

THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

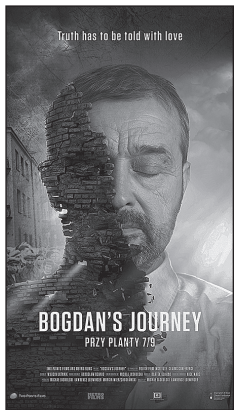
March 1-7, 2019
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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Cornell Jewish Studies announces spring community events

The Cornell Jewish Studies Program announced its spring 2019 line-up of events. As always, admission for all of these events is free and faculty, students and community members are all invited.

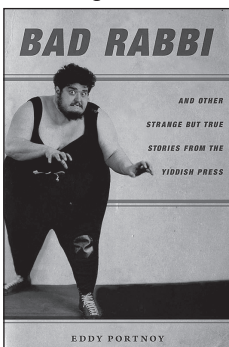
On Monday, March 4, film director Lawrence Loewinger will be present for the Ithaca premiere of his Polish award winning film "Bogdan's Journey." Kielce, Poland, was the site of Europe's last Jewish pogrom – in 1946. Bogdan, a Catholic Pole determined to heal a historical wound, launches a campaign in the 1990s to reconcile Poles and Jews in the aftermath of that pogrom. Over time, with great effort, he persuades the



"Bogdan's Journey" movie poster

people of Kielce to confront its painful history. The screening will be held at Cornell's Willard Straight Theater at 7 pm.

On Monday, March 11, at 4:30 pm, in 142 Goldwin Smith Hall, Cornell University, author and academic advisor at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research Eddy Portnoy will discuss his book "Bad Rabbi: And Other Strange but True Stories from the Yiddish Press."



The cover of "Bad Rabbi"

An underground history of downwardly mobile Jews, "Bad Rabbi" exposes the seamy underbelly of pre-World War II New York and Warsaw, the two major centers of Yiddish culture in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. With true stories plucked from the pages of the Yiddish papers, Portnoy

introduces drunks, thieves, murderers, wrestlers, poets and beauty queens whose misadventures were immortalized in print. (Read *The Reporter's* review at <http://thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4881>.)

On Monday, April 15, at 4:15 pm, in 132 Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University, Jodi Magness, professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will give a talk on "More than Just Mosaics: The Ancient Synagogue at Huqoq in Israel's Galilee." Since 2011, Magness has been directing excavations in the ancient village of Huqoq in Israel's Galilee. The excavations have brought to light the remains of a monumental late Roman (fifth century) synagogue building paved with stunning and unique mosaics, including biblical scenes and



Jodi Magness

the first non-biblical story ever discovered decorating an ancient synagogue. In this slide-illustrated lecture, Magness describes these finds, including the discoveries made in last summer's season. For more information visit www.huqoq.org.

The final event of the year will be held on Tuesday, April 30, at 4:30 pm, in 132 Goldwin Smith Hall, Cornell University. Jonathan Karp, professor at Binghamton University State University of New York will speak about "Over-represented Minorities? Some Peculiar Parallels between Asians and Jews in the Modern U.S."



Jonathan Karp

More information is available on the Cornell Jewish Studies Program's website, jewishstudies.cornell.edu.

TI/TC adult ed. program on "Italian Jews" on March 10

On Sunday, March 10, at 10 am, at Temple Concord, Howard Warner and Edward (Ted) Major will give a joint presentation on "Italian Jews." This is a brunch program of the joint Temple Israel/Temple Concord Adult Education Committee.

Major was born in Italy and emigrated, as a child with his parents, to America in 1941. They departed from Lisbon, then traveled to Havana and finally landed in New York City aboard the Hong Kong owned Megallanes. His family eventually settled in Binghamton. He has worked in the private practice of psychiatry since 1970. He will discuss his biography, including his

family's escape from Fascist Italy and the lineage of Italian Jews.

Warner grew up in East Flatbush, Brooklyn and graduated from Stuyvesant High School and Washington University before obtaining his dental degree at New York University. He practiced in Bainbridge, Greene and the East Side of Binghamton before establishing his present practice in Kirkwood. He has been active in the local dental society. He has been on the Temple Israel board for many years and is



Ted Major

a past president, and has served on the Jewish Federation board and is its past president.

During November 2017, Warner and his wife traveled through Italy accompanied by their daughter, who was studying Italian architecture for the semester. They traveled through Rome, Venice and Florence with visits to synagogues in Venice and the Great Synagogues of Rome and Florence, in addition to seeing Roman antiquities and the Vatican. He will discuss a history of Italian Jewry over the past two millennia, including the rise of the ghetto and the effect of Italian unification in the 19th century on its Jews, to the present.

There is a charge of \$5 to cover the brunch, which can be paid at the door, or in advance at Temple Concord. Reservations



Howard Warner and his daughter, Shelly, during their trip to Italy.

are requested, but not mandatory, and can be made at Temple Concord by phone at 723-7355 or via e-mail at templeconcordaa@gmail.com.

Israel Fellow at BU to speak at BD luncheon

What is the Campus Israel Fellows Program? What are Bearcats for Israel? What is the Israel with Israelis Program about? What is Taglit-Birthright Israel? These and many other questions will be answered by Bar Darchi on Saturday, March 9, at Beth David Synagogue's Luncheon Speaker Series. Currently in her second year as the Binghamton University Israel Fellow, Darchi will talk about the program's goals and what motivated her to become involved in it. A native of Israel, Darchi served as a marksman instructor in the Israeli Air Force from 2010-12. In 2017, she graduated from Ben Gurion University, majoring in Middle East studies



Bar Darchi

and Israel studies. While at Ben Gurion University, Darchi also completed a one-year fellowship with StandWithUs. "Many people often ask me what an Israel Fellow does," says Darchi, "and I am always delighted to describe what we do to increase college students' awareness of the strong connections they can forge with Israel, its culture, and its people."

Darchi will discuss the variety of programs that she initiates and promotes with Hillel at Binghamton University. "Many times," Darchi says, "I am the first Israeli that students have ever encountered. Bringing Israel to campuses has been the most See "Fellow" on page 7

"Antisemitism in Europe" film in Ithaca on March 7

More than 1,600 antisemitic incidents were documented in Germany last year. Thousands of Jews have fled France due to a 74 percent rise in antisemitism. What is happening in Europe? The Ithaca Coalition for Unity and Cooperation in the Middle East will explore this question in the second film in its "Antisemitism around the World" series, on Thursday, March 7. The film, "Antisemitism in Europe," will be followed by a community discussion. The event will take place at Cinemapolis, 120 E. Green St., Ithaca,

at 7 pm, and is free.

ICUCME is a grass-roots anti-racist community organization working to bring a constructive approach into dialogue about Israel and the greater Middle East. As a non-partisan organization, ICUCME seeks to embrace fact-based, respectful dialogue, mutual recognition and cooperation to promote understanding and support peace in the region.

Admission to all events in the series is free. For more information about ICUCME, see <https://icu-cme.org>.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Assad meets Khamenei in first Iran visit in eight years

Syrian President Bashar Assad visited Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Feb. 25 in Iran, his first trip to the country since the beginning of the Syrian conflict and genocide eight years ago, according to Syrian state television. The report displayed footage of the former meeting with the latter and said that the two allies agreed “to continue cooperation at all levels for the interests of the two friendly nations.” “The Islamic Republic of Iran sees

helping Syria’s government and nation as support for the resistance movement [against Israel] and is deeply proud of doing it,” said Khamenei, reported Iranian TV.

On social media, Zarif resigns as Iranian foreign minister

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif has resigned via social media, according to multiple news reports. The reasons for the resignation are currently unknown. Zarif negotiated the 2015 Iran nuclear deal on the Islamic Republic’s behalf. Whether his resignation will be accepted by Iranian President Hassan Rouhani remains to be seen.

Opinion

Trump’s dangerous diplomatic gambit

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS)—The recent Warsaw summit was supposed to be about rallying the world against the threat that Iran poses to international peace. But given the complete lack of interest on the part of either America’s Western European allies or the Russians in reconsidering the disastrous nuclear deal that empowered and enriched Tehran, that was never going to work.

But the United States is also reportedly hoping to use the gathering to help set the stage for a renewed effort to broker peace between Israel and the Palestinians that the administration has been preparing for the last two years. The problem with that approach is that Trump or presidential adviser/son-in-law Jared Kushner have grasped one element of the region that eluded their predecessors, though they still don’t understand the intractable nature of the conflict.

The conceit of the still secret Kushner plan, which will reportedly be formally rolled out after Israel’s April elections, is the notion that Arab nations are far more interested in resisting Iran than in any further tension with Israel. That basic assumption is correct, as Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan and the rest of the Sunni world are sick to death of being dragged into a crisis by a Palestinian leadership that has no intention of ever making peace with Israel or accepting a two-state solution.

It is also true that, thanks to Iran, these same nations have found themselves in a far closer embrace with Israel than anyone would have expected a decade ago. The Obama administration’s policy of allowing Syria to descend into chaos, which was exploited by both Russia and Iran, threatened the security of the entire region. Even worse, Obama’s appeasement of Iran made the Arab states think that the United States was abandoning them.

At that point, under-the-table relations between most of the Arab world and Israel shifted to the point where most of these nations no longer even bothered to pretend that they were hostile to the Jewish state or cared much about

the Palestinians. Egypt and Israel moved from a cold peace to a warm alliance, at least as far as the two governments were concerned. And the Saudis, who were once a bastion of religious-based hate against Israel, shifted into a stance in which the two nations not only secretly cooperated on security, but where its de facto leader, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, has endorsed the Jewish state’s right to exist.

This was something that frustrated Obama, who had no more patience for Arab concerns about his reckless embrace of Iran than he had for Israel’s justified fears.

But it was something that Trump and his foreign-policy team understood because of their own rejection of the nuclear deal. Trump’s instincts on Iran have been correct, and despite the chorus of foreign-policy establishment critics predicting doom, the administration’s re-imposition of sanctions on Iran has put Tehran in a bind from which its feckless European trading partners can’t save it.

But the belief that this creates an environment in which an Israeli-Palestinian deal is possible is unrealistic. What’s more, by pushing to move relations between Israel and its Arab partners completely into the open, Washington may now be sabotaging their efforts against Iran.

The notion that Arab money and influence – even the enormous resources and prestige of the Saudis – could force the Palestinians to do something they have spent the last century refusing to do was always fanciful. As the Palestinian Authority has made clear in the last two years, it has no interest in a deal brokered by Trump because it rightly understands that he is not prepared to indulge their fantasies about isolating Israel or forcing disastrous concessions in the way that Obama did.

The Palestinians still want the West to impose a deal on Israel that would undermine its security and rights. And they want to achieve that without recognizing the legitimacy of a Jewish state, no matter where its borders are drawn, or to force the disarmament of Hamas. Since their political culture remains stuck in the same mindset of a 100-year-old war on Zionism

that their leaders haven’t the courage or the will to renounce, no amount of Gulf state cash or pressure will change this.

Much of the Arab world would probably be content to let the status quo continue. But by pushing them to take their close relations with Israel out into the open, Trump is making a mistake. As much as these countries fear Iran and have zero interest in a conflict with Israel, their leaders also know that such a stand is deeply unpopular among their populations, who have been influenced by the rising tide of antisemitism that has swept through the Arab and Muslim world in recent years, which has only further inflamed longstanding hatreds against Jews.

Though the Saudi crown prince wants to change his country and has little sympathy for the Palestinians, even he knows that his government’s status as guardian of the Muslim holy places will be endangered by appearing to be too close to the Jews or by failing to pay lip service to outrageous Palestinian demands. And whatever leeway he might have had has been undermined by the world’s outrage about his regime’s murder of *Washington Post* journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Pushing the Arab states to openly embrace Israel weakens their resolve against Iran. To do so on behalf of a peace plan that everybody already knows is dead on arrival because of Palestinian intransigence makes no sense.

Perhaps Trump is still too besotted with the notion of being the man who cuts the Gordian Knot of Middle East peace with a “deal of century” to see that Kushner’s efforts are a waste of time. But if the president doesn’t want to undermine his much-needed push on Iran, then he needs to back down on the Israel-Palestinian front. The key for success in Warsaw must be to resist the temptation for public diplomacy in the Middle East when the interests of the United States and regional stability call for letting some relationships remain under wraps.

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

In My Own Words

And then blame the Jews

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Is it just me or does every protest – whether on the left or the right – seem to end with someone blaming the Jews for [fill in the blank with any of the many complaints]? An article popped up in my e-mail recently about the Yellow Vest protests in France that have resulted in antisemitic acts. Since I was unfamiliar with the movement, I looked up several articles online from reputable sources to learn more. According to the material I read, the movement began as a protest of French President Emmanuel Macron’s fuel-tax increase. It then added demands that the government reinstate France’s wealth tax and find ways to help the working class. Those demands don’t seem unreasonable, so the question becomes, how did a movement with a worthwhile idea turn antisemitic? At least one article claimed that extremists were running the movement. However, it also said that tens of thousands of people attended the protests across the country, so the movement sounds far more mainstream than the article suggested.

Unfortunately, they are not the only ones who blame the Jews for their problems. The same thing occurs all too often in the United States – on the right and the left. In 2017, white nationalists marched in Charleston, VA, chanting, “Jews shall

not replace us.” The strange part is that the chant was originally “you shall not replace us” – meaning that white people and white culture are under attack from people of color (an absurd and racist idea). What’s weird, though, is that those chanting soon replaced the word “you” with “Jews.” As a minority – the percentage of Jews in the U.S. is thought to range from 1.4 percent to 2.2 percent – I’m still not sure who or what we are supposed to be replacing. However, since antisemitism isn’t based on reason, there really are no answers.

One of the latest problems with the left is a misrepresentation of a Jewish lobbying presence. One doesn’t have to be a fan of AIPAC to note that it’s just one of many groups trying to influence Congress. I dislike some lobbying groups – for example, the National Rifle Association and tobacco companies – while supporting others whose causes I agree with, including environmentalists and voters’ rights groups. While I would like to see restrictions on all lobbying entities as to how much money they can give to candidates, to single a Jewish one out as having a greater influence than others makes no sense to me. However, I’m not surprised that a Jewish group was singled out. One typical antisemitic canard is that Jews control the world

and it seems impossible to prove otherwise.

Of course, some people claim that their actions are anti-Israel, rather than antisemitic. When all Jews are blamed for an Israeli governmental policy, then the words and actions are antisemitic. For example, attacks on synagogues and other Jewish organizations in the U.S. are antisemitic because they are aimed at Jews, not at Israel. People also seem to forget that antisemitism did *not* begin with Zionism and the creation of the state of Israel. You can disagree with Israeli policies – there are lot of Israelis who oppose any particular government’s policies – but far too many go down the slippery slope to claim that Judaism and all Jews are at fault. Or that all Jews are to blame for something any Jew does no matter where he/she lives.

I don’t have an answer to centuries of antisemitic thoughts and actions. It’s discouraging, though, to see how far we have *not* come – to see how people believe in ideas that were proven wrong decades, if not centuries, ago. Whenever there is anger in the world – whenever people feel oppressed or unheard – they first protest against their government, but then, far too many times, come to believe the Jews are really to blame for all their ills.



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OPINIONS

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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Beth David Sisterhood to celebrate Purim fun on March 13

Beth David Sisterhood will hold a meeting on Wednesday, March 13, at 7 pm at the synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. The pre-Purim meeting will celebrate the upcoming holiday with poems, parodies and jokes. Light refreshments will be served after a brief business

meeting and before the entertainment.

“Old man winter got you down? Tired of being a cold weather stay-in? Looking to put a little ‘spring’ in your step and lighten your mood? Beth David Sisterhood has the perfect solution,” said organizers of the event.

“Thanks to our many unknown, and often anonymous, friends on the Internet, we will share the best Purim poems, parodies and jokes we can Google to help bring you out of your winter doldrums and get you in the festive mood.”

Local and national *shalach manot* service offered through Chabad's Women's League

Thursday, March 7, is the final deadline for submitting orders through the Women's League for Chabad *shalach manot* service. All orders must be sent to Ilene Pinsker by

that time. The service allows members of the Broome County Jewish community to send food packages to individuals on Purim day (celebrated this year on Thursday, March

21). Women's League also offers Purim greeting cards that can be sent to friends and relatives beyond Broome County in lieu of *shalach manot* packages anywhere in the United States.

BD to distribute Purim gifts

One of the *mitzvot* of Purim is to deliver gifts to the poor on the day of the holiday, which occurs this year on Thursday, March 21. Rabbi Zev Silber of Beth David Synagogue will distribute gifts to local needy families through the Jewish Family Service, and to Israeli poor through the Od Yosef Chai charitable organization.

more on extravagant gifts to one's friends and on the Purim feast, this is a mistake,” Silber said. “Our tradition clearly teaches that one should spend the bulk of his Purim budget on gifts to the poor. Indeed, our sages teach that whoever gladdens the soul of the poor orphans and widows is likened to the *Shechina*, the Divine Presence.” In order to facilitate the performance of the mitzvah, one may give money prior to Purim to an agent to distribute the funds on Purim day.

“The mitzvah of *shalach manot* is very important and is fulfilled by sending a package with at least two different types of food to at least one friend on Purim day,” explained Rivkah Slonim. “Often people want to send *mishloach manot* to many, many people or at least wish them a happy holiday and make sure they know they are thought of. The cards work perfectly for that purpose and they support a great cause at the same time!”

According to the rabbi, the mitzvah requires that a minimum of two gifts be given to at least two poor people, and that the gifts should be large enough to gladden the heart of the person who receives them. Purim, being a holiday dedicated to “*simcha*” – joy – requires that all Jews can rejoice. “The poor rejoice when they have the means to sustain their lives, leading to the importance placed on this mitzvah,” explained Silber. “Even though the practice has emerged to spend much

To participate in the mitzvah, donations may be sent by Monday, March 11, to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905. Donors are asked to mark their checks as “Purim charity” and specify whether they wish the money to be distributed locally or in Israel. For more information, call Silber at 722-9274.

Individuals who have not received a packet with details concerning all aspects of the *shalach manot* service can obtain one by calling Chabad Center at 797-0015. Women's League is also seeking volunteers to help with the assembly of the packages and especially individuals who can help with the local delivery on Purim day. Those interested in volunteering are asked to call the Chabad Center office.

TC Shabbat service on March 8 to commemorate 30th anniversary of Women of the Wall

On Friday, March 8, at 8 pm, Temple Concord's Shabbat service, will focus on the 30th anniversary of Women of the Wall. The service will commemorate 30 years of activism for women's equality in religious life and the public sphere. Coordinators of the service are encouraging all members of the Jewish community to attend the service. It will be held

in the sanctuary at 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

The service will be conducted by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell with songs led by Shari Neuberger and readings by members of Temple Concord Sisterhood. The *oneg* that will follow the service will be in honor of those who made this 30th anniversary possible.

At right: Holding the Torah is Anat Hoffman, one of the founders of Women of the Wall, in 1988 at the Kotel. On the right is Barbara Thomas, a member of Temple Concord and past president of Temple Concord Sisterhood.



Women's Seder at TC on March 24

On Sunday, March 24, at 1 pm, Temple Concord Sisterhood will hold a Women's Seder in the Kilmer Mansion, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. The meal will be catered by Phantom Chef, which is owned by Temple Concord member Michelle McIlroy. A new hagaddah will be used this year. It was adapted from one created by several other Sisterhoods and women's groups, according to Women's

Seder Co-chairwomen Rachel Coker, Sandy Foreman and Carol Herz. Copies will be provided.

Those interested in attending should make reservations with their payment of \$36 per person to the temple office by Wednesday, March 13. Label checks for the Women's Seder. A vegetarian option for the meal is available, but must be requested in advance.

Wedding and engagement photos wanted

The Reporter is looking for photos of couples who became engaged or married in 2018 for the annual Wedding, Prom and Party Guide issue (coming March 15).

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



The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Alan Gutman on the death of his mother,
Selma Gutman

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Shari, Michael and Allan Holzer on the death of their mother,
Lee Holzer

Welcome to our newest practitioner, Heather Nannery, FNP!

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Off the Shelf

Jewish humor

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

While humor is a cross-cultural phenomenon, not all cultures find the same thing funny. This also proves true of humor from previous centuries, as shown in "The First Book of Jewish Jokes: The Collection of L. M. Buschenthal" edited by Elliott Oring and translated by Michaela Lang (Indiana University Press). In fact, many of the jokes in the work wouldn't be considered a joke today (something with a clear punch line); instead, they are short, witty tales more likely to make people smile or chuckle, rather than laugh out loud. Some of the stories included will strike contemporary readers as distinctly unfunny because they feature Jewish stereotypes and portray Jews as cheating, stealing and/or lying.

Before Oring, a professor emeritus of anthropology at California State University, presents readers with two collections of jokes, he places them into historical context by first analyzing the characteristics of a Jewish joke and then writing about the historical time in which the collections appeared. Although Lippmann Moses Buschenthal, who was a rabbi, called his work "the first book" of Jewish jokes when it appeared in German in 1812, an unknown author

by the name of Judas Ascher had published many of the same jokes two years previously. The length of the stories in each range from several lines to half a page, although both works also include a nine-page history of a real-life Jewish criminal, Nehemie (Nehemiah) Judah Leib. There is nothing humorous about his story, which tells of a brutal murder. That section is a reprint from yet another work, "Stories of Criminals: Drawn from Court Records."

In his essay "On Jewish Jokes and the Collection of Lippmann Moses Buschenthal," Oring discusses the nature of Jewish humor. For Oring, the biggest problem when writing about Jewish jokes is that not enough research has been done. For example, he sees no proof that Jewish humor is different from other national or ethnic humor because no comparative studies have been done. That doesn't mean that Jewish jokes didn't develop from talmudic humor or that the claim that self-deprecation due to being persecuted is what shaped Jewish humor; it's just that there is not enough evidence to decide whether these or other theories are true. Oring does have his own definition of a Jewish joke: For him, "the definition of 'Jewish joke' lies in the act

of ascription of the label and not in the joke itself. Jewish jokes, then, are not old jokes about Jewish characters or old Jews telling jokes, but the idea that certain jokes, joke qualities, and even joke performance styles are regarded as distinctly Jewish. With this definition, the whole question of the Jewish joke becomes a sociological and historical rather than a literary question." So, a joke is a Jewish one because people consider it one.

Oring notes that a specific style of Jewish humor seems to have begun with German Jews, which was called *Judenwitz* – a word that combines the German word for Jew with the word for joke. *Judenwitz* is not what is currently considered Jewish humor. Instead, it "connoted a style of discourse that was deemed caustic, mercenary, destructive, and merely clever and that was held to be characteristic of Jewish writers. *Witz* referred more to a wisecrack than a joke." The term was not considered a positive one in general German culture. Critics considered this type of wit a bad influence and its writers dangerous to German life.

See "Humor" on page 5

LEGAL NOTICE

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.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: White Birch Ventures, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was November 20, 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: Christopher L. Roma, 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 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Square Deal Holdings, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 23, 2019.
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: 3004 Pleasant Drive, Endwell, NY 13760.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Cecily Anders Psychology, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/11/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 15 Jane Lacey Dr., Apt. C, Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: to practice the profession of Psychology.

Notice of Formation of Lakeside Tech, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/14/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2601 Princeton Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF VANITY FUR NY, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Vanity Fur NY, LLC, 3 Grand St. Binghamton, NY 13903. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: DCG Holdings, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 25, 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: 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 BIH Trucking LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 1, 2019.
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: 26 Timberland Drive, Binghamton, NY 13903.

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

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Maggie Blake, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 6, 2019.
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: PO Box 507, Port Crane, NY 13833.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Northern Tier PT, OT, SLP, PLLC: Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on February 6, 2019. Office: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent for LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 948 Allie Buck RD Nanty Glo PA 15943. Purpose: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology and any lawful business.

Notice of Formation of NIYA NICOLE LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/12/2019. 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: Niya Carrington, 2011 Chatterton Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Vision 72, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/05/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 45 Lewis St., Binghamton, NY 13901. 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 SLC SEL, LLC.

2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 13, 2019.
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: 1694 Union Center Main Hwy, Endicott, NY 13760.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

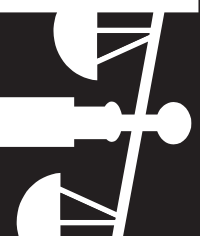
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is JCJ Property Management, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 19, 2019.
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: 630 Conklin Road, Binghamton, NY 13903.
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: Midstate Group, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 19, 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: Ryan M. Mead, 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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To place your legal notice, please contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereportergruop.org

Temple Israel and St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Church joint Sisterhood event on March 13

The Sisterhoods of Temple Israel and neighboring St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Church will join together on Wednesday, March 13, at 2 pm, in the Temple Israel social hall to participate in an afternoon of healthy activities designed for women of any age and fitness level.

The leader of the program will be Angela Pizzuti Clark, a professional yoga instructor, who will present an "innovative and easy" method of exercise known as Chair Yoga. Clark is a certified STOTT Pilates teacher, Kripalu

Yoga teacher, AFAA personal trainer and has completed the Ana Forrest Advanced Yoga Teacher Training Course. To supplement her 15 years of teaching experience in this field, she pursues continuing education credits annually, bringing new methods of training tailored to her clients' individual needs. Clark has previously presented her program of Chair Yoga at the assisted living facility Emeritus, amongst other venues in the area. Accordingly, she says, "all levels of fitness are welcome."

In keeping with the spirit of the afternoon event, all of

the refreshments served will be health-conscious snacks. The instructor is donating her time for this activity, as well as supplying some door prizes.

While Temple Israel Sisterhood members are being asked to contribute \$5 to cover the cost of the refreshments, the women of St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Church have been invited as guests of the synagogue.

All interested in attending are advised to wear comfortable clothing and to provide an advance RSVP to Tammy Kunsman in the temple office at 723-7461.

Antisemitic graffiti chalked on elementary-school playground in NYC

By Aaron Bandler

(Jewish Journal via JNS) – Antisemitic graffiti was discovered on a New York City elementary-school playground on February 22. Several swastikas and the words "Hail (sic) Hitler" were scrawled in chalk at Public School 139 Rego Park's playground in Queens. The incident occurred during winter break, and the graffiti was later removed by staff members. The New York City Police Department is investigating the incident as a hate crime.

"I am appalled and disgusted by the swastikas and other antisemitic symbols of hate that were scrawled in a Queens schoolyard," New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said in a February 24 statement. "In New York, we have zero tolerance for such vile acts of antisemitism."

He added, "I am directing the State Police Hate Crimes Task Force to immediately assist the NYPD in the investigation of this hideous act and hold those accountable to the full extent of the law."

New York City Councilman Chaim Deutsch (D-Brook-

lyn), chairman of the New York City Council Jewish Caucus, said in a February 24 statement: "This has gotten completely out of hand. I urge Mayor [Bill] de Blasio to immediately implement mine and Council member Mark Levine's bills that recently passed in the City Council, which would require educational outreach to teach about the impact of hate, bias and antisemitism."

(First published in the Jewish Journal.)

At right: Several swastikas and the words "Hail (sic) Hitler" were discovered at Public School 139 Rego Park's playground in Queens, NY, on February 22. (Photo by Twitter/Jewish Journal)



Humor. . . . Continued from page 4

The essay also offers charts outlining different categories of jokes contained in the collections. While there are the expected stories about rabbis, marriage and Jewish customs, they also contain ones featuring miserly rich Jews, Jews being abused or ridiculed, theft/fraud by Jews and Jews who convert to Christianity. Few of the jokes are laugh-out-loud funny; some are disturbing and feel almost antisemitic in nature. That may be because the book was aimed at Jews and Gentiles. Oring believes that was why the work was originally published in German and contains explanations that non-Jewish readers would need to understand some of the jokes. He also notes that, in his introduction, Buscenthal wrote he wanted to include jokes that showed both sides of Jews – good and bad – and the jokes included certainly do so.

To better understand these witticisms, Oring also discusses Jewish European history in his essay "The Jews in the Century of Buscenthal," which doesn't always make for pleasant reading. It serves as a reminder of how unwanted Jews often were in Europe and the restrictions placed on where they could live, whether they were allowed to marry and what occupations they could follow.

While many of the stories are too long to reprint, the following give a general idea of what Buscenthal considered a Jewish joke.

◆ On the yearly anniversary of the death of his parent, a Jew must fast. A Jew visited another on the normal fast day and found him – eating.

"How can you be eating: it's a fast day."

"Excuse me but I have a special memorial day for my father."

"That just means you especially can't eat."

"Ha, ha, as if one could observe two fast days at once."

◆ The archduke of Mainz ran into one of the court Jews in his garden. "Haimann!" he called out, "if you can tell me an impromptu lie, you'll get a wonderful fish for your holiday tomorrow." "Your eminence," said Haimann, "You had promised me two!"

◆ Once in Berlin, Moses Mendelssohn [an 18th century German Jewish philosopher] was insulted in the street by a common soldier.

His companion, a young scholar, expressed his displeasure.

"No big deal," said Mendelssohn. "What remains to such a being when he can't even insult a Jew?"

◆ An elegant gentleman said to a Jew, "Did you know that Spain issued a decree that condemns to death all Jews and all asses that are on Spanish soil?" "Oh, no," said the Jew. "We are lucky we are both not there."

"The First Book of Jewish Jokes" is an interesting hybrid: a joke book that offers a glimpse of what was considered funny in the past and two excellent essays by Oring that place the jokes into historical context. Readers interested in Jewish folklore and those curious about the nature of Jewish humor in the 19th century will find this work of interest.



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Weekly Parasha

Vayakel, Exodus 35:1-38:20

Holiness in time and space

RABBI SUZANNE BRODY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING, TEMPLE BETH-EL, ITHACA

Our Torah reading this week starts out by telling us that "These are the things that the *Lord* has commanded you to do: On six days, do all of your work. But on the seventh day, you shall have a Shabbat of complete rest, holy to the *Lord*; and whoever does any work on it shall be put to death." Only after this forceful reminder of the way in which their work is to be conducted do the Israelites begin to gather materials, select the artisans to help Betzalel and commence the actual construction of the *Mishkan* (tabernacle) and the objects to be used therein. Traditional commentators, including Rashi, are quick to point out that the order of the verses in the Torah teaches us that keeping Shabbat is even more important than building God's sanctuary, which is based on instructions provided

by the Holy One's own Self. Logic therefore dictates that anything else we might think we have to do, whether for our jobs, or even in pursuit of other *mitzvot* or work that we perceive to be holy, must be set aside for Shabbat.

In his source sheet on sefaria.org about our Torah portion, Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld asked, "If observing Shabbat takes precedence over this most holy of work [of building the tabernacle] why is it so hard for us to take a break from our work from Friday night through Saturday afternoon?" At home, the myriad household tasks demand to be taken care of and our inboxes continue to fill. Even when we make it to synagogue for Shabbat services, our conversations all too often focus on the work we have done recently or the litany of things we have to do next. Yet, we all say that we

want a break. So, why is it so hard for us to actually leave work behind, even when we travel for vacation? While I am sure that this question has many different answers, I think that our Torah is addressing at least one of them this week.

Why we are specifically reminded about Shabbat at this juncture, before the work to build the tabernacle has even begun? Is it just, as so many of our traditional commentators imply, to help us construct a hierarchy among conflicting *mitzvot*? Or is there some greater lesson about holiness that we are meant to extract from the blueprint of our Torah? Perhaps because I am surrounded by people involved in a job search process, when I read the opening verse of this Torah portion, I was reminded of the process we go through **See "Time" on page 7**

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 Saturday, March 2, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 35:1-38:20. The haftarah will be II Kings 12:1-17. Alan Piaker and Harriet Horowitz will sponsor the kiddush following services.

On Sunday, March 3, at 11 am, there will be Rabbi Geoffrey Brown's Mussar class. All are welcome.

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

On Sunday, March 10, at 10 am, there will be an Adult Ed brunch. (See page 1 article for more information.)

On Wednesday, March 13, at 2 pm, there will be a Sisterhood Chair Yoga class. The cost for the class is \$5.

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 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.

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.

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:

Shabbat, March 2 9 am

..... Mincha after the kiddush

Weekday Services:

Mornings:

Sun., March 3 8:30 am

Mon.-Wed., March 4-6 7 am

Thurs.-Fri., March 7-8 6:50 am

Evenings:

Sun., March 3 5:40 pm

Mon.-Thurs., March 4-7 7 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 Tikun 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

Website: www.tikunvor.org

E-mail: info@tikunvor.org

Presidents: Lauren Korfine and Shira Reisman

Rabbi: Brian Walt

Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky

Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

Intergenerational Shabbat, music services, and other special services. Call for the weekly schedule.

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.

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, March 1, light candles 5:35 pm

Shabbat ends Saturday, March 2 6:37 pm

Friday, March 8, light candles 5:43 pm

Shabbat ends Saturday, March 9 6:45 pm

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

On Saturday, March 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 family Shabbat services led by the Hey class students and, at 11:35 am, there will be a potluck Shabbat lunch.

On Sunday, March 3, at 10 am-2 pm, there will be a Temple Concord Sisterhood Rummage Sale (buy one pair of slacks, get one pair free), at 12-2 pm, volunteers will prepare for the Children of Abraham Community

Passover Seder which will be at 2-4pm.

On Tuesday, March 5, at 10:30 am, there will be a meeting of The Tuesday Morning Book Club, and at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew School

On Thursday, March 7, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew School and, at 5-7 pm, the CHOW pantry will be open.

On Friday, March 8, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services with Sisterhood in celebration of 30 years of Women of the Wall and Rosh Hodesh 2 Adar led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell, Shari Neuberger and Sisterhood. (See page 3 article for more information.)

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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.

Friday-Saturday, March 1-2, an interim rabbi candidate visit is tentatively scheduled.

On Thursday, March 7, at 7 pm, David Powers, professor in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Cornell University, will discuss "Biblical and Quranic Narratives" as part of the temple's adult education series.

Friday-Saturday, March 8-9, the bar mitzvah of Sylvan Greenfield, son of Elaan Greenfield, will be celebrated.

On Thursday, March 21, from 3:30-5:30 pm, PJ Library families will celebrate Purim in the Borg Warner Room of the Tompkins County Public Library. Admission is three non-perishable food items for ACT's Kitchen Cupboard.

Atlanta musician “Rabbi Jake” takes the country by storm

By Sandy Eller



Rabbi Jake Czuper
(Photo courtesy of Eli Gray Photography)

(JNS) – Atlanta might be well-known for Coca-Cola and Hartsfield-Jackson International, the busiest airport in the world, but for music lovers both large and small, the city’s true claim to fame may very well be hometown-born “Rabbi Jake” – a singer, songwriter and entertainer whose cheerful tunes and concerts are said to have been delighting Jewish listeners for years.

Growing up in Atlanta, Rabbi Jake Czuper began composing songs when he was in fourth grade. His talent for combining Judaic concepts with upbeat music had

him throwing tunes together and, after being invited to entertain his wife Chani’s preschool class, he found that they resonated with young children. Czuper began performing in Atlanta’s synagogues, summer camps and day schools in 2014 as Rabbi Jake, stressing themes like gratitude, *simcha* (“joy”) and *emunah* (“faith”) in a “fun, fresh way.” Much like his signature orange shirts, he is said to stand out from the crowd, offering even the youngest of listeners “high-energy” entertainment.

“My shows have LED lighting, bubble machines, glow sticks, candy and a professional sound setup—a real concert experience with plenty of audience participation,” said Czuper. “I never wanted to just be a guy with a guitar. I enjoy the interaction with kids and being able to give them a multi-sensory experience.”

Czuper finds Jewish children’s music to be a niche market – one that mainstream Jewish singers typically aren’t focusing on. He prides himself on writing music that appeals to kids of all ages, and loves watching teachers and counselors enjoying his performances just as much as their young charges. “It’s not that bingy-boingy annoying kind of kids’ music,” explained Czuper. “This is regular music with lyrics for kids. Parents even tell me that they put it on in their cars even when their kids aren’t with them.”

Czuper upped the ante in July 2015, releasing his first official music video featuring his popular “Aleph Bais” song. Just several months later, his first album, “Rabbi

Jake, Vol. 1,” debuted, followed in 2017 by “Rabbi Jake 2, Vol. 2: Thank Hashem.”

Czuper’s music runs the gamut, with song titles including “Thank You, Hashem,” “Jolly Jelly Bean” and “The Kipa Song,” addressing a variety of themes that seek to help children build a personal relationship with God and a love of Torah and *mitzvot* – concepts that, as an educator, he had seen lacking in his own students.

Audiences nationwide have enjoyed his music, with Rabbi Jake entertaining youngsters at hotels during Passover and in Minnesota, Florida, Texas, New York and Canada. He performed most recently in honor of Rosh Chodesh Adar in the New Jersey region at Chabad of Tenafly and Fair Lawn’s Anshei Lubavitch. He often finds himself facing questions from TSA agents who want him to explain his large supply of jelly beans, as well as the hollow plastic pipes that he uses to build a stand for his concert banner.

With a level of sophistication that is considered above most of what is currently available for children, Czuper has also found an audience with older listeners. As a former high school teacher who currently works as NCSY’s city director in Atlanta, he is involved with teens and he produces music for them, as well. Rebranding himself under his Hebrew name, Tzidkiyahu, Czuper released his third album, “Tzidkiyahu, Vol. 1” in 2018, covering a full range of musical styles, including “4 Chords,” a mashup of more than 20 songs from various artists, including Gad Elbaz, Yaakov Shwekey, Shalshelles, Shalshelles Junior, The Chevra, Yeshiva Boys Choir, Mordechai Shapiro and Simcha Leiner, all of which are constructed using the identical four chords.

He said some of his most memorable moments performing as Tzidkiyahu include a Purim concert for Holocaust survivors in a nursing home that had one resident getting up and dancing for the first time in years, and playing two concerts for Floridians ravaged by Hurricane Irma in 2017. Another particularly poignant experience for him came when he took a group of NCSY teens on their first-ever trip to Israel. Setting the words “Am Yisrael Chai” to music, along with lyrics covering 3,000 years of history, Czuper said he and his students saw the song come alive as they toured the country.

Head of the Atlanta Boys Choir, Czuper plays weddings, bar mitzvahs and other private events. Ironically, he often finds himself fielding requests for some of his children’s songs at those affairs.

Recalling how he would start school each year with rabbis calling him by his full name, Tzidkiyahu Yaakov,



Rabbi Jake Czuper, aka “Rabbi Jake,” entertained fans at Anshei Lubavitch of Fair Lawn, NJ. (Photo courtesy of Anshei Lubavitch of Fair Lawn, NJ)

inevitably opting for the more concise “Jake” within days, the 34-year-old father of five identifies with his biblical namesake, drawing on his ability to inspire others through song. “Just like Shimshon [‘Sampson’] was gifted with super power, Tzidkiyahu had eyes that were able to see light in darkness, which is what I try to do in my music and in the Torah that I teach,” he said.

The message seems to be resonating. One father told Czuper that he had been on a road trip with his family and, as Rabbi Jake’s “Gam Zu L’Tova” song was playing in the car, he experienced a blowout. While the man and his wife were concerned that their children might have been frightened, their fears proved to be unfounded. “The children told their parents that *gam zu l’tova*, and everything that Hashem does is for the best, which led to a meaningful discussion about *emunah* and [God],” recalled Czuper who was grateful that the song turned a potentially traumatic experience into a positive moment. “Teaching children essential *hashkafa* [‘outlook’] at an early age literally transforms a child’s world and gives them the ability to have a true relationship with Hashem for eternity.”

Sandy Eller is a freelance writer who writes for numerous websites, newspapers, magazines and many private clients. She can be contacted at sandyeller1@gmail.com.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Former Israeli minister sentenced to 11 years in prison for spying for Iran

The Jerusalem District Court sentenced former Israeli minister Gonen Segev to 11 years in prison on Feb. 26 for spying for Iran. As part of a plea deal, Segev admitted to spying for Iran for five years using a clandestine channel and providing them with top-secret information, but argued that he wanted to serve as a double agent, providing information to Iran while concurrently obtaining more significant information he could give to Israel. Many of the details of the case remain under gag order. Segev previously served as Israel’s minister of energy and infrastructure, but spent time in jail for forgery, fraud and drug-smuggling. He was extradited from Equatorial Guinea in May and charged by Israel with spying against the state of Israel, assisting the enemy in a time of war and providing intelligence to the enemy. Segev was said to have met his Iranian handlers in secret locations and attempted to network between them and Israelis in the defense establishment under the guise of creating business partnerships in the area. He lived in Nigeria for almost 10 years, during which time he practiced medicine. His license had been revoked in Israel. He was arrested for drug-smuggling and credit-card fraud while attempting to smuggle 32,000 ecstasy tablets from the Netherlands to Israel in 2005.

Fellow Continued from page 1

meaningful thing I have ever done. Exposing American students to everything Israel has to offer while understanding its complexities allows me to bring them closer to Israel as the Jewish homeland.”

“Bar’s energy, enthusiasm and love of Israel are evident as soon as she begins to speak,” organizers say. “We are looking forward to learning more about the Israel Fellows program and how it impacts our community and the formation of future Jewish leaders.”

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.

Time Continued from page 6

when we are hired for a new job. Before any agreements are reached, and before anyone signs anything, the terms of the contract are discussed. Often one of the points of discussion is about time off. Knowing the expectations from the start allows us to more efficiently plan how we use our time, and often, the more time off we are granted, the more we feel valued as whole people. In life, however, we all know that the time off we are allotted on paper and the actual number of days away from work do not always match. Once we become immersed in a project, it can feel impossible to stop, and it’s incredible the number of Americans who have to actually be forced to use the days off they are granted in their contracts. Yet, if we work without pause, our spiritual and emotional health starts to decline and the quality of our work begins to deteriorate. We all sometimes need someone or something outside of ourselves to force us to take a break and take care of ourselves. Furthermore, the power of routine in our lives is strong. So, Shabbat was built into our routine from the outset. It was built in to give us (or some may even say force us to take) a break, a chance to step away from the constant doing so we can have the time and space to stop and think and talk to one another. Shabbat itself, it turns out, is actually a crucial design element in the creation of something holy.

In order for the tabernacle to be a sanctuary for God in space, we must make room for God in our lives, and we find that room for God by carving out Shabbat as a sanctuary in time. So, how will you carve out time for holiness?

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JFS Accepting Purim Donations

Jewish Family Service will once again be collecting funds to fulfill the Purim mitzvah of *matanot l’evyonim* (gifts for the poor), which will be celebrated on March 21. These donations will be distributed to more than 12 local Jewish families who are experiencing extreme financial difficulties. In order to assure a timely distribution of these gifts, please be sure your contribution reaches our offices by March 11, 2019.

In addition, please be aware that Jewish Family Service accepts donations in honor or in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special event. Your contributions will go into the general donation fund that helps the less fortunate of our community throughout the year.

Please include a notation on the memo line of your check in which manner you would like your donation to be used.

Mail or bring your donation to Jewish Family Service, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850. Contact Roz Antoun, Director, at 724-2332 or rozjfs@stny.rr.com with any questions.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

“Beresheet” spacecraft hits snag after onboard computer restarts

The “Beresheet” lunar spacecraft’s latest maneuver attempt was postponed after the space craft’s on-board computer executed an unexpected independent restart, causing the device to miss a scheduled trajectory adjustment, according to engineers on Feb. 26. According to SpaceIL CEO Dr. Ido Anteby, the glitch “isn’t nice, but we are still optimistic.” The device evidently did not encounter this problem in simulations. However, it is still scheduled to land on the moon on April 11 due to built-in time buffers put into the schedule in case of delays. The setback occurred after a successful first maneuver the day before tens of thousands of miles away from Earth. The spacecraft’s trajectory will take it six or seven times around the Earth in a series of growing ellipses before entering the moon’s orbit on April 4. The pathway was designed to help the craft save on fuel. Engineers said all the communication windows are working as expected, enabling contact with “Beresheet” for about half an hour every four hours. The last maneuver failed to initiate. Engineers are investigating whether the computer restart was connected to some issues with the star navigation system, possibly resulting from glare from the sun, which helps the craft orient itself in space. “Beresheet,” named after the first word and the first book in the Torah (meaning “in the beginning”), lifted off from Cape Canaveral on Feb. 22. If it succeeds, it will be the first Israeli spacecraft to land on the moon, as well as the first privately owned craft to do so.

Linda Sarsour to speak at NYU

Women’s March leader Linda Sarsour, known for her support of the anti-Israel BDS movement, is scheduled to speak in March at New York University. Sponsored by the NYU Asian/Pacific/American Institute, the March 25 event features her as “racial justice and civil-rights activist, known for her intersectional coalition work and efforts to build bridges across racial, ethnic and faith communities,” according to the announcement, which ignored extensive coverage of antisemitism affiliated with her and the Women’s March. The APA did not immediately respond to a request for comment. “Despite widespread coverage in the mainstream media of Linda Sarsour’s virulent antisemitism, NYU has decided to host her next month,” said Aviva Rosenschein, international campus director for CAMERA. “A statement by NYU whitewashing Sarsour as a ‘racial justice and civil-rights activist’ is truly a slap in the face for the Jewish community and a dangerous omission of the truth. ... Will NYU also invite white-supremacist Richard Spencer and present him as a ‘human freedom and diversity activist?’”

NBC corrects: No ministries offered to Otzma Yehudit

(CAMERA via JNS) – Following communication from CAMERA, NBC corrected a recent article that erroneously reported that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised two ministries to the extreme-right Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Strength) Party in exchange for merging with the right-wing Habayit Hayehudi (Jewish Home). Otzma Yehudit is the progeny of Rabbi Meir Kahane’s Kach Party, which had been banned from the Knesset in 1988 for inciting racism. The article, “Benjamin Netanyahu’s embrace of far-right extremists may seal his fate,” had erred. In fact, Netanyahu did not promise Gopstein’s party two ministries. The promise of two seats was to Bayit Hayehudi (Jewish Home), a mainstream party not accused of racism. *The Jerusalem Post*, for example, reported: “The sweetener Netanyahu offered to a reluctant Bayit Yehudi includes two cabinet seats for the list, as well as the 28th spot on the Likud’s list, to which Netanyahu is allowed to appoint someone. The Bayit Yehudi representative on the Likud list would move back to his or her party after the election.” In response to communication from CAMERA, NBC editors amended the passage, which now accurately reports: “Netanyahu’s Likud party said it would reserve the 28th spot on its parliamentary list for the Jewish Home Party and grant it two Cabinet ministries in a future government if it merged with the Jewish Power party.” Contrary to standard journalistic practice, NBC did not append a note to the article alerting readers to the correction.

Kushner: Mideast peace plan focuses on “drawing borders”

White House senior adviser Jared Kushner told Sky News Arabia on Feb. 25 that the U.S. Mideast peace plan will be about “drawing the borders” between the Israelis and the Palestinians, in addition to resolving fundamental issues surrounding the 70-plus-year tension. “What we have been trying to do is to formulate realistic and just solutions to these issues in 2019 that will allow people to live a better life,” said Kushner, who, along with special envoy Jason Greenblatt and U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, has been negotiating since President Donald Trump took office in 2017. He did the interview as part of his Mideast trip the week of Feb. 25. The Trump administration announced the peace plan will be released after the Israeli elections. JNS previously reported, citing an informed source hearing from top Trump administration officials, that the so-called “deal of the century” will consist of the U.S. recognizing a Palestinian state with contingencies; its capital would consist of remote parts of eastern Jerusalem. It will also include official U.S. recognition of large Israeli towns in Judea and Samaria, according to the source, who did not know which ones.

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