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Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

28 ELUL, 5783

Making the Case for Giving



Judy Lansky, Director of Development for Memphis Jewish Federation

The vision of the Memphis Jewish Federation is "to develop a vibrant and sustained Jewish community in Memphis, Israel, and around the world." During the 2023 Federation Annual Community Campaign, the Memphis Jewish community raised \$3.6 million to take care of the needs of our local and Jewish family

HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM

and build a vibrant Jewish future.

Hello. I'm Judy Lansky, director of development for the Memphis Jewish Federation. I have the privilege of working alongside colleagues, lay leaders, friends, and supporters to bring the Federation's vision to life.

When I am out in the community shar-

ing Federation's goals for the future, I love to refer to our grant card, which shows how the dollars raised in 2023 were allocated to develop and sustain our local and global Jewish community.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

The grant card shows the combined \$301,998 Bornblum Jewish Community School and Margolin Hebrew Academy received for their students. It shows we were able to allocate \$48,655 for camp scholarships and grant Plough Towers \$45,414 for programming. It highlights our funding to Jewish youth groups and our support for Memphis Jewish Home and Rehab and the Memphis Jewish Community Center. We also granted \$914,625 to the global Jewish community.

I believe the grant card is a powerful tool in demonstrating our Jewish community's generosity, but what is even more powerful is our ongoing commitment to these agencies and programs. We provide critical funding, year after year. Each year, we make it possible to live our vision and grow our active and special Jewish community.

But the needs keep growing.

We want to keep supporting our grantee organizations at the same level, but there's more work to do. When a Jewish leader calls you this year and asks for your 2024 Annual Community Campaign gift, please consider an increase. The grant card highlights ongoing needs, but we must also support emerging needs.

This year, we are focused on raising more money to:

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- 1. Secure our community by covering rising security costs and our ability to continue to provide services to ensure the safety of our Jewish institutions.
- 2. Develop the next generation of leaders by building tomorrow's leaders through programming and engagement efforts focused on leadership development.
- 3. Confront antisemitism by investing in community relationships, coalition building, and educational initiatives to bolster awareness of antisemitism and how to address it.

Your dollars matter. They matter for the little girl who dreams about summer camp all year. They matter to our seniors who receive hot kosher meals. They matter to the new Jewish families who are lovingly welcomed into our community. And they matter for so many more.

Before anyone calls you to ask for an Annual Community Campaign gift, let me extend my gratitude for your generosity this year and for many years to come. If you want to discuss our Annual Community Campaign and ways you can give, I would love to hear from you. Email me at <code>jlansky@jcpmemphis.org</code> or call <code>901-761-7100</code>.

I can't wait to see what the future holds for our Jewish community – thank you for being a part of that bright and vibrant future. **HW**

MJCC Summer Camp: It's All About Fun, Learning and Community Connections



As school has started, walking the halls of the MJCC now feels empty and too quiet. While the nine weeks of camp bring noise, energy and a bit of chaos,

it is not until you sit in the quiet reflection that you miss the spirit and joy that summer brings. With a record number of 704 individual campers who joined us this summer, there was no shortage of fun, laughter and noise echoing throughout the campus.

For the last 73 years the MJCC Day Camp has been focused on providing a fun, safe and enriching atmosphere for all campers who attend. While we continue to grow and adapt, there is one aspect of camp that not only stands the test of time but also becomes more important in today's world: the power of community. With all we offer at camp, the base line we focus on is creating a space where community and coming

(See MJCC Camp Page 3)



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Rosh Hashanah Services to Resume at Memphis Jewish Home

By Baylee Less

Rosh Hashanah Services at Memphis Jewish Home are back, and we want you to come! Services will be led by Lester Lit, who has helped lead Rosh Hashanah services for many years. We are very grateful for his volunteered time to assist with this effort.

It's a tradition the residents at the Home have truly grown fond of – opening their doors to the community for Judaism's holiest days – and one that the volunteers have also always loved.

"It's one of the highest mitzvahs, to help form a minyan for our seniors, to help them observe our rituals for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur," says Maurice Buring, long-time board member of the Home.

The residents are always engaged with the services as well, reading passages and singing their favorite tunes. This year, the Home's doors will be open once again to community members for High Holy Days services. They hope you will join them!

Rosh Hashanah services will be held on Saturday, September 16 and Sunday, September 17 at 9 a.m. with lunch to follow. If you have any questions regarding services, please contact Maurice Buring at (901) 230-6343. If you would like to attend services at the Home, please RSVP to Baylee Less, Director of Development, at bless@memphisjewishhome.org. HW

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9/14/2023



Memphis Candlelighting Time

Rosh Hashannah

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

September 3, 2023

Dear Editor:

We live in a woke society where everyone has to be on edge about pronouns, identity, color and ethnicity, yet somehow it's permissible for the Jewish media to identify the HAREDI man who is seducing women using a secular identity on dating sites. If this were a Black man, would you say "Black Man

Charged...?" I doubt it. Or how about Reform Jewish Man Charged..., Modern Orthodox Man Charged or Conservative Man Charged?

No, because he's Haredi, you discriminate and assume he is above the law, strict in his observance and this makes it a more sensational story than someone who is just Jewish but not observant.

I am not condoning what he did at all, I think it's horrible how he manipulated these women. The fact is this man has a sexual addiction. As a Certified Sex Addiction Therapist, I see these cases every day and have for the past 10 years. This addiction does not discriminate by religiosity, religion, race, ethnicity, age or orientation.

SCOODS

Making realty dreams a reality in 5784





To date there are 35,000 Jewish people of all denominations, who subscribe to a website called http://guardyoureyes.com, which helps Jewish men and women deal with the devastation this addiction causes. Stories of broken marriages, betrayal trauma, shame, guilt and depression are all expressed vividly on their forum. Jews helping Jews recover from today's epidemic of inappropriate internet and "smart" phone use.

Imagine, Jewish people represent .2% of the entire world population and the people who struggle are just the tip of the iceberg, how many millions of people are being exposed to the worst kinds of images, human trafficking, access to the dark web and sexual violence. Children of 9 and 10 years old are being exposed. The website CultureReframed.com reports that 1 in 3 children see hardcore porn by the age of 12. 1 billion children are being expose globally where 88% of the scenes contain violent images.

This is a worldwide epidemic and to sensationalize one Haredi man's indiscretions when millions of people are doing the same thing and suffering, is not only wrong, it's racist.

Allan J. Katz, LPC/CSAT Rediscovery Counseling & Coaching Memphis, TN 38119 http://allanjkatz.com HW

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MJCC Camp...

(Continued From Page 1)

together with others fuels the spirit of camp. Camp is special in this aspect; fun is at the center but through all the programming the true golden nuggets are the connections we make.

The connections the campers made this summer, both with other campers as well as with the counselors, were obvious to anyone who heard the conversations and laughter throughout the day. These connections were enhanced through the programming provided by the counselors and specialists. We had a variety of specialists on campus this summer: Theater, Israeli Scouts, Art, Creative Movement, Sports, STEAM, and activities with Maayan, the Community Shlicha. There were also unit activities, field trips, instructional swim and free swim, late-nights, an endof-summer bash and so much more.

Camp is also an opportunity for counselors to connect with other counselors as well as camp administration. If you have ever worked as a camp counselor, you most likely reflect on that time as organized chaos and tiring; a job you chose because you needed a summer job, wanted to hang out with your friends, and enjoyed being around campers. When you further reflect on that time you realize camp was a space where, through working, playing, laughing, singing, talking and experiencing life with others, you grew and strengthened yourself. Personal growth through the connections we make and the community we become a part of is a unique aspect of camp that is not easily replicated.

This summer was more than just fun. It was a place where kids and counselors learned and grew, all in the name of community.

Thank you to everyone who made this summer possible, and we cannot wait until Summer Camp 2024!

The MJCC Day Camp doesn't end camp after summer ends. We offer Camp 365 during all of the school breaks such as Fall Break, Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break, and others! If your camper misses the games, swimming, songs, and fun of summer camp, we encourage you to sign them up for Camp 365! HW





Summer fun at MJCC Camp

Three-and-a-Half-Inch Gemara **Auctioned**

(JNS) - The Talmud, which consists of 63 tractates, is generally thought to be a vast body of religious literature. Yet an auction house in Toms River, N.J., is selling an edition of the Gemara that



Studying Gemara in the Old City of Jerusalem. Credit: Wikimedia

takes a page from the Volkswagen Beetle ad campaign: "Think small."

On Sept. 4, Royal Auction House sold what it calls the "world's smallest Gemara ever printed."

The tiny edition of tractate Sukkah was printed in 1722 in Frankfurt, Germany. The auction house describes the book as nine centimeters in size (roughly 3.5 inches), although it doesn't specify which dimension of the book that measurement refers to.

The book's title page specifies that the tiny size facilitated the transportation of

"A complete copy in a condition such as this is of utmost rarity. Out of all Masechtos, only tractate Sukkah was published in this miniature format," per the auction house. "The reason for the printing of this specific tractate is unknown, however we can surmise that learning and memorizing tractate Sukkah in such a way was highly common in Eastern Europe."

An aid for memorization, the book contains just the text of the Gemara, without the commentaries typical in most printed Gemaras.

Some have connected the leather-bound book to the reign of King Frederick William I of Prussia. The auction house [sold the Gemara on Monday for \$7,000 – higher than the \$4,000-\$6,000 expected top bid.]

In what the seller refers to as a "truly unique anecdote which brings us back to the 18th century," the text's original owner wrote on the last page that the bookbinder had cut things too close, covering some words. The inscription reproduces the lost words. HW



GERMANTOWN TOTAL UPDATE



2923 Cross Country Drive

Owners totally updated to their exacting specs as they hadn't planned on moving so soon. For \$525,000, you get Granite, Gas, Stainless, 14 Cabinets, 14 Drawers, 3 New Heating/Air Conditioning systems, New Lighting, Drainage, Landscaping 4BR & Playroom...and...a...COOOL POOOL! Over \$150,000 in improvements! Remember...

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Selecting Trustees: How to Make the Right Choice

By Benjamin I. Wachtel, Esq. and David L. Mendelson, Esq.

When discussing and designing the blueprint for a Will or Trust, clients often ask us "who should we appoint as Successor Trustees or Executors?" or "what factors should we consider in appointing Successor Trustees or Executors?" Trustees are individuals in a trust who are tasked with carrying out the terms of the trust and, sometimes, investing and maintaining trust assets. Trustors are the individuals who set up the trust and typically appoint Successor (backup) Trustees. Successor Trustees play a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth implementation of a trust when the Trustor is no longer able to manage their assets or has passed away. Here are three (3) things we recommend Trustors consider when appointing Successor Trustees:

Consideration 1 – Trust

Trust is the number one attribute we advise our clients to consider and look out for in appointing Trustees. It may seem cliché or obvious, but individuals with integrity who speak and act the truth are typically the ideal Trustees and fiduciaries. When a Trustor is no longer competent or alive to manage his or her assets, it is paramount that the individuals appointed to step in the Trustor's shoes – the Successor Trustees – are trustworthy individuals. So, whether it be family members, friends, or corporate institutions, we advise our clients to first ask, "can I trust this entity with my



dm@mendelsonfirm.com

legacy?" If the answer is no or if there is even a modicum of hesitation, said entity is likely not the correct entity to appoint as your Successor Trustee, Executor or fiduciary.

Consideration 2 – Financial Know-How

Financial acumen is another critical attribute to assess when selecting Trustees. Trustees often bear the responsibility of making financial decisions related to trust assets and investments. Depending on the trust's type and terms, Trustee duties may include investment decisions, discretionary distributions, or even hiring financial professionals to manage trust assets on behalf of beneficiaries.

Trustees with financial maturity, a solid grasp of financial principles, and relevant experience are more likely to make sound investment choices and manage trust assets effectively.

Consideration 3 – Should a Co-Trustee Be Appointed?

In many cases, it's advisable to ap-

point a co-Successor Trustee to work alongside other designated Trustees, such as family members or close acquaintances. While one Trustee may lack financial expertise, they may compensate with a strong bond with beneficiaries or the family. In such instances, a co-Trustee, which could be a corporate entity like a bank or a trust department, can provide invaluable support in areas where the primary Trustee may lack experience or knowledge.

Having a co-Trustee introduces an additional layer of oversight and accountability to the trust administration process. Co-Trustees often need to make unanimous decisions, which foster checks and balances, especially concerning asset and investment management. This collaborative approach ensures that the Trustor's wishes are upheld while minimizing the risk of financial mismanagement.

All in all, the appointment of Successor Trustees or Executors in estate planning is a decision that should not be taken lightly. Trust, financial acumen, and the potential inclusion of a co-Trustee are all key factors to consider when making these choices. By carefully evaluating these attributes, Trustors can rest assured that their legacy will be managed responsibly and in accordance with their wishes, providing peace of mind for themselves and their beneficiaries. **HW**

Yankee Stadium's 'Secret Kosher Kitchen' Revealed



Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, New York, 2010. Wikimedia Commons.

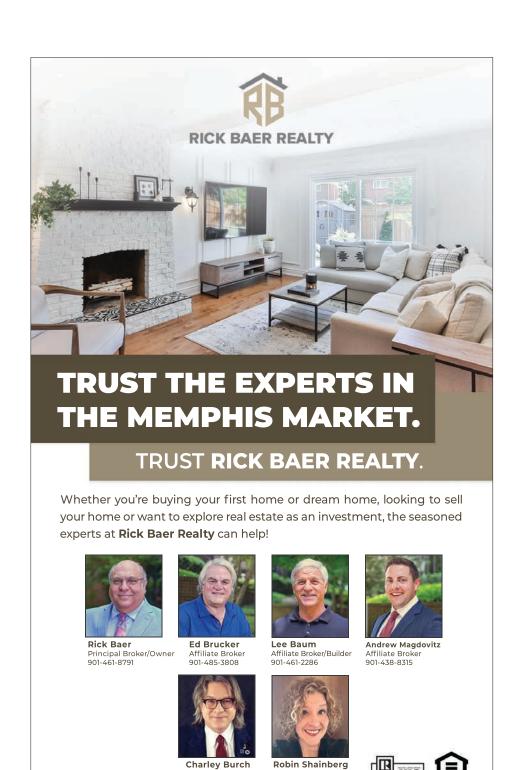
(JNS) – One of the most iconic baseball stadiums anywhere has a "secret kosher kitchen." That's according to the blog YeahThatsKosher.com.

"Well, maybe it's not exactly a secret, but very few people know where it is," Nati Burnside writes of Yankee Stadium's "secret" elevator, which leads to a door that can only be opened with two keys simultaneously. The New York Yankees only own one.

"This isn't some top-secret office for the owner. Nor is it some clandestine operation by the team's analytics department. It's not even something like the central security hub or the location of a vault," he writes. "It's the kosher kitchen."

Burnside calls the operation, certified by the Star-K, "unprecedented" at a sporting venue. Matt Gibson, the park's senior executive chef, told the blog that he had limited knowledge about kashrut but has "enjoyed learning more about kosher food and religion over the years."

The kitchen prepares food for 700 people nightly, with five mashgichim kashrut supervisors on duty, including to distribute the food around the park. HW



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THANK YOU

\$50,000

awarded to

38 CHILDREN AND TEENS

in need-based camp scholarships

250+

attendees

at the **Women's Impact**

Luncheon celebrated the contributions

of Memphis Jewish Federation It is my honor to thank you for your support and generosity during our 2023 Annual Community Campaign. Our donors, leaders, partners, and sponsors raised \$3.6 million, and enabled Federation and our grantee organizations to make an impact in Memphis, Israel, and around the world. On behalf of Federation leadership, I extend our deepest gratitude for your commitment.

You make it possible to strengthen Jewish lives globally and improve lives in our community.

Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

Scott Notowich

Chair, Memphis Jewish Federation

Awarded

\$456,789

to support our day schools, religious schools and youth groups

\$20,000

in antisemitism
microgrants awarded
to nine local Jewish
and Memphis
community
organizations

Jewish Agency for Israel provided critical services to

7.000

vulnerable seniors

living in
50 agency-sponsored
senior residences

HOLIDAY

GIFT BAGS delivered to

600

isolated
Jewish seniors

Provided vital funds for

81

security touches

to help ensure community saftey

Joint Distribution Committee provided

20

MILLION HOURS

of **home health care**

to vulnerable, elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union

314

Memphis Jewish children received

Jewish-themed books & music through **PJ Library** 23,000+

senior meals served and delivered 300+

on Leadership Sunday and Monday 1.700+

MEMPHIANS participated in Israel at 75 programs

Lion of Judah welcomed EIGHT NEW LIONS

making Memphis Lions

142

MEMBERS STRONG

150+

young adults gathered on Thanksgiving eve for our inaugural Reunion fundraiser 475+

guests attended community-wide Yom HaShoah Commemoration

\$750,000

in state funding secured to support security personnel needs for TN faith-based organizations

\$250,000 and Above

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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. The Monthly Luncheon Begins at Noon.

The Senior Staff and all the Seniors would like to wish Everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!!

Monday, September 18 Speaker Kristin Miller, "The ABC'S of Medicare!"

With the Medicare Enrollment period fast approaching, this is a topic all seniors need to hear. Regardless of how long someone has been with a certain supplier for their Medicare, it can change every year. Come hear this important talk. Reservations are not required.

Wednesday, September 20 Team Trivial Pursuit

This fun game uses the questions from Trivial Pursuit in a team setting with prizes handed out to both the first and second place teams. Come check out this fun activity.

Monday, September 25
The MJCC will be closed for Yom
Kippur

Wednesday, September 27 Monthly Luncheon at 12 p.m.

This fun event will feature singer Candace Mache and her accompanist. Steeped in classic blues and jazz, Candace has the sultriness of Peggy Lee and the soul of Nina Simone. Candace is equally at home in an intimate New York nightclub or setting the tempo for the Swing dance set in New Orleans. Experience her dynamic and soulful approach to classic American songs. Candace comes to the luncheon through a partnership with Creative Aging. Please



The Monthly Luncheon Features
Candace Mache

call the MJCC Front desk at 901-761-0810 and make your reservations, no later than the day before by 1 p.m. The cost is only \$5 and can be paid at the door.

Please come join us from Monday through Friday for a delicious Kosher lunch from the Kitchens at the Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab. The cost is only \$2.00 for seniors. Reservations are required the day before by 1 p.m. Please call Steve Kaplan, Adult Services Coordinator, at 901-259-9220 or email him at stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org. One can also call the front desk at 901-761-0810 to make a reservation. HW

Israelis Find Biomarker for Possible Relapse-Free Lung Cancer Treatment

By Pesach Benson

(JNS) – Israeli researchers have identified a biomarker that might revolutionize lung cancer treatment.

A Weizmann Institute of Science study's findings introduce a new avenue for personalized medicine that could lead to relapse-free treatment for certain lung cancer patients.

Common treatments for lung cancer include operations to remove tumors or portions of the lung, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and immunotherapy, which take a toll on the body. Newer medications have varying degrees of effectiveness, but long-term success has been elusive because the cancerous tumors develop secondary mutations that enable them to resist therapy.

While most lung cancer is due to tobacco smoking, the next largest cause – one that affects nonsmokers – is characterized by mutations in a gene called EGFR.

The study, led by Professor Yosef Yarden of Weizmann's Immunology and Regenerative Biology Department, that may allow physicians to identify lung cancer patients who are suitable candidates for a singular antibody-based drug. This drug could potentially induce full remission without the threat of relapse.

The study was published recently in the peer-reviewed "Cell Reports Medicine."

The team's key breakthrough came when Dr. Ilaria Marrocco, a former postdoctoral researcher in Yarden's lab, noticed a commonality among patients with EGFR-positive lung cancer: They were all treated with a standard multidrug protocol, regardless of the specific EGFR mutations in their tumors. This approach inevitably led to drug resis-

tance and cancer relapse.

This observation prompted the researchers to seek a biomarker that could predict patient responses based on their unique EGFR mutations.

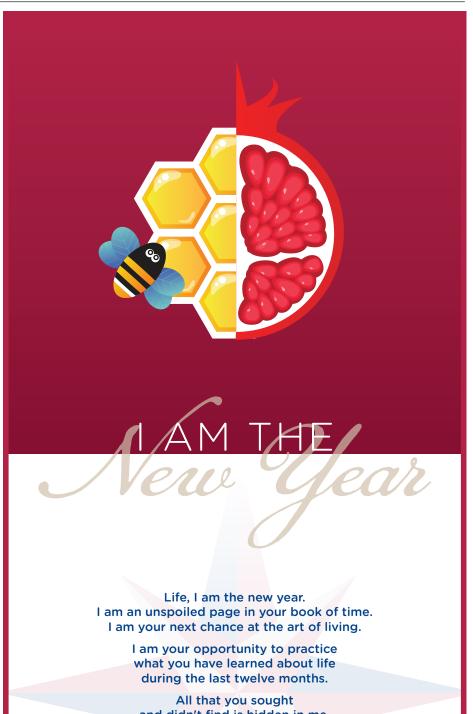
Their attention turned to the L858R mutation that affects approximately 40% of EGFR-mutated lung cancer patients. This mutation influences EGFR function in a distinct manner, causing receptors to pair up in the cancer cell membrane. Without this pairing, signals crucial for cellular replication are disrupted, preventing tumor growth.

To test this concept, the scientists used an antibody drug called cetuximab (Erbitux), which blocks the receptor pairing. In a mouse model with the L858R mutation, tumors regressed and didn't reappear even after an extended period. This finding suggests that for patients with this mutation, a single drug might offer a path to complete recovery without relapse.

The findings also shed light on why previous attempts to treat EGFR-mutated lung cancer with Erbitux failed. By preselecting patients with the L858R mutation, therapy could be effectively tailored to their specific mutation profile, possibly preventing the emergence of secondary mutations.

The researchers are now preparing for a clinical trial to validate the treatment's effectiveness in humans, leveraging Erbitux's existing approval for other cancer types. This discovery could reshape clinical practices and offer hope for lung cancer patients carrying the relevant mutation.

Collaborating in the study were researchers from Italy and Japan. **HW**



and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it out with more determination.

All the good that you planned

and didn't achieve
is mine to grant
when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'

I am the new year.

Warmest wishes for a year filled with light and love; with health and happiness; with peace and prosperity.

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Rose Flenorl, FedEx's Force for Good in Memphis and Globally, to Speak at Beth Sholom on Yom Kippur



The title of Rose J. Flenorl's Yom Kippur Symposium talk is "Memphis as a Place of Vision: Creating Globally Minded Citizens."

Rose J. Flenorl, who serves as Manager of Global Citizenship and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at FedEx Corporation and is a driver of positive change on Memphis, the city that FedEx calls "home," will be the guest speaker at Beth Sholom Synagogue's annual Yom Kippur symposium on Monday, September 25 at 4 p.m. Her talk is entitled "Memphis as a Place of Vision: Creating Globally Minded Citizens."

"Rose commits herself to focusing on inclusion and ensuring that the voices of minorities are given a seat at the table," explains Rabbi Sarit Horwitz, the spiritual leader of Beth Sholom. "We, as Jews, are a minority, and it's so valuable to have allies and advocates for us. And, as Jews, part of our mandate is to ensure that no one is stuck on the margins. We have so much to learn from Rose, and I am thrilled that she will be joining us on Yom Kippur."

Flenorl is a two-time recipient of FedEx Five Start Award, the corporation's highest individual honor. She has received awards from other organizations, including the Salvation Army Partner in Mission Award, the Memphis Grizzlies

Community Hero Award, the Girl's Inc. "She Knows Where She's Going Award," the Girls Scouts' "One Smart Cookie" Award, The Tri-State Defender Women of Excellence Award, the Tennessee Women in NAACP Frances Dancy Hooks Award, the AKA Sorority South Eastern Region Vanessa Rogers Long Humanitarian Award, the National SCLC President's Award, and recognition as a Dress for Success Worldwide honoree.

Flenorl has spearheaded the FedEx MLK50 campaign that unites community organizations and FedEx employees in Memphis and beyond to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She also serves as a member of the board of directors of Renasant Bank, the National Civil Rights Museum, and Memphis Tourism. Nationally, she represents FedEx on the Conference Board Corporate Social Responsibility Council.

Flenorl's star began to shine early on. She earned a B.A.Ed. degree in English and Journalism from the University of Mississippi and became the first African American female to be inducted into the Ole Miss Student Hall of Fame. She served as National President of the Ole Miss Alumni Association in 2008, board chair of the University of Mississippi Foundation in 2015-16, and is a charter member of the Ole Miss Women's Council.

"Yom Kippur is our most introspective of holidays," Rabbi Horwitz says. "Our tradition asks us to engage in serious reflection on that day, to consider how we want to move forward in the year ahead. We're asked to consider how we may have missed the mark, and in what ways we can do better. Beth Sholom invites speakers, such as Rose Flenorl, who engage with those kinds of questions on a city-wide level. It's a chance for us to think about the way our society at large grapples with growing and changing and doing better." HW

Who's the one person you shouldn't travel without? Jour Travel Advisor Debbie Rosenthal (901) 682-5600 drosenthal.dreamvacations.com drosenthal@dreamvacations.com



NJ Township Will Pay \$575,000 to Settle Lawsuit Alleging Discrimination Against Orthodox Jews

By Jackie Hajdenberg

(JTA) – New Jersey's Jackson Township has settled a state lawsuit alleging that it used local ordinances to discriminate against Orthodox Jews, after settling both a federal complaint and a private lawsuit based on similar claims.

In the settlement with the state attorney general, Jackson Township will pay \$575,000 in penalties and restitution funds, repeal the ordinances that allegedly target Orthodox Jews and adopt new policies and procedures that protect religious freedom. It will also form a multicultural committee composed of residents that will meet quarterly to combat discrimination, and local officials will undergo anti-discrimination training.

"No one in New Jersey should face discrimination for their religious beliefs," Attorney General Matthew Platkin said in a statement. "We are firmly committed to eliminating discrimination and bias across our state, and we expect local leaders to comply with our robust anti-discrimination laws."

The settlement comes after years in which officials and community groups in and around Jackson have been accused of trying to push out Orthodox residents. Jackson borders the heavily Orthodox city of Lakewood, and Orthodox Jews have moved into the surrounding towns as Lakewood's population has swelled.

Activists organized to oppose the arrival of the new residents, including one group that repurposed a famous anti-Nazi poem to cast Orthodox Jews as a threat to the area's quality of life. In 2019 and 2020, there were multiple instances of swastika graffiti on Jewish-owned property in Jackson.

Local Jewish leaders accused the activists as well as local officials of antisemitism, with a synagogue suing Jackson in 2014 for barring it from building a girls' high school. In 2020, the U.S. Justice Department sued Jackson, alleging that it banned religious boarding schools to keep out Orthodox residents. Jackson settled the federal

suit last year for \$200,000 and a repeal of the boarding school ban. It settled the synagogue's suit in January for \$1.35 million.

The state attorney general filed its suit in 2021, alleging that the township had adopted discriminatory zoning and land use ordinances as well as enforcement practices that targeted Orthodox Jews. The suit said those practices violated New Jersey's anti-discrimination law.

According to the complaint, which was filed by the previous state attorney general and the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights, the township engaged in discriminatory surveillance of the homes of Orthodox Jews, hoping to spot prayer gatherings that contravened local ordinances. (The city of Miami Beach in Florida recently agreed to pay a single congregation \$1.3 million after facing a lawsuit over similar allegations.)

The complaint alleged that the township applied land use laws and zoning ordinances unfairly to inhibit the construction of yeshivas and dormitories as well as sukkahs, the temporary huts built for the fall festival of Sukkot. And it said the town effectively banned the creation of an eruv, or symbolic boundary made of string that allows observant Jews to carry items outdoors on Shabbat.

Under the terms of the settlement, Jackson is required to notify the state of any decision or regulation that would affect local religious land use or practice. The state will monitor the township's compliance with the settlement requirements for three years.

"Religious freedom is a bedrock principle of American democracy, and we are deeply committed to protecting it here in New Jersey," Sundeep Iyer, director of the state Division on Civil Rights, said in a statement. "As hate and bias – including against the Jewish community – continue to rise, it is critical that we call out religious discrimination when we see it, and it is especially important that we hold public officials accountable when they treat people differently based on their faith." HW

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Embrace the Spirit of the High Holy Day Season at Temple Israel













By Anna Bearman and Melinda Lejman

As we prepare for the High Holy Days in the coming days and weeks, the Temple Israel clergy team has once again curated a season meant to engage mind and spirit, rich in reflection, inspiration and music. We hope you will join us for the most significant Jewish season of the year as we embrace the spirit of the High Holy Days.

The 5784 High Holy Days will offer an exciting array of new faces, offerings and opportunities to connect with one another and our Judaism. We are especially thrilled to bring back Happie Hoffman to bring to life the music of the High Holy Day services alongside Emily Groff Heilborn, Temple Israel's Music & Cantorial Director.

If you crave something different this

High Holy Day season, we hope you will join us for a unique alternative to our traditional morning services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The Awakening service, designed by Rabbi Ross Levy and Emily Groff Heilborn, is a musical journey that elevates spirit and voice, provides reflective moments for deep personal insight, and has a participatory "in-the-round" setting for genuine connection. This is different from your standard sit-and-listen kind of service. It's interactive, intimate, and designed to make you feel part of something much bigger. These services will occur at 9 a.m. on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Reimagining spirituality and our connection to God, Rabbi Jeff Dreifus and

Emily Groff Heilborn will once again lead a Spirit Walk and Tashlich service at Shelby Farms Park on Sunday, September 17, at 4 p.m. A beautiful opportunity to find holiness in the world around us, this outdoor worship experience includes mindfulness exercises, nature exploration and Torah.

"Some of us come to shul to talk to God, and others come to shul to talk to each other. Either is the right motive since we are a faith family – a Jewish people who, like a family, are as much about belonging as believing," says Rabbi Micah Greenstein. On Yom Kippur day, Temple has crafted an afternoon of community with engaging and poignant offerings. A few highlights: Rabbi Emeritus Harry K. Danziger returns to Temple

to share, "The Essential Things I Have Learned About Life," Rabbi Greenstein moderates a discussion with the United States Justice Department and FBI on "Standing in Solidarity-United Against Hate," and Dr. Joe Levy teaches his Learning Session: "What's In Your Pocket?" Yom Kippur afternoon also includes a line-up of activities to enliven the spirit and welcome the new year, including a vision-boarding experience with Rabbi Levy, a stained glass window project, and a music hour with TIMPO (Temple Israel Music & Programming Outreach) honoring the 2024 Graduating Class. The day will close with a break fast generously sponsored by Temple Israel Sisterhood.

Finally, Temple is thrilled to host one of the greatest Jewish voices of our time, the Scheidt Family Fund Artist-in-Residence, Elana Arian. Bring the whole family for "Shabbat Sukkot Under the Stars" in the Temple Israel Meadow on Friday, September 29. This open-air evening starts with Kabbalat Shabbat at 6 p.m. before sharing a picnic dinner and enjoying an oneg Shabbat concert with Elana Arian at 7:30 p.m. Bring your blanket, drinks, and family and friends - and remember to bring your candles and candlesticks so we can light up the night as a community! You are welcome to bring your dinner. We kindly ask that you let us know you are attending and sign up if you would like a prepared boxed dinner at timemphis.org/hhd.

"We are so excited for the High Holy Days at Temple Israel as we come together as a community," says Temple Israel President Leigh Baim Mansberg. "Our clergy team has planned such a diverse and inclusive experience so that everyone, no matter where they are in their spiritual journeys, will find meaningful observance and a chance to engage with new and old friends. There has never been a more important time for us to practice this form of togetherness."

This year, congregants and community members will register for the High Holy Days with a season pass. Childcare for children 18 months to 7 years of age is available during many of the services and experiences offered. For more information, Season Pass and childcare registration, and a complete list of offerings, including Shabbat Sukkot Under the Stars and Simchat Torah, visit timemphis.org/hhd or call 901.761.3130. HW

Jerusalem Find Dating Back to Biblical Kings Baffles Archaeologists



Researchers examine the mysterious channels unearthed in the City of David National Park in Jerusalem. Credit: Emil Aladjem/ Israel Antiquities Authority.

By Pesach Benson

(JNS) – An unprecedented channel installation dating back to the First Temple period was uncovered in the City of David National Park in Jerusalem, the Israel Antiquities Authority recently announced.

The excavation thus far has uncovered two installations about 10 meters apart, which may have composed one large installation. The first installation includes a series of at least nine chan-

nels that were smoothed. On top of the rock cliff that encloses the installation to the south can be found seven drain pipes, which carried liquid from the top of the cliff.

Such structures have not been found anywhere else in Israel and their purpose remains elusive.

"We even recruited the help of the police forensic unit and its research colleagues around the world, but so far – to no avail," said Yiftah Shalev, a senior researcher at the Antiquities Authority.

One theory posits that these channels were used for soaking products, possibly agricultural produce such as flax or dates.

"The production of linen, for example, requires soaking the flax for a long time to soften it. Another possibility is that the channels held dates that were left out to be heated by the sun to produce silan [date honey]," Shalev explained.

The latter would be in line with similar structures found in Oman, Bahrain and Iran, though never before found in

Israel, he said.

"We looked at the installation and realized that we had stumbled on something unique, but since we had never seen a structure like this in Israel, we didn't know how to interpret it. Even its date was unclear," Shalev said.

According to Professor Yuval Gadot of Tel Aviv University, which is also involved in the excavations, "This is an era when we know that Jerusalem covered an area that included the City of David and the Temple Mount, which served as the heart of Jerusalem. The central location of the channels near the city's most prominent areas indicates that the product made using them was connected to the economy of the Temple or Palace."

He explained that the Temple's ritual activity "includes bringing agricultural animal and plant produce to the Temple; many times, Temple visitors would bring back products that carried the sanctity of the place."

Although it isn't clear when the installation was dug, Gadot said that the researchers were able to date when the facility fell out of use.

"The end of the ninth century BCE, during the days of the biblical kings of Judah – Joash and Amaziah," he explained. "We assume that the two installations, which, as mentioned, may have been used in unison, were constructed several decades earlier.

The City of David National Park is where King David established his capital and where many pivotal biblical events took place. Visitors can see the excavated remains of houses, cisterns and fortifications, getting a glimpse into Jerusalem's ancient history. The park is best known for Hezekiah's Tunnel, which King Hezekiah had built to provide water to the city ahead of an Assyrian siege led by Sennacherib.

The Antiquities Authority said the channels would be open to the public [beginning in September]. **HW**

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Provided by Mike Stein, Managing Director - Investments Wells Fargo Advisors

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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services considers child-care costs to be affordable when they are at or below 7% of annual household income – but many families face costs that are far above that threshold. In fact, about half of families surveyed by Care.com reported spending 20% or more of their household income on child care in 2021, while 72% of families spent at least 10%.

The typical fees charged for child care vary widely by state, as do other living costs. But in all regions, the average annual cost of center-based care for two children exceeds the average amount of money families spend on food and transportation combined, and in most areas of the country, it is more expensive than housing.²

The following tax benefits can help parents offset some of the costs paid for a nanny, babysitter, day care, preschool, or day camp, but only if the services are used so the parents can work.

Child-Care Tax Credit

Families with one qualifying child (typically age 12 or younger) can claim up to \$3,000 per year in child-care expenses; those with two or more qualifying children have a \$6,000 annual limit.

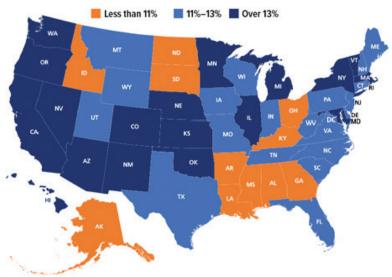
The nonrefundable credit is worth 20% to 35% of eligible child-care expenses, depending on income. As income rises, the credit amount drops until it hits a minimum of 20% for households with \$43,000 or more in adjusted gross income. For example, families with one qualifying child can receive a credit of \$600 to \$1,050; those with two or more children can receive a credit of \$1,200 to \$2,100. A tax credit lowers a family's tax liability dollar for dollar.

Dependent-Care Flexible Spending Account

Higher-income families may realize a bigger tax benefit from a dependent-care flexible spending account (FSA) if one is offered by an employer, because up to \$5,000 a year (per family) can be set aside on a pre-tax basis through regular payroll deductions. FSA distributions are free of federal income tax if the money in the account is used for eligible child-care costs for qualifying children. (Dependent-care FSA funds can also be used to cover care for children over age 13 with special needs and elderly parents or relatives that are claimed as dependents.)

Child-Care Affordability Is All Over the Map

The annual price of center-based care as a percentage of median income, by state



Source: Child Care Aware® of America, 2022 (data for 2021; CO data for 2020)

Employees with access to an FSA as a workplace benefit generally have an opportunity to enroll in an account and elect contribution amounts during their annual open enrollment period. FSA funds that are not spent by the end of the calendar year could be lost, so it's important to consider carefully – and at times reconsider – how much to put into the account. FSA owners are typically permitted to adjust their contributions when they experience certain events, such as a change in marital or employment status, a change in the number or eligibility of dependents, or a change in care provider or the rates charged for care.

Taxpayers are not allowed to use pre-tax money from an FSA and take a credit for the same expenses. However, after spending \$5,000 from an FSA, families with more than one qualifying dependent could take a tax credit for up to \$1,000 in additional care expenses.

- 1) Care.com 2022 Cost of Care survey
- 2) Child Care Aware® of America, 2022 (data for 2021)

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I look forward to earning your vote and making our community proud.



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Kosovo Unveils Statue to Honor Albanians Who Rescued Jews During Holocaust



Ines Demiri, the chargé d'affaires of Kosovo, visiting Yad Vashem. Source: Ines Demiri/Twitter.

(JNS) – A statue honoring 23 Kosovo Albanians who rescued Jews during the Holocaust was inaugurated on August 23 in Pristina, "AP" reported.

The "Wall of Honor" monument was unveiled in a park in the Kosovar capital in the presence of some of the rescuers' descendants, political leaders and the U.S. and German ambassadors.

Some 500 Jews lived in Kosovo, then part of the former Yugoslavia, at the time of the Nazi genocide. Many were arrested and deported to nearby prisons or German-managed camps, and almost half of them were killed.

Local Albanians helped many Jews to escape, usually taking them to neighboring Albania, according to "AP."

The statue shows that "the remembrance of those who risked their lives to save their fellow human beings is a tradition that commemorates a rare,

bright light in one of the darkest periods of human history," said Kosovar Prime Minister Albin Kurti.

Today, some 50 Jews live in the western Kosovar town of Prizren.

Kosovo, a landlocked country of 1.95 million north of Greece, declared independence on Feb. 17, 2008.

Kosovo is a former Serbian province and not recognized as a state by Belgrade and its major allies Russia and China. Kosovo and Serbia were locked in a bitter war between 1998 and 1999.

Kosovo is more than 90% ethnic Albanian, with a Sunni Muslim majority and Christian minority.

Israel established diplomatic relations with Pristina in 2020. With the initiation of relations, Kosovo became the first Muslim-majority country to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. **HW**

Fan Ejected from U.S. Open Match after Chanting Nazi Phrase at German Player Alexander Zverev



Alexander Zverev at the 2023 Monte-Carlo Masters. Credit: Wikimedia Commons

By Jacob Gurvis

(JTA) – A spectator was ejected from a U.S. Open tennis match early last Tuesday morning after allegedly chanting a Nazi anthem at German player Alexander Zverev.

During the fourth set of Zverev's match against No. 6 Jannik Sinner, the No. 12 seed approached the umpire's chair, pointed toward the stands and said, "He just said the most famous Hitler phrase there is in this world. It's not acceptable." The exchange was shown on ESPN's broadcast.

The umpire, James Keothavong, turned to the crowd and asked the fan to identify himself, before reminding the arena to be respectful to both players.

The fan was ultimately identified by security and removed from the event.

After the match, Zverev explained that the fan "started singing the anthem of Hitler that was back in the day," according to the Associated Press. "It was 'Deutschland über alles' and it was a bit too much."

Under Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime, Germany rewrote the beginning to its national anthem to include the phrase "Deutschland über alles," which means "Germany above all." The addition was later removed after World War II.

Zverev, who lost the interrupted set but would go on to win the match, said he likes when fans are loud but that he had to intervene in this incident.

"I think me being German and not really proud of that history, it's not really a great thing to do and I think him sitting in one of the front rows, I think a lot of people heard it," said Zverev, a native of Hamburg born to Russian parents, both of whom were professional tennis players. "So if I just don't react, I think it's bad from my side."

The U.S. Tennis Association, which operates the annual tennis grand slam tournament hosted in Queens, New York, acknowledged the incident in a statement, saying "A disparaging remark was directed toward Alexander Zverev. The fan was identified and escorted from the stadium."

The match would ultimately end at about 1:40 a.m. local time. "It's his loss, to be honest, to not witness the final two sets of that match," Zverev said about the fan who had been removed. **HW**

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After Leading Minister Joked about Nazis, Finland Moves to Criminalize Holocaust Denial

By Andrew Lapin

(JTA) – The government of Finland agreed on a policy to combat racism and Holocaust denial last Thursday in the wake of multiple racism and neo-Nazi scandals that have rocked the administration in its early months.

The governing coalition's parties agreed on the content of a statement submitted to Finnish parliament that calls for "non-discrimination in Finnish society," according to a press release, and for new legislation to work toward that goal.

"Acts motivated by hate against Jews, Muslims, Christians and other religious groups will be prevented and Holocaust denial will be criminalized," the release says, adding that the government would also explore "the possibility of criminalizing the use of at least Nazi and Communist symbols to promote ideology."

The ruling coalition, formed in April, is the most right-wing in the country's history and has already faced numerous racism scandals. Last Thursday's statement comes two months after then-Minister of Economic Affairs Vilhelm Junnila resigned after only 10 days on the job over revelations that he had joked about Nazi symbology at a far-right political event in 2019. His successor also was revealed to have sent racist messages, as was the deputy prime minister.

"There is no room for racism in Finland. Political decision-makers must set an example in building a safe and equal society, and we need all of society to take part," Prime Minister Petteri Orpo said last Thursday.

International Jewish groups celebrated the government's actions.

"Open discourse is one of the keys to a healthy democratic society, but for too long there have been those who have hidden behind the shield of free speech while desecrating the memory of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators," said World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder in a statement.

The only Jewish member of Finland's parliament, Ben Zyskowicz, contributed the statement's passage on criminalizing Nazi and Communist symbols. Zyskowicz reported being assaulted and targeted with antisemitic slurs in Helsinki earlier this year. His proposal was supported by the chair of the Finnish Holocaust Remembrance Association.

If passed, Finland would join more than a dozen other countries including Germany, France, Canada and Russia that have formed laws to combat Holocaust denial. **HW**

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Sandy Lichterman
at Temple Israel
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Our Southern Kitchens are Where Black and Jewish Traditions Come Together



A Southern spread featuring a blintz casserole, Hoppin' John and a "kosher" okra gumbo combines histories of Eastern Europe, the American South and the continent of Africa. Credit: Forrest Clonts

By Rachel Gordin Barnett, Lyssa Kligman Harvey

(JTA) - We grew up in South Carolina in the late 1960s and '70s, one of us from the capital city, Columbia, and the other from the small town of Summerton. The foods served on our respective tables were a blend of Southern and Jewish, menus long ago established by our immigrant grandmothers and the African-American women who cooked for their families. Kashrut was observed in our grandmothers' kitchens, and Southern recipes recrafted for a kosher table mingled quite comfortably with the stuffed cabbage and tzimmes. Favorite family recipes were handed down from generation to generation – l'dor v'dor.

Our Southern Jewish table – where crispy fried chicken sat next to a sweet and sour brisket, where chopped liver was served during the cocktail hour, and where bowls of steaming hot rice and fresh vegetables graced our table – is a part of our collective lived experience.

As women pulled by the force of both our region and our religion, we recognize the expressive power of food. In researching and writing our new book "Kugels & Collards," we have grown far more aware of nuances in Southern Jewish foods and connections spanning cultures, races, pantries and people.

And we have discovered the presence of boundaries – cultural, dietary and physical – that have existed historically and, in some instances, remain today. As Marcie Cohen Ferris writes in the book's foreword, "Southern Jews revealed who they were and what they believed through the foods they ate – and did not eat – in a region where treyfe (nonkosher) pork, shellfish and wild game were at the center of local cuisine."

In one of the stories in our book, Aaron and Eli Hyman, owners of the acclaimed seafood restaurant Hyman's in Charleston, share their memory of catching blue crabs on Sullivan's Island as young children with their grandfather. Aaron recalls, "We were not allowed to bring the crabs in the beach house, which had a kosher kitchen, but we steamed them and ate them outside on newspaper out of respect for our great-grandmother."

The diversity of ingredients found in our favorite meals reflects the contributions of individuals underrepresented in or absent from earlier accounts of Southern Jewish cuisine. What we consider "typical Southern fare" reveals the culinary legacy of Africans brought against their will to the American South centuries ago. On many Southern Jewish tables, it is not unusual to have African-American staples such as collard greens, black-eyed peas and rice alongside European Jewish dishes like brisket, tzimmes and kugel. The aromas, textures and tastes of these meals made their way into the homes of our immigrant grandparents through generations of Black South Carolinians working in traditional Jewish kitchens.

One of these women is Charlestonian Annie Gailliard, whose recipe for okra gumbo we share in "Kugels & Collards." Like many great cooks, Annie cooked by taste and passed her recipe verbally down to her employers, the Firetags, Lyssa's grandparents. Annie and her husband, Walter Gailliard, and their children shared a backyard in Charleston with the Firetags, for whom she began working in 1933. Aside from the requirement that she cook kosher, Annie controlled the kitchen, cooking three meals a day.

For the Firetag family, she made the okra dish kosher, which meant no bacon or bacon grease. Although traditional gumbos have a roux base, Annie's recipe is more like a succotash. Lyssa in turn has given the recipe a Jewish touch, with a dollop of shmaltz and olive oil, served with the Jewish grain dish called kasha varnishkes rather than white rice.

Annie died in 2003 at the age of 99, and Lyssa attended her funeral with her mother and other family members. Annie's is one of many beloved "family" recipes created by – and appropriated from – skilled Black cooks.

On the Southern Jewish table many cultures are savored. Food is a vital part of the South's Jewish geography and foodways stretching across state lines to shape Southern culture.

In our own Southern homes, and certainly through the process of writing "Kugels & Collards," we have come to appreciate how food marks time and place, season and generation, tragedy and trauma, milestones and memory.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media [and not The Hebrew Watchman]. HW



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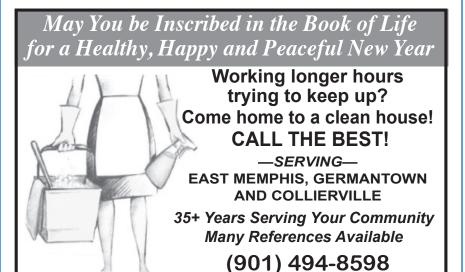


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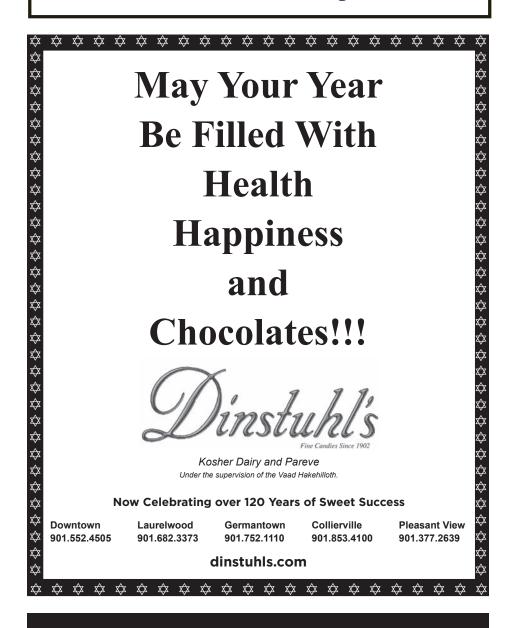
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