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Junior High Journal

Margolin Hebrew Academy

News - Torah - Profile - Sports - Polls - This Week in History - Interviews - Little Middles - Cooking & Crafts - Fun

The Mysteries of the Mississippi

Hodaya Harary and Esther Kahn

The Mississippi River is facing its worst drought in years. The river, being a major tourist attraction and a vital element of Memphis's economy, has reached its lowest in centuries, causing many ships to get stuck on their journeys. The channel runs through thirty two states and two Canadian provinces, and it is crucial to the resources of both the U.S. and Canada.

As the water levels dropped, researchers have uncovered strange things in the river. Near Missouri, a path opened up to an island that had been accessible only by ship before.

While people searched the area, they found an old ship in ruins

from years ago. As different researchers delved further into examination, they even discovered old skeletons and human remains at the site!

Near Louisiana, however, the drought has definitely taken its toll on the body of water. The Gulf of Mexico has begun pushing into the near empty river. The USACE (US Corps of Engineers) have been hurriedly trying to construct a levee underneath the water to prevent the contamination of drinking water.

Not only that, but recently, Riley Bryant, 21-year-old student and videographer, found treasure in plain sight along the rocky shoreline - relics from the Civil



War! Old bullets and a cartridge box were some of the items that he uncovered.

"To find it there in such good condition just lying there, it almost gave me a heart attack," he said to ABC News the other dav.

Though the Mississippi had been full to the brim with water during the summer, it is now officially in a historic drought.





U.S. NEWS

The Self Destruction of Ye

Rachel Sanderson



Over the past few weeks, the famous American rapper, formerly known as Kayne West, currently legally named Ye, has been embroiled in scandal after making antisemitic comments in the media. On October 9th, he tweeted, "I'm a bit sleepy tonight but when I wake up I'm going death con 3 on the jewish people. The funny thing is I actually can't be Anti Semitic because black people are actually Jew also You guys have toyed with me and tried to black ball anyone whoever opposes your agenda".

Hours after he posted this message, Twitter took it down and locked his account. A day later, Instagram restricted his account as well. In interviews, Ye doubled down on his comments, saying,

"The thing about me and Adidas is like, I can literally say antisemitic [stuff] and they can't drop me. I can say antisemitic things and Adidas can't drop me. Now what?"

Before all of this, Ye was partnered with many large brands, but once he started spewing hatred, brands started dropping him left and right. Balenciaga and Gap immediately dropped him, MRC and Foot Locker followed suit, and after mounting pressure, Adidas finally dropped him, costing them an estimated \$250 million in net income.

The United States has seen an uptick in antisemitism over the last few years, but Ye's comments have brought this issue to the forefront. Last week, on a Los Angeles freeway, groups of people raising their hands in a nazi salute stood with banners saying "Kanye is right about the Jews". "This weekend's anti-Semitic protests in LA were disgusting and cannot be normalized or brushed aside," California governor Gavin Newsom tweeted. "Words matter, and in CA we'll always speak out against racial, ethnic, and religious hate when it rears its ugly head."

A few days later, in Jacksonville, Florida, a hate message was projected onto the exterior of TIAA Bank Field after the Bulldogs' 42-20 win over the Gators, saying "Kanye was right about the Jews." Much like Los Angeles, Jacksonville has also seen signs promoting Ye's antisemitic conspiracies highways, on expressways, and overpassses.

Additionally, Brooklyn Nets point guard Kyrie Irving, who is infamously known for being a flat earther, promoted a 2018 movie called "Hebrews to Negroes: Wake Up Black America," based on a 2014 book filled with anti-Semitic disinformation. After being asked to apologize by Joe Tsai, the owner of the Nets, Kyrie doubled down as his comments.

"I'm disappointed that **K**vrie appears to support a film based on a book full of anti-semitic disinformation." Tsai tweeted. "I want to sit down and make sure he understands this is hurtful to all of us, and as a man of faith, it is wrong to promote hate based on race, ethnicity or religion. This is bigger than basketball."



PROFILE

Elon Musk: Genius or Lunatic?

Sara Klein and Zac Greenbaum

Does the name Elon Musk ring a bell? It seems like you can't read the news these days without seeing his name everywhere. Whether discussing his \$44 million deal to purchase Twitter, his automotive and clean energy company Tesla, or his involvement in the Ukraine and Russia conflict with Starlink, Musk has taken over the news.

After deciding to pull out of the deal with Twitter in July, claiming issues with spam accounts, Musk officially purchased Twitter on Thursday, October 27th. Musk has made it abundantly clear that he will hire a completely new staff, leaving the previous employees out of iobs. has He transitioned the nine year old public company to a private one, which allows him to have more control **Twitter** users concerned about what will become of their accounts and investments in Twitter now that it has a new owner, and they're worried that since it is now a private company, Musk will be able to change the content rules. platform's finances, and its priorities without caring what the public will think. Other than Twitter troubles, Elon Musk has also been in the news cycle regarding Starlink, which provides high speed internet in rural locations across the globe using satellites in space. Starlink is

operated by SpaceX, also owned

by Musk, and it has been

providing internet in Ukraine during its war with Russia. A few months into the war, after being a vital source of communication for Ukraine's military, Musk abruptly announced his decision to shut down services in Ukraine, due to a lack of funding.

"We are not in a position to further donate terminals to Ukraine, or fund the existing terminals for an indefinite period of time,"

SpaceX's director of government sales wrote to the Pentagon in the September letter. However, by the end of October, Musk shared that he would continue to provide Starlink satellite internet in Ukraine regardless of whether he receives funding from the US Defense Department.

Lastly, and probably most famously, is the fact that Elon

Musk owns Tesla, the electric car company. Though they look cool, there have been multiple reports of the cars spontaneously bursting into flames. Additionally, there have been setbacks in Tesla's driverless tech, which became apparent after Tesla made its users and the open roads of the U.S. its testing playground. The Justice Department also began investigation last year looking into crashes involving Tesla's autopilot driver assistance system to see if Tesla made fake claims about its technology's capabilities. None of this has stopped Elon Musk.

"You're going to have no one in the car by the end of this year," Musk recently said. "I think we'll also have an update next year to be able to show to regulators that the [self-driving] car is safer, more so than the average human."



PARSHA

MIRACLES

Daniel Kahane

Next week's parsha is Vayera, which starts off with Hashem visiting Avraham three days after his brit milah. Avraham saw three men passing by in the heat, and even though he was in a lot of pain, he invited them into his tent to eat a meal before continuing on their journey. The three men were actually angels! One of the angels healed Avraham. Another angel told Avraham and Sara that they would have a child a year later, to which Sara laughed, due to her old age. Hashem was aggravated that Sara did not have faith. The third angel told Avraham that destroyed Sodom would be because of the evil people there. Once the visitors left, Avraham begged Hashem not to destroy Sodom. Avraham asked Hashem if there were fifty tzadikim, would Hashem save the city? Hashem said there weren't fifty tzadikim in Sodom. Avraham continued to ask, lowering the amount of tzadikim required to save the city, but Hashem kept saying no until he agreed that if ten tzadikim could be found in Sodom, he wouldn't destroy it. Avraham's nephew Lot who lived in Sodom had ten people in his family that were righteous enough to count as tzadikim but some of them refused to leave Sodom and adopted some of their evil ways.

Upon arriving in Sodom, Lot, invited the angels into his house for a meal and to rest. When people heard about Lot's guests, in a city that did not let any acts of kindness, the people of Sodom surrounded his house. The angels made all the people blind. They told Lot about their mission, and they told him and his family to leave. The angels made sure to tell them not to look back as the city got destroyed. Lot's wife famously looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

This *parsha* teaches us some very valuable lessons. We can learn to not take any miracle for granted, and that Hashem can do anything for us. Hashem made Sara have a baby even though Sara couldn't have any children because of her age. We can learn from Lot and his family to always do *chesed* even if no one else around you is doing it. He invited the angels into his house for a meal and a place to eat.

We can learn from Lot's wife to trust in Hashem. Lot and his family were told not to look back as they were fleeing the city of Sodom, but Lot's wife didn't listen and was turned into a pillar of salt, which is one of the reasons we use salt on our challah on shabbat.



SPORTS

Jonah Siegel and Gavi Lichter



After the Grizzlies' astonishing start to the season, led by point guard Ja Morant, we're hoping they will be a championship contender. The Grizzlies are currently 5-3 in the Western Conference. Ja Morant managed to score 49 points in the game against the Houston Rockets, and Desmond Bane broke his previous record with 38 points in the game against the Brooklyn Nets. Unfortunately, Jaren Jackson Jr. is currently out with a broken ankle, Bane has a sore ankle, and Morant was out sick for one game, so it's been a rough few weeks for the Grizzlies. If they can power through all of these injuries, and the rookies can step up their game before the starters return, we can be in a good position to make a deep run in the playoffs and bring one home for Memphis.

Football season began with a bang, and besides for watching the games, many of our students have a fantasy team! For those who don't play, here's a quick breakdown of how it works - essentially you draft the best players in the league to your team, and depending on how well they play that week. (continued on page 5)

STUDENT Rachel Sanderson and Ahuva Davis

POLLING OUR PEOPLE

In one word, what makes a superhero "powerful"?

Grade 5:

- 1. Yaffa- Bravery
- 2. Adina-Loyalty
- 3. Amitai-Supernatural Forces
- 4. Hillel- Powers

Grade 6:

- 1. Rena-Powers
- 2. Maytal- Powers
- 3. Benjy-Pizza
- 4. Shuey-Superhero

Grade 7:

- 1. Sara-Savoir
- 2. Adina-Bravery
- 3. Eitan-Saving
- 4. Yakir-Powers

Grade 8:

- 1. Hodi- Abilities (Powers)
- 2. Toby-Strengths
- 1. Ilan-Influence
- 2. Davi-Confidence

FACULTY Gordon Chaifetz and Jack Ardestani

Do you need caffeine in the morning?



A- YES

Ms. Fishbach Ms. Samuels Ms. Amanda

B-NO

Mrs. Gersten Mrs. Chaifetz Rabbi Safier Morah Bracha Rabbi Hollander Morah Ronit Mr. Thomas

SPORTS (continued)

Jonah Siegel and Gavi Lichter

the amount of points you get changes. As for the real NFL, there have been some surprisingly good and bad teams. The surprisingly good teams have been the Giants, Jets, Eagles, Vikings, Seahawks, Falcons and the Patriots. The surprisingly bad teams have been the Broncos, Raiders, Cardinals, Packers, and the Bucs. Many of these teams can still turn their season around- all it takes is an injury or a trade.

Week nine is coming up and with the Giants, Cowboys, 49ers, and Broncos on a bye week, there

are a ton of fun games on Sunday.

The Bills are playing the Jets, who have had a very good season so far, and on Sunday night the Chiefs are playing the Titans. For those two games, I predict the Bills and Chiefs winning. I predicted the Eagles winning Thursday night, continuing their undefeated season, but for the other games, I predict the Chargers beating the Falcons, Patriots beating the Colts, Dolphins beating the Bears, the Packers beating the Lions, the Bengals beating the Panthers, and the Raiders beating the Jaguars, The Commanders will fall to the Vikings, Seahawks lose Rams despite the Rams losing three of their last four games, and finally on Monday night the Ravens will destroy the Saints.

This Week in History

Shua Zions and Zev Valeriano

November 4, 1995

Yitzhak Rabin, the fifth prime minister of Israel, was assassinated in Tel Aviv at the end of a rally in support of the Oslo Accords. Rabin was a controversial figure in Israel, a country always struggling to balance religious and secular beliefs. He believed in withdrawing from certain land in order to make efforts to achieve peace with Palestinians





November 6, 1860

Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th president of the United States. He ran for president openly opposing the practice of slavery, and his presidential victory led to the secession of Southern states and the long and bloody Civil War. In the middle of the war, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which ended slavery in the confederate states, and within a few years, slavery was outlawed around the country.

World News

Making CENTS of the Economy

Davi Baum and Ilan Lennon

Recently you may have noticed your grocery bill has gone higher than usual. The combination of higher distribution costs, commodities increasing, labor shortages, and the war between Russia and Ukraine has sent the prices of food and many other items skyrocketing. Ukraine was one of the leading suppliers of agricultural products around the world, producing a whopping 40% of the world's wheat, which is now nearly impossible to get.





You've probably noticed that gas prices are way up as well, which means the price of everything else that relies on gas to get from point A to point B, is way up — including food. As a matter of fact, many things have. Along with causing a shortage of wheat, the war between Russia and Ukraine has had a massive impact on the fossil fuel market, specifically in the crude oil market variety. This is due to the fact that America and many other countries around the world decided not to trade with Russia since the war between Russia and Ukraine began. Between Covid disruptions around the world, overall inflation, and gas and shipping becoming more expensive, we're all feeling the pressure. However, even with all this going on, companies have reported massive earnings over the last year.

Fortune magazine called it "the biggest profit growth in decades"

So how much of this is inflation and how much of this is greed?

Memphis

Newcomers

Adina Schwartzberg and Chana Weiner

In the past few months Memphis has warmly welcomed many new families, including but not limited to, the Knopfs, the Lichters, the Weiners, and the Mittlemans. They have come from all over the United States - places like Philadelphia, PA, Great Neck, NY, Monsey, NY, and Phoenix, AZ. So far, all the new families are really enjoying the Memphis community!

"I was blown away by the southern hospitality," comments Katie Lichter, who moved here during the summer. "We instantly fell in love with everything Memphis has to offer." She also stated her love for the southern accent possessed by those who have been here for generations. Her husband Rabbi Ian Lichter is the new head rabbi at Baron Hirsch.

Although everyone agrees that Memphis is a warm and loving community, that's not the only reason people move here. Some were hired by our schools or shuls, some were looking to get out of the city, and others were just looking for a small community.

"I came to Memphis to help the students of MHA-FYOS become the best versions of themselves they can be," says Rabbi Weiner, our new Head of School. The Weiners moved to Memphis from Phoenix, but Mrs. Sarah Weiner is originally from Memphis, so she knew what she was getting into, and even attended MHA herself.

the Margolin Hebrew Like Academy, Memphis is extremely quiet compared to some of the places people have come from. Most say that they enjoy the fact that everyone knows each other here, and that people are always happy to see one another. Dina and Neil Knopf, who moved from Monsey last year with their twins, love how nice and helpful everyone is here. They also appreciate that "there are a lot of beautiful parks and nature really close by" that they can take advantage of.

It seems that the lack of kosher restaurants in Memphis is the most difficult thing to adjust to. families that All four we interviewed the agreed on desperate need for kosher food in Memphis. Because these families left places with restaurants, they miss them even more. Another thing that is a hard adjustment is being away from family.

The Mittlemans, however, moved to Memphis from Philadelphia to be closer to family. Elaina grew up in Memphis, and was excited to move back here with her husband Gary and her baby. After Gary's job went fully remote, they jumped at the chance to move to Memphis.

Everyone who lives here already knows how wonderful our community is, but it's nice to see newcomers confirm it!









LITTLE MIDDLES

Ariella Caplan



For the past few weeks, in history class, we have been learning about Ancient Egypt and its rulers. Rulers of Egypt were called pharaohs. Two rulers we learned about were Hatshepsut and King Tut. Did you know that not all pharaohs were male? Hatshepsut was the most powerful Egyptian female pharaoh. She ruled from 1473 to 1458 BCE, reigning for nearly 20 years! One of Hatshepsut greatest accomplishments was

building the Deir el Bahri, a memorial temple that was built to honor her and all that she accomplished. It also served as a sanctuary for the Egyptian goddess. Amon Ra. This memorial temple can still be seen today if you visit Egypt. Another powerful ruler was King Tutankhamun, also known as King Tut, or the 'Boy King'. He came to power at the age of nine years old in the year 1332 BCE, earning the title of the youngest pharaoh. One of his greatest accomplishments was that he brought back Egyptian art, religion, temples and more. His unexpected death at the age of nineteen is still a mystery. King Tut is one of the most famous Egyptian pharaohs, partly because his tomb is the only tomb that is intact today. Interesting enough, both King Tut and Hatshepsut were buried in the Valley of the Kings,

located in Egypt (below).





PUP OF THE MONTH

Lila - Rachel Sanderson's dog

Eli Weisfogel



About Lila

- loves peanut butter
- knows how to play catch
- enjoys tummy and ear scratches

Have any comments? Want to share a piece of writing? Want to pitch a story? Want us to write about a particular topic? Email yafit.fishbach@mhafyos.org

COOKING AND CRAFT CORNER

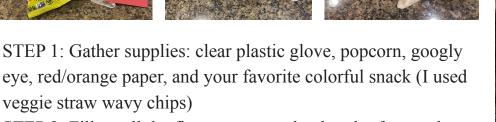
Gobble Gobble

Sara Klein











eye, red/orange paper, and your favorite colorful snack (I used veggie straw wavy chips)

STEP 2: Fill up all the fingers, except the thumb of your glove with your colorful snack.

STEP 3: Then fill the palm and thumb with your popcorn, blow the glove up to fill the empty spaces, and tie at the bottom.

STEP 4: Tape/glue a googly eye to the thumb and cut a beak and gobble of a turkey and tape or glue it on under the eye as the face.

Go Big or Gourd Home

Toby Gescheit and Aliza Wiener









STEP 1: Gather supplies → Orange & green paper, tape, sharpie, scissors

STEP 2: Cut the papers into 7 orange strips, 1 green strip, and 2 leaves

STEP 3: Write on the orange strips what you are thankful for, & write your name + the year on the leaves

STEP 4: Tape the paper strips into the star shape above

STEP 5: Fold the orange star upward and tape into a circle

STEP 6: Tape the leaves on top

STEP 7: Twirl the green stripe and tape it on



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FUN PAGE

Yakir Rovner and Eitan Braverman

REBUS PUZZLES

TAILR AIRTL TI RIA

8			2	6				4
	1			8	3		6	2
2	6		7	4		1		
		6		7	8	2	1	
		4		3	2		8	
	2				9			7
7	4			1	6		2	
	3		8		4		7	1
		1		2	7			6

RIDDLES

- 1. What two things can you never eat for breakfast?
- 2. When things go wrong what can you always count on?
- 3. I am an odd number, take a letter out and I become even, what am I?

Zeven

Your fingers

Luch and dinner

Answers:

ISRAELI NEWS

Miriam Bauer

This past Tuesday, Israeli held elections for the fifth time in four years, which was marked by the highest turnout since 2015. As of Wednesday, with 90.7% of votes counted, Benjamin Netanyahu's party, Likud is set to win 65 out of 120 seats. Netanyahu, 73, who will end Yair Lapid's term as prime minister, is one of Israel's most controversial figures, loathed and loved by many. Netanyahu is also currently on trial for alleged bribery, fraud and breach of trust, which he denies.

"I would like to thank the citizens of Israel for your tremendous support," he tweeted. "Together we brought a huge victory to the State of Israel. "A big thank you from the bottom of my heart."

