

# THE REPORTER

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

## Jewish International Film Fest of Greater Binghamton continues

By Reporter staff

The Jewish International Film Fest of Greater Binghamton will continue this coming week. The films will be shown at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. Each screening will be followed by a discussion of the picture led by a community member. The event is open to the entire community. Tickets cost \$10 per film. To purchase tickets in advance or for more information, call 724-2332. The

event is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

“Join us for a wonderful group of films,” said Sima Auerbach, executive director of the Federation. “The Film Fest Committee thought long and hard about which films to show this year to ensure you will have five fantastic nights at the movies.”

“City of Joel” on Thursday, May 30, at 7 pm

“City of Joel” is a documentary – with unprecedented access – to a 1.1 square mile shtetl in the suburbs that is home to 22,000 members of one of the most insular and orthodox Chasidic sects. Viewers follow the battles they are waging. Just 50 miles north of New York City, the Satmar sect has built Kiryas Joel as a religious haven where they can be fruitful,

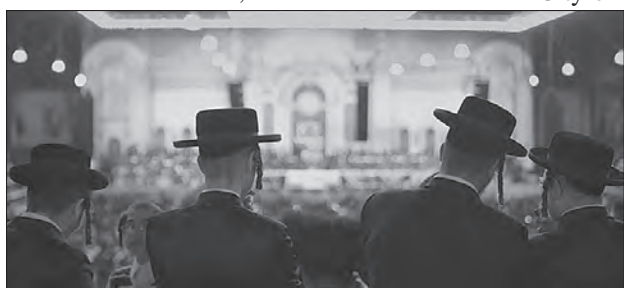
multiply and follow the 613 rules of the Torah. With some of the highest rates of marriage, birth and religious observance in the country, they have to keep up with this growth, but their neighbors fight back because they believe it will harm the secular community. The discussion will be moderated by Rivky Slonim.

“Shoelaces” on Sunday, June 2, at 7 pm

Ruven (Doval’e Glickman) is a gruff, 60-year-old man who owns a small auto repair shop in Tel Aviv. He was once married, but has long been divorced. When his wife gave birth, the couple found out that their son Gadi (Nevo Kimchi) had special needs. Ruven and his wife eventually split up, with Ruven’s wife and Gadi moving out of town. One day, Ruven gets a phone call telling him that his ex-wife has died. He goes to the funeral and finds out from a social worker



A scene from “Shoelaces” with Nevo Kimchi (left) and Doval’e Glickman.



A scene from the documentary “City of Joel.”

named Ilana (Evelin Hagoel) that he has to take in Gadi, who is now in his 30s, for a few weeks until a facility opens up with a space that Gadi can permanently live in. The discussion will be moderated by incoming Federation Executive Director Shelley Hubal and Rabbi Rachel Esserman.

## Federation to hold calendar meeting on June 4

By Reporter staff

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton will hold its annual calendar meeting on Tuesday, June 4, at 3 pm, at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. During the calendar meeting, all Jewish organizations can place their organization’s meetings and events for the 2019-20 year on the calendar. The purpose of the meeting is to prevent conflicts and allow all organizations the opportunity to maximize the number of people who can attend their events. The events are then placed on the Community Calendar, located

on the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton’s website. (Visit [www.jfjb.org](http://www.jfjb.org) and click on “calendar.”)

“Why do we have a calendar?” asked Sima Auerbach, executive director of the Federation. “It’s to prevent two wonderful events being held on the same day and time. We have such a great community with so much to offer and we want people to be able to attend as many events as possible.”

Auerbach noted that having the calendar online offers another advantage. “Have you forgotten the date of your organization’s event? Can’t remember when the CJS lec-

ture is? Do you want to hear what’s happening at the next Federation board meeting? Are you planning an event and want to make sure there are no conflicts? Then go to [www.jfjb.org](http://www.jfjb.org) and hit ‘calendar,’” she said. “This is your Community Calendar! All the events this amazing community holds are listed – and if you do not see what you were looking for, call us at 724-2332. In a community of this size – where people belong to several organizations or synagogues – we want to make certain that people don’t miss an important event or meeting.”

Shelley Hubal, incoming executive

director of the Federation, also noted the importance of the meeting. “Some people don’t even realize that the Federation has a calendar,” she said. “But it’s an important tool for all of us to use. I look forward to seeing how our community actively works together and this is a wonderful opportunity to see us in action.”

Updates or additions of events for the calendar can be made throughout the year by contacting the Federation through its website (click on “calendar” and then “click here to request a change to the calendar”) or by calling 724-2332.

## Federation held annual meeting on May 19

By Reporter staff

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton held its annual meeting on May 19. The short meeting included remarks by Federation President Suzanne Holwitt and a vote on the incoming slate of Federation officers and board members. Holwitt offered thanks to outgoing Federation Executive Director Sima Auerbach and introduced the incoming Federation executive director, Shelley Hubal. In addition, Holwitt presented Auerbach with a proclamation from the Town of Vestal congratulating her on the work she’s done for the Federation.

“Change isn’t always easy, but it is always necessary – change helps us grow, adapt, learn and move forward,” Holwitt said when speaking about Auerbach’s retirement. “Sima’s influence will be felt for many years to come, and we know that Shelley is a worthwhile successor to her legacy. As we begin a period of thanks to Sima – while welcoming Shelley with whom I am so looking forward to collaborating – let’s continue to support the Federation and look forward to the years ahead. I know, and it has already been proven, that the search committee made the right choice when it recommended

Shelley to the board for approval.”

The approved slate of officers and the Board of Directors are President Suzanne Holwitt, Immediate Past President Howard Warner, Vice-President Mark Walker, Treasurer Jeff Shapiro, Assistant Treasurer Lee Schechter, Secretary Eileen Miller, Assistant Secretary Charles Manasse, Campaign Co-Chairwomen Rita Shawn and Marilyn Bell, and Endowment Committee Chairman Michael Wright. Board members to 2020 are Nancy Dorfman, Mark Epstein, Dennis Foreman, Lillian Levy and Cathy Velenchik. Board members to 2021 are Neil Auerbach, Brendan Byrnes, Sondra Foreman, Charles Gilinsky and Richard Lewis. Board members to 2022 are Lisa Blackwell, Rita Bleier, Steve Gilbert, Jeff Platsky and Susan Walker.

After the meeting, attendees watched the film “My Polish Honeymoon,” which was part of the Jewish International Film Fest of Greater Binghamton. (For more information about other films in the fest, see the article on this page.)

At right: People gathered before the meeting to chat and get refreshments for the film being shown after the meeting.



L-r: Outgoing Federation Executive Director Sima Auerbach, Federation President Suzanne Holwitt and incoming Federation Executive Director Shelley Hubal.



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**BLAST FROM THE PAST...****Maurice Weiss and the Jewish Welfare Board****By Herbert Kline**

Maurice Weiss was born in Binghamton, NY, in 1889, the second son of David Weiss, who was a charter member of the Sons of Israel Congregation. The Weiss family, including David, his wife Clara and children, Maurice, Jenny and Fanny, lived on Seminary Avenue and were visited often by their grandson, James Kline, and his family from Endicott.

Maurice, after graduating from Binghamton Central High School, worked for his father at a clothing store on Court Street where Sall-Stearns is presently located. Maurice was quite artistic and drew cartoons for the Binghamton newspapers and participated in plays conducted by the Jewish Community Center.

When World War I broke out, Maurice was 28 years of age. As his vision did not permit him to enlist in the army, he and his father closed their store and Maurice enlisted in the Jewish Welfare Board to help support Jewish soldiers. The JWB was similar to the Knights of Columbus that provided services to Catholic soldiers.

As Rabbi Rachel Esserman pointed out in her excellent review titled "Turning Jews into Americans" published in the March 29 issue of *The Reporter*, the JWB intended to "show the military that Jews were like their fellow Americans" and did not "request Jewish food from the government which would only highlight their difference rather than their similarities" with their fellow draftees. (The review can also be found at [www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aid=5146](http://www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aid=5146).)

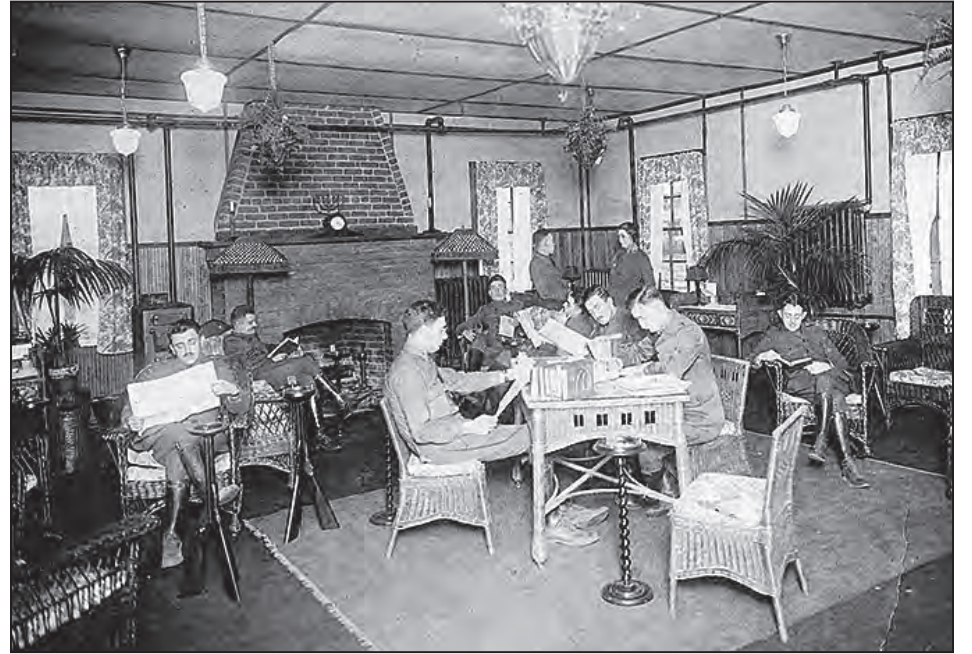
Rabbi Esserman's article brought to mind some photographs in family scrapbooks of Great-Uncle Maurice in his JWB uniform, which I thought may be of interest to *The Reporter* readers.

After the war was over, Maurice returned to Binghamton and went into business, Cary and Company, with Leonard Whitelaw, at a location presently occupied by Little Venice restaurant. They produced overalls, which were in great demand by the public. Their business was benevolent to its employees, conducting an annual picnic at Mountain Top Grove. The employees dressed in their

Sunday best and played games with prizes.

Maurice purchased a cottage at Quaker Lake, Brackney, PA, and was the first Jewish resident there to the consternation of some of the Protestant residents, who met with his attorney to seek assurance that a bungalow

cottage colony was not to be constructed. He conducted art programs for his Binghamton friends. The property is still occupied by Maurice's great-nephew Herbert Kline, his great-great-nephew Gary Kline and his great-great-niece Susan Kline Heigh.



A scene from a Jewish Welfare Board meeting during World War I: Maurice Kline is on the right with his arm on the table.



The members of the Jewish Welfare Board in 1917, during World War I: Maurice Kline is the third from the right in the back row.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

From JNS.org

**Report: U.S. peace plan "won't stand in the way" of Israeli sovereignty in Judea, Samaria**

The Trump administration's Mideast peace plan, called the "deal of the century" in political circles, will support permanent Israeli control over all towns currently in Israeli hands and not oppose application of Israeli law throughout Judea and Samaria, according to a report by Israel's Channel 12. According to the report, while the United States will not formally back Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria, it will also not stand in the way. Major Palestinian Authority cities and population centers will reportedly remain in the control of the Palestinian Authority. Seven weeks ago, Trump signed a proclamation stating that the U.S. found it "appropriate to recognize Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights" at a ceremony attended by Netanyahu. The Channel 12 report did not name a source, and no administration officials have yet responded. The Trump plan is set to be published in June, after Netanyahu finalizes his coalition for the next government, and after the Muslim holiday of Ramadan.

**Opinion****In My Own Words****My summer plans**

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I'm thinking of spending the summer on the beach – looking at the ocean and reading. I came to this conclusion after a recent, wonderful vacation with a friend. Our hotel room had a gorgeous view of the ocean. We spent our time walking on the boardwalk, relaxing in our room, looking at the ocean and, of course, reading.

During my time in Philadelphia and the two days we were at the Jersey shore, I didn't look at a computer. Guess what? I didn't miss e-mail or the Internet, and not reading or hearing the latest news reports was so relaxing I wish I could do it more often. (We only turned on the TV in the hotel room once and I was busy reading when it was on at my friend's house.) My friend did read the newspaper on her cell phone, but I only used mine for a few texts.

Having long periods of time to read felt like such a luxury. Some days, I can only grab a few minutes here and there, but a book is so much better when you can sink into

it and remember all the subplots. What's funny was that another friend had sent me an article about binge reading (that's like binge watching TV, only with books) the week before I left on vacation and I'd replied that it seemed like a wonderful idea. My vacation proved that it is.

There is also something special about looking at moving water. Watching waves has always had a calming effect on me. Unfortunately, it's been a long time since I've been to the beach and I've missed seeing the ocean. Going on vacation before the summer season began meant the boardwalk was quiet, but there were enough restaurants and stores open there and on the main street of the city to give us plenty to do. But, although we enjoyed walking, the majority of our time was spent relaxing, looking at the ocean and reading.

When I arrived back at work, I asked my boss if I could take a three-month sabbatical in order to spend the summer

reading at the beach. You can probably guess her reaction. So, for the moment, I'm not taking three months off to watch the water and read. I have to admit this left me a bit envious of my friend: she and her husband retired recently and can spend their time as they wish. I can't afford to retire yet, but it was fun listening to them talk about what they're doing with their time. (This includes one day a week taking care of their grandson.)

I know that I wouldn't be able to just sit and read every day, all day, forever. I would want to write, study, teach or do something else. But it would be fun to binge read for a month or two before returning to these activities. In the meantime, I'm determined to enjoy more time this summer *not* staring at a screen, particularly a computer one, even if that means just sitting on my front porch watching the birds on our lawn and reading a book. Not exactly three months at the beach, but it will have to do for now.



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OF GREATER BINGHAMTON

Suzanne Holwitz, President  
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E-mail ~ [TReporter@aol.com](mailto:TReporter@aol.com) • Fax ~ 607-724-2311

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

**LETTERS**

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

**ADS**

The Reporter does not necessarily endorse any advertised products and services. In addition, the paper is not responsible for the kashruth of any advertiser's product or establishment.

**DEADLINE**

Regular weekly deadline is noon, Wednesday, for the following week's newspaper.

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Layout Editor Diana Sochor  
Assistant Editor Ilene Pinsker  
Advertising Bonnie Rozen  
Production Coordinator Jenn DePersis  
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**Proofreaders**

Barbara Bank, Eleanor Durfee, Fran Ferentinos,  
Leah Ferentinos, Rebecca Goldstein Kahn,  
Merri Pell-Preus, Heidi Thirer



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[www.thereporter.org](http://www.thereporter.org)

# TC-TI to hold joint erev Shavuot program on June 8

Temple Concord and Temple Israel will hold an Ice Cream Extravaganza and a "Taste of the Book of Ruth" on Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 pm, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

"Make your own ice cream sundaes, enjoy some schmoozing time together, gain some insights into the Book of Ruth as we move from Shabbat to Shavuot together," said organizers of the event.

To make certain there are enough refreshments, those planning to attend the event are asked to RSVP to Temple Concord at 723-7355 or templeconcord@gmail.com.

## Beth David Sisterhood held donor event



L-r: Guest speaker Rabbi Benny Kellman and Dora Polachek at the Beth David Sisterhood donor event on May 7.



Toby Kohn read about Yom Hazikaron, Israel's Memorial Day.

At right: Beth David Sisterhood members attended the annual donor event.



## TC held Sisterhood service and installation



Temple Concord Sisterhood members who participated in the Shabbat service and/or were installed as new officers for this year.

## Group of 220 new immigrants from Ukraine arrive in Israel

By JNS staff

(JNS) – Just a few days before Israel Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut) – despite the fact that more than 600 rockets were fired at Israel over the May 5 weekend by Hamas and Islamic Jihad in the Gaza Strip – 220 Jews from Ukraine became new citizens of Israel on May 6, arriving on three separate flights organized by the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

"We at the Fellowship are proud of every new immigrant who chooses to come to Israel and who is not deterred by the current reality on the ground," said IFCJ President Yael Eckstein, who took over the helm of the organization after the passing of her father, Rabbi Yechezkel Eckstein, in February. "More than anything else, I am inspired by the immigrants who choose to continue to settle in Israel's southern region and Gaza Envelope.

"This has been a challenging time of late for Jews everywhere, as increasing antisemitism is evident in many countries and reminds us of dark times when defenseless Jews fell prey to persecution and destruction," she added. "However, to our great joy, today we have a state and a Jewish people responsible for its own fate. Moreover, thanks to our true friends, Christian lovers of Israel, we also have moral and practical support."

Forty-two of the new immigrants moved to localities near the Gaza Strip, including Ashdod, Ashkelon, Sderot, Gan Yavne and Beersheva. Among the 220 new Ukrainian



Just a few days before Israeli Independence Day, 220 Jews from Ukraine became new citizens of Israel on May 6, arriving on three separate flights organized by the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews (Keren L'Yedidut). (Photo by Noam Moscowitz)

immigrants, 50 are children up to the age of 18. The oldest is 84 years old.

They were not the only new immigrants set to arrive the week of May 6 to celebrate Israel's Independence Day as Israeli citizens for the first time. A total of 17 different flights sponsored by IFCJ were to bring other new immigrants from other countries, including Uruguay, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Venezuela and France.

### Moving any time soon? Or just leaving town for a few months?



Whether you're moving across town or across the country, please let *The Reporter* know so you can stay up to date on community news and quickly receive the paper at your new (or temporary) address!

E-mail [treporter@aol.com](mailto:treporter@aol.com) with "Reporter Address change" in the subject line, or call 607-724-2360, ext. 254, to let *The Reporter* know about your new address.

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Job is part-time – approximately 15-20 hours weekly. Please reply to [jfjbjob@gmail.com](mailto:jfjbjob@gmail.com).



**Jewish Family Service**

A Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

➔ Visit us on the web at [www.thereporter.org](http://www.thereporter.org)



Off the Shelf

# Searching for his grandparents' story

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Is it ever possible to truly understand someone's past – their thoughts, feelings and actions? Even decades after the Holocaust, some survivors have never revealed what happened to them and their family members may never have asked. Yet, as that generation grows older and dies, those stories are lost – sometimes leaving holes in the hearts of their children and/or grandchildren, who now wish they had listened harder or asked more. One such grandchild is Bram Presser, whose work "The Book of Dirt" (The Text Publishing Company) portrays his journey to learn more about his grandfather and grandmother after their deaths – through fact and fiction.

Presser's book is a hybrid: part memoir/part novel. It contains his search for information about his late relatives, along with his re-imagining of their lives in Germany before and during the war. This includes their time in a concentration camp. The more factual parts of the work contain black and white pictures of Presser's family, along with photographs of documents related to his search – for example, a ration card, a time sheet and medical records. The author's search takes him from his native Australia to Europe, as he looks to discover some of the truth about his grandparents' lives. He notes that this is not easy, especially when their stories didn't quite match the facts

he uncovers: "To doubt is improper. That is the thing with survival: it cannot be challenged. It can not be subjected to interrogation... We did not seek details... We did not question... Above all, we did not dare contemplate the depths to which [my grandfather] sunk in order to survive. Every survivor is a saint. Every survivor is a hero. No survivor is merely human."

The basic outline Presser's grandfather's life is revealed at the beginning of the book: Jakob Rand originally came from a small town that found itself in a different country as national borders frequently changed during that time. The son of a rabbi, Jakob ran away to Prague and studied to be a lawyer. Just after he received his law degree, Jews were forbidden to practice law. He then became a school teacher until he was taken to a concentration camp. Surviving the war, he and his now wife, Dasa, managed to escape Europe for Australia.

Dasa's history is more complex and her extended family plays a far larger role in the novel. That's because her mother, Frantiska, was born Aryan, but converted to Judaism in order to marry. Unfortunately, the marriage was not a complete success since her husband often lost money to gambling and drinking. The Nazis considered their four daughters *mischling* (of mixed blood), a status that meant

the two older daughters were sent to a concentration camp with their father. However, since Frantiska had divorced her husband, she and her two younger daughters remained in Prague. If the war had continued, though, her younger children would have been forced into a camp when they became adults.

In "The Book of Dirt," Presser tries to imagine the inner world of his extended family before and during the war. This includes their thoughts and actions, and builds on the outline of what he knows about their lives. He calls his work "a book of memories, some of my own, some acquired and some, I suppose, imagined." These are not always pleasant or easy to read. Early in the book, the author warns "almost everyone you care about in this book is dead." He then lists the different ways people died during the war, something that will upset sensitive readers. At times, Presser's own search seemed the most moving because his writing revealed the depth of his emotions. Then a small, quiet moment concerning his relatives would resonate, something that will make readers question how they would have reacted.

Presser also debates who owns the stories told about the Holocaust. He questions if discovering a story was **See "Story" on page 6**

## LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: Griffith Adirondack Escape, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was April 11, 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:** The name of the limited liability company is: Midstate Laundry, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was April 11, 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 Student Quarters, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is April 11, 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: 2508 Delaware St SE Apt 364D, Minneapolis, MN 55414.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED**

**PARTNERSHIP LAW**

1. The name of the family limited partnership ("LP") is PSM Family Limited Partnership.
2. The date of filing of the Certificate of Limited Partnership with the Secretary of State is JANUARY 23, 2014.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LP is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LP 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 LP served upon him or her is: 125 Krager Road, Binghamton, New York 13904.
5. Latest date which LP is to dissolve is December 31, 2060.
6. The character or purpose of the business of the LP is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Mindful Psychiatry, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/01/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2613 Purdue Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: to practice the profession of Medicine.

Notice of Qualification of Fairview Hotels LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/03/19. Office location: Broome County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 03/13/19. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Unisearch, Inc., 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210-2822, also the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Address to be maintained in DE: c/o Unisearch, Inc., 28 Old Rudnick Ln., Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secy. of State, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of SRN Operational Excellence Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/08/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3628 Turner Dr., Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Spark Broome, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/15/19. Office location: Broome County.

SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 320 N. Jensen Rd., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: GR Mayer Realty, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was April 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: Christopher L. Roma, 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: Evelyn Mayer Properties, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was April 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: Christopher L. Roma, 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 53 George LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/6/2019. 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: Phillip Guglielmo, 185 Richards Road, Chenango Forks, NY 13746. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of On Point AG, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/6/2019.



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

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: Damien Cornwell, 122 State Street, 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 L & C Hemp Farms, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 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: 14 Tobey Road Harpursville, New York, 13787.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Saccyo Holdings, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/24/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o John Sacco, 100 Oakdale Rd., Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Qualification of BNY Enterprises LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/24/19. Office location: Broome County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 03/06/19. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Unisearch, Inc., 99 Washington Ave Ste 805A, Albany, NY 12210-2822, also the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Address to be maintained in DE: c/o UNISEARCH, INC., 28 Old Rudnick Ln., Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secy. of State, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. 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 River Terrace 32 LLC.

2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 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: 98 Scotts Landing Road, Southampton, NY 11968.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS CONTRACTORS LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 5/3/2019. Office in Cortland Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 4004 West Cheningo Rd., Truxton, NY 13158, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:** The name of the limited liability company is: Faughnan Business, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was May 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 Attn: Sharon Faughnan, 1 Williams Place, Binghamton, NY 13903. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Grace Valentine Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/09/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Ralph W.V. Sedore, 136 N. Jensen Rd., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Binghamton Blonde LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/08/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 145 Kay Rd., Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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# Albert Einstein's brilliance, humor and literal connection to Israel

By Israel Kasnett

(JNS) – One thing is for sure. While the writing on the pages lying on the table under a clear protective glass appeared as nonsensical gibberish or useless, mind-bending mathematical equations, they were anything but. These were some of Albert Einstein's original manuscripts – 110 pages in all – recently donated to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem by the Crown-Goodman Family Foundation, purchased from Gary Berger, a private collector in North Carolina.

The pages, donated just before Einstein would have turned 140 (he was born on March 14, also commonly known as Pi Day, when mathematics is celebrated), are just further testament to Einstein's intellectual legacy. His contributions to science are world-renowned and far-reaching. However, not many people make the connection between the Jewish physicist and the state of Israel, and how his theories years ago contributed to the science behind Israel's alleged second-strike nuclear capabilities, as well as SpaceIL's lunar lander "Beresheet," which recently hurtled at 6.5 miles per second through space toward an eventually unsuccessful moon landing.

Einstein was one of the founders of Hebrew University in Jerusalem. To him, the university represented a combined commitment to a Jewish identity, the pursuit of truth and respect for all human beings. For these reasons, Einstein bequeathed his personal and scientific writings to the university, and the Albert Einstein Archives were born. As the archives' academic director Professor Hanoch Gutfreund shared, "We at the Hebrew University are proud to serve as the eternal home for Albert Einstein's intellectual legacy, as was his wish."

Karen Cortell Reisman, the granddaughter of Einstein's cousin, Lina Kocherthaler, flew in from Texas to attend the celebration. She shared personal experiences of growing up and being related to Einstein. "Whenever someone came to visit our home, we always showed them our 'Einstein Wall,'



L-r: Albert Einstein and David Ben-Gurion (Photo courtesy of Israel GPO)

which was full of photos and letters from my grandmother's famous cousin," she recalled. Kocherthaler and Einstein often traveled together, and remained in close contact throughout their lives, sharing decades' worth of correspondence. "Later, when I got married, instead of a Tiffany bowl or crystal vase, I asked my family for a gift that would be much more meaningful to me: a July 1949 letter that Einstein, along with my father and mother, wrote to Lina," said Cortell Reisman.

She offered a glimpse of the man behind the theories and explained that she wanted to show Einstein as a man with humility, grace and a sense of humor. She shared that he once wrote to a relative who was moving homes, quipping that she was moving her "center of gravity."

Dr. Roni Grosz, curator of the Einstein archives, said this is the largest collection of Einstein-related documents in the world – with more than 82,000 items to date – and will remain the foremost collection. "On this occasion," he said, "I want to take the opportunity to explain what it means for an archives to acquire 110 documents of this caliber. This is a rare find. While the content was known... these papers are a generous donation to the archives. It adds prestige to our institution."

Grosz explained that the originals "are an important addition to our collection" though he emphasized that it would take time for his department to understand them fully, as "we do not know yet which pages belong together."

The new collection contains a handwritten, unpublished appendix to a scientific article on the Unified Theory that Einstein submitted to the Prussian Academy of Science in 1930. This article was one of many in Einstein's attempts to unify the forces of nature into one, single theory, and he devoted the last 30 years of his life to this effort, which physicists are still grappling with today. This appendix, Page 3, has never before been seen or studied, and was thought lost until now.

There is also a letter from Einstein to his son Hans Albert, who was living in Switzerland at the time. Einstein expresses concern about the deteriorating situation in Europe and the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany: "I read with some apprehension that there is quite a movement in Switzerland, instigated by the German bandits. But I believe that even in Germany things are slowly starting to change. Let's just hope we won't have a

Europe war first... the rest of Europe is now starting to finally take the thing seriously, especially the British. If they would have come down hard a year and a half ago, it would have been better and easier."

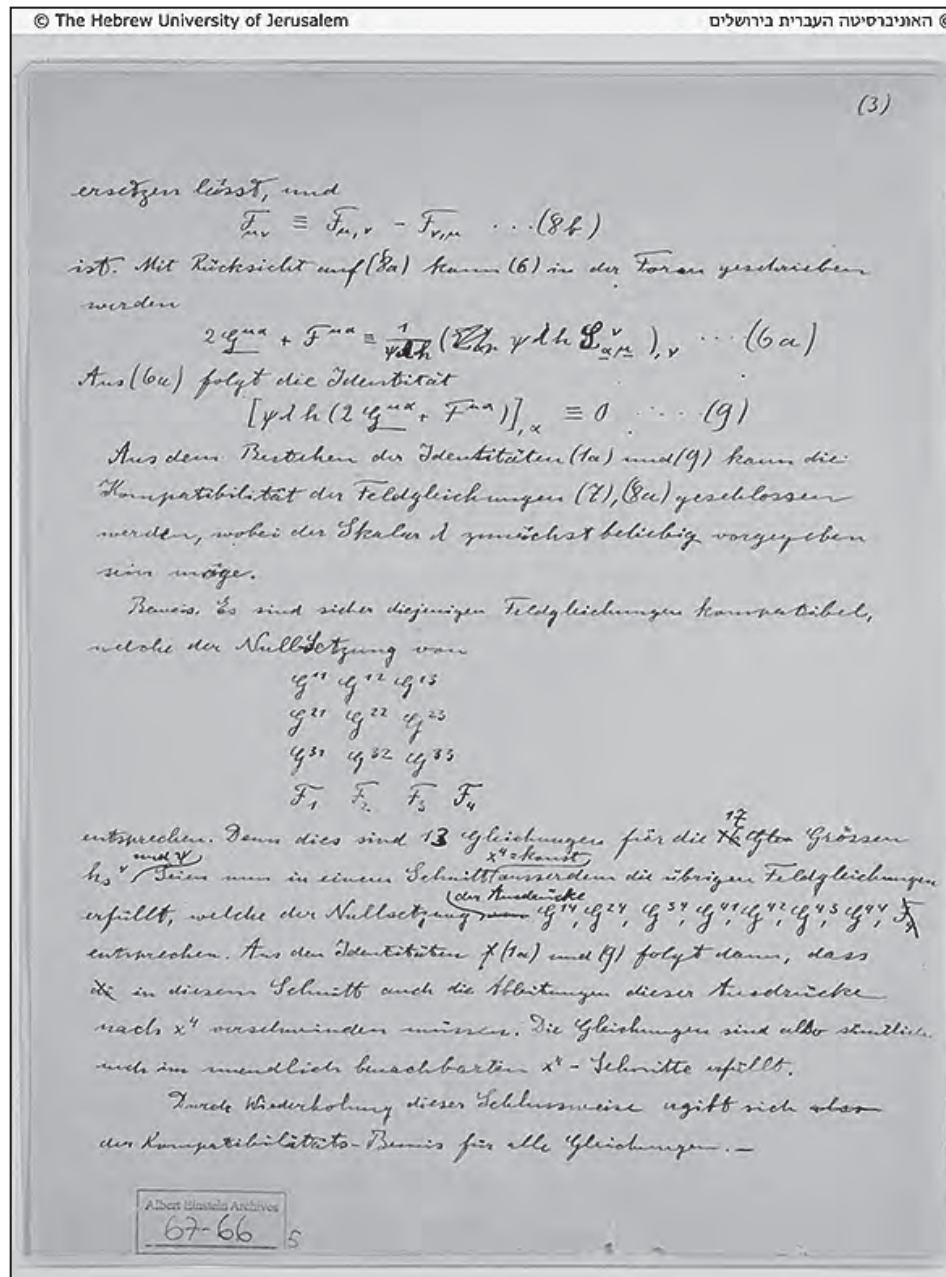
Four letters from Einstein to his life-long friend and fellow scientist, Michele Besso, are also included. Three of the 1916 letters refer to Einstein's monumental work, based on a "glorious idea" about the absorption and emission of light by atoms. (This idea later became the basis for laser technology.) In the fourth letter, Einstein confesses that after 50 years of thinking about it, he still does not understand the quantum nature of light.

The letters to Besso also contain Einstein's witty and personal remarks about family matters and Jewish identity. In one, he teases Besso for having converted to Christianity: "You will certainly not go to hell, even if you had yourself baptized." Though Einstein is impressed that Besso is learning Hebrew and shared, "As a goy, you are not obliged to learn the language of our fathers, whilst I as a 'Jewish saint' must feel ashamed at the fact that I know next to nothing of it. But I prefer to feel ashamed than to learn it."

Gutfreund said, "This is a birthday present for Einstein... The importance of having originals is that it has significant research value."



At right: Photo of Karen Cortell Reisman's grandparents, Lina and Julius Kocherthaler, with Albert Einstein (second from left). Lina is to the right of Einstein, in a white kerchief, and Julius, in the cap, is beside her. (Photo by Ardon Bar-Hama/Einstein Archives at Hebrew University)



Albert Einstein's 1930 appendix on Unified Theory. (Photo by Ardon Bar-Hama/Einstein Archives at Hebrew University)

**2 weeks, 2 films left!**

**Thursday, May 30 - 7pm • City of Joel**

"City of Joel" is a documentary - with unprecedented access - to a 1.1 square mile shtetl in the suburbs that is home to 22,000 members of one of the most insular and orthodox Hasidic sects. We follow the battles they are waging to survive. Just 50 miles north of New York City, the Satmar sect has built Kiryas Joel as a religious haven where they can be fruitful, multiply and follow the 613 rules of the Talmud. But with some of the highest rates of marriage, birth and religious observance in the country, they have to keep up with this growth, but their neighbors fight back because they believe it will harm the environment and tilt the balance of political power.

**Sunday, June 2 - 7pm • Shoelaces**

Ruven (Doval'e Glickman) is a gruff, sixty-year-old man who owns a small auto repair shop in Tel Aviv. He was once married but has long been divorced. When his wife gave birth, the couple found out that their son Gadi (Nevo Kimchi) had special needs. Ruven and his wife eventually split up, with Ruven's wife and Gadi moving out of town. One day Ruven gets a phone call telling him that his ex-wife has died. He goes to the funeral and finds out from a social worker, named Ilana (Evelin Hagoel) that he has to take in Gadi, who is now in his 30s, for a few weeks until a facility opens up with a space that Gadi can permanently live in.

All films will be shown at The JCC, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, New York, and will start at 7pm. Each screening will be followed by a discussion of the picture led by a community member. The films are open to the entire community. Tickets cost \$10 per evening or \$45 for a subscription. The event is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton and donors are soon to be announced.

# Deciphering the past

## Bible-era chicken egg reconstructed in Israel, cracking historical mystery

By Abigail Klein Leichman

Reprinted with permission from *Israel 21c*

Shells of chicken eggs found in excavations at Jerusalem's City of David, dating from the end of the First Temple era (c.1000-586 B.C.E.), have been analyzed and reconstructed using 21<sup>st</sup> century technology.

The eggs confirm the place of domesticated chickens on the dinner plates of Jerusalem's upper class in biblical times, according to a study led by Prof. Zohar Amar of the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan.

The study analyzed several hundred eggshell fragments found in refuse and ash during excavations by archeologist Eilat Mazar about a decade ago.

Amar examined all the fragments using a new algorithm developed by Dr. Avshalom Karasik of the Israel Antiquities Authority for the reconstruction of pottery

vessels. He found enough large pieces to reconstruct one full egg.

The reconstruction shows that the height was about 50 mm, its diameter 40 mm and its total volume 61 cc – similar to the size and volume of modern chicken eggs.

This finding has important implications in the field of talmudic Jewish law (*halachah*), which makes use of a measurement called "*kabeytzah*" (like an egg).

Amar noted that eggshells are rarely found in archae-

ological digs because of their fragility. This discovery is especially significant because it's the earliest evidence of chicken eggs found thus far in the Near East. Until now, the only chicken-related archaeological finds from the biblical period in Jerusalem were a few bones and several seals of the royal house bearing the image of a fighting rooster.

Amar will share the finding of the study at a Bar-Ilan conference next month on agriculture and nature in ancient Israel. Later on, it will be published.

## Ancient Golan Heights stone marker finally deciphered

By JNS staff

(JNS) – A large stone artifact which once served as a decoration in the garden of a home in Moshav Ramot has been identified as a rare Roman-era milestone inscribed with the name of Roman emperor Maximinus Thrax, a commoner who briefly became leader of Rome 1,800 years ago.

The marker is one of three discovered in 2018 in the small agricultural town of Moshav Ramot in the Golan Heights. When they were created, the markers were erected approximately every mile along the nearly 1,000 miles of road the Romans laid down in Israel.

Upon discovery, Haifa University set about to decipher the Greek inscription chiseled into the item using state-of-the-art technology, but were unable to determine what it said. Ultimately, Dr. Gregor Stab from Cologne University

was able to crack the riddle in March, utilizing the simple, old-school method of paper rubbing. Greek epigrapher Stab is a new member of an archaeological team engaged in a 20-year excavation of the Kinneret-region site of Sussita.

The new marker would have been placed somewhere between Sussita and the Golan.

Maximinus was born to an average Roman family around 173 C.E., and rose up through the ranks of the Roman army to lead the Italian Fourth Legion. He was elected emperor by the Praetorian Guard, an elite unit of the Imperial Roman army whose members served as personal bodyguards to the Roman emperors, in 235 C.E.

Just three years later, his troops deserted him while marching on Rome, and he and his son were executed by rebellious troops.

## Story . . . . . Continued from page 4

untrue or embellished means "inadvertently fanning the flames of Holocaust denial, that horrid beast that feeds on the doubt we might create. Such is the historiographical tightrope we walk." Yet, he persists because he believes each survivor has the right to tell his/her story in their own way. Presser's hybrid work is impressive, so much so it won the 2018 National Jewish Book Award Goldberg Prize for Debut Fiction. Readers interested in the intersection of memory and a slightly different look at the Holocaust will find much of interest.

### Community Calendar

The Community Calendar can be found on the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton's website, [www.jfgeb.org](http://www.jfgeb.org), by clicking on "calendar." Updates or additions of events for the calendar can be made by contacting the Federation through its website (click on "calendar" and then "click here to request a change to the calendar") or by calling 724-2332.

## A 1,500-year-old cistern in Jerusalem could open to public

By JNS staff

(JNS) – The Jerusalem Municipality began renovating a playground earlier this year in the Katamon neighborhood, where a 1,500-year-old water cistern uncovered there more than a decade ago might now become a national site.

Discovered in 2005 as a well-preserved relic, the cistern was approximately half the size of an Olympic-sized pool, according to documentation by now-retired Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologist Uzi Dahari and See "Cistern" on page 11

# SENIOR LIVING

## Should you stay in your home or move during retirement?

(NAPSI) – The choice about where to live in retirement is considered one of the most crucial decisions that a senior makes. It's not just a financial consideration, it can also be a highly emotional issue as a retiree's home is often the anchor to their golden years.

"One needs to think about where to live, how long to stay there and whether to move later in retirement," writes

Wade Pfau, Ph.D., professor of retirement income at The American College, and a contributor to *Forbes.com*. "There are plenty of justifications for either staying put or moving early in retirement."

There are a few questions that a senior should ask before deciding whether to stay in their home or to relocate during retirement:

1. Are you making accurate comparisons?

If you stay in your home, you may need to make improvements or renovations in the future to accommodate changing needs. If you move to a new home, you may incur expenses associated with fix-up costs and moving expenses. Make sure you are considering total costs in either scenario.

2. Are you open to renting?

"It can be hard for retirees who have spent their lives building equity in their homes – and being taught about the virtues of homeownership – to become renters," reported *The Wall Street Journal*. "But renting a home in a city before buying can give retirees a chance to really know if it's the place they want to spend retirement." Moreover, the cost of ownership in many locations actually exceeds the cost of renting, so it may be prudent to consider this option for both short- and long-term possibilities.

3. Where will you have access to important services?

Every consumer looks into the quality of restaurants, supermarkets and other day-to-day retail offerings when scouting out a possible new residential location. Seniors must be especially concerned about practical considerations, such as the number of nearby physicians who accept Medicare, convenient transportation for those who are unable to drive, See "Stay" on page 8



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# Syracuse Jewish Music and Cultural Festival set for Sept. 15

The 20<sup>th</sup> Syracuse Jewish Music and Cultural Festival has been set for Sunday, September 15, from noon-5:30 pm, at the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center, 5655 Thompson Rd., DeWitt, NY. This event is the largest of its kind outside of New York City.

"As always, the music is the main draw," said Marci Erlebacher, executive director of the JCC. "But we have terrific kosher foods that reflect both Middle Eastern and Eastern European favorites, beer and wine to keep you cool, and a variety of artisans and vendors. And there's free parking on and around the JCC campus."

Kids' activities will once again include The Kids Tent hosted by the Jewish Community Center, the Robert Rogers Puppet Theater, face painting and PJ Library.

The music schedule is as follows:

- ☼ noon-1 pm - West of Odessa
- ☼ 1:30 pm-2:20 pm - Keyna Hora Klezmer Band - A day



The Syracuse Jewish Music and Cultural Festival will be held on Sunday, September 15, from noon-5:30 pm, at the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center in DeWitt, NY.

at the Yiddish Theatre

- ☼ 3 pm-4:15 pm - Boichik
- ☼ 4:30 pm-5:30 pm - Farah

Catering by The Oaks at Menorah Park will provide a selection of kosher foods, under Va'ad supervision, including corned beef, knishes, hot dogs, falafel, kugel, beer and wine. Carvel will also be on site with its festival ice cream offerings.

The event is sponsored by Price Chopper; the Dorothy and Marshall M. Reisman Foundation; Pomeranz, Shankman and Martin Charitable Foundation; Jewish Federation of Central New York; Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center; a state grant secured by Senator John A. DeFrancisco; Paul B. and Georgina H. Roth Charitable Foundation; *Jewish Observer*; CNY Arts; M&T Bank; *Syracuse New Times*; and Key Bank.

For more information, visit the festival's website at [www.SyracuseJewishFestival.org](http://www.SyracuseJewishFestival.org).

## The National Soaring Museum at Harris Hill, NY

Elmira, NY, is known as the "Soaring Capital of America." Early soaring pilots found that the terrain over the Chemung Valley was very favorable for soaring and Elmira was chosen as the location for the first international soaring contest in 1930.

Over the years, the National Soaring Museum has evolved as one of the largest soaring museums in the world, with a significant collection of historical and vintage gliders and sailplanes. From the Wright Brothers' early glider to the high-performance sailplanes of the present day, more than 30 examples are on display.

The museum itself houses not only sailplanes, but also presents a vast array of soaring trophies, memorabilia

and photography. A trip through the National Soaring Museum presents the history of soaring in America and celebrates Elmira's role in soaring history.

Located atop Harris Hill in Elmira, the National Soaring Museum is open year-round. In addition to the museum, there is a large playground, amusement park, swimming pool and picnic area on the Harris Hill campus, including the Harris Hill Soaring Corporation Flight Center, where visitors can purchase a sailplane flight over the Chemung Valley. Flights are available during the spring, summer and fall, weather permitting.

For more information, visit [www.soaringmuseum.org](http://www.soaringmuseum.org) or call 607-734-3128.



An overview of the National Soaring Museum's main exhibit hall.

## JCC summer camp fun is just around the corner!

There's plenty of summer camp fun and adventure for children and teens to experience at the Sam Pomeranz Jewish Community Center of Syracuse this year! The JCC's Camp Joe and Lynne Romano summer day camp will run weekdays for eight weeks from July 1-August 23. There will be plenty of non-stop excitement, fun and adventure for everyone to experience.

Each week, campers will have a blast making new friends and participating in enriching activities. There's nothing boring about summer camp at the JCC, as campers go swimming and are kept active every day.

Camp enrollment is broken out into three different age groups. The early childhood camp is for children 6-weeks old through entering kindergarten, school-age camp is open to children entering grades one-six and the SyraCruisin' teen travel camp is for young teens entering grades seven-10.

Each camp day begins and ends at the JCC at 5655 Thompson

Rd., DeWitt. Depending on the camp, some campers may go off-site for scheduled field trips and specialty camp activities. Early and late care options are available for all campers.

The JCC's more than 30 specialty camps for school-age children allow kids to explore a specific interest area for an entire week. In addition to staples such as gymnastics, art, rocketry and fishing, this year's new Specialty Camps such as Bricks 4 Kidz Coding and Video Game Design and Bricks 4 Kidz Game Over Jr. Engineers are sure to be instant hits.

Young teens ages 14 and 15 looking to take on some responsibility should check out the Camp Aide and Counselor in Training (or CIT) programs. They offer many opportunities to hone teamwork and leadership skills.

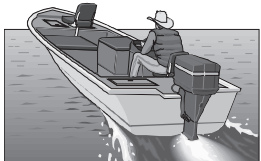
Camp Romano registration is currently in full swing. Register your child anytime right up until the start of camp on July 1 and throughout the summer prior to the start of each camp session. But don't delay. Spots go quickly and some school-age specialty camp sessions close out early. Except for the Camp Aide and Counselor in Training teen programs, current JCC membership is not necessary for Camp Romano registration. However, JCC members receive discounted camp rates. A discount for siblings is also available.



L-r: Anna Centolella, Scarlett Yaddow and Brian Russell were all smiles while fishing at Willow Bay at Onondaga Lake Park with the JCC's Fishing Camp last summer. This year's JCC Camp Joe and Lynne Romano season will run from July 1-August 23.

## Snake Creek Marine

Snake Creek Marine is a third generation, family-run business located in Montrose, PA. It has been a Mercury dealer since 1972 and Starcraft dealer since 1974. Stop in and check out the inventory of Starcraft fiberglass runabouts, Arima fishing boats, aluminum fishing boats and pontoons.



Snake Creek Marine also sells boat lifts and boating accessories. Accessories help to make your boat unique to your needs. Items such as global positioning systems (GPS), extra seating, rod storage, draw plugs and bikini tops, just to name a few accessories, are among the many products displayed in the vast showroom.

Snake Creek Marine's helpful staff can get you on the water and keep you there. For further information, visit Snake Creek Marine's Web site at [www.snakecreekmarine.net](http://www.snakecreekmarine.net) or call 570-967-2109 or 1-800-453-3820.

## Binghamton Zoo at Ross Park summer events

The Binghamton Zoo at Ross Park is dedicated to promoting awareness and stewardship of the natural world, locally and globally, through education, conservation and community engagement.

Tucked into Binghamton's south mountain, the Binghamton Zoo provides a plethora of educational experiences, special events and inspiring natural sceneries for the surrounding communities.

At the Binghamton Zoo, staff commitment to animal care and wildlife conservation is the top priority. The

zoo participates in more than 25 Species Survival Plans. Its naturalistic exhibits and barriers allow visitors to get up close to see animals from all over the world. Not to mention, there's a mile-long loop to get your exercise in while enjoying the animals!

Guests have another opportunity for an up-close-and-personal look at the animals by booking a Wild Encounter. The programs allow participants to go beyond the public barriers and behind the scenes with the two-toed sloth, African penguins, snow leopard, or animals in the Children's Zoo. Participants will learn about the animals featured in the encounter, their adaptations, threats and individual personalities, as well as how zoo staff care for the animals. Program length varies based on animal interest, though is typically 45 minutes to one hour. Each package offers a **See "Zoo" on page 3A**

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# Arts and Wine Festival in Cortland

Start your holiday shopping at the Cultural Council's 13<sup>th</sup> annual Arts and Wine Festival on August 3, from 10 am-5 pm, in historic Courthouse Park in downtown Cortland. You can purchase children's books, artwork and artisan crafts, while enjoying music and foods throughout the day.

Children and adults alike will enjoy listening and moving to music by favorites such as Fall Creek Brass, Answer the Muse, Basin Street Jazz Band, John Melvin and students, Seven Leaf Clover, and Crown City Brass. There are also performances and oodles of fun activities both in and out of the Children's Tent to enjoy. There will be a puppet show and puppet-making workshop by puppeteer Lily Silly and a performance by Nate Marshall, whom you may know as the entertainer Nate the Great. Children's author Suzanne Bloom will be here, selling and signing books, reading stories and drawing characters from the "Bus for Us," "No Place for a Pig," "A Splendid Friend



The annual Arts and Wine Festival in Cortland will feature a variety of artists.

Indeed" and her many other books. You might also enter the sidewalk chalk art competition.

A variety of foods will be available for purchase in the food court from the following vendors: The Chef and the Cook/ Chef4Rent Food Truck, Natural Vibes, Bill

Anderson's Farm Markets, Gwen's Grill, The Cortland Crush Dog House, Lulu's Kettlecorn and Oompa Loompyas. There will be a wide assortment of food from which to select: Singapore street noodles; rice bowls; candied yams; duck confit crepes; seafood dishes; tacos; salads of all sorts; barbecued ribs and chicken; fried ribs and chicken; hot dogs; Gianelli sausages; salt potatoes; loompyas; and more. Milkshakes, juices,

smoothies and other drinks will be available, as well as snack foods.

The Wine Tent, with returning and new vendors, will be open from noon-5 pm for those 21-plus with valid IDs. There will be new wines and ciders for sampling and purchase that will also make great gifts.

Apple vodka will be available for purchase only. Tickets for the wine tent are \$16 online starting on June 1. They will cost \$20 at the festival. All other activities are free. This is what you would pay for tastings at just a few wineries.

This event is presented by the Cultural Council of Cortland County, which thanks its major sponsors, to date, who make this event possible: Equus Advisors, CNYArts, Ralph R. Wilkins Foundation Inc., McNeil Development Co. LLC, Cayuga Medical Center, Chemung Canal Trust, CFCU, The Local Food Market and Café, Cinch Art Space, Cortland Eye Center, NBT Bank and Tompkins Trust Company.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.culturalcouncilofcortlandcounty.org](http://www.culturalcouncilofcortlandcounty.org) or contact Executive Director Kat McCarthy at [culturalcouncil3@gmail.com](mailto:culturalcouncil3@gmail.com) or 607-753-1188. Festival organizers look forward to seeing you on August 3 in celebration of the arts!

# Summer theater season at Auburn Public Theater

Auburn Public Theater is a nonprofit performing arts center located in the heart of downtown Auburn. Since 2006, its mission has been to enrich the social, cultural and economic growth of the Finger Lakes region by bringing people together through access to live performance, cinema, arts education and community events.

Known for dynamic and engaging live programming, APT offers performance series in comedy, music and theater. You can find comedians along with local openers on APT's stage. From Ahamed Weinberg to Tammy Pescatelli, APT is committed to bringing high quality, diverse comics to Auburn. The line-up of local, national and international music acts on the Main Stage has been called "elite and eclectic." From local groups like Root Shock to national

recording artists like this July's performance from MacArthur Genius Grammy winner Rhiannon Giddens, APT is committed to providing affordable and accessible musical experiences to Central New York.

APT offers theatrical performances year-round, highlighted by the summer theater season. This summer, longtime Auburn favorites The Calamari Sisters will open the season July 3-13. The Summer Theater Season is then crowned by a performance of "Kafka's Metamorphosis: The Musical" on July 26-27 and August 1-2. This original work was created by The Shylock Project, a theatre company based in Syracuse led by Matt Chiorini and Travis Newton, performing arts professors at Le Moyne College.

"Kafka's Metamorphosis: The Musical," based on Franz Kafka's novella, tells the

story of Gregor Samsa turning into a large cockroach and how his family does or doesn't deal with his metamorphosis. The story is interwoven with the real-life story of Kafka and excerpts from his heart-breaking letter to his father. This fascinating story, told with puppets, shadowplay, black light and an array of low-tech theatrical conventions, has been called a surreal and satisfying musical adaptation that goes from hilarious to haunting, and back again.

This show had its world premiere at the Montreal Fringe Festival, garnering rave reviews from Broadway World, Le Nouveau Goliard and more. It was nominated for "Best English Production" of Montreal Fringe. It will also appear in 2019 at the New York Musical Festival. Le Nouveau Goliard said, "If there is one show to see this year, this is it!"

Auburn Public Theater is committed to creating a vibrant atmosphere in downtown Auburn through the arts and is an economic leader in Auburn's renaissance. Come see "Kafka's Metamorphosis" and enjoy dinner downtown, one of the many local breweries,



The cast of "Kafka's Metamorphosis: The Musical" performed at a show preview in summer 2018 at Le Moyne College before heading to the Montreal Fringe Festival to rave reviews.

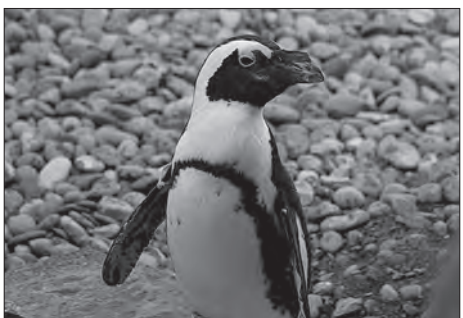
and see the many historic landmarks and cultural sites of Auburn. Tickets are available at [auburnpublictheater.org](http://auburnpublictheater.org), Eventbrite.com, or by calling the box office Mondays 10 am-2 pm and Fridays 10 am-2 pm at 315-253-6669. The box office opens one hour before all shows.

## Zoo..... Continued from page 2A

unique feature dependent on the species, and 10 percent of each Wild Encounter admission will be added to the Binghamton Zoo's Global Conservation Fund, which is supporting the Red Wolf Coalition in 2019.

The zoo also offers incredible educational opportunities for local students. The Zoo School program allows students from ages 4-13 to learn all about wildlife conservation and animals. Through games, crafts and hands-on animal encounters, children learn about the natural world and the animals they share it with. The zoo is also offering a Ross Park Rangers session for 14-17-year-olds in conjunction with the Jr. Docent program. The summer is filled with great opportunities to have fun and learn at the zoo. The Summer Zoo School program runs from July 15-August 23, with each week of programming covering a different topic and teaching a different age group.

The Binghamton Zoo holds several annual fund-raisers that range from the family friendly, to adults-only, but all of which will create great memories for all! Events include



Dyer the African penguin is one of the many Binghamton Zoo residents.

Zoo Brew and Wine Too, Ice Cream Safari, Feast with the Beasts, and Boo at the Zoo.

The best way to get the most out of the Binghamton Zoo is to become a member. Membership benefits include free admission to the zoo, access to Members Only Nights, discounts to special events and much more. Visit [rossparkzoo.com](http://rossparkzoo.com) for a full list of membership benefits and package details. Zoo staff hope to see you at the Binghamton Zoo this summer!

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# Revitalizing the 3,000-year-old Har HaZeitim cemetery in Jerusalem

By Shlomo Deutsch

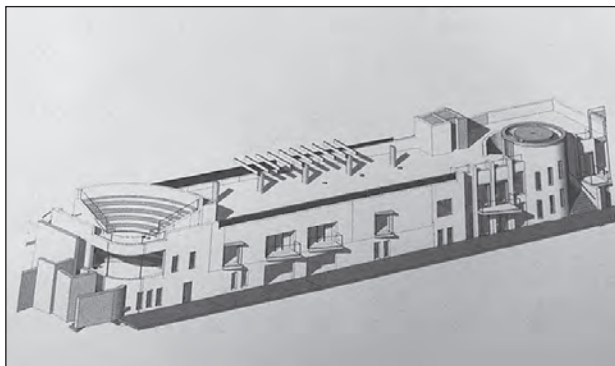
(JNS) – Israel’s oldest cemetery, Har HaZeitim – better known as the Mount of Olives – is expected to be rejuvenated in the upcoming years.

Overlooking the Temple Mount, the 3,000-year-old reservoir of Jewish history is the resting place for more than 150,000 Jews, including the prophets Zechariah, Chaggai and Malachi; former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin; and many leading rabbis and Chasidic masters. The mountain is speckled with many churches, making it a holy site for Christians, as well.

Since the birth of Israel in 1948, Har HaZeitim and its surrounding areas have been called highly contested. The 1949 Armistice Agreement bifurcated Jerusalem with Israel controlling the west and Jordan the east. Although Jews were promised free access to the holy sites and cultural institutions, as well as use of the cemetery on the Mount of Olives, the Jordanians – in an effort to delegitimize the indigenous Jewish presence of the area – proceeded to raze virtually all of the Old City’s synagogues, build a hotel on top of Jewish burial sites and destroy more than 35,000 Har HaZeitim graves. In June 1967, Har HaZeitim, the Old City and the rest of eastern Jerusalem were liberated by Israel in the Six-Day War.

Although Jordanian rule is long gone from Har HaZeitim, the area continues to face international attention. It has also drawn Arab violence, attacks and graveyard desecration.

At right: Graphic design of the visitors center, design is subject to change. (Photo courtesy of the International Committee for Har HaZeitim)



Co-chairman of the International Committee for Har HaZeitim Menachem Lubinsky, whose parents are buried there, told JNS about what he called a “devastating” 2010 report by Israel’s then state comptroller, Micha Lindenstrauss, that described the cemetery as a mountain that served as the drug capital of eastern Jerusalem and was characterized by strewn garbage, damaged gravesites and constant Arab rock-throwing.

The report served to compel Lubinsky’s brother, Avraham, to form the International Committee for Har HaZeitim. The committee, which looks to assure that the sanctity of the deceased is preserved – and that Har HaZeitim is a safe and secure site for mourners, local residents and tourists – has installed 176 surveillance cameras, lobbied for the establishment of a police station in 2012 and updated the fencing and gating encompassing the area. Additional security measures have been implemented by Isra-

el’s Ministry of Housing, which provides a security unit to accompany visitors free of charge.

The city notes that the improvements have been successful, bringing reports of 300 acts of Arab violence in 2013 to just a few instances over the last three years. In turn, police officials say that up to 2,500 people are now visiting Har HaZeitim daily, compared to only 10 percent of that figure five years ago. The International Committee for Har HaZeitim is looking to install additional security cameras on access roads, as well as increase patrolling by Border Police, improve lighting in many areas and restore some 45,000 gravesites.

Lubinsky said the committee hopes to see “the cemetery itself and its environs better policed, and thousands of visitors come, thanks to a new educational center” that’s in the works.

The visitor center is slated to measure 32,000 square feet when done and include a

research area, lecture hall and other facilities containing literature about Har HaZeitim.

Those involved with the project hope to use Har HaZeitim to teach Jews, especially the young, about their heritage. That includes Jeff Daube, Israel director of the Zionist Organization of America and co-chairman of the Israel chapter of the International Committee for Har HaZeitim, who calls the cemetery “the greatest educational treasure trove when it comes to Jewish history in the world.”

The visitor center and promenade will also serve a strategic purpose, Daube told JNS. He explained that Har HaZeitim used to be deserted because of Arab attacks, but new facilities and accompanying events will “tell our adversaries that we are here to stay.”

Organizers are planning that the cornerstone will be placed by the end of 2019.

A future Jerusalem cable-car stop is also planned. Its establishment would be part of a developing transportation solution to ease traffic in the Old City area, said Nadav Berkowitz of the Jerusalem Development Company, which is behind the implementation of the project. The NIS 200 million (\$55 million) project is estimated to reduce traffic of private vehicles by 30 percent and bus traffic by 50 percent in the Old City area by transporting up to 3,000 people per hour in as many as 72 10-person cabins through the skies of Jerusalem. The 1.5 kilometer (nearly a mile) trip from the Jerusalem First Station railroad site to its final stop at the See “Jerusalem” on page 11

## SENIOR LIVING

### Four ways to remain mentally sharp in retirement

(NAPSI) – Many retirees share a fear of gradually losing their ability to think as clearly as they used to or remember simple information such as other people’s names. And while everyone has the occasional “senior moment,” medical research indicates that aging by itself is generally not a cause of cognitive decline.

“Studies have shown that you can help prevent cognitive decline and reduce the risk of dementia with some basic good health habits,” according to Harvard Medical School’s Healthbeat newsletter.

Here are four simple steps from www.LISA.org to keep your mind sharp at any age:

1. Exercise: It’s important to stay physically active. Simple routines such as taking exercise classes at your health club or taking walks in your neighborhood every day can do wonders for your mental health. Just get moving. “The cognitive benefits of exercise have been understood for so long,” notes the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College.

2. Serve: Research published by the American Psychological Association found that volunteering in later life “is associated with significant psychosocial, physical, cognitive and functional benefits for healthy older adults.” Science is now confirming what many have learned by experience: People often feel better after they have served others and enjoyed the time spent helping someone else.

3. Learn: Experts think that ongoing education and learning new things may help keep you mentally sharp simply by getting you

in the habit of staying mentally active. Take a class from a senior center or community college, make it a habit to visit the library and pick up a new book each week. “Challenging your brain with mental exercise is believed to activate processes that help maintain individual brain cells and stimulate communication among them,” according to Harvard Medical School.

4. Finances: A study published by The Journals of Gerontology found that “financial strain was a strong and robust predictor of worsening mental health” among older adults, including anxiety and depression symptoms. Another way to help keep yourself mentally healthy in retirement is to make sure you have ample cash on hand to help pay off unexpected health care bills or fund any renovations that might need to be made to your home. Many seniors are surprised to learn that one potential asset for generating immediate cash is a life insurance policy.


A life insurance policy is considered your personal prop-

erty and – as such – you have the right to sell that policy anytime you like. When a consumer sells a policy in a “life settlement” transaction, the policy owner receives a cash payment and the purchaser of the policy assumes all future premium payments – then receives the death benefit upon the death of the insured. Candidates for life settlements are typically aged 70 years or older, with a life insurance policy that has a death benefit of at least \$100,000.

To learn more about life settlements, visit www.LISA.org, call the LISA office at 888-672-3917, or talk to your financial or insurance advisor.



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# Love letters of the Shoah: Messages thrown from cattle cars convey final wishes, prayers, blessings

By Deborah Fineblum

(JNS) – Jews have long been known as the people of the book, but fresh evidence has emerged that they're also the people of the letter. Of the millions of Jews who were taken to their deaths during the Holocaust on cattle cars, we will never know how many of them scribbled last words to loved ones, addressed them and tossed them out the train window, hoping against hope that someone would find them and send them on.

It's safe to assume that very few of these desperate attempts to communicate were ever found, and even fewer of them made it to their intended recipients. The miracle is the ones that were discovered alongside the train tracks and, against all odds, reached their destination.

"Last Letters From the Holocaust: 1944," an online exhibit, from Yad Vashem had arrived on its website (www.yadvashem.org.) in time for Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) on May 2. On that day all around Israel (where Yad Vashem sits atop a hillside in Jerusalem), a siren is sounded, and the entire country screeches to a halt. Cars and trucks pull to the side of the road, their occupants climbing out to stand at silent attention. There, too, as in Jewish communities elsewhere around the world, for the last seven decades there have been communal gatherings featuring the

reading of the names of the dead, as well as prayers, songs and the lighting of memorial candles by survivors.

But in recent years as survivors have numbered fewer and fewer, and those who can attend memorials are often wheeled or helped to the stage, their children and grandchildren typically take over candle-lighting duties. With fewer survivors remaining who can testify to what they witnessed, this makes these final letters all the more precious. So says Orit Noiman, a project director at Yad Vashem: "This is why it's so important for us to collect every bit of evidence from the Holocaust; it's the only testimony we have of someone who cannot be with us."

That's the main reason Shaul Ventura decided to donate his mother Anna's last communication, scribbled in the hours before she arrived in Auschwitz in February of 1944. "It's a very emotional thing for us," says Ventura, who was 14 when his mother was killed. "But, as precious as they are to our family (the postcard is one of 14 letters by their mother that the family donated to Yad Vashem), I know now they'll be preserved now, and people who see them in the future will know what this technically advanced modern civilization did to destroy an entire people."

Another motivation for Ventura, 89, was to demonstrate the suffering of Italian Jews, something many people are still unaware of. The last time Ventura saw his mother was in December of 1943, when she ventured from the safety of their hiding place to procure medicine for her ailing mother. After she was captured, she was sent to Fossoli, an Italian work camp. Two months later, she was among the hundreds loaded onto a train bound for Auschwitz, where she was killed. (The horrors of that doomed journey were memorialized by fellow Italian inmate and chemist Primo Levi in his dual-story book "If This Is a Man and The Truce.") As Ventura wrote on the train: "To my very dear ones, My morale is very high. We will see each other soon. Lots of kisses to everyone. All my thoughts are of you."

"Anna wrote on the front of the postcard: 'To the person who finds this, please send it to this address,' and it was almost like she was pleading with an unknown stranger to help her," says Noiman. "We will never know who discovered the postcard and decided to mail it."

"By throwing the letters – and most of them were from

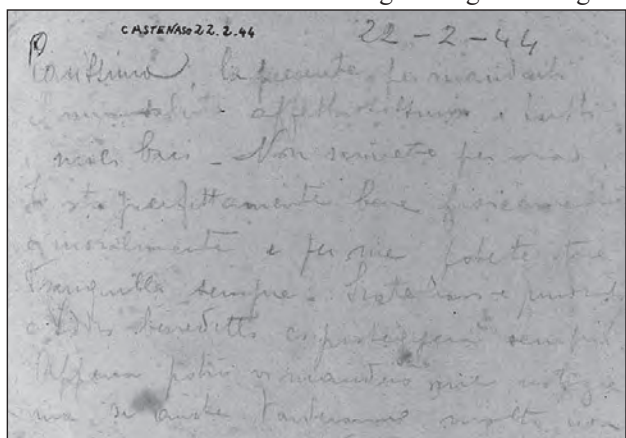


A photograph of Anna Ventura with her four children that she sent to her husband, Luigi, when he was in Paris in 1940. (Photo courtesy of Yad Vashem)

the Jews of Belgium, France and Italy – they were hoping that someone would be human enough to send them on to their family," says Naama Galil, a Yad Vashem project manager who's researching the written material. "Most Western Europeans assumed they were being transported to work, but they weren't sure and wanted their loved ones to hear from them. There were also those who clearly didn't expect to survive this and wanted to collect evidence to tell their experience to generations to come."

"The hope that my mother included in each letter kept our hopes high that she was alive," says Ventura. Indeed, the family clung to those hopes even after moving to pre-state Israel in the spring of 1945, only later accepting that she had been murdered in Auschwitz. All made it out alive except their father, Luigi, and the youngest of the four children: 6-year-old Emanuel, who died of diphtheria at war's end.

What seems amazing is that more than 75 years later, these important bits of evidence are still coming in, says Haim Gertner, director of the Yad Vashem Archives. The world's largest Holocaust collection, the archives holds more than 200 million documents and artifacts, with See "Letters" on page 11



The postcard that Anna Ventura sent just before being deported from Fossoli di Carpi to Auschwitz. (Photo courtesy of Yad Vashem)

# SENIOR LIVING

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## Long-distance caregiving

(NAPSI) – Chances are, at some point you will be a caregiver to a friend or family member. Providing care and support can be challenging in any circumstance, but caring for a loved one who lives far away presents a unique set of challenges. When providing care for loved ones who do not live nearby, keep the following three tips in mind.

1. Plan ahead – Learn your loved one's medical wishes, contact information for doctors, and important financial and insurance information.

2. Research community options – Many older adults need a little help to stay healthy and independent. Area See "Distance" on page 9

## Stay..... Continued from page 6

and community centers with programs for seniors.


4. Would you prefer to age in place or have a change of scenery?

Many people dream about moving to some exotic location for their golden years, but the truth is that 85 percent of retirees stay in the area where they raised their families, according to Realtor.com. Think seriously about whether you're willing to trade your current community for a new one, weighing the pros and cons of aging in place versus charting a new course.

Whether you choose to stay in your home or move during retirement, it will be important to have ample cash on hand that can fund renovations of your existing home or the

purchase of a new one. Many seniors are surprised to learn that one potential asset for generating immediate cash is a life insurance policy. A life insurance policy is considered your personal property and – as such – you have the right to sell that policy any time you like. When a consumer sells a policy in a "life settlement" transaction, the policy owner receives a cash payment and the purchaser of the policy assumes all future premium payments – then receives the death benefit upon the death of the insured. Candidates for life settlements are typically aged 70 years or older, with a life insurance policy that has a death benefit of at least \$100,000, according to www.LISA.org. Talk to your insurance agent or financial advisor to find out if this would benefit you.

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# NASA releases photographs of "Beresheet" lunar crash site

By JNS staff

(JNS)—NASA released pictures on May 15 of the moon after Israel's "Beresheet" spacecraft crashed on it in April 11.

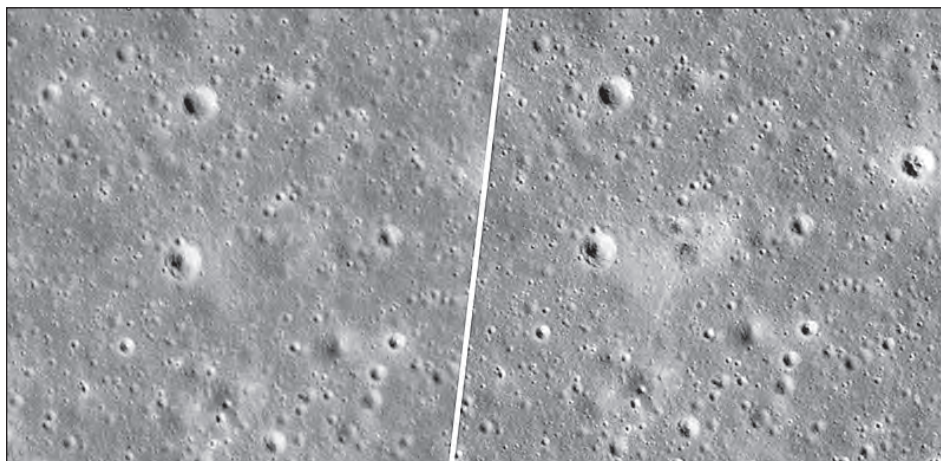
"The cameras captured a dark smudge, about 10 meters wide, that indicates the point of impact," said NASA. "The dark tone suggests a surface roughened by the hard landing, which is less reflective than a clean, smooth surface. ...There are many clues that we're actually looking at a man-made crater, instead of a meteoroid-caused one," added the agency. "This is an important consideration since the moon, having no atmosphere, is constantly bombarded by space rocks that leave craters."

The spacecraft "Beresheet," named after the first word and the first book in the Torah

(meaning "in the beginning"), lifted off from Cape Canaveral on February 21 and almost completed its 6.5-million-kilometer journey to the lunar surface.

Immediately after the result, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that Israel will make another attempt, likely in the next two to three years. SpaceIL Chairman Morris Kahn said shortly thereafter that there will be a second attempt. The SpaceIL effort was assisted by NASA. Only the United States, China, and Russia have landed crafts on the moon, with India working on it.

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine told JNS earlier in May that the agency will "100 percent" be part of "Beresheet 2." "We look forward to it," he said.



NASA released before-and-after photos of the crash area by SpaceIL's "Beresheet" spacecraft, which failed to land on the moon on April 11. (Photos by NASA/GSFC/Arizona State University)

# SENIOR LIVING

## Distance . . . . . Continued from page 8

Agencies on Aging and other community-based organizations can connect caregivers to programs that help with transportation, personal care services, nutrition, home modification and repairs, legal services, fall prevention programs and more.

3. Care for yourself - The Eldercare Locator can connect caregivers to local resources that can help, including caregiver support programs that can provide training, and support groups and other resources that can help caregivers better support their

loved ones - and themselves.

The Eldercare Locator can help both care recipients and their long-distance caregivers. Through its website, [www.eldercare.ad.gov](http://www.eldercare.ad.gov), and national Call Center at 800-677-1116, the Eldercare Locator connects long-distance caregivers to resources that can provide assistance where it is needed most - in the care recipient's own community. The Eldercare Locator is funded by the U.S. Administration for Community Living and is administered by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging.



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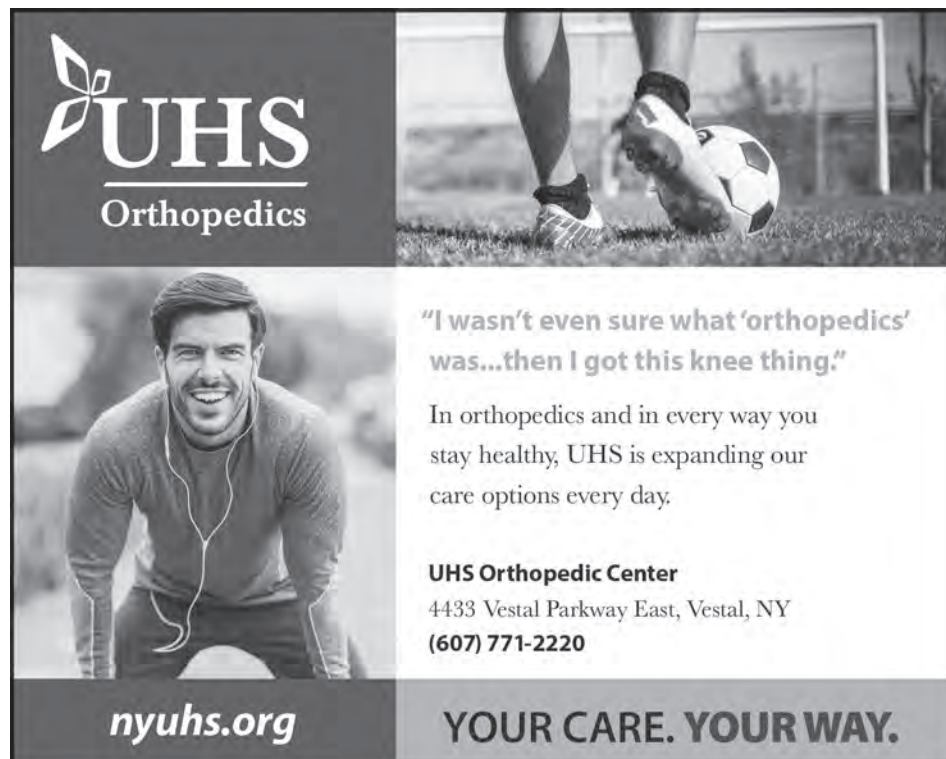
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Behar, Leviticus 25:1-26:2

## Who dictates our choices: society or God?

RABBI ZEV SILBER, BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE

This section differs from much of the book of Leviticus. Instead of presenting laws of the Temple and the priests, spiritual purity and impurity, *kashrut* and holidays, it discusses economic laws and policies that must be instituted in the Jewish state.

The *parasha* talks about *shemitta*, the Sabbatical year when we must leave the land fallow, and *yovel*, the Jubilee year where we not only leave the land fallow, but there are other major changes that occur. Real property that was sold is returned to the original owners, debts are forgiven and slaves are freed. Laws about cash loans and interest charges (forbidden) are discussed, as are laws about sale of land and homes. The Torah also mandates a required process of redemption of family homesteads, as well as redemption of a Jew who sells himself as a slave.

With property law being the theme of the portion, the last two verses seem completely out of place. "You shall not make idols for yourselves, carved images or pillars ... you shall keep my Sabbaths and venerate My sanctuary." (26:1-2)

These verses seem to be more appropriate to begin next week's portion that discusses the rewards and consequences of following God's commands. This is probably the reason that the Christian division of the Bible into chapters actually places these verses in the new chapter. Yet, the Jewish tradition is that these verses conclude the section of property laws.

Rashi notes that the last section of law was that of a Jew who sells himself as a slave to a non-Jewish owner. This law about avoiding idolatry is specifically directed to this person. He may reason that since he is now the property of

and responsible to his non-Jewish owner, he is free to adopt his owner's religion and practices. The Torah is telling this slave that he never is permitted to abandon his Jewish life.

The main theme of Behar is that God is the creator and has total control over the world and its people. He therefore mandates that property and people be restored to their original ownership and condition at the Jubilee.

One who experiences misfortune and despair is prone to fail to take responsibility even of those aspects of life which are still under his control. He may rationalize that if God placed him in this position, in these circumstances, he is no longer bound by rules and expectations of the Torah.

That is what happens to a Jew enslaved to a non-Jew. See "Choices" on page 11

## Congregational Notes

### 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, May 24, at 8 pm, there will be a Shabbat service led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell, Charlie Edwards and his family.

On Saturday, May 25, at 10:30 am, there will be a Shabbat morning service celebrating Charlie Edwards becoming a bar mitzvah. There will be no Torah study due to Memorial Day Weekend.

On Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day), at 10:30 am, there will be a weekday morning service celebrating Laura Klotzkin becoming a bat mitzvah.

On Friday, May 31, at 8 pm, there will be a Shabbat service.

On Saturday, June 1, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.

### 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.

### 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 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.

### 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.twcnc.com  
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org  
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am

On Saturday, May 25, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Leviticus 25:1-26:2. The haftarah will be Jeremiah 32:6-27. The Friedman/Schlaen family will sponsor the kiddush.

On Saturday, May 25, at 9:30 am, there will be the bat mitzvah of Ellie Friedman.

On Monday, May 27, the temple office will be closed for Memorial Day.

On Saturday, June 1, at 9:30 am, there will be the bat mitzvah of Amiella Lissy.

On Wednesday, June 5, at 4 pm, there will be a Sisterhood open meeting.

On Thursday, June 6, at 7 pm, there will be the Annual Congregational meeting.

### 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.

### 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, May 24, light candles before ..... 8:08 pm  
 Saturday, May 25, Shabbat ends ..... 9:09 pm  
 Friday, May 31, light candles before ..... 8:14 pm  
 Saturday, June 1, Shabbat ends ..... 9:15 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  
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 Shabbat Services:  
 Shabbat, May 25 ..... 9 am  
 ..... Mincha after kiddush  
 ..... Maariv, by request  
 Weekday Services:  
 Mornings:  
 Sun., May 26 ..... 8:30 am  
 Mon., May 27 ..... 8:30 am  
 Tues.-Fri., May 29-31 ..... 7 am  
 Evenings:  
 Sun.-Thurs., May 26-30 ..... 8:15 pm  
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

### 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, May 24, services will be held at 8 pm.

On Saturday, May 25, services will be held at 10 am.

On Tuesday, May 28, there will be a temple board meeting at 5:30 pm.

On Friday, May 31, services will be held at 8 pm, highlighted by the installation of temple officers and guest speaker Svante Myrick, mayor of Ithaca. An oneg Shabbat will follow.

On Saturday, June 1, services will be held at 10 am; Tot Shabbat at 11:15 am; and Tea 'n Talmud at 4:30 pm.

On Monday, June 3, at 6:30 pm, an Interfaith Pride Service will be held at First Unitarian Society, corner of Aurora and Buffalo streets.

On Tuesday, June 4, at 7 pm, Sisterhood's Annual Dinner will be held at 104 West.

### 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  
 Website: www.tikkunvor.org  
 E-mail: info@tikkunvor.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.

# Mailbox Shorts

## Yiddish and typewriters

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York City is holding the exhibit "The Rise of the Yiddish Machines: The Typewriter and Yiddish Literature" through December 31. The exhibit features vintage Yiddish typewriters, some of them more than a century old. Also on view will be original typescripts by dozens of famous Yiddish writers, among them Isaac Bashevis Singer, Chaim Grade and Marc Chagall, many with the writers' own editorial markings. Visitors will also have the opportunity to type on a vintage Yiddish typewriter. For more information, visit <https://yivo.org/typewriters>.

## Letters

Continued from page 8

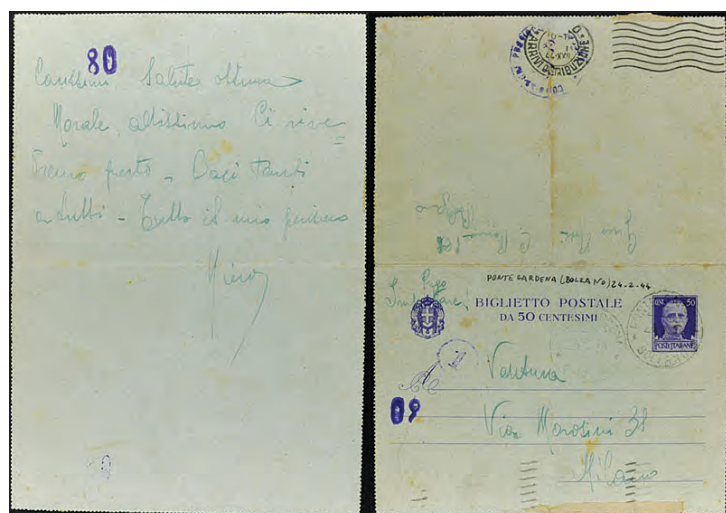
another 250,000 projected to arrive in the next few years. "By donating these, the families know that they are helping preserve the memory of the Holocaust for the Jewish people and the world," says Gertner. "In today's digital era, we can tell the full story and connect in ways we never could before."



Anna Ventura and her husband, Luigi, on their honeymoon in 1921. (Photo courtesy of Yad Vashem)

reluctantly gave that blessing, young Willig stood on a barrel, yanked off the slats and, prying off the barbed wire with one of them, squeezed herself out for the jump. "My grandmother must have understood that if her daughter was going to have a chance of surviving, this was it," says Weisberg. "She was very lucky to fall into a cornfield, where the high corn hid her. Many others who tried were shot."

The train's destination turned out to be Belzec, where more than 600,000 Galician Jews, including Willig's own mother,



The letter that Anna threw from the train window on the way to Auschwitz together with the request, "Please post this letter." (Photo courtesy of Yad Vashem)

Gertner sees the collection as a "real continuation of the efforts of the Jews themselves during the Shoah. Even if they didn't know exactly where they were going, they knew it was no picnic, and they wanted their story told." Next up for Yad Vashem is a state-of-the-art underground repository for all this history: the Shoah Heritage Collection Center, projected to open in 2021.

But letters were not the only things thrown from trains. Often, people threw themselves. And though it's believed that most of those who flung themselves out of moving trains were either killed on impact or by sharpshooter Nazi guards, some lived to tell the tale. Esther Rivka Willig was one of them. The Polish teen, the daughter of the rabbi of Buczacz, noticed that the cattle car had a small window covered with barbed wire and wooden slats, says her daughter, Malky Weisberg, who's a tour guide at Yad Vashem.

"My mother asked for her mother's blessing, saying it was the only way she would attempt to escape," said Weisberg. Three hours of arguing later, after her mother

were destined to be murdered. The young girl, reunited with her first love Yisroel Wagner, married and moved to Beach Haven in Brooklyn, NY, where he would serve as community rabbi for nearly a half-century. "My parents looked at the glass as half-full and were grateful for all they had," says Weisberg. "I always felt they were saved for a reason."

Her mother died three years ago at age 92. A few years earlier, when prepping for hip surgery, she was warned by her doctor of the discomfort she could expect. "She said to the surgeon, 'I jumped off a train. I think I can handle this.'"

Yad Vashem's "Last Letters From the Holocaust: 1944" online exhibit is now live on [www.yadvashem.org](http://www.yadvashem.org).

## Choices

He is now a mere object, stuck in circumstances beyond his control. Since he has been unwillingly thrust into these circumstances, he is no longer accountable for his actions.

Rashi teaches us that despite these circumstances, one is still expected to abide by the Torah.

Today, we no longer have slavery. Judaism abolished this practice about 2,000 years ago and even Western society has forbidden it for almost 200 years. So, how is this law meaningful in 21<sup>st</sup> century society?

I suggest that even though we may not be sold into slavery, we still often view ourselves as slaves to our environment. We are constantly subjected to the economic and financial pressures of a non-Jewish society, and we may be tempted to place the idol of earning money and increased financial gains in front of us as the main objective of life. The desire to be accepted by colleagues and the greater business community becomes the rationale to modify our religious practices, so that we can better blend into society.

The Torah reminds us that despite our circumstance we are still accountable for our actions, we still are required to keep God's laws, we cannot escape from God, irrespective of the situation one finds himself.

## Cistern

Continued from page 6

engineer Ofer Cohen. Measuring 2,422 square feet in area, its maximum volume is around 300,000 gallons.

The head of the IAA Jerusalem region, Yuval Baruch, said the IAA is open to assisting the municipality in what is needed to grant public access to the site.



At right: A 1,500-year-old water cistern in the Katamon neighborhood of Jerusalem might become a public site. (Photo by Israel Antiquities Authority)

## Jerusalem

Continued from page 7

yet-to-be-built Kedem Center near the Old City's Dung Gate is geared to take less than five minutes.

Har HaZeitim has also experienced revitalization due to the establishment of two Jewish communities on the mountain: Ma'alei HaZeitim, which houses more than 120 families; and Beit Orot, with 24 apartment units. Israel tour guide Ari Singer described the motivation for building

communities near the once-lifeless cemetery, saying, "We said enough putting dead Jews there; let's put some living Jews there. So that's what we did."

On June 2, the celebration of Jerusalem Day, the Temple Mount Sifting Project is expected to relaunch on Har HaZeitim at the new Mitzpe Masuot visitor center adjacent to Beit Orot.



A view of Har HaZeitim. (Photo courtesy of the International Committee for Har HaZeitim.)

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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

From JNS.org

**Swedish PM pledges to curb neo-Nazis, protect Jewish community**

Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven has laid out a number of practical steps to be taken by his government to curb neo-Nazi activity and demonstrations, as well as to increase protection of the local Jewish community. "Let me reiterate what I said publicly on [May 1]: It is a disgrace that the scum of history is rearing its ugly head today again," he wrote in a May 18 letter to World Jewish Congress CEO and Executive Vice President Robert Singer, who wrote a letter earlier in May to Löfven, calling for the ban of the Nordic Resistance neo-Nazi party as "there must be zero tolerance for such manifestations of evil." While the country's criminal law forbids all racist sentiments, said Löfven, "further legislative action might be needed the threats posed by organized groups." He went on to announce that there will be a government inquiry to look into "a ban on racist organizations and the criminalization of participation in such organizations." Löfven also mentioned steps that have been taken to combat hatred, including the Swedish Security Service receiving more resources "to prevent foreign and domestic terrorism" and recently establishing "the new Swedish Centre for Preventing Violent Extremism, which will have greater powers to lead the work throughout the country." As of 2016, 15,000 and 25,000 Jews are estimated to reside in Sweden, the largest Jewish community in Scandinavia, according to the World Jewish Congress.

**German archive uploads millions of documents related to Holocaust victims**

Germany's Holocaust archive has uploaded more than 13 million documents "from Nazi concentration camps, including prisoner cards and death notices, to help Holocaust researchers and others investigate the fate of victims," reported the Associated Press on May 21. The International Tracing Service also announced that its name will be changed to "Arolsen Archives—International Center on Nazi Persecution." The millions of documents consist of "information on more than 2.2. million affected," courtesy of assistance from Yad Vashem in Israel. The searchability function is being improved, reported the AP. "It is so important that the original documents can speak to coming generations," archive director Floriane Azoulay told the AP.

**Data shows P.A. fiscal crisis due to allocation of funds to terrorists and families**

Figures obtained by Israeli NGO Palestinian Media Watch following a Freedom of Information Law request to the Israeli Finance Ministry prove that even after Israel deducted from its tax transfers to the Palestinian Authority the amount that it spends on salaries to terrorist prisoners, the P.A. still would have received more money in the first two months of 2019 than it received on average per month in 2018. Tax revenues in the first two months of 2019 increased by a total of NIS 109 million (\$30.2 million), while the amount of the deduction was only NIS 42 million (\$11.6 million) – a positive difference in favor of the P.A. of NIS 67 million (\$18.5 million). In January 2019, before Israel's decision to make the deduction, the taxes collected for the P.A. amounted to more than NIS 743 million (\$205.5 million), and in February to more than NIS 728 million (\$201.4 million). "In 2018, tax revenues amounted to an average of NIS 670

million [\$185.3 million] per month," said Maurice Hirsch, head of legal strategies at PMW. "So even after deducting the NIS 42 million, the tax revenues in February 2019 totaled more than NIS 686 million [\$190 million], NIS 16 million [\$4.4 million] more than the monthly average in 2018. ...It is now being argued," said Hirsch, "that the P.A. is in danger of economic collapse only because of Israel's implementation of the law to deduct from the tax revenues. This claim is baseless. The P.A.'s financial crisis is not the result of the deduction of the funds by the Israeli government. The financial crisis is a direct result of the decision of the P.A. to insist not only to continue to encourage terror and reward terrorists, but also to demand that the State of Israel be a partner to this pugnacious policy and allow the P.A. to make the payments out of the tax revenues that Israel collects and transfers to it."

**Knesset works to improve same-sex couple policies**

With a record-breaking five openly gay Knesset members in the Israel's 21st Knesset, the legislative body is amending "husband and wife" language to "couple" on all its forms, and will provide more rights to partners of homosexual legislators. According to a Ynet report, the decision came after new Blue and White Party MK Eitan Ginsburg was asked to sign a form registering his male common-law spouse, but that only offered the options of "husband" and "wife." After he refused to sign it, Meretz MK Tamar Zandberg asked the Knesset legal department to accommodate same-sex couples, at which point Knesset director-general Albert Sakharovich asked all department heads under his leadership to change the policy. New forms will read "couple," rather than "husband and wife." Same-sex spouses of Knesset members will now be able to receive permanent entry passes to the Knesset, be authorized to drive the Knesset-issued cars assigned to their partners, and will be invited to all official ceremonies and events. Marriage in Israel falls under the purview of religious courts (including Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Druze authorities). Being that homosexuality and gay marriage are forbidden by religious law, same-sex marriages are not recognized in Israel. However, Israel recognizes civil marriages, including homosexual marriages, performed abroad. Same-sex partners who marry outside of Israel can register their marriages in the country.

**Report: Israel and Hamas agree on six-month cease-fire**

Israel and the terrorist group Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, have reportedly agreed to a six-month cease-fire in the aftermath of the latter launching hundreds of rockets earlier this month into the Jewish state and caused four civilian deaths. Israel's Channel 12 reported on May 20 that Hamas agreed, among numerous things, to curb violence at the border and keep to a 984-foot security buffer zone. In exchange, Israel will continue to permit an expanded fishing area of Gaza's coast, and continue border crossings for humanitarian and medical supplies, in addition to other undisclosed restrictions. A cease-fire was reached earlier in May after Hamas launched almost 700 rockets from Gaza toward Israel. The terms were not disclosed.

**Polish PM: Restitution to Shoah victims a "victory for Hitler"**

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki said on May 17 that were Poland to pay restitution for those whose property was stolen in the Holocaust it would violate "international law and would also be a posthumous victory for Hitler;" therefore, "something like this will never happen." Morawiecki made the remarks at a campaign rally in the city of Lodz, which had the second-largest Jewish ghetto during World War II.

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