

Volume 19 | Number 1 | 2024

# Jewish Scene

CONNECTING JEWISH COMMUNITIES



*Guide to Jewish  
Memphis*

# From Downtown...to Midtown...to Germantown...



And beyond, I sell them all. From the oldest to the newest and everything in-between. And I sell homes in Gated communities, Condominiums, Contemporaries, Stately Traditionals, homes with lakes and Swimming Pools with homes attached! If you or someone you know is thinking of selling, talk to 2-3 real estate Brokers but make sure that I am one of them. Find out how Preparation, Presentation, Pricing and my highly successful Strategic Marketing Program can make the difference in whether you sit...or...SELL! 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.



*Leading*  
REAL ESTATE  
COMPANIES  
OF THE WORLD

*Marx-Bensdorf*  
REALTORS®

Life Member, Multi-Million Dollar Club  
Memphis Area Association of Realtors

Cell 901.483.0546 • Office 901.682.1868  
shelrose@memphisrelocate.com



T Clifton

GALLERY & FRAMING



Menorah Artist Luis Marquez  
Kiddush Cup Artist Joy Stember  
Custom Framing Ketubahs

Fine Judaic Art, Jewish Artists, and more

Thurs & Fri: 11am-5pm | Sat: 11am - 4pm | Tues & Wed: Appointments Welcome  
2571 Broad Avenue | Memphis | 901-323-2787 | TCliftonArt.com



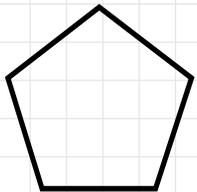
## Multiple Locations, One Caring Team

Whether you visit our East Memphis, Germantown, or Bartlett locations, our team is committed to helping you reach your smile goals and optimal oral health. Experience the difference with our understanding and supportive care. Schedule an appointment today!

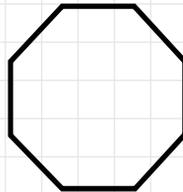
**901-681-0408**

East Memphis • Germantown • Bartlett

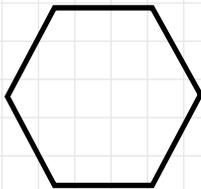
**BELLANODENTAL.COM**



**PENTAGON**



**OCTAGON**



**HEXAGON**



**HOUSEAGON**

**I'm no mathematician...  
but I can get your house sold!**



*Official Real Estate Agent of The Memphis Tigers*

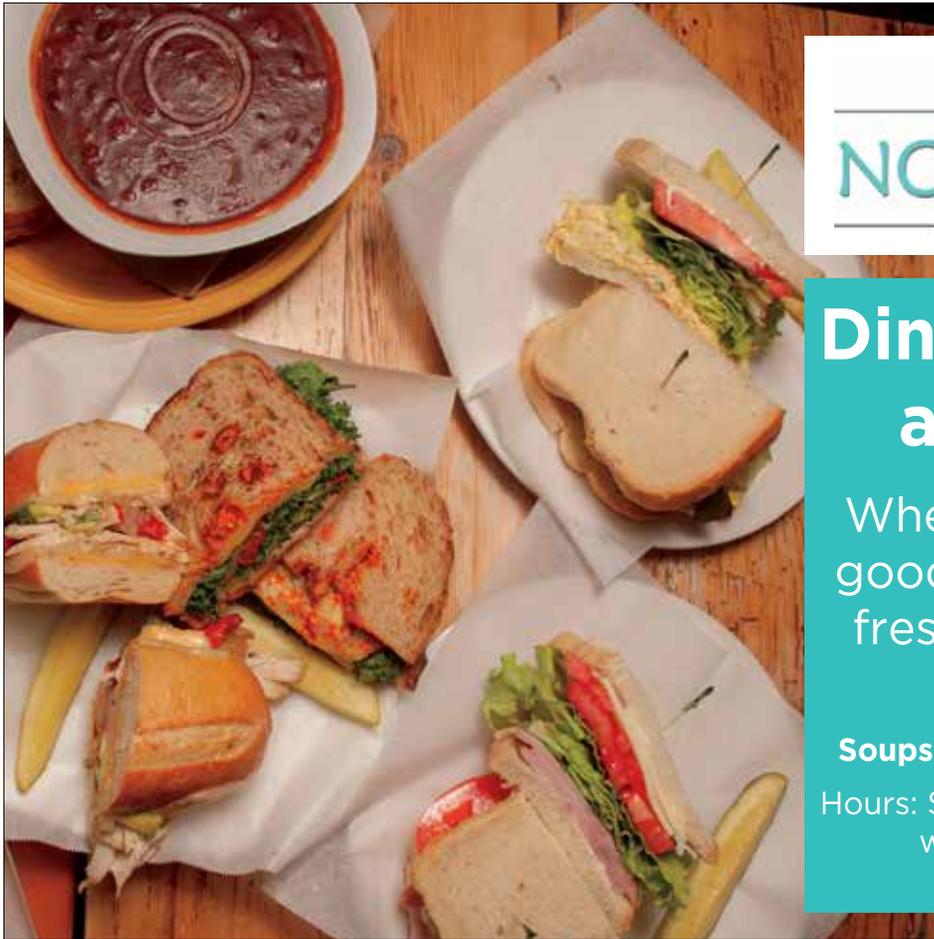


**Brian Lurie**  
Broker, Vice-President  
GRI, RENE, MMDC, CRS

Cell: 901.315.2298  
Office: 901.260.4780

Blurie2003@gmail.com  
BestRealEstateAgentinMemphis.com  
www.BluffCityBuilders.com

**CRYE-LEIKE<sup>®</sup>**  
REALTORS<sup>®</sup>



**Dine in, carry out,  
and catering!**

When it comes to kosher goodness, there's nothing fresher or friendlier than Nosh-A-Rye.

**Soups, Salads, Sandwiches and more!**

Hours: Sundays - Fridays from 11am-3pm  
[www.thenoshmemphis.com](http://www.thenoshmemphis.com)  
 (901) 756-3229

**Socialization | Art & Music | Nutrition | Games | Connection**



**Ronna K. Newburger**  
 Adult Day Center



**Fun and flexible** daytime care for your loved one from a partner you **trust.**

Open seven days a week!

**Inquire today.**

Located at  
 Memphis Jewish  
**HOME&REHAB**

Paige Taylor, Director | [ptaylor@memphisjewishhome.org](mailto:ptaylor@memphisjewishhome.org) | (901) 756-3221 | [www.memphisjewishhome.org](http://www.memphisjewishhome.org)

# Contents

05 [Contributors](#)

06 [Letter from the Editor](#)  
The dreaded annual deadline

08 [Feature](#)  
**Memphian Jeffrey Hanover Invites Seniors to Visit The Avaline at River Oaks**  
This new assisted living and memory care facility touts “an idyllic lifestyle” offering boutique apartment homes and resort-inspired amenities with personalized care plans and a robust menu of services.

11 [Guide to Jewish Memphis](#)

12 [Jewish Foundation of Memphis, Memphis Jewish Federation](#)

13 [Jewish Communal Organizations Congregations](#)

14 [Men’s Organizations](#)  
[Women’s Organizations](#)



# 08

15 [Education Pre-K Through 12th Grade](#)

17 [Youth and Family Programs](#)  
[Young Adults](#)  
[Newcomers](#)

18 [Adult and Higher Education](#)  
[Social Services](#)

19 [Senior Services](#)  
[Senior Groups](#)  
[Senior Services](#)  
[Senior Living Facilities](#)



20 [Kosher in Memphis](#)  
[Cemeteries](#)  
[Judaic Museums](#)

23 [Hollywood Pet Stars](#)  
**Yoshi’s Snoopy Complex**  
Yoshi loves his doghouse – the roof that is!

24 [A Life Well Lived](#)  
**Harry Samuels: Storyteller Turns Tragedy into Tremendous Chesed**  
From businessman to storyteller, this published author and family man has shared stories of connections that amaze readers around the world.

26 [“Crossroads: Chance or Destiny”](#)  
**The Roll**

28 [Feature](#)  
**Memphis Teen Programs**  
If your teen is looking for some exciting activities, there are plenty of options in our Memphis community.

✚ [On The Cover](#)  
Scott Ostrow and Stacy Vogel visit The Hebrew Watchman/Jewish Scene booth at the ASBEE BBQ Festival. They were both featured on recent covers of the publications.  
*By Alayna Heitner*



# Contributors



Shoshana Y. Cenker is a word & grammar nerd with 20+ years in creative services. She's the managing editor of a media publishing firm and runs her freelance communications business, as a content writer, editor, proofreader, copywriter, marketing consultant and wordsmith extraordinaire. She and her three kiddos – twin boys Aiden and Kivi, and daughter Lyla – happily live in her hometown of Memphis, with their pup, Memphis. ShoshanaAY@gmail.com



Harry Samuels, author of "Beshert: True Stories of Connections" and "Crossroads: Chance or Destiny?" is a graduate of Washington University. He has devoted many years to volunteerism in Memphis, Tenn. He and his wife, Flora, have been married for 62 years and are the parents of Martin, William and the late David Samuels.

**EMBASSY APARTMENTS**  
Luxury and Location







*In the Heart of East Memphis*

**Offering one, two, and three bedrooms**  
**Utilities Included**

See our floorplans at [embassyaptsmemphis.com](http://embassyaptsmemphis.com)

**505 South Perkins Rd. 901.685.8020**

[www.embassyaptsmemphis.com](http://www.embassyaptsmemphis.com)



**Comfort Keepers**  
Elevating the Human Spirit

**In-Home Care to Help Seniors Thrive**

Our empathetic, in-home care helps seniors thrive while living independently. Whether your loved one needs medication reminders, transportation to appointments, or personal care, Comfort Keepers is here to provide support and build meaningful relationships.

**In-Home Care Services**

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

Home + Life + Care | [ComfortKeepers.com](http://ComfortKeepers.com)

Comfort Keepers of the Mid-South 5668 S Rex Rd #200 Memphis, TN 38119  
© 2022 CK Franchising, Inc. An international network where most offices are independently owned and operated.

# Letter From the Editor

It's crazy how hard it is to stay on deadline when everyone is out of the office!

After two-plus months of collecting the data and sending proofs, and now that the whirlwind of Jewish holidays is behind us, this annual Guide to Jewish Memphis is finally in print.

We hope this Guide serves as a resource to Memphians – old and new. There are a few new programs and activities for all ages in several categories at multiple organizations. I bet there's something listed that meets your specific interests.

From Jewish communal organizations, synagogues and programs for kids, teens, senior adults, and everyone in between, there are a multitude of listings for you to share with friends, newcomers, and out-of-towners who are interested in moving to Memphis.

Our next issue features Tikkun Olam and Tzedekah throughout our community. We'd love to share your personal bar/bat mitzvah projects or organizational programs designed to repair the world. Send us your info. We'd love to hear from you!

As always, please support and thank our advertisers. If you have not subscribed to "The Hebrew Watchman," you can look at page 26 and scan the QR code or fill out the form and mail, or visit us at [HebrewWatchman.com](http://HebrewWatchman.com).

Shalom,



Susan C. Nieman - Publisher/Editor



PROTECTING YOUR FUTURE

# INSURANCE

∨

AUTO  
HOME  
BUSINESS  
AVIATION  
LIFE & HEALTH  
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

(901) 767 - 3600  
[WWW.CLAYANDLAND.COM](http://WWW.CLAYANDLAND.COM)

**Clay  
Land**  
Insurance Since 1968

**Publisher/Editor**

Susan C. Nieman

**Art Director**

Dustin Green

**Web and Social Media**

Rebecca Schudel

**Editorial Contributors**

Toni Nieman

**Advertising Sales Director**

Larry Nieman

**Chief Financial Officer**

Donald Heitner

**Administrative Assistant/Subscriptions**

Toni Nieman

**Volume 19 Number 1**

**November 2024**

**Tishrei/Cheshvan 5785**

*Jewish Scene* magazine must give permission for any material contained herein to be copied or reproduced in any manner. Manuscripts and photographs submitted for publication are welcome by *Jewish Scene*, but no responsibility can be taken for them while in transit or in the office of the publication. Editorial content does not necessarily reflect the publisher's opinion, nor can the publisher be held responsible for errors. The publication of any advertisement in this issue does not constitute an endorsement of the advertiser's product or services by this publication.

*Jewish Scene* is published by Jewish Living of the South, Inc. Subscription rates for the U.S.: single issues \$5, annual \$25. Canada and foreign: single issues \$10, annual \$50.

Susan Nieman  
901.827.7244  
susan@jewishscenemagazine.com  
jewishscenemagazine.com



## Small Firm Culture, Big Firm Results

Serving our community for decades with a broad range of Personal and Business Legal Services including Real Estate, Business Transactions, Wills, Trusts and Estate Planning and Litigation in State and Federal Courts.

### Attorneys

Michael D. Kaplan  
Neil Harkavy  
Jason D. Salomon  
Jason M. Goldstein  
Jeremiah McGuire  
Sorrelle Dattel

### Senior Counsel

Teresa M. Bernhardt  
  
Of Counsel  
Laurie A. Cooper  
Steve R. Graber  
Alan L. Kosten

Ronald M. Harkavy (Retired)  
Raymond Shainberg (1930-2018)  
Allen Dunstan (1948-2017)

**HARKAVY  
SHAINBERG  
KAPLAN** PLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

901.761.1263

6060 Poplar Ave STE 140, Memphis, TN 38119

[www.harkavyshainberg.com](http://www.harkavyshainberg.com)

# Memphian Jeffrey Hanover Invites Seniors to Visit The Avaline at River Oaks

By Shoshana Cenker

The Avaline at River Oaks is a brand-new assisted living and memory care facility on Massey Road in East Memphis near the Memphis Jewish Community Center (MJCC). Touted as “an idyllic lifestyle,” the family-owned, senior community offers boutique apartment homes and resort-inspired amenities with personalized care plans and a robust menu of services. From a bistro and bar, restaurant-style dining, activity spaces and programming, to outside courtyards, on-site physical and occupational therapy, concierge services, and transportation to medical appointments – residents enjoy a supportive and engaging life. The community provides different living options, including suites, studio, and one-bedroom floor plans, as well as a continuum of care with nursing staff available 24 hours a day. Assisted living studios start at \$4,100; one-bedrooms start at \$4,500; memory care rent is \$5,500. We spoke with the facility’s executive director, Jeff Hanover, to learn more about this unique senior community.

**Jewish Scene:** What brought you to The Avaline at River Oaks?

**Jeffrey Hanover:** Working in assisted living is an incredibly rewarding experience for me. After meeting the stakeholders at our parent company, Claiborne Senior Living, I knew that The Avaline at River Oaks was a “resident-first community.” My background is working in hospital operations and physician practice management, but 12 years ago, I took over my first community and never left the senior living world. I believe certain traits and qualities make an efficient and leadership-driven executive director, including compassion, empathy, patience, understanding, strong communication skills, and being a team player. Those like me who thrive in this environment often have a deep sense of caregiving, working with an aging population, and a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of seniors. I bring to The Avaline at River Oaks a certain skill set that promotes wellness and engagement for our residents and peace of mind to family members. As part of the Claiborne Senior Living family, I have the opportunity to create a home-like environment with support services to care for those who cared for us so many years ago. I go to work every day knowing that I’m making life a little better for our residents. I’m grateful for this opportunity from Claiborn Senior Living.

**JS:** The Avaline at River Oaks opened on Oct. 1 in a former assisted living facility location. What updates and renovations took place?



**Hanover:** The community is virtually unrecognizable to those who had previous knowledge of it. Beyond the new furniture, paint, and décor, this community received an extensive interior and exterior renovation, including repurposing several common spaces. I often hear on tours that we look similar to a hotel. Additional renovations include kitchen and bathroom cabinets, countertops, flooring, appliances, HVAC, outside grounds, window blinds, emergency alert system, fall prevention program, and expanded community spaces inside and out.

**JS:** What’s the difference between assisted living and memory care?

**Hanover:** Assisted living offers help with daily activities for older adults who need some support but are mostly independent. Memory care provides a secure, specialized environment for those with Alzheimer’s or dementia, focusing on safety and cognitive support with some assistance with daily activities.

**JS:** What amenities does The Avaline offer?

**Hanover:** The Avaline at River Oaks is proud of our social offerings: bistro/bar, courtyard patios, creative spots for art and reading, game room, quiet neighborhood, and unique media rooms with movie seating. We also offer support services such as housekeeping, laundry service, transportation, restaurant-style dining, on-site therapy services, a specialized dementia care program, and more.

**JS:** Are there Jewish residents?

**Hanover:** On my first day, I communicated to Claiborne Senior Living that I wanted to focus on providing senior housing

services to the Jewish community. It's long been a desire of mine to have a community where Jewish people could live "Jewishly" together and with other Jewish residents they've known for years. Claiborne was thrilled with the idea and gave me resources to introduce the Jewish community to The Avaline at River Oaks. We'll celebrate Jewish holidays, cooking, and speakers, and Jewish-based activities and services led by Memphis' Jewish leaders. We'll explore old Jewish Memphis on tours around town and help seniors reconnect to their past. We offer transportation to the MJCC, just down the street, for programs and lunches.

**JS:** What advice do you give families considering senior care options?

**Hanover:** Start by understanding the level of care your loved one needs. Consider their medical conditions, mobility, assistance requirements, and any specialized care needs. Evaluate how well each senior care option can meet those needs effectively, pros and cons, and your loved one's specific needs and preferences. If your loved one prefers to stay in their home, in-home care may be a suitable option, allowing them to maintain independence while

receiving the necessary support from professional caregivers. Assisted living communities offer a balance between independence and support in a safe and social environment with assistance. Consider each community's amenities, social activities, and personalized care services. Nursing homes are ideal for individuals with complex medical needs requiring 24/7 care. Evaluate medical care, availability of skilled nursing staff, and the facility's track record in handling similar medical conditions. Whenever possible, involve the senior in the decision-making process – their input and preferences can significantly influence their overall well-being and adjustment to the chosen care option.

Trust your instincts and seek additional advice from senior care professionals.

**JS:** Briefly share your company's approach to senior care and the philosophy and culture that guides your organization.

**Hanover:** Claiborne's approach to senior care is centered on personalized, compassionate care that honors residents' dignity and individuality. Guided by a philosophy that prioritizes respect, empathy, and excellence, The Avaline

at River Oaks has created a vibrant community where residents thrive physically, emotionally, and socially. We embrace innovation and continuous improvement, ensuring the highest-quality care and overall living experience. Our focus is on enriching residents' lives, fostering meaningful connections, and creating a supportive environment that truly feels like home.

**The Avaline at River Oaks**  
 1645 West Massey Road  
 Memphis, TN 38120  
 901.494.8066



# MAKE A CONNECTION

## Temple Israel Tribes

Build connections, explore your passions, and meet new people.

Contact **Faith Ruch**, *Director of Congregational Engagement* at [faithr@timemphis.org](mailto:faithr@timemphis.org)

[timemphis.org/tribes](https://timemphis.org/tribes)

## ConnectI

20s and 30s social & spiritual group at Temple Israel

Contact, **Rabbi Ross Z. Levy** at 901.761.3130 or [Rabbiross@timemphis.org](mailto:Rabbiross@timemphis.org)

[timemphis.org/connecti](https://timemphis.org/connecti)



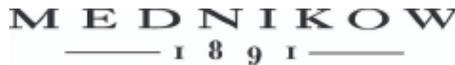
JEWISH FOUNDATION OF MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS JEWISH FEDERATION

Managed by JEWISH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you to our corporate partners.  
Your support helps build a vibrant Jewish community in Memphis.

### Silver Partners

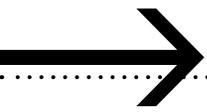


### Bronze Partners



### In-Kind Partners





Guide to

# Jewish Memphis



**Jewish Foundation of Memphis and Memphis Jewish Federation  
Managed by Jewish Community Partners**

6560 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38138  
901.767.7100 • [jcpmemphis.org](http://jcpmemphis.org)  
President & CEO Laura K. Linder  
JCP Chair Marty Kelman  
Foundation Chair Pace Cooper  
Federation Chair Scott Notowich

**WE ARE  
JEWISH MEMPHIS**

Your Trusted  
Charitable  
Partner



**Jewish Foundation of Memphis**

For 30 years the Jewish Foundation of Memphis has led the Jewish community in charitable giving through supporting agencies, synagogues, schools, and building philanthropists of all ages. When 10 Jewish organizations partnered to launch the Jewish Foundation of Memphis, they could not have envisioned the Foundation's impact on the Memphis Jewish community.

Now, with more than 580 funds, 600 legacy commitments to local Jewish organizations, and a team of professionals well versed in major gift and planned giving development, the Foundation helps donors reach their philanthropic goals. Foundation's donor advised funds have provided \$146 million to agencies serving the local Jewish community and greater Memphis.

The mission of the Jewish Foundation of Memphis is to encourage charitable giving, support partner agency endowment development and build and sustain a vibrant Jewish community. To learn more, visit [jcpmemphis.org/foundation](http://jcpmemphis.org/foundation).



**Memphis Jewish Federation**

For countless years, the Memphis Jewish Federation has been deeply committed to the well-being and strengthening of our Jewish community locally, nationally and globally. With a dedicated team of skilled professionals and a diverse and passionate board of volunteer leaders, we engage in a seamless collaboration.

Federation is purposefully gaining a profound understanding of individual and communal needs, crafting strategies with a resolute emphasis on addressing the rising tide of antisemitism, nurturing future Jewish community leaders, enhancing community security, and ensuring access to an engaged Jewish life for all members of our community.

Over 1,100 Memphis Jewish families make a difference through the Federation's Annual Community Campaign. We allocate and grant resources to address urgent Jewish needs locally and globally, providing support in times of crisis and for enduring challenges like antisemitism and food insecurity.

The mission of Memphis Jewish Federation is to develop a vibrant and sustained Jewish community in Memphis, Israel, and throughout the world. Federation helps nourish Jewish life through community grants, programs for the Memphis Jewish community and by supporting Jews in Israel and throughout the world. To learn more, visit [jcpmemphis.org/federation](http://jcpmemphis.org/federation).



# JEWISH COMMUNAL ORGANIZATIONS

## Chabad Center for Jewish Life

2570 Kirby Parkway, 38119  
901.754.0404  
Directors Rivky and Rabbi Levi Klein  
Chabad@JewishMemphis.com  
JewishMemphis.com

## Hadassah, Memphis Chapter

Susan Smolinsky  
678.443-2961  
facebook.com/groups/HadassahMemphis  
supersouth@hadassah.org  
Hadassah.org/region/southernadassah.org/  
region/southern

## Jewish Foundation of Memphis and Memphis Jewish Federation Managed by Jewish Community Partners

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.7100  
President/CEO Laura Linder  
crichardson@jcpmemphis.org  
jcpmemphis.org

## Jewish Historical Society of Memphis & the Mid-South

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
President Greg Siskind  
mjhsresident@gmail.com  
jhsmem.org

## Kollel Torah Mitzion Memphis

Executive Director Rabbi Ilai Grunwald  
901.216.3690  
lilaigr@gmail.com  
mentorahmitzion@gmail.com  
torahmitzion.org/communities/memphis-  
tennessee

## Memphis Friends of Israel

1910 Madison Avenue #201, 38104  
901.262.1085  
director@memphisfoi.org  
memphisfoi.org

## Memphis Jewish Community Center

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.761.0810  
President/CEO Larry Skolnick  
jccmemphis.org  
Cultural Events

- Markell Family Cultural Arts Festival
- Morris and Molly Fogelman International Film Festival
- Morris and Molly Fogelman Israel Week

## MJX: Memphis Jewish Experience

Rabbi Noach Karp  
401-429-8244  
Assistant Director Miriam Karp  
410-504-3125  
memphisjx.org

Memphis Jewish Experience (MJX) is a resource dedicated to creating formal and informal Jewish programming, events, and learning opportunities, for all members of the Jewish community regardless of age, background or affiliation. With the goal of creating a safe space where Jews can come to explore, discover and strengthen their own Jewish identities.

## Memphis Kollel

5462 Brantford Avenue, 38120  
Rosh Kollel/Director of Operations  
Rabbi Yosef Braha  
rabbibraha@memphiskollel.org  
memphiskollel.org

## New Jewish Neighborhood House (Midtown Memphis)

facebook.com/groups/  
newjewishneighborhoodhouse

## Sam Schloss Lodge #35 of B'nai B'rith

8377 Willow Oak Rd, Germantown, 38139  
901.754.9950  
Secretary/Treasurer Harold Steinberg  
hesch.steinberg@gmail.com  
bnaibrith.org

## Temple Israel Tribes

Build connections, explore your passions,  
and meet new people.  
Director of Congregational Engagement  
Faith Ruch  
faithr@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/tribes

## Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at the Memphis Jewish Community Center

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
Director Rashki Osina  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

# CONGREGATIONS

## Baron Hirsch Congregation (O)

400 S. Yates Rd. Memphis, TN 38117  
901.683.7485  
Senior Rabbi Ian Lichter  
Cantor Ricky Kampf  
Rabbinic Scholar Rabbi Joel Finkelstein  
Executive Director Robert Schneider  
Youth Director Eitan Selter  
President Penina Wender  
exec@baronhirsch.org  
baronhirsch.org

## Beth Sholom Synagogue (C)

6675 Humphreys Blvd., 38120  
901.683.3591  
Rabbi Sarit Horwitz  
Executive Director Ricky Kodner  
Office Manager Erica Mosley  
erica@bsholom.org  
bsholom.org

## Chabad Lubavitch of Tennessee

2570 Kirby Parkway, 38119  
901.754.0404  
Executive Director Rabbi Levi Klein  
rabbi@JewishMemphis.com  
JewishMemphis.com

## Or Chadash Conservative Synagogue (C)

6629 Massey Lane, 38120  
901.435.6353  
Rabbi Cantor David Julian  
Director Arlene Myers  
orchadashncs@gmail.com  
rabbicdj.wix.com/occs

## Temple Israel (R)

East Memphis  
1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
Rabbi Micah D. Greenstein  
Rabbi Jeff Dreifus  
Rabbi Ross Z. Levy  
Executive Director Mark Gulner  
timemphis.org

## Young Israel of Memphis (O)

531 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.761.6060  
Rabbi Akiva Males  
Executive Director Sarah Bauer  
exec@yiom.org  
YIOM.org



**CHABAD**  
Center for Jewish Life

Your one-stop destination for everything Jewish, regardless of affiliation or background.

*Judaism. Done Joyfully*

**2570 Kirby Parkway  
Memphis, TN 38119**

www.JewishMemphis.com  
facebook.com/ChabadMemphis  
901-754-0404

## MEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

**Baron Hirsch Men's Club**  
400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.683.7485  
baronhirsch.org

**Temple Israel Brotherhood**  
1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
brotherhood@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/brotherhood

## WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

**Baron Hirsch Sisterhood**  
400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.683.7485  
baronhirsch.org

**Lion of Judah/Memphis Jewish Federation**  
Women's Philanthropy  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.7100  
jcpmemphis.org/lion-of-judah

**Beth Sholom Sisterhood**  
Beth Sholom Mah Jong  
6675 Humphreys Blvd, 38120  
901.683.3591  
bsholom.org/sisterhood

**Temple Israel Sisterhood**  
1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
sisterhood@timemphis.org  
tisisterhood.org

**Chabad Women's Circle and Rosh Chodesh Society**  
Mrs. Rivky Klein  
2570 Kirby Parkway, 38119  
901.219.7004  
Rivky@JewishMemphis.com  
jewishmemphis.com



**PLOUGH TOWERS**

www.ploughtowers.org




- Safe, affordable housing
- Next door to the Jewish Community Center
- Close to Memphis-area synagogues
- Kosher noon meal 5 days a week
- Activities program
- 16-passenger accessible bus with a lift
- Housekeeping grant
- Exercise room
- Beauty shop
- Computer center
- Library
- Convenience store
- Volunteer program

**PLOUGH TOWERS**  
901.767.1910  
6580 Poplar Ave., 38138



# EDUCATION PRE-K THROUGH 12TH GRADE

**Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning Center at Temple Israel**  
 1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
 901.937.2784  
 Head of School Blair Trotz  
 bklfrontdesk@timemphis.org  
 timemphis.org/bkl-elc

**Baron Hirsch Shabbat Programs**  
 400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
 901.683.7485  
 Torah Tots 3 years old  
 Jr. Congregation: 1st-5th grade  
 Teen Minyan 6th-12th grade  
 Chidon Hatanach Teens  
 baronhirsch.org

**Beth Sholom**  
 6675 Humphreys Blvd., 38120  
 901.683.3591  
 Teen Talmud Torah (T3) ~ 8-12 grades  
 Religious School ~ 1-7 grades  
 Tot Shabbat ~ Children ages 6 and under  
 bsholom.org  
 rabbisarit@bsholom.org

**Bornblum Jewish Community School (K-8)**  
 6641 Humphreys Blvd., 38120  
 901.747.2665  
 Head of School Daniel R. Weiss  
 info@bornblum.org  
 bornblum.org

**Margolin Hebrew Academy/Feinstone**  
 Yeshiva of the South (Pre-K-12)  
 390 S. White Station Road, 38117  
 901.682.2400  
 Head of School Rabbi Yisroel Weiner  
 info@mhafyos.org  
 mhafyos.org

**Memphis Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Center**  
 6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
 901.259.9207  
 Director Lindsey Chase  
 lchase@jccmemphis.org  
 jcc.memphis.org

**Temple Israel High School**  
 Grades 9-12  
 1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
 901.761.3130  
 timemphis.org/wafers

**The Wendy & Avron Fogelman Religious School at Temple Israel**  
 Grades K-8  
 1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
 901.937.2777  
 Director of Youth Education & Family Engagement Sophie Weiss-Williams  
 sophiew@timemphis.org  
 timemphis.org/wafers



6560 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38138  
 (901) 761-0810 | jccmemphis.org

President/CEO: Larry Skolnick



## Connecting, Engaging, and Strengthening Jewish Memphis

The Memphis Jewish Community Center (MJCC) is an inclusive and compassionate community built on Jewish values, heritage, and culture, where people of all ages, lifestyles, ethnicities, and levels of observance come together to pursue personal fitness, team sports, the arts, youth programming, early childhood education, and more. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive, open and inviting place where everyone is welcome and anyone can be a member.



# BETH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE

*Whoever you are, from wherever you come, there's a place in our warm Jewish home for you.*

Beth Sholom is a welcoming and inclusive egalitarian Conservative congregation that strengthens members' connections with each other and God.

With vibrant Shabbat services, rich educational and social opportunities for young and old, and exciting family programs, we come together as caring individuals and families to learn Torah, engage in prayer and ritual, and repair the world.



Rabbi Sarit Horwitz  
Keri Unowsky, President  
Ricky Kodner, Executive Director  
Erica Mosley, Office Manager

Come for Shabbat services, stay for kiddush lunch, and see why no one is a stranger at Beth Sholom.

6675 Humphreys Blvd  
Memphis, TN 38120  
901.683.3591  
[www.bsholom.org](http://www.bsholom.org)



HOLLYWOOD  
FEED  
*Mississippi*  
MADE  
PRODUCTS

**THE BED  
YOUR DOG  
DESERVES**

SHOP IN-STORE OR ONLINE @

[HOLLYWOODFEED.COM](http://HOLLYWOODFEED.COM)



## YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

### Baron Hirsch Congregation

400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.683.7485  
Torah Tots 3 years old  
Young Family Programs for grades 2 and under  
Youth Programs for grades 3-12  
baronhirsch.org

### BBYO

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.761.0810  
Director Zoe Goldberg  
zgoldberg@bbyo.org  
bbyo.org

### Beth Sholom

6675 Humphreys Blvd.  
901.683.3591  
Tot Shabbat with parents  
Young Family Programs for grades 2 and under  
Youth Programs for grades 3-12  
rabbisarit@bsholom.org  
bsholom.org

### B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy of Jewish Foundation of Memphis

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.7100  
cschrier@jcpmemphis.org  
jcpmemphis.org/teen-philanthropy

### JYG: Junior Youth Group at Temple Israel

1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
Sophie Chertow  
sophiechertow@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/youth-groups

### MeFTY Teen Programming at Temple Israel

1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.937.2747  
Sophie Chertow  
sophiechertow@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/youth-groups

### NCSY

Jr. NCSYers (6th-8th) and Sr. NCSYers (9th-12th)  
Regional Director Shosh Friedman  
facebook.com/profile.  
php?id=100005084745960&fref=ts  
friedmans@ncsy.org  
ncsy.org

### PJ Library

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.682.4328  
Sarah Besser  
sbesser@jcpmemphis.org  
jcpmemphis.org/pjlibrary

### Teen Israel Experience

Subsidized travel to Israel for High School Juniors and Seniors  
Memphis Jewish Federation  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.7100  
jcpmemphis.org/lemsky-endowment-fund

### Temple Israel Girl and Boy Scouts

1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/scouts

### TIMPO: Temple Israel Music & Programming Outreach

TI Teen Band and multiple instrument instruction  
Music Director Emily Groff Heilborn  
emilyh@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/timpo

### Tot Shabbat and Family Shabbat at Temple Israel

1376 East Massey Road 38120  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/peer-groups

## YOUNG ADULTS

### ConnectI

20s and 30s social & spiritual group at Temple Israel  
901.761.3130  
Rabbi Ross Z. Levy  
Rabbiross@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/connecti

### Hillels of Memphis

Serving University of Memphis and Rhodes College  
3581 Midland Avenue, 38111  
901.452.2453  
bzuckerbrot-finkelstein@jcpmemphis.org  
hillelsofmemphis.org

### Jewish901 ~ Chabad Young Adults

Directors Menachem and Mussie Klein  
Jewish901.com  
Facebook.com/jewish901  
Menachem@JewishMemphis.com

### Young Adult Division Memphis Jewish Federation

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8522  
Sarah Besser  
sbesser@jcpmemphis.org  
jcpmemphis.org/fedled

## NEWCOMERS

### 100 New Families

100newfamilies@gmail.com  
100newfamilies.com

### Newcomers Engagement and Annual Brunch Memphis Jewish Federation

Occurs each fall.  
lwolf@jcpmemphis.org  
901.767.7100

### Temple Israel Tribes

Build connections, explore your passions, and meet new people.  
Director of Congregational Engagement Faith Ruch  
faithr@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/tribes

## ADULT AND HIGHER EDUCATION

### **Baron Hirsch Congregation**

400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.683.7485  
baronhirsch.org

### **Beth Sholom Synagogue Lifelong Jewish**

Learning Center  
Lehrhaus at Beth Sholom  
6675 Humphreys Blvd., 38120  
901.683.3591  
erica@bsholom.org

### **Bornblum Judaic Studies University of Memphis**

301 Mitchell Hall, The University of Memphis, 38152  
901.678.2919  
Director Dr. Shaul Bar  
sbar@memphis.edu  
memphis.edu/jdst

### **The Jewish Learning Institute Chabad Center for Jewish Life**

2570 Kirby Parkway  
Memphis, 38119  
901.754.0404  
Rabbi Levi Klein  
JLI@JewishMemphis.com  
JewishMemphis.com/JLI

### **Jewish Historical Society of Memphis & the Mid-South**

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
President Greg Siskind  
mjhsresident@gmail.com  
jhsmem.org

### **Professional Advisory Group of Jewish Foundation of Memphis**

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.7100  
sgadberry@jcpmemphis.org  
jcpmemphis.org/professional-advisory-group

### **Temple Israel Tribes**

Build connections, explore your passions, and meet new people.  
Director of Congregational Engagement  
Faith Ruch  
faithr@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/tribes

### **Temple Israel University TIU**

Lifelong learning at Temple Israel  
1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/tiu

### **TIMPO: Temple Israel Music & Programming Outreach**

TI Band, TI Memphis Jewish Choir, TIMPO Jam, multiple instrument instruction  
Music Director Emily Groff Heilborn  
emilyh@timemphis.org  
timemphis.org/timpo

## SOCIAL SERVICES

### **Beth Sholom Synagogue**

901.683.3591  
Tikkun Olam Committee, MICAHA, Room in the Inn, Chesed Committee  
erica@bsholom.org  
bsholom.org

### **Sam Schloss Lodge #35 of B'nai B'rith**

8377 Willow Oak Road, Germantown, 38139  
901.754.9950  
Secretary/Treasurer Harold Steinberg  
hesch.steinberg@gmail.com  
bnaibrith.org

### **Temple Israel**

Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Temple Cares, Tikkun Olam Tribes, MICAHA, Room in the Inn, Team Read, Team Glean  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/community

### **Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at the MJCC**

901.767.8511  
Director Rashki Osina  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

### **Classes and Support Groups**

Counseling  
Education and Outreach  
Emergency Assistance  
Finestone Family Home Delivered Meals  
Inclusion and Diverse Abilities Programming  
Judy and Larry Moss Senior Services - Compassionate Case Management and Care for Seniors  
Kay & Allen Iskiwicz Shalom Shuttle  
Peggy E. & L.R. Jalenak, Jr. Food and Baby Pantry  
Resource Center  
Volunteer Services

# SENIOR SERVICES

## SENIOR GROUPS

### Baron Hirsch So-Shuls

400 S. Yates Road, 38120  
901.683.7485  
baronhirsch.org

### MJCC Ben and Larisa Baer Senior Adult Center

Memphis Jewish Community Center  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
Adult Service Coordinator Steve Kaplan  
901.259.9220  
stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org

The MJCC Larisa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Center offers a wide variety of educational, physical, social and cultural activities to meet the diverse needs and interests of our senior adult population. From fitness to adult education, from theater to Israeli programs.

Big Monthly Senior Lunches  
Daily Senior Lunches  
Monday and Wednesday Programs and Activities

### Temple Israel Prime Timers (65+)

1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/peer-groups

## SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES

### Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab

36 Bazeberry Road, Cordova, 38018-7756  
901.758.0036  
Executive Director Bobby G. Meadows  
Rabbi Abraham Kelman  
bmeadows@memphisjewishhome.org  
memphisjewishhome.org  
Events: Annual Golf Tournament in September  
Annual Meeting in April

Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab (MJHR) is a not-for-profit nursing home, Jewish in character and environment, dedicated to providing the highest level of care possible with dignity, compassion, and professionalism. We provide quality care for seniors seeking rehabilitation services and long-term care. With more than 91 years of experience serving seniors in the Memphis community, MJHR's professionally trained staff provides patient-centered care to people of all faiths.

### Plough Towers Senior Housing

6580 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.1910  
Executive Director Leigh Hendry  
lhendry@ploughtowers.org  
ploughtowers.org  
Facebook: search PloughTowersMemphis

Plough Towers is a 150-unit apartment community located in the heart of East Memphis, which provides safe, HUD subsidized, independent living housing and services for seniors.

## SENIOR SERVICES

### Alzheimer's Day Services of Memphis

Yad l'Yad Caregiver Support Group  
Meets once a month at Memphis JCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.372.4585  
info@adsmemphis.org

### Finestone Family Home Delivered Meals

For seniors in need  
Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at MJCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

### Friendly Visitors

Volunteers visit homebound seniors for companionship and socialization.  
Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at MJCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

### Handy Helpers

Volunteers assist homebound seniors with errands and light house chores.  
Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at MJCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

### Kay & Allen Iskiwitz Shalom Shuttle

Rides and door-to-door assistance for doctors' appointments, grocery shopping, and more. Reservations required.  
Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at MJCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
jccmemphis.org/FogelmanJFS

### Memphis Jewish Seniors Online Community of Memphis Jewish Federation

Monthly Senior Email Newsletter  
Facebook: search Memphis Jewish Seniors  
901.767.7100  
cstaub@jcpmemphis.org to enroll  
memphisjewishseniors.org

### MIFA Scheidt-Hohenberg Hot Meals Program of Memphis Jewish Federation

Daily lunches at the MJCC  
6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
901.767.8511  
jccmemphis.org/adults/scheidt-hohenberg-kosher-hot-meals-program

### Ronna K. Newburger Adult Day Center

36 Bazeberry Road, Cordova, 38018-7756  
901.758.0036  
Executive Director Bobby G. Meadows  
Rabbi Abraham Kelman  
ptaylor@memphisjewishhome.org  
memphisjewishhome.org/services/adult-day

### Sam Schloss Lodge #35 of B'nai B'rith

8377 Willow Oak Rd, Germantown, 38139  
901.754.9950  
Secretary/Treasurer Harold Steinberg  
hesch.steinberg@gmail.com  
bnaibrith.org

### Senior Services Collaborative

Memphis Jewish Federation  
Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein  
901.767.7100  
jcpmemphis.org  
bzuckerbrot-finkelstein@jcpmemphis.org

### Temple Cares at Temple Israel

1376 East Massey Road  
901.761.3130  
timemphis.org/caring-communities



Serving University of Memphis and Rhodes College  
 bzuckerbrot-finkelstein@jcpmemphis.org

As a pluralistic Jewish student organization operated by Memphis Jewish Federation, Hillels of Memphis strives to shape a world where every student is inspired to make an enduring commitment to Jewish life, learning, and Israel a reality at University of Memphis, Rhodes College, and campuses around the Mid-South. A student's involvement with Hillel is one of the strongest predictors of future Jewish leadership and as the leading authority on Jewish campus life, Hillels of Memphis reaches, engages, and equips tomorrow's leaders today.



## KOSHER IN MEMPHIS

### Dinstuhl's Fine Candy Company

436 Grove Park, 38117  
 901.682.3373  
 7730 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
 901.752.1110  
 5280 Pleasant View Road, 38134  
 901.377.2639  
 147 S. Main Street, 38103  
 901.552.4505  
 231 New Byhalia Road, 38017  
 901.853.4100

### Nothing Bundt Cakes

681 S White Station Road,  
 Suite 101, 38117  
 901.208.8984

### Ricki's Cookie Corner

5068 Park Avenue, 38117  
 901.866.CHIP(2447)  
 rickiscookies.com

### Sam's Corner

Dairy kosher restaurant at the  
 MJCC  
 6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
 818.376.9813  
 samscorneratj@gmail.com

### Nosh-A-Rye Deli

36 Bazeberry Road, Cordova,  
 38018  
 901.756.3229  
 Executive Director Bobbie  
 Yarbrough  
 byarbrough@  
 memphisjewishhome.org  
 thenoshmemphis.com

## CEMETERIES

### Anshei Sphard Cemetery

901.682.1611

### Temple Israel Cemetery

901.761.3130  
 timemphis.org/cemetery

### Baron Hirsch Cemetery

901.683.7485

### Zalowitz Beth El Emeth Cemetery

901.682.1611

### Beth Sholom Memorial Gardens

901.683.3591

### Jewish Cemetery at Elmwood

901.435.6353

## JUDAIC MUSEUMS

### Temple Israel Museum

1376 East Massey Road, 38120  
 901.761.3130  
 timemphis.org/museum



**PROFESSIONAL  
 ADVISORY  
 GROUP**

sgadberry@jcpmemphis.org



The Foundation's Professional Advisory Group (PAG) is made up of professionals in various legal and financial fields who support the mission of the Foundation. It is often the advisor who links a client's estate planning objectives to a charitable gift. These financial advisors, estate planning attorneys, CPAs and insurance agents help clients make informed decisions about charitable giving and advise them of the benefits associated with estate, tax and financial planning. The Jewish Foundation hosts many programs throughout the year for this group, including networking events and continuing education. If you are an advisor in the mid-South and would like to get involved, contact Sheri Gadberry, sgadberry@jcpmemphis.org



**Baron Hirsch Congregation**  
 400 S. Yates Rd. Memphis, TN 38117  
 901.683.7485  
 Senior Rabbi Ian Lichter  
 Rabbinic Scholar Rabbi Joel Finkelstein  
 Executive Director Robert Schneider  
 Youth Director Eitan Selter  
 President Penina Wender  
 exec@baronhirsch.org  
 baronhirsch.org



Baron Hirsch is a vibrant, modern Orthodox Zionist congregation that seeks to engage its membership in experiencing all aspects of Jewish life with a strong commitment to the Jewish people, the State of Israel and our Torah. Our educational institute offers learning opportunities for all backgrounds in a comfortable setting. Our youth department offers programs from toddlers to collegiate ages to experience a deeper, richer Jewish life. Baron Hirsch seeks to build community on every level. Our Building Relationships initiative, to create stronger bonds, focuses on both major events for everyone as well as small clubs for people with similar interests. Religious services form the core of synagogue life. Our services are warm and spirited, and everyone is made to feel welcome. Many events during the year bring many members together such as: a holiday kumsitz, multiple scholar-in-residences, 100 man minyan, Purim Seudah, and engaging youth programs. NCSY holds monthly events and Shabbatonim for Teens. So-Shuls holds monthly luncheons with entertainment for seniors, which is generously sponsored this year by Elaine Miner. There is something for everyone here at Baron Hirsch.



**B'NAI TZEDEK**

cschrier@jcpmemphis.org



**B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program**

B'nai Tzedek, translated from Hebrew as "children of justice," is an award-winning teen philanthropy program launched in 2002 that teaches teens to become responsible, educated philanthropists. At the time of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah, teens establish their fund by donating \$250 of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah money to the Foundation. Their gift is matched by an endowment fund bringing the balance to \$500. Teens can donate money from their fund to any registered 501c3 nonprofit yearly. Many of the teens donate to non-profits that they volunteer with. The newly added volunteering component to the B'nai Tzedek program has been a huge success.

Another component to the B'nai Tzedek program is the Co-Op Fund. Endowed by a generous donor, this fund provides \$10,000 each year for the teens to distribute to local Jewish organizations. The teens work together to create the grant application, review the proposals, and then rank the programs to decide how much money to distribute to each organization.



**JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MEMPHIS AND THE MID-SOUTH**

Jewish Historical Society of Memphis and the Mid-South  
 Board President Greg Siskind

6560 Poplar Avenue, 38138  
 mjhsresident@gmail.com  
 www.jhsmem.org



*David Ross, Mimi Clemons, Lorraine Wolf, Edén Siskind, Greg Siskind. President and past presidents of JHS with speaker Edén Siskind of HIAS.*

Collects, preserves, presents and interprets the history of Jews in Memphis and the Mid-South. Promotes and encourages education, research and the study of Jews in Memphis and the Mid-South.

Please check our web site for our program schedule. We have live programs and Zoom programs throughout the year and recent topics have looked at the history of Jewish communities in our regions, contemporary topics viewed from a historical context and in-depth programs on Jewish genealogy.



[sbresser@jcpmemphis.org](mailto:sbresser@jcpmemphis.org)

Funded in part by Annual Community Campaign gifts to Memphis Jewish Federation, PJ Library is a national program that sends Jewish children a free, age-appropriate, Jewish-themed book or music each month to children up to 8 years old. Memphis is part of more than 250 participating communities. Thanks to this program, younger children gain the opportunity to turn learning about their religion into something that is both interesting and exciting. PJ Library also has programs throughout the year for young Jewish families.



[bzuckerbrot-finkelstein@jcpmemphis.org](mailto:bzuckerbrot-finkelstein@jcpmemphis.org)

**Senior Services Collaborative**

An initiative of Memphis Jewish Federation, the Senior Services Collaborative proudly supports our community partners providing services to our seniors including vital needs, companionship, transportation, activities, and wellness. To serve seniors and their caregivers, Federation produces a monthly Memphis Jewish Seniors email newsletter, updates a Senior Services brochure at regular intervals, and runs the Memphis Jewish Seniors Facebook group, which anyone is invited to join. These efforts ensure that every Memphis Jewish senior is getting the care and support that they deserve. Learn more at [memphisjewishseniors.org](http://memphisjewishseniors.org).



Margolin Hebrew Academy – Feinstone Yeshiva of the South is a warm, community-centered, Orthodox day school serving students from Pre-K 3 through Twelfth Grade. Its mission is to instill within its students a love of Judaism and the State of Israel in an academically rigorous educational environment. This year, MHA-FYOS is celebrating 75 years of educating Jewish students in Memphis! We invite you to come visit and see for yourself what makes our school so special. To schedule a tour, email [jessica.baum@mhafyos.org](mailto:jessica.baum@mhafyos.org).

[WWW.MHAFYOS.ORG](http://WWW.MHAFYOS.ORG)

@MHAFYOS

/MHAMEMPHIS

## Yoshi's Snoopy Complex

By Shoshana Cenker

The puppy stars aligned for the Yosef family. Yirmeyahu and Theresy's kiddos had been "begging for a dog" to join their lovely family. And it just so happened that the Memphis Animal Shelter was running a \$25 special to adopt any pet. Just like that, a Red Coonhound-Labrador mix came home.

"I think he picked us," said Yirmeyahu.

"Our then-4-year-old daughter chose his name: Yoshi."

While Yirmeyahu doesn't have any pet peeves with Yoshi, his "wife has plenty," he said with a laugh. But his mother is Yoshi's favorite. "She feeds him food from the table!"

Dogs certainly keep their humans entertained. When Yoshi was about 2, the Yosefs got him a nice doghouse outside, even though he spends 80% of his time inside their house. They bought a nice, soft bed to go in it, too.

"Weeks had gone by, and we noticed that he had not been sleeping in the doghouse – he sheds a lot, but there was no hair on the bed," explained Yirmeyah. "Come to find out, he has a Snoopy complex. He only sleeps on top of the doghouse! And when he isn't sleeping on top of his doghouse, he finds his favorite spot in the backyard and lays in the sun. He loves to sunbathe!"

### What do you love most about your pet?

He is loyal and protective.

### Do you board your pet?

Yes, at Cloverleaf Animal Clinic. They have vets, groomers, and boarding there – it's a one-stop shop.

### Do you make or purchase special gifts/treats for your pet?

A cupcake or bone for his birthday.



# Harry Samuels: Storyteller Turns Tragedy into Tremendous Chesed

By Shoshana Cenker

For 93 years, Harry Samuels has enjoyed a beautiful family and flourishing business, then laid pen to paper in three inspiring books – all while persevering through unimaginable heartache.

Born to Morris and Fannie Samuels in 1931 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, his dad sending me to St. Louis on a train by myself to say Kaddish – there was no minyan in Cape Girardeau then,” Harry recalled. “One of my sisters met me there.”

He was, by the way, generations apart from his sisters: Dorothy was 20 years older than Harry; Rose was 18 years older. Their mom, who eventually remarried, owned a women’s shop.

Harry graduated from St. Louis’ Washington University with philosophy and political science degrees and was drafted into the U.S. Army. After his service during the Korean War, he moved to Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he and cousin Vic Shainberg owned a department and children’s store.

Long story short, Harry ended up moving to Memphis to work with Vic in four newly built membership marts his cousin, Howard Waller, built. After seven years, the cousins realized there was no future with them, so Harry opened a commercial real estate firm, Samuels & Shainberg Realtors, which he and Vic operated for 50 years.

As for family, Harry was invited to be the date of Flora Shine’s sister for a party; Vic was going too. But when Flora answered the door, Harry thought, “I’ve got a date with the wrong girl” – though, Flora was younger, and the timing just wasn’t right. Five years later at a B’nai B’rith potluck supper game night, Harry asked if Flora was around. She was, so Harry immediately called her. The two went on a date, and three months later they were married at Baron Hirsch Congregation on Vollintine Ave. in 1961.

“My life changed when I met Harry,”

said Flora lovingly, “he’s quite a guy.”

Initially, having a child was unsuccessful. So, they adopted son Martin. “Three months after the adoption, I started having morning sickness,” said Harry (nope, not Flora!). “Doctors didn’t know why, so I suggested that Flora go see her OB/GYN.”

She was, indeed, pregnant. Just a few months later, Willam “Zev” was born. Two years later, more “sympathetic” morning sickness, followed by the arrival of third son, David. Martin is married to Robin; they live in Seattle. Zev is married to Sherri; they live in Memphis – their three children live in Israel.

Tragically, David (OBM) died when he was just 19. “It was the most devastating. He’d just started at the University of Texas. Having trouble breathing, the college health center found an obstruction,” explained Harry. “He came home for a biopsy. Cancer. My first question was: Who’s seen the greatest number of these cases?”

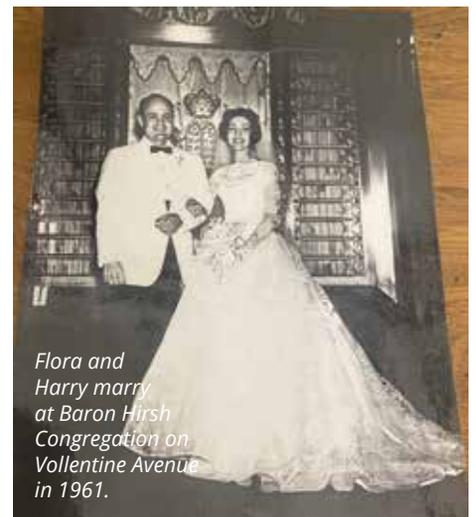
The answer led them to New York’s Sloan Kettering. “It was a rough time for our family. During the trauma of our son being sick, we lost Vic, had three boys in college, and were flying back and forth to New York for eight months,” Harry continued.

When David passed away, Harry and Flora decided the only response to death that made any sense to them was to enhance life. And that’s what they did.

“We were very active in the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis and the Make a Wish Foundation; we were hospice volunteers and even taught volunteers; I was chairman for the Shelby County and City of Memphis Community Relations Commission. We were involved in many things. In 2013, Volunteer Memphis honored us with an award for being the No. 1 volunteer couple in the



Harry as a young boy.



Flora and Harry marry at Baron Hirsch Congregation on Vollintine Avenue in 1961.



Flora and Harry with their newest addition.



Martin and Robin Samuels



Zev and Sherri's family.

Mid-South,” said Harry in his calming, gentle tone. “David was compassionate, so we did things we knew he’d have liked. In that sense, it provided a little relief. We honor his *yahrzeit* every day. After *shloshim* (30-day mourning period), I called 20 friends together – rabbis, social workers, psychologists – to establish a multifaceted social support system designed to help families who had catastrophically stricken children. Baron Hirsch’s Rabbi Grossman was in that group and had even flown to New York when David was sick.”

Later on, Harry wrote three beautiful books. It started when he and Aryeh Kasher, an Israeli history professor and writer who was in Memphis to lecture, swapped astonishing psycho synchronic stories: a remarkable encounter in Turkey and another about two long-lost sisters with matching locket necklaces who found each other in an unbelievable way after the Holocaust.

“I realized I had a good story and a great story. Everyone has experiences, so I elicited more stories, and I had my own,” explains Harry, a naturally gifted storyteller. “For my first book, I ended up with 77 stories. Writing came easy; I wrote as if I were telling a story.”

“Beshert: True Stories of Connections,” came first, followed by “Crossroads: Chance or Destiny?” and “Connections: True Stories of Remarkable Synchronicities,” with new stories for a fourth.

“People have been generous with their praise,” said Harry humbly. “I get calls from all over the world. My books induce people to consider what they thought was coincidence as synchronicities.”

Throughout their lives, Harry and Flora have been active in the Jewish community, including just about every shul in Memphis. Harry was president of the Memphis Jewish Community Center and Memphis Jewish Federation. He’s most proud of their active 62-year involvement with Hillel; he’s still a board member.

“I brought Hillel to Memphis. Started with just four or five students, I rented apartments, paying for some, near where the University of Memphis Hillel is now,” explained Harry, whose memory is quite sharp. “After repeatedly trying to get funding from local organizations, eventually, I got my friend Morris Fogelman involved, and through his connections, we were able to buy land and build a facility, with help from Philip Belz. Later, I was responsible for Rhodes College joining Hillel, too.”

Incredible Zionists, the Samuels have amazing Israel connections, like this one: Their grandson David had the first ever bar mitzvah and religious service at Hebrew University’s Mount Scopus Hecht Synagogue in Jerusalem. The Samuels’ sons led the service, using *sfarim* from Anshei Sphard – Beth El Emeth. It gets better: David’s parsha was the same as his late Uncle David’s.

“Alan Hecht spent a year abroad studying at Hebrew U. and had no place to daven. When he told his dad – my dear friend Marty from Cape Girardeau – the Hecht family decided to build one. My family and Vic’s contributed funds too, as did descendants of the founders of Cape Girardeau’s synagogue,” explained Harry. “Israel’s Chief Rabbi gave us special permission to have the bar mitzvah before the shul was even completed! A plaque in the Hecht Synagogue reads: ‘In honor of the founders of B’nai Israel Synagogue in Cape Girardeau, MO, whose vision reached to Mount Scopus.’”

Speaking of B’nai Israel, many years before, Marty asked a head rabbi in Carbondale, Illinois, to lead Rosh Hashana services in Cape Girardeau – making a minyan was difficult and the synagogue wasn’t “kosher,” so to speak. So, the rabbi contacted Rav Menachem Schneerson asking if she should go. Rav Schneerson said – “Go, and light a candle, because you never know who’s path you may light up.”

“Just to think of all the many things that have followed as a result,” added Harry.

The Samuels have crossed paths with some remarkable people: Elie Wiesel, Former North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms (a huge Israel supporter), Rabbi Ephraim Greenblatt (zt”l), Yigal Yadin, Dame Cicely Saunders, and many more.

After 63 years of wedded bliss, Flora and Harry are as loving to each other as ever and dote on their sweet 11-year-old pup, Tiffany. “We’re still in the honeymoon of our marriage,” said Flora, a native Memphian, who’s incredibly kind and sweet.

Harry’s pastimes include tennis, fishing and bridge. His legacy can be summed up in four words, which he noticed while visiting a Jewish cemetery at a Caribbean cruise port: “Lived respected, died regretted” – “that’s what I hope my legacy is.”

# CROSSROADS: Chance or Destiny?

By Harry Samuels

This collection of connection stories is a follow up to Harry's first book, Beshert, which Jewish Scene readers enjoyed years ago. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

All of us have the ability to experience the synchronicity that is often the result of reaching out to others. ~ Harry Samuels

# THE ROLL

As told to Harry Samuels by Murray Habbaz

The Arab woman living in Syria was distraught. Her drunkard husband would sit in the bathhouse until late each day before going home. One day he came home eating a roll.

"If you do not make me a cup of coffee before I finish eating this roll, I am going to divorce you," the man told his poor wife.

Terrified, she hurried to prepare the coffee, but her husband finished the roll before the coffee could be made. Enraged, the drunken husband shouted at her, "You are divorced from me," repeating it three times. This is the ancient formula for divorce prescribed by Islamic law. It forbids subsequent remarriage.

After the man became sober, he remembered what had happened and regretted his action. He went to the sheikh to ask if the divorce was valid and was told that it was.

"What can I do," he pleaded," Returning home he was so distraught, he took a different route than the one he usually traveled. On the way he met Rabbi Ezra Hamway, a very wise Jewish sage.

"You look distressed," the rabbi said. "Perhaps I can be of help."

After the man explained his problem, Rabbi Ezra agreed to offer his opinion – but only in the presence of the sheikh and the Moslem religious judge. When everyone was assembled, he asked the man, "Was the roll you were eating fresh or dry?"

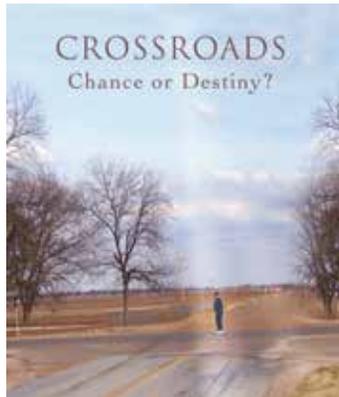
"It was dry."

"Then your wife is still married to you."

Everyone was amazed and wanted to know how Rabbi Ezra had come to such a conclusion.

The rabbi explained. "The man threatened to divorce his wife if she would not have the coffee ready by the time he finished eating the roll. But a dry roll makes crumbs. Since he did not eat the crumbs that fell on the floor, he never finished eating the roll. Therefore, the condition for his threat never came about, and the threat – that is, the divorce – does not apply."

*My friend Murray Habbaz, the great-grandson of Rabbi Ezra, told me this story of an Arab benefiting from Talmudic thinking.*





BE A PART OF  
**Jewish  
Memphis**

Receive 6 issues of Jewish Scene Magazine  
& 52 weeks of The Hebrew Watchman

**SUBSCRIBE  
ADVERTISE  
CONTRIBUTE**



**TO SUBSCRIBE**

order online at [JewishSceneMagazine.com/subscribe](http://JewishSceneMagazine.com/subscribe)  
call **901.763.2215** scan the QR code  
or mail payment with card below to: *The Hebrew Watchman*  
P.O. Box 770846 Memphis, TN 38177-0846

**Keep Memphis Jewish journalism alive!**

	<b>Hebrew Watchman NEWSPAPER</b>	<b>Jewish Scene MAGAZINE</b>	<b>Best Value Both publications</b>
<small>MEMPHIS/ MIDSOUTH</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$36/year</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$25/year</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$50/year</b>
<small>OUT OF STATE</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$50/year</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$25/year</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>\$60/year</b>

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



**RICK BAER REALTY**

## 5 STAR REALTOR

RICK BAER REALTY      OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



★★★★★

**EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE!**

Rick was extremely helpful when looking at homes and had so many ideas and suggestions when seeing the homes. Rick responded to emails at a very timely manner and was always available to answer questions and get papers sent out immediately. Rick was fantastic to work with and was able to get my contract signed, inspection, work done and house closed within a month! Wow! Thank you Rick for all you did to help me with the home buying process!

**Blair B**

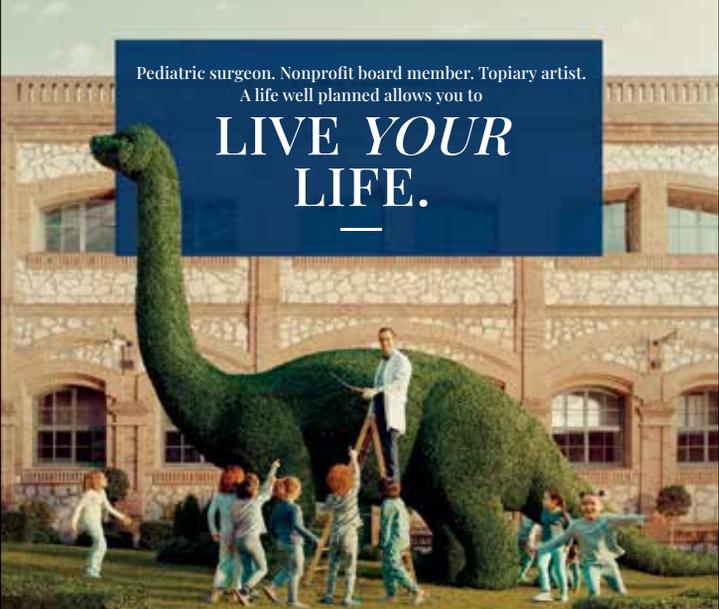
Ready to make your real estate dreams come true?  
Contact Rick Baer Realty today.  
**(901) 495-2217** [www.RickBaerRealty.com](http://www.RickBaerRealty.com)  
[RickBaerRealty.com](http://RickBaerRealty.com)  
1028 Cresthaven Rd Suite 206, Memphis, TN 38119



**Corinne's**  
Very Special Catering

*Specializing in Weddings,  
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, and  
Every Joyful Simcha!*

**Ann Barnes**  
Phone: 901-489-7812  
corinnesveryspecialcatering.com



Pediatric surgeon. Nonprofit board member. Topiary artist.  
A life well planned allows you to

**LIVE YOUR LIFE.**

If there's one thing we all share, it's that our lives are all unique. Backed by sophisticated resources, a Raymond James financial advisor can help you plan for what's important to you. That's **LIFE WELL PLANNED.**

**Lawson S. Arnev, CFP®**  
Vice President, Investments  
1100 Ridgeway Loop, Suite 600  
Memphis, TN 38120  
T 901.818.7638  
lawson.arney@raymondjames.com

**RAYMOND JAMES**

© 2020 Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC. 19-BDMKT-4086 BS 2/20

**WWW.MEMPHISJX.ORG**

---



**MJX**  
Memphis Jewish Experience

---

**RABBI NOACH KARP**  
401-429-8244  
RABBINOACH@MEMPHISJX.ORG

**MIRIAM KARP**  
410-504-3125  
MKARP@MEMPHISJX.ORG

**CONNECT**  
with yourself, others and your Judaism with relevant programs, both formal and informal, that build community and harmony.

**EXPLORE**  
the relevance of ancient and current Jewish texts and sources to enhance and enrich Jews regardless of age, background, or affiliation.

**EXPERIENCE**  
the joy of Judaism through meaningful social programs focused on holidays, traditions, and customs of Jewish life.



BBYO celebrates 100 years.

# Memphis Jewish Teen Connections

By Shoshana Cenker and Susan Nieman

Looking for some fun, creative and rewarding Jewish teen connections for all? Well Memphis has some exciting new and tired-and-true experiences at several organizations for you! Read on. I'm sure that there's more than one of these programs that interests you.

## BBYO/Delta Region

BBYO is the leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. BBYO reaches nearly 70,000 teens annually and serves as the Jewish community's largest and most valuable platform for delivering fun, meaningful, and affordable experiences that inspire a lasting connection to the Jewish people.

Zoë Goldberg, [zgoldberg@bbyo.org](mailto:zgoldberg@bbyo.org)

## B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Jewish Foundation of Memphis

B'nai Tzedek allows Jewish teens in Memphis who are of post bar/bat mitzvah age to make meaningful philanthropic decisions and donations through both their own accounts and a teen-led Grant Board. Meeting throughout the year, teens learn the ins and outs of both personal and communal philanthropy by working together to benefit the Memphis Jewish community and beyond.

Carolyn Schrier, 901.767.7100, [cschrier@jcpmemphis.org](mailto:cschrier@jcpmemphis.org)

## CTeen of Memphis - Chabad

CTeen is an exclusive club for high school students who don't attend a Jewish high school. CTeen's Jewish teen network has over 800 chapters around the world. CTeen offers dynamic and exciting classes, trips, Shabbatons, community service opportunities and more. Students learn about their Jewish heritage, gain leadership skills, and give back to the community, all within a warm Jewish atmosphere.

Rabbi Levi and Rivky Klein, 901.754.0404, [Cteen@JewishMemphis.com](mailto:Cteen@JewishMemphis.com)



B'nai Tzedek teens gather to make annual grant distributions.



Cteens planning at BBQ dinner.



Cteens at laser tag event.



Baron Hirsch teens visit and provide a meal for soldiers in Israel.



**Jewish Student Union (JSU)**

JSU clubs are Jewish culture clubs designed to meet teens where they are – in their public or private schools. The clubs provide informal Jewish education, positive Jewish experiences, a forum to ask questions about Judaism, and a chance to meet other Jewish teens. Throughout the year there are meetups and Shabbatonim outside of the school setting.

Rabbi Noach Karp, 401.429.8244, JSU.org, KarpN@ncsy.org or rabbinoach@memphisjx.org

**Mah Ani 2.0 - Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at the Memphis Jewish Community Center**

Mah Ani 2.0 is a monthly program for teens ages 11-17. In this program, 6th-12th grade teens will have the opportunity to complete a community service project and learn about individual well-being, social justice, and connection through charitable work. Mah Ani 2.0 provides a platform for improving our community and caring for the most vulnerable members of our society.

Limited spots available. Each participant receives a certificate with community service hours.

Rashki Osina, 901.767.8511, rosina@jccmemphis.org

**MJX: Memphis Jewish Experience - Chill Zone**

A Chill'n Jewish Program for teens during the winter months. Chill with old friends and meet new ones. Everyone's welcome! ChillZone is the answer for parents who want their children to learn more about their Jewish heritage in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. With our exciting hands-on programming, Judaism comes alive, enriching the lives of hundreds of youth nationwide. Our qualified and relatable leaders strive to create a warm and safe atmosphere where everyone feels welcome. Teens will become part of a vibrant and diverse community of Jewish boys and girls from across North America and have a great time each week. Did we mention pizza and sushi?!

Rabbi Noach and Mrs. Miriam Karp, 401.429.8244, info@memphisjx.org, register: chillzone.org

**Teen Israel Experience - Baron Hirsch Congregation**

In its second year, with help from the Lemsky Endowment Fund, this initiative educates high school students on topics like Israel's history, the impact of October 7, and antisemitism. The program includes lectures and interactive experiences, culminating in a subsidized mission to Israel or Washington, D.C. Students engage with leaders, learn to become advocates for Israel, and strengthen their connection to the Jewish homeland.

Robert Schneider, 901.683.7485, robert@baronhirsch.org

**36**

**SOMETHING GREAT SINCE '88**

Visit [bornblum.org](http://bornblum.org) to schedule a tour!

**Upcoming Issues**

**Next Issue**  
Tzedakah / Tikkun Olam

# NOW OPEN



**NEW OWNERSHIP & MANAGEMENT:**  
*A New Era of Assisted Living & Memory Care*

Call today to  
schedule a  
tour!  
901.557.0695



Scan the QR code  
for pricing, floor  
plans, and more!



## THE AVALINE

at River Oaks

1645 W Massey Blvd | Memphis, TN  
theavaline.com | 901.557.0695