

THE REPORTER

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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 723-5775 or visit www.theithaca.org.

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 tita-mmy@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.

New JLI course asks: Is our criminal justice system fair?

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 will debut this February.

Beginning on Monday, February 4, at 7

pm, for the evening section and Wednesday, February 6, at 9:30 am, for the morning section, participants in the course will challenge their thinking, ponder the implications of ancient talmudic wisdom for complex modern cases, and get to the heart of what some see as some of the most pressing injustices

facing the criminal justice system today.

“DNA testing is proving that we’ve been convicting innocent people. When we incarcerate first-time offenders, we’re turning them into hardened criminals. Known murderers are able to walk free on a technicality. How can we stand by and

remain silent to these serious flaws in our criminal justice system?” asked Rivkah Slonim, course instructor. “I believe the first step is for us, as a community, to acknowledge the issues and explore possible solutions. I cannot think of a more profound See “Justice” on page 3

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 un-

derstanding 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 to prepare enough food and materials for all participants.

JFS assisting with Community Needs Assessment survey

The Broome County Office for Aging is seeking the participation of local residents in the Community Needs Assessment survey that will be distributed throughout Broome County. Jewish Family Service has arranged for the paper survey to be available in the lobby of the Jewish Community

Center starting in February.

The purpose of this survey is to explore the needs of adults in the community. The information collected in this survey will help guide the community planning process and improve community features for people of all ages. Additionally, the outcomes of this

survey will be used for the Broome County Age Friendly Community process.

For additional information, contact JFS Director Roz Antoun at 724-2332 or rozjfs@stny.rr.com.

To call the Office for Aging directly, call 778-2411 or e-mail BCOFA@co.broome.ny.us.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

World Council of Churches trained 2,000 anti-Israel activists, funded by UNICEF

The World Council of Churches has sent nearly 2,000 participants to Israel, and Judea and Samaria, since 2002 to train them in anti-Israel narratives and assign them to communities worldwide, according to a report from NGO Monitor. With no similar program in other conflict zones, the WCC's Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (or EAPPI) consists of activists being sent to "witness life under occupation." "EAPPI misuse tourist visas to enter Israel, where the group has no legal status," according to NGO Monitor. "They are hosted in Jerusalem by a WCC affiliate, the Jerusalem Interchurch Center. Notably, the head of JIC, Yusuf Dahar, is one of the authors of the Kairos Palestine Document, which legitimizes terror, embraces anti-Jewish theology and rejects Jewish history. Similar views

have been expressed by a number of WCC officials." The NGO Monitor report also stated that EAPPI has been funded by UNICEF and countries such as the United Kingdom, Germany, Ireland, Switzerland, Finland, Denmark, Canada and Japan. Norway contributed nearly \$2 million between 2017 to 2019, while Sweden gave \$500,000 between 2017 and 2018. "We are sharing our research with the public and decision-makers as part of an informed discussion on EAPPI's agenda and funding. The research highlights EAPPI's radical agenda, which, rather than advancing or defending human rights, is a platform for conflict and antisemitism," said NGO Monitor founder and President Gerald Steinberg. "We have received numerous inquiries from Christian and Jewish groups calling attention to the central role played by EAPPI alumni in leading BDS and other delegitimization campaigns. ...By singling out Israel and using classical theological references, EAPPI is guilty of using the terms identified in the International Holocaust Remembrance Association's working definition of antisemitism. The WCC should instead adopt this definition, which has been adopted by a number of countries and parliaments."

Opinion

Agenda for 2019: Defend Jewish interests, not partisanship

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS) – The year 2018 will go down as one in which hyper-partisanship reached new heights in the United States. Those on one side of the partisan divide blame it all on U.S. President Donald Trump. His supporters blame it on the "resistance." But as the secular calendar year ends and a new one begins, it's time to think about the role many of us have played in worsening this situation.

The problem is not that Americans are divided on the issues. There's nothing new about that. The problem is that those disagreements have escalated beyond the normal contention that is, like it or not, part and parcel of life in a democracy. While most venerate the notion of compromise and pay tribute to gestures of bipartisanship, there is nothing wrong with sharp and even bitter disagreements in a free society.

But as we look back on the events of the past 12 months, among the most dangerous trends in Jewish life was the growing willingness of Jews to prioritize their partisan loyalties over those of their community.

I've written repeatedly about how some on the left have chosen to ignore the growing and increasingly loud instances of antisemitism on that end of the ideological spectrum. The willingness of some Jewish liberals to ignore the antisemitism that exists on the left is a disgrace. By that I refer to both the BDS movement, which is steeped in Jew-hatred, as well as the willingness of some to wink or excuse the blatant antisemitism of the leaders of the Women's March, the group that has organized the largest protests against Trump.

The danger here is that some Jews who wouldn't otherwise be caught dead in an alliance with open antisemites are so angered by Trump that they are willing to make common cause with anyone who shares that sentiment. So when a group like the National Council of Jewish Women isn't prepared to stop working with the Women's March – in spite of the fact that its most visible members are supporters of hatemonger Louis

Farrakhan, head of the Nation of Islam, and have reportedly been caught spreading his lies about Jews – that should scare you no matter where you stand on Trump.

The same criticism should apply to Jewish groups willing to embrace the two newcomers to the House of Representatives who are open supporters of BDS, Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) and Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), simply because of party affiliation.

But while Jewish conservatives have rightly chided liberals about this, we've recently learned that some of them are capable of making the exact same kind of error and for the same unacceptable reason: partisanship. The recent decision by Trump to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria showed that he is still a welter of contradictory impulses that can sometimes lead him to do the right thing (moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem, withdrawing from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal), but, as with Syria, can just as easily can impel to make a terrible mistake.

The move is good for ISIS (which has been badly beaten, but is by no means finished and can easily be revived by a George W. Bush-style "mission accomplished" blunder based in Trump's abhorrence for nation-building). It also is good for Iran (which saw the U.S. presence as an obstacle to its bid for regional hegemony); good for Turkey (which hopes to use this opportunity to wipe out the Kurds, who have been America's brave allies in the fight against ISIS); and very bad for Israel, which now finds itself more isolated just at the moment when its northern front has started to look even more dangerous.

The point here is not so much that Trump is wrong, but that too many of his Jewish supporters are so deeply immersed in the partisan battle against his opponents that they are unwilling to speak out against a policy that they wouldn't have hesitated to criticize if it was a Democrat ordering the pullout.

Many on the Jewish right have tied themselves in knots as they sought to justify the unjustifiable by claiming

that Trump's moves are good for Israel, even though the president resorting to his neo-isolationist tendencies on foreign policy is a potential disaster for the Jewish state.

That they have done so even after we've learned that the decision was preceded by a phone call with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan – pleasing him is the last thing those who support the interests of the United States or the Jewish state should want – is also discouraging.

Yet they've either kept silent or resorted to disingenuous and contradictory arguments that are as unpersuasive as they are embarrassing.

They, like their liberal co-religionists, are part of a political culture in which there is no middle ground, and in which every event or policy is evaluated solely through the prism of being pro- or anti-Trump. But just as it was wrong for some friends of Israel to oppose the president's laudable gesture on Jerusalem and his decision on the Iran deal simply because they despise him, so, too, is it dead wrong to give Trump a pass on Syria because you may have liked other things he's done.

This is particularly troubling because – unlike most Jewish liberals, who stick to the Democrats no matter they say or do about Israel – Jewish conservatives have shown themselves willing in the past to vote against Republicans who abandoned the Jewish state. If that is no longer true, then we have crossed a partisan Rubicon that bodes ill both for the American Jewish community and for Israel.

Partisanship distorted every debate and issue in American politics in 2018 and will probably only get worse in 2019. But it's not too late for Jews on both sides of the political aisle to step back from the brink, and return to prioritizing the defense of Israel and opposition to antisemitism over their political affiliations. If not, the values American Jews hold most dear will be the biggest loser.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor-in-chief of JNS – Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter at @jonathans_tobin.

In My Own Words

Saying thank you

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

It was one of those weird moments when something you've just read affects your reaction. It was Friday afternoon and I was exhausted, but had things to do before Shabbat. So it felt really unfair to see that the kitchen sink was draining way, way too slow. All I could think of was the list of things I still had to do and how this would add to it. Then I began to laugh as I remembered the book I had just finished: "Thanks a Thousand: A Gratitude Journey" by A. J. Jacobs.

The book's premise is that Jacobs, who is kind of a grouch, no longer wants to spend most of his time feeling irritated. Instead, he is trying to be appreciative of the good things in his life, so he decides to say thank you for them, for example, saying thank you when he drinks his morning cup of coffee. His son questions the idea because the people Jacobs is thanking can't hear him. Jacobs then decides to thank – in person, by phone or e-mail – 1,000 people connected to his morning cup of coffee. (To read

an interview of Jacobs and learn more about the book, see page 10 of the November 16 issue of *The Reporter* at www.thereporter.org/Resources/Website/file/Current-Past-Issues/bng1114.pdf.)

So that Friday afternoon, I stopped obsessing about the kitchen sink and reminded myself that we had running water in all the other sinks in the house. The problem was only a small thing that could be easily solved. The times we forget to be grateful, though, are when small things keep piling up and we feel there is no way to ever catch up. Remember the saying about the straw that broke the camel's back? Sometimes I feel that I am only one or two straws away from being unable to cope. If everything goes fine, then I'm OK. If too many things happen in a short period of time – from health issues to personal obligations – then it can be really hard to cope.

Unlike Jacobs, I already try to say thank you to people and compliment them on work well done. Even when people

work just for their paychecks, they can still take pride in their work and it's good to acknowledge when they do a good job or thank people for doing extra work. The same is true for personal relationships. Sometimes it's good to stop and celebrate the people for whom we care. Although a formal thank you isn't always necessary, don't you love it when someone takes the time to write a note or send a card to let you know they're thinking about you and care about how you feel?

In the grander scheme of things, with all the major problems in the world, this might not seem too important. Yet, it really is: caring for and thanking those close to us is a small kindness that can lead to big results. Those results become the base that makes it possible for us to work hard at our daily jobs and make the world a better place. They also help assure that we have a warm home and loving relationships to return to after our toils and troubles.



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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.

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www.thereporter.org

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.

Anthony Brindisi: A Democrat from New York not afraid to break with his party

By Jackson Richman

(JNS)—New York Democratic assemblyman Anthony Brindisi, 40, unseated incumbent Republican Rep. Claudia Tenney in the state's 22nd congressional district in the 2018 midterm elections.



Congressman Anthony Brindisi of New York's 22nd Congressional District. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Brindisi)

Brindisi broke with fellow Democrats and endorsed the United States moving its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem last May. "The capital of Israel is Jerusalem," he posted on Twitter. "And it is right, ripe and ready to host our American embassy. I fervently believe that a two-state solution is the best answer for regional democracy and peace. I'm engaged on this issue and committed to doing all I can to propel these beliefs."

Although not Jewish, Brindisi's brother-in-law is the director of the Jewish Community Center in Utica, NY. His niece and two nephews are also Jewish. JNS talked with Brindisi by phone. The interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

Q: You were one of a handful of Democrats who supported U.S. President Donald Trump's decision to relocate the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Why the break from your fellow Democrats?

A: For me, Israel has been one of, if not, America's closest allies in the Free World, and has been under attack by almost every other country in the Middle East. Israel

is the historic homeland of the Jewish people going back to biblical times. I feel it's important for the United States to recognize Jerusalem as their capital.

Q: What is your response to those who say that moving the embassy hinders the peace process?

A: I disagree. I certainly want to encourage a lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors, and I think peace is still possible even with the support from the administration on this move.

Q: What is your stance on the Iran deal and the overall Iranian threat?

A: I was not supportive of it before. As a member of the state assembly, I've supported a number of initiatives, such as the New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012 relating to investments in foreign states sponsoring terrorism. And I was not for the deal because I felt

that it simply wasn't long enough.

Q: Did you support the reimposition of sanctions?

A: I do.

Q: Do you think the current administration has been doing enough to counter the Iranian threat?

A: I think it remains to be seen. I want to make sure that the U.S. is doing everything it can. As a member of Congress, I will be well aware of the existential threat Iran and several of its proxy nations present to Israel. I

am committed to ensuring the best I can for Israel's safety.

Q: What is your stance on BDS?

A: I think it's antisemitic. I have supported legislation as a member of the Assembly, directing New York state entities to divest all public funds supporting the BDS campaign against Israel.

Q: What is your reaction to your fellow Democrat Ilhan Omar, who endorsed BDS shortly after getting elected?

A: I think every member is entitled to take whatever position they think appropriate on that. For me, I will continue to speak out against the BDS campaign.

Q: What is your position on funding Israel's military?

A: If I support the continued relationship and funding that we have had, I want to see a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and believe it is in the U.S.'s best interest to ensure that Israel remains safe from outside threats. Israel and the U.S. need to have each other's backs, as there are very few others in the world that either of us can depend on.

Q: Which interests do Israel and America share?

A: There's so many. Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, and we share and they share values practically identical to the U.S., whether it's the rule of law or freedom of the press or justice for all its citizens.

Q: You would say this funding is crucial especially in the aftermath of more than 450 rockets being fired from Hamas in Gaza into Israel, correct?

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Justice..... Continued from page 1

and interesting place to look for guidance than Judaism's wisdom of the ages."

Participants in the course will ponder foundational questions: What is the goal of criminal punishment – to gain retribution for the victim, to keep criminals off the streets and safeguard from future crime, to set an example and instill the fear of law, or to rehabilitate the criminal and reintroduce him to society? Should we consider testimonies given in exchange for a reduced sentence as reliable evidence?

The course will also address what some call society's most serious sentencing questions: Is life-without-parole a justifiable penalty? May we sentence a person to death? When would these options be warranted? Is there a better way?

"Crime and Consequence" is for people who care deeply about humanity, who are enraged at injustice and who are fascinated by real-life catch-22 scenarios," remarked Slonim. "Participants in the course will uncover the humanity within all people, including criminals, question judicial practices that seem unethical and unfair, and explore effective crime deterrents."

"It is a profound irony that the United States is a true beacon of democracy, freedom and the rule of law while it imprisons more of its own citizenry than any other country,"

wrote Professor Alan Dershowitz, professor emeritus at Harvard Law School, in his endorsement of the course. "'Crime and Consequence' ... brings rigorous legal analysis, statistical data on incarceration and rehabilitation, and case studies into a uniquely profound dialogue with the values undergirding our entire political tradition."

Scott Turow, attorney and author of "Presumed Innocent" and 13 other best-selling novels on criminal law, commented that this course "...shows that this is a subject that involves our oldest and most treasured ideas of right and wrong."

"Crime and Consequence" is accredited in New York state, and most other states, for attorneys and other law professionals to earn continuing education credits. Like all JLI programs, the course is designed for people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple or other house of worship.

Interested students may call 797-0015, write to rslonim@ChabadofBinghamton.com, or visit www.myJLI.com for registration.

The course will be held at the Chabad Center, 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal. The cost for the course, which includes the text book, is \$79, or \$140 for couples or multiple sign-ups.

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Breakfast Ball
Sunday, January 27 at 10am

**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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Off the Shelf

Other early Jewish texts

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Imagine a time when writing appeared in scrolls rather than in book format. Each of these scrolls contained one book. That meant that if one wanted to read Jewish religious writings, one had to decide which scrolls were holy and worth reading. During Second Temple times, there was still a debate about which books would be entered into the canon, especially since there was a wide variety of material circulating. In "Discovering Second Temple Literature: The Scriptures and Stories That Shaped Early Judaism" (The Jewish Publication Society), Malka Z. Simkovich, the Crown-Ryan Chair of Jewish Studies and director of Catholic-Jewish Studies at the Catholic Theological Union, discusses works from this time period that didn't make it into the traditional Jewish canon, but which give insights into the lives of Jews from the period.

Simkovich notes that, over the centuries, both Jews and Christians have generally ignored this literature, most of which didn't make it into either canon. Rabbinic writings speak as if nothing of importance appeared between the time when the book of Chronicles was written to the compilation of the Mishnah. The works featured reflect Jewish groups that did not support the followers of what was later called rabbinic Judaism; the books they produced were, therefore, ignored in rabbinic writings. These works show a Judaism that contains many different facets and ideas – not all of which were accepted by the ancient rabbis.

The four sections of "Discovering Second Temple Literature" focus on different aspects of this period. "The Modern Recovery of Second Temple Literature" speaks of the discoveries of scrolls from this time period, including

those found in the Cairo Genizah, Christian monasteries and caves near the Dead Sea. While this section offers new material for those unfamiliar with the recovery of these works, those interested in Jewish life during this period will find the other sections of greater interest. For example, in "Jewish Life in the Second Temple Period," Simkovich talks about life not only in Jerusalem, but in two other, if lesser known, centers of Jewish life: Alexandria and Antioch.

The history of Jerusalem – the war with Rome and the destruction of the Second Temple – may be familiar to many readers. Simkovich does an excellent job reviewing what occurred, which helps place the writings from that place and period in context. Jewish Alexandria is less well known because the ancient rabbis did not accept works from the city's writers into the Jewish canon. One reason may be that most of these texts were written in Greek and echo Greek works: for example, "in many of their writings, which range in genre from fictional adventure tales to scriptural interpretations, Jewish authors sought to demonstrate that their tradition and Greek culture were consonant with one another." The best known of these writers is Philo of Alexandria, who, according to Simkovich, "offers fascinating details about the Jews of his city, their internal organization of limited self-leadership, and their synagogues." While there were problems, this community thrived for almost four centuries.

Different Jewish sects are discussed in "The Worldviews of Second Temple Writers." Simkovich also speaks of those who did not belong to any sectarian group; she notes that these sectarian groups did not represent the majority of Jews.

This large group practiced "what scholars call Common Judaism, which comprised a common set of practices, including the regular reading of the scriptures, observance of the Sabbath, dietary laws, and circumcision." Simkovich suggests that the Pharisees became popular because they made Judaism accessible to the common people. It was they who believed "that one could worship the Jewish God through the study of scriptures and the observance of a set of laws outside of the Temple."

In the work's final section, "The Holy Texts of Second Temple Judaism," Simkovich explores the codification of the canon. She notes that during Second Temple time only the Chumash, the first five books of the Bible, were considered sacred scripture by all Jews. The discussions of works that translated and interpreted the biblical text, or which rewrote biblical stories, were accepted by some and discarded by others. Many of these books did not make the canon; it was fascinating to read about such works as the Greek Esther (in which God plays a major role in the story) and "Joseph and Aseneth" (a novella about the biblical Joseph and his wife).

While, in her introduction, Simkovich writes about how "Discovering Second Temple Literature" can be used in college and religious school courses, her clear, easy-to-read prose makes this book accessible to non-scholastic readers. For those unfamiliar with the many divisions within Judaism at that time or with Jewish life in other parts of the Roman Empire, this book offers an excellent introduction to a little-studied time period. Readers of Jewish history will definitely want to add this work to their shelves.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Junk-N-Java LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 3, 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: 136 East Service Road, Suite 301, 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: 2 Lane Xpress, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 4, 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 Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 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 UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Bone Creek Farm, 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: 231 Shaver Hill Road, Deposit, NY 13754.
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: Lucky 516, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 10, 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 Lucky 516, LLC, 516 Hooper Road, Endwell, NY 13760. 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: Brink Street, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was December 11, 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 Richard D. Lang, 430 Broome Corporate Parkway, Conklin, NY 13870. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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 Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: 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.

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

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 design. 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 design. 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.

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.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israel finds sixth Lebanon terror tunnel, announces completion of IDF operation

The Israel Defense Forces announced that following the discovery of a sixth cross-border attack tunnel between Lebanon and Israel, it has completed "Operation Northern Shield," defined as a comprehensive scan of Israel's northern border aimed at finding and neutralizing terror tunnels. "With the discovery of this terror tunnel, the effort to locate the passages dug by Hezbollah that crossed the border into Israeli territory has been completed. The neutralization of this passage will be finished in the coming days," the army said in a statement the week of Jan. 14. Army spokesman Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus told reporters that Israeli intelligence and analysis have confirmed that no more attack tunnels exist along Israel's northern border. "Operation Northern Shield" was launched on Dec. 4, with the IDF finding six tunnels burrowing from Lebanon into sovereign Israeli territory. Additional partial tunnels that have not yet reached Israel are also under Israeli surveillance. The IDF stated that Hezbollah has halted construction on those tunnels since the operation began. The sixth tunnel – originating in the Lebanese village of Ramyeh from which another tunnel also emanated – was found to penetrate several dozen meters into Israel and extend 2,600 feet at a depth of 180 feet underground. It was outfitted with electricity, a rail system to move equipment, exit stairs and other sophisticated elements. Israel has said that it believes the tunnels were dug by Hezbollah to add a surprise element to any future wars with Israel, allowing terrorists to invade the Jewish state en masse and launch operations on the ground. The construction of the tunnels has taken place despite the presence of many of the 10,480 military personnel and 822 civilian staff employed by UNIFIL (the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon), an international body mandated to ensure peace and security along the Israeli-Lebanese border, with a budget upwards of \$450 million a year. UNIFIL announced that it had stepped up patrols since the tunnels were discovered. Included in Israel's response has been the building of a large border wall between Israel and Lebanon, which Lebanon's Foreign Ministry is decrying as a violation of a U.N. Security Council resolution ending the 2006 Second Lebanon War.

New York Times editor falsifies Pew Research; newspaper "stands by" errors

The media watchdog CAMERA took aim at *The New York Times* the week of Jan. 13 after the newspaper falsified Pew research in a news analysis alleging a "great schism" between American and Israeli Jewish populations. Written by the paper's deputy Washington editor, Jonathan Weisman, the *Times* article claims that Israeli and American Jews "see the world in starkly different ways," and suggests that "neither side sees the other as caring for its basic

well-being." "It's a sweeping hypothesis," says Gilead Ini, a veteran media analyst at CAMERA. "And yet his analysis doesn't offer a single statistic to directly substantiate his claim." Ini says that the *TIMES* editor did cite some polling numbers from the Pew Research Center, "but they are flatly misreported." Weisman claimed that "69 percent of Israelis have a positive view of the United States under Mr. [Donald] Trump, up from 49 percent in 2015, according to the Pew Research Center." But according to Pew's 2018 survey, 83 percent of Israelis had a positive view of the U.S. in 2018, the second year of Trump's presidency, not 69 percent. This is compared to 81 percent in 2015 when Barak Obama was in office – and not, as Weisman reported, 49 percent. In an e-mail to CAMERA, the Pew Research Center reaffirmed that "83% of Israelis have a favorable view of the U.S." Pew added: "The 69% data point is specifically 'confidence in the U.S. president to do the right think regarding world affairs.'" "Weisman seems to want to argue that Israelis are essentially Republicans while American Jews are Democrats," says Ini. "But in 2015, while President [Barack] Obama was in office, the last Pew survey shows virtually identical numbers in Israeli support for the United States. And a year before that, 84 percent of Israelis felt favorably about their closest ally." Ini says that the Pew data "seems to show that Israelis have a favorable opinion of the United States, whether it's governed by a Republican or a Democrat." In addition to the polling error, Weisman claimed that Israel's chief Ashkenazi rabbi "refused" to use the word "synagogue" when talking about Pittsburgh's Tree of Life*Or L'Simcha Synagogue after it was attacked by an antisemitic gunman last October. As a correction by JTA makes clear, the rabbi did in fact use the word "synagogue" when referring to Tree of Life. Ini brought the errors to the attention of *New York Times* editors. They indicated that they stand by and won't correct Weisman's falsehoods.

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.

Tax & Financial Planning

One new year's resolution you don't have to keep

(NewsUSA) – Looking for a resolution that can literally pay off even if you wind up *not* keeping it? Think your finances.

That's right, unlike the gazillions of other New Year's pledges we make this time of year only to soon break – can you spell D-I-E-T? – simply vowing to handle fiscal matters better can have "a positive impact" on your bottom line.

That's one of the findings from Fidelity Investments' eighth annual "New Year Financial Resolutions Study," and it's based on stats like these comparing respondents who said they'd made financial resolutions at the start of 2016 to those who hadn't:

- ◆ Resolvers beat non-resolvers when it came to ending 2016 more debt-free than the previous year (45 percent vs. 34 percent).
- ◆ They also now feel more "financially secure" (45 percent vs. 34 percent).

◆ And they also feel more optimistic about their finances looking ahead to 2017 (52 percent vs. 37 percent).

And those who actually did follow through on their resolutions? Sixty-six percent said they're now "in a better" financial situation.

"The fact is, people who make resolutions on money matters tend to feel better about the state of their finances, which helps them stay engaged and make progress toward their goals," says Ken Hevert, Fidelity's senior vice president of retirement.

"Whether it's a new roof for your home or a medical emergency, the unexpected can throw your finances for a loop," notes Hevert. "In fact, for those whose resolutions fell short in 2016, almost three-quarters said they were derailed by unforeseen expenses, so setting aside an emergency fund can create a buffer."

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Weekly Parasha

Beshalach, Exodus 13:17-17:16

Building trust

RABBI MARLEY WEINER, HILLEL AT BINGHAMTON

In this week's Torah portion, the children of Israel finally get what they have been calling out for. They are led out of Egypt and toward a proper and ongoing relationship with God. At the Sea of Reeds, we see the children of Israel worship God together as a people for the first time. And the song that they sing, the Song of the Sea, remains in our liturgy to this day. In this song, they describe God as a Man of War, capable of overcoming any obstacle.

And yet, not even a weekly *parasha* later, they change their tune dramatically. When they arrive at the desert of Sin, they weep, grumble and say that it would have been better for God to have killed them in Egypt rather than bring them out into the desert where food is sometimes scarce, and where they need to rely on God's kindness to bring them through unscathed. This sets up a recurring

theme of the rest of the Torah, in which the Jewish people witness miracles and then turn around and express their deep mistrust in God and God's ability to sustain them.

Trust is not easy. Trust after centuries of silence on God's part is almost impossible, and we see that God needs to prove to the people, time and time again, that a relationship is being established. And so, God starts to give. God protects the children of Israel from pharaoh's forces, gives them mana and assists them in fighting the Amalekites. This is the beginning of the foundation of the covenant.

One of my favorite writers on trust and vulnerability is Brene Brown. And she teaches that trust is not founded on one miraculous moment where someone pulls through for you when you are in need. Rather, trust is founded on showing up again and again and again, giving small and

great gestures over time. She compares it to a "marble jar," where you constantly deposit small acts of kindness and intimacy, and then it is possible to trust someone with the big things. And, as the people begin to enter into this covenant with God, God makes several deposits, in the form of splitting the sea, mana and military victory, to help the people to begin to learn to trust in God.

Indeed, Rashi explains, that when the children of Israel describe God as a Man of War, he claims that it is a term of intimacy, similar to a woman calling her husband "her man." Through salvation, through God giving to us, we are able to build a relationship of vulnerability and intimacy.

In the Pesikta d'Rav Kahana, we learn that God shows up over and over, giving the Jewish people what they need. See "Trust" on page 8

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: Tues., 5:30 pm; Fri., 5:30 pm; Sat., 9:30 am

On Friday, January 18, at 5:30 pm, there will be a Kabbalat Shabbat pot luck dinner. RSVP to the office.

On Saturday, January 19, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 13:17-17:16. The haftarah will be Judges 4:4-5:31. Nellie Roth and Howard Warner will sponsor the kiddush following services.

On Sunday, January 20, at 4-5 pm, there will be an "Introduction to Mussar" program.

On Monday, January 21, the temple office will be closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

On Tuesday, January 22, at 7 pm, there will be a Board of Trustees meeting.

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

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.

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.Chabadofbinghamton.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.

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 Friday, January 18, at 8 pm, a Sisterhood Shabbat will celebrate the 101st anniversary of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. An oneg Shabbat will follow services.

On Saturday, January 19, at 10 am, Sisterhood Shabbat will continue. A kiddush luncheon will follow services.

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 18, at 6:30 pm, there will be a Shabbat BYO Picnic Dinner celebrating Tu B'Shevat - The New Year for the Trees; at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell. The oneg will be hosted by Walt Selan.

On Saturday, January 19, 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 with February birthday blessings.

On Sunday, January 20, from 2-4 pm, there will be Confirmation class.

On Tuesday, January 22, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew school.

On Thursday, January 24, 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, 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 Education brunch.

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 18, light candles 4:42 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, January 19 5:44 pm

Friday, January 25, light candles 4:51 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, January 26 5:52 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. 18 4:45 pm
 Shabbat, Jan. 19 9 am

..... Mincha after the kiddush
 Maariv 6:05 pm

Weekday Services:

Mornings:
 Sun., Jan. 20 8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., Jan. 21-25 7 am

Evenings:
 Sun., Jan. 20 4:50 pm
 Mon.-Thurs., Jan. 21-24 7 pm

Fri., Jan. 25 4:55 pm

Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

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.

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.

Jewish Community Center

JCC to hold Wine and Paint Night on Jan. 19

The Jewish Community Center of Binghamton will be holding an adult Wine and Paint class on Saturday, January 19, at 7 pm. The cost is \$30 for JCC members and \$40 for non-members. The entire community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The class, run by JCC youth director and licensed art educator Lynette Errante, is an opportunity for any adult to complete their own painting, guided by art teachers. Canvases, all paint and brushes, wine and light refreshments will be provided for the event.

Adults of all skill levels are welcome to attend and will receive guidance from two art instructors. Those who plan to attend must pre-register and prepay at the JCC main office to ensure space. All proceeds from the class will go to benefit Camp JCC programming and scholarships.

For more information about the Wine and Paint Night, JCC Youth Programming, Camp JCC, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

At right: Participants in the 2018 Wine and Paint Night.



Annual Breakfast Ball at the JCC 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.



L-r: Captain America, Spiderman, Iron Man, Bat Girl and Batman were among the guests at the 2018 Breakfast Ball.

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 chil-

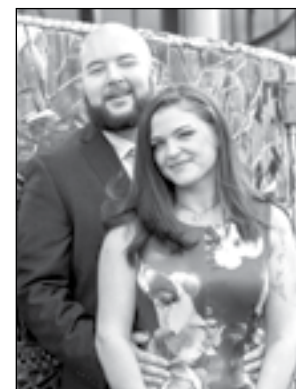
dren explore, experiment, play, grow and learn to ask questions." Programming is offered for infants through age 5, including full-day daycare and preschool, half-day preschool, art and physical education classes, and Universal Pre-Kindergarten. "The proceeds go toward items needed in the classrooms that create an overall better environment for the children," said ECC Assistant Director Nichole Fuller. Proceeds from previous Breakfast Balls purchased items 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.

JCC Yearbook correction

In the 2018 Jewish Community Yearbook of Broome County, the photo of Zachary Krigstein and Miranda Rieman was mistakenly placed in the Engagement section rather than the Wedding section.

At right: Zachary Krigstein and Miranda Rieman



JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club met on January 9 and saw the end of the movie "Babe." The story ended when Babe spoke to the sheep and they walked slowly out of the pen into the field in double file. There were other things going on in the farm house. In one scene there are wild dogs attacking the sheep in the field. Babe hears the noise and saves the sheep by running into each dog and knocking him over. The dogs run away and you see Babe standing next to a sheep who is bleeding and then dies. The farmer comes and thinks that Babe did it. He looks very sad and is going to shoot the pig. Before he shoots, his wife comes out of the house and tells him that a neighboring farm lost six sheep the day before because of wild dogs. The end of the movie shows the farmer entering the pig in a dog contest to round up sheep. When the pig enters the field everybody begins laughing. I won't tell you how Babe came to win first prize. You will have to see the movie.

The meeting was called to order by Sylvia Diamond. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Ann Brilliant said the blessing over the cookies. While Bruce and the JCC men tried to get the equipment to work we had refreshments. A big note of thanks goes to Bruce for showing the movie.

We discussed future programs. On January 16, we plan to go out for lunch at a local restaurant. Snow is being predicted for that day so it is questionable. On January 23, we will hear the piano playing of Phil Cali. On January 30, we will hear a book review and in February we will see the movie "Yentl." Everyone knows that the best laid plans of mice and men go oft astray, so call the JCC at 724-2417 if you are planning to join us to make sure we will be there on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.

Sylvia Diamond
President

Brindisi

A: Absolutely. Israel has to be on constant preparation for possible security breaches in both the north and south all the time. I visited Israel a couple years ago and saw first-hand the remnants of thousands of rockets that have been launched into the country. That's a constant threat people in Israel have to deal with.

Q: Can you elaborate on your trip to Israel a couple years ago?

A: I was there as part of a delegation from the New York State Assembly. We visited Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, the Gaza border, the Dead Sea and many of Israel's sacred and holy sites. I had a chance to speak to dozens of Israeli citizens throughout the country; I talked to businesspeople, health care workers, farmers, local and national leaders, military officials and many of the leading economists.

Q: Did you also visit the Palestinian areas?

A: I did. I visited Bethlehem. Got a chance to talk to Palestinians. The one thing I walked away from that trip, talking to both Israelis and Palestinians, is that they wanted peace. I'm committed to doing everything I can as a member of Congress to ensure a lasting peace.

Q: Speaking of Palestinians, what is your stance on American funding for the Palestinian Authority?

A: I would not support any funding that go toward rewarding terrorists who want to do harm to Israel. If the funding is for humanitarian purposes, I certainly can consider that. I want to learn more about what that funding is used for, but I would certainly not support any funding that's directed toward sustained terrorism activities.

Q: If funding were to go toward humanitarian purposes, would there be the concern that it could actually fall into the hands of the P.A., and go toward terrorists and their families?

A: I think that's always a concern. If that's the case, then I would not support funding.

Q: What's your reaction to antisemitism in the United

Continued from page 3

States and worldwide, especially in the United Kingdom with the rise of Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn?

A: It's something we need to be very aware of. I know here in New York state we've seen a 90 percent increase in antisemitic activities, whether it's swastikas on college campuses or defacing of Jewish grave sites. I'll do everything I can as a member of Congress to speak out against antisemitic activities in the U.S. and throughout the world.

I did support funding as a member of the State Assembly here in New York that would increase financial support to law enforcement in the state to deal with hate crimes, and specifically, those hate crimes which are antisemitic in nature.

Q: Are you familiar with the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program?

A: I am very well aware of it.

Q: Any institution that gets funding from the program can only use it toward security equipment, but not for security personnel. In Congress, would you try to change the appropriations instructions?

A: I would. I would also want to ensure that smaller institutions, like those in the 22nd district of New York, would also be able to have access to that funding.

Q: Would you support the Anti-Semitism Awareness Act that would require the Department of Education to adopt the State Department's definition of antisemitism in evaluating such incidents on college campuses and at other educational institutions?

A: I'm not familiar with the legislation, but I certainly would want to take a look at it. Seems like something I would support.

Q: Are there any other pieces of legislation you would introduce related to the U.S.-Israel relationship?

A: Not at this point, but I certainly have an open mind and want to do everything I can to make sure that we continue strong U.S.-Israel relations going forward.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Palestinians to lead U.N.'s largest bloc of nations

The Palestinians are set to lead the largest bloc of members in the United Nations, known as the Group of 77 (or G77) and China, on Jan. 15. Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas was expected to be in New York for the ceremony, followed by a meeting with U.N. Secretary General António Guterres, U.N. Security Council President Francisco Antonio Cortorreal of the Dominican Republic, in addition to other world leaders. Because the Palestinians have the status of a non-member state at the United Nations that would have made them ineligible for the chairmanship of the bloc without a special vote, the U.N. General Assembly held one last October to temporarily elevate the Palestinians' status at the world body to resolve the issue. The G77 was established in 1964 and seeks "to articulate and promote their collective economic interests and enhance their joint negotiating capacity on all major international economic issues within the United Nations system, and promote South-South cooperation for development," according to its website. "This is an important historical event added to the political achievements of the state of Palestine since it joined the U.N. as an observer state in 2012. It is also an important achievement to assert the Palestinian identity in the international community, which colonial powers have tried to abolish over many centuries." Presidential spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh told Palestinian Wafa news agency on Jan. 14.

IDF asked to move Iron Dome to save endangered flower

Residents of Israeli communities close to the Gaza border have approached the GOC Southern Command to request that Iron Dome missile-defense systems in the area be relocated in order to protect a delicate endangered flower that lives in the area. According to a report in Ynet, residents told Maj. Gen. Herzl Halevi and Israel Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Amikam Norkin that "we are grateful for and appreciate your work, and there is no need to explain how meaningful your presence here is for us and for our sense of security. But we feel it's fundamental that we work together to preserve the surrounding sites of nature." The flower in question is the Iris Mariae, otherwise known as the "Negev Iris," which residents say is at risk due to the increased number of troops, and the size and power of the machinery. Military authorities replied that their positions were decided in coordination with regional councils, the Nature and Park Authority, and the Jewish National Fund, but that they would acquiesce to the request and move the Iron Dome systems to alternative locations, again in consultation with all the authorities.

Arabs demonstrate against new P.A. social security law

Palestinians have been protesting against the passage of a relatively new social security law by the Palestinian Authority. According to a report by *The Jerusalem Post*, thousands of demonstrators gathered in Ramallah on Jan. 9 – with smaller rallies in Shechem/Nablus, Hebron, Bethlehem and Jenin – to express their outrage over a three-month-old law establishing a social security fund without a legislative process and a lack of certainty as to whether the funds would be secure, given the questionable future of the leadership of the Palestinian Authority. The National Social Security Movement was quoted by The Media Line as saying the measure was taken against the will of the people, and that "given the ongoing political and economic instability, social security is the last thing the Palestinian people need." Israeli social security taxes are currently collected by Israel's labor union, the Histadrut, but the P.A. has recently requested the funds be remitted to it. A recent demonstration at the Qalandiya checkpoint by Palestinians who work in Israel urged Israel not to transfer the money to the Palestinian Authority, due to their concern that the workers would not get the monies back.

Trust.Continued from page 6

in both good moments and bad. God is a Man of War at the sea, when the Jewish people need military might. God is a scribe and teacher at Mt. Sinai, teaching the people the law. And God is a wise old man in the time of Daniel, providing wisdom and support when the Jewish people are being suppressed and an open display of might is unwise.

In many Torah portions, the lesson comes from the behavior of people, of Moses, of Aaron, of our patriarchs and matriarchs. But this week, I think the lesson comes from God's own self. God teaches us this week what it looks like to rebuild trust. After centuries of bitter slavery in Egypt, God's "marble jar" with the Israelite people is very low, almost empty. The people are ready to bolt back to Egypt at the first sign of discomfort. And so God begins to save. And God begins to work miracles. And God understands that establishing trust takes time. And so God shows up for the Israelite people in the ways that they need it most. Saving, teaching, offering support both material and spiritual. God plays that long game of acceptance and love, and we end up with a covenantal relationship that, for all its ups and downs, has lasted to today.

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