

# THE REPORTER

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## BD luncheon on Feb. 9: "Beth David's 55 Years on Riverside Drive: Sharing the Memories"

February 2019 marks 55 years since Beth David Synagogue opened at its location at 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. On February 9, Marlene Serkin will share her memories of the event, as well as of what Jewish life in Binghamton was like back in the 1960s. What was it like in 1964, when the Torah scrolls were moved to their new location? Who participated in the event? Who was the rabbi? And which people are still present as part of the Beth David community? "Marlene is a pillar of Beth David Synagogue," organizers said. "If there is ever a question we have about Beth David's history, we all turn to her!"

Serkin grew up in New Jersey. "I come from a family of volunteers," she said, "and I am proud to be carrying on that

tradition." Married in 1951, she and her family moved to the Binghamton area when General Electric transferred her husband Jack, a mechanical engineer, to its Johnson City plant. "At the time," Serkin says, "my three children ranged in age from 3½ to 9, and I decided to get involved in volunteering so that I would meet people and do some good." The Serkins joined Beth David as soon as they moved to the area. Getting involved in Beth David's Sisterhood was followed by volunteering at Hillel Academy, the Jewish Community Center and Chabad. For many years, Serkin ran



Marlene Serkin

the rummage sales at Beth David and Chabad's Purim *shalach manot* program. She has served as the president of the Regional Chapter of Women's Branch of the Orthodox Union; treasurer of Hillel Academy; vice president and secretary of Beth David Synagogue; and president, vice president and treasurer of Beth David Sisterhood.

"To this long list of service," organizers said, "we can add the title of local historian of Beth David and the community. We are delighted to have her enlighten us about Beth David's history in its Riverside Drive location, and can't think of a better

way to mark our 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary!"

Beth David's luncheon speaker series takes place the second Saturday of the month after Shabbat morning services and is open to the community. There is no charge for the luncheon, but Beth David welcomes donations to the Luncheon Fund in order to keep the program going. Donations can be made in honor or in memory of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Those wishing an acknowledgment to be sent to the person being honored, or to the family of someone being remembered, can indicate that, along with the necessary information. Donations may be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

## TI/TC adult ed. program on Jan. 27

The next Temple Israel/Temple Concord Adult Education program will be presented on Sunday, January 27, at 10 am, at Temple Israel. The program will be a viewing of Manfred Kirchheimer's documentary "My Coffee with Jewish Friends." The film director interviews a cross-section of the Jewish community, raising such questions as: How does our Jewish identity impact your life? Is our Jewish identity enhanced because

of Israel? Does an increase in antisemitic incidents make us more sensitive to our religion? Did the Holocaust strengthen our Jewish traditions or undermine them? The film has been called a thought-provoking collection of views, opinions and beliefs.

In a review in *The New York Times*, Ken Jaworowski wrote: "In the film he speaks with more than 20 people and comes away with countless viewpoints, as well as some

smiles and bittersweet tales. The most thoughtful discussions are with those who have lost faith in a God, or whose beliefs have altered over time."

Simon Abrams, in *The Village Voice*, wrote: "Political head-butting and crabby bon mots energize a series of wide ranging conversations about the nature of secular Judaism in this consistently entertaining documentary."

Community members are invited to

have breakfast with their Jewish friends at Temple Israel. In order to cover a partial cost of the film, the Adult Ed. Committee will be charging \$10 for the breakfast. The community is advised to contact Tammy Kunsman in the Temple Israel office at [tammym@stny.twcbc.com](mailto:tammym@stny.twcbc.com) or call 723-7461 to make a reservation by Wednesday, January 23, so organizers can ensure sufficient food and sufficient seating for the movie.

## JFS to offer "Beyond the Rainbow: LGBTQ in the Binghamton Jewish Community" on Jan. 29

Jewish Family Service, in conjunction with Pride and Joy Families/Lesbian and Gay Families Building Project and Temple Concord, will hold the program "Beyond the Rainbow: Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer in the Binghamton Jewish Community" on Tuesday, January 29, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. There will be no charge for the program and the light dinner. The dinner will be held at 5:30 pm, with the program running from 6:15-8 pm. The community is invited to attend. (The snow date will be Tuesday,

February 26.)

The purpose of the program is to make the Binghamton Jewish community a more welcoming place for LGBTQ people and create allies. Roz Antoun, the director of JFS, noted, "We hope this program will help increase our Jewish community's understanding of the unique perspectives of LGBTQ individuals. Topics to be covered will include the basics of sexual orientation and gender identity, and how to be more welcoming, inclusive and affirming of LGBTQ people who are friends, family,

neighbors and associates."

The event will include presentations by Rabbis Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Rachel Esserman of the multiple genders mentioned in the Bible and the Talmud. A panel including Harry Cohen, Claudia Stallman and others will offer first person accounts by folks who live at the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQ identities. Trainer and teacher Alex Compton-Monell will lead the discussion about gender identity and sexual orientation, and how to be an ally.

According to Stallman, one of the

event organizers, "This program is both personal and professional for me, given my work at Pride and Joy Families, Binghamton's LGBTQ family organization. I was so glad that Roz approached me with the idea of doing some sort of educational program together. I am looking forward to learning more about what Judaism has to say on this subject and engaging in this community conversation."

Those interested in attending should RSVP to Antoun at 724-2332 or [rozjfs@stny.rr.com](mailto:rozjfs@stny.rr.com) to prepare enough food and materials for all participants.

## Temple Beth-El to hold annual Evening of Jewish Storytelling, Poetry and Music on Feb. 2

A celebration of life, community and the arts will take place on an upcoming winter evening in Ithaca. Celebrating 20 years of original stories, traditional tales, folk and contemporary poetry, and live music from around the world - Temple Beth-El of Ithaca will host its Annual Evening of Jewish Storytelling, Poetry and Music on Saturday, February 2, at 7:30 pm.

According to organizers, "This event has become extremely popular over the years, drawing participants together for an intimate and cozy evening - a real reminder

of times past. People who might otherwise never cross paths listen, laugh, shed a few tears together, perhaps, and get to know each other. The idea is to get away from the computer and television screens and share a moment of slower pleasures, together. In addition, there are always complimentary, traditional homemade treats while listening to the treasures of the night. This year's celebration offers an exciting and diverse selection of storytellers, poets and musicians both young and old. The Cornell University Klezmer Ensemble will participate, as will



Lenny Rosenfield and Albert Alexander performed a skit at the 2018 storytelling event.

Mel and Sol, a local acoustic duo comprised of Will Fudeman and David Frumkin. The event ends at about 9:30 and has an intermission. Families with children are welcome."

The celebration will take place downstairs in the social hall of Temple Beth-El, located at the corner of Court and Tioga streets in downtown Ithaca. A donation of \$4 per individual and \$8 per family is requested to cover costs.

For further information, contact the temple office at 273-5775 or visit [www.tbethiaca.org](http://www.tbethiaca.org).

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## Opinion

# My day job is translating from Jewish to English – *gevalt!*

By Andrew Silow-Carroll

(JTA) – Do you go to *shul*, temple, synagogue, minyan or just services?

Let me ask it another way: That synagogue you won't set foot in – do you call it a *shul*, temple, synagogue, minyan or services?

I'm not being judgmental. It's a question about language.

Working at a Jewish news service, we often discuss the vocabulary of our English-speaking readers. And as a specialty news service, we also ask how specialized we should be. When you write a lot about religion and Israel there is a lot of distinct vocabulary, usually loanwords from the Hebrew and Yiddish.

And even English words have distinct Jewish uses. A sentence like this, "The mission will explore modalities of engagement to promote continuity," can be translated as "We're going to Israel to look at ways to keep people interested enough in Judaism so they don't marry Gentiles."

The question we ask frequently is how "insidery" we should be. Is it confusing or alienating to refer to a synagogue as a *shul* on first reference? If we mention a *shiva*, do we need to explain that it is the seven-day period of mourning observed by Jews after a burial?

One camp worries that too much untranslated and unexplained specialty language is just one more barrier to readers accessing not just JTA, but Jewish life as a whole. A headline like "Conservatives offer grants for new minyans," from 2008, may be perfectly decipherable for insiders, but may not mean much even to those who know that a minyan is a prayer quorum of 10 Jews. In the context of the headline, "minyan" actually means a congregation that meets independently of a synagogue. (And while we're at it, "conservative" means the Conservative movement, which is, confusingly, one of the "liberal" Jewish denominations.)

There is another camp, of which I may be the sole member, that believes a little insidery-ness is good for the JTA brand – and the reader. Our camp worries that if you go too far out of the way to avoid the language as it used by engaged Jews, you signal to readers a naivete about your subject matter.

Readers of sports blogs and tech sites, for example, expect a little specialized vocabulary as part of their reading diet. A sentence like "deGrom's major league-leading 1.70 ERA was two-thirds of a run lower than the next

closest NL hurler" isn't exactly Sanskrit, but it does assume – and reward – a little prior knowledge. The old *Spy* magazine used to have a regular feature making fun of *The New York Times* for overexplaining things to its readers, as in "The Beatles, the popular rock and roll band of the late 1960s ..."

Recently, we had an office debate over a headline for an article about the scholar Robert Alter, who had just finished his three-volume translation of the Hebrew Bible. His name appeared in the original headline, leading some on staff to complain that no one would know who he is. In the age of search engines and social media, they correctly argue, you need headlines that are immediately accessible to the greatest number of potential readers. That argues for something like "After three decades, a scholar completes a monumental translation of the Bible."

But I argued to keep his name in the headline, since leaving it out might suggest that we didn't understand Alter's place in the Jewish literary firmament. It was the difference, I argued, between using "Jacob deGrom" and "Mets pitcher" in a headline at ESPN: The reader who would most value the information would recognize the name, and everyone else would, I don't know, figure it out.

I won the Alter argument (mostly, I suspect, because I managed to exhaust the opposition), and had some vindication recently when I attended a discussion at the New York Public Library with the legendary New Yorker writer John McPhee. Now 87, McPhee has made a career writing popular magazine articles and books about highly specialized subjects: geology, ecology, nuclear energy, sports. At the event, McPhee's interviewer, Paul Holdengraber, read a letter from McPhee to his late editor at the *New York Review of Books*, Robert Silvers, arguing for the specialized vocabulary in one of his geology essays. Silvers apparently worried that the particular jargon of geology – anticlines, synclines, migmatite, terrane – would be a turnoff for general readers. McPhee argued, at length, that readers would figure them out in context, or could reach for a dictionary. Explaining each word would hobble the prose, and omitting them would mean losing credibility in the science community.

But McPhee is also aware of the limits of insidery-ness. At the event and in his recent how-to book

"Draft No. 4," McPhee said that writers can't assume that they share "frames of reference" with their readers. He points out how young people haven't heard of once-household names like Elizabeth Taylor and Cassius Clay. "[C]ollective vocabulary and common points of reference are not only dwindling now but have been for centuries," he wrote.

Sarah Bunin Benor, a scholar of Jewish language at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, once used our archive to note the changing use of Jewish vocabulary at JTA and the Jewish community in general. Her study found, paradoxically, that the use of certain Hebrew and Yiddish words – such as *shul*, *daven* and *chutzpah* – actually increased even as the American Jewish community itself became more assimilated. (A JTA dispatch from 1924, by contrast, described a synagogue's contents as the "Ark of the Law, the Scrolls of the Law, the Reader's desk, and the seats" – not a Hebrew or Yiddish term among them.)

Benor also demonstrated how the Reform movement became increasingly comfortable with a Hebrew vocabulary, with words like *mitzvot* (commandments, good deeds), *aliyah* (immigration to Israel) and *tikkun olam* (social action) appearing more frequently in its documents. The changes suggest that "three generations after the mass wave of immigration, Jews felt comfortable enough in America to express more distinctiveness in their in-group language," she wrote.

How much of that distinctiveness should be expressed by a Jewish news service – or, for that matter, by a synagogue rabbi, a Hillel director or a Jewish novelist? The trick is hitting on a vocabulary that flatters the intelligence of readers without leaving them behind or on the outside – that should probably be the guiding principle of any Jewish organization or service looking to "engage" young or disaffected people. And it is up to the "engagers" to keep up on the fluidity of frames of reference and note how the collective vocabulary keeps changing.

Otherwise it's, you know, a *bizbuz zman mukhlal* (a total waste of time).

Andrew Silow-Carroll is editor-in-chief of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of JTA or its parent company, 70 Faces Media.

## In My Own Words

# Human rights and freedoms

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I know that we're supposed to be open to cultural differences and not impose our values on other individuals. This is generally a good idea because it allows us a greater understanding of people from different countries and cultures. Plus, no one culture has a monopoly on truth and ethical reasoning. However, sometimes something so horrible happens that I can't accept it no matter how open I may want to be. The most recent case was the honor killing of a teenager in India.

According to an article in *The New York Times*, a 16-year-old girl may have been beheaded because she went to her boyfriend's birthday party. (The article mentioned that one of her arms had also been cut off and her face may have been burned with acid.) Now, I don't care if some cultures don't want the sexes to mix. That's their cultural prerogative. I also don't care if parents arrange marriages for their offspring (as long as the children are in their late teens or are adults). But those who would behead a person – whether female or male – because they have "dishonored" their family should be strictly punished.

First, when a person is accused of dishonoring her/his family, there is no court of law or evaluation of evidence by an impartial group before the punishment is dispensed. The accused has no lawyer and cannot appeal what will always be a death sentence. Having an individual family decide what constitutes dishonor violates the basic premise of law and order, and a fair system of justice. Capital punishment should not be in the hands of any individual or any individual family, but rather in the court system. Plus, if we're honest, the majority of honor killings are aimed at controlling women and preventing them from having the freedom to determine the course of their own lives.

Some might say that by opposing honor killings, which are found in many cultures, that I am seeking to impose my worldview on them. In cases of life and death, I am perfectly willing to do that. This is not an example of Islamic women wearing the hijab and Orthodox Jewish women covering their hair. If they choose to do so, I'm fine with their choice. But *choice*

is the operative word here. If any of them decide not to cover their hair, then I oppose them being physically punished by members of their family. If the family wants to ostracize them, that's a completely different matter. When you disobey your cultural heritage, it's not unexpected to receive some push back. But those who rely on physical punishment, torture or murder should themselves be punished.

There are limits to what we have to accept when it comes to cultural differences. If those differences violate the human rights and freedoms of other individuals, then we need to take a stand. It can be difficult, though, to teach people about human rights: the fact that murder is illegal in India doesn't change the fact that some people don't consider honor killings murder. Fortunately, there are those in the country who are working to prevent honor killings from occurring. A 16-year-old girl is dead because she may have defied her parents by going to a birthday party. If you don't think that is a senseless waste, then our cultural divide may be too big to bridge.



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The views expressed in editorials and opinion pieces are those of each author and not necessarily the views of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

#### LETTERS

The Reporter welcomes letters on subjects of interest to the Jewish community. All letters must be signed and include a phone number; names may be withheld upon request.

#### ADS

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# Chabad still accepting registration for JLI course “Crime and Consequence”

Last-minute registration is still being accepted for “Crime and Consequence,” a new six-session course by the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute exploring 3,000 years of Jewish perspective on conviction, sentencing and criminal rehabilitation. The six-week course will be held at the Chabad Center at 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal. Participants can choose the evening section held on Mondays, starting on February 4, at 7 pm, or the morning section held on Wednesdays, starting on February 6, at 9:30 am. The cost for the course, which includes the text book, is \$79 for individuals or \$140 for couples or multiple sign-ups. The course is accredited for Continuing Legal Education in most states, including New York.

“Crime and Consequences” looks to recover the humanity within criminals, question practices that seem unethical and unfair, and explore ways to prevent crime from taking place

in the first place. It will address questions such as: Should we consider testimonies given in exchange for a reduced sentence as reliable evidence; what is the ultimate goal of punishing criminals; is life without parole a justifiable penalty; and many more related issues. Course instructor

Rivky Slonim said, “Participants should be prepared for a somewhat devastating and infuriating, but thoroughly fascinating, learning experience.”

To register, call 797-0015, write to rslonim@ChabadofBinghamton.com or visit www.myJLI.com.

## TC to hold *Havdalah* Happy Hour with Jan DeAngelo on Feb. 2

On Saturday, February 2, at 6:30 pm, Temple Concord will host Jan DeAngelo and his two quartets of Seton High School students, who will perform selections from “The Marvelous Wonderettes” and “Forever Plaid,” which they will also be performing at Seton the next weekend. The

event will be held in the Kilmer Mansion, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. All members of the community are invited. The Happy Hour is free and sponsored by the Temple Concord Outreach Committee.

After a brief *Havdalah* service to close Shabbat, attendees who wish may continue with dinner afterward at a local restaurant. Those interested should make a reservation by calling Temple Concord at 723-7355, or sending an e-mail to templeconcordbinghamton@gmail.com, so organizers know how many to plan for. Temple Concord will make the reservation and everyone will pay for their own dinner. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 30.

## Lupardo spoke to TI Caring Community

Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo was the guest speaker at the Temple Israel Caring Community meeting on January 10. Lupardo was the chair of the New York Assembly Committee on Aging and her expertise was one of the reasons she was invited to speak. In another development, New York received the designation as an “Age Friendly” state. According to some officials, the designation focuses on quality health care, and opportunities for social and civic engagement. These goals complement the role and obligations of the Caring Community.

One of the members of the Temple Israel Caring Community reported that Lupardo mentioned several legislative

proposals. She suggested that a stairlift, to carry a resident to the second floor, should qualify as a medical deduction. A second concern of the assemblywoman was the conflict for a senior in an assisted living facility and his or her ability to qualify for hospice care.

There are other organizations that are striving to improve the quality of care for seniors. Jewish Family Service has provided support to seniors over many years. There is also the Broome County Office for Aging, which has completed a needs assessment survey and plans to distribute it, according to officials, in February (see related article on page 1 of last week’s Reporter, <http://www.thereportergroup.org/Article.aspx?aID=5091>).



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Off the Shelf

# Alternative realities

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Books featuring alternative realities explore the question “what if” – what if a country was established in a different time and place? What if a secretive group controlled people’s fates by making subtle changes occur in their lives? Some of these works are interested in the political arena, while others focus on people’s personal lives. These stories can hew closely to fact or contain wild fantasy elements. Two recent novels by Israeli authors – “Unholy Land” by Lavie Tidhar (Tachyon Publications) and “The Coincidence Makers” by Yoav Blum (St. Martin’s Press) – offer very different types of alternative realities, but each seek to answer a specific “what if” question.

“Unholy Land” is the more political of the two works and it asks the question, what if the Zionist Congress decided to create a Jewish state in East Africa, rather than the Middle East? The result might be Palestina, a country settled by European Jews in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Palestina exists in a world where a second world war did take place, but without the Holocaust. Unfortunately, having a Jewish nation in Africa doesn’t mean there are no political problems. Some of Palestina’s African neighbors resent the Jewish country, which is building a wall to keep an increasing number of non-Jewish refugees from entering.

This, however, has nothing to do with the return of writer Lior Tirosh to his native land. His trip is strictly personal: his father is ill. Before Lior can visit his father, though, his world starts to tilt out of control. What Lior doesn’t

realize is that he is a person of interest to members of the state security apparatus, particularly agent Bloom. Bloom recognizes Lior as an outsider, a term not clearly defined at first. But strange things happen to Lior: when his agent calls him, his glass case turns into a cell phone and returns to a glass case when the call is over. Lior remembers parts of his life in Europe, but his memories fade in and out, and become more difficult to grasp. As the plot continues and other characters are introduced, the nature of reality becomes increasingly difficult to decipher.

The author makes clear what he is questioning through his characters’ thoughts and words. For example, Lior speaks to Bloom about the detective novels he writes, which Bloom disparages: “I am trying to explain what it is we do when we construct stories of alternative realities. What we do is literalise the metaphor, so to speak. We construct a world of make-believe in order to consider how our own world is constructed.” The author does just that by trying to discover what would have happened if Jews had founded a different homeland. His characters also analyze how people make sense of the world: “What was history, [Lior] thought, if not a human attempt to impose order on chaos, to give meaning to a series of what were, essentially, just meaningless events? In detective fiction, as in history, order had to be imposed: clues sifted, witnesses interviewed, conspirators unmasked, murderers brought to justice. The problem was that everyone had a different story.”

The author explores these different stories, showing the similarities and differences that might have occurred wherever Jews settled in a country of their own. “Unholy Land” is reminiscent of the author’s previous novel “A Man Lies Dreaming” in that readers have to determine what is real and what is imaginary. (For a review of “A Man Lies Dreaming,” visit [www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?alD=4586](http://www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?alD=4586).) The novel demands readers’ attention and provokes questions not only about the nature of reality, but whether humans can escape their fate.

While Tidhar’s novel is very serious, “The Coincidence Makers” take a lighter tone. It asks, what if we don’t really control what happens to us? What if someone or something arranges for our lives to take a particular direction? Those who control our fates are called coincidence makers. Three coincidence makers – Guy, Emily and Eric – are among those who arrange for events to happen in a particular way so two specific people will fall in love or for someone to decide to change his/her career, or to discover her/his artistic talent. This is not as easy as it might sound; the three must take into account numerous factors not only to make certain that, for example, two potential lovers are in the same place at the same time and bump into each other, but that they are both in the mood to fall in love.

When Guy receives a cryptic note instead of his regular assignment, he wonders what his next task will be and if he **See “Realities” on page 7**

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Notice of Formation of Sayarot, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/02/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 22 Grand Blvd., Apt. 2L, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW**

1. The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Michelle Irene, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 4, 2018.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against

the LLC served upon him or her is: 1199 Cornell Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13901.

5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: 2353 Triphammer, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 18, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Ronald L. Greene, Esq., 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of 1016 Vestal Parkway Land, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/10/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 48 Harrison St., Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: CoreLife of Hamburg, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/5/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date of dissolution: None.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW (“LLCL”)**

1. The name of the professional service limited liability company (“LLC”) is POPE & POPE PLLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 5, 2018.
3. The date of existence of the LLC is January 1, 2019.
4. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the professional service LLC is to be located is Broome

County.

5. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the professional service LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the professional service LLC served upon him or her is: 99 Corporate Drive, Binghamton, NY 13904.

6. The character or purpose of the business of the professional service LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

12 Grand Realty LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 12/26/2018. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 8423 Third Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11209. General Purpose.

Notice of formation of KE ESTATES LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect’y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/28/18. Office in Broome County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 3401 E Main St, STE C Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

SOUL FLOW, LLC; Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 10/29/18; Office location: Broome County. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 27 Clarke Street, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: Any Lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of GFG LLC. Articles Of Organization filed with SSNY on 1/11/18. Office Location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 720 River Road, Binghamton NY 13901. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of 86 Leroy LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/9/2019. Office Location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom service of process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Mark B. Yonaty, 45 Lewis Street, Binghamton, New York 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

**To place a legal notice, contact Bonnie at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org**

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK PROFESSIONAL SERVICE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW (“LLCL”)**

1. The name of the professional service limited liability company (“LLC”) is KURT SCHRADER PLLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 7, 2018.
3. The date of existence of the LLC is January 1, 2019.
4. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the professional service LLC is to be located is Broome County.
5. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the professional service LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the professional service LLC served upon him or her is: 99 Corporate Drive, Binghamton, NY 13904.
6. The character or purpose of the business of the professional service LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Zoe Zerwekh NP in Psychiatry, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/28/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 46 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: to practice the profession of a nurse practitioner in psychiatry.

Notice of Formation of Devon Feehan Racing, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/20/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 175 Garret Rd., Windsor, NY 13865. Purpose: any lawful activities.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: 19 Avenue B Associates, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 9, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as

agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: James W. Orband, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: CJA401, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 7, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: James W. Orband, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: CDF Enterprises, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 15, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: James W. Orband, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: Dixie3116, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 7, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: James W. Orband, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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# Gift of Life Marrow Registry keeps moving forward

By Faygie Holt

(JNS) – In 1991, Jay Feinberg was facing a battle with leukemia and needed a bone-marrow transplant. Some 55,000 people got tested in the hopes of finding him a suitable match. Four years later and facing a critical moment in his illness, a match was finally found. Today, he is committed to helping others find life-saving bone-marrow and stem-cell matches through the nonprofit he founded, the Gift of Life Marrow Registry.



Jay Feinberg  
(Photo courtesy of Gift of Life Marrow Registry)

As the organization that has helped facilitate 15,600 matches and more than 3,550 transplants prepares for a new chapter – it's about to relocate to a new building just a mile from its current offices – JNS spoke with Feinberg, who serves as CEO at Gift of Life, for the details.

**Q:** Gift of Life is moving into a new facility in March in Boca Raton, FL. Why was this needed?

**A:** The registry is growing and because it's growing, we need more staff, more resources and, as a result, more space. Another important reason is that we are starting a new service at Gift of Life that we haven't done before as a donor registry.

**Q:** Can you tell us a little about the new service?

**A:** We are opening an Apheresis center – a stem-cell collection facility – to give patients a better chance at a cure by shortening the time from when a stem-cell donor is found until the patient can receive the donation. (Apheresis is the process by which blood is removed from a donor's arm, run through a cell-separating machine that pulls out the stem-cell and gives blood back to the donor in other arm.)

You would think if patient has a bone-marrow or stem-cell match, it guarantees that they will have that transplant. But the reality is that 50 percent of patients who have a match never get to have a transplant because it takes too long. We aim to shorten that time by insourcing the donation process.

The collection center we are opening is exclusively for donors of stem-cell transplants. Currently, such donors have to go to hospitals and blood centers, where they are competing for resources with all the other activities that a facility is undertaking.

For example, if the transplant physician tells us they need the donation on July 3, we will go to the collection center and say this is the date we need. Because they are so busy, they could tell us they can't do it until August 4, and that's bad for the patient at the other end.

Ours will be the first stem-cell collection facility run by a registry itself. We will control the entire process, so if a patient needs a donation on July 3, he or she will have that donation on July 3. And if a donor needs to donate on a weekend because that's in their or the patient's best interest, we will make that happen. This will significantly increase the number of transplants that take place, saving more lives than ever before.

**Q:** How has awareness of bone-marrow donations changed in the last decade or so?

**A:** From the perspective of marrow and stem-cell donations, it has changed a lot. For one, if you look back about 15 years ago, blood had to be drawn to join a registry. It's now much easier to test people with a simple cheek swab. See "Gift" on page 7

## Seeking an Executive Director for Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

### Position Description

The Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton (Broome County, NY area) is responsible for providing overall professional leadership, inspiration, management and guidance to the Federation, an umbrella organization for the Jewish community. The Broome County area is home to approximately 1200-1500 Jewish families, including those associated with Binghamton University and SUNY-Broome. Broome County has 3 synagogues, Chabad House, Hillel on BU Campus, Jewish Community Center, a Jewish day school (Hillel Academy), Jewish Family Services, and publishes a weekly paper (The Reporter). The Executive Director is accountable to the Board of Directors.

Position is 0.75 Full Time Equivalent.

### Areas of Responsibility

Organize and manage the annual fundraising campaign working with volunteers from the Board and the general community, yielding approximately \$300K.

Administer and Supervise day-to-day operations of the Federation, including Jewish Family Service, and The Reporter. Both of these organizations have paid staff. Create and manage operating budget. Work with Endowment Committee overseeing Federation Endowment.

Support Community Programming and Public Relations: Develop and coordinate programs with local Jewish organizations to enhance the quality of life for the region's Jewish community. Be the public voice of the Federation to the general community in the region and the media.

### Preferred Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- Non-profit agency experience
- Knowledge of fiscal management
- Strong writing skills
- Public speaking experience
- Experience in fundraising including development of major donors
- Program development, planning, and implementation
- Grant writing
- Strong knowledge of Jewish religion, customs and practices
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Ability to interact with community leaders from diverse backgrounds
- Availability to work evenings and weekends, as needed

Cover letter and resume should be submitted by Feb. 25, 2019 to [jfjob@gmail.com](mailto:jfjob@gmail.com).

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## Weekly Parasha

Yitro, Exodus 18:1-20:23

## Echo...

JIM BRULÉ, MAGGID, SYRACUSE

This week we look at the portion Yitro, found in Exodus 18:1-20:23. There are many familiar parts to this portion; but this time, I'd like to share some *midrash* about one of the most famous parts – the Eternal One speaking to us from Sinai. Specifically, I am interested in wrestling with “And the Eternal spoke all these words, saying...” – to those there – and those not there. (Exodus 20:1)

There are lovely Chasidic tales about *Rav* Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev, who grew so excited whenever someone read Torah and recited the familiar “*vay'daber adoshem*,” that he would bounce around, writhing in excitement at the very notion that the Eternal One had actually spoken. The sages wondered about this, as well – do we really mean to say that human speech was used by the Eternal?

If so, you might expect that the words at Sinai were spoken in Hebrew. However, the *midrash* tells us, “It was one voice that divided itself into seven voices, and these into 70 languages.” There is great cause for celebration there – especially since the notion at the time was that there were only 70 languages! In other words (so to speak), the Eternal One speaks to all people in their own language, which would seem to add credence to the idea that you may hear something very differently from me, and yet, we both can hear the Divine Word. The treat is, of course, that the *midrash* doesn't stop there. It goes on to say that “[the Voice] had no echo.” What could this possibly mean?

Think about echoes – what relationship do they have

to their source? They sound similar, but are diminished in power, and ultimately fade. They also “bounce” off solid objects, and seem to come to us from a very different direction than the source.

So, it seems to me, it is with the Eternal One's wisdom. It is never diminished, encounters no obstacles, and never comes from the “wrong” direction. And, as the same *midrash* reminds us elsewhere, it speaks “with the single voice from which all wisdom and prophecy is received.”

In the end, we all are able to hear wisdom in our own language and on our own terms, if only we listen carefully, and not allow ourselves to be distracted from the Source.

As we pray, just *shema*.

## Congregational Notes

### Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative  
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown  
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850  
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746  
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm  
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com  
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org  
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am

On Friday, January 25, at 6:30 pm, there will be Shabbat on the Road at Castle Gardens Assisted Living in Vestal.

On Saturday, January 26, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 18:1-20:22. The haftarah will be Isaiah 6:1-7:6, 9:5-6. Richard Schneier and Moira Shirvan will sponsor the kiddush following services.

On Sunday, January 27, at 10 am, there will be a TI/TC Adult Ed. brunch. The cost will be \$10 per person to cover additional costs incurred for the program.

On Tuesday, February 5, at 7 pm, there will be an Executive Board meeting.

On Friday, February 8, at 5 pm, there will be a Sisterhood Kabbalat Shabbat.

On Saturday, February 9, at 9:30 am, there will be a Hebrew/Sunday School Shabbat with a pot-luck lunch.

### Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive  
 Rabbi: David Regenspan  
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815  
 Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 336-1523  
 Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.  
 Adult Ed.: Saturday morning study is held at 10 am. Call for more information and to confirm.

### Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism  
 Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY  
 Phone: 607-256-1471  
 E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org, Website: www.tikkunvor.org  
 Presidents: Miranda Phillips and Shawn Murphy  
 Rabbi: Brian Walt  
 Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky  
 Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Family services and Tot Shabbat once a month at 6:30 pm. Call for weekly schedules.  
 Religious School: Preschool through seventh-grade classes meet on Sunday mornings. Sixth-grade Hebrew and seventh-grade b'nai mitzvah classes meet on Wednesday afternoons. Adult Ed: Mini courses throughout the year. Adult Hebrew offered regularly. Call the office for details.

### Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
 Rabbi: Scott L. Glass  
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292  
 Phone: 273-5775  
 E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org  
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org  
 President: Jerry Davis  
 Sisterhood President: Julie Paige  
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody  
 Administrative Assistant: Jane Griffith  
 Services: Friday 8 pm; Saturday 10 am, unless otherwise announced. Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sundays and legal holidays).  
 Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:45 pm. The Midrashah (eighth-grade and high school) classes will meet at times designated by their respective teachers.  
 Adult Ed.: Numerous weekly courses, several semester-long courses and a variety of mini-courses and lectures are offered throughout the year. Call the temple office for more details.

On Wednesday, February 20, at 7 pm, Rebecca Lesses, associate professor and Jewish studies coordinator at Ithaca College, will discuss “Women and Jewish Magic” as part of the temple's adult education series.

### Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism  
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell  
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905  
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm  
 Phone: 723-7355  
 Fax: 723-0785  
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com  
 Website: www.templeconcord.com  
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.

Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.

On Friday, January 25, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell. The oneg will be hosted by Pam and Jon Burgman.

On Saturday, January 26, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; and, at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services.

On Sunday, January 27, at 10 am, there will be a Temple Concord/Temple Israel Adult Ed. brunch at Temple Israel.

On Tuesday, January 29, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew school; at 5:30 pm, there will be a dinner; and, at 6:15 pm there will be a program titled “Beyond the Rainbow: LGBTQ in Binghamton's Jewish Community.”

On Thursday, January 31, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew school; and, from 5-7 pm, the CHOW pantry will be open.

On Friday, February 1, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.

On Saturday, February 2, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services; and, at 6:30 pm, there will be a Havdalah Happy Hour with Jan DeAngelo and Seton students performing.

### Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
 Rabbi: Molly Karp  
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820  
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820  
 Phone: 607-432-5522  
 Website: www.templebetheloneonta.org  
 E-mail: TBEOneonta@gmail.com  
 Regular service times: visit the temple website for days of services and times  
 Religious School/Education: Religious School, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings. Rabbi Karp conducts services and holds classes in Torah, beginning Hebrew and Maimonides.  
 For the schedule of services, classes and events, see the website.

### Kol Haverim

Affiliation: Society for Humanistic Judaism  
 Address: P.O. Box 4972, Ithaca, NY 14852-4972  
 Phone: 607-277-3345  
 E-mail: info@kolhaverim.net  
 Website: www.kolhaverim.net  
 Chairwoman: Abby Cohn  
 Kol Haverim: The Finger Lakes Community for Humanistic Judaism, is an Ithaca-based organization that brings people together to explore and celebrate Jewish identity, history, culture and ethics within a secular, humanistic framework. KH is part of an international movement for Secular Humanistic Judaism and is affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism, a national association with over 30 member communities and congregations around the country. Established in the spring of 1999, it offers celebrations of Jewish holidays, monthly Shabbat pot-lucks, adult education, a twice-monthly Cultural School for children, and a bar and bat mitzvah program.  
 KH welcomes all individuals and families, including those from mixed religious backgrounds, who wish to strengthen the Jewish experience in their lives and provide their children with a Jewish identity and experience.

Friday, January 25, light candles ..... 4:51 pm  
 Shabbat ends Saturday, January 26 ..... 5:52 pm  
 Friday, February 1, light candles ..... 5 pm  
 Shabbat ends Saturday, February 2 ..... 6:01 pm

### Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union  
 Rabbi: Zev Silber  
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905  
 Phone: 722-1793  
 Rabbi's Office: 722-7514  
 Fax: 722-7121  
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm  
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com  
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com  
 Website: www.bethdavid.org  
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton  
 Shabbat Services:  
 Fri., Jan. 25 ..... 4:55 pm  
 Shabbat, Jan. 26 ..... 9 am  
 ..... Mincha after the kiddush  
 ..... Maariv 6:15 pm  
 Weekday Services:  
 Mornings:  
 Sun., Jan. 27 ..... 8:30 am  
 Mon.-Fri., Jan. 28-Feb. 1 ..... 7 am  
 Evenings:  
 Sun., Jan. 27 ..... 4:55 pm  
 Mon.-Thurs., Jan. 28-31 ..... 7 pm  
 Fri., Feb. 1 ..... 5 pm  
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

### Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch  
 Rabbi: Aaron Slonim  
 E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu  
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850  
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095  
 Website: www.Chadadofbinghamton.com  
 Chabad on the West Side  
 Rabbi: Zalman Chein  
 E-mail: zchein@JewishBU.com  
 Address: 27 Bennet Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905  
 Phone: 722-3252  
 Regular service times: Daily 7:30 am, Friday evening 6 pm, Shabbat morning 9:30 am, Maariv and Havdalah one hour after candle-lighting time, Sundays 9:30 am.  
 Linking Hearts for youngsters with special needs: This program connects Jewish special-needs children and teenagers, ages 5-14, who have mental, physical and/or functional disabilities, with student volunteers who will visit participating youngsters weekly in their homes.  
 To join the mailing list, for up-to-date information on adult education offerings or to arrange for a private tutorial, for details concerning the Judaica shop and resource center, or for assistance through the Piaker Free Loan Society or Raff Maasim Tovim Foundation, call Chabad's office at 797-0015.

### Penn-York Jewish Community

President-Treasurer-Secretary: Harvey Chernosky, 570-265-3869  
 B'nai B'rith: William H. Seigel Lodge  
 Purpose: To promote Jewish identity through religious, cultural, educational and social activities in the Southern Tier of New York and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania, including Waverly, NY; Sayre, Athens and Towanda, PA, and surrounding communities.

### Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated  
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045  
 Phone: 607-756-7181  
 President: Bruce Fein, bfein@twcny.rr.com  
 Service leaders: Lay leadership  
 Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.  
 Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis. Temple Brith Sholom is a small equalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is “Likrat Shabbat,” while the Saturday morning siddur is “Gates of Prayer.” The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

From JNS.org

**Israeli Navy rescues French sailor adrift in Mediterranean**

Israel's Navy rescued a French sailor on Jan. 17 who had been lost for weeks in the Mediterranean Sea, posting a photo of soldiers and a relieved-looking man on social media. The man, a fisherman named Jean-François Colas who had once sailed around the world, told Israel's Channel 13 news that he had sailed from Montpellier in December when his engine and digital equipment failed, and his anchor broke in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. His steering system and radio also broke, leaving him drifting alone. Colas told the news channel that he was nearly out of food and water when he spotted and signaled the Israeli Navy, which brought him in and arranged medical treatment, including care for an injured leg.

**Israel to export natural gas to Egypt in a few months**

Israel will start exporting natural gas to Egypt within a few months, a crucial development in the Jewish state's plans to sell its increasing gas-manufacturing services worldwide. As part of this development, it also aims to improve diplomatic relations with existing nations, including Egypt, and forge new ones. Without specifying an amount, Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz said on Jan. 14 that exports would double, and that shipments to Egypt are projected to reach 1.85 trillion gallons annually within a decade. He said that about half of the exports were projected to be utilized for Egypt's domestic economy and half will be liquefied to be re-exported.

**Israel set to revoke UNRWA permits for Jerusalem schools**

Israel will revoke permits issued to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency due to accusations that the organization incites terror against Israel. According to a Hadasht television news report on Jan. 19, Israel's National Security Council will revoke UNRWA's permits to operate schools for Arab residents in eastern Jerusalem. Currently, UNRWA operates seven schools with an estimated 3,000 students in the city. UNRWA will reportedly be allowed to continue running the schools for the remainder of the current school year. Starting with the upcoming school year, the schools will fall under the jurisdiction of Israel's Education Ministry and will be run by the Jerusalem municipality. UNRWA was initially established in 1949 to assist tens of thousands of Arab refugees following Israel's War of Independence. Palestinians are the only refugee population in the world supported by their own U.N. body. The decision was reportedly reached in December after U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the U.S. would cease funding the agency. The U.S. had been providing UNRWA with nearly \$300 million, about 30 percent of the organization's annual budget. Former Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat has called for UNRWA to be expelled from Israel's capital city due to accusations that it perpetuates conflict with Israel by inciting violence and perpetuating a refugee crisis, as opposed to improving life for the Arab residents living in Jerusalem for the past several decades. "UNRWA's treatment of residents as refugees is a barrier to their advancement and has no place," Barkat said in September. "The time has come to transform them from refugees to residents and to rehabilitate them. It is possible. The removal of UNRWA will reduce incitement and terrorism, improve service to the residents, increase Israelization in east[ern] Jerusalem and contribute to [Israeli] unity and sovereignty in Jerusalem."

**Gift . . . . . Continued from page 5**

While you may think that bone marrow donations are always a surgical procedure from the hip, today 80 percent of donors actually donate stem cells through the arm. They sit on a recliner chair with a needle in each arm. Blood is taken from one arm. It is then run through a cell-separating machine that spins the blood very fast, removes the stem cells and gives the blood back to the donor in their other arm.

The process takes about four hours. A donor can relax and watch a movie while they are undergoing the process, or talk to friend or spouse or whoever is with them, and when they are done, they go home. That's made it much easier for potential donors who might initially be fearful of the donation process. Our goal is to increase that awareness.

We've seen a significant upswing of people joining the registry each year, and we hope that will continue. (This year alone, 40,000 people were tested to be stem-cell donors.)

Q: What drives people to join a bone-marrow registry?

A: Just about everybody is motivated when there is a personal story connected to it. It's always the case when people see a flyer or get copied on an e-mail or a post on social media that there is an urgent appeal for someone who has leukemia who needs a transplant.

People may see a sign that says a bone-marrow drive is happening at a local synagogue or Jewish community center and they come get tested, but not nearly as much as if they hear about a specific little girl in their neighborhood who needs a bone-marrow transplant. Human-interest stories engage people. I don't think that will ever change.

**Jewish Community Center**

**Annual Breakfast Ball on Jan. 27**

The Jewish Community Center will host its annual Breakfast Ball on Sunday, January 27, at 10 am. Admission is \$5 per person, with a \$20 per family maximum. Reservations are appreciated and can be made with Marley Vavra at 724-2417, ext. 413, or by e-mail at MarleyV@binghamtonjcc.org.

The event is family oriented and open to the entire community. "Children and their families can come and eat breakfast with their favorite characters," said Vavra, the JCC Early Childhood Center administrative assistant and one of the event organizers. Several Disney, Marvel and DC characters will be in attendance, including Cinderella, Belle, Spiderman, Power Rangers and more. There will be formal photo opportunities for kids to take pictures with their favorite characters for a \$5 fee, benefitting the JCC ECC.

The breakfast will feature standard breakfast offerings. There will be other activities, such as music for dancing, coloring and a formal story time. "We wanted to host a fun event for children and their families to attend," said Vavra.

The contributions from the fund-raiser go to the JCC's Early Childhood Center. The ECC is a place that "provides a warm and caring environment where children explore, experiment, play, grow and learn to ask questions." Programming is offered for infants through age 5, including full-day daycare and preschool, half-day preschool, art and physical education classes, and Universal Pre-K-Kindergarten. "The proceeds go toward items needed in the classrooms that create an overall better environment for the children," said ECC Assistant Director Nichole Fuller. Proceeds from previous Breakfast Balls purchased items



The Power Rangers posed with children at last year's breakfast ball.

such as thermometers, cots and classroom manipulatives. For more information about the Breakfast Ball, ECC programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

**Realities. . . Continued from page 4**

can complete it. His job leaves him little time for anything except work – well, other than his periodic meetings with Emily and Eric, whom he met when learning his current trade. In his prior position as an imaginary friend, Guy fell in love with a woman who was also an imaginary friend. Unfortunately, something happened that separated the two and Guy mourns her loss so much that he can't imagine ever loving again. Fortunately, Guy does enjoy his current employment: "He always loved this warm sensation, which nearly permeated the bone, during the minute preceding an execution of a mission. It was the sensation that came from knowing he was about to reach out a finger and nudge the planet, or the heavens. The knowledge that he would be diverting things from their regular and familiar path, things that until a second ago were moving in a completely different direction. He was like a man painting great and complex landscapes, but without a brush and paint – simply with the precise and gentle turn of a big kaleidoscope."

It's difficult to write more about the plot without revealing its many delightful twists and turns. Adding to the fun are chapters that contain course material from the coincidence maker class, including "Classical Theories in Coincidence Making and Research Methods for Enhancing Causes and Effects" and "Methods for Defining Goals for Coincidence Making." The limitations placed on what each coincidence maker can do to make a coincidence happen create complicated tangles that force the makers to be at their creative best.

The ending of "The Coincidence Makers" was extremely clever. Although the book has a light tone, it may make readers ponder how coincidences – whether pure coincidence or arranged by someone – can change the course of their lives. However, as the novel also notes, the meaning of those coincidences are left for people to decide for themselves.

**Bar/Bat photos needed**

Can we have your mug? Kids mugging for the camera and formal photos, that is. For *The Reporter's* annual Bar/Bat Mitzvah issue (coming February 8), we need photos of all teens who became bar/bat mitzvah during the calendar year of 2018. We are looking for one of the teen by him/herself, as well as a photo of the celebration with family and friends.

Please mail or drop off these photos with identification – not written on the photos but on a separate piece of paper – including name, date and place of the bar/bat mitzvah ceremony. Please send them by Tuesday, January 29. Photos can be e-mailed, in TIF or JPG format, to TReporter@aol.com; please note in the subject line that a bar/bat photo for *The Reporter* is attached and include the necessary information in the message. Photos can also be dropped off Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-5 pm; and Friday 8:30 am-4 pm. Or they can be mailed to *The Reporter*, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

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Come eat breakfast with your favorite characters to help support the ECC!



Children are encouraged to dress like their favorite characters and will have the opportunity to get their picture taken with a character for a \$5.00 fee. *RSVP's appreciated.*

Please contact Marley at 724-2417 ext. 413 or email MarleyV@binghamtonjcc.org.



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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

From JNS.org

**Israel, U.S. successfully test Arrow-3 missile-defense system**

A little more than a day after Israel pounded Iranian targets in Syria in reprisals for a missile launched on the Golan Heights, Israel's Defense Ministry and the U.S. Missile Defense Agency successfully tested the Arrow-3 missile-defense system. The test, conducted in partnership between Israel Aerospace Industries and the Israeli Air Force, caused loud explosions near the Palmachim Air Base and was heralded as a success. The test run was in the works before Iran fired a medium-range missile at the Golan Heights on Jan. 20, which was intercepted by the Iron Dome missile-defense system. Israel responded by hitting multiple targets belonging to Iran in Syria. Arrow-3 contractors included the Israel Aerospace Industries MALAM division, Elbit Systems' Elisra division, IAI's TAMAM division, IMI and Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, as well as America's Boeing. Arrow-3, which is designed to intercept ballistic missiles from outer space, neutralizing them before they even enter Earth's atmosphere, is considered the most state-of-the-art interceptor and the only one that crashes into missiles, rather than detonating them with warheads. It will serve as the top of the multi-layer Israeli air-defense system, joining the ranks of Arrow-2, David's Sling and Iron Dome.

**Israel prepares for historic visit by Mali prime minister**

Prime Minister of Mali Soumeylou Boubèye Maïga is expected to visit Israel in the coming weeks, reported Israel's Channel 13 on Jan. 21. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met last year with Malian President Ibrahim Keita on the sidelines of a summit with West African leaders in Liberia, where the two agreed to seek "warm relations," according to a statement from the Prime Minister's office. Mali cut ties with Israel following the Yom Kippur War in 1973.

**Jihadists: killing of U.N. peacekeepers from Chad retribution for ties with Israel**

An attack by an Islamic terror group killed 10 U.N. peacekeepers from Chad and wounded at least 25 others in Mali on Jan. 20 in what the attackers said was a response to Chadian President Idriss Déby's renewed diplomatic relations with the Jewish state. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu arrived in Chad on Jan. 20, formally rebooting the diplomatic ties which had been severed in 1972. Assaults in armed vehicles from the Al-Qaeda-linked Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen group arrived at the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Mali and attacked. While peacekeepers succeeded in pushing the *jihadists* back, numerous casualties were reported. U.N. peacekeepers are present in Mali to ward off *jihadist* and separatist attacks, but have only proved to be moderately successful in recent years.

**Israel hits Iranian sites in Syria after missile launched at Golan Heights**

Just one day after Iranian fighter jets fired a surface-to-surface missile at the Golan Heights, Israeli warplanes launched a massive attack on numerous Iranian targets in Syria on Jan. 21. Among the locations hit were a site at the Damascus International Airport, munition storage facilities, an Iranian military training camp and an Iranian intelligence site, according to the Israel Defense Forces. These reprisals killed an estimated 11 pro-regime soldiers. According to the IDF, the sites belonged to the Iranian Quds Force, which conducts Iranian Revolutionary Guards operations abroad. Reports indicate that Israel also attacked Syrian defense batteries after pilots came under fire from anti-aircraft missiles during the strike. Russian Interfax news reported that Syrian military defenses warded off more than 30 Israeli cruise missiles and guided bombs. The attacks came after Israel's Iron Dome missile-defense system intercepted a missile aimed at the Golan Heights. The Mount Hermon ski attraction was closed for the day, with witnesses reporting that they could see the rocket enter Israeli skies, as well as its interception by Iron Dome.

**Gaza sewage, garbage causes suffering in southern Israeli communities**

Raw wastewater and sewage from Gaza is being pumped into southern Israeli streams, and garbage is being amassed along the Israeli border fence, causing an ecological nightmare and the suffering of residents near the border, according to a report in Ynet. The report stated that polluted sewage is being pumped from the Gaza cities of Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia into Nahal Hanun, which travels through Israel before emptying out into the Mediterranean Sea. In the process, Israeli groundwater is being polluted, and causing an invasion of mosquitoes and flies in the *moshavim* and *kibbutzim* adjacent to Gaza. Due to the difficult conditions, Israel's Water Authority has established a pumping station near the Erez border crossing and begun to purify the water. Gaza's government is responsible for the treatment of wastewater in the region, but the Hamas regime has deprioritized funding for basic infrastructure, opting instead to allow waste to be leaked into Israel and into the sea. Three giant landfills have also been set up by the Hamas government bordering the Eshkol Regional Council, causing the smell of trash to waft into the Jewish communities. Residents reported that the landfills are periodically lit on fire, causing the release of dangerous chemicals into the air.

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