PAGE 1 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

BE A PART OF JEWISH MEMPHIS.

KEEP MEMPHIS JEWISH JOURNALISM ALIVE!
SUBSCRIBE. ADVERTISE. CONTRIBUTE.
901.763.2215
INFO@HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM

Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM 4 AV, 5784 AUGUST 8, 2024 VOL. 102, NO. 47

Memphis Joins Global Movie Screening by Israeli Filmmaker on Tisha B'Av Aug. 13



A scene from "Legend of Destruction."

By Shoshana Cenker

The Memphis Jewish community has an opportunity to participate in a global movie screening of "Legend of Destruction" to mark Tisha B'Av. The 90-minute viewing will be on Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 11 a.m. at Baron Hirsch Congregation. The worldwide series of premiere events will connect countries across the world, including in the courtyard of the Tower of David in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Tisha B'Av – the saddest day in the Jewish calendar – commemorates the day both Holy Temples were destroyed, reflected with fasting, communal mourning and introspection.

Israeli filmmaker, Gidi Dar, created,

directed and produced the unique "Legend of Destruction," which focuses on the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. It's based on a script he and Shuli Rand wrote. Through historical accounts and cutting-edge cinematography, the film covers how societal fractures, division, polarization and zealots led to the Temple's destruction, changing the course of history for the Jews. It serves as a timely reminder and warning for democracies today.

"When 16- and 17-year-old Israeli students learn about the Second Tempel in school, I'd say the majority don't remember this important event – I was pretty shocked how little I remembered –and the idea of writing a movie came



A scene from "Legend of Destruction."

to me," Gidi explained on our Zoom call. "When I read a book in 2013 by Josephus Flavius, I realized the story seemed very reminiscent to what was happening in Syria at the time: the Arab Winter. Though it wasn't clear to us at the time, as our project progressed, the Israeli reality unfortunately started to glide to the movie's direction, becoming more relevant. I began doing a movie about the past, and it ended up being a movie about the past and the present, and hopefully not the future."

The eight-yearlong labor of love involved the typical movie aspects – research, scripting writing, securing funding, editing, music – but the cinematic still-painting style used to create the

piece was new, a first in filmmaking. No one had any previous experience; they invented much of the technique and were flexible along the way. The first draft consisted of 1,500 black-and-white sketches, which took about four years, rewriting as they went. It took Gidi two years to even decide which character would be the lead.

"Most of the characters had their own solid standpoint," shared Gidi, who also directed the widely popular "Ushpizin." "But the No. 1 rule for drama is characters must go through changes ... and the only one changing was a young guy relatively unknown from the Talmud legend, Ben Batiach, a zealot and nephew

(See Movie Page 3)

Evan Gershkovich, American Jewish Journalist Jailed in Russia, is Freed in Prisoner Exchange



Evan Gershkovich greets his mother, Ella Millman, upon arrival at Joint Base Andrews after release from Russia in a massive 24-person prisoner swap. Credit: Andrew Harnik via Getty

By Jackie Hajdenberg

(JTA) – Evan Gerhskovich, the American Jewish "Wall Street Journal" reporter who has been held in Russian prison for more than a year, is now free, the

White House announced last Thursday. Gershkovich, 32, was freed as part of a massive, 26-person prisoner exchange

that included several prominent people

jailed by Russia. The list of those released includes Russian-British activist and journalist Kara-Murza, who is also Jewish, as well as former U.S. Marine Paul Whelan. The secretive swap occurred in Ankara, Turkey, between Russia and the United States, Germany, Poland, Slovenia and Norway.

"Some of these women and men have been unjustly held for years," President Joe Biden said in a statement last Thursday. "All have endured unimaginable suffering and uncertainty. Today, their agony is over."

He added, "I will not stop working until every American wrongfully detained or held hostage around the world is reunited with their family."

Gershkovich was arrested in Yekaterinburg on charges of espionage in March 2023 while on a reporting trip – charges that he, the United States government, and the "Wall Street Journal" vehemently deny. He spent up to 23 hours a day in solitary confinement at times and had recently been sentenced to 16 years in a maximum security Russian prison. His mother, Ella Milman, played an active role in securing his freedom, at one point submitting herself to more than four hours of interrogation by Russian authorities, according to the "Wall Street Journal."

In prison, the paper reported, Gershkovich worked on a book. In his release forms, addressed to Russian President Vladimir Putin, he asked Putin for a sitdown interview.

The swap last Thursday is the largest one since the Cold War. That era saw a number of prominent prisoner exchanges, including a swap that freed the Jewish Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky, who was a face of the movement to free Soviet Jewry and, over the past yearplus, has been an active advocate for Gershkovich's release.

Gershkovich's case, too, has garnered

(See Gershkovich Page 4)

PAGE 2 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

My Teen Israel Experience



Ethan VanderWalde at Masada for sunrise.

By Ethan VanderWalde

With the generous support of Memphis Jewish Federation's Lemsky Endowment Fund, I was able to spend the summer of 2023 in Israel. I am lucky to have been to Israel with my family, but I missed my Bornblum 8th grade school Israel trip due to COVID. I wanted to travel to Israel with others my age, but I also wanted something different than just touring. I chose a summer program called NCSY Next Step that allows participants to travel around Israel and intern in a field of their choice.

For two weeks, a group of 119 strangers from public schools, private schools, pluralistic day schools and Orthodox yeshivas toured the north and south of Israel; went on hikes in the Golan and Galilee regions, explored the vast Negev desert in the south, and had a lot of fun swimming in the Red Sea in Eilat.

After our traveling period we went to Jerusalem, where we spent most of our time on the program. During the day we worked at our internships, where we were able to experience what it is like to work in the booming Israeli economy, and in the afternoon and late into the night we did activities in Jerusalem and other areas in central Israel. For three weeks we stayed in a dormitory in the Talpiot neighborhood of Jerusalem, and

our schedule became routine.

Here is a snapshot of a regular day in the life of a teen on the Next Step program. We woke up at 6:30 a.m., prayed at 7 a.m., and ate breakfast at 7:40 a.m. After breakfast we were shuttled to our internships, where we spent most of the day. I worked in a startup accelerator inside Azrieli College of Engineering, where I helped my boss research and implement blockchain technology into his web-3 based business. My partner and I designed and tested our boss' website, and I learned a lot of new things about the technology/coding industry.

At 3 p.m. we were picked up from our internships and went back to the dorms to change and get ready for our afternoon activities. At 4 p.m. we left the dorms and traveled until 10 or 11 p.m. Afterwards, we had an optional learning program where we studied and discussed various Jewish topics with our counselors. By the time we finally got to our rooms, it was already past midnight, and we all fell asleep immediately, tired from our busy day.

For the three weeks we were based in Jerusalem, we were in a prime location to tour central Israel and have everything be at most an hour's drive. Ziplining in Gush Etzion, climbing Masada,

Hebrew Watchman

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

MAILING ADDRESS THE HEBREW WATCHMAN

PO Box 770846 Memphis, TN 38177-0846 Office: 901.763.2215

Direct: 901.827.7244 info@hebrewwatchman.com

> Susan C. Nieman **Editor and Publisher**

Larry Nieman Advertising Sales Director

Toni Nieman Office Manager & Subscriptions toni@hebrewwatchman.com

> Rebecca Schudel **Social Media Director** Web Development

Herman I. Goldberger **Editor and Publisher Emeritus**

Barbara B. Goldberger **Editor and Publisher Emeritus** **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Memphis and Mid-South \$36 Out-of-State \$50 Payable in Advance

Subscriptions toni@hebrewwatchman.com

Submissions

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

Advertising

For advertising rates and specs, contact Larry at 901.299.7376 or info@hebrewwatchman.com

Simchas

Weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, birthdays, engagement, anniversaries info@hebrewwatchman.com

Obituaries 901.763.2215 info@hebrewwatchman.com

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

THE HEBREW WATCHMAN (USPS #807-360) is published weekly every Thursday

for \$36 per year by

JEWISH LIVING OF THE SOUTH, Inc.
THE HEBREW WATCHMAN
PO Box 770846 Memphis, TN 38177-0846

Periodical postage paid at Memphis, Tenn.

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

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

THE HEBREW WATCHMAN must give permission for any material contained herein to be copied or reproduced in any manner without express permission of THE HEBREW WATCHMAN. The publication of any advertisement in this edition does not constitute an endorsement of the advertisers' product, kashrut or services by this publication. The opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect those of THE HEBREW WATCHMAN. Nor can the publishers be held responsible for any



Memphis Candlelighting Time

Erev Shabbat, Fri. August 9, 2024 / 5 Av, 5784 7:36 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion: Devarim

exploring Jaffa, and rappelling into Mitzpe Ramon were some of the activities we did during the program.

One of my favorite places to go was the Old City of Jerusalem, which we went to multiple times. We prayed at the Western Wall, walked along the Ottoman ramparts, visited the City of David, and toured the Temple Institute. There is so much to do in the Old City, and I felt very connected to Israel and my Judaism while I was there. Also, the food in the Old City is really, really good.

Even though I was only in Israel for five weeks, it felt longer because of how much I did, and there is nothing else I would have rather done with my summer.

Thank you to Memphis Jewish Federation's Lemsky Endowment Fund for giving me the chance to go on this program, and I hope I get the chance to go back to my ancestral home again.

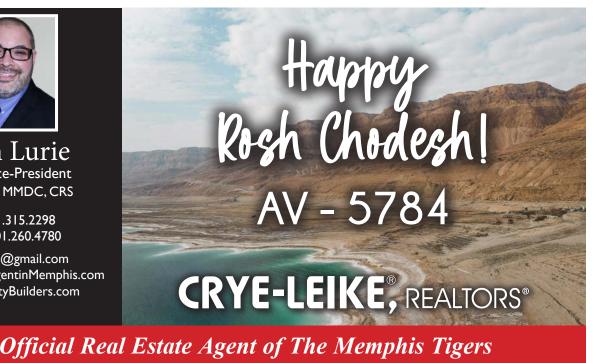
Ethan VanderWalde, son of Sarah and Dr. Noam VanderWalde, is a rising senior at the Cooper Yeshiva High School for Boys. Memphis Jewish Federation's Lemsky Endowment Fund provided him with a Teen Israel Experience grant to help offset the cost of his NCSY Next Step Israel trip last summer. All rising high school juniors and seniors in the Memphis Jewish community are eligible for grants up to \$3,000 to attend a recognized teen summer or semester program in Israel. Applications for Summer 2025 will be available online in November. HW



Brian Lurie Broker, Vice-President GRI, RENE, MMDC, CRS

Cell: 901.315.2298 Office: 901.260.4780

Blurie2003@gmail.com Best Real Estate Agent in Memphis.comwww.BluffCityBuilders.com



Birth Announcement

Eliza and Jake Itzkowitz welcomed their son, on Tues., July 23, 2024, at Mt. Sinai West Hospital in New York.

Proud grandparents are Jennifer and Joe Roberts of Memphis, Tenn., and Audrey Kent and Eric Itzkowitz of Great Neck, N.Y.

Great-grandparents are Patti and Stanley Elster of Memphis, Shirley Roberts of Huntsville, Ala., Natalie Kent of New York City and Beverly Itzkowitz of Great Neck, N.Y.

The baby has been named Simon Avi, with the Hebrew name Avi Shai. **HW**

BBYO Invites Teens to Join Amazing Programs and Opportunities

While everyone loves summertime, who doesn't love BBYO?!

BBYO is back from summer break and ready to have as many Jewish teens as possible join and take part in amazing programming and other opportunities.

BBYO is the leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. As expressed in our core values, BBYO welcomes Jewish teens of all backgrounds, denominational affiliation, gender, race, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status, including those with a range of intellectual, emotional, and physical abilities.

Delta Region is comprised of chapters in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. We have 13 chapters in our region, representing over 300 Jewish teens in our area. By

becoming a member of Delta, teens are afforded the opportunity to experience local programming in their communities, regional programming such as community service days, sports events, and weekend-long conventions, international programming at a larger scale and BBYO Summer Experiences.

Memphis BBYO has two (2) AZA chapters and two (2) BBG chapters that host monthly programming, community service opportunities and much more! Memphis BBYO is open to 8th-12th graders in the Memphis area.

Memphis BBYO is hosting their first event of the year on Sunday, August 25 1-3 p.m. at Billy Hardwick's Bowling Alley. This event is open to any Jewish teen in Memphis 8th-12th grade. If you have any questions, please reach out Zoë Goldberg at zgoldberg@bbyo.org HW

SERVICES AVAILABLE

- **Driver**—Courteous and reliable person to take you anywhere you need to go in Memphis and surrounding areas: Dr's appointments, Shopping, Errands, Airport. Available weekdays and weekends.
- House Sitting and Dog Sitting—

Responsible adult available to stay with your dogs while you are away. I love dogs!

Contact Rick Danzig: 901-337-6009

Movie...

(Continued From Page 1) of Yochanan ben Zekai. He's who we're following, which we didn't expect at the beginning. Just imagine a major change after two years in to the whole structure of the story!"

Gidi says there are two kinds of film-maker artists, none better than the other, it's just someone's personality: one is like Alfred Hitchcock, who knows all the plans for the film; the other is like Gidi, who's more into the process, letting the film lead him.

"I'm coming from jazz music," he said. "It's not that I improvise all the time, it's just a matter of listening to the movie and the creative process and growing with that. It's a very agonizing process, but very interesting to me."

Worried his technique wouldn't work, Gidi created the project in increments, first just one minute, then 10, then 30. His worries were allayed after a film screening erupted in massive applause, "people went crazy for it!" he said.

"I think this technique proved itself to be super interesting ... it's emotional, your mind has to do the work," he continued. "As a spectator, you have to add something, you're much more involved."

Perhaps this Tisha B'Av will be unlike any before, with the Oct. 7 tragedy adding a new layer of intensity, along with the film's message.

"Tisha B'Av deals with a very complicated and dark story. Many of our holiday stories are how others killed us. But here, we did part of the job ourselves. It's about a polarized society," Gidi said. "The years leading to Oct. 7 led our enemy to think that we're falling apart from within, and it was time to attack us."

Gidi points to a movie scene in which

Nero Caesar's generals advise him to attack the Jews during a civil war in Jerusalem because they're weak. The emperor said no, though, because the Jews were destroying themselves, doing the work for the Romans.

Part of the reason for the worldwide screening event is to emphasize the importance of the day for the Jewish people, in general, to know who we are as we're all experiencing it at the same time. Another part is that the lesson we need to learn is super relevant now – history is repeating, "the prophecy is fulfilling itself," he said.

"If you don't learn, you're bound to this repetition and self-destruction. I think for the Jewish people, Tisha B'Av is the most relevant date of the year," Gidi added. "It's also very relevant to the Western world in general. This message of what happens when a society gets so polarized that it destroys itself is something we see in all democracies today. ... Once you see the film, you really have a very good understanding, even if you knew nothing before."

Gidi continued, saying democracy and society is all about compromises, with many ideas and ideologies. If you only stand in your position and don't care about anything other than getting what you want, he says, it'll end badly. "Everybody had their perspective in this movie... all the way to hell," he noted. "At many crossroads, they could have stopped and prevented it, but they didn't."

While Israel was exhibiting some societal "cracks" before Oct. 7, Gidi says after the attack, public division disappeared. Nobody cared – right, left, religious, secular – everyone fought together shoulder to shoulder. "But part of my fear today is that we're going to go back to the same place," Gidi said, "that's why this film is a warning light and still relevant."

Working with American actors for the first time, Gidi was "honored" to have Oscar Isaac, Evangeline Lilly, Elliott Gould ("a legend"), and Billy Zane voice the film's characters. "They were amazing, super professional," he said, "and loved the movie."

The Hebrew version of "Legend of Destruction" won four categories at the 2021 Israeli Academy Awards: Best Artistic Design, Best Editing, Best Soundtrack and Best Original Music.

"The art designers/painters, David Polonsky and Michael Faust, are super geniuses, they're the stars," Gidi said proudly, "It was so much work, but they loved it. Their visual abilities are unbelievable!"

The film also received acclaim from then Prime Minister Naftali Bennett who urged Parliamentarians to watch the film, internalizing its message. Current Israeli President Isaac Herzog recommended making the film mandatory for all high school students.

The main message Gidi hopes will be received is ever more applicable today: "In our polarized society, if everyone thinks they're right, they'll be willing to fight all the way to hell, 'running to burning,' ending in destruction," he explained. "The shoresh (root word) for 'depend' and 'hang' are similar in Hebrew, and there's a saying that translates to: 'If we're not depending on each other, we're going to be hanged by one another.' Unless our society can reach some form of diplomatic medium, we're going to fracture. We have to learn to live together."

For more information and to watch the trailer: https://7thart.com/films/legend-of-destruction/ **HW**

5306 Meadowcrest Cove



New on Market!!

In a quiet cove, EAST of White Station, we're talking totally and beautifully Updated and Renovated! 5 Bedrooms (Two DOWN), 2 BR + Playroom/5th BR up! Quartz Kitchen w/16 soft-close Cabinets, 14 soft-close Drawers & Island opens to Hearth Room which overlooks Screened Porch and gorgeous rear grounds! New Dual Zone HVAC & H2O! \$434,900. And, remember....

When you want the job DONE, call Shel-DONE!



Sheldon Rosengarten, Broker REALTOR Emeritus*
*Awarded by the National Association of Realtors
for 40 Years of Service.





Marx-Bensderf REALTORS

Life Member, Multi-Million Dollar Club Memphis Area Association of Realtors Office 901.682.1868 • Cell 901.483.0546 shelrose@memphisrelocate.com

PAGE 4 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

Gershkovich...

(Continued From Page 1)

the support of the Jewish community worldwide. Activists sent letters to him over Rosh Hashanah last year and left an empty seat for him at the Passover seder, both echoes of the campaign to free Soviet Jews. Gershkovich is the son of Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union. Upon news of his release, the Orthodox Union tweeted "Baruch matir assurim," the Jewish blessing over the release of captives.

"Since the arrest of Evan Gershkov-

ich in March 2023, Jewish Federations have been active in advocating for his release," the Jewish Federations of North America wrote in a statement last Thursday. "Today, Federations are overjoyed and relieved at the news of Evan's release, along with the release of Paul Whalen and other political prisoners."

The statement added, "Evan, our community has been incomplete without you. Welcome home." **HW**

'NYT': Hamas Leader Haniyeh Killed by Bomb, Not Missile

(JNS) – Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was killed by a remote-controlled explosive device that was planted some two months earlier in the guesthouse where he was accustomed to stay when in Tehran, "The New York Times" reported last Thursday.

The Lebanese Al-Mayadeen network, which is affiliated with Hezbollah, previously claimed that last Wednesday's assassination was "carried out by means of a missile launched from country to country, not from within Iran."

The "Times" report, which cited Iranian, Middle Eastern and U.S. officials, did not elucidate how the explosive was smuggled into the building. Seven Middle Eastern officials told the paper that the planning of the killing likely took months and required extensive surveillance.

Iranian officials told the newspaper that the breach at the compound – which is used by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps for secret meetings and to lodge prominent visitors – was viewed as a "catastrophic" intelligence failure and a "tremendous" embarrassment" for the IRGC.

The Iranian officials, members of the Guards, said the ingenuity of the bombing resembled the remote-operated machine gun that the Mossad allegedly used to kill nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh in Absard, around 44 miles east of Tehran, in 2020.

The officials noted that while last Wednesday's blast shattered windows and caused the partial collapse of an exterior wall, the building sustained minimal damage, indicating that no missile struck the compound.

The Israeli government has not taken responsibility for the attack that killed

the Palestinian terrorist organization's "political" leader and his bodyguard.

Iran and Hamas accused Jerusalem of the assassination of Haniyeh, who was in Tehran for the inauguration of the country's president.

Last Thursday's report cited regional officials as saying that Israeli officials "briefed the United States and other Western governments on the details of the operation in the immediate aftermath"

In addition, several U.S. officials, who spoke to the "Times" on condition of anonymity, were said to have reached the "assessment" that the Jewish state was responsible for Haniyeh's assassination.

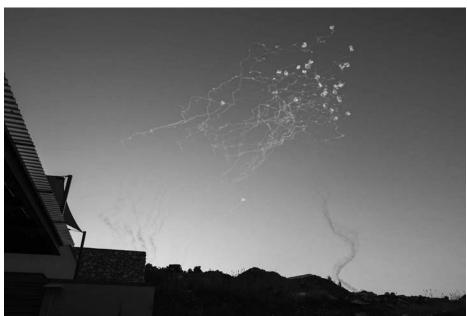
A report in "The Jerusalem Post" last Thursday stated that Haniyeh was viewed as an obstacle to closing a hostages-for-terrorists-and-ceasefire deal with Hamas, and that his removal might bring an agreement closer.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has ordered a direct attack on Israel following the assassination, the "Times" reported earlier this week.

Top Iranian officials were set to meet with representatives from the regime's terrorist proxies in Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen last Thursday to discuss the retaliation against Israel, according to Reuters

An extended meeting is expected to take place in Tehran, Iranian government media reported. The summit will reportedly be attended by representatives of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps including the Corps' Quds Force, Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, Ansar Allah (the Houthis) and Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces militia HW

After 48-Hour Lull, Hezbollah Rockets Rain Down on Northern Israel



Interception missiles fired at rockets from Lebanon, as seen from the northern Israeli town of Safed, June 27, 2024. Credit: Ayal Margolin/Flash90.

(JNS) – The Iran-backed Hezbollah terrorist organization in Lebanon resumed its attacks on northern Israel late last Thursday night, firing a large volley of rockets at civilian communities in the Jewish state's Western Galilee.

The rocket assault ended a 48-hour lull that followed last Tuesday's Israeli airstrike in Beirut in which Fuad Shukr, Hezbollah's No. 2, was killed.

Air-raid sirens were activated in Kibbutz Rosh Hanikra, Hanita, Shlomi, Matzuva, Liman, Betzet, Shlomi, Snir and the Achziv Miluot industrial zone, according to the Israel Defense Forces' Home Front Command.

Local media reported that the barrage towards the north comprised 60 rockets, some 15 of which were said to have been intercepted by air defenses. No casualties were reported in the rocket attacks.

No projectiles had been fired from Lebanon since last Tuesday night when

the Israeli Air Force killed Shukr, who was responsible for a rocket attack that killed 12 children in Majhal Shams, a Druze village in the Golan Heights, as well as the 1983 bombing that killed more than 300 U.S. and French troops in Beirut.

Earlier last Thursday, Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah said that the attacks on northern Israel would "continue from tomorrow, and this has nothing to do with responding to the assassinations, but rather a continuation of the battle since October 8," vowing to continue cross-border fire until a cease-fire is reached with Hamas in Gaza.

Hezbollah has attacked northern Israel nearly every day since joining the war in support of Gaza-based Hamas on Oct. 8, killing more than 20 people and causing widespread damage. Tens of thousands of Israeli civilians remain internally displaced due to the ongoing violence. **HW**

THE HEBREW WATCHMAN
Serving the Memphis community
for 98 Years

Blinken Urges 'All Parties to Stop Taking any Escalatory Actions'

(JNS) – Secretary of State Antony Blinken last Thursday urged "all parties to stop taking any escalatory actions" amid increasing tensions between Israel and Iran and its regional terrorist proxies.

Speaking at a press conference with his counterpart Battsetseg Batmunkh in the Mongolian capital Ulaanbaatar (formerly anglicized as Ulan Bator), the American diplomat warned that the Middle East is on a path "toward more conflict, more violence, more suffering, more insecurity, and it is crucial that we break this cycle."

Blinken stressed the importance of achieving a ceasefire in Gaza, saying that "it is essential that we break this cycle, and that starts with a ceasefire," adding that "the parties must look for reasons to reach an agreement, and not reasons to delay it."

The diplomat, who is on a six-country tour of Asia, said in Singapore last Wednesday that the White House was "not aware of or involved" in the target-

ed killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran.

Jerusalem has not taken responsibility for the missile strike that killed the Palestinian terrorist group's "political" leader and his bodyguard around 2 a.m. last Wednesday.

Iran and Hamas accused Israel over the assassination of Haniyeh, who was in Tehran for the inauguration of President Masoud Pezeshkian.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has ordered a direct attack on Israel following the assassination, "The New York Times" reported last Wednesday.

Diplomats working to prevent all-

Western diplomats are engaging in urgent talks to prevent an all-out war in the Middle East in the wake of the Haniyeh assassination in Tehran.

Iran's Lebanese terrorist proxy Hezbollah has also vowed revenge for last Tuesday night's strike in Beirut that killed its top "military" commander Fuad Shukr; the Israeli military has claimed responsibility for the targeted attack.

European Union envoy Enrique Mora was holding talks in Tehran. He has extensive experience negotiating with Iranians over their nuclear program and was in attendance at last Tuesday's presidential inauguration.

"Mora used his interactions with officials of the incoming Iranian administration in Tehran to convey the E.U.'s position on all issues of concern related to Iran in line with our policy of critical engagement," said E.U. foreign policy spokesperson Peter Stano, according to the "Financial Times."

Officials said the talks were aimed at persuading Tehran not to respond or to limit its response to Haniyeh's death. Israeli diplomats told Western mediators that the military was not planning any further operations.

"Everyone since last night is putting pressure on Tehran to not respond and to contain this," a Western diplomat involved in the discussions told "FT."

At the same time, Brett McGurk, the White House's top official for the Middle East, held discussions in Saudi Arabia, where he was already located at the time of the Haniyeh assassination to discuss the situation in Yemen and Israel's conflict with the Iran-backed Houthis.

McGurk is heading to Cairo next for further talks relating to the Gaza war.

The Biden administration has been conducting urgent talks with Israel and other regional countries, including Blinken talking with his Jordanian and Qatari counterparts and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin talking with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

"We don't believe that an escalation is inevitable and there's no sign that an escalation is imminent," U.S. National Security Council spokesperson John Kirby said last Wednesday, the "Financial Times" reported. Kirby added that the administration is still working on a Gaza ceasefire. **HW**

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. Monthly Luncheon is at noon.

NOTE: Some of the following programs are different than what is printed in the MJCC Scene!

Monday, August 12

Speaker: Tim Flesner with Home Helpers

Topic: Stroke Prevention

As strokes continue to be a growing problem among seniors, Tim will discuss how one can minimize the risk. A handout will be available. No registration is needed for this program.

Wednesday, August 14 Rabbi Talk

Speaker: Rabbi Abe Schacter-Gampel Topic: Rabbi Herschel Schacter, Helping Liberate Buchenwald!

Rabbi Herschel Schacter was Rabbi Abe's grandfather, who helped to liberate the infamous concentration camp. The Buchenwald concentration camp was constructed in 1937 about five miles northwest of the city of Weimar in east-central Germany. Come hear this heartfelt program.

Monday, August 19 Field Trip

The group will tour The Avaline at River Oaks! The Avaline at River Oaks is currently undergoing an extensive renovation to enhance its facilities and services. The renovation, scheduled for completion in September 1, 2024, aims to provide residents with an upgraded living experience that combines modern amenities with compassionate, professional care. The refurbishment includes redesigning living spaces, updating community areas and apartments, and integrating advanced health and wellness technologies. Please join us to tour this new beautiful facility.

The MJCC Bus has limited seating so please make your reservations soon. The cost is only \$2 for the roundtrip bus ride from the MJCC.



Vocalist Julianne Thomas

Wednesday, August 21
Big Monthly Luncheon with Entertainment

The Larissa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Club will host our August Monthly Luncheon, featuring the music and vocals of the Julianne Thomas and Dom Fosco Duo. Julianne and Dom have been making music all of their lives. They each have many accomplishments in their long careers, but along the way, the best reward is the love of sharing what they do. Julianne offers a stirring vocal style with a joyful presence while Dom is an amazing instrumentalist on keyboard, sax and backgrounds. Their repertoire includes traditional jazz, standards, blues and R&B. Everyone will sing and smile, swoon over the tunes, and tap their toes while Julianne and Dom create a journey back in time that is "Unforgettable." Julianne and Dom are available through the help of Creative Aging. Reservations are required by Monday. August 19. The cost is only \$5 for the kosher lunch and great entertainment! Please call the front desk at 901-761-0810. HW

The MJCC Larisa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Club Evening Programs

CHANGE OF PROGRAM DATE! PLUS NEW PROGRAM!

The Decluttering program originally scheduled for August 14, has been moved to Wednesday night, August 21!



Stacy Saed

Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 7 p.m. Declutter 1-2-3 featuring Stacy Saed at the MJCC

Whether it is a move to a new location, a scale down to a senior living community or reviving an existing home, Stacy has you covered. Learn tips on how to declutter your own environment.

Reservations are required as space is limited. Stacy gave this talk in October and was asked to come back. Everyone left with great information. There is no charge. Call the front desk at the MJCC 901-761-0810 to register.



Lawson S. Arney

Tuesday, August 20, 2024, 7 p.m. Retirement Well Planned: A Financial Ask Me Anything with Your Future in Mind featuring Lawson S. Arney!

Join us for an engaging session where you direct the conversation, asking anything about financial planning. From maximizing your Social Security Benefits to retirement planning, no question is too big or too small. This is your chance to get advice from a seasoned financial advisor, dedicated to helping you navigate the complexities of retirement planning. Don't miss this unique opportunity to take control of your financial future in a friendly, open-forum environment. Open to the public, but as space is limited, reservations are requested. Please call the front desk at the MJCC at 901-761-0810. See you there!

Please join us 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 or stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org or by calling the front desk at 901-761-0810. Steve works Monday thru Thursday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. HW

Have a Símcha?

share with The Hebrew Watchman readers 901.763.2215

Need a Ride? Call Shalom Shuttle

In 2023, Kay & Allen Iskiwitz Shalom Shuttle gave 1,304 rides!

Transportation is a very real issue for many people over 60 years of age or for those individuals of any age who are unable to drive due to a disability. As an integral part of the Jewish community, Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service (Fogelman JFS) at the Memphis Jewish Community Center (MJCC) provides an array of compassionate social services and a connection to any additional services needed. We form collaborative relationships with you, our clients, to enhance your well-being and help you thrive. We approach this mission with the highest level of responsibility, professionalism and integrity.

One of our key services is Kay & Allen Iskiwitz Shalom Shuttle, which helps with the transportation challenge. Our experienced driver provides transportation to members of our Jewish community who are at least 60 years old as well as those adults of any age with special needs. Transportation is provided with door-to-door assistance for just \$5 one way to locations within Shelby County.

Please note we are unable to accommodate those individuals in wheel-chairs.

Pre-registration/reservations are re-

quired and can be made by contacting Fogelman JFS at 901-767-8511.



Watch Them Thrive with In-Home Care

The specially trained caregivers at Comfort Keepers provide meaningful, in-home care so seniors can live independently. From providing companionship to caring for those with dementia, we're here to help your loved one thrive and give you peace of mind.

901-207-8209

Home + Life + Care | ComfortKeepers.com

Comfort Keepers of the Mid-South, 5668 S Rex Rd #200, Memphis, Tennessee 38119

© 2022 CK Franchising. Inc. An international network where most offices are independently owned and operated

In-Home Care Services

- Personal care
- Companionship and housekeeping
- Dementia and Alzheimer's care
- Respite care
- Safety solutions

PAGE 6 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

In the Bible Belt, Artist Carol Buchman Forged Her Own Jewish Identity



Buchman with "Shabbat for Jenny," which was purchased by Memphis Urban Art Commission and hangs in a branch library. Jenny was Buchman's grandmother.

Carol Buchman, known by many Memphians as the beloved art teacher at Grace St. Luke's School for 27 years, has retired to devote herself full time to making art. Buchman is also well known in the greater Memphis Jewish community for her prodigious and striking Jewish art and her role in nurturing Jewish activities and experiences in Midtown Memphis.

Some of her Jewish Midtown friends sponsored a joyful kiddush at Beth Sholom Synagogue on July 13 to honor Buchman for her many contributions to Jewish life in Memphis. But like her move to Memphis, Buchman's impact on the greater Memphis Jewish community is something she would have not predicted.

Many Jews who move to Memphis discover they have to "work" at being Jewish. Born and raised as a "Synagogue-twice-a-year" Jew in Roslyn, Long Island, New York, Buchman says she took her Judaism for granted. For her parents, Yiddish was their first language, and she says they loved many aspects of their Judaism deeply. Howev-

er, they rejected the Orthodox religious Brooklyn life of their youth. It took Buchman's relocation to Memphis, "a soulful city that I love," for her to actively embrace her Judaism.

But Buchman's move to Memphis was serendipitous. Buchman grew up to pursue a career in art and art education, and she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Massachusetts College of Arts and a Master of Fine Arts from the Boston University School for the Arts. But upon graduation, she discovered the market for art teachers in the region had dried up.

However, a fortuitist incident occurred. Buchman attended an art education conference and roomed with a Memphian, Joel Alexander, who taught art at Grace St. Luke's School. Alexander told Buchman that the Memphis City Schools had an opening for an art teacher. Buchman came to Memphis in 1992, convinced she would stay just one year.

Instead, Buchman met her husband, Roy Tamboli, also an artist, and they made a life together in Memphis. When Alexander retired in 1997, Buchman succeeded her at Grace St. Luke's.

Buchman explains that with a non-Jewish husband and a workday spent at an Episcopal school, plus living in the Bible Belt without any Jewish relatives, she needed to work at being Jewish. "I did not want to simply blend in and lose my Jewish soul, so I had to be proactive," she says. "I had to educate myself about Judaism and find a Jewish community."

Buchman created that Jewish community. She formed a Chavurah among Jews who lived in Midtown, where Buchman lives. The Chavurah celebrated holidays and studied together. Buchman organized an annual Taschlich ceremony at Overton Park's Rainbow Lake, which continues today. It's a 25-year-old tradition that drew 40 participants this year.

"It wasn't anyone's responsibility but mine to become more involved in Juda-



Rabbi Micah Greenstein and Memphis friends of the Reform Community in Shoham commissioned Carol Buchman to create this artwork for the Ark at V'ahavta — HaKehila Hashivionit Shoham. It depicts the seven species and the tree of life.

ism," Buchman says. She joined Temple Israel, took Temple's beginning Judaism class, and became a bat mitzvah, which helped to cement her commitment to Judaism. She organized an annual "Chanukah Chapel" at Grace St. Lukes School, inviting a rabbi from Temple to speak, and became what she describes as "a sort of den mother for the Jewish families" there. She also is a member of Beth Sholom and is part of its Lifelong Jewish Learning committee.

Around 2007, she formed a Jewish women's book group, which still meets. In 2019, she was invited to be a visiting artist at Shoham's Annual Art Festival in Israel, and in 2021 she was commissioned to create an art installation for the Ark at V'ahavta, the Reform Synagogue of Shoham.

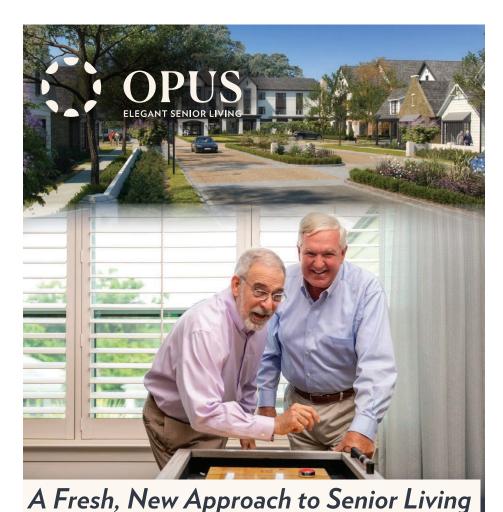
Buchman creates both secular and Jewish works. The Jewish-themed works are part of what she calls her "Midrash" collection. She recently began to offer Heritage Portraits, commissioned works to honor a family's history, an individual's achievements, or a historic moment. The mixed media works may include family photos, newspaper clippings, meaningful symbols and images – one portrait includes part of a holiday tablecloth. "[Creating the work] is a collaborative process, where we go through a family's history, search old



"Come in This House," a Heritage Portrait, honors Mary Shainberg. It was commissioned by the Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis and hangs alongside other honorees' portraits at Baptist Women's Hospital.

photographs, and distill the essence of a family, individual, or a moment, and represent it visually," Buchman says. "I like the relationship, the connection I make with the family."

To see some of her latest Midrash work and heritage portraits go to https://carolbuchman.org HW



Experience the art of senior living.

Call today to schedule your visit.

Opus is located only 10 minutes from Highland and Germantown.

901-763-6371 | OpusEastMemphis.com/Watchman





B'nai B'rith International, Schloss Lodge Members Donate for Tornado Relief



Keeli Smith, executive director of the Cross County Community Foundation, accepts checks from B'nai B'rith International and former residents, Harold Steinberg and Elaine Steinberg Miner.

B'nai B'rith International recently donated \$4,480 to the Arkansas Community Foundation for tornado relief. In addition, Sam Schloss Lodge B'nai B'rith members Elaine Steinberg Miner and Harold Steinberg added an additional \$770 making the total \$5,250. The funds are earmarked for the Cross County Tornado Recovery fund.

Keeli Smith, executive director of the

Cross County Community Foundation, accepted the donation.

On March 31, 2023, an EF-3 tornado devasted the farm community of Wynne, Arkansas, population 8,200. Four lives were lost, and numerous homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed. The high school was a total loss. Fortunately, the school administration dismissed classes before the twister struck.

Both Steinbergs grew up in Wynne and graduated from Wynne High School.

Kay King, a Community Foundation board member said, "On behalf of Cross County Community Foundation's board and staff, we were honored to receive such a generous donation to the Cross County Tornado Recovery Fund from B'nai B'rith International and members of the Steinberg family. The community of Wynne is so fortunate to have their commitment to helping its citizens. Pooled with funds from many other donors, more than half a million dollars were raised and deployed to help victims of the tornadoes.

"One thing that gets missed, is that



Wynne High School, after being destroyed by an EF-3 tornado.

these storms were local. There was an outpouring of support from organizations and volunteers from all over," King added. "But when the initial relief organizations finished their work, we had to figure out how to get our neighbors back on their feet. By pooling resources from donors like B'nai B'rith, the Cross County Community Foundation worked with local organizations to start rebuilding our town and get back to some sense of normal. We started with rebuilding five homes for survivors that lost everything they knew. That's the power of an investment in a strong community." HW

Zinn Donation Increases JCRS College Aid Awards to Record Levels

JCRS is thrilled to announce the receipt of generous support from Edith (z"l) and Robert Zinn of Houston, Texas, which will allow the JCRS College Aid Program to increase of all awards for the 2024-2025 academic year by 25%. This support will bring JCRS' total needs-based college scholarship program to a new record of over \$500,000 in financial assistance for this year's awardees.

As of July, 115 Jewish students from across the Mid-South will be receiving college aid awards, including 6 students from the Greater Memphis area resulting in over \$30,000 in scholarships. In addition to college aid, this current summer, JCRS is providing Jewish summer camp scholarships to 36 Memphis youth totaling more \$26,000.

JCRS has received decades of generous support from the Zinns who share in JCRS' vision to provide superior levels of needs-based support, resources and services for Jewish youths and families to promote their welfare, education, and self-identity, thereby helping to prepare them to be well-adjusted, self-support-

ing, young adults. Bob Zinn stated, "I hope my support spurs others to donate to JCRS given their huge impact within our Jewish communities."

"Our two-fold goal for this academic year is to fund more Jewish students who need financial assistance with even larger awards. We are proud to fill this important role within our Jewish communities. We could not do what we do without the support of our generous donors like Bob Zinn," says Mark Rubin, JCRS Executive Director.

Since 1946, JCRS has provided college or vocational training scholarships based on financial need. Many of the Jewish college students who receive aid from JCRS are from low-income families, but middle-class families are encouraged to apply. More than half of JCRS's college scholarships are awarded to families whose household income is between \$50,000 and \$150,000.

For more information on JCRS and how you can support its unique and important work with vulnerable Jewish youth, call (800)729-5277, or visit our website, www.jcrs.org. **HW**

Biden Reaffirms Support for Israeli Self-Defense Against Iran in Call with Netanyahu

(JNS) – U.S. President Joe Biden spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last Thursday and "reaffirmed" American support for the Jewish state's security, after Hezbollah rained rockets on northern Israel and Iran vowed it would avenge assassinated Hamas leadership.

Biden told Netanyahu that the United States supports Israel "against all threats from Iran, including its proxy terrorist groups Hamas, Hezbollah and

the Houthis," per a White House readout, which noted that U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris was also on the call.

The U.S. president "discussed efforts to support Israel's defense against threats, including against ballistic missiles and drones, to include new defensive U.S. military deployments," and "stressed the importance of ongoing efforts to de-escalate broader tensions in the region," the readout added. HW

MOVING?

Please let us know before you go! It's easy... info@hebewwatchman.com 901.763.2215

PO Box 770846, Memphis, TN 38177-0846 Thanks for your cooperation.





PAGE 8 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

Real Estate Roundup: Feeling the Impact of Higher Rates

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.wellsfargoadvisors.com/michael-stein

U.S. commercial real estate prices fell more than 11% between March 2022, when the Federal Reserve started hiking interest rates, and January 2024. The potential for steeper losses has chilled the market and still poses significant risks to some property owners and lenders.¹

On the residential side of the market, the national median price of an existing home rose 5.7% over the year that ended in April 2024 to reach \$407,600, a record high for April.² Despite sky-high borrowing costs, buyer demand (driven up by younger generations forming new households) has exceeded the supply of homes for sale.

Here are some of the factors affecting these distinct markets and the broader economy.

Slow-motion commercial meltdown

The expansion of remote work and e-commerce (two byproducts of the pandemic) drastically reduced demand for office and retail space, especially in major metros. An estimated \$1.2 trillion in commercial loans are maturing in 2024 and 2025, but depressed property values combined with high financing costs and vacancy rates could make it difficult for owners to clear their debt.³ In April 2024, an estimated \$38 billion of office buildings were threatened by default, foreclosure, or distress, the highest amount since 2012.⁴

In a televised interview on 60 Minutes in February, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said the mounting losses in commercial real estate are a "sizable problem" that could take years to resolve, but the risks to the financial system appear to be manageable.⁵

Locked-up housing market

The average rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage climbed from around 3.2% in the beginning of 2022 to a 23-year high of nearly 8% in October 2023. Mortgage rates have ticked down since then but not as much as many people hoped. In May 2024, the average rate hovered around 7%.6

The inventory of homes for sale has been extremely low since the pandemic, but a nationwide housing shortage has been in the works for decades. The housing crash devastated the construction industry, and labor shortages, limited land, higher material costs, and local building restrictions have all been blamed for a long-term decline of new single-family home construction. Freddie Mac estimated the housing shortfall was 3.8 million units in 2021 (most recent data).

Many homeowners have mortgages with ultra-low rates, making them reluctant to sell because they would have to finance their next homes at much higher rates. This "lock-in effect" has worsened the inventory shortage and cut deeply into home sales. At the same time, the combination of higher mortgage rates and home prices has taken a serious toll on affordability and locked many aspiring first-time buyers out of homeownership.

In April 2024, inventories were up 16% over the previous year, but there was still just a 3.5-month supply at the current sales pace. (A market with a six-month supply is viewed as balanced between buyers and sellers.) The supply of homes priced at more than \$1 mil-

lion was up 34% over the previous year, which may help affluent buyers, but won't do much to improve the affordability of entry-level homes.⁸

New construction kicking in

Newly built homes accounted for 33.4% of homes for sale in Q1 2024, down from a peak of 34.5% in 2022, but still about double the pre-pandemic share – mostly due to the lack of existing homes for sale.⁹

April 2024 was the second highest month for total housing completions in 15 years, with 1.62 million units (measured on an annualized basis), including single-family and multi-family homes. ¹⁰ This may cause apartment vacancies to trend higher, help slow rent growth, and allow more families to purchase brand new homes in the next few months.

Renters are seeing relief thanks to a glut of multi-family apartment projects that were started in 2021 and 2022 – back when interest rates were low – and are gradually becoming available. In Q1 2024, the average apartment rent fell to \$1,731, 1.8% below the peak in summer 2023.¹¹

Effects weave through the economy

By one estimate, the construction and management of commercial buildings contributed \$2.5 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), generated \$881.4 billion in personal earnings, and supported 15 million jobs in 2023.¹² And according to the National Association of Realtors, residential real estate contributed an estimated \$4.9 trillion (or 18%) to U.S. GDP in 2023, with each median-priced home sale generating about \$125,000. When a home is purchased (new or existing), it tends to increase housing-related expenditures such as appliances, furniture, home improvement, and landscaping.¹³

Both real estate industries employ many types of professionals, and the development of new homes and buildings stimulates local economies by creating well-paying construction jobs and boosting property tax receipts. Development benefits other types of businesses (locally and nationally) by increasing production and employment in industries that provide raw materials like lumber or that manufacture or sell build-

ing tools, equipment, and components.

Shifts in real estate values, up or down, can influence consumer and business finances, confidence, and spending. And when buying a home seems unattainable, some younger consumers might give up on that goal and spend their money on other things.

If interest rates stay high for too long it could accelerate commercial loan defaults, losses, and bank failures, continue to constrain home sales, or eventually push down home values – and any of these outcomes would have the potential to cut into economic growth. When the Federal Reserve finally begins to cut interest rates, borrowing costs should follow, but that's not likely to happen until inflation is no longer viewed as the larger threat.

- 1, 3) International Monetary Fund, January 18, 2024
- 2, 8, 10, 13) National Association of Realtors, 2024
- 4) The Wall Street Journal, April 30, 2024
 - 5) CBS News, February 4, 2024
 - 6-7) Freddie Mac, 2022-2024
 - 9) Redfin, May 20, 2024
- 11) Moody's, April 1, 2024
- 12) NAIOP Commercial Real Estate Development Association, 2024

This information is not intended as tax, legal, investment, or retirement advice or recommendations, and it may not be relied on for the purpose of avoiding any federal tax penalties. You are encouraged to seek guidance from an independent tax or legal professional. The content is derived from sources believed to be accurate. Neither the information presented nor any opinion expressed constitutes a solicitation for the purchase or sale of any security. This material was written and prepared by Broadridge Advisor Solutions. © 2024 Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. Investment and Insurance Products are:

Investment and Insurance Products are: Not Insured by the FDIC or Any Federal Government Agency

Not a Deposit or Other Obligation of, or Guaranteed by, the Bank or Any Bank Affiliate

Subject to Investment Risks, Including Possible Loss of the Principal Amount Invested **HW**



Advisors

2024 Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors

Mike Stein

We are proud to announce that Mike Stein, Managing Director – Investments was recognized on the 2024 Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors List. This recognition serves as a reminder that we are committed to working every day toward the financial success of our clients.

Putting client's interest first

Mike Stein

Managing Director – Investments 6075 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN 38119 Direct: (901) 761-8151 michael.stein@wellsfargoadvisors.com ttps://home.wellsfargoadvisors.com/michael.stein

2024 Forbes Best-In-State Wealth Advisors: Awarded April 2024; Data compiled by SHOOK Research LLC based on the time period from 6/30/22 - 6/30/23 (Source: Forbes.com) .

The Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors rating algorithm is based on the previous year's industry experience, interviews, compliance records, assets under management, revenue and other criteria by SHOOK Research, LLC. Investment performance is not a criterion. Self-completed survey was used for rating. This rating is not related to the quality of the investment advice and based solely on the disclosed criteria.

Wells Fargo Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice.

Investment and Insurance Products:

NOT FDIC Insured NO Bank Guarantee MAY Lose Value

©2023 Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC. CAR-0123-01920





MICHAEL LURIE

WINDOW WORLD OF MEMPHIS

memphis@windowworld.com office: 901-684-6670 mobile: 901-233-2921 4899 Summer Ave. Suite 104 Memphis, TN 38122 **WindowWorldMemphis**.com

Windows • Doors • Siding

Celebrate and Support Education at the 2024 Facing History Southeast Benefit



Marti Tippens Murphy and Board Chair Josh Lipman.

Co-Chairs Cynthia Bradford, Meggan and Daniel Kiel, and Tait and Brian Mellone cordially invite the community to attend the highly anticipated 2024 Facing History & Ourselves Southeast Benefit. The event will be held on Thurs., Sept. 12, 2024, at the Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center located at the University of Memphis, 3800 Central Ave, Memphis, Tenn., 38117.

This annual gathering serves as a pivotal moment to celebrate and support Facing History's mission of illuminating challenging histories and empowering future generations through education. The evening will commence with a Cocktail Reception at 6 p.m., followed by the program beginning at 7 p.m. Join Professor Carol Anderson in conversation with Memphis's own Professor Daniel Kiel. Learn from their insightful perspectives on history and social justice and how to use the lessons of the past to shape a brighter future.

"We are thrilled to come together with our community to highlight Facing History's impactful work," said Michele Phillips, executive director of Facing History & Ourselves Southeast. "Now more than ever, the lessons of history are vital in guiding us toward a more informed and empathetic society. Your support at this event will directly contribute to our efforts in nurturing the next generation of civic leaders."

The event will conclude with a Coffee and Dessert Reception, offering attendees an opportunity to mingle, network and deepen their commitment to Facing History's mission.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the 2024 Southeast Benefit are available now, with all proceeds directly benefiting Facing History's educational initiatives, including combatting contemporary antisemitism, providing best-in-class professional development on civics, and growing Facing History in rural and suburban areas across the South. For more information on how to support or attend this inspiring event, please visit facinghistory.org/southeastbenefit contact Regan Adolph at regan_adolph@ facinghistory.org HW

OBITUARIES

The Hebrew Watchman publishes obituaries (up to 500 words) as a service to the Jewish community at no charge.

Over 500 words there is a minimum fee.

Australian Probe Finds Israel Didn't Target WCK Aid Workers in Gaza

(JNS) – The April 1 Gaza strike that killed seven international aid workers from World Central Kitchen was the result of a mistaken identification, an Australian government investigation found last Friday, confirming an IDF probe into the incident.

"Based on the information available to me, it is my assessment that the IDF strike on the WCK aid workers was not knowingly or deliberately directed against the WCK," wrote former Australian Defence Force Chief Air Chief Marshal (ret.) Mark Binskin, whom Canberra appointed to investigate the strike that killed Australian aid worker Lalzawmi Frankcom, 43, and six others.

Binskin's investigation found that lower-level IDF officers decided to strike the convoy after mistakenly believing it was being hijacked by Hamas terrorists who were, in fact, unarmed local security guards.

"It appears that the IDF controls failed, leading to errors in decision-making and a misidentification, likely compounded by a level of confirmation bias," said Binskin, who visited Israel as part of the probe.

The former military chief noted in

his conclusions that the IDF probe was "timely, appropriate and, with some exceptions, sufficient."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in April called the incident a "tragic case of our forces unintentionally hitting innocent people.

"It happens in war, we are thoroughly investigating it, we are in contact with the governments, and we will do everything so that this thing does not happen again," the premier said.

IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi on April 3 took full responsibility for the incident and issued a formal apology, saying, "I want to be very clear – the strike was not carried out with the intention of harming WCK aid workers. It was a mistake that followed a misidentification, at night during a war in very complex conditions. It shouldn't have happened."

Israeli ground forces entered the Gaza Strip on Oct. 27 following weeks of airstrikes in response to the Oct. 7 Hamas-led massacre, in which terrorists murdered some 1,200 people, wounded thousands more, and abducted more than 250 men, women and children to the enclave. **HW**

OBITUARIES

Michael Owen Brown

Michael (Mickey) Owen Brown, born to Leroy and Ethel on November 18, 1940, passed away peacefully on the morning of July 28, 2024, with family at his side. Mickey was a life-long Memphian who made his mark as a golf champion and record setter including winning the junior crown at the Overton Park Open in 1967 at age 16, setting a course record 66 at the TPC Southwind on a cold rainy day in December 1991, and multiple double-eagles and holesin-one over the years. He was also a record setter in his career as a realtor, achieving lifetime membership in the Multi-Million-Dollar Club, among many other accolades. Most importantly, Mickey was a protective big-brother, proud father and grandfather, adoring husband, loyal friend, mentor and generous spirit.

A salesman's salesman, Mickey never forgot a name or failed to wish someone happy birthday, and he never took "no" for an answer. He loved being around people and making them laugh. He always had a story to tell and a joke to crack. He always said there was no joke someone could start that he couldn't finish. As far as we know, no one ever stumped him.

One of his favorite traditions was Tuesday lunches with his "buddies" Barton, Jack, Loren, Sidney and Taylor. Their unwavering companionship and support meant the world to him, and to his family.

Despite his often "tough guy" exterior, Mickey had a soft spot for animals and anyone down on their luck, traits he passed on to his children and grandchildren. He had a sharp and creative mind and loved to cook, write, draw and work crosswords. He also loved to cut a rug with "Ms. Elizabeth."

Mickey did things his way to the very end. He made fast friends and made friends fast. His smile and love for life will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his children, Adam and Eric Brown, and five grandchildren, Zachary, Ariella, Elana, Naama, and Lilah; his wife, Elizabeth Brown, and stepdaughter, Misty Clark; his sister, Pat Okeon; and his ex-wife and mother of his children, Francine Brown.

Mickey donated his body to UT for medical research. A memorial and celebration of Mickey's life will be held in mid-August at one of the places in Memphis he loved to spend time. **HW**

Harvey Stegman

Harvey Stegman, formerly of Memphis, died peacefully in Plano, Texas, on July 23, 2024. He was 98. He leaves his wife of 26 years, Ernestine Howard, and two cousins, Larry and Sharion Tillery of Frisco, Texas, with whom he was very close. He also leaves four children: Dr. Marc Stegman (Elaine), Lisa Perschon (Bill), Shelley Levy (Donny) and Brad Stegman (Stacy). Additionally, he leaves five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Harvey attended college majoring in communications and got his first job in Ohio as a radio broadcaster. He then moved to bigger broadcasting stations in Hot Springs, Ark., Meridian, Miss., Jonesboro, Ark., and Paducah, Ky., and eventually found his way to Memphis where he became the sports director for WREC Radio and affiliate television station CBS. At one time Harvey had the only radio sports show to be held nightly in the Midsouth area. He is perhaps best known for the many famous sports figures he interviewed such as Wilt Chamberlain, Muhammand Ali, Lee Trevino, Bear Bryant and Archie Manning to name a few.

Harvey remained an avid sports fan throughout his life. He had a lifelong passion for reading and learning. He loved his cars, which included a gold corvette and an orange Nissan 350z. He was an avid walker for many years, and he traveled the world with his wife, Ernestine, to places such as China, Japan, Egypt, Scotland, England and France to name a few.

Harvey will be buried at Dallas National Cemetery. Dallas Jewish Funeral Home has charge. **HW**

PAST ISSUES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

2021, 2022, 2023 and part of 2024

Israel Not Invited to Ceremony Marking Atomic Bombing of Nagasaki

(JNS) – Israel will not be invited to this year's ceremony commemorating the U.S. atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945.

Nagasaki Mayor Shiro Suzuki's decision last Wednesday followed concerns that "unexpected situations" such as anti-Israel protests over the war against the Hamas terrorist organization could erupt at the Nagasaki event.

Suzuki said the "wrenching decision" not to invite Israel, which has attended the event for years, is "not a political one but is based on our hope that we want the ceremony conducted smoothly under a solemn atmosphere."

In contrast, Hiroshima has invited Israel to its Aug. 6 ceremony marking the 79th anniversary of the atomic bomb attacks on the two Japanese cities. The bombings killed between 129,000 and 226,000 people, most of whom were civilians.

Hiroshima's annual peace ceremony is the larger of the two annual events, and representatives from 115 countries

are set to attend.

Suzuki had earlier called for a cease-fire in Israel's nearly 10-month-old war against Hamas in Gaza and had withheld the invitation pending developments on the ground in the Middle East.

Israeli Ambassador to Japan Gilad Cohen expressed disappointment over the "regrettable" decision, saying it sends a wrong message to the world.

"Israel is exercising its full right and moral obligation to defend itself and its citizens and will continue to do so," Cohen wrote on X last Wednesday. "There is no comparison between Israel, which is being brutally attacked by terrorist organizations, and any other conflict; any attempt to present it otherwise distorts reality."

The United States dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, on Aug. 6, 1945, and the second one on Nagasaki three days later. The Empire of Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II. **HW**

PAGE 10 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

ZAYDE'S PLAYGROUND



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

Ted Roberts

Who wouldn't love my curly gold-en-haired grandchild? And his older and younger gilded brothers between 3 and 7 years of age. (They looked just like me, except a few of my curls had faded to gray and the last time I counted them, a few were missing.) They loved me, and I loved them. And they were coming to visit.

I always planned entertainment for them. None of this "go play in the yard, kids." First, I read them three of my stories – with a bowl of strawberry ice cream, which I suspected played a large role in their willingness to sit still for 30 minutes. They always cheered and clapped – for which I rewarded them a second bowl of ice cream. Then we'd go to an eroded hillside nearby where we would look for trilobite fossils. A great lesson in natural history and G-d's

magic molding of the universe. I also told them of the grandeur of Genesis. Kids being kids and acceptant of their Zayde's knowledge, they'd never dare bring up the discrepancy between biblical and archeological dating. They trusted Zayde. Maybe Adam and Eve had a trilobite for a pet.

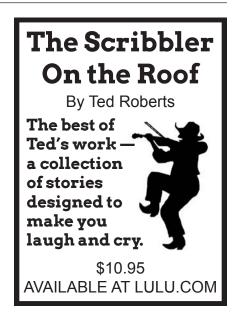
It was a three-ring circus, and I was the ringmaster. Naturally, we went to a local playground - slides, swings, monkey bars and many a day we came home with a minor casualty; a hot slide that fried the bottom of my four-year-old or a purple forehead lump bruised by an errant swing. Nothing serious - all part of the adventure that drew lectures from my children who grew up in an age of hyper-safety. "How 'bout me," I replied. "Ever been banged in the stomach by a swing with a 40-pound passenger?" But they all lectured Zayde with a one-word speech repeated 30 times: CAREFUL. You could tell they didn't trust me.

And I haven't mentioned the piece de resistance, my supreme treat for the kids. The thrill of thrills – the ultimate rocket to adult pleasureland and a blue-ribbon potential accident inflictor: My riding lawnmower. The first time my kids saw it they rose up in rebellion.

"Pop, my kid can't ride that. Pop, she'll fall off." So silly.

We live in an age of fear. What could happen? I drove – the child sat on my lap. Only the older ones did I allow to steer among the trees on my back yard lot. And if a golden-haired, giggling heir dropped off on the grass, I immediately stopped, staunched her tears with a lecture on courage, and off we went. (Understand, I never engaged the blade.) Essentially, we had our own snail-speed racing track in the back yard. What fun! A lot safer, I preached to my kids, than pan-fried tookies and out-of-control swings. And right in our own backyard where medical attention was nearby.

They loved it. And all went well till one fall morning Aryeh (older, so I open the throttle a bit more than usual) and I speeded through my back yard. My neighbor, a friendly type, is watching and waving a big hello. Being equally friendly, I wave back. Uh oh – that young, post-pubescent Catawba tree has unexplainably moved during the night. Bam! The lawnmower hits the tree. The tree doesn't budge – the post-pubescent Catawba bounces off the lawnmower – the lawnmower stops abruptly. Ten years later you can still see the curve in the



trunk of the tree. The family of observers clustered in the yard gasps and starts dialing medical aid facilities and reciting the Shema. I, with arms wrapped around Aryeh like super safety belts, simply stop laughing in his ear. He's laughing, too. The tree is not laughing. No harm done, but I guess next time we'll have to go to their playground with those dangerous swings.

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**

'Wait for Harsh Punishment' Billboard Goes Up in Tehran as Khameini Reportedly Orders Attack on Israel

By Philissa Cramer

(JTA) – Hours after the Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in Tehran, a building-sized poster went up in the city's Palestine Square that, unusually, featured the national language of Iran's sworn enemy Israel.

"Wait for harsh punishment," the billboard said in Hebrew, atop a massive portrait of Haniyeh, whose funeral took place last Thursday. Haniyeh is shown in front of the Dome of the Rock, the Muslim holy place on Jerusalem's Temple Mount, a site revered by Jews and Muslims.

The poster offered a powerful symbol of what unnamed Iranian officials told "The New York Times" late last Wednesday: that Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khameini, had authorized a direct attack on Israel in response to Haniyeh's assassination.

"Following this bitter, tragic event, which has taken place within the borders of the Islamic Republic, it is our duty to take revenge," Khameini tweeted, without specifying any details.

Israel has not taken responsibility for Haniyeh's death, but it is widely understood to have been behind the assassination, which took place hours after Haniyeh attended a ceremony honoring Iran's new president in an operation that has humiliated Iran at a time when it is seeking to project strength. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Israelis late last Wednesday that there could be "difficult days ahead" as Israel waits for Iran's response.

In April, Iran fired missiles directly at

Israel for the first time; almost all of the hundreds of missiles were deflected by Israel and its allies, including the United States. Israel struck near a military site in Iran in response.

The sources told "The New York Times" that the response to Haniyeh's death, which might be coordinated with Iran's allies in the region including Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen, would target military installations and seek to avoid harming civilians. **HW**

ISRAEL INSIGHTS Will Strong Messages Be Sufficient?

By Howard Weisband

I am writing this column on July 31, less than 12 hours after a precision guided missile eliminated Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, reportedly an Israeli action as yet unconfirmed. Haniyeh was visiting the Iranian capital for the inauguration of the new president of Iran, literally amidst chants of "Death to Israel" and "Death to America"

Merely a day earlier, Israel did confirm its elimination of Fuad Shukr, Hezbollah's most senior military commander, in Beirut. This was a pinpointed retaliation for Hezbollah's firing of an Iranian rocket that killed 12 children playing soccer and injured dozens in the Golan Heights Druze town of Majdal Shams last Saturday.

At this point in time, understandably, Israel apparently decided to take these actions rather than begin a ground invasion in Lebanon. Such an invasion would have been designed in all probability to take out Hezbollah terrorists and infrastructure and push the Iranian proxy back beyond the Litani River in Lebanon, some 18 miles from Israel's border. The latter factor is mandated in the UN Security Council Resolution 1701 approved in 2006, but never enforced.

These two actions just over 24 hours apart are strong messages to Hezbollah, Hamas, and certainly Iran. But will they prove to be sufficient?

This question is approached somewhat differently in an excellent analysis by Herb Keinon published in the "Jerusalem Post" on July 28, before the actions described above. Titled "Hezbollah, Lebanon, or Iran: Who should bear the brunt of Israel's response?" He states: "There are... three legitimate targets for Israel to retaliate against: Iran, Hezbollah, and Lebanon. The question before Israel's decision-makers is which is the better option? Which has the better chance of ensuring that this is something that does not happen again? Some will argue that there is a fourth option: diplomacy."

Even while the Government and the IDF contemplated and planned these recent actions, the Israeli Foreign Ministry allowed for such an option. A statement released on July 28 read: "The only way that the world can prevent a full-scale war, which would be devastating, also to Lebanon, is by forcing Hezbollah to implement Security Council Resolution 1701 (mentioned above). Now is the very last minute to do so diplomatically."

But truthfully, diplomacy has yet to

be effective. The problem is deeper than Hezbollah. Keinon illuminates that fact: "... then-education minister Naftali Bennett articulated already in 2017, the Iranians have developed a brilliant game plan whereby they can use their proxies to attack Israel – Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, and Iraqi militias – yet remain immune themselves.... Iran is the head of the octopus that has its tentacles surrounding Israel; and Israel fights the tentacles but – for the most part – leaves the head alone."

It's clear that Iran is not a threat only to Israel. Their radical tentacles and support of jihad terrorism spreads throughout the free world, clearly into the United States, Europe and elsewhere. Writing for the Gatestone Institute on February 8, 2024, Alan Dershowitz pointed out that: "Iran has declared war on the United States – militarily, legally, diplomatically, morally and politically. They have engaged in repeated *casus belli* (legal causes for war) since the mullahs took Americans hostage in 1979. Since that time, they have used their surrogates to attack American targets."

He wrote too: "The Middle East and the world would be a safer place without the current Iranian regime. It would be a far more dangerous place with a nuclear-weaponized Iran that could protect its surrogates under a nuclear umbrella."

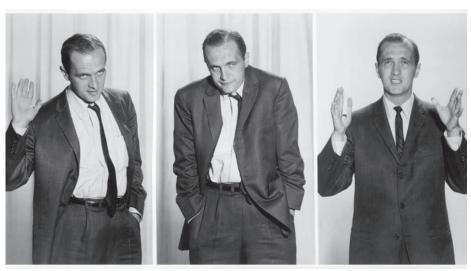
It is clear that Iran continues to move toward nuclear weapons while fomenting unrest and terrorism. Neither diplomacy, negotiations, sanctions nor international agreements have worked sufficiently. Iranian leadership represents a culture, perhaps a civilization very different than that of the free, democratic world.

Israel's bold actions during these very days constitute a strong message to Iran. It is not sufficient.

Western powers often led by the United States confer and take action on issues ranging from the world economy to global climate. It is time that combatting Iran will be placed on their agenda so that both the planet and freedom-loving people of the world will survive.

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

When Bob Newhart was My Rabbi – and I was His



Bob Newhart performing his stand-up act, promoting his appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show. Credit: Hulton Archive/Getty Images

By Rabbi Bob Alper

I'm six months shy of 80 and in a [few weeks] I'll head from Vermont to Chattanooga, Tennessee, to do 75 minutes of stand-up comedy. Why am I still out there? As Bob Newhart, who [recently] died at 94, explained, it was worth it to him to take his shoes off at airport security to be able to have the opportunity to make people laugh.

Me too.

It's amazing to think that Bob Newhart has been my most important role model since 1960. That's when his enduringly funny comedy album "The Button-Down Mind of Bob Newhart" made its debut. A high school junior, I memorized the routines, and when I attended Jewish youth conclaves, I nervously took the stage on talent night and

performed them word-for-word. People laughed. I grew confident. And the girls – the girls – really paid attention. Comedy, I realized, was good.

It never occurred to me that I could ever become a professional comedian. I pursued a logical spiritual and vocational goal, became a rabbi, served large congregations and then, on a whim, entered Philadelphia's "Jewish Comic of the Year Contest" in 1986, coming in third behind a chiropractor and a lawyer. It launched my surprising second career that I adore.

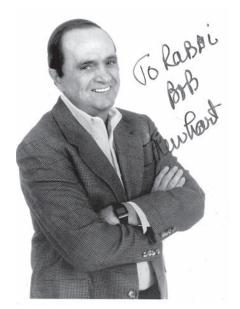
In nearly every interview people ask about my comedy journey, and nearly always inquire about my comedian inspirations. I look like Steve Martin, and Jackie Mason was a rabbi, but, I always explain, it was Bob Newhart whom I admired more than all the others – and not just cause we're both named Bob.

Newhart, who started out as an accountant, was by all reports a mensch. He led an admirable personal life: a 60-year marriage as a loving husband and devoted father and grandfather. No drama. No scandals. A quiet, unassuming man despite the tempting glamour that characterized his Hollywood world.

And his comedy was unique, particularly his monologues with a telephone. Low-key yet amazingly clever. Never angry, never hurtful, never insulting (this despite his best friend being Don Rickles). Newhart's work, including his namesake sitcoms, was just guffaw-inducing humor that is as brilliant today as it was in the 1960s. In fact, when I saw him perform years ago, he did some new material, but it was his sharing routines from his decades-old albums, which I knew by heart, that had me laughing the most.

Perhaps surprisingly, of all the many comedians I've watched throughout the years, it was Bob Newhart, a practicing Roman Catholic, who served as my personal model. Newhart's stage presence was low-key, gentle, and his slight stammer made him seem even somewhat vulnerable. I suspect it was his grounding in his faith that inspired his always-respectful and yes, sweet, style of comedy.

About 10 years ago I performed at The Chautauqua Institution and learned that Newhart would be appearing the



Bob Newhart, who shared my first name, saved himself a penstroke. Courtesy of Bob Alper

following week. I shared my admiration with my contact there, and two weeks later a signed headshot appeared in my mailbox. It's a precious possession, exemplifying his kindness and comedic brilliance in just four clever words. He wrote, "To Rabbi Bob Newhart." How's that for economy?

"May his memory be a blessing," we say. Whenever I hear the words, "The Grace L. Ferguson Airline and Storm Door Company" from one of Newhart's routines, I chuckle.

And it's at that moment that Bob Newhart's memory is unquestionably a blessing. **HW**

Times Square Rally Features Hamas and Hezbollah Flags, Portrait of Haniyeh

(JNS) – Reports from watchdog group Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) show a boisterous anti-Israel demonstration in Times Square last Wednesday night against a Jewish-organized rally to support the Israel Defense

The "New York Post" reported that about 300 people attended the rally, which featured a speech by Jonathan Conricus, former spokesperson for the IDF during its ongoing war with Hamas in the wake of the Oct. 7 terrorist attacks in southern Israel.

The "Post" wrote that the demonstration was reportedly organized by the radical group Within Our Lifetime. Protesters held up large photos of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and Hezbollah leader Fuad Shukr, both assassinated on July 31, as well as flags of Hamas, Hezbollah and the Hamas military brigade Izz Al-Din Al-Qassam. They also made an inverted triangle hand signal identified by the Anti-Defamation League as a symbol of support for Hamas.

Video from MEMRI shows Nerdeen Kiswani – an organizer and founder of Within Our Lifetime, as well as a City University of New York law-school graduate criticized for her commencement speech in May 2022 – leading a chant of "Israel, we know you! You rape children, too!"

Other slogans yelled at the demonstration included "From New York to

Gaza," "Globalize the intifada" and Allahu Akbar ("God is great"). **HW**







We watch your property. You watch your investment grow.

Property Management with more than 30 years experience.

BERT LESS, PRESIDENT Kristie Nelson, Office Manager



901.272.9028 LecoRealty.com



PAGE 12 | AUGUST 8, 2024 THE HEBREW WATCHMAN | hebrewwatchman.com

French Authorities Investigating 'Heil Hitler' Chants and Nazi Salutes at Israel-Paraguay Olympic Soccer Match



Fans waved Palestinian flags and gave Nazi salutes during the Israeli national anthem prior to Israel's match against Paraguay at the 2024 Paris Olympics, July 27, 2024, in Paris. Credit: Geoffroy Van der Hasselt/AFP via Getty Images

By Jacob Gurvis

July 30, 2024 – (JTA) – French law enforcement are investigating after fans at an Israel-Paraguay soccer match gave Nazi salutes and chanted "Heil Hitler" during the Israeli national anthem.

Fans also waved Palestinian flags and

displayed a banner reading "Genocide Olympics" during the match last Saturday, which Paraguay won 4-2.

Olympics organizers confirmed the incident in a statement to "Sky Sports," saying "a banner bearing a political

message was displayed and anti-Semitic gestures were made."

"Paris 2024 strongly condemns these acts," the statement added. "A complaint has been lodged by Paris 2024, which is at the disposal of the authorities to assist with the investigation."

According to CNN, the Paris prosecutor's office has launched a probe into reports of "aggravated incitement to racial hatred" and "incitement to discrimination." French police are also investigating death threats made to three Israeli Olympians.

In a separate incident, the personal data of members of Israel's delegation were leaked on social media last Friday. The leaks came one day after Israel's foreign minister warned of Iranian efforts to target Israeli athletes and attendees at the Paris Olympics.

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, called the Nazi salutes and chants "Outrageous and unacceptable."

He tweeted, "This blatant display of antisemitism has NO place in our society or at the @Olympics. Despicable."

Guy Luzon, the coach of Israel's national soccer team, said at a press conference last week that his team feeds off

fans' opposition to their country. "Bring on the loudest protests," he said. "They will make us try harder."

The team, which is playing in its first Olympics in nearly half a century, tied Mali in its first match and play[ed] Japan last Tuesday.

The security of Israeli athletes at the Olympics has been a concern particularly because 11 were murdered in a Palestinian terror attack at the 1972 Olympics in Munich. This year, there were calls to bar Israel from the Paris Games over its ongoing war with Hamas in Gaza. One American Jewish Olympian told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the past violence has made her nervous ahead of the tournament.

Olympics organizers in Paris have arranged for round-the-clock security for Israel's nearly 90-athlete Olympic delegation, both in the Olympic Village and in transit to Olympic venues.

Earlier last week, a now-debunked video went viral appearing to show a Hamas operative threatening that "rivers of blood will flow through the streets of Paris" because of Israel's participation in the Olympics. Researchers at Microsoft concluded that the video was the work of a Russian disinformation campaign. HW



camera

Please Help Keep Memphis Jewish Publishing Alive SUBSCRIBE BY SCANNING THE CODE TO THE LEFT

or mail a check to The Hebrew Watchmam P.O. Box 770846, Memphis, TN 38177-0846 TO ADVERTISE

901.763.2215 • info@HebrewWatchman.com

Join us for a great day of competition, camaraderie, kosher food and fun at the 33rd Annual ASBEE World Kosher BBQ Contest & Festival!

Sunday, August 25, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

at Baron Hirsch Congregation, 400 S. Yates Road, Memphis, Tennessee

- Awards for top honors in beef ribs, brisket, chicken wings and beans, as well as team name and booth
- Local celebrity judges
- 3-on-3 basketball tournament, with free-throw and three-point shooting contests
- Pickle eating contest
- Family fun in the Kiddie Corral face painting, petting zoo, bounce house and more
- Delicious kosher BBQ beef and chicken sandwiches, hamburgers and other items for sale at the Cowsher Café



FREE admission!

(Fees applicable for certain events)

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

Highland Capital • Olymbec • Baptist Medical Group | Spence and Becky Wilson Baptist Children's Hospital • Cardiovascular Physicians of Memphis • The Kahane Family • The Mogy Law Firm

The Hebrew Watchman | Jewish Scene Magazine • Lubin Property Management • Mendelson Law Firm • Nahon, Saharovich & Trotz, PLC • New Park Monuments & Memorials • OurConnections, LLC • Rick Baer Realty • River City Pediatrics • Southern Vault

Sarah and Allen Ardestani • Ark Roofing • Belz Enterprises • Bluff City Injury • Campbell Law Firm • Marc A. Cohen, DDS • CS3 Inc. •

Dinstuhl's Fine Candies | Judy and Larry Moss • DoubleTree Hotel Memphis | Cooper Hotels • Gastro One • Jan and Andy Groveman •

Harkavy Shainberg Kaplan & Dunstan PLC • Inquisitor, Inc • Lansky Law Firm • Law Offices of Brandon Hall • Law Offices of Jack Sherman •

Law Office of O. Douglas Shipman, PC | Mid South Title Services, LLC • Lubin Enterprises • Makowsky Ringel Greenberg LLC • Malcolm D. Myers, CPA •

Ortman Chiropractic • Paragon Bank • Progressive Process Service • Scott & Pohlman, P.C. • Smith Berclair Insurance •

State Farm Insurance | David Ross • Sysco • Sarah and Noam VanderWalde • The Wagerman/Katzman Law Firm • Carol and Stuart Zalowitz

For event details, visit baronhirsch.org/asbeekosherbbq or contact asbeebbq@baronhirsch.org / (901) 683-7485.