

Kislev 22, 5771 | November 29, 2010

# Baltimore Jewish Times

## LOCAL NEWS

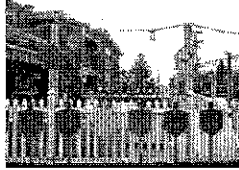


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November 26, 2010

### The Chanukah House Is Back!

**Rochele Eisenberg**  
Staff Reporter



Although the Cohen family of Upper Park Heights has moved to Florida, their long-standing tradition of a "Chanukah House" will live on in Baltimore.

Yitz and Sora Fleischman, who live at 6721 Greenspring Ave. in Pikesville, have secured the complete holiday collection that was displayed for years at the Cohens' residence on Park Heights Avenue. This year, the Fleischmans have installed these decorations, including fan favorites Teyve Teddy Bear, Herschel Potter, Elmo and the Chanukah Barbies outside their home.

Each night, someone will continue the tradition of lighting the giant chanukiah to celebrate the festival of Lights. On the second night of Chanukah, Thursday, Dec. 2, Baltimore County Executive-elect Kevin Kamenetz will do the honors. "We are carrying on their [the Cohens'] tradition," said Mr. Fleischman.

In addition, this year Webcams will be erected at the "Chanukah House" site so out-of-towners can see what is going on.

The Fleischmans are big fans of sharing the holidays with their community. On Sukkot, they erect a 600-square-foot sukkah on their lawn, and on Jewish and American holidays they mount large paintings and banners to celebrate the important days.

For those who question the idea of a Chanukah house, Mr. Fleischman said, "On Chanukah, there is only one mitzvah. It's publicizing the miracle. That's why we put the lights in the window. Mr. Cohen took it to a higher level."

For information about this year's "Chanukah House" and events schedule, go to [chanukahhouse.com](http://chanukahhouse.com).

**Photo captions:**  
The Fleischman family will continue the Cohens' tradition of creating a "Chanukah House" for the community. (photo Kirsten Beckerman)

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OUND OUR COMMUNITY

# Lexicon

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Kaplan, oboist Vladimir Lande and bassoonist Bryan Young begin their eighth season together and welcome five other performers to the concert, including a string quartet and clarinetist.

"We love it — the ability of sharing music with so many people," said Ms. Kaplan of their performances locally and around the world. "We bring [music] to different places, different cultures, a lot of universities. It's very satisfying."

Ms. Kaplan is a piano faculty member at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore. "Each movement will have an explanation," she said of the concert. "You will hear music and your imagination will take you. That's the power of music." □

Tickets for "The Poulenc Trio Celebrates Hanukkah at the Walters," presented by *An Die Musik*, are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. For tickets or information, visit [andiemusik.com](http://andiemusik.com) or call 888-221-6170.

—Linda Esterson

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m at the Walters Art Museum next Friday, Dec. 3.



PHOTO PROVIDED



PHOTO KRISTEN BECKERMAN

The Fleischman family will continue the Cohens' tradition of creating a "Chanukah House" for the community.

## Relighting The Flame

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— Rochelle Eisenberg

## editorial

### Shameful Talk

Last week in an interview with Howard Kurtz of *The Daily Beast*, Roger Ailes, president of the Fox News Channel, said National Public Radio executives "have a kind of Nazi attitude" and called them "the left wing of Nazism." Mr. Ailes was alluding to the case of Juan Williams, the broadcast journalist fired by NPR last month for making controversial remarks about Muslims on airplanes.

"They are, of course, Nazis," Mr. Ailes said of NPR executives. "These guys don't want any other point of view. They don't even feel guilty using tax dollars to spout their propaganda. They are basically Air America with government funding to keep them alive."

Naturally, after a good deal of public fury, he issued an apology — but *not* to NPR. In a letter to Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, Mr. Ailes wrote, "I was, of course, ad-libbing and should not have chosen that word, but I was angry at the time because of NPR's willingness to censor Juan Williams for not being liberal enough. ... I'm writing this just to let you know some background but also to apologize for using 'Nazi' when in my now considered opinion 'nasty, inflexible bigot' would have worked better."

Not exactly what one would consider much of an apology. Mr. Foxman's response was, "I welcome Roger Ailes' apology, which is as sincere as it is heartfelt. Nazi comparisons of this nature are clearly inappropriate and offensive."

But we have to agree with NPR spokeswoman

Dana Rehm's assessment of the matter: "We are disappointed that Mr. Ailes directed his apology only to the ADL, and amazed that his statement substituted a new insult to replace his original scurrilous remark."

Getting in the middle of a political battle — media group vs. media group, conservatives vs. liberals, red vs. blue — is not something we're eager to do. But as a Jewish publication, our biggest problem with Mr. Ailes' original remarks and subsequent tepid "apology" is his raising the specter of the Holocaust in the first place, an all-too-familiar facet of contemporary American discourse.

Let's be clear — the Nazi genocide of European Jewry during World War II was an unparalleled event in human history. Comparisons of the *Shoah* to other situations and matters will always fall flat due to the enormity and unfathomable nature of the Final Solution.

It is simply outside the pale.

To compare a bunch of radio execs who may or may not have fired a commentator for political reasons is in no way analogous to the mentality that fueled and largely executed the annihilation of European Jewry. To even remotely utter such a statement is reprehensible.

More than to Abe Foxman or even NPR, Mr. Ailes should apologize to Holocaust survivors and their families, who know only too well what a "Nazi attitude" is all about and leads to. His statements are indicative of the shameful level of our national dialogue and the tendency to invoke the Holocaust at seemingly every juncture. □

### Chanukah House, Continued

On Thursday, Dec. 2, the second night of Chanukah, candles will be kindled for the entire community at the "new" Chanukah House, which is located at 6271 Greenspring Ave.

Baltimore County Executive-elect Kevin Kamenetz will have the honor of lighting the *menorah*. County Councilwoman Vicki Almond (D-2nd) will also be in attendance, as well as other elected officials and community leaders, for what promises to be a night of community unity.

Even though the Chanukah House has moved from Morris and the late Ann Cohen's Park Heights home, touches of the Cohens will very much be in evidence. Many of the decorations used at the former Upper Park Heights location will now be used at the Greenspring Chanukah House.

We think it's such a nice gesture, representative of Baltimore's unity, and we want to make sure that it should always be done in the memory of Mrs. Cohen, who brought the Chanukah House to light.

We want to thank the Fleischman family for making the effort to bring the symbols and decorations from the Cohens' home over to Pikesville so that the tradition continues.

May we all enjoy a beautiful Chanukah season, beginning with the lighting of the first candle next Wednesday night, Dec. 1. □

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## Wise And Proper

"God's good providence" and blessed "the God of Heaven who brought us over the furious ocean." He then quoted Moses: "Our fathers cried