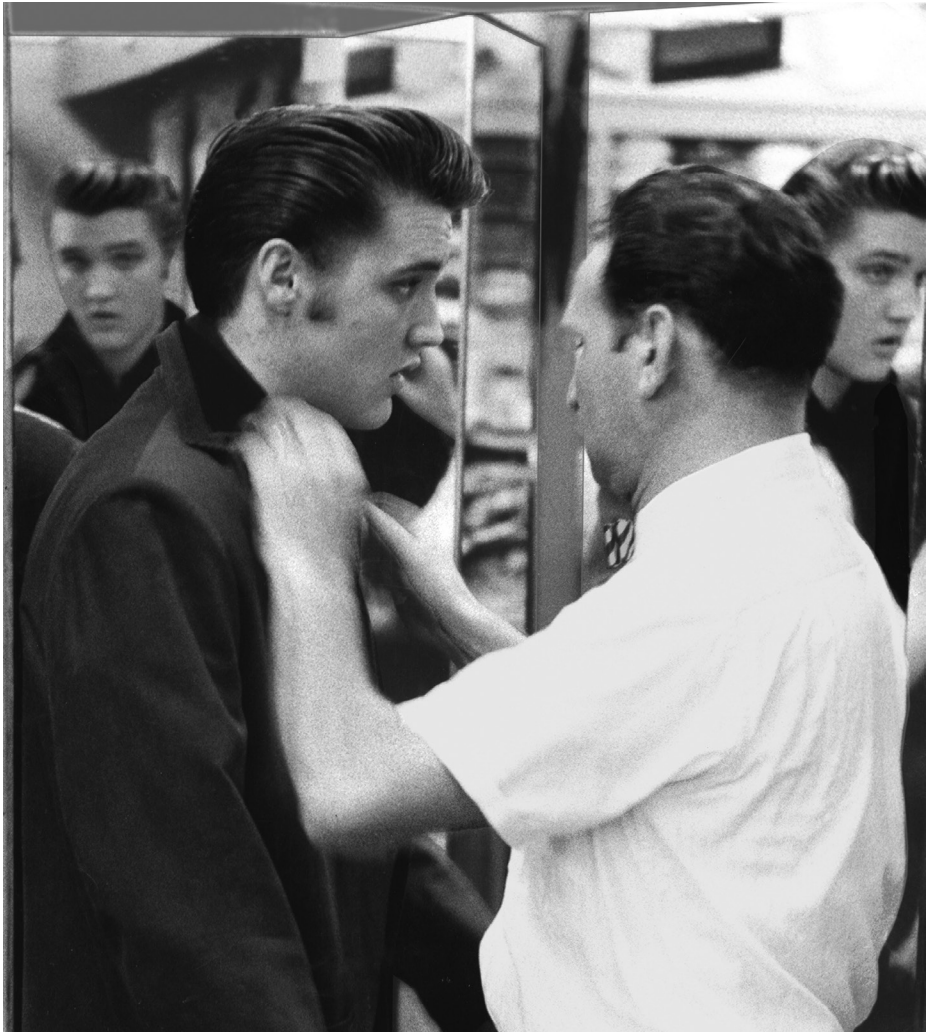


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With the Release of Baz Luhrmann’s ELVIS, Lansky Bros. Continues to Play Key Role in the Birth of Rock ‘n’ Roll



Elvis Presley with Bernard Lansky (z”l) at Lansky Bros. in Memphis, Tennessee.

(MEMPHIS, TN) – Moviegoers that see Baz Luhrmann’s new, big-budget biopic ELVIS (Warner Bros.) starring Austin Butler and Tom Hanks may notice the iconic Lansky Bros. store, where in the spring of 1952, Bernard Lansky’s simple invitation to Elvis Presley changed the world of music and fashion.

Elvis was a trendsetter and Lansky Bros. was there from the beginning helping Elvis define his authentic style. “Come on in, young man!” said Bernard. His gesture of kindness to the young man looking in his store window on famous Beale Street in downtown Memphis, Tennessee, led to a friendship that lasted a lifetime and gave the future King of Rock ‘n’ Roll the confidence he needed to dress and perform in his own style.

The offerings at Lansky Bros. contrasted starkly to the clean cut and traditional styles popular with midcentury Americans. Lansky Bros. featured colorful window displays with bright colors and flashy designs that were intended to pop on stage. This, of course, was precisely what would catch the attention of a young Elvis Presley in 1952. However, it wasn’t just Elvis who was mesmerized by the glitz and glamour of Lansky Bros.’ stage clothing. Johnny

Cash, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis were all shopping at Lansky Bros. in the ‘50s and ‘60s.

Lansky Bros. outfitted Elvis for various television appearances and historic performances such as the Louisiana Hayride. When Elvis needed the right clothes for his appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show, he headed straight to Lansky Bros. Bernard recalled, “We knew he should be wearing something different from what other entertainers were wearing. We tried everything on him and made doggone sure he looked right, ‘cause on stage you’ve got to make a presentation.”

With millions of people tuned in to The Ed Sullivan Show on the night of September 9, 1956, Elvis donned black trousers with a plaid jacket, an outfit that stood out even on the black and white TVs of the time. This performance ignited Elvis’ career and sealed the relationship between Elvis Presley and his clothier, Bernard Lansky at Lansky Bros.

Since the ‘50s, Lansky Bros. has been a magnet for celebrities looking for new additions to their wardrobe. From musicians, movie stars, athletes, politicians, and even local celebrities, Lansky Bros. never knows who is going to walk through their doors. And when someone

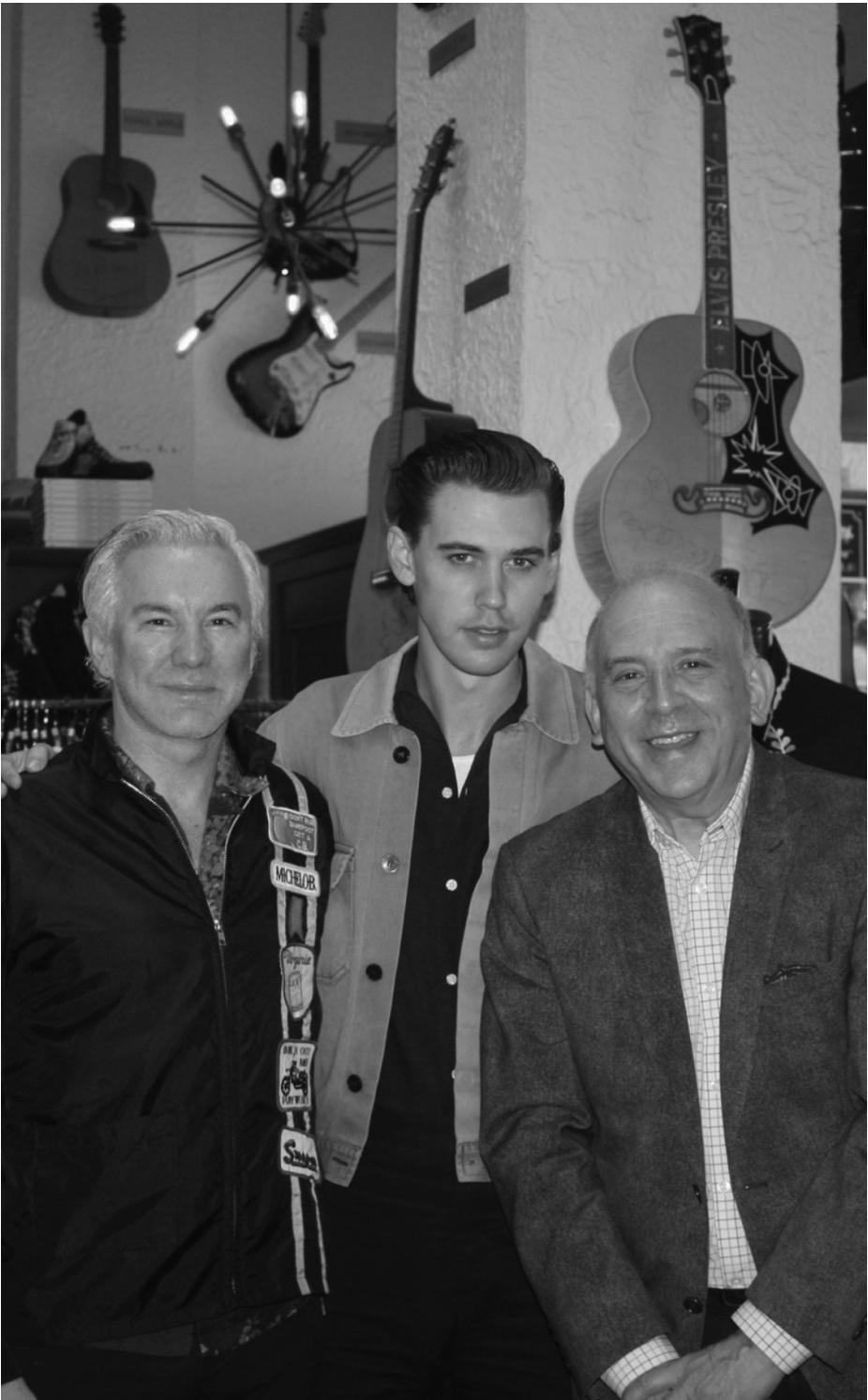
famous walks in, Lansky Bros. does their best to make sure they are styled to stand out.

“Fashion is cyclical meaning what goes around comes around,” says Bernard’s son, Hal Lansky, who carries on the Lansky Bros. legacy along with his daughter, Julie Lansky. “Elvis’ style is still relevant because there are new generations still discovering his music and influence on style. To this day, we still see customers from around the world walking through our doors wanting to discover Elvis’ favorite store and to meet me. They all want to shake the hand that shook the hand that shook the

world. They are fascinated that I was the delivery boy who would deliver my father’s stylish clothing to Graceland for Elvis to wear. Our credibility as a fashion institution was established by one man who became the King of Rock ‘n’ Roll, but we are still relevant in today’s fashion industry by still evolving and adapting to the latest trends and styles.”

The Lansky family has cultivated a legacy that is three generations now and is still operating clothing stores in the lobby of the historic Peabody Hotel in downtown Memphis.

For more information, visit LanskyBros.com. **HW**



At Lansky Bros. in Memphis, TN: “Elvis” director Baz Luhrmann; “Elvis” star Austin Butler; Lansky Bros. owner Hal Lansky

Nick Fuentes, White Nationalist with GOP Ties, Says ‘Jews Stood in the Way’ Of Roe V. Wade’s End

By Andrew Lapin

(JTA) – In the aftermath of the Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe v. Wade, Nick Fuentes, a white nationalist leader and influential figure among the rightmost flank of the Republican Party, told his followers that “Jews stood in the way” of Catholic Supreme Court Justices who “were put on the court to overturn” the 1973 decision that guaranteed the right to an abortion in the United States.

Fuentes, who founded the America First Political Action Committee and the “groyper army,” a radical fringe group, made the comments on his website’s livestream last Friday, according to Right Wing Watch. He added “we need a government of Christians” and “Jewish people can be here, but they can’t

make our laws.

“If Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a Jewish woman, didn’t die last year, so that Amy Coney Barrett, a Catholic woman, could be appointed to the bench, we would still have Roe v. Wade,” Fuentes said. “Now you tell me that this is a Judeo-Christian country... You tell me that it doesn’t matter that we have a lot of Jewish people in government.”

Extremism trackers like the Anti-Defamation League and Southern Poverty Law Center have long classified Fuentes as a hate group leader who advocates antisemitism and Holocaust denial, in addition to racist and nativist ideologies. His YouTube channel was previously banned for hate speech.

Yet several Republican elected officials were featured speakers at Fuentes’ AFPAC conference in February, includ-

ing sitting members of Congress Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia and Paul Gosar of Arizona; Idaho Lieutenant Governor Janice McGeachin; and Arizona state Sen. Wendy Rogers (who was censured by her state Republican party for her appearance at the conference). When they were confronted with Fuentes’ views after their conference appearances, all four declined to condemn Fuentes or his organization. Gosar previously hosted a fundraiser with Fuentes.

Fuentes’ antisemitic comments mirror similar expressions from “traditional Catholic” groups, who generally believe all Jews are enemies of Christianity. Most interpretations of Jewish law permit abortion access in some form.

The seeds of the current conservative supermajority on the Supreme Court

were planted when Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell refused to hold a vote on then-President Obama’s Jewish nominee, Merrick Garland, in 2016, as a replacement for conservative Catholic Antonin Scalia, instead holding the spot for Obama’s successor, Donald Trump, to fill with conservative Christian Neil Gorsuch (who was raised Catholic but later attended an Episcopal church).

The supermajority was then solidified in fall 2020 when Ginsburg died, opening up a new spot for then-President Trump to fill with the Catholic Barrett in the waning months of his administration. Two members of the current liberal minority on the Court are Jewish; one, Justice Stephen Breyer, is retiring at the conclusion of this term. **HW**

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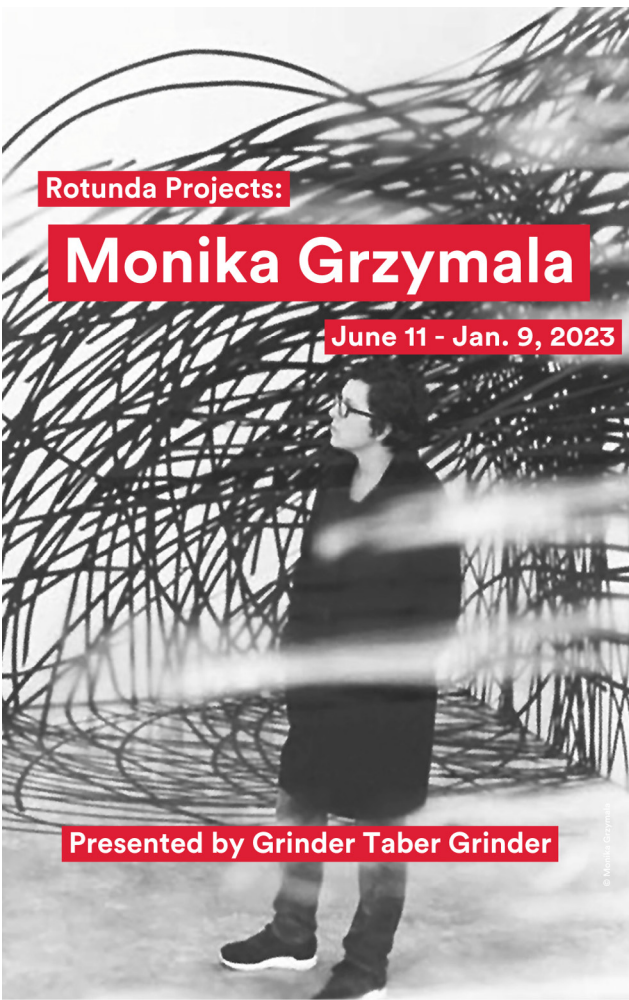
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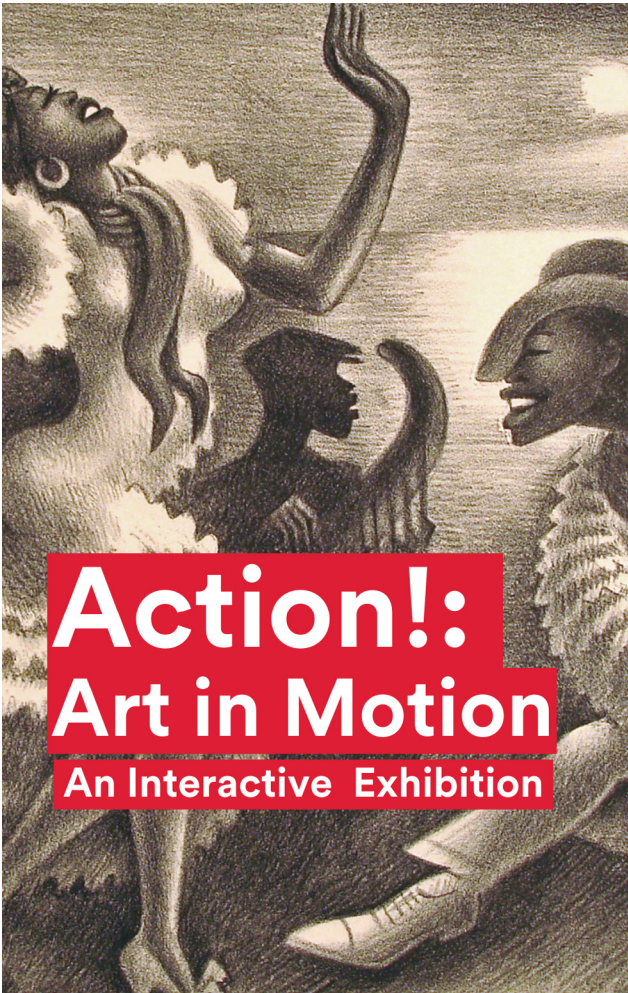


Kenneth Wayne Alexander, 'Tower of Babel' (still), 2021, Digital Collage, Courtesy of the artist



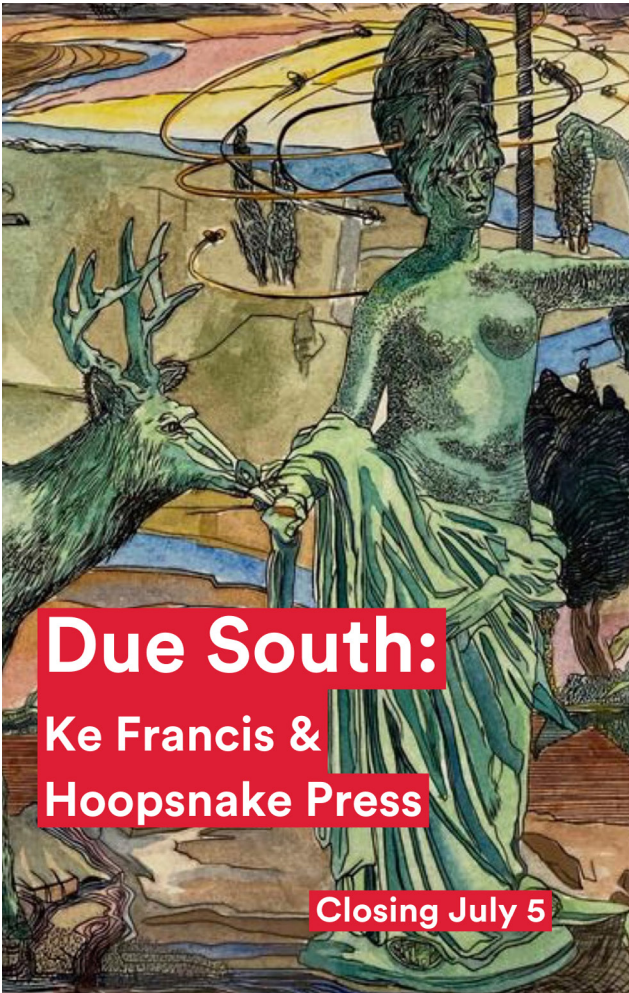
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Memphis Brooks Museum of Art

Argentina Investigates Iranian-Owned Plane on Suspicion of Terrorism Activity, Stoking Fear Amongst Jewish Groups

By Juan Melamed

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) – An Argentine prosecutor is investigating the circumstances behind an aircraft flown by Iranian pilot that is being held in Buenos Aires, the site of multiple terror attacks on Jewish sites believed to be coordinated by Iran in recent decades.

A Boeing 747 plane arrived in Argentina from Queretaro, Mexico, on June 6, with a crew of 5 Iranians and 14 Venezuelans.

Two days later, the cargo plane operated by Emtrasur, a Venezuelan state-owned company, flew from the main Argentine international airport, in Ezeiza, a city in the Buenos Aires province, to Montevideo, the capital city of Uruguay.

But once there, authorities refused to receive it. The plane has since been held in Ezeiza.

Argentine security forces inspected the aircraft on its return, finding that it was carrying automobile parts. Argentine federal judge Federico Villena ordered an investigation and retained the passports of the crew members, who remain in a hotel near the airport.

The plane was at one point owned by Iran’s Qeshm Fars Air, and it is not clear yet if it had been sold or rented to the Venezuelan Emtrasur in recent months. Venezuela created Emtrasur in 2020 as a cargo branch of its state-owned airline company Conviasa, which is sanctioned by the U.S. treasury department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control.

The Argentine Jewish political umbrella group DAIA was one of the groups that urged the federal justice to open an investigation on suspicion of terrorist activities.

DAIA President Jorge Knoblovits wrote in an op-ed in La Nacion newspaper that “the shadow of terrorism extends over Latin America.”

Last week, the Israeli embassy in Paraguay argued in a statement that the plane could have been trafficking illegal arms.

“Israel is particularly concerned about the activity of the Iranian airline companies Mahan Air and Qeshm Air in Latin America, companies that are involved in the trafficking of arms, equipment and people for the [Iranian] Quds Force and that are under U.S. sanctions for their links to terrorism,” the statement read.

Iran has been linked to the Buenos Aires AMIA Jewish center bombing in 1994 that killed over 80 people, and to a similar attack near the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires in 1992 that killed 30. Perpetrators of those attacks have not been brought to justice.

“Having this plane in Argentina is an opportunity for the victims, something unusual, for the first time we have something, an Iranian asset, as some kind of repair for the victims in the future,” Knoblovits, who is also an attorney, said in an interview on the TN news channel last Wednesday. [HW](#)

Kosher Certification Agency Sues Jetblue, Saying They Lied About a Kosher Snack



Kof-K sued JetBlue for allegedly selling a food product with their kosher certification symbol. Credit: Getty Images

(JTA) – One of the United States’ largest kosher certifying agencies alleges that JetBlue airlines sold a snack it falsely claimed was certified as kosher.

In a lawsuit filed last Thursday, Kof-K said JetBlue put the agency’s hechsher, or rabbinical approval symbol, on an artichoke snack that the agency never certified as kosher.

The company that makes the artichoke snack, Elma Farms, was not named in the lawsuit. A JetBlue spokesperson told Reuters last Friday the airline is investigating the claims. An attorney for Kof-K declined to comment to Reuters.

There are approximately 1,400 kosher certifying agencies around the world, but in the United States, the “Big Five” – the Orthodox Union (OU), Organized Kashrut Laboratories (OK), Kof-K, Star-K, and the Chicago Rabbinical Council (CRC)

– certify more than 80% of the country’s kosher food products. Kof-K started certifying food as kosher in the early 1970s.

JetBlue’s \$9 Mediterranean-inspired vegan snack box also included products certified kosher by the Orthodox Union, the Kashruth Council of Canada and EarthKosher.

This is not the first legal action taken against an airline relating to their provision of kosher food this year. In Brazil, a judge awarded plaintiffs \$1,759 after they filed a complaint against American Airlines alleging that they were denied kosher food on board.

Other airlines that have gotten into legal trouble with the Jewish community in recent months also include Lufthansa and Delta, both for refusing to board Orthodox Jewish passengers for different reasons. [HW](#)

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