

Welcome home!



Avera Mengistu, 38 Hisham al-Sayed, 37 Tal Shoham, 40 Omer Shem-Tov, 22 Omer Wenkert, 23 Eliya Cohen, 27



Six More Hostages Come Home

By Jewish Foundation of the L.V.

Closing out a week that has caused incredible pain in our community, today we are thankful for the release of the six hostages who were freed from the darkness of captivity: Avera Mengistu and Hisham al-Sayed – both of whom spent a decade in Hamas's hands – as well as Tal Shoham, Omer Shem-Tov, Omer Wenkert, and Eliya Cohen, who were taken hostage on October 7th.

We are also relieved that Shiri Bibas has finally been brought home, where a proper burial can take place alongside her boys, Ariel and Kfir. We are praying for Yarden Bibas, husband to Shiri and father to the boys, as he carries this unbearable pain.

Avera Mengistu, an Ethiopian Israeli, was released after spending 3,825 days in Hamas captivity. His family has fought fiercely for his release over the past decade, going as far as Geneva to meet with human rights organizations in hopes of assistance. They returned to Israel with the promise of help, yet none came. Avera, who suffers from mental illness, was abducted by Hamas after trying to climb a fence in Gaza.

Hisham al-Sayed, a Bedouin Arab Israeli, was released after 3,599 days in Hamas captivity after he was captured while wandering in the Gaza strip. Hisham, who recently turned 27, suffers from several health issues, including hearing loss, schizophrenia, tinnitus, and vertigo. There was no communication about Hisham's condition until June 2022 when terrorists released a video clip of him lying in a hospital bed with an oxygen mask over his mouth and nose.

The four other hostages released were all abducted during the October 7, 2023, terrorist attack on Israel. Three of them were taken while at the Nova festival.

Tal Shoham, an Austrian-Israeli citizen, was celebrating the holiday in Kibbutz Be'eri when terrorists kidnapped him along with his wife, Adi Shoham, his daughter, Yahel, 3, and son, Naveh, 8, as well as his mother-in-law Shoshan Haran, his wife's aunt Sharon Avigdor and her daughter Noam, 12. All but Tal were released during the last hostage exchange.

Omer Shem-Tov was attending the Nova music festival when terrorists put Omer and two others in Omer's car and drove them into Gaza. A released hostage said that Omer tried to honor Shabbat while in captivity by reciting the Kiddush with a small bottle of grape juice and a piece of bread. Omer had two birthdays while being held hostage.

Omer Wenkert was also abducted at the festival and taken to the Gaza strip. His family knew he was alive when they saw a video circulated by Hamas that showed him on his stomach with his hands handcuffed behind his back. Omer, who worked at a restaurant, had just enrolled in college courses to become a restaurant manager.

Eliya Cohen was at the festival with his fiancé Ziv Aboud, when the attacks broke out, forcing them to hide in a roadside rocket shelter where many were murdered. Cohen, who works in marketing and real estate, was shot in the leg before being taken captive by Hamas. His fiancé Ziv managed to escape the shelter after six hours. His mother, Sigi Cohen, told The Times of Israel that released hostages have said that her son is being held in a tunnel, has been chained for the entire length of his captivity, and gets little food or daylight.

We are thankful they are all home, finally reunited with their families, and that they have the support they need to begin the road to recovery from this horrific tragedy. We also pray for the families of the 61 innocent hostages whose fate is unknown and remain hopeful that they will return home soon into their

Cash Only Event

AP & Wii Mario Kart Tournament

Date: February 28th
Time: 4:30 PM
Location: A-Gym

During the AP & Wii Mario Kart Tournament we encourage the students and community to join us to play arcade games, such as Pac-Man. Food and Drinks will also be available for purchase and we will be having a basket raffle.

Email any questions to rileykocher07@gmail.com

All proceeds go to the American Red Cross to help with Natural Disaster Relief



Bangor Area School District 2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration

Do you know a child who will be 5 on or before August 25, 2025? If so, register for kindergarten and follow these three steps:

A complete registration must be submitted by Monday, August 18, 2025 to guarantee a first day start on Monday, August 25, 2025.

1

Gather Your Documents

1. Parent/Guardian Photo Identification
2. Proof of child's birth date
3. Two Proofs of Residency

One proof from List A:

- Mortgage agreement
- Lease agreement
- Rent payment receipts (with address)
- Property tax payment receipts
- Moving permit

One proof from List B:

- Utility bill with current address (dated within the last 3 months)
- Paycheck stub with employer and employee's address
- Current voter registration with Bangor residency address
- PA Driver's license with Bangor residency address
- PA vehicle registration with Bangor residency address

4. Immunization Record
5. Physical Exam Record
6. Dental Exam Record

2

Register

Visit
www.bangorslaters.com
OR

[Register Online Here](http://www.bangorslaters.com)

If you do not have access to a computer or cell phone, please call District registration at 610-588-2163 to schedule a time to complete it at the District office.

To complete registration all documents must be:

Uploaded online

OR

Submitted to the registration secretary.

Once online registration is complete and approved by the registration secretary, Five Points Elementary School will contact you to schedule a kindergarten screening appointment.

3

Attend Screening Appointment

Kindergarten screening appointments for the 2025-2026 school year are in June.

All screenings are by appointment only, and are only scheduled when the online registration process is complete and approved by the registration secretary. Completed packets must be received and approved no later than May 15, 2025 to guarantee a June screening appointment.

When attending the appointment be sure to bring...

- Your child(ren).
- Photo identification to verify parent/guardian identity.
- Any other updated documents.