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THE Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

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MJCC Sweetest Summer Camp Season



The sweetest summer ever was had at the Memphis Jewish Community Center Day Camp this year! With record numbers, we feel so fortunate to have been able to bring joy into the lives of 538 campers throughout the Memphis community. The smiles, laughter, excitement, and energy were never lacking from week one to week nine of camp.

This summer, not only did we roll out brand new programming, such as No Bake Cooking Camp, 9-Square in the Air, and an on-site mobile Ninja Warrior Course, we also brought back programming that we had been missing since the

start of COVID.

Juliana and Connor implemented Electives for 2nd through 6th grade campers to give them the freedom of choosing a special activity every Tuesday and Thursday. And we even brought back super Fun Friday activities for all groups to participate in. We were very fortunate to have two incredible Israeli Scouts join our summer camp team and bring a piece of Israel to Memphis for all of our campers and counselors.

If you were fortunate to walk around the MJCC campus during the nine magnificent weeks of summer camp, you

may have seen campers running on the fields with shaving cream, building volcanos or making slime, playing Ga-Ga in the racquetball courts, or even making lanyards in the lobby. The campers were also very fortunate to swim twice a day this summer, with a mixture of Instructional Swim in the mornings and Free Swim every afternoon. Bringing back the two swim times was incredible not only for the campers but the staff, as well as helping with programming and cooling off throughout the day. We also saw many non-swimmers develop into Levels 2 and 3.

It really was a wonderful summer at the MJCC. "As parents, it couldn't be more comforting to know your child is

out of the house, in good hands, and most importantly happy and having fun!" said Martin, a parent of a 1st grade camper. "We are so appreciative of you all. It really means the world to us to have a place like the JCC. It's our second home."

All camp staff worked hard to include every type of child and personality. Our staff are trained to not only work with energetic or shy children, but also those that may require some extra attention.

Sarah, a mother of a 3rd grade camper wrote to camp saying, "Thank you for your open, progressive inclusion of special needs children and shadow teachers, Juliana. You truly change the lives of

(See Camp Page 2)



Russia Experiencing 'Many Malfunctions' with Iranian-Made Drones in Ukraine

(JNS) – Russia has experienced "many malfunctions" with drones purchased from Iran for combat functions in Ukraine, *Reuters* reported last Monday, citing a U.S. administration source.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, reportedly shared U.S. assessments according to which Russia acquired Iranian-made Mohajer-6 and Shahed-series unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) earlier in August.

According to the official, Russia like-

ly plans to purchase hundreds more such UAVs.

"We assess that Russia intends to use these Iranian UAVs, which can conduct air-to-surface attacks, electronic warfare, and targeting, on the battlefield in Ukraine," the official was quoted as saying.

In July, U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan informed reporters that the United States had intelligence indicating that Iran is ready to supply

Russia with hundreds of drones.

"Our information indicates that the Iranian government is preparing to provide Russia with up to several hundred UAVs, including weapons-capable UAVs, on an expedited timeline," Sullivan said at the time.

The Biden administration published satellite photographs this month showing Russian officials visiting Kashan Airfield on June 8 and July 5 to inspect Iranian drones. [HW](#)

Report: A U.S. administration source assessed that Moscow had purchased Iran's Mohajer-6 and Shahed-series UAVs.

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Camp...
(Continued From Page 1)



children and families with this warm welcome in an otherwise challenging world for children who learn differently.”

This is very encouraging as we are working hard to build a full inclusion program for our 2023 summer at MJCC Day Camp.

“Seeing the smiles on the campers’ faces, and the relationships built amongst the counselors and campers warms my heart every summer. Being a director who grew up here as a camper and a counselor, it just shows you that there is definitely a place for everyone

at MJCC Day Camp, and I hope to continue to foster this mentality for many years to come,” said Camp Director Juliana Kaitibi.

The MJCC doesn’t end camp after summer ends, we offer Camp 365 during all school breaks such as Fall Break, Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break and so much more! If your camper needs that summer camp fill during the school year, we encourage you to sign them up for swimming and fun during the school year breaks! **HW**

BBYO Regional Board Welcomes Seven Memphis Teens



Stella Blenn, Andy Blumberg, Lea Thomas, Ethan Evans, Sarah Hochman, Jonathan Mintz and Sydney Shanker

Mazel Tov to these seven new members of Regional Board who are members of Memphis BBYO!

We have representation from Kriger, River City and Okeon. These teens spent the last weekend in Memphis

attending their regional board retreat, where they learned strategies for the new year and ways to grow Memphis BBYO along with Delta Region! They are very excited to make an impact this year! **HW**

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Memphis Candlelighting Time

Erev Shabbat, Fri. September 9, 2022 / 13 Elul, 57826:58 p.m.
 Havdalah, Sat. September 10, 2022 / 14 Elul, 5782 7:52 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion: Kiteitzei

Satellite Images Show Russia Moves S-300 Air-Defense Missiles Out of Syria

(JNS) – An Israeli satellite-imaging company says Russia moved a battery of S-300 anti-aircraft missiles from Syria to a Russian port near Crimea.

The development seems to be an attempt to strengthen Russia’s air defenses in its war with Ukraine, reported *Reuters*. ImageSat International (ISI) collected

images of the S-300 anti-aircraft battery near Masyaf, Syria, in April. The vacant location, however, was left behind on Aug. 25 when the equipment was relocated to Tartus.

Separate photographs show the battery components on a port in Tartus between Aug. 12 and Aug. 17; they were gone by Aug. 20. ISI concluded that they had been transferred to a Russian warship, the Sparta II, which departed Tartus for the Russian port of Novorossiysk.

According to ISI images, the radar component of the S-300 battery was transferred separately from the same Masyaf base to the Khmeimim Air Base on the Syrian coast, north of Tartus. **HW**

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Chabad of Memphis to Lead a Trip to Israel!

Don't just see the land, capture a taste of its soul

Rabbi Levi and Rivky Klein, leaders in Memphis's Jewish community and co-directors of Chabad in Memphis, will be leading a trip to Israel called the Land and Spirit Israel Experience. People from across the Memphis area are invited to participate in an eight-day, one-of-a-kind VIP experience as they journey to Israel through Judaism's most holy and historical sites. From March 13 - 20, 2023, participants will be treated to a five-star experience that feeds their heart, mind and soul creating lifelong and life-changing memories.

The trip includes accommodations at top-rated hotels, gourmet kosher dining, VIP airport service, luxury buses and flexible itineraries.

The available experiences also include meeting leading Israeli personalities: chief rabbis, scholars, government officials, and top-level military and intelligence personnel; and even an exclusive visit to an IDF base and a chance to interact with active combat soldiers.

This is an opportunity to see Israel as never before.

"This trip includes many unique fea-

tures you will not find on any other trip of its kind" said Rabbi Levi Klein, who has led many trips to Israel over the years. "It's a once in a lifetime, five-star experience," and travelers can customize the itinerary based on their preferences.

"This is an incredible opportunity for anyone looking to travel to Israel and see the Jewish homeland. Whether it is the first time they see the country, or even if they have been to Israel before, this is a trip of a lifetime," he said, adding that previous groups filled up months in advance, and travelers should book soon, if interested.

The trip is a JLI - Jewish Learning Institute program and combines sightseeing and a complete learning experience.

Registration for the 2023 trip is well ahead of the pace of recent trips. Spaces will sell out soon and you are encouraged to make a commitment-free reservation today.

For more information, to view the trip itinerary online or register, you can visit: www.landandspirit.org or call Rabbi Levi or Rivky Klein at 901-754-0404. **HW**

Temple Israel Pack 25 and Troop 25 Annual Cookout and Open House

Temple Israel Pack 25 and Troop 25 invite you and your children to check out the programs at our first-of-the-year cookout to be held immediately after Sunday School on Sunday, Sept. 11 from noon-2 p.m.

Bring the whole family - girls and boys.

The open house features an obstacle course, four square, lawn darts, corn hole and other games for the youth. While parents can learn more about the program.

Scouting has been a part of the Temple Israel youth program for 104 continuous years. The Boy Scout Troop began in 1914 with Rabbi Fineshriber as the Troop Committee Chairman. (He had two boys in the troop in 1921.)

The program was opened to girls for Cub Scouts and Scouts/BSA (Boy

Scouts). Girls however must be in a separate troop and women leaders must always be present. The organization is still named Boy Scouts of America.

With the support of Rabbis Greenstein and Dreyfus, we invite you to learn more and join our Temple Youth Group.

Cub Scouts is a program within the Boy Scouts of America that serves youth from 6 to 10 years old. The Cub Scouts program aims to prepare youth to grow into self-reliant youth while having fun. You too will do more memorable things with your child.

The Boy Scout program is for boys 11-17.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. **HW**

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best

To do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law;

To help other people at all times;

To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law A Scout is:

Trustworthy

Loyal

Helpful

Friendly

Courteous

Kind

Obedient

Cheerful

Thrifty

Brave

Clean

Reverent

Israel Police Report Reveals Arab Drivers Responsible For 52% of Fatal Accidents

(Israel Hayom via JNS) - Despite being a minority population in Israel, Arab drivers are responsible for over half of fatal road accidents, an Israel Police report revealed last week.

On intercity roads, the numbers are even higher, with Arabs found to have been involved in 58% of all accidents and 60% of fatal ones, of which they were the cause 80% of the time, accord-

ing to the report.

Arab drivers were found to be involved in 36% of all traffic accidents, despite comprising only 19% of drivers. According to data, the majority of ac-

cidents involve young drivers, between the ages of 17 and 23.

"They [young Arab drivers] usually leave the village, go on a rampage, run amok and cause accidents," said a law-enforcement official. "We are dealing with a serious problem that goes beyond the police. We need to make this a priority. Unlike in Jewish society, where for example when a driver is stripped of his license, he stops driving. In Arab society, many continue to drive and endanger the lives of all drivers on the road."

The police report cited a lack of public transportation, longer commutes and the poor condition of vehicles in the Arab sector as contributing factors.

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

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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.

Thursday, September 8 Ask the Rabbi

Enjoy Rabbi Levi Klein during this question-and-answer period, which is always popular. As close as we are to the Jewish High Holy Day season, it will be even more meaningful.

Rabbi Klein is the founder and director of Chabad Lubavitch of Tennessee, which now has five branches across the state. He and his wife, Rivky, have been the Chabad emissaries in Memphis Tennessee, since 1994. Rabbi Klein was ordained at the Central Chabad Yeshiva in Brooklyn, New York in 1991. No reservations are required.

Tuesday, September 13 Video Comedy Series

The topic will be the comedy of George Burns and Gracie Allen! Burns and Allen were an American comedy duo consisting of George Burns and his wife, Gracie Allen. They worked together as a successful comedy team that entertained vaudeville, film, radio and television audiences for more than 40 years.

The duo met in 1922 and married in 1926. Burns played the straight man and Allen played a silly, addle-headed woman whose convoluted logic Burns was often ill-equipped to challenge. After their radio show's cancellation, Burns and Allen reemerged on television with a popular situation comedy, which ran from 1950 to 1958.

Burns and Allen's radio show was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in 1994. Their TV series received a total of 11 Primetime Emmy

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, stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org or calling the front desk at 901-761-0810. HW

Award nominations and produced what TV Guide ranked No. 56 on its 1997 list of the 100 greatest episodes of all time. They were inducted into the Television Hall of Fame in 1988. The videos will show many of their funniest moments from TV and Movies!

Thursday, September 15 Speaker: The Torah MiTzion Memphis Shlichim.

The group will talk about Rosh Hashanah in Israel. As we get close to the Jewish High holy days, it is nice to know how it is celebrated in Israel! Please come for this lively discussion.

Wednesday September 21 MJCC Larisa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Club Monthly Luncheon Featuring Deborah Swiney

Deborah is a local jazz, blues and popular vocal artist. You could close your eyes and imagine relaxing on a Copacabana or Ipanema beach. Being a Memphis native, you might even get a splash of blues. Deborah's affinity for music started at an early age with piano lessons and being active in music, whether in church or in school. Growing up in a musical family, music had no borders. Deborah has worked as a backup vocalist with the legendary Al Green and performed on the Oprah Winfrey Show, the Today Show and Carnegie Hall and has toured internationally. The kosher lunch and entertainment is only \$5! Reservations can be made by calling the MJCC Front Desk at 901-761-0810.

Jan. 6 Proud Boy Rioter Who Approached Chuck Schumer and Who Made Antisemitic Jokes in Chat Sentenced to 4.5 Years

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) – A federal judge handed down a 55-month prison sentence to a 40-year-old Proud Boy initiate who breached the Capitol on Jan. 6 and rushed toward Sen. Chuck Schumer.

The prosecution's sentencing recommendation noted that Joshua Pruitt, in his efforts to impress other Proud Boys, a far-right group, made antisemitic comments in encrypted chats.

U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly, addressing Pruitt last Monday, said that his sentence, one of the toughest so far in prosecutions of the hundreds of people charged in the deadly rioting, was informed in part by Pruitt's approach toward Schumer, the Jewish New York Democrat who was then the Senate minority leader.

"You did get into the building early, you did penetrate deeply into the building, you did damage property, you played a role in amping up the crowd, you did get very close to one of our national leaders," *The Washington Post* quoted Kelly as saying.

The prosecution's sentencing recommendation quoted Schumer's security detail as saying that once Pruitt recognized Schumer, who was fleeing the building, he rushed toward the senator.

It quotes an officer identified as Sergeant K.F. as telling the FBI that "he would never forget what he saw next: a bald, bearded man, wearing a black tank top with a Punisher logo, coming toward him. Sergeant K.F. identified that man as Pruitt. Pruitt and Sergeant K.F. made eye contact. Pruitt's speed toward



Pruitt poses on Jan. 6, 2021. Credit: U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

the detail – and Senator Schumer – began to increase."

It continues: "Special Agent M.L. saw Pruitt, too. He later estimated that Pruitt had been so close that he could have reached the Senator in four or five seconds."

In its sentencing recommendation, the prosecution also described Pruitt's entry into the Proud Boys just weeks before the rioting, and how he sought to enhance his credibility, including by making antisemitic statements in online chats. Joining in antisemitic derision of a Washington Post Op-Ed that likened Holocaust denial to election denial, Pruitt said: "Damn penny hoarders."

Former President Donald Trump spurred the deadly insurrection with a speech insisting that he did not lose the election.

Pruitt, *The Washington Post* reported, said at sentencing that he regretted participating in the insurrection, but also that he still believed the election was stolen. HW

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Democratic Activist Group Apologizes for Joking about Names of Jewish Politicians



New York State Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz of the Bronx.
Credit: New York State Assembly.

(JNS) – A left-wing Democratic activist group has apologized for poking fun at the names of U.S. House of Representatives candidate Dan Goldman and New York State Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, both Jewish, in a now-deleted Twitter post.

“We’re sorry – no anti-Semitism was intended, and we took this down when folks expressed concerns it could be taken the wrong way,” No IDC NY wrote on Twitter last Sunday.

In 2018, No IDC NY advocated against former members of the Independent Democratic Conference (IDC), who partnered with Republicans to maintain majority control of the Senate, according to its website. The group declared success when Democrats won the majority in the Senate, and most members of the IDC lost in the primaries.

In the tweet that was uploaded last Saturday, No IDC NY wrote: “The jerk buying a House seat with inherited money is ‘Goldman’ ... the IDC-adjacent Assembly member is ‘DINOwitz.’ Who came up with these names, Dickens?”

Bronx Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-N.Y.) criticized the tweet, with its references to the age-old trope linking Jews to power and money, as “dripping with anti-Semitism,” saying “the normalization of anti-Semitism is a sign of how poisonous our politics has become.”

Bronx-born Dinowitz, who represents District 81 in the Bronx, released a statement on Twitter in response to the offensive message by the Democratic group. He said, “I’ve been the target of anti-Semitic attacks from both the far-right and the far-left. This tweet from an extremist, anonymous account selectively singles out two Jewish politicians and is disgusting. It’s a classic display of anti-Semitism and should be condemned.”

A campaign spokesman for Goldman declined to comment when approached by the *New York Post*.

No IDC NY said last Sunday that the Twitter post “was a joke about the names that certainly would have been better not made, e.g. DINO stands for Dem in name only, and was not supposed to be riffing off their Jewishness; we do not tolerate anti-Semitism.”

The group added that it has since suspended the social-media account manager who posted the anti-Semitic tweet. **HW**

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U.S. Air Force's Middle East Commander Talks Alternatives to the White House's Touted Regional Air Defense Alliance

By Mike Wagenheim

(JNS) – The head of the U.S. Air Force's Middle East command says there is enthusiasm for regional defense partnerships, even after U.S. President Joe Biden's regional air-defense alliance proposal ran up against Gulf opposition.

"While some sort of a regional alliance faced – we'll say a cool reception – what did not face a cool reception is the idea that we could partner together in the region in order to gain better awareness of threats from the air or from the atmosphere, so [we will be prepared for] air and missile threats

that might come at us," Lt. Gen. Alexis G. Grynkeiwich, Commander, Ninth Air Force and the Combined Forces Air Component Commander for U.S. Central Command (more commonly known as AFCENT) told JNS.

Ahead of and during Biden's July trip to Israel and Saudi Arabia, the administration floated the idea of a Middle East air-defense alliance that would give participants more insight into potential aerial threats, including ballistic missiles and drones. Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz publicly proclaimed the Jewish state's participation in the project.

Grynkeiwich said in a briefing with reporters that Middle East leaders haven't warmed to the concept of a NATO-style alliance of states but support a looser partnership to piece together a clearer picture of air and missile threats across borders. Experts cited trust issues, along with problems of interoperability between various missile-defense systems.

Grynkeiwich says AFCENT and its partners are looking at how they can "stitch together the sensors that we have in the region so that we can account for the 360-degree nature of the current threat today." The major threat is the bal-

listic missiles and small armed drones used to attack and spy on U.S. forces and allies, many of them launched by Iran and its proxies.

"The issue with the ballistic missile threat is that it doesn't just emanate from Iran proper, but there are ballistic missiles that have been sighted with militant groups in Iraq, there's ballistic missiles in Syria; the Houthis down in Yemen have ballistic missiles. So, a threat to one of our partner nations or to U.S. forces and coalition forces in the region can really come from any direction," said Grynkeiwich, claiming the same is true about the unmanned aerial vehicle threat.

He said none of the nations in the region have the ability to protect themselves from all angles, but a partnership that incorporates more information-sharing while allowing nations skittish about a NATO-style alliance to still make their own sovereign defense decisions could work. "None of us have the resources to fully fill up that picture, but if we work together, we can stitch together the sensors that all of us have, and there's considerable capability, and build a much broader awareness that will cover most of that 360-degrees-of-access for most of the country," he told JNS.

'How do we share intelligence'

Separately, Grynkeiwich contended that a gap of over a week in between the Aug. 15 attacks against American forces at al-Tanf base by Iran-backed Syrian groups and the U.S. retaliatory airstrikes in Deir ez-Zor on Aug. 23 were unrelated to ongoing nuclear accord negotiations between Washington and Tehran. The Aug. 15 attack saw drones allegedly launched by Iranian-backed militias target the al-Tanf garrison used by American forces.

"We're going to defend our forces no matter when they're attacked or where they're attacked. We do so at the time and place of our choosing, and there is no connection to the Vienna talks," said Grynkeiwich. "When we think about the defense of our forces, that's an inviolable principle and we entirely compartmentalize that from other things that might be going on politically."

He also disavowed any notion that the U.S. strike on Aug. 23 was related to Israeli attacks on Syrian targets linked to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps at around the same time.

"We, of course, maintain a tight relationship with all of our partners in the region. The actions that CENTCOM (U.S. Central Command) and AFCENT took for self-defense are entirely disconnected from any other actors, whether it be Israelis or anyone else, and again, purely based on self-defense," said Grynkeiwich.

He noted the recent completion by U.S. Central Command Commander Gen. Erik Kurilla of an assessment of CENTCOM, coming 90 days after Kurilla took over his post. It is one Grynkeiwich describes as "partnerships over posture," which portends a smaller American troop footprint in the Middle East.

"Certainly, there is a minimum amount of that which we aim to keep in the region that allow us to exercise, to experiment, innovate with our partners here," said Grynkeiwich. "But the other big thing that we're looking at is how do we share information, how do we share intelligence, how do we gain a common understanding with each other?" **HW**

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Police Make Arrests in Connection to Three Attacks on Jewish Men in Brooklyn

(JNS) – New York City Police Department Commissioner Keechant Sewell said during a press conference last Monday that police have made arrests in connection to three hate-crimes incidents against Chassidic Jewish men that took place in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Williamsburg earlier in August, reported NY1.

Brooklyn resident Carrington Maddox, 31, was arrested on Aug. 25 for allegedly slapping in the face a visibly Jewish man, 27, who was walking down the street on Aug. 22. He was charged with aggravated harassment and menacing as a hate crime.

“No one deserves to be the victim of such senseless, hateful violence,” said Sewell during the press conference last Monday, according to NY1.

A 14-year-old boy was also charged last Monday afternoon in relation to two separate incidents on Aug. 21 in which victims were sprayed with a fire extinguisher.

In one case, a 66-year-old Jewish man was approached by a group who sprayed him with powder from a fire extinguisher and then punched him. The group fled the scene following the unprovoked attack. In a separate attack on Aug. 21, a 72-year-old Jewish man was approached by a group of unidentified individuals and sprayed with a fire extinguisher before the alleged attackers fled the scene. No injuries were reported.

The attacks on Aug. 21 took place minutes apart as the victims were walking to morning prayer services at their synagogue, said police.

Sewell also announced last Monday that there is now increased police patrol near synagogues in Williamsburg in light of the recent attacks.

“We remain focused on prevention,” she said. “The NYPD takes great pride in the work that we do each day and night whenever and wherever hate emerges.” **HW**



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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 • fa.wellsfargo.com/michael-stein

With tax season in the rearview mirror, this might be a good time to organize your records. Here are some guidelines to help decide what to keep and what to discard. Use a shredder when discarding paper records containing confidential information, and be sure that any electronic records are removed through a secure deletion process.

Tax records. Keep all personal tax records for three years after filing your return or two years after the taxes were paid, whichever is later. (Different rules apply to business taxes.) If you underreported gross income by more than 25% – not a wise decision – keep records for six years, and for seven years if you claimed a deduction for worthless securities or bad debt. It might be helpful to keep your actual tax returns, W-2 forms, and other income statements until you begin receiving Social Security benefits.

Financial statements. You generally have 60 days to dispute charges with banks and credit cards, so you could discard statements after two months. If you receive an annual statement, throw out monthly statements once you receive the annual statement. If your statements include tax information – for example, you use credit-card statements to track deductions – follow the guidelines for tax records.

Retirement plan statements. Keep quarterly statements until you receive your annual statement; keep annual statements until you close the account. Keep records of nondeductible IRA contributions indefinitely to prove you paid taxes on the funds.

Real estate and investment records. Keep at least until you sell the asset. If the sale is reported on your tax return, follow the rules for tax records. Utility bills can be discarded once the next bill is received showing the previous paid bill, unless you deduct utilities, such as for a home office.

Loan documents. Keep documents and proof of payment until the loan is paid off. After that, keep proof of final payment.

Insurance policies. Keep policy and payment documents as long as the policy is in force.

Auto records. Keep registration and title information until the car is sold. If you deduct auto expenses, keep mileage logs and receipts with your tax records. You might keep maintenance records for reference and to document services to a new buyer.

Medical records. Keep records indefinitely for surgeries, major illnesses, lab tests, and vaccinations. Keep payment records until you have proof of a zero

balance. If you deduct medical expenses, keep receipts with your tax records.

Other documents you should keep indefinitely include birth, marriage, and death certificates; divorce decrees; citizenship and military discharge papers; and Social Security cards.

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Mikhail Gorbachev, Soviet Leader Whose Reforms Included Letting Jews Leave for Israel, Dies at 91



Mikhail Gorbachev, Russian Politburo member and second in line at the Kremlin, announces the death of Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Dmitri Ustinov, before departing from Edinburgh Airport for Russia, in Edinburgh, Dec. 21, 1984. Gorbachev was on a week-long trip to Britain. Credit: Bryn Colton/Getty Images

By Ron Kampeas

(JTA) – Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader whose reforms, including allowing massive numbers of Jews to emigrate to Israel, changed his country and the world, died at 91.

Russian media said Gorbachev died last Tuesday in a Moscow hospital.

“Michail Gorbachev has died,” Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, Moscow’s chief rabbi from 1993 until this year, said last Tuesday on Twitter. “3 million Soviet Jews owe him their freedom.”

It was clear when Gorbachev rose to power in 1985 that he would be different from his predecessors as secretary general of the Communist Party. He was younger, more vibrant, more open to acknowledging where communism had fallen short in the Soviet Union.

But his rise was at first inauspicious for the movement that had sought for decades to allow Jews to freely emigrate. The Soviet regime prevented them from leaving and often punished them for seeking exit at all.

The number of Jews allowed to emigrate in 1985 was already low, 1,140, and slipped further to 914 in 1986. The sense among Soviet Jewry activists was that the new and relatively young leader was even more regressive than his predecessors.

His Western outlook seemed cosmetic. Visiting Britain in 1984 as a senior member of the Politburo, a year before his rise to leader, he shopped and joked – and snapped at a lawmaker who asked him about religious restrictions, “You govern your society, you leave us to govern ours.”

But then in 1987, the numbers of Jews emigrating began rising precipitously, reaching 185,000 in 1990, spurred in part by bold advocacy by American Jews that made releasing their Soviet brethren a politically wise maneuver for Gorbachev. At the same time, Gorbachev oversaw an end to restrictions on religious worship and most dramatically, opened the gates for the most famous of refuseniks and so-called “prisoners of Zion,” or those who had been imprisoned for their Zionist activity, including Natan Sharansky, Ida Nudel and Yosef Begun.

In a statement an aide delivered in 1991 at Babyn Yar, the killing field in Ukraine where Nazis launched the final solution seeking the annihilation of Jews, Gorbachev condemned all forms of antisemitism.

Gorbachev’s reforms affecting Jews were part of a much broader revolution he led to end the Cold War, the decades-long Soviet-U.S. standoff that many in the west feared would heat up into a nuclear conflict.

He and U.S. President Ronald Reagan joined in successful disarmament talks, and Gorbachev’s policies of perestroika (reconstruction) and glasnost (openness) introduced unprecedented freedoms of expression and organization to the Soviet Union. He decentralized the confederation, handing more power to the republics in a move that would eventually lead to their independence.

Gorbachev resigned after a failed coup in December 1991 that sought his ouster. He had bested the plotters but the economic uncertainty and the devolution of power created a sense of chaos and left him open to criticism that he was no longer the right man to lead Russia in an age of monumental transformation. He slipped into the obscurity of private life, much of which he spent with his beloved wife, Raisa, until her death in 1999.

Leaders of American and western Jewish organizations surprised themselves after his ouster by praising the leader of a nation they had once joined Reagan in reviling as an evil empire.

“Though Gorbachev was late in breaking out of the human rights gate, the positive changes he ultimately initiated would have been unthinkable to us in the Soviet human rights advocacy movement a decade ago,” the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, among the most strident of advocacy groups, said at the time.

A pocket of admiration endured in Israel, where Gorbachev got a hero’s welcome in 1992. He got awards, honorary degrees and, much to his bemusement, a new breed of potato named for him.

Gorbachev delivered during that visit a nuanced assessment of the antisemitism that had plagued his country. Antisemitism, he said, was “officially denied in policy but encouraged in practice.”

“In the days of Stalin, especially after World War II, antisemitism was introduced into domestic and foreign policy,” Gorbachev said. “Even after the death of Stalin, this state of affairs continued, but not in openly repressive forms.”

Speaking to a reporter after that speech, he said he also regretted the results. The exodus of what by then was at least 350,000 Jews, was, he said, a “loss for our land and society.”

Gorbachev had not publicly commented on Russia’s invasion this year of Ukraine, formerly part of the country he governed, although his foundation urged its speedy end. The invasion has cooled relations with the west that Gorbachev had warmed – and has spurred yet another wave of Russian Jewish emigration, to Israel and elsewhere. **HW**

OBITUARIES

S. Richard (Sonny) Bauman

S. Richard (Sonny) Bauman passed away in Sarasota, Florida, at the age of 91 on August 24, 2022. He is pre-deceased by his wife, Elise Bauman, and his sister, Joyce Bauman Wohlstetter. He is survived by his wife, Felice Rosenthal Bauman; his children, Joyce (Don) Friedman, Jan (Jean Pierre) Alotte and Brett Bauman; his stepchildren David Rosenthal (Debbie) Rosenthal, Elisa (Brad) Cohen, Trevor Rosenthal and Fabiola Alegre; his grandchildren Linzi (Mark) Feldman, Matt Friedman; and his “Gorgettes” Samantha (Kevin) Rosendahl, Emily Rosenthal, Lauren Cohen and Ally Cohen.

Anyone who ever met Sonny realized what a special person he was! Not a stranger to anyone, he always put others first and was the perfect Southern Gentleman. Always wearing his Duke cap and smile, you could not miss him! His favorite saying was “the sun will come up tomorrow!”

Sonny was born a natural athlete; lettering in boxing, tennis and swimming at CBHS, where he was a member of the Hall of Fame. Later he swam for Duke University. He was a member of the U.S. Air Force SAC represented the Air-Force in the World Games. He

finally quit swimming at 85, when he decided the water was too cold in the pool. He was a life-long Memphian and highly active in the local community. Over the years, Sonny was appointed to many mayor’s task forces for the city, he was most proud to be a charter and board member of the Liberty Bowl. He was also active in the Memphis Restaurant Association and many other organizations. Sonny spent 21 years lobbying for Memphis Downs Horse Track. He had great passion for Memphis Downs, as his father and grandfather raised and raced standard bred horses. Sonny was also active in the Memphis Home Builders Association where he served as president of and co-founded the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau. He owned and operated several hotels/motels and apartment projects. He also owned The Coach and Four, which many Memphians will remember with great fondness.

He was a lifelong member of Temple Israel. Sonny and Felice enjoyed an incredibly special 18 years together and considered themselves very lucky to have found each other. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. **HW**

Jerome Merrill Kaplan



Jerome Merrill Kaplan, 82, passed away peacefully August 28, 2022.

Jerome was a lifelong resident of Memphis, graduated from Central High School and Memphis State University. Jerome and his wife, Sherry, owned several successful businesses in Memphis. They opened a men’s clothing store “Male Call” and later created and ran “JIM Promotions,” a family business that still thrives today.

Jerome was a member of Baron Hirsch Synagogue. He was a member at Memphis Jewish Community Center and thoroughly enjoyed working out in the gym and participating in their senior adult lunches. He was also an avid golfer and loved playing the stock market.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ruth “Shug” Richardson, Benjamin Kaplan and stepfather Abe Richardson as well as his beloved wife, Sherry Kaplan.

He is survived by his daughters, Brenda (Mark) Curland, Michelle (Ed) Powell, four grandchildren, Jessica (Chris) White, Austin Curland, Will Powell, Alicia Powell and five great-grandchildren.

His funeral was held on August 30, 2022, at Baron Hirsch Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, his family requests that memorial donations be made to Baron Hirsch Synagogue, Memphis Jewish Community Center senior services program or to the charity of your choice. **HW**

Jewish Comedian Dan Levy Is Joining ‘Sex Education’

By Evelyn Frick

This first appeared on Alma. Reprinted with permission.

It’s been over two years since “Schitt’s Creek” went off the air and, like many of us, I am languishing without Jewish comedian Dan Levy in my life.

At first, it wasn’t so bad; the end of 2020 saw Levy starring in films like “Coastal Elites” and “The Happiest Season,” and in 2021 he hosted “Saturday Night Live” and voiced a character in the Netflix show “Q-Force” – plus, news broke that he will be hosting his own cooking competition, “The Big Brunch.”

But 2022 hasn’t been as kind to us Levites (a name of one of the 12 Tribes of Israel that I’m now repurposing as the name for fans of Dan and Eugene Levy). So far, Dan Levy has not been in any shows or movies, and there have been no prospects on the horizon.

Until today.

Per *The Hollywood Reporter*, Dan Levy is joining the cast of Netflix’s acclaimed dramedy “Sex Education” for its fourth season!! Apparently he will be playing Thomas Molloy, a cult author



Credit: Thomas Woods/Netflix

at a prestigious U.S. university who tutors main character Maeve. (At the end of season three, we learned that Maeve was accepted to a study abroad program in the States.)

Levy took to social media to announce his role in the show, calling it “VERY serious news.”

While Levy is not the first Jew on “Sex Education” (Jewish actress Jemima Kirke had a featured role in season three as headmistress Hope Haddon), here’s hoping that the latest season of the hilarious, progressive and sexy show will get an infusion of Jewish humor! **HW**

A Fifty-Year Waltz, and Counting



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

It was only a Junior Congregation Dance at Beth El Emeth Synagogue. But in Memphis, Tennessee, on a Saturday night in 1946, what choices did a 16-year-old have except for the picture show. And if you liked popcorn with your movie, an evening at the Rialto Palace could set you back 25 cents. The Synagogue Dance was free.

But Betty Grable and Ty Power awaited us at the Rialto Palace. The Junior Congregation Dance, on the other hand, featured Rhea Mendel and Marsha Klodkin with a supporting cast of the Sunday School graduating class. I'd seen that show. Then I reminded myself that alongside the dance floor, there'd be a short oilcloth covered table with plates of sticky donuts and sugar cookies. The equivalent of free popcorn. Whatta bargain. So, I went to the dance in the synagogue basement.

Good idea. Because, besides Mendel

and Klodkin and the crowd of extras who had overindulged for years on sugar cookies, there was a new star in the constellation of cuties that moved and grooved on the synagogue circuit. And as the poet says, she was a dove with dove's eyes.

Around, between, and behind the Sunday School graduating class, I watched her cautiously. I was so stunned by this newcomer that every platitude known to smitten suitors leaped into my consciousness all at once, headed by "Where have YOU been!!" This was the evening star peeping between the clouds of the Sunday School graduating class.

But nothing about our first meeting would have inspired Jackie Collins or Danielle Steele. It was more of a Louisa May Alcott moment. There was the usual third grade dialogue, which was beneath us since we were almost in high school and should have done better.

"Hi."

"Hello."

"Wanta dance?"

"I guess."

Not exactly zingy. But my radar screen lit up and my heart shrieked, TARGET! TARGET! TARGET! Easy does it, I thought. Be the patient tortoise who won the gold: not the herky jerky hare.

I remember trying to impress her with my maturity and adult conventionality

by remarking that the dance floor was slippery; because only an hour ago the basement floor, which we called the social hall floor, had been the dining room floor. And it still retained smidgens of pastrami droppings. "Gotta be careful, you could slip and turn your ankle," I remarked. (Forty years later I made her the same speech about getting out of the tub – only this time I worried about her hip.

Six or seven couples glided across that treacherous oily floor. The juke box watched and churned out hymns to romantic love, not lust. Inside, we bubbled like an agitated fifth of champagne. But the culture alchemized lust into something mildly civilized: like the Hoover Dam tames that rampaging river into a force that lights our lamps.

So, we danced carefully, under the baleful eyes of armies of chaperones. Only two dance forms were available to us: the hi-speed frenetic jitterbug, definitely not for lovers or talkers; and the walk-to-the-music-around-the dance-floor. Great for lovers because it allowed hand-holding and back touching. It was also OK to let your eyes flame with passion – if you knew how to do it without looking goofy. The walk-to-the-music was my choice since it also allowed me to show off my conversational skills about slippery dance floors and other hot topics that fascinated the

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young ladies of the synagogue circuit.

The two-armed torso clutch was only practiced in dimly lit dives. Definitely out. After all this was the synagogue basement.

Looking back fifty years to that dance in the basement of the Beth El Emeth Synagogue, I marvel. I was wise beyond my years. Somehow, I knew this was a marathon not a hundred-yard dash. We've danced demurely now for more than half a century. May it continue.

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

Insights From Israel Herzl is Home

By Howard Weisband

It's an old story, yet a new one, and constantly a renewing one.

At the end of August 1897, in the first days of the Hebrew month of Elul, following the First Zionist Conference in Basel, Switzerland, Theodor Herzl wrote in his diary:

"Were I to sum up the Basel Congress in a word – which I shall guard against pronouncing publicly – it would be this: At Basel, I founded the Jewish state. If I said this out loud today I would be greeted by universal laughter. In five years perhaps, and certainly in 50 years, everyone will perceive it."

Herzl's prophecy became reality on May 15, 1948, the 5th of Iyyar, when David Ben-Gurion read publicly the Declaration of Independence, which included:

We, the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish people in Palestine and the Zionist movement of the world... hereby proclaim the establishment of the Jewish State in Eretz Yisrael, to be called Israel.

Though Herzl had done hefty political and diplomatic work, met much opposition, and wrote his classic "The Jewish State" all in advance, in a very real

sense it all began in Basel. It was there that 208 delegates from 17 countries voted to work together to establish "a publicly and legally assured home" for the Jewish people in Palestine.

As I write this column, some 1,400 delegates, leaders, journalists, and entrepreneurs, from 40 countries are meeting once again in Basel, in celebratory fashion, in the very same hall, commemorating the 125th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress. The meetings have been convened by today's World Zionist Organization (WZO), which itself was created by the Zionist Congress in 1897.

The iconic picture of Herzl on his hotel balcony in a visionary pose overlooking the Rhine River is being reprinted again and again in the press, online, and within social media, this time with many current delegates posing as if they themselves were Herzl. The most striking of these is that of the President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, whose father Chaim Herzog and a former Israel President did the same.

President Herzog provided the keynote address. He stated: "Zionism is the ideal combination of Judaism's deepest roots with ground-breaking innovation and entrepreneurial spirit."

In that one sentence, he seems to have summarized Israel as The Jewish State and Israel as the Start-Up Nation.

Much commentary is being written about the current celebration in Basel. Some of the more perceptive comments that I read were found in an article by Maayan Hoffman in the Jewish News Syndicate (JNS). Prof. Yedidia Z. Stern, head of the Jewish People Policy Institute, told JNS that "the spirit was very optimistic, despite the fact that many of us feel that Jewish identity outside of Israel is eroding." He cautioned that "the Congress is a symbolic gathering where people talk. But we should take the next step." For example, he highlighted a pressing need for the U.S. and Israeli Jewish communities – the two largest communities in the world – to work together more effectively for a common future."

Yedidia's comments, Israel, and Herzl all reignited a personal, recent vignette. I was with a first-time visitor (not from Memphis) to Israel, walking the streets of Jerusalem. This was a gentleman, an accomplished professional, well educated, a traveller and speaker at international conferences. Though not a Jewish leader, he observed in his own

way Jewish holidays and attended synagogue services albeit not regularly. He himself chose to visit Israel. He asked me about a building he saw in Jerusalem that had been reconstructed, where every stone had a number on it. I explained that was the Stern House and its historical significance, that the stones were put back into place exactly as they originated, because that was the place that Herzl lodged in Jerusalem in 1898 during his only visit to Eretz Yisrael.

The visitor questioned: "Who was Herzl?"

Though I answered, I was stunned. Where had we failed?

Yes, Herzl is home, first in Basel, now in Israel.

But we still have so much work to do toward building a common future.

Howard Weisband served as Assistant Executive Director (1975-77) and Executive Director (1977-84) of the Memphis Jewish Federation. Following Aliyah with his family in 1986, he served as Secretary General of the Jewish Agency for Israel through 1997, and then in other senior professional positions in Israel. Now retired, he and Kayla live in Jerusalem. He can be reached at hweisband@gmail.com HW

Muslim Man in France Turns Himself in After Murdering Jewish Roommate with Ax



French police on patrol.
Credit: Wikimedia Commons.

(JNS) – A Jewish man was murdered in France by his Muslim roommate, the National Bureau of Vigilance against Anti-Semitism (BNVCA) said last Monday.

The murder reportedly took place in Longperrier, France, on Aug. 20. The victim was 34-year-old Eyal Haddad from Djerba, Tunisia, whose family lives in Beersheva, Israel.

"The assassination was committed by a Muslim suspect. The concern is

heightened by the silence surrounding this case," according to a statement obtained by i24 News.

The suspect, Mohamed Dridi, reportedly said that Haddad owed him \$100, but ultimately confessed that he killed Haddad with an ax and burned his face because he is a Jew, i24 News reported.

The body was found in a wooded area after his family from Israel called Dridi to check on Haddad, who then turned

himself in to police and told authorities where the body was located, reported the Jewish Press.

"A Jewish man was brutally murdered in #France and reports indicate that #anti-Semitism may be a factor," tweeted the Anti-Defamation League. "We support @Le_CRIF and the entire French Jewish community in demanding that police fully investigate whether the murderer had anti-Semitic motives." HW

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Kenneth Wayne Alexander II, 'Tower of Babel', 2021. Digital video. Courtesy of the artist.



Two Additional 'New York Times' Freelancers Caught Praising Hitler and Palestinian Terrorism

(JNS) – *The New York Times* has come under fire again for hiring freelancers with a history of anti-Semitic social-media posts.

Weeks ago, the paper severed ties with producer and fixer Fady Hanona, who repeatedly espoused anti-Semitic and anti-Israel hostility and spoke favorably of Adolf Hitler.

The watchdog site HonestReporting's investigation of Hanona uncovered social-media posts calling for the killing of Jews "wherever they are: children, elderly people and soldiers." Hanona wrote: "The Jews are sons of the dogs, and I am in favor of killing them and burning them, like Hitler did to them. I would be extremely happy." The post was accompanied by two smiling emojis.

The *Times* claimed it had only engaged with Hanona "in recent weeks" and was no longer doing so.

Now, HonestReporting has uncovered similar posts by two more freelancers.

Palestinian filmmaker Soliman Hijji, who contributed to the *Times* between 2018 and 2021, shared a photo of himself with a caption that roughly translates as "in a state of harmony as Hitler was during the Holocaust." In a 2012 Facebook post, Hijji wrote: "How great you are, Hitler." The *Times* has pub-

lished Hijji's work covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Freelance photographer Hosam Salem, who appears to be actively contributing to the *Times*, has expressed support for the terrorist group Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip.

According to HonestReporting, Salem expressed joy over the 2014 Har Nof massacre in Jerusalem, in which two Palestinian terrorists murdered four rabbis, including three Israeli-Americans, at a synagogue before killing a Druze police officer. Salem also praised Hamas's capture of the body of IDF soldier Oron Shaul, who was killed in 2014's "Operation Protective Edge." Additionally, he applauded Hamas terrorism and "called for more violence" after an attack killed two IDF soldiers in Judea and Samaria.

As recently as last year, Salem reportedly eulogized Gazan suicide bombers Mohammed Salem and Nabil Masoud, whose 2004 attacks on the Israeli port city of Ashdod killed 10 Israelis and led to the cancellation of a summit between the Israeli and Palestinian prime ministers.

According to HonestReporting, a *Times* spokesperson said the paper was looking into the two freelancers' social-media history. **HW**

Oregon's Swastika Mountain Will Soon Be Renamed



A view of the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon, the home of Swastika Mountain. Credit: Public domain

By Andrew Lapin

(JTA) – Fifty miles southeast of Eugene, Oregon, reaching an elevation of more than 4,000 feet, lies Swastika Mountain.

It's unknown how many Jews have climbed it. But the unfortunate name, nearly a century old, will likely soon be replaced thanks to the efforts of a local resident.

According to Willamette Week, resident Joyce McClain discovered the mountain's existence last year and petitioned the volunteer-run Oregon Geographic Names Board to change it. At a meeting this month, the board said it would support a name change to Mount Halo, named after Chief Halito, who led the area's Indigenous Yoncalla Kalapuya tribe in the 1800s.

The name change is pending tribal approval, but could be implemented as soon as next year.

The history of Swastika Mountain predates Nazi Germany. It was named after the now-defunct town of Swastika, which in turn acquired its name because a local rancher used to brand his

cattle with the symbol. Before the Nazis turned the swastika into a globally recognized symbol of hate, it signified good fortune and well-being in Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism.

The saga of Swastika Mountain is hardly the first time people have sought a name change for a local landmark named after the symbol. In 2017, the town of Puslinch in Ontario, Canada, voted against renaming a privately owned road called "Swastika Trail," despite the advocacy of groups including B'nai B'rith Canada. The battle over Swastika Trail continued for years, with a court ruling in 2019 against efforts to force the town to change the name. The Canadian House of Commons taking up the cause in 2021, but the name still stands today, as does the name of the small town of Swastika, Ontario.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, an effort in 1933 to change the name of a "Swastika Avenue" in Montreal was opposed by a Jewish alderman at the time, who said, "The name is carried by a lane, which is quite appropriate to the name... It is infested with rats." **HW**

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