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Service planned for dead rabbi

The Enquirer

The local Jewish community is mourning the loss of Rabbi Gavriel Holtzberg and his wife, Rivkah, who have been reported killed in Mumbai.

The Holtzbergs moved from New York City to Mumbai, to run the ultra-orthodox Jewish Chabad Center. Militants took over the center as part of the orchestrated terrorists attacks that began Wednesday in this Indian city.

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/A/AS_INDIA_SHOOTING?SITE=OHCIN&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2008-11-28-14-40-12
target="_new">Latest news of the terror attack

According to reports given to the leaders of Deerfield Township's Jewish Discovery Center, the Holtzbergs and three other unidentified Jews were killed.

"The rabbi and his wife left the comforts and safety of their home and traveled to the far corners of the world to bring light to that corner," said Rabbi Yosef Y.

Kalmanson, director of the Jewish Discovery Center. "Together, we will bring an end to this intense darkness and shine forth with a more intense light."

Kalmanson said he just returned from the International Conference of Chabad Shluchim with 3,000 rabbis on Nov. 24, after four days of workshops on topics facing rabbis around the world. Holtzberg also attended the conference.

"It was a long weekend of education and inspiration," Kalmanson said.

The Jewish Discovery Center will hold a 6 p.m. Friday service at the center, 7587 Central Parke Blvd., where they will pray for the Holtzbergs and the others who have died.

Kalmanson said the Holtzberg's son, who turns two Saturday, got out of the building when his caregiver and the center's cook managed to escape.

"As we struggle to deal with our pain and outrage at this heinous crime, I implore you to continue to take upon yourself just one more good deed to merit those martyred," Kalmanson wrote in a letter Friday afternoon to members of the center.