

The Hebrew Watchman
 Be sure your subscription is
 up to date to receive the
 100 Year Anniversary
 Commemorative Edition
 901.763.2215
 INFO@HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

the Hebrew Watchman

1925-2025

HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM

9 ADAR, 5786

FEBRUARY 26, 2026

VOL. 104, NO. 23

From Classroom Concepts to Cardboard Reality: Design Thinking in Action at Bornblum



Bornblum Middle students visited International Paper's custom packaging solutions headquarters, where they saw how packaging is designed and tested.

At Bornblum Jewish Community School, Design Thinking is more than a buzzword – it's a mindset woven into the fabric of learning. Recently, Bornblum Middle School students experienced just how powerfully that mindset connects to the real world during a visit to International Paper's packaging solutions headquarters. What began as classroom ideation and prototyping transformed into an up-close look at how global innovation happens – one box at a time.

Inside Bornblum's Design Labs, students regularly engage with tools like laser cutters and UV printers, moving from empathy and brainstorming to prototyping and iteration. At Interna-

tional Paper (IP), they saw those same processes at industrial scale. Engineers walked them through structural design labs where boxes are stress-tested for durability and efficiency. Students watched as packaging was compressed, shaken, and dropped – data guiding each redesign.

According to seventh grader Rosie Felsenthal, "It felt like seeing our Design Lab, just supersized. When they showed us how they test a box before shipping, it reminded me of how we test and revise our prototypes. It is the same design process, just bigger. I made connections between my SPARK project and how they create the best packaging solutions for the user, which I will need

to do for my project."

That connection was intentional. Bornblum's design thinking program emphasizes empathy, problem-solving and real-world application. At IP, students learned how designers consider everything from supply chain logistics to environmental impact when creating packaging solutions. Graphic designers demonstrated multiple printing processes, and students observed how branding, color and messaging must align with structure and sustainability.

"Our goal is for students to understand that innovation doesn't happen in isolation," said Jill Cross, Bornblum's director of Curriculum and Instruction. "When they see professionals collaborating across engineering, graphic design and sustainability teams, it reinforces exactly what we teach – great solutions come from diverse perspectives working together."

For students, learning about IP's sustainability commitment was a highlight of the trip. Students explored how renewable fibers, recycling innovations and reduced plastic usage are reshaping the packaging industry. For many, this was Design Thinking's "empathy" stage made tangible, designing not just for customers, but for the planet.

According to eighth grader Harrison Siegeman, "We talk a lot about designing with responsibility for other users beyond ourselves. It was cool to see a big company actually doing that, not just talking about it."

The partnership itself underscores an essential value at Bornblum: meaningful community connection. By opening its

doors, International Paper demonstrated how corporate partners can serve as living classrooms, expanding students' understanding of possibility.

"We always enjoy having students tour our facility and explore the world of corrugated and boxes. It is extra rewarding when the students are as engaged in the conversation like when Bornblum visited. The students asked questions related to design, construction and sustainability of our products, which shows that the topics they are studying are preparing them for success in the future," said Erin Kimble, laboratory manager.

Experiences like this strengthen Bornblum's commitment to experiential learning. According to Cross, "Community partnerships bridge theory and practice, inspiring students to see themselves as future designers, engineers and change makers. When classroom tools mirror industry tools, and when the design thinking cycle echoes across both spaces, students recognize that their ideas matter beyond school walls."

At the end of the tour, each student received a cardboard Babka the Bear puzzle – complete with a tiny kippah – crafted from the very materials they had spent the day analyzing. It was a playful reminder that behind every package lies intentional design, collaboration and care.

For Bornblum students, the visit proved that design thinking doesn't stop at the classroom door. It scales – from laser cutters to global production lines – and prepares them not just to imagine solutions, but to build them. **HW**

Trump Weighing Initial Limited Strikes on Iran to Force a Deal



U.S. President Donald Trump delivers remarks to military families at Fort Bragg, N.C., Feb. 13, 2026. Credit: Daniel Torok/White House.

By JNS Staff

(JNS) – U.S. President Donald Trump is mulling limited airstrikes on Iranian military and government sites designed to force Tehran to bend its hardline negotiating stance while averting a full-scale offensive that could spark a regional war, The Wall Street Journal reported last Friday.

Were Iran to still reject Washington's demands on its nuclear project, the U.S. military would escalate its campaign, potentially aiming at regime change, the report said.

Such a limited assault could begin within days, the Journal cited sources with knowledge on the matter as saying.

"The people of Iran are very different than the leaders of Iran," Trump told reporters during a news briefing in the White House.

He went on to assert that the Islamic Republic killed 32,000 people "over a relatively short period of time," re-

ferring to the regime's crackdown on nationwide protests that erupted in the country in late December.

"It is a very, very sad situation ..., they were going to hang ... some by crane. They lift them up with a tall crane, and they play them around the square. They were going to hang 837 people. ... I feel very badly for the people of Iran, they've lived in hell," the president said.

Speaking to Fox News last Friday, U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee said that if the Iranians "don't believe President Trump will do what he says in a military action, then they're not real smart. And they certainly have a short memory. They don't remember what happened to them last summer."

Huckabee stressed that a deal means that Tehran "gets rid of its nuclear enrichment, they don't have any more as-

(See Iran Page 3)

Unity Through Wisdom: Memphis Night of Jewish Learning Rescheduled for March 8 at the MJCC

By Laura Kurcfeld

At a time when many in the Jewish community are seeking connection and solace amid rising global concerns, a local tradition is offering a powerful antidote: gathering in the pursuit of shared wisdom.

The **Memphis Night of Jewish Learning**, presented by the Center for Jewish Life and Learning at the Memphis Jewish Community Center (MJCC), postponed due to the snowstorm on January 24 has been rescheduled for **Sunday evening, March 8, 2026**.

The event, which runs from 6 to 9 p.m., promises an evening of inspiration and meaning from Torah study and Jewish culture exploration through the vast knowledge of our rabbis, educators and leaders.

The Memphis Night of Jewish Learning provides an opportunity for Jews, regardless of background or religious affiliation, to be enriched on multiple levels, intellectually and spiritually. The evening's format allows participants to customize their experience.

After a 6 p.m. opening featuring dinner and drinks, attendees can choose a speaker in each of two consecutive 45-minute blocks of classes. This setup offers a rare opportunity for participants to study with great minds they always wanted to hear from but may not have had the chance to previously.

The roster of speakers represents a broad spectrum of the Memphis Jewish landscape, featuring 10 prominent leaders including:

- Rabbi Dr. Gavriel Brown (Margolin Hebrew Academy / Cooper Yeshiva of the South)
- Mr. Jason Caplan (The Bridge Insti-

tute / Beit Abulafia)

- Rabbi Joel Finkelstein (Baron Hirsch Congregation)
- Rabbi Ilai & Sarit Grunwald (Torah MiTzion Memphis)
- Rabbi Cantor David Julian (Or Chadash Conservative Synagogue)
- Rabbi Ross Levy (Temple Israel)
- Rabbi Akiva Males (Young Israel of Memphis)
- Rabbi Yehoshua Nissan (Memphis Kollel)
- Rabbi Sammy Rosenbaum (Beth Sholom Synagogue)
- Mrs. Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein (Memphis Jewish Federation)

The final segment of the night will serve as a launchpad for "Partners Memphis," a new community-unifying program set to officially debut on Monday, March 23. The initiative, which has seen success in other major cities across the U.S., pairs participants from different Jewish backgrounds for one-on-one learning and perspective sharing. During the March 8 event, attendees, paired randomly, will get a first taste of the program by discussing the essays of the late Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sachs, zt"l, focusing on the poignant theme of "Community and the Dignity of Difference."

The MJCC encourages all members of the local Jewish community to join us for a night of intriguing learning and deep conversations.

- When: Sunday, March 8, 6 – 9 p.m.
- Where: Memphis Jewish Community Center
- Registration: Online at jccmemphis.org/JewishLife
- Contact: 901-259-9227 or LKurcfeld@jccmemphis.org **HW**

THE Hebrew Watchman

SERVING THE MEMPHIS JEWISH COMMUNITY SINCE 1925

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

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

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

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

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 (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 errors. 2/26/2026

Memphis Candlelighting Time

Erev Shabbat, Fri. Feb. 27, 2026 / 10 Adar, 57865:35 p.m.
Havdalah, Sat. Feb. 28, 2026 / 11 Adar, 5786 6:32 p.m.
Weekly Torah Portion: Tetzaveh Zachor

Swastikas Found Etched on Portable Toilet in New York Village Park

By JNS Staff

Two swastikas were discovered etched into a portable toilet at Croton Landing Park in Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., on Feb. 15, prompting a police investigation and condemnation from

local officials.

The Croton-on-Hudson Police Department said it was notified of the vandalism and launched an on-site investigation into hate-symbol incidents, also

alerting the Westchester County District Attorney's Office. The damaged portable toilet was quickly removed and replaced.

The Village Board of Trustees thanked

"the individuals who promptly reported this antisemitic incident."

"We condemn hate symbols and stand with our Jewish neighbors and all those affected by the appearance of the swastikas," the board stated, adding that Croton-on-Hudson seeks to be "an inclusive and safe place for all people." **HW**

I can't make your in-laws love the house...



Making your in-laws love the house...
IMPOSSIBLE



Getting you the right price...
COMPLETED

but I'll help you buy or sell it right!



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



Official REALTOR



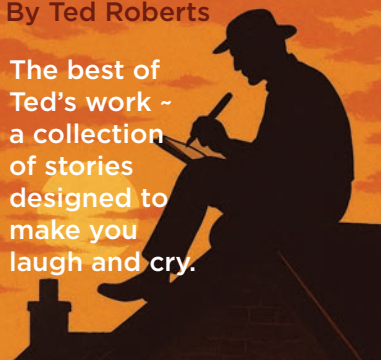
let's connect

PAST ISSUES
2021 - 2025
AVAILABLE AT
HEBREWWATCHMAN.COM

SCRIBBLER ON THE ROOF

By Ted Roberts

The best of Ted's work - a collection of stories designed to make you laugh and cry.



\$10.95
AVAILABLE AT LULU.COM

The MJCC Larisa and Ben Baer Senior Adult Club Happenings

Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m., and speakers and entertainment start at noon.

Monday, March 2

Visit to Mid-South Hobbies

Participants will enjoy a tour of this unique Memphis business and take part in one of their fun craft projects at no charge. Aubrey and Don, the owners, have generously brought projects to our seniors in the past, and this visit gives everyone a chance to see their full selection. Grandparents looking for special gifts for grandchildren will find plenty of ideas here. Reservations are required.

Wednesday, March 4

Trivial Pursuit

We will host a new team-style Trivial Pursuit game played in the format of Jeopardy! There will be four categories, and all responses must be in the form of a question. No experience is necessary – just come ready to have fun. Often the quietest players turn out to have the winning answers! Join us for lunch or simply come for the game.

Monday, March 9

Speaker, Laura Kurcfield, Director of the Center for Jewish Life & Learning at the MJCC.

Her topic “Identifying with Judaism through Memories,” promises to be engaging and thought-provoking. A question-and-answer session will follow.

Wednesday, March 11

Speaker, Josh Goldin of Comfort Keepers

Josh’s topic is “Brain Health for Seniors.” His talks are always informative and practical. Please sign up at the front desk for both the lunch and program. A Q&A session will follow.

Special Evening Program: Tuesday, March 10 • 7–9 p.m.

Elise Meyer will present “Declutter 1-2-3!”

Elise helps people organize their homes, reduce unnecessary items and create efficient storage solutions. She will also share tips from her work packing, unpacking and organizing events, including a mini-presentation titled “How 15 Minutes Can Change Your House!” A Q&A session will follow. Seating is limited and reservations are already coming in, so please call the front desk at 901-761-0810 to reserve your spot.

Please join us Monday through Friday for a delicious kosher lunch from the kitchens at Memphis Jewish Home. The cost is only \$2 for seniors. Reservations are required by 1 p.m. the day before. To reserve, call Steve Kaplan, Adult Services Coordinator, at 901-259-9220 or email stevekaplan@jccmemphis.org (Monday–Thursday, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.), or contact the front desk at 901-761-0810. **HW**



Elise Meyer

Iran...

(Continued From Page 1)

pirations for nuclear weapons, they quit killing their citizens, and they start to lower the inventory of ballistic missiles, and especially the range.”

He added, “If they don’t do that, Trump has said, there is no deal.”

Reuters last Friday cited officials from Gulf nations and Israel as saying that an agreement with Iran was less likely than military confrontation.

The U.S. military has amassed its biggest force in the region since the Iraq war in 2003.

Two unnamed Israeli sources told Reuters that the Iran-U.S. gap is too wide for reconciliation, adding that an attack

was now the most likely outcome.

However, a senior U.S. official told Axios last Friday that the Trump administration is open to accept an Iranian proposal that allows for “symbolic” nuclear enrichment if it means that Tehran’s path toward a bomb is closed.

“President Trump will be ready to accept a deal that would be substantive and that he can sell politically at home. If the Iranians want to prevent an attack, they should give us an offer we can’t refuse. The Iranians keep missing the window. If they play games, there won’t be a lot of patience,” the U.S. official was quoted as saying.

The Pentagon presented a number of scenarios to Trump, including the assassination of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, his son and possible successor Mojtaba Khamenei and senior mullahs, a senior Trump adviser was cited as saying.

“They have something for every scenario. ... What the president chooses no one knows. I don’t think he knows,” the adviser added.

“Trump is keeping his options open. He could decide on an attack at any moment,” a second adviser told Axios.

There are many within the Trump administration who do not trust the Is-

lamic Republic to honestly renounce its nuclear ambitions, the report said.

Meanwhile last Saturday, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian delivered a message of defiance.

“World powers are lining up to force us to bow our heads ... , but we will not bow our heads despite all the problems that they are creating for us,” Pezeshkian said in a speech televised by Iranian-state TV, according to Reuters.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said last Friday that Tehran will present a new proposal in the next two to three days.

“What we are now talking about is how to make sure that Iran’s nuclear program, including enrichment, is peaceful and would remain peaceful forever,” Araghchi said in an interview with American news channel MS NOW.

He added that Iran would institute “confidence-building measures” in exchange for sanctions relief from the U.S. **HW**

GERMANTOWN UNDER \$400,000



NEW ON MARKET

In Harvest Meadows, near Neshoba and Cordova Road, all 7625 Wheatley Drive needs is your taste in paint, carpet and updates. It has 5 Bedrooms with the Primary and 2nd BR, Office or Snoring Room DOWN! Newer Roof and Windows! Large rear yard is perfect for kids, grands or pets! 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.



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

Cell 901.483.0546 • Office 901.682.1868
shelrose@memphisrelocate.com

PHOTO DIGITIZING & RESTORATION

Photos and Slides Digitized

Damaged Photos Restored

Hal Jaffe 901-229-4725

Satisfaction Guaranteed
Complimentary pick up & delivery

Services Available

Driver

Courteous & reliable person to take you anywhere you need to go in Memphis & surrounding areas: Doctor’s Appointments, Shopping, Errands, Airport. Available weekdays & weekends.

House & Dog Sitting

I love dogs & can stay at your house while you are away.

Call Rick Danzig:
901-337-6009

Celebrating 90 years of the Memphis Jewish Federation

A look back on our history in photos

Memphis Jewish Federation is proud to have connected – and to continue connecting – hundreds of Memphis Jewish community members with Israel and Jewish communities around the world. Whether strengthening our community’s engagement with Israel, educating about the Holocaust, delivering much-needed medicine to the Jews of Cuba, or supporting Jewish life in Morocco and beyond, Federation invests communal resources in building enduring and meaningful ties to global Jewish life.



Steve & Karin Gubin, Tova Graber & Marlene Gerson in Morocco in 1994.



Cheryl Kaplan & Michelle Less participating in the March of the Living in Poland in 1994.



Mission trip to Israel in 2006.

Below: George Matz and other Memphians deplaning from an El Al plane in the 1970s.



Peggy and L.R. Jalenak in Israel in 1996.



Herb & Marilyn Notowich; Stanley & Dot Bilsky; Anna Schultz, Sylvia Albert; Irvin & Deana Serenco in Caesarea, Israel.



Women’s Spiritual Mission to Israel in 2019, Hecht Synagogue at the Hebrew University of Mount Scopus.



Ronald Harkavy and Tim Malkin in Israel in the 1970s.



Memphis women attend the International Lions of Judah Conference in Israel in 1996 – Mary Lynn Perl, Bert Wolff and Bobbie Shainberg.



Memphis Jewish Community Mission to Cuba in 2011.

Chazak, chazak v'nitchazek!

Be strong, be strong and let us strengthen one another!

This is the verse commonly said when a congregation completes a book of Torah and moves on to the next.

Volunteering is a lot like that. We each do the best we can at one small task – but together, all those tasks contribute to the greater good. Each of us working together, in community, building on Jewish values that inspire us to be the best humans and the best community we can be.

At the Wendy and Avron B. Fogelman Jewish Family Service at MJCC, we have some extraordinary volunteers already working with us – and with more wonderful volunteers, we can continue to strengthen our programs and our community!

Here are some great volunteer opportunities seeking the energy and dedication of people just like you:

1. Like to drive? We work with numerous Jewish seniors and our Inclusion group of Jewish individuals with disabilities. To stay active and engaged, these folks often need transportation within Shelby County to get to appointments during the week and also to activities here at MJCC. As a Volunteer Driver, you can do a mitzvah and enjoy the company of new friends.

2. Like to help things grow? We have a small Community Garden where we grow summer vegetables and flowers to augment the produce provided to our Inclusion cooking classes and clients of our Peggy E. and L.R. Jalenak, Jr. Food Pantry and Finestone Family Home Delivered Meals programs. Community Garden activities range from planning and planting to watering and caretaking

to harvesting. These activities are done with FJFS staff during the week and on Sundays, January through October. Working in the FJFS Community Garden is a great B'nei Mitzvah project, can provide fun activities for a scout troop or school group, and can be an opportunity for intergenerational family learning. Come get your hands dirty with us!

3. Like to shop for food? We need help in several areas:

- Shopping with FJFS staff for kosher food at the Mid-South Food Bank
- Helping seniors who need help shopping in the grocery store
- Helping our Beth Sholom Gleaning partners pick up and sort the produce donated by Agricenter Farmers Market vendors on Tuesday afternoons during the summer months

All great ways to help meet the growing need for healthy food in our community!

4. Like to share the beauty of Shabbat? We hope to expand our monthly Shabbat Shalom program for Jewish seniors to a couple additional senior living facilities next year. This is a meaningful program that brings some of the songs, prayers, tastes and rituals of Shabbat and Jewish holidays to seniors who are often unable to get to services. Services are led by an area rabbi or lay leader along with FJFS staff and volunteers. Come be a part of sharing the joy of Shabbat!

Interested? Please contact Audrey May, FJFS Intake, Referral and Volunteer Coordinator, at 901-767-8511 or amay@jccmemphis.org for more information.

Come and let us strengthen one another! **HW**

Music Festival Coming to the MJCC Sunday March 22

The Memphis Jewish Community Center is excited to announce we are hosting a music festival! The festival, Jammin' at the J: A Party Behind the Moss Pavilion, is presented by Kelman-Lazarov Wealth Management. This festival is a celebration of Jewish musicians as all the bands performing have Jewish representation.

This jammin' music festival takes place Sunday, March 22. Doors open at 11:30 a.m.

The lineup for the festival is:

12:30 | Jack Fargo

Jack Fargo, led by Memphis-born Jack Fargotstein, brings music that romanticizes everyday life and loving every second you have – no matter what comes at you.

2:00 | Memphis Soul Remedy

A band comprised of doctors, nurses and other life-saving specialists, who specialize in the music that makes you dance; 70s, 80s, and 90s R&B and Funk!

3:30 | Avi Kaplan

Avi Kaplan is a three-time Grammy Award-winning vocalist who first performed on stages around the world as a former member of the acapella group Pentatonix.

In addition to the music, there will be vendors, merch, food, a Kids Zone and more!

Music Festival Committee Chair Karen Franklin says, "I am so excited for us to have these talented live musicians performing on the grounds of the JCC! We're planning to have a great Memphis spring day, perfect for an outdoor



Jack Fargotstein

music festival!"

In addition to Kelman-Lazarov Wealth Management, sponsors include Preparedness Consulting Service, Paragon Bank and Memphis Jewish Federation.

Tickets are available at jccmemphis.org/jammin

If you are interested in being a vendor, vendor applications are being accepted through March 6. Information and applications can also be found at jccmemphis.org/jammin

For more information about Jammin' at the J: A Party Behind the Moss Pavilion please reach out to Memphis JCC Cultural Arts Director Jonathan McCarter at jmccarter@jccmemphis.org or 901.259.9248 **HW**

Important Announcement

We are pleased to share that RVW Wealth has recently been named by Forbes as one of the Top Registered Investment Advisors in the United States.

This recognition is one of which we are extremely proud and reflects the principles that guide our work every day – disciplined, low-cost evidence-based investing, a deep commitment to fiduciary responsibility, and an unwavering focus on long-term, tax-efficient wealth optimization for the families we serve.



Born out of a leading Los Angeles-based CPA, our professionals are ruthlessly bottom line focused. Our strategies are grounded in decades of academic research and informed by the principles of renowned investors like Warren Buffett, and by Nobel Prize-winning economists.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW WE PROVIDE PRUDENT STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR WEALTH AND SEEK TO OPTIMIZE YOUR LONG TERM FINANCIAL WELLBEING, PLEASE CALL

SELWYN GERBER OR JESSE PICUNKO AT (901) 443-4000

TO SCHEDULE A CONFIDENTIAL PORTFOLIO REVIEW AND FINANCIAL PLANNING MEETING.



1790 Kirby Parkway, Suite 127 | Memphis, TN 38138

Visit RVWWealth.com

Rankings published by magazines generally base their selections on information prepared/submitted by the adviser. Rankings are generally limited to participating advisers. RVW Wealth, LLC has been ranked in the *LA Business Journal*, *Forbes*' 2025 top RIA Firms and others. We have reasonable basis to believe that the questionnaires, surveys, and/or vetting process used in preparation of these rankings were structured to be fair and balanced and did not produce predetermined results. If applicable, compensation, either directly or indirectly, was provided to the rating sources. Past performance not indicative of likely future returns. Rely only on actual offering documents before investing.



In 2027, Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab (MJHR) will celebrate 100 years of serving patients. In honor of this accomplishment and all the people who made it possible, we are telling 100 of their stories.

Over the next two years, we will publish 100 Stories for 100 Years – a weekly column spotlighting resident, staff, and lay leader stories with the Home from throughout our history. This week, we are sharing words from Immediate Past President Jeri Moskowitz.



Jeri Moskowitz and friends at the opening of the Ronna K. Newburger Adult Day Center.

MJHR: Tell us about yourself (hometown, education, family, hobbies, career).

I was born and grew up in Augusta, Ga., where my parents still live. I'm one of four kids. After graduating from the University of Georgia, I moved to Memphis with my now husband, Mitch, for law school, then practiced law for 25 years. I always volunteered, but after my law career, I took on lots more volunteer opportunities and consider myself to be a community volunteer for the entire community. I'm also a yoga instructor at the Memphis Jewish Community Center.

We have two kids, Mallory and Matt, born and raised in Memphis. Both kids now live in Atlanta. Mallory is married to Sammy Weitz, and they have twin boys, Miller and Cooper.

MJHR: How did you become connected to MJHR?

I didn't have a connection to the

Home at first. My father-in-law did rehab there, but he wasn't there long. I'd actually thought about moving my aunt from Chicago to live at the Home. So, I met Bobby Meadows and took a tour. I thought the place was great. My aunt ended up passing away, but I was then asked to join the board in 2018. I was later president from 2022-2024.

I feel like one reason I'm so connected now is that so many of my friends have aging parents, and they have to do so much to help them. I'm so fortunate that my parents are in very good health, in their 80s. They still play tennis and golf! Since they don't need me as much, I give back by doing things with the Home.

MJHR: Share your favorite MJHR story.

Back when I was president of the Home, Baylee Less-Eiseman, the Home's Director of Development, started a program called Friendly Faces.



Jeri Moskowitz and Colleen Freeman at the MJHR Annual Meeting.

Residents are paired with a volunteer and get together monthly. I'm paired with a resident named Joyce, and we've created a very special bond and relationship. Joyce and I were interviewed together for News Channel 3's Bright Spot Friday segment, and she said our friendship has been the best part of her stay at the Home. It just made me want to cry! We've formed such a beautiful friendship. Joyce turns 91 in March! Our interview can be found on WREG.com. It was very exciting to be involved.

Another favorite story is that I was president during the grand opening of the Ronna K. Newburger Adult Day Care Center, which makes me really happy.

MJHR: What do you wish for the future 100 years of the organization?

I hope that the Home continues to be the pillar of senior care in the city of Memphis, and that it continues to trans-

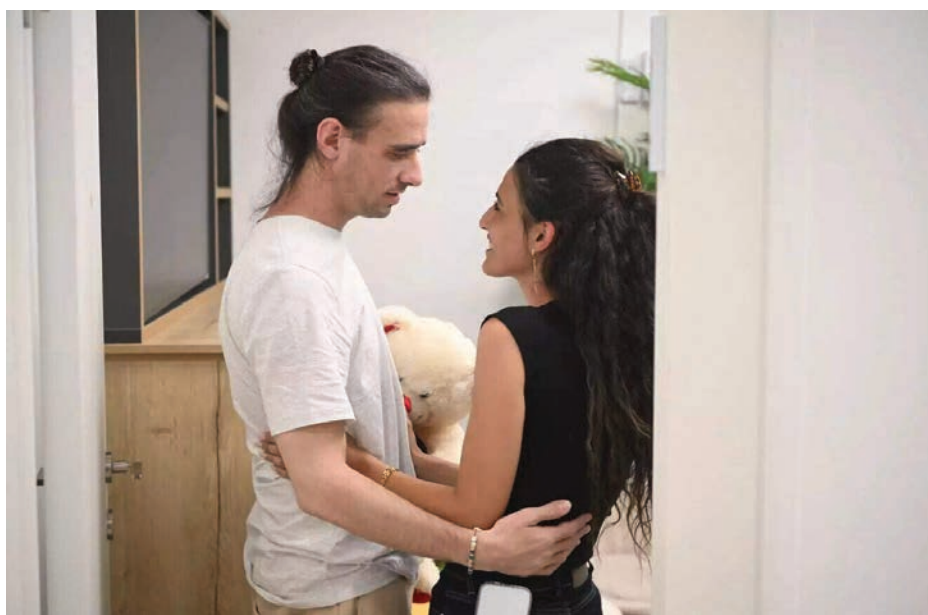
form as necessary to keep up with what our Jewish community needs.

MJHR: Anything else you'd like to share about MJHR?

The longevity of the staff at the Home always amazes me. Bobby is always touting certain staff who've been there for 25-30 years – it says so much about how the Home is run and how the staff is honored. It's pretty remarkable, especially in this day and age, when younger generations don't have the same job loyalty as older generations.

Memphis Jewish Home & Rehab 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. Only through the help of generous donors is the organization able to care for those in need. Find more information at www.memphisjewishhome.org/giving **HW**

Gaza Hostage Arbel Yehoud was Sexually Abused 'Almost Every Day'



Ariel Cunio (left) and Arbel Yehoud reunite. Credit: Hostages and Missing Families Forum spokesperson.

(Israel Hayom via JNS) – Arbel Yehoud, an Israeli woman held hostage in Gaza for 482 days after being abducted on Oct. 7, 2023, revealed that she was sexually assaulted “almost every day in captivity” and attempted to take her own

life three times during her ordeal.

Speaking in an interview with Israeli Channel 12's Ulpan Shishi (“Friday Studio”) news program, Yehoud, 30, described prolonged physical, psychological and sexual abuse at the hands of

her captors in Gaza. She said she was held alone in extended isolation, starved and subjected to repeated mistreatment. During her captivity, she added, two of her ribs were broken.

“I tried to take my life several times. I felt that I couldn't go on,” Yehoud said. The abuse, she stressed, was not a one-time incident but an almost daily reality throughout her 482 days in captivity.

Yehoud said she attempted suicide on three separate occasions. “There were moments when I thought that was the only way out,” she said.

She credited her partner, Ariel Cunio, who was abducted alongside her on Oct. 7 but later separated from her, with giving her the strength to survive. “Every time I remembered Ariel, it gave me the strength to keep breathing,” she said.

In the first months of their captivity, the couple managed to smuggle short love notes to each other through intermediaries, she recounted. That communication was stopped when their captors threatened that if Cunio mentioned her name again, she would be harmed. For more than a year, the two lived in com-

She attempted to take her life three times. She was held in isolation, starved and subjected to prolonged physical and psychological abuse.

plete uncertainty about each other's fate.

Yehoud was released on Jan. 30, 2025, walking alone through a crowd surrounded by armed terrorists. “My mind was trying to understand – am I free? But still surrounded by them?” she recalled. Even at the moment of her release, she said, she feared being abducted again.

After 738 days in captivity, Cunio was also freed. The couple are now trying to rebuild their lives. Yehoud said they are coping with sleepless nights, flashbacks and trauma, but emphasized that their belief they would see each other again is what kept them alive throughout the long months of captivity.

Originally published by Israel Hayom. **HW**

Estate Planning How Estate Planning Can Help Individuals Afford Long-Term Care

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

About seventy percent (70%) of Americans who reach the age of sixty-five (65) will need some type of long-term care during their lives. In Tennessee, the average cost of a nursing home varies depending on several factors including location, quality of facility, and the level of care required. On average, the cost of a nursing home in Tennessee is around eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) per month for a private room and around seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) per month for a semi-private room. Thus, in Tennessee, the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is around ninety-six thousand dollars (\$96,000.00), which amounts to four hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$480,000.00) over a five (5) year period. These daunting numbers leave many Memphians concerned about their ability to afford long-term care in the event they need it.

As with many areas involving estate planning, proper planning on the front end as relates to financing long-term care often makes all the difference on the back end once an individual actually needs to use some form of long-term care. Importantly, for individuals who are Medicaid eligible, Medicaid covers most, if not all, long-term care expenses.

Many of us are familiar in some form or another with Medicaid. Medicaid is a government-funded program that helps individuals pay for medical expenses – including long-term care. However, the program has strict eligibility requirements, including financial limits on the assets and income of its beneficiaries. In Tennessee, for example, if an individual has more assets than the Medicaid limit, they are required to spend down their assets (get rid of them) before becoming eligible for Medicaid.

This is one area where proper planning on the front end can serve to protect the individual from spending all of his or her funds on long-term care and can enable individuals with assets to protect those assets from Medicaid spend-down requirements. To do so, many individuals and families in Tennessee establish a Medicaid Asset Protection Trust (MAPT). A MAPT is an irrevocable trust that enables individuals to transfer assets into the trust, retain some control over those assets and still qualify for Medicaid when it comes time to pay long-term care expenses. By properly establishing and funding a MAPT, individuals can protect assets from Medicaid spend-down requirements and ensure those assets are preserved for the



MENDELSON
LAW FIRM
901-763-2500
mendelsonfirm.com
bwachtel@mendelsonfirm.com
dm@mendelsonfirm.com

individual's family's benefit.

A MAPT trust agreement should specify how assets in the trust are to be managed and who is to benefit from the assets. One important aspect of a MAPT is that it must meet certain requirements to be considered a Medicaid-compliant trust. For example, the trust must be irrevocable, meaning that the individual who establishes the trust cannot change or revoke it.

In sum, many Memphians will need long-term care at some point throughout their lives and long-term care is expensive. A Medicaid Asset Protection Trust is often a valuable tool for individuals and families in Tennessee who want to protect their assets for their family and still enjoy the benefits of Medicaid when it comes to financing long-term care. **HW**

Bomb Threat Causes Evacuation of Synagogue in Charleston, SC

By JNS Staff

Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, a historic Reform synagogue in downtown Charleston, S.C., established in 1749, was evacuated last Tuesday after receiving three threatening phone calls, including one that conveyed a bomb threat, according to synagogue leadership.

Synagogue leaders wrote that the calls came in at about 9:30 a.m.

“Our partners at the Charleston Police Department responded immediately, swiftly establishing a secure perimeter while first responders, including representatives of the FBI and CPD’s K-9 unit, conducted a thorough sweep of our campus,” the congregation stated.

“While we are thankful that no harm occurred, we are shaken by the reminder that antisemitism and threats of violence remain a reality in our world today,” the synagogue added. “No community should have to contend with fear simply for gathering in prayer, learning or celebration, and yet, this moment only strengthens our resolve.”

Rep. Nancy Mace (R-S.C.) stated that “police searched and nothing was found, but the fear was real, and the hate was real.”

“We stand firmly with the Jewish community in Charleston, across South Carolina, throughout America and all over the world,” she wrote. “To our Jewish brothers and sisters: We stand with you.”

“Antisemitism has no place in Charleston or anywhere else,” Mace added. “You should never have to wonder if your synagogue is safe.” **HW**

**THE HEBREW WATCHMAN
CELEBRATING 100 Years!
1925 ~ 2025**

For Sale 510 Berkeley Square \$799,900






4br 3.5 ba main house + 2 story in-law wing


50 Grove Dale \$469,900






4 br 2.5 ba / double cul-de-sac / remodeled kitchen + all baths

Rick Baer 901 495 2217
Robin Shainberg 917-364-4468
1028 Cresthaven # 206 Memphis TN 38119
RickBaerRealty.com



HARKAVY MCDANIEL
KAPLAN & SALOMON P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ROOTED IN
LEGACY.
LEADING THE
FUTURE.

At Harkavy McDaniel Kaplan & Salomon P.C., we take immense pride in cultivating robust relationships with esteemed business, civic, and professional leaders, complemented by the unwavering commitment of our attorneys to serve our diverse clientele with excellence.

HARKAVYMCDANIEL.COM
901-761-1263
6060 Poplar Ave, Suite 140 • Memphis, TN 38119

Understanding the Complexities of Medicare

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

While they're working, many Americans become accustomed to getting health insurance through their employer. They make their initial selections and then update their choices once a year when its time to renew and during life events like adding to the family or, perhaps, starting a new job.

But virtually all U.S. residents face a milestone when they reach age 65 and qualify for Medicare, which provides a new and, possibly, more complex approach to health insurance.

Keep in mind that even if you take early Social Security benefits at age 62, you must wait until age 65 for Medicare.

Breaking down Medicare's parts

Part A: Hospital insurance

Helps pay for:

- Inpatient hospital care
- Hospice care
- Skilled home-health services for homebound patients

Part A also helps with short-term inpatient care in Medicare-certified skilled nursing facilities, but only if the patient is there for rehabilitation – not for long-term or custodial care.

Qualifying

Once you reach age 65, you qualify for Part A. It's unlikely you will be charged a monthly premium if you have worked and paid the Medicare payroll tax for a minimum of 10 years.

Part B: Medical insurance

Helps pay for:

- Doctors' services
- Outpatient hospital care
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Some preventive services

Qualifying

All U.S. citizens and all legal aliens who have lived in the United States for at least five years qualify for Part B at age 65. No work history is required, but everyone who wants Part B must pay a monthly premium.

Monthly premiums are based off the worker's modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) from filed taxes with higher income individuals paying more. Your first opportunity to sign up for Part B is the initial enrollment period, which begins three months before and ends three months after your 65th birthday month.

Part C: Medicare Advantage

Part C offers an option to buy health insurance from the private sector as an alternative to joining the "traditional Medicare" program that comes from the government.

If you choose a Part C plan, you will generally get all of your Medicare-covered services, including all services, supplies, and drugs that are otherwise covered by Parts A, B, and D, from your Part C plan instead. However, Part C

plans typically restrict your choices of health care providers.

Medicare enrollees who choose Part C must continue to pay their Part B premiums, and Medicare will pay the plan a monthly fee. You might have to pay an additional monthly premium depending on the plan.

Part D: Prescription drug coverage

The optional Part D covers prescription drugs. If you have Part A, Part B, or both, you will qualify for Part D.

Like Part C, Part D comes from a private company, not directly from the government. When you turn age 65, you will have the right to enroll in one of several Medicare-approved Part D prescription drug plans.

Medicare pays most of the cost of Part D. However, if you choose Part D, you will pay a monthly premium to the company you select.

Supplementing your coverage

Medicare alone is not likely to be enough. To help minimize out-of-pocket expenses, many retirees have some other arrangement to supplement Medicare's coverage. Some options include:

- Former employer health insurance – Your former employer may let you carry its group health plan into retirement. If you are retired and eligible for Medicare, your employer's group health plan is your Medicare supplement.
- Medigap insurance – Medigap is supplemental health insurance you buy from a private insurance company to fill in some of the gaps in Part A and Part B. Medigap policies pay some or all of Medicare's deductibles and copayments, and some cover a few services that Medicare doesn't.

- Medicare Advantage Part C – Part C is not a true Medicare supplement because it replaces Medicare's coverage. But if you have Part C, you will not need a Medicare supplement.

This article contains basic information about Medicare, services related to Medicare, and services for people with Medicare. If you would like to find more information about the government Medicare program, please visit the official U.S. government site at medicare.gov.

Our firm does not provide legal, tax, or accounting advice, but your financial advisor will be happy to work with your chosen legal and tax advisors to help you achieve your financial goals.

Insurance products are offered through nonbank insurance agency affiliates of Wells Fargo & Company and are underwritten by unaffiliated insurance companies.

This advertisement was written by Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network and provided to you by Mike Stein, Managing Director - Investments.

Investment products and services are offered through Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC, Member SIPC, a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

©2021 – 2023 Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network, LLC. All rights reserved. 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**

Wells Fargo Advisors

Changing jobs, switching employers, or retiring?

Don't leave your 401(k) or 403(b) unattended

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

Wells Fargo Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice.

Investment and Insurance Products:		
NOT FDIC Insured	NO Bank Guarantee	MAY Lose Value

Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member SIPC, a registered broker-dealer and non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company. © 2020 Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC. All rights reserved. CAR-0720-04236

Debbie Rosenthal

Luxury Travel Advisor

☎ 901.682.5600
 🌐 www.orianatravel.com
 ✉ debbie@orianatravel.com
 📍 @orianatravelco

Have a Simcha?

share with The Hebrew Watchman readers

901.763.2215

info@hebrewwatchman.com

STOP

all of the
MEDICARE
calls

- **Get FREE advice from a local independent specialist**
- **Learn the difference in a supplement and an advantage plan**
- **EVERYONE should have an annual review of their health coverage**

MEDICARE SPECIALIST

STEVE BAER

• • •

901.237.4207

stevenbaer@gmail.com

As always . . .
Your long term care, life and annuity specialist

In Moments of Crisis, Jewish National Fund-USA is There



An Israeli firefighter next to a JNF-USA fire engine. Credit: Courtesy JNF-USA

By Stefan Oberman

(JTA) – “To attract new residents, create new jobs and boost economic growth, we have to have fundamental services like Fire & Rescue already in place,” says Jewish National Fund-USA Fire & Rescue Task Force Chair Penny Rosen.

As the official fundraising body in the U.S. for Israel’s Fire & Rescue Authority, Jewish National Fund-USA and its partners (donors) have gifted numerous firehouses, fire trucks, rapid response vehicles and other lifesaving equipment to help “Israel’s Bravest.”

However, there’s a larger, more strategic story at play. As part of Jewish National Fund-USA’s circles of impact, every project, initiative and program helps build Israel’s North and South, encouraging population growth in these frontier regions. From medical facilities to Emergency Response Centers, bomb shelters to resilience centers, the orga-

nization is creating the infrastructure needed to support new residents moving to Israel’s Negev and Galilee.

“While others are stepping back, we are moving in,” explains Itzik Oz, Southern District Commander of the Israel Fire & Rescue Authority. “When the call comes in, it doesn’t matter what your faith, background or nationality is. We help everyone.”

Jewish National Fund-USA’s vision of attracting 800,000 new residents to the country’s North and South is powered by these circles of impact – where support for firefighters represents just one (very important) element in a much larger effort to strengthen Israel’s frontier communities and ensure their long-term resilience.

Penny Rosen, who has made significant philanthropic commitments – together with her husband, Stephen – to Israel’s firefighters, including the dedication of a fire station in the country’s North in memory of her late son, Adam, explained the crucial nature of Jewish National Fund-USA’s support for civilian defense and security.

“When your house is on fire, or you need medical attention, you can’t wait hours for help to arrive. That’s why we’re investing in these critical services, so new and existing residents know that help is only a phone call away,” says Rosen.

For decades, Jewish National Fund-USA has invested billions of philanthropic dollars in quality-of-life-improving physical and communal infrastructure. However, the organization’s infrastructure doesn’t just provide services to residents; it also creates jobs.

More fire stations need more firefighters. More resilience centers need more

therapists. And more Emergency Response Centers need more first responders – further contributing to Jewish National Fund-USA’s circles of impact.

“Taking care of yourself and your family is a top priority for anyone, so to attract new residents, create new jobs and boost economic growth, we have to have the fundamental services like Fire & Rescue already in place,” adds Rosen.

Local Israeli leaders lauded the organization’s efforts. “Because of Jewish National Fund-USA’s philanthropic investments, firefighters in Israel’s South can now respond to incidents much faster – sometimes in even half the time than before,” says Yedidya Harush, a leader of the southern Israeli community of Halutza.

Emergency Response Centers, established with the support of Jewish National Fund-USA, are vital lifelines for Israel’s northern and southern communities. These regional command hubs coordinate first responders and are equipped for firefighting, medical emergencies, drone operations and search and rescue missions. Each center houses rapid-response vehicles and cutting-edge communication systems that enable swift coordination in times of crisis – whether responding to rocket fire, wildfires or natural disasters.

Through its investment in infrastructure, vehicles, training and equipment, Jewish National Fund-USA ensures that civilian security teams can act decisively and save lives. These centers not only provide immediate response capabilities but also foster resilience and preparedness among residents. By strengthening Israel’s emergency response network, Jewish National Fund-USA is helping protect families, safeguard communities and secure the future of the land and people of Israel.

Gift-making opportunities are available at every level. A new Emergency Response Center is available for \$1.5 million, “Big Red” fire trucks can be gifted for \$250,000 and smaller rapid-action ATVs are available for \$50,000. Meanwhile, personal protective equipment and gear cleaning equipment can be gifted for \$1,800.

This article originally appeared in B’yachad magazine. For more information, visit jnf.org/fireandrescue or call 800.JNF.0099.

This is a Paid Post from Jewish National Fund-USA, one of the oldest and most trusted philanthropies for the land and people of Israel.

This is a paid post. JTA’s editorial team had no role in its production. **HW**

**COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES
REPRESENTING BUYERS AND SELLERS
TRIPLE NET / 1031 EXCHANGE SPECIALISTS
25 YEARS OF SATISFIED CLIENTELE**

NET LEASE PROPERTY SPECIALISTS

GAVIN KAM
Principal Broker
6000 Poplar Avenue Suite 250
Memphis, TN 38119
972.375.3437 • mobile

NNN RETAIL ADVISORS
gavin@nnnretailadvisors.com
www.nnnretailadvisors.com

Pat Cares Like Family
Home Health/Personal Assistant Services
Please contact me to care for your loved ones.
Patricia Boyland
(901) 247-9693 • patboyland89@gmail.com
CPR Certified Instructor
Light Housekeeping & Meal Prep • Companionship
Mornings Only, Not Available on Weekends

MIDSOUTH

OKINAWAN KARATE

Karate for Kids, Adults, Seniors and Women’s Self Defense Classes.

612 W Poplar Ave • Collierville
901-286-5063 www.midsouthok.com
Karate and Self Defense That’s Right For You

Renew or Subscribe

BE A PART OF **Jewish Memphis**

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

**SUBSCRIBE
ADVERTISE
CONTRIBUTE**

TO SUBSCRIBE

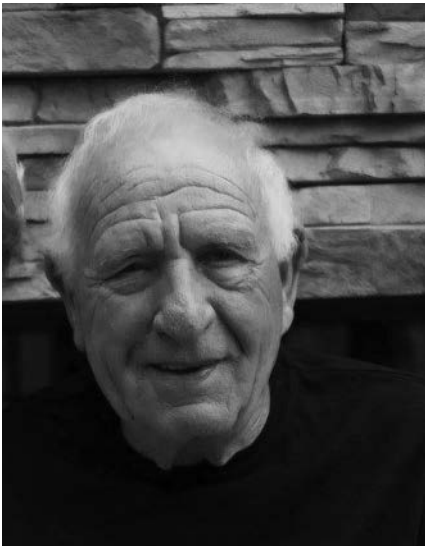
order online at JewishSceneMagazine.com/subscribe
call 901.763.2215 scan the QR code
or mail payment with card below to: *The Hebrew Watchman*
P.O. Box 770846 Memphis, TN 38177-0846

Keep Memphis Jewish journalism alive!

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

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

OBITUARIES



Allen Newton Iskiwitz

Allen Newton Iskiwitz, 89, passed away peacefully February 16 at the Memphis Jewish Home. Allen was raised in Memphis, Tenn., and educated at Purdue University with a degree in engineering. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu (SAMMY) fraternity and had a business degree from Memphis State University. He started his career at Pickering Firm and later joined Iskiwitz Metals with his uncles. He eventually became owner and remained as such until his sons recently took over ownership. Allen was married to Patricia Kay Kinney for close to 60 years and had two sons, Jamie (Kelly) and Barry (Amber). He leaves behind three granddaughters, Emma, Ava and Violet, who lovingly called

him Puppy because of his love of animals, especially dogs.

Allen enjoyed spending time with his family, especially hosting holiday celebrations. In his free time, you could always find Allen working out at gyms across the city.

Allen's true passion was giving back to many organizations in the community, including the Memphis Jewish Community Center, Memphis Jewish Federation and the Memphis Jewish Home. Additionally, Allen supported St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Church Health Center and countless animal rescue organization.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to honor Allen are asked to contribute to a charity of their choice. **HW**

Esther Kaplan Lubin

The beloved matriarch Esther Kaplan Lubin, age 96, died on Monday, February 16.

She was the daughter of Celia and Rubin Kaplan, the wife of the late Dr. Milton Lubin, sister of Roslyn Lit (Lester) and the late Dr. Jerry Kaplan (Annabelle). She was the loving mother of Sheila Cohen (Bob), Nathan Lubin (Alla), Avery Lubin (Charlyn), Minda Snitkoff (Eddie), and Diane DeVille (Roman). She will also be missed by 21 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren.

In addition to contributing to the lives of her loved ones, she taught second grade for 20 years and volunteered at various civic and religious organizations.

Services were held at the Anshei Sphard Cemetery on Feb. 18 with burial at Beth El Cemetery. **HW**



Ronald D. Krelstein

Ronald D. Krelstein, whose years of service as the Memphis Police Department's lawyer launched his career as one of the city's leading criminal defense attorneys, died Tuesday, February 10, at home with his beloved dog, Scooby, cradled in his arms. He was 83. Ron was

born in Memphis, the son of the late Harold and Rose Krelstein. As a non-athletic kid, he attended summer camp where he traded the camp's baseball diamond for the shooting range and was awarded a can of coke for each bullseye. After the first week, Ron had a trunk full of cokes and many new friends who shared Ron's love for fun and the spoils of his skills. After graduating from Christian Brothers High School, Ron received his undergraduate degree from Christian Brothers University where he was a two-time winner of the National Collegiate Pistol Championships, earning membership in the prestigious 2600 Club in 1963, and winning the Distinguished Pistol Shot badge in 1964 as a First Team All-American. Ron earned his law degree from Vanderbilt Law School and returned to Memphis where he established a 58-year legal career, first as the city's police legal adviser and then with his own law firm. Long-time legal friend and colleague, Richard Glassman, recalled that Ron loved trying lawsuits and loved the company of

other lawyers. "Ronnie was an addict of the law. He was the No. 1 authority on contempt of court and always impressed judges with his legal knowledge."

U.S. Congressman Steve Cohen was a friend of Ron since childhood and followed Ron as the city's police adviser. "As a lawyer, there wasn't a better legal mind and certainly not a sharper tongue," said Cohen. "Ronnie had a stern exterior but a heart full of love and compassion. He was a public advocate on many issues."

Ron's love for the law equaled only his passion for shooting, making him one of the area's leading marksmen. As a charter member of the National Pistol shooting team, Ron set 22 national records and three of those remain unbeaten today. He was awarded 16 international Gold Medals, including those at the Maccabi games in Israel in 1973, 1977 and 1987, and the Pan American Games in Mexico City. As the years passed, Ron turned to rifle shooting and is one of 66 people since the Civil War

to qualify for the Distinguished Badge in both pistol and rifle. He was inducted into the Memphis Sports Hall of Fame. He also is a member of the Christian Brothers Hall of Fame. Ron was a member of Temple Israel and the Lawyers Journal Club of Memphis.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Dr. Carol Benthall; his brother, Richard Krelstein; his loving stepmother, Arline Krelstein; and his four-legged friend, Baby Girl. He leaves behind his sister, Karen Krelstein Latner; nieces and nephews: Alexis Fingold, Lee Krelstein, Harold Latner, Elisabeth Latner and Joseph Latner; his special companion, Joan Marie 'Jonesey' Harp; his adored four-legged furry friend, Scooby; and countless friends who admired Ron for his wit, his legal skills and his love for service.

The family asks that you remember Ron with a donation to The Savior Foundation, www.thesaviorfoundation.org, a charitable agency for animals, or to a charity of the donor's choice. **HW**

Jesse Jackson, American Civil Rights Leader and Activist, 84

By Mike Wagenheim

(JNS) — Rev. Jesse Jackson, the American civil rights leader, former aide to Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and two-time Democratic presidential candidate whose relationship with American Jews was marked by both cooperation and controversy, died last Tuesday morning. He was 84.

Jackson rose to national prominence as a protégé of King during the civil rights movement and later founded Operation PUSH in 1971 and the Rainbow Coalition during his first presidential campaign in 1984. The nonprofits merged in 1996.

His political influence grew through his vision of a "rainbow coalition" uniting minorities and disadvantaged Americans. During his 1988 presidential campaign, Jackson urged Democrats to "build a quilt" like his grandmother's to unite the country, invoking Jerusalem and its Jewish, Christian and Muslim roots as an example of shared heritage.

Jackson's relationship with the Jewish community, however, was often strained.

Weeks into his first presidential campaign in 1984, Jackson came under intense criticism after referring to New York as "Hymietown" in remarks to reporters that were later published in the Washington Post. Jackson initially

denied making the comment, then apologized publicly, including during a visit to a New Hampshire synagogue. The controversy damaged his campaign.

He also faced criticism for initially refusing to distance himself from Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, who had made repeated antisemitic and anti-Israel statements, during his 1984 campaign. Jackson later called some of Farrakhan's remarks about Israel "reprehensible," but Farrakhan continued to express support for Jackson through his second presidential run, causing further rifts with the Jewish community.

Despite the backlash, Jackson's second presidential campaign in 1988 was more successful. He won 11 primaries and caucuses, at the time becoming the most successful Black presidential candidate in U.S. history.

Prior to his bid for president, Jackson met with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat in Beirut in 1979 and called the PLO the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, at a time when the U.S. government did not engage with Arafat.

At other times, Jackson sought to build ties with Jewish communities. He spoke out on behalf of Soviet Jews, raising their plight with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and supported

Jewish residents of Skokie, Ill., during planned neo-Nazi marches in 1978.

In later years, some Jewish leaders worked with Jackson on interfaith and communal issues.

"America has lost a towering pillar of the civil rights movement, and I have lost a cherished friend," Rabbi Marc Schneier, president of the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding and senior rabbi of the Hampton Synagogue in Westhampton Beach, N.Y., stated.

"For over 30 years, it was my privilege to share an extraordinary relationship with him in working to rebuild the historic alliance between the Black and Jewish communities," he wrote.

U.S. President Donald Trump, who said he had known Jackson for decades before entering politics, called him "a good man, with lots of personality, grit and 'street smarts.'"

"He was very gregarious—someone who truly loved people," Trump stated, adding that he provided office space for Jackson and the Rainbow PUSH Coalition in the Trump Building at 40 Wall Street in New York City in the late 1990s. Trump also credited Jackson with supporting criminal justice reform and economic development initiatives.

"Jesse was a force of nature like few others before him," Trump wrote. "He

loved his family greatly, and to them I send my deepest sympathies and condolences."

Jackson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 2000 and transformed his work into a high-profile TV presence.

Controversy followed him at times in his later career, including revelations that he had fathered a child with a staff member and public criticism of U.S. President Barack Obama. His son, former Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.), later served prison time after pleading guilty to misusing campaign funds.

Jackson announced in 2017 that he had been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and had largely withdrawn from public life in recent years. The Rainbow PUSH Coalition said in November that he had been hospitalized.

Jackson is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, six children and several grandchildren.

"Our father was a servant leader—not only to our family, but to the oppressed, the voiceless, and the overlooked around the world," the Jackson family said in a statement. "We shared him with the world, and in return, the world became part of our extended family." **HW**

Swiss Broadcaster Removes Footage of Host Criticizing Israeli Bobsled Team During its First Milan Runs



Israel's Adam Edelman and Menachem Chen during the Men's 2-man Bobsleigh, Heat 1, at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics, Italy, Feb. 16, 2026. Credit: Andrew Milligan/PA Images via Getty Images

By Philissa Cramer

February 17, 2026 (JTA) – A Swiss sportscaster spent the 57 seconds of the Israeli bobsled team's first run in Milan denouncing Israel and the team's captain, drawing criticism from U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee and casting a shadow over the historic outing.

The team came in last in its first efforts in the Winter Olympics, finishing 26th of 26 teams in two two-men heats last Monday. A third heat is scheduled for Monday afternoon, while the four-man event takes place next weekend.

It has been a disappointing showing so far for the team, which is making its first appearance in the Olympics following a years-long journey propelled by A.J. Edelman, an American observant Jew who has sought to do for Israel's winter sports profile what the unlikely "Cool Runnings" bobsled team did for Jamaica in the 1990s.

The Swiss sportscaster, Sebastian Renna, used the run to detail allegations against Edelman, whom he referred to as "a first-time Olympian and self-described 'Zionist to the core' who has posted several messages on social media in support of the genocide in Gaza." He listed comments allegedly made by Edelman and questioned why he should be allowed to compete given the International Olympic Committee's rules barring athletes from making political statements.

The Swiss national broadcaster, RTS, issued a statement about the footage, which it removed from its website, last Tuesday. "Our journalist wanted to question the IOC's policy regarding the athlete's statements," it said. "However, such information, while factual, is inappropriate for sports commentary due to its length. Therefore, we removed the segment from our website last night."

The clip had drawn praise from critics of Israel and excoriating comments from its defenders. "Beyond disgusting that the Jew-hating Swiss 'sportscaster' spewed bigotry & bile at @Israel Olympic Bobsled team & its captain @reala-jedelman as they competed," Huckabee tweeted.

Edelman, who posts frequently on social media in support of Israel and against antisemitism, did not dispute any of Renna's allegations but rejected their thrust.

"I am aware of the diatribe the commentator directed towards the Israeli Bobsled Team on the Swiss Olympics broadcast today," he tweeted last Monday. "I can't help but notice the contrast:

Shul Runnings is a team of 6 proud Israelis who've made it to the Olympic stage. No coach with us. No big program. Just a dream, grit, and unyielding pride in who we represent. Working together towards an incredible goal and crushing it. Because that's what Israelis do. I don't think it's possible to witness that and give any credence to the commentary."

Last Tuesday morning, Edelman was sanguine as he prepared to take the ice again.

"Today I take the final 2man run of my career, with the Shul Runnings team that is making history," he tweeted last Tuesday morning from Milan. "What an honor it is to wear this flag. What a blessing to be one of our people. Anyone can say anything about us, but you know what? They can only say it because we're here. Because Israel makes the impossible possible. Victors, never victims." **HW**

THE EMBASSY APARTMENTS
A DATTEL REALTY PROPERTY
"Luxury and Location"

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
901-685-8020

505 South Perkins Rd. | 1BR | 2BR | Penthouses
In the Heart of East Memphis | Utilities Included
See our floorplans | @embassyaptsmemphis.com

Dr. Matthew Breit
Dr. John C. Swearingen

Bluff City
ORAL SURGERY

780 Ridge Lake Blvd • Suite 101 • Memphis, TN • 38120
P [901-682-8431] • F [901-682-2345]
www.bluffcityoralsurgery.com Practice Limited to Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr. B
Michael Blen DDS – Lydia Watson DDS
Pediatric Dentistry

6363 Poplar Ave, Suite 110 -- Memphis, TN 38119
901-415-2536 -- www.drblen.com

MOVING?

Please let us know before you go!
toni@HebrewWatchman.com
901.763.2215
P.O. Box 770846
Memphis, TN
38177-0846

Custom

T-shirts hats
mugs koozies
and more...

Toni Nieman
DynamicDuoDesign1@gmail.com

Comfort Keepers
Elevating the Human Spirit

TRUST THE CARE EXPERTS.
BECAUSE EXPERIENCE MATTERS.

Free In-Home Consultation
or visit comfortkeepers.com and schedule your free consultation.

901-563-2142

Olympics Committee Defends Sale of T-Shirt Commemorating 1936 Nazi-Era Games



Credit: Screenshot via WebArchive, Shop.Olympics.com. Design by Jackie Hajdenberg

By Jackie Hajdenberg

February 14, 2026 – (JTA) – The governing body for the Olympics is defending its sale of a limited-edition T-shirt commemorating the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin under Adolf Hitler’s Germany.

The \$42 shirt, which was condemned by Jewish organizations, has already sold out from the official Olympics online store.

A spokesperson for the International Olympic Committee acknowledged the Games’ Nazi connections but said the 1936 design fit with its lineup of historical apparel marking “130 years of Olympic art and design.”

In its statement the IOC also invoked Jesse Owens, the Black American track-and-field athlete whose dominating per-

formance at the 1936 Games was widely seen as a rebuke of Hitler’s “master race” ideology.

“While we of course acknowledge the historical issues of ‘Nazi propaganda’ related to the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games, we must also remember that the Games in Berlin saw 4,483 athletes from 49 countries compete in 149 medal events,” the IOC spokesperson said in a statement to media. “Many of them stunned the world with their athletic achievements, including Jesse Owens.”

The design, based on an official poster for the Games, depicts the Olympic rings and a golden statue of a muscular man crowned in laurels next to a chariot of horses atop Berlin’s Brandenburg Gates.

Another item based on an Olympics

event overseen by the Nazis, a T-shirt commemorating the 1936 Winter Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, was also being sold through the collection. That poster shows a victorious skier with an arm upraised in what could be a Nazi salute and was designed by Ludwig Hohlwein, a leading artist in Joseph Goebbels’ propaganda division.

European Jewish groups said the Berlin shirt was insensitive, given that the 1936 Games were intended to function as a propaganda tool for Hitler’s regime. Some pointed to the modern-day resurgence of antisemitism as justification for their objections.

“As the world reflects on this latest controversy, it is impossible not to recall that we are approaching 90 years since the 1936 Berlin Olympics – an event the Nazi regime used to legitimize itself on the global stage while persecution of Jews was already well underway,” Scott Saunders, CEO of International March of the Living, the educational program that organizes trips to concentration camps, told CNN.

“Sport has the power to unite, to inspire, and to elevate the very best of humanity,” Saunders added. “But history reminds us that it can also be manipulated to sanitize hatred and normalize exclusion. The lesson of Berlin is urgent. When antisemitism resurfaces in public life, whether in stadiums, streets, or online, silence is not neutrality. It is complicity.”

Christine Schmidt, the co-director of the Wiener Holocaust Library in London,

also condemned the sale of the shirts.

“The Nazis used the 1936 Olympics to showcase their oppressive regime to the world, aiming to smooth over international relations while at the same time preventing almost all German-Jewish athletes from competing, rounding up the 800 Roma who lived in Berlin, and concealing signs of virulent antisemitic violence and propaganda from the world’s visitors,” Schmidt told CNN.

The screen-printed shirt is based on a poster for the actual games created by graphic artist Werner Würbel, according to an IOC catalog of posters from the Games. The aesthetic of the 1936 Games, which emphasized strongman caricatures in keeping with the Nazi ideal of a superhuman Aryan race, was memorialized in Nazi filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl’s propaganda documentary “Olympia.”

The Heritage collection also sold a T-shirt bedecked with a poster from the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, during which the entire Israeli athletic delegation was taken hostage and killed by the Palestinian terror group Black September. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has reached out to the IOC for further comment about the shirt, which is also marked as sold out.

The Munich Games were honored in a different commemorative product that drew criticism: sneakers produced in 2024 by Adidas, which was founded by Nazi Party members and had recently taken weeks to break ties with Kanye West after he embarked on an antisemitic spree. [HW](#)



MISTER TREE

901.300.3938

MisterTreeService.com

Locally Owned & Operated | Free Estimates

