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26 SIVAN, 5786

JUNE 11, 2026

VOL. 104, NO. 38

Federation Leads Delegation to DC for Security Advocacy



TN Delegation at U.S. Capitol.

Memphis Jewish Federation recently led a delegation of lay and professional leaders to Washington, D.C. to advocate for the security needs of the Jewish community.

Joining 400 Jewish leaders from 82 communities at the national “fly-in” or-

ganized by Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) were Federation board chair Jimmy Ringel, board members Molly Lane and Alla Lubin, Executive Vice President Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein and Community Relations Manager Sara First. The Tennessee del-

egation was rounded out with leadership from Nashville and Knoxville.

Amid rising antisemitic violence nationwide, delegation members met with Representative David Kustoff and senior staff in the offices of Senator Marsha Blackburn, Senator Bill Hagerty, and Representative Steve Cohen to advocate for the newly introduced bipartisan Jewish American Security Act (JASA), legislation that would enhance security funding and strengthen the nation’s response to antisemitism.

At each congressional meeting, delegation members shared personal stories illustrating the impact of antisemitism on their lives and community. “In a community where six degrees of separation is often one or two, these attacks hit close to home,” Ringel explained. Alla Lubin recalled growing up in Ukraine, where her mother warned her not to reveal that she was Jewish. “When I moved to the United States, I never imagined I would need to follow those same rules here,” she said.

The landmark JASA legislation would increase funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) – a critical resource that has helped Memphis Jewish organizations offset significant security expenses – to \$1 billion.

Highlighting the growing burden of security costs on Jewish communal life, Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein explained to our policymakers that security now consumes a substantial portion of the budgets of Jewish organizations both locally and across Tennessee. Lane added: “We are using a lot of money for security that could be spent on the important programming we need to keep our community engaged and cared for. Without

engagement, we lose the sense of community that is so strong in Memphis.”

JASA also creates a new security funding grant for places of worship, requires the Department of Education to designate an antisemitism coordinator, and establishes new regulations to combat antisemitism at colleges that receive federal funding. The measure would also require new disclosures about how online platforms moderate and respond to antisemitic content.

During the meetings, delegation members also advocated for the SACRED Act, bipartisan legislation currently before the House of Representatives. The bill would establish a federal buffer zone around houses of worship, helping ensure that congregants can gather, pray and practice their faith free from intimidation, harassment and obstruction.

In every meeting, congressional offices demonstrated an appreciation of the security challenges facing Jewish communities and a willingness to engage on potential solutions. The delegation saw an immediate impact from its advocacy efforts when Representative Kustoff joined as a co-sponsor of the SACRED Act shortly after the meetings.

Prior to their meetings on Capitol Hill, delegation members participated in a powerful and informative briefing and advocacy training, including hearing testimony from communities directly impacted by antisemitic attacks. Referring to the March 2026 antisemitic terrorist attack against Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Mich., synagogue preschool parent Eddie Rubin said: “Because of the preparedness of the entire

(See **Delegation** Page 2)

Amy Israel Pregulman Receives National Leadership Award for Supporting Holocaust Survivors



Seed The Dream Foundation Executive Director Talia Kaplan with Amy.

By Shoshana Center

Amy Israel Pregulman recently received an incredible honor: the Professional Leadership Award from the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

(NJHSA) during the organization’s PowerNET 2026 conference in Toronto in May. NJHSA’s annual conference brings together Jewish human services professionals from across North America and Israel to share ideas, strengthen partnerships, and address the Jewish community’s most pressing challenges.

The Professional Leadership Award recognizes professionals who demonstrate exceptional leadership and impact in the Jewish human services sector. For Amy, co-founder of Kavod and a leading advocate for Holocaust survivors living in poverty, the honor was less about individual recognition and more about the collective effort behind the work.

Accepting the award, Amy reflected on a quote by Holocaust survivor and psychiatrist Viktor Frankl: “Between stimulus and response, there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our re-

sponse. In our response lies our growth.”

“I have been thinking deeply about that space,” she told attendees. “Because in our work – serving Holocaust survivors living in poverty – that space is where everything begins. It is the moment when we become aware of a need and decide how we will respond.”

Amy and her husband, John Pregulman, founded Kavod (kavodensuringdignity.com) in 2015 to help Holocaust survivors age with dignity, filling the gaps for emergency financial assistance and essential services. In 2019, Kavod partnered with Seed the Dream Foundation to launch KAVOD SHEF (Survivors of the Holocaust Emergency Fund), a national initiative designed to address emergency unmet needs for Holocaust

(See **Pregulman** Page 4)

Delegation...
(Continued From Page 1)



Jimmy Ringel at JFNA JASA Press Conference.

Temple Israel teachers, staff, clergy and security, I was given the greatest gift that I will ever receive for my birthday, the gift of my two youngest children coming home to my family alive.”

Beth Israel Congregation President Zach Shemper described what remained of his Jackson, Miss., synagogue after the arson attack this past January: “It is a shell of a building. Anyone, Jewish or not, when you walk inside this building, you weep.”

“The fly-in created significant momentum for strengthening our community’s security,” said First. “Memphis and our Tennessee Federation colleagues are committed to showing up. Community

members can help by reaching out to their elected representatives to support JASA and the SACRED Act.”



Please scan the QR code to reach out to your representative.

Bat Mitzvah

Margalit Freiden Celebrates Her Bat Mitzvah



Mazel Tov to Margalit Freiden on the occasion of her bat mitzvah!
Margalit, a sixth-grade student at the Margolin Hebrew Academy, will cele-

brate this special milestone with family and friends from near and far at a fun-filled “Grizz Girl” themed dance party on Thursday evening June 4 at Baron Hirsch.
On Shabbos, June 6, Margalit will continue her bat mitzvah celebration by delivering a D’var Torah at Baron Hirsch Synagogue, sharing words of Torah and inspiration with the congregation. Following her speech, there will be a beautiful congregational kiddush in her honor.
Margalit is the beloved daughter of Yoni and Aviva Freiden, granddaughter of Dr. Eliot and Harriet Jacob and Hugh and Debbie Freiden, and great-granddaughter of Pesha Gordon. **HW**

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

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Member of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and Jewish News Service

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
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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

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Memphis Candlelighting Time

Erev Shabbat, Fri. June 12, 2026 / 27 Sivan, 5786.....7:56 p.m.
Havdalah, Sat. June 13, 2026 / 28 Sivan, 5786 8:59 p.m.
Weekly Torah Portion: Shelach

Fetterman Urges Treasury, FinCEN to Crack Down on Antiquities Trafficking Over Terror Financing Risks

(June 4, 2026/JNS) - U.S. Sen. John Fetterman (D-Pa.) is urging the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to finalize long-delayed regulations requiring antiquities dealers to comply with anti-money-laundering rules, saying the lack of oversight enables looted

artifacts to help finance terrorism and organized crime.
In a June 3 letter to Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and FinCEN Director Andrea Gacki, Fetterman said Congress required FinCEN to issue rules governing the antiquities trade under the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020, but the agency has yet to finalize them.
He cited reports linking the trafficking of looted antiquities to Iran, ISIS, Houthi terrorists in Yemen and criminal cartels, noting that U.S. Customs and Border Protection recently intercepted Bronze Age artifacts originating from Iran.
“The use of looted antiquities for illicit finance and terror-funding is a serious national security concern,” Fetterman wrote. “Experts in this field note that the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and other elements in the Iranian terrorist regime may be actively looting Iran’s cultural heritage.”
The senator requested a response from Bessent and Gacki by July 2. **HW**

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How Teachers are Harnessing AI to Democratize Israeli Education

By Elana Sztokman

(May 20, 2026/JTA) – When veteran Israeli educator Meirav Seror asked her high school literature class in Beersheba how they might use artificial intelligence to study for their matriculation exam, she expected hesitation.

Instead, the students pounced. Using prompts, one student asked AI to turn key concepts into a rhyming song. Within minutes, the class was singing its way through material that once felt dry and intimidating.

For Seror, vice principal of the Amal Ramot high school in Beersheba, it was a revelation.

“We used to think our job was to be the source of knowledge,” she said. “But today, knowledge is everywhere. Our role now is to be mentors, to guide, to question, to help students reflect and apply.”

That’s the spirit behind Pedagogical AI (PAI), an ambitious initiative by Israel’s Amal Educational Network to remake the classroom for the artificial intelligence era.

As schools worldwide struggle with how to respond to the advent of AI, and some educators worry about students using tools like ChatGPT to cut corners, Amal has embraced AI as a way to deepen learning and expand opportunity. As one of Israel’s oldest and most diverse school networks, Amal is training its teachers to use AI thoughtfully, documenting its methods and building an open digital platform so its practices can be shared with schools in Israel and beyond.

“AI is not going away, and we don’t want it to,” said Dr. Mor Tal, Amal’s head of technological education and director of PAI. “The question is how we can harness it so that teachers gain time for real pedagogy, for caring about each student as a person.”

A national public system that operates schools in cities and rural communities across Israel, Amal Educational Network’s aim is to provide high-quality education while helping bridge social and economic gaps. Amal schools serve around 30,000 students in 50 schools and 11 technical engineering colleges, with a strong focus on vocational and technological education. Its student body includes immigrants, Arabs, Bedouins, Haredim and Druze – reflective of the school’s emphasis on coexistence.

The PAI initiative is built on five core pedagogical principles: personalization, independent learning, collaborative learning, applied learning and values-based education. Teachers from multiple fields – science, math, language, humanities, technology and civics – take part in a three-year professional learning journey meant to transform how they plan lessons, teach and assess students.

The program’s academic design comes from Dr. Dovi Weiss, Amal’s head of techno-pedagogical innovation and a leading Israeli expert in educational technology.

“One-size-fits-all instruction doesn’t work,” Weiss said. “Personalization is the opposite of that. We need independent learners because knowledge changes so fast. We need collaboration because it’s not the age of Leonardo da Vinci anymore. And we need learning that is both applied and values-based: democracy, equality, community, ethics. AI can help teachers bring all of that into the classroom.”

In one Amal school, a teacher working with students who struggle with reading uses AI to generate personalized reading

exercises with audio support. Each student listens to texts through headphones at their own pace and receives immediate feedback, turning what was once a painful, public struggle into a private, supported learning experience.

In another school, math teachers use AI to create problem sets at different levels of difficulty so that each student can progress at their own pace. Advanced learners can move ahead quickly, while those who need more time can receive additional practice without stigma or delay.

“AI isn’t just about being more efficient,” Seror said. “If you can give every student a personalized pathway, you are giving equal opportunity. That is a foundation of a democratic society.”

Many PAI projects also connect technology with real-world needs; students at Amal schools have used AI tools to identify problems in their communities, design solutions and test prototypes. Among their projects: a smart suitcase for travelers with disabilities and small hydroelectric turbines designed to generate clean energy. In each case, students used AI not to skip over learning, but to enhance research, design and reflection.

From the start, Amal built an ethics component into PAI. Teachers receive guidance on how to talk with students about the risks of AI, including privacy, bias and misinformation. Lessons emphasize critical thinking, such as comparing AI-generated content with other sources, examining possible bias in algorithms and evaluating claims that spread through social media.

For Amal, these discussions are not an add-on. They are central to the network’s longstanding commitment to democratic education and shared society. Administrators see PAI as an extension of their broader mission: using education to create a more equal, cohesive Israel in which students from all backgrounds can participate fully in the economy and civic life.

“Technology is not here to replace the teacher, but to extend the teacher,” said Dr. Weiss. “When AI takes over some of the repetitive tasks, teachers can spend more time on what matters most: relationships, values and deep learning.”

Already, Amal reports that these practices are changing how teachers use their time. Tasks such as building worksheets, generating differentiated practice materials and even preparing some assessments can be partly automated, freeing teachers to focus on feedback, mentoring and project-based learning.

The PAI program emerged during a turbulent time for Israel. The long war after Oct. 7 has taken a heavy toll on students, families and educators, especially in the country’s geographic and social periphery. Many Amal students and teachers have experienced loss, displacement or ongoing uncertainty.

“In this moment, the only way to rebuild our society is through education,” said Karen Tal, Amal’s director general and an internationally renowned educator. “The PAI program allows us to bring our students back to experiential learning, to support their personal development and to help both society and the economy recover.”

Seror says PAI has been transformative for teachers, too. “After 30 years as a teacher, I feel like I am learning again,” she said. “It gives me energy, and it gives my students hope.”

The initiative, Amal leaders emphasize, is still young. But with nearly the entire community of teachers of the net-

Pregulman... (Continued From Page 1)

survivors through a collaborative network of philanthropic partners, Jewish Federations, and human services agencies.

“We aim to recognize leaders who are driving meaningful, measurable impact in their communities – those who are innovative, collaborative, and deeply committed to advancing human services. Celebrating this leadership publicly not only honors their work but also elevates replicable models and inspires others,” noted Reuben D. Rotman, NJHSA’s president and CEO. “We are proud to recognize leaders like Amy, whose work has had extraordinary, measurable impact on some of the most vulnerable members of our community. ... Amy’s work through the KAVOD SHEF framework exemplifies how coordinated partnerships and philanthropic investment can be scaled to meet urgent needs nationwide, and it’s exactly the kind of leadership we believe is important to elevate and celebrate.”

In her remarks, Amy described KAVOD SHEF as an idea that emerged from a simple but powerful question: “What are we going to do about this?”

That question ultimately led to the remarkable national effort that has generated more than \$40 million in support and fulfilled more than 160,000 emergency requests for Holocaust survivors across the United States.

“KAVOD SHEF was born in that space. An idea motivated by the question, ‘What will we do?’ That question formed a concept, plan, and strategy. ... This work is a testament to the power of partnership, collaboration, and collective responsibility,” she said, thanking Seed the Dream Foundation, national funders, local agencies, Jewish Federations, donors, and the Kavod team, especially John. “Because that is what this work is built on. Not perfection. Not certainty. But people choosing to respond,” she added. “Ten years ago, this work would not have begun without John.”

Amy balanced celebration with a reminder of the challenges facing Holocaust survivors. Though much has been



Reuben Rotman, president and CEO of The Network, with Amy.

accomplished, the need remains urgent, and many nonprofit professionals continue carrying a heavy emotional burden.

“We are living in a time when more and more of us find ourselves in that space between stimulus and response, asking: What should we do?” she said. “And at the same time, we are tired. We are overwhelmed. We are grieving. We are carrying more than we ever imagined we would or could.”

Thanks to the passion and perseverance of those in the Jewish human services field, though, the work carries on.

“It’s the people in this room, the people sitting right next to you, who continue, again and again, to respond with: ‘Yes, we will continue.’ Because this work is not just what we do. It’s who we are. It’s our responsibility. And it’s our promise to those who came before us,” she noted of the collective obligation and importance of choosing action over indifference. “While I am deeply, deeply honored, this recognition does not belong to me. It belongs to all of us. To every person who saw a need, who stood in that space, and instead of turning away, chose to step forward.”

Amy’s well-deserved award highlights not only the achievements of Kavod and KAVOD SHEF, but also the ongoing responsibility to ensure Holocaust survivors receive the dignity, care, and support they deserve.

“If we continue to choose ‘yes’ – together,” she said, “there is no limit to the dignity we can restore, the lives we can change, and the future we can build.” **HW**

.....

work already engaged in PAI, they believe they are charting a path that could be relevant far beyond Israel.

“This is not only about Israel,” Seror said. “Every education system will have to figure out how to live with AI. Our hope is to show how it can be done in a way that strengthens democracy, equality and human connection.”

Looking ahead, Amal is now working to take PAI to its next stage, expanding its reach and deepening its impact across the network and beyond. “The next phase of PAI is about scale and vision,” said Yael Nathanel, resource development lead at Amal. “We are developing tools that will help teachers integrate AI in ways that not only enhance learning but also embed democratic and civic values into everyday classroom practice. Our goal is to empower educators

to nurture students as engaged, responsible citizens, grounded in the principles that shaped Israel’s founding.”

Nathanel added that this effort will require strong partnerships. “For those who believe in the power of education to help rebuild and strengthen Israeli society, this is a moment to be part of something meaningful – to invest in teachers and in a future rooted in equality, participation and shared responsibility.”

This story was sponsored by and produced in collaboration with Amal Educational Network, an Israeli public high school network specializing in science and technology that prepares students of all social groups for the changing needs of democratic Israeli society. This article was produced by JTA’s native content team. **HW**

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Jewish Choral Festival Plans Enlightening Workshops for Singers of All Levels



Credit: Courtesy

The North American Jewish Choral Festival (NAJCF) brings together hundreds of singers from across the country to enjoy five days of a life-changing musical experience where they can sing their hearts out, learn new skills and feel a sense of pride and belonging. Registration is open for NAJCF 2026, set for August 2-6 in Stamford, Conn.

“As we lift our voices together in song, the Festival offers a unique opportunity to explore the finest in Jewish choral music and celebrate Jewish heritage and identity,” says Maestro Matthew Lazar, NAJCF founder and director. “There is a feeling of hope and unity as singers share a bonding experience and forge new friendships.”

NAJCF features a variety of joyful musical activities including daily community sings and evening concerts featuring guest choirs and outstanding performers. This summer’s event includes a focus on American Jewish music to celebrate the 250th birthday of the USA, with compositions by American Jewish composers.

During the Festival, participants can attend workshops on a wide range of informative and entertaining subjects designed for singers of all levels. The seminars are led by an esteemed group of Jewish music experts and educators.

To tie in with the 2026 theme, a triple workshop on Jewish Music in America will be offered in three sessions: Sacred Sound & Symphony: American Jewish Choral Synagogue and Classical Music, focusing on choral music in the synagogue and art music for the concert hall; Jewishness on Stage: Yiddish Theatre and Broadway, examining the performers, composers and classic productions that brought the Jewish experience to

the center of the stage; and From Cantors to Chaos: Two Men Who Changed Jewish Music, which follows the careers of Sholom Secunda and John Zorn – two innovators who took Jewish music in radically different directions.

The Jewish Music in America sessions will be presented by Jeff Janeczko, COO of the Milken Archive of Jewish Music and adjunct assistant professor with the Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience at UCLA; and Mark Kligman, the Mickey Katz Endowed Chair in Jewish Music at the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and Director of the Lowell Milken Center for Music of American Jewish Experience.

Some of the additional workshop topics for NAJCF 2026 include:

- Building Choral Musicianship
- Mindful Singing and Personal Prayer
- Popular Jewish Music
- Texts and Tunes
- The Songs of Matti Caspi
- From Posture to Performance
- Arranging for A Cappella
- Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms
- Learn to Blow Shofar
- Ladino Choral Treasures
- Musical Theater Adaptations from the Book of Genesis
- Singing on the Right Side of Your Brain
- That Kol Nidrei Magical Moment
- Sh’m’a V’Shir: Songs, Stories and Signs of Hope

The North American Jewish Choral Festival is a program of Zamir Choral Foundation. For more information and to register for NAJCF 2026 visit

<https://zamirchoralfoundation.org/jewish-choral-festival> **HW**

US Issues Travel Alert for Much of Mideast

By JNS Staff

(June 5, 2026/JNS) – The U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem issued a security alert last Thursday, urging U.S. citizens to exercise increased caution while traveling in the Middle East.

Citing “high tensions in the region,” the embassy said that State Department Travel Advisories for “Bahrain, Israel, the West Bank, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates remain at Level 3,” which urges citizens to “Reconsider Travel.”

The travel advisory for Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and Yemen remains at Level 4, which cautions against traveling to these destinations.

The embassy added that U.S. citizens should know the location of the nearest bomb shelter in the event of hostilities, and monitor local media for further developments.

The U.S. has been engaged in prolonged negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Iran in an attempt to end the war started on Feb. 28 in a joint military campaign together with Israel.

Although sources on both sides have indicated at times that a Memorandum of Understanding is close to being achieved, no agreement has been reached in almost 60 days of talks. **HW**

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Dr. Harris Cohen Honored with National Award for Four Decades of Educational Leadership



Photo courtesy of the American College of Radiology.

By Shoshana Center

For more than four decades, Dr. Harris Cohen has spent his career doing far more than diagnosing patients and training physicians. He’s also helped educate generations of radiologists across the country, shaping how they learn, study and ultimately care for patients.

That lifelong commitment was recently recognized when Harris received the inaugural Excellence in Education Award from the American College of Radiology (ACR), the nation’s leading professional organization for radiologists.

“I was most exhilarated,” he said of accepting the award before hundreds of colleagues at the ACR’s national meeting in May. “I was very happy. It probably makes up for the thousands of volunteer hours I’ve put in through the past 40 years!”

Harris has worked as a radiologist since he was 29, following med school, residency and a fellowship. He serves as professor of radiology, obstetrics and gynecology and pediatrics at the

University of Tennessee Health Science Center, where he is chairman of the Department of Radiology, as well as radiologist-in-chief at Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital.

While his professional accomplishments include more than 92 educational volumes and works, hundreds of publications, and decades of leadership in pediatric radiology, he considers the ACR award as a shared achievement.

“I’ve met really great writers and editors along the way who worked with me on writing and editing. This recognition really belongs to many people,” he said humbly. “I’ve written as part of a committee, sometimes as part of a group running parameters, sometimes as the lead writer.”

Much of his work has centered on educational resources developed through the American College of Radiology. Beginning in the 1990s, he became deeply involved in creating and editing materials used by radiologists to prepare for

the American Board of Radiology examinations, maintain certification and stay current in a rapidly evolving field.

Harris’ involvement grew into leadership roles overseeing educational initiatives used by radiologists nationwide. His passion for those educational materials actually began long before he ever helped create them. When he traveled to Louisville, Ky., to take his radiology boards, he brought along 16 ACR syllabi with study notes. Years later, he found himself leading the very syllabi series he once studied. As editor-in-chief, he ultimately oversaw the final five volumes in the series.

“I always admired that series and the people who write it,” he recalled. “And I admired it as an educational tool to keep people aware of new information and help teach them.”

Eventually, Harris began leading another set of educational modules – called CPI: continued professional improvement – which became an e-book. “It has a large group of subscribers, and everybody was interested in it,” he noted. “People would say, ‘I read your work, and it’s very, very helpful.’ That’s always meaningful.”

Over time, Harris helped oversee educational content spanning pediatric imaging, fetal imaging, pediatric oncology imaging, adult cancer imaging and numerous other subspecialties. He estimates that more than 9,000 printed pages of educational materials have passed through his hands as a writer, editor or editor-in-chief, along with 11 books and educational syllabi. “It’s been an interesting opportunity to meet these great educational and academic clinical leaders in the country,” he added.

Receiving the inaugural Excellence in Education Award has also given him an opportunity to reflect on what makes great medical education. He believes one of the most important lessons for

physicians, educators and students is remaining open to new information and questioning long-held assumptions.

“People should realize there are axioms that are not correct,” he said. “Keep your eyes open. Be malleable with cases.”

That philosophy has guided much of his own work.

Beyond his editorial leadership, Harris is especially proud of research that changed national standards and improved patient care. Over the course of his career, he helped establish ultrasound as the preferred diagnostic tool for certain pediatric conditions, developed measurement standards that became widely adopted in medical literature and textbooks, and published research that helped physicians more accurately distinguish normal findings from serious disease. Those studies not only challenged long-held assumptions, but also helped physicians avoid unnecessary procedures and make more informed decisions for patients and families.

“I liked the fact that I could put my numbers in the literature,” he said. “I like numbers. Baseball statistics is one of my sub-interests too.”

The ACR award may recognize a lifetime of educational achievement, but Harris shows little interest in slowing down. Though he recently transitioned to an emeritus editorial role with some ACR programs, he continues to teach, write, speak, mentor and volunteer.

Harris and his wife, Sandy, live in Memphis. They have three adult children and eight grandchildren.

For Harris, education remains one of medicine’s greatest privileges.

“What anyone teaches changes from decade to decade,” he said, drawing a comparison familiar to many in the Jewish community. “Educational learning and teaching and hearing others ask questions is pure joy. It’s like the Talmud.” **HW**



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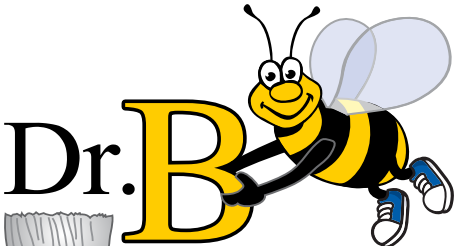


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Capitol Hill Jewish American Heritage Month Celebration Honors Elliott Broidy, Dr. Harvey J. Alter, and Rabbi David Baron



Elliott Broidy, center, receives the Jewish American Heritage Month Visionary Award during a celebration in the Russell Senate Office Building’s Kennedy Caucus Room on Capitol Hill on May 19, 2026. Credit: Courtesy

WASHINGTON, D.C. – May 26, 2026 –Entrepreneur and philanthropist Elliott Broidy, Nobel laureate Dr. Harvey J. Alter, and Rabbi David Baron were honored on Capitol Hill on May 19 during the annual Jewish American Heritage Month celebration, a gathering of members of Congress, foreign ambassadors and trade ministers, and Jewish communal leaders recognizing the significant role Jewish Americans have played in the safety, security, health, cultural and civic life, and well-being of the United States.

The event was held in the historic Kennedy Caucus Room of the Russell Senate Office Building, where congressional leaders and other participants recognized the contributions Jewish Americans have made to society, especially acknowledging this year’s distinguished honorees for their achievements in philanthropy, national security, medicine, Holocaust remembrance, and Jewish communal life.

Sens. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.), John Fetterman (D-Pa.), John Hick-

enlooper (D-Colo.), Elissa Slotkin (D-Mich.), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), James Lankford (R-Okla.), Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.), Pete Ricketts (R-Neb.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), and Tim Sheehy (R-Mont.), as well as Reps. Randy Fine (R-Fla.) and Ken Calvert (R-Calif.), participated in the event.

Elliott Broidy was honored with the Visionary Award for his leadership in philanthropy, national security, Holocaust remembrance, Jewish communal life, and efforts to combat antisemitism and extremism.

Broidy is chairman and CEO of the private equity firm Broidy Capital Holdings, which invests in a range of national security and public safety technology companies.

Broidy donated funds to help the Counter Extremism Project (CEP) purchase the former home of Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss, located adjacent to the concentration camp, allowing CEP to transform it into the Auschwitz Research Center on Hate, Extremism and Radicalization (AR-

CHER) at House 88. The center is dedicated to confronting antisemitism and extremism using advanced technologies, including efforts to disrupt the financial networks that fund terrorism. ARCHER also hosts cultural programming and exhibits, including its current exhibition, The Birdman of Auschwitz: Science and the Failure of Conscience.

Elliott Broidy also recently acquired an original architectural drawing of the Auschwitz-Birkenau crematoria. The \$1.5 million acquisition symbolically honored the approximately 1.5 million Jewish children murdered during the Holocaust, with proceeds supporting educational initiatives focused on empathy, moral courage, and character formation. The artifact will be exhibited at institutions dedicated to Holocaust remembrance and combating antisemitism before eventually finding a permanent institutional home.

“I am deeply honored to receive this recognition during Jewish American Heritage Month alongside individuals whose work reflects the very best of Jewish American achievement and public service,” said Elliott Broidy. “Jewish American Heritage Month is an opportunity not only to celebrate the extraordinary contributions Jewish Americans have made to our country, but also to recommit ourselves to confronting antisemitism, preserving the memory of the Holocaust, and defending the democratic values that make our society strong.”

“At a time when antisemitism and extremism are rising around the world, we cannot afford complacency,” Broidy added. “We have a responsibility to educate future generations, support institutions dedicated to truth and remembrance and ensure that hatred is confronted wherever it appears.”

The annual celebration was organized by Project Legacy under the leadership of Ezra Friedlander and chaired by Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice chairman emeritus of the Conference of

Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and Eric J. Gertler, executive chairman and CEO of U.S. News & World Report.

Virologist and medical researcher Dr. Harvey J. Alter was honored with the Dr. David Nassy Award for his groundbreaking work leading to the discovery of the Hepatitis C virus, and Rabbi David Baron of Temple of the Arts with the Creativity in the Jewish Community Award for his contributions to Jewish cultural and religious life, Holocaust education, and philanthropy.

Dr. Alter received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for research that transformed blood screening protocols and helped save millions of lives worldwide. Rabbi Baron was recognized for decades of leadership in Jewish cultural and religious life, Holocaust remembrance, and public service through media, philanthropy, and international remembrance initiatives.

Jewish American Heritage Month traces its roots to the early 1980s, when Jewish Heritage Week was established following discussions among Malcolm Hoenlein, President Ronald Reagan and author and humanitarian Elie Wiesel. It later evolved into the month-long national observance recognized each May.

About Elliott Broidy
Elliott Broidy is an entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist with a career spanning four decades. As Chairman and CEO of Broidy Capital Holdings, he has invested in over 160 companies across multiple industries. Since 9/11, his investments have focused on companies in the public safety and national security sectors. Through his philanthropic efforts, he has supported numerous organizations dedicated to countering hate and extremism, including ARCHER at House 88, The Simon Wiesenthal Center-Museum of Tolerance, The Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL), the George Washington University Program on Extremism, and StandWithUs. [HW](#)

IDF Kills Islamic Jihad Rocket Cell Commander in Gaza

By JNS Staff

(June 4, 2026/JNS) – Ahmed Abu Mughaysib, described as head of a rocket-launching cell in the Islamic Jihad terrorist organization, was killed in a strike in southern Gaza last Tuesday, according to the Israel Defense Forces. The military said he was involved in planning attacks against Israeli troops and civilians and in facilitating weapons smuggling.

In separate overnight strikes in central Gaza, the IDF said it targeted several Hamas terrorists preparing attacks, killing one and hitting others.

Precision munitions and aerial surveillance were used to mitigate civilian harm, according to the military. Troops under the Southern Command remain deployed in the area in line with the ceasefire agreement and will act against immediate threats, the IDF said.

IDF division ends four-month Gaza tunnel, weapons mission

The IDF’s 252nd Division has completed a four-month mission in the northern Gaza Strip, handing over responsibilities to the 99th Division, according to an IDF statement last Wednesday.

The military said the unit dismantled weapons depots, observation posts, combat compounds and other Hamas and Islamic Jihad terror infrastructure above and below ground, including

about seven kilometers (4.3 miles) of tunnels in and around Beit Hanoun.

According to the IDF, the division’s Fire Brigade killed more than 35 terrorists, among them gunmen who took part in the Oct. 7, 2023, massacre and later threatened Israeli troops operating in Gaza. [HW](#)



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

Questions for Mike? You can reach him at 901.761.8151 or Michael.Stein@WellsFargoAdvisors.com fa.wellsfargoadvisors.com/michael-stein

When financial markets fluctuate, perhaps in reaction to world events, inflation, or a change in interest rates, even the calmest investors can start to question their financial strategies.

But volatile markets can present opportunities to review and reaffirm investment strategies, says Tracie McMillion, head of global asset allocation strategy for Wells Fargo Investment Institute.

“Financial markets are frequently volatile – that’s their nature,” she says. “Even so, during periods of uncertainty, investors may start to question their investment decisions. Having a plan in place can provide the guard rails to help steer through and beyond the volatility.”

In addition to reaffirming and focusing on your plan, here are some strategies you can use to help weather economically turbulent times.

Match your investments to your time horizon

The simplest way to feel more comfortable about your investments is to align them with your financial calendar, no matter what happens in the financial world this month or year.

For example, do you need some of your money fairly soon or want it close

at hand in case of an emergency? If so, McMillion says you should consider investments such as cash holdings and short-term bonds that shouldn't lose much, if any, value over the short term.

On the other hand, if you won't need some of your investment money until you retire multiple years in the future, equities or longer-term bonds are worth a closer look. Those investments carry more risks but also offer potentially better returns.

Know what to expect from your investments

Some investors lose confidence because they don't fully understand how their investments work. In that case, McMillion says, some knowledge of typical asset behavior is a good thing.

Consider reading up on different types of investments and asking questions of your financial advisor. Once you know how your investments are more likely to perform in certain financial markets, you can help ensure that your investment strategy is in line with your tolerance for risk.

Tune out the noise

By “noise,” McMillion means the constant barrage of financial reports and other news events from the 24/7 news

media. "Investors usually don't need to react to the everyday financial news, no matter how topsy-turvy things may seem," she says. Keep your long-term goal in mind.

Regularly revisit your plan

There's no such thing as a completely set-it-and-forget-it investment strategy, McMillion says. It's always smart to check in regularly with your investment advisor.

“Your life circumstances may change, or your financial goals could shift,” she says. “You can feel much more confident that your investments are doing their job if you review them regularly with your advisor.”

All investing involves risk including the possible loss of principal. Investing in stocks involves risk, and their returns and risk levels can vary depending on prevailing market and economic conditions. Investments in fixed-income securities are subject to market, interest rate, credit, and other risks. Bond prices fluctuate inversely to changes in interest rates. Therefore, a general rise in interest rates can cause a bond's price to fall. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer will default on payments of interest and/or principal. This risk is heightened in lower-rated bonds. If sold prior to maturity, fixed-in-

come securities are subject to market risk. All fixed-income investments may be worth less than their original cost upon redemption or maturity.

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A central graphic for 'Dynamic Duo Design'. It features a circular logo with a black and white checkered border. Inside the circle, there are two stylized letters 'D' in light blue and light green, separated by a pink lightning bolt. Below the letters, the words 'dynamic duo' are written in a black script font. Surrounding the logo are various items: 'Custom' in green at the top, 'T-shirts' in pink and 'mugs' in green to the left, and 'hats' in green, 'koozies' in pink, and 'and more...' in black to the right. At the bottom, the name 'Toni Nieman' and the email address 'DynamicDuoDesign1@gmail.com' are displayed in black text.

Editor’s note: reprinted to correct omissions in June 4, 2026 edition.

OBITUARIES



Sandra Hanover Grissom

Sandra (Sandy) Hanover Grissom, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend, passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday evening, May 19, 2026, falling asleep with the same grace and quiet dignity that guided her life. She was born Sandra Joan Fink on February 12, 1935, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Helen Malkin Fink and Robert Aaron Fink. Soon after her birth, the family moved to Memphis, where she grew up surrounded by the large and loving Malkin family, she cherished her entire life.

Mom was beautiful in every sense of the word – known for her radiant smile, effortless style and the quiet kindness that spoke louder than words ever could. She attended Snowden School and graduated from Central High School before continuing her studies at Vanderbilt University. She married young and devoted her early years to raising her six children, creating a home filled with love, resilience, curiosity and a sense of humor.

Her love of history and the world around her inspired lifelong learning through classes at Memphis State University and extensive world travel. She volunteered with civic and Jewish community organizations, including Ballet South and Memphis Jewish Federation, always finding ways to connect with others, similar and different than herself.

In her 50s, after facing the challenges of divorce, Mom entered the workforce for the first time at BellSouth, where she discovered the joy of friendship and independence in a new chapter of life. Later, she entered the jewelry business and eventually founded her own company, Gold-n-Elegance, where her creativity and remarkable eye for beauty flourished. She had a gift for transform-

ing ordinary stones into extraordinary pieces of art and took immense pride in bringing happiness to her customers. Much to her own surprise, she became an exceptional businesswoman.

Mom was fortunate to find true love and companionship with William “Bill” Grissom. They married in April of 1992 and shared a devoted marriage until Bill’s passing in 2009.

One of Mom’s most compassionate acts came when she opened her home and heart to a St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital family whose young son was battling glioblastoma. Though their little boy passed away at age five, Mom walked beside that family through unimaginable heartbreak, offering comfort, love and unwavering support. Few people knew the heart that she shared with strangers, and she liked it that way.

Mom was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bill Grissom; and her brother, Wayne Charles Fink.

Her fun memories will always be a blessing to us as we hope to carry on her legacy of unconditional love and loyalty. She leaves us behind but will forever remain in our hearts. We are her proud children: Russell Hanover, Lisa Hanover, Dr. Tod Hanover (Susan), Charles (Chip) Hanover, Jill Buring (David), Trent Hanover, daughter-in-law Evelyn Hanover, and stepdaughter, Dr. Virginia (Ginger) Bradley. She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren: Dr. Justin Hanover (Deanna), Paige Kaplan (Adam), Sydney Buring (Max Carduner), Logan Hanover; Her great-grandchildren: Isabella and Quinn Hanover, Aiden Kaplan, Stella Kaplan, and Kaia Carduner. She is also survived by her step-grandchildren, Mallory Rushing (Alan) and Rachel Wadley, as well as her step-great-grandchildren, Nate and Elaine Rushing, Jacob Wadley, and her nephew, Wayne Charles (Alisa) Fink Krouse.

Our mother never saw her children and in-laws as separate families, though— only as one loving, connected whole. Her greatest pride was the family she nurtured and the relationships she treasured across generations.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital or Temple Israel Synagogue in Memphis, Tennessee.

Her funeral was held at Temple Israel cemetery on May 21, 2026.

She will be missed by all who knew her. **HW**

Israeli Study Finds Aging Effects Reversible in Mouse Livers

By JNS Staff

(May 30, 2026/JNS) – Some cellular effects of aging may be reversible, according to a new study by researchers at Israel’s Bar-Ilan University.

The team found that boosting activity of the protein SIRT6 in the livers of aged mice restored genetic patterns to a more youthful state. Mice equivalent in age to about 70–80 human years showed significant reversal of age-related chromatin changes within a month of treatment.

Researchers also reported reduced inflammation and improved metabolic function, suggesting partial recovery of liver performance, not just structural changes.

The findings indicate that age-related cellular decline may be more flexible than previously believed, and point to potential therapies aimed at improving health in older individuals, rather than only extending lifespan. **HW**

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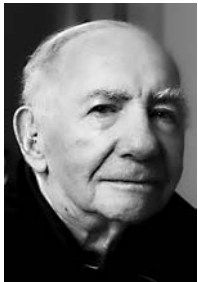


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The Seeker



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

By Ted Roberts

11/12/12 – Since he was of the human race, troubles swarmed around his life like gnats surround a dead crow on the forest floor. The rent was overdue, he had a sciatica pain in his leg, and he owed Shlomo, the bartender, 30 rubles. Even worse, he'd stolen his neighbor's plow horse. But none of this mattered when his thoughts strayed to Rachel, his sick, crippled daughter. Aha, he pondered, it must be a dybbuk – an evil spirit that had nestled in his soul – maybe from the tavern where he went too often. Clever dybbuks were known to leap from one victim/host to another. Now it possessed him. The dybbuk was poisoning his life. He must find the king; only he could restore the daughter he loved.

That's why he had been wandering for several hours now – searching, searching for his King who he knew lived in a golden palace deep in the woods. The King was his last hope to cure his young daughter, struck down with a deadly disease. Everyone knew he possessed healing powers. The seeker even brought a list of his good deeds. It was rumored that the King kept a list of his own of each of his subject's deeds. But who knew. Maybe he missed crediting him for the time he had pulled Meyer Pushkin's wagon out of the mud. And he didn't even like Meyer Pushkin. But first he must find the King.

The grief-stricken father had read all the books – talked to all the wise men, leafed through many pages of maps, but still his head was whirling. Only the King could make his daughter well. He

must find the King. The seeker had never seen him. But it was rumored that he was wise, benevolent, and all powerful. If you sought him out and obeyed his laws, your problems disappeared. But first you must find him and present your credentials; goodness, kindness, and obedience were a prerequisite of course. But how to find him?

Ah, a rustle of limbs and leaves told him someone was approaching. Maybe he would know the way. "The King – his palace?" said the seeker. "Where is it? Which of these paths will take me to the palace?"

"How fortunate you encountered me. I am the only inhabitant of the forest that knows the pathway to the palace. Oh, it's close," said the stranger, "follow the paved road till you come to the Magnolia tree – now in bloom – a huge green and white chandelier of blossoms. You can't miss it. Turn right there on the pebbled road and in less than half a mile there is the King's palace. I know the way since I visit the King often. Just do as I say."

Inigorated, the seeker followed his directions only to find that the pebbled road ended in a thick, impenetrable wilderness. Devastated, he sat on a stone ledge and waited for something. He knew not what. But hark, someone was coming. "Where oh where is the King's palace? I was told it was at the end of this road."

The stranger laughed softly. "How fortunate that you encountered me. I am the only inhabitant of the forest that knows the pathway to the palace. Whoever told you those directions couldn't even find his own elbow. No, no. Recall you passed a fork in the main road. You took the right fork; you must go left. At the end of the left fork, there you will find the radiant palace of the King. But listen, why wander in this dangerous wilderness – buy one of my maps – only 20 rubles."

The seeker leaped to his feet, reinvig-

orated. "Ah, thank you, but no need. I'll follow your directions." And this time, taking the left fork, he walked many leagues only to find himself on the banks of a broad, turbulent river. No palace in sight. His spirits sank. Again, the wrong path and not the slightest glimmer of the King's palace. He lay face down on the riverside grass and shed bitter tears.

A hand tapped his shoulder. "Stranger," he said, "now is not a day for tears. The trees are as green as the grass and luscious fruit provided by the King for your journey hangs from their boughs. While above, the sun smiles upon the King's world of beauty. And not accidentally lights the path to his palace."

The seeker nodded through his tears. "Yes, I know, but I seek the King in vain. I've crossed and re-crossed the forest wherein he resides – with no luck whatsoever."

"Today is your lucky day. How fortunate you encountered me. I am the only inhabitant of the forest that knows the pathway to the King's palace. This very morning I spoke to the King. You should not have listened to those other wanderers lost in the woods. They never scanned the map to the King's abode. Now listen carefully. Just continue on the left fork by the brook. You must turn off where the grove of orange trees stands. Walk half a mile and there, facing you with all of its splendor in a clearing surrounded by Pomegranate trees, there rises the palace of the one and only King. And you know he welcomes all who come to him."

Up jumped the seeker bound on this new navigational solution. Need I tell you the results? Same, same, same – nothing - a foggy swamp as different from the imperial palace as the wilderness of Cush from the towering Himalayas. The fool who gave him directions couldn't find the King's palace if the moon hung above it. The seeker propped himself against a fallen log and moaned. Through his lamentations

SCRIBBLER ON THE ROOF

By Ted Roberts

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he hears someone approach. He wore a yarmulke and a snow-white tallit over his shoulders. And a long, dark cloak; far different from the other forest dwellers.

"There are infinite pathways through the forest to the King's abode. But there is no path for you except the one you make. And you must make it yourself. Here," he said, and gently laid an ax at the seeker's feet. "You will need it. There are briars and thorn bushes and tangles of vine that trip you up. Go that way," he pointed, "and you shortly will be rewarded by the shining spires of the King's palace, the reward for hacking your own path through the woods. But let me tell you a secret. If you have led a good life, you can even take the wrong road and still end up at the palace."

The seeker wildly set off slashing through the underbrush. Soon, through the tops of the tallest Pines, a faint gold glimmer brightened the sky. He had found the path. Soon he would be with the King. Soon his daughter would run in sunlit meadows.

The syndicated humor of Ted, the Scribbler on the roof, has appeared in newspapers around the U.S., on National Public Radio, and numerous websites. HW

Israel Insights: Beyond Rhetoric

By Howard Weisband

The most recent phone call (I am writing on June 3) between President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been rich fodder for the media, traditional sources and social media alike, emanating internationally and here in Israel.

More than the substance of the discussion, media focus and interest seemed to be, did the President yell at the Prime Minister with a rich stream of expletives, telling him he's crazy, he can't do this and can't do that, especially in regard to Hezbollah in Lebanon. The closer that Israel was moving toward Beirut and retaliation toward Hezbollah headquarters, the more that the President was concerned that Iran would not provide him the deal that he seemed to believe he was on the verge of achieving with the Iranian regime.

The issue of course is that Iran sees Hezbollah and thus Lebanon as part and parcel of its empire. Perhaps the most important part of that empire outside the borders of Iran, given that Lebanon, unlike Hamas in Gaza, is a sovereign nation state.

The Prime Minister, his office and his media sources, fought back. Yes, there may have been disagreement, serious disagreement, but it was not so ugly as that being portrayed, seemingly with real joy by Bibi's opponents. The Prime Minister took to that which he has often

said, that sometimes it is important to be able to say "No" even to the President of the United States. Unprecedented cooperation and coordination continue to exist, on both diplomatic and military levels.

David Horovitz, founder and editor of the Times of Israel, published a column today (June 3) titled "Put aside the cursing, and focus on defeating Iran." His final paragraph hit the proverbial nail on the head... (it should be noted in my opinion based on his writings, that Horovitz is not a fan of Netanyahu's coalition or his style of governing):

"If ever there was a time and a reason for a prime minister of Israel to say 'no' to a US president, it is right now, with Trump going cap in hand to the mass murderers in Tehran. What's needed is a civil version of 'What the f--- are you doing?' — not from Trump to Netanyahu but from Netanyahu to Trump. To be followed by a joint, intimate, constructive effort by two vital allies to assess where and why this war has so signally failed, to avoid exacerbating the failure with a dreadful, self-defeating deal with the devil, and to pool their considerable wisdom, experience and power to resolutely turn the tide."

Is it possible for the conclusion by Horovitz to actually happen, given the personalities of each of the two leaders and the people that surround them? I

don't know, but I earnestly hope so.

However, at the same time, I strive in a somewhat different direction, to drill down and try to understand what are the roots of these different opinions and conclusions, or better what drives these two leaders, one representing the United States and the other representing the State of Israel. I hasten to add that they share systems of democracy, albeit somewhat different, and most importantly, bonds of friendship.

In brief, I see four major areas of difference that quite easily lead to different conclusions and differing approaches to often the same issues. Defined in a thumbnail manner, they relate to historical, geographic, cultural and security matters.

Historically, the United States, now celebrating 250 years of independence, has faced two major wars within its own territory, the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, Israel at 78 has faced a continual stream of wars and ongoing terrorism, on its borders and within the country itself, each potentially posing an existential threat.

Geographically, while the U.S. enjoys calm borders with Canada and Mexico, Israel exists and thrives in a very unfriendly neighborhood to say the least. The war/terrorism we face with Hezbollah and Hamas perhaps leads toward the President's misread of the Prime Minis-

ter's actions.

Culturally, the President perhaps believes he can make and seal a deal with the Iranians, business-like. The Middle east geopolitical culture is anything but that; lying and cheating lies at the basis of any deal with jihadists, and the Iranians have been proven to be experts in that realm.

Finally, perhaps first and foremost, Israelis are concerned daily with personal and national security, even as we educate our children and build a thriving economy. While personal security has become a greater concern in the U.S. in many areas, it is not an overwhelming national issue.

Those are four indicators of difference, barely scratching the surface. Hopefully, a greater understanding of these matters would aid, in David Horovitz' words above, "to pool their considerable wisdom, experience and power to resolutely turn the tide."

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



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 one of our longtime board members and volunteers, Judy Moss.

Meet Judy Moss



Judy Moss – alongside her fellow volunteer co-captain Jennifer Roberts – at MJHR’s Annual Golf Tournament.

By Shoshana Cener

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

I was born and raised in Detroit, Mich. My dad worked for Motown Records. When Berry Gordy moved to LA, Dad didn’t want to go there, so Motown put him in touch with people at Stax Records, and we moved to Memphis in 1970. I graduated from then-Memphis State University with a degree in education and special education.

I married my husband, Larry, in 1973. We have two daughters, a son, and 11 grandkids; we’re very blessed.

As a stay-at-home mom, I raised our kids. I later worked in the gift wrap department at Service Merchandise; delivered MIFA meals for over 20 years; was involved in B’nai Brith Women and served as president of the chapter; and was active in all our kids’ activities and schools. We bought Dinstuhl’s in 2003, and I’ve worked there ever since.

I love playing the samba card game, and I used to love playing pickleball.

MJHR: How did you become connected to MJHR?

In the late ’70s/early ’80s, my grandmother in New York had a stroke, so we



Judy with MJHR resident, Marjorie, before a Resident Services event.

brought her down to the Home, and my grandfather lived with us. He eventually became a resident of the Home, too. This was when the Home was on Tucker St. in Midtown. They both received great care.

MJHR: Share your favorite MJHR story.

When Mom fell and broke her femur, she went to the Home for physical therapy and eventually became a resident, where she received amazing care. The care that Jenae, the assistant director of Nursing, and Doris, the director of Activities, gave Mom made her life so

much better and our lives better knowing she was well cared for. Mom loved her caregivers, and they loved her, and it showed in the care they gave her.

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

Memphis is blessed to have this facility in our city, and I hope it continues to thrive so that anyone who needs physical therapy or great care can get it there. I hope one day we will be able to have an assisted living facility and anything else that improves the care for Jews and non-Jews in our community.

MJHR: Anything else you’d like to share about the Home?

I’ve been privileged to be on the board for many years. Working with board members and seeing how much they care about the Home has been enlightening. Bobby Meadows has done and continues to do a phenomenal job. Under Bobby’s leadership, seeing how the Home has grown makes me so happy.

There’s not one particular thing about the Home that makes it the amazing place it is, it’s hard to narrow it down – there are many, many amazing things about the Home.

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**

Paramount Skydance Legal Chief Says Critics of Warner Bros Merger Motivated by Jew-Hatred

By Jessica Russak-Hoffman

(June 3, 2026/JNS) – Makan Delrahim, chief legal officer of Paramount Skydance Corporation, said last Monday that some opposition to the company’s proposed acquisition of Warner Bros. Discovery is motivated by antisemitism, rejecting claims from press-freedom advocates that the deal would undermine journalistic independence to curry favor with U.S. President Donald Trump.

“There’s a lot of fear-mongering, particularly from people in Washington, D.C. They are running a political campaign,” Delrahim told the Los Angeles Times.

Delrahim, 56, an Iranian-American Jew who was born in Tehran and whose family immigrated to the United States after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, served as assistant attorney general for the U.S. Department of Justice’s antitrust division during Trump’s first administration.

“Some of these people are trying to inflict harm on this transaction really because of their own antisemitic views,” he said. “Regulators and law enforcement officials will see right through that.”

Warner Bros. Discovery shareholders approved the Paramount Skydance deal in April, but the transaction, valued at over \$111 billion, remains subject to regulatory approval in the United States and overseas. European Union regulators are expected to issue a decision next month.

The acquisition is being led by Paramount Skydance Chairman and CEO David Ellison, who is Jewish and recently spent two hours answering questions from Justice Department antitrust lawyers as part of the review process.

‘Desperate distractions’

The merger has come under fire from several left-wing groups, including the Freedom of the Press Foundation, whose board of directors includes actor John Cusack and Columbia University journalism professor Azmat Khan, both outspoken critics of Israel. The group has posted support for a recent New York Times column that claimed that Israeli officials train dogs to sexually assault Palestinian prisoners, expressed support for the Global Sumud Flotilla and accused Israel of a “massacre of journalists in Gaza.”

Seth Stern, the foundation’s director

of advocacy, rejected Delrahim’s comments.

“I’m one of many Jews working to stop the Ellisons from throwing American journalism under the bus to appease Donald Trump,” Stern told JNS. “Delrahim’s comment is offensive and ridiculous.”

“What a schmendrik,” he added. “One of the most antisemitic things you can do is claim Jews are a monolith and should all fall in lockstep behind you.”

Stern told JNS that Delrahim should instead “address the Wall Street Journal’s reporting that the Ellisons promised Trump ‘sweeping changes’ at CNN in exchange for merger approval.”

“Nobody is falling for these desperate distractions,” he said.

Asked about Cusack’s service on the foundation’s board, Stern said, “Obviously if I thought John was an antisemite I wouldn’t work with him. If he had a problem with Jews, he probably wouldn’t work with me.”

“I happen to share many of John’s views on Gaza, but even if I didn’t, I’d defend his right to express them,” he told JNS. “We’re a free speech organi-

zation, after all.”

The foundation has also alleged that CBS, under Ellison’s influence, has “repeatedly censored journalists or altered its coverage to please Trump and his allies” in exchange for government approval of the merger.

Delrahim denied any arrangement with the White House.

“There are no deals with the president,” he told the Los Angeles Times. “We have a deal with the Warner shareholders. We’ve submitted applications to the governments of Europe, Canada, the U.K. and the U.S., and that’s where it is.”

Last week, the Freedom of the Press Foundation released a letter urging regulators and lawmakers to oppose the merger. The letter argued that recent personnel and editorial decisions at CBS News, including the hiring of journalist Bari Weiss as the network’s editor-in-chief, suggest political interference and warned that the transaction should be viewed as “a political arrangement to circumvent constitutional safeguards, with severe consequences for American democracy.” **HW**



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