

THE REPORTER

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Annual Purim Carnival at JCC on Feb. 25

The Jewish Community Center will host its annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 25. The event will run from 1-3 pm and costs \$5 per child and \$1 per adult, with a \$20 maximum per family. The entire community is welcome and encouraged to attend. All proceeds will go to benefit the JCC Youth Department.

The event is held in celebration of the Jewish holiday of Purim. The Festival of Purim commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people from the evil Haman. On Purim, children and adults dress up and celebrate by giving gifts and *tzedakah* (charity). Everyone, young and old, is encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Purim



At left: The Jewish Community Center will host its annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 25.

character or in any costume of their choice. The JCC Kids Connection staff members, who run the event, create different themed costumes each year.

There will be a number of activities geared toward children, including carnival games, inflatable play areas, crafts and face painting. All games earn children points that can be traded in at the prize table. Traditional Purim treats, like hamantashen, which are fruit-filled triangular cookies, will be available for purchase along with other food items.

For more information about the Purim Carnival, JCC Youth Programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

JCC to present "Cabaret" in March

"Willkommen! Bienvenue! Welcome!" The Jewish Community Center will present the Jan DeAngelo and Company production of "Cabaret" by John Kander, Fred Ebb and Joe Masteroff on Thursday, March 8, and Saturday, March 10, at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, March 11, at 3 pm. (No performance will be held on Friday, March 9.) The event is a fund-raiser for the JCC, which is located at 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal.



Shannon DeAngelo will star as Sally Bowles in "Cabaret" at the JCC. (Photo provided by Studio 271 Productions)

All seating will be at cabaret style tables and tickets are \$15 for general admission. For reserved seating, the cost for one table of eight is \$200 or one table of six is \$150. Drinks and refreshments will be available for purchase.

"Cabaret," the Tony-winning musical about "following your heart while the world loses its way," directed by Jan DeAngelo and choreographed by Katie Barlow, takes audiences into the seedy nightlife of the Kit Kat Klub on the eve of Hitler's rise to power in Weimar Germany. Based on Christopher Isherwood's "Berlin Stories," "Cabaret" follows the interlocking stories of a cabaret singer, a writer from America

and the citizens of Berlin as they are caught up in the "swirling maelstrom" of a changing society.

Led by the "enigmatic and dazzling" emcee (Joshua Wallenstein), "Cabaret" has been said to be "an intoxicating theatrical experience," featuring classics of the musical stage such as "Don't Tell Mama," "Maybe This Time" and "Cabaret."

The plot features the "Toast of Mayfield" Sally Bowles (Shannon DeAngelo), who falls for a struggling novelist from America, Clifford Bradshaw (Shan Towns). They carry out their love affair at a boarding house run by Fraulein Schneider (Kate Murray), who also rents rooms to the proprietor of a fruit market, Herr Schultz (Joe Bardales), and a lady of loose morals, Fraulein Kost (Julia Adams). The atmosphere in Berlin and the show changes from exciting to ominous as Clifford's friend Herr Ludwig (Ciano Briga) turns out to be an up and coming member of the Nazi party and Herr Schultz suffers as a victim of an antisemitic hate crime.

For tickets or information, call 724-2417 or visit the JCC front desk.

Chabad's community Purim Feast on March 1

Last minute reservations are still being accepted for the annual Chabad Purim Feast to be held on Purim day, Thursday, March 1, at 5:30 pm, at the Chabad Center in Vestal. Dinner will be preceded by a "last chance" megillah reading at 4:30 pm for those who did not hear the megillah read earlier.

The program will include dinner catered by Dougie's BBQ and Grill from Teaneck, NJ (vegetarian options and a kiddie menu will be available), *l'chaim*, desserts, music

and dancing. The cost for the program is \$15 per person, \$12 for students and seniors (over 65), and \$6 for children under 12 (children aged 2 and under are free). Participants are urged to come in costume and will automatically be entered into a raffle. There will be a parade of children in costume.

To make reservations, call the Chabad Center office at 797-0015 or online at www.Jewishbu.com/PurimFeast.

BD luncheon to present Flo Balin on March 10

On Saturday, March 10, Florence (Flo) Balin will be Beth David's luncheon series speaker. Born and raised in Binghamton, she will share her experiences of what Binghamton and the Jewish community were like when she was growing up.

"It is exciting to find a nonagenarian with such a clear and vivid recall of the details of daily life in Binghamton," organizers say. "Flo is a dynamic speaker with lots of surprising information to share. She is in the process of writing a book on Jewish life in Binghamton as it evolved from the time she was born until more recent times. Her talk will include aspects of this work in progress."

Born in Binghamton to immigrant parents, Flo remembers her grandfather's bakery, located on Exchange Street behind the Orthodox synagogue. She will relate the role her grandfather played in the synagogue that was the precursor to what would become Beth David Synagogue. One of three children, she attended local schools. Always interested in music, as a 7-year-old she sang every week at WNBZ, Binghamton's only radio station at the time, located in the basement of the Arlington Hotel, which was at Chenango and Lewis streets. In her 20s, her involvement with the Jewish community included being the vocalist in a band at the JCC, which also performed at movie houses and veterans'



Florence (Flo) Balin (Photo by Dora E. Polachek)

hospitals. "I was always interested in learning more and more," Balin says, "and, to prevent being bored, I held quite a few interesting jobs." In the 1960s, she started a business school that she ran for eight years.

"It is a pleasure to listen to Flo relate her many experiences growing up in Binghamton," organizers say. "Anyone who has wondered what it was like to grow up in Binghamton during the Depression, what the community was like and what kinds of Jewish activities were available for a young girl, will definitely want to be there for this very special Beth David luncheon."

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

Austria to help Israel join U.N. Security Council

By Eldad Beck

(Israel Hayom/Exclusive to JNS via JNS)—Austria has pledged to help Israel become a nonpermanent member of the U.N. Security Council, that country's chancellor, Sebastian Kurz, announced on February 17 on Twitter. Kurz made the announcement following a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.

Kurz tweeted a picture in which he and Netanyahu are seen shaking hands at the conference and wrote, "Excellent meeting with Prime Minister of #Israel, Benjamin @netanyahu during @MunSecConf. We want to continue to strengthen our bilateral relations and our multilateral cooperation."

We agreed to support #Israel if it should decide to be a candidate for the #UNSC. We will also continue our determined fight against #antisemitism!"

He also retweeted a statement from Austrian spokesman Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal, who wrote, "Federal Chancellor @sebastiankurz also met Israeli Prime Minister @netanyahu for bilateral talks at #MSC2018. Both have reaffirmed their commitment to further develop bilateral relations and multilateral cooperation."

In a statement following their meeting, Netanyahu said, "Kurz promised me that Austria would change the voting pattern at the U.N. when it comes to Israel and see "Austria" on page 6

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Opinion

What we talk about when we talk about Jerusalem

By Andrew Silow-Carroll

(JTA) – E.B. White famously wrote that there are “roughly three New Yorks”: the one of the native New Yorker, the one of the commuter and the New York of the “person who was born somewhere else and came to New York in quest of something.”

To which a resident of Jerusalem might respond, “Only three? Lucky you.”

Jerusalem is messy, in the best and worst sense of the word. It’s a city of secular intellectuals and insular *haredim*. It’s the seat of Israel’s government and flypaper for the dreamers, fanatics, seekers and tourists from three major religion and dozens of cults, sects, denominations and movements.

And of course it’s a city of Jews and Arabs, roughly and unmistakably divided into west and east, with the Old City as a sort of (forgive the imagery) bathtub drain into which both sides swirl, mix and boil.

Anyone who likes to talk about Jerusalem as “undivided” is either being delusional or hopelessly optimistic. And that’s not just because the city is diverse, or incoherent, or less a typical city than a sprawl of boroughs or villages that somehow share a city hall. You could say the same thing about New York.

“Undivided” is little more than a slogan because no one, least of all the Israelis who run the place, can agree what Jerusalem is. From the 1948-49 War of Independence until the Six-Day War in 1967, Jerusalem was indeed divided: Jordan occupied the Old City and areas to the north and south, and Israel made its capital in the western and southern parts of the city, with a narrow road acting like an umbilical cord between the Israeli side and the Jewish enclave on Mount Scopus.

The wall dividing east and west was torn down after the Six-Day War, and Israel celebrated the city’s “reunification” by annexing the Old City and eastern Jerusalem and taking responsibility for the 66,000 or so Arabs living there. The new boundaries added some 40 square miles to the municipality, including familiar Jerusalem neighborhoods like Pisgat Zeev, Gilo and Ramat Alon. Much of the

international community considered – and still considers – these as illegal settlements, although the Israelis insist their claims to Jerusalem and its environs are longstanding and you can’t “occupy” territory that wasn’t under the legitimate sovereignty of any state in the first place.

By 1993, Jerusalem’s municipal limits had been expanded to nearly as far south as Bethlehem, west to include majority Arab neighborhoods like Abu Dis and as far north as the Atarot, or Qalandia, airport, now an army base. The Jerusalem municipality, now 77 square miles, has a Palestinian population of 293,000, or 37 percent of the city’s total. The vast majority of this population does not vote in municipal and national elections because they never accepted Israeli citizenship.

In October, the Knesset set aside a bill – reportedly under pressure from the United States – that would have redrawn the borders to make the Jerusalem municipality even larger, absorbing the Jewish communities of Maale Adumim, Beitar Illit and Efrat along with the Etzion bloc of settlements.

Declarations that Jerusalem should remain the “undivided capital of Israel,” like a unanimous Senate resolution passed earlier this year marking the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, rarely specify what they mean by Jerusalem. In his announcement recognizing Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, President Donald Trump did not use the phrase “undivided Jerusalem,” and indeed insisted that the United States is “not taking a position of any final status issues, including the specific boundaries of the Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem or the resolution of contested borders.”

That makes sense because Israel’s sovereignty and the borders of any future Palestinians state are what the peace process is supposed to be about.

Arguments for keeping Jerusalem “undivided” are both emotional and practical. The idea of a city cleaved in two is both aesthetically and pragmatically troubling.

“Without fail, divided cities suffer either intense economic stagnation or general atrophy,” Nathan Diament, executive director for the Orthodox Union Advocacy Center, has written. Critics of the term “undivided Jerusalem” say it is a slogan

that hides ugly truths about occupation and disenfranchisement.

“Fifty years on, Jerusalem is more binational, more contested and more divided than at any point since 1967,” says attorney Daniel Seidemann, who heads the Israeli advocacy group Terrestrial Jerusalem. “There are two national collectives in Jerusalem, one endowed with political rights and the other permanently disenfranchised and disempowered.”

And certainly some ideologues use it that way, drawing their own lines in the sand (and borders on a map) and daring anyone to cross them.

Is it possible to imagine an “undivided Jerusalem” that also accommodates Palestinian aspirations for a state and capital of their own? It is, but it will take an honest discussion of what “Jerusalem” is and isn’t. Like Trump, no Israeli and no Jew elsewhere wants to go back to the pre-1967 reality, when Jordan blocked Jews from the Western Wall and limited Christian and even Muslim access to holy sites.

And no one expects Israel to unilaterally give back all that it won and consolidated in war and built in peace – not just the current government, which promotes a Greater Jerusalem and is indulgent of plans to build housing units in areas that Palestinians and their international backers consider disputed, and not any government one could foresee. That’s why credible peace plans have called for a consolidation of surrounding Jewish neighborhoods within Israel, with various land swaps to accommodate the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, as long as the Palestinians insist that no part of Jerusalem is Israeli, peace is impossible. If the Palestinians are to achieve their own state, they, too, will have to accept the reality of what Jerusalem is and isn’t.

But even short of a comprehensive peace plan, it is worth asking what is meant by “Jerusalem.” In the biblical and rabbinic imagination, the city has always been as much an idea as a reality – an earthly Jerusalem (*Yerushalayim shel matah*) and a heavenly Jerusalem (*Yerushalayim shel maalah*). Hopes for peace rest on wise leaders who understand the difference.

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

In My Own Words

Miscellaneous silly things to ponder

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Sometimes the best way to reduce stress is to think seriously about something silly. A friend and I do this regularly – that is, treating a discussion about nonsense that will never happen as though it were very important. We usually focus on themes raised in books, television shows or movies. However, sometimes we look at topics that are slightly more serious. Since the three items listed below popped into my mind over the same weekend, I figured they were worth exploring in print – if only as a break from columns about serious social and political issues.

Wings vs. dragons

The question of whether I would rather have wings or a dragon really was the subject of a recent e-mail discussion. The conversation began over a comic strip: one of the characters was happy that her unicorn had given her a tail.* That led to me saying that, while a tail was nice, if given a choice, I’d rather have wings. My friend wrote back saying she’d rather have a dragon, since if she had a dragon, she wouldn’t need her own wings.

That made me stop and think. I’m also quite fond of dragons, particularly those found in the “Dragonriders of Pern” series by Anne McCaffrey. All I remember of the books, which I read in junior high and high school, is that the riders’ brains melded with their dragons’ so the two could talk to each other and act with one mind. Yet, I always thought it would be wonderful to soar through the air using my own wings. Of course, in my imagination, that would take place effortlessly. In reality, I’m betting my wing muscles would ache and get tired. There might also be problems with riding dragons – the sheer discomfort of the seat being a minor one, with falling off the dragon and breaking every bone

in your body being a major one. Fortunately, while I enjoy pondering this dilemma, I don’t think I have to worry about either scenario coming true in the near future.

*For those of you curious about what we were reading, the strip is “Phoebe and Her Unicorn” and, while it’s aimed at the younger crowd, it’s still fun for older folks if you like unicorns. You can see an example at <http://www.gocomics.com/phoebe-and-her-unicorn>.

Still hooked

Almost a year has passed and I’m still hooked on my favorite computer generated creature, Mary in “Imaginary Mary.” Yes, I know the show was cancelled last May and its final episode ran in June. However, at least once a week, I try to watch an episode on Amazon video – well, at least, a good parts version, meaning watching the same scene with Mary over and over and over again. I’ve also rewatched scenes on the TV show’s Facebook page and Youtube; that’s for when I need a Mary fix and don’t have time for a whole show. (By the way, if anyone with connections to the entertainment industry is reading this, please try to get the series released on DVD so I can buy a copy – well, several copies – in addition to owning it online.)

During a recent weekend, I was wondering when I first fell in love with the CGI character. So, I went online to see when the second episode aired. (I missed the first one, but quickly watched it several times online.) I learned that April 4 will be my Mary-versary and I’m debating what to do to celebrate. Why am I even considering this? Because thinking about and/or watching Mary serves as one of the fastest stress relievers I’ve ever had. Just looking at a photo of her makes me feel calmer, which explains the wall paper

on my office computer. (Stop by *The Reporter* and I’ll be happy to show you.) As to why looking at her does this: well, I’ve given up worrying about that. No point in fighting what works. On the other hand, I think some friends are getting sick of hearing me talk about her (or is it to her?), so I do try to be a bit more cautious about sharing the fun.

What would you do....

The last thing I contemplated during a recent weekend was a bit more serious. A friend’s daughter lent me the young adult novel “They Both Die at the End” by Adam Silvera. It takes place in a future version of our society where they’ve learned how to predict who will die on any particular day. Those people receive a phone call shortly after midnight from an organization called Death-Cast, which tells them that this is their final day. The book is very well done – interesting characters, absorbing plot and a good message about learning how to live – but it also made me think about what I would want to do if I was informed that today was my last day.

My first thought was, “I wouldn’t go into work.” My second was, “I would want to spend the last day with close family and friends.” My third thought was, “I should celebrate my time with them as a party – well, at least, we should have a lot of good things to eat and drink.” I did contemplate spending part of the day reading, but how could I ever decide which book to read? (Hmm, maybe if I was really absorbed in my current book, I would want to see how it ends.) The real lesson of this exercise, though, is that since we’ll never know which day will be our last, we should try to live life to the fullest. In my mind, that also means making certain all the people we care about know exactly how we feel.



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TI/TC Adult Ed. to hold brunch on March 11

The Temple Israel/Temple Concord Adult Education Group will hold a brunch program on Sunday, March 11, at 10 am, at Temple Israel, 47737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal. Blake McCabe, a Ph.D. student in anthropology at Binghamton University, will speak on "Jewish Identity in Law and the Film 'The Other Son.'"

McCabe holds a master's degree in anthropology from Binghamton. She is an alumna of Hillel Academy and currently teaches at Temple Israel's Hebrew School. For her graduate research in anthropology, McCabe has looked at

cases of contested Jewish identity in Israel and the Diaspora, and how it is portrayed in film. McCabe will speak about her research, including an exploration about how Jewish identity contrasts between religious law, government law and individual beliefs.

"The quintessential questions of 'who is Jewish?' and 'what does it mean to be Jewish?' are still two of the most salient questions among the global Jewish community," said organizers of the brunch. "We will see how Jewishness is portrayed in the film 'The Other Son' and through

a House of Lords court case in the United Kingdom. The film was shown at the International Jewish Film Festival in Binghamton in 2014 and portrays the complexities of Jewish identity in religious law and Israeli social policy. It addresses the impacts the resulting contradictions can have on an individual's identity and even civil rights both in Israel and Diaspora."

The cost of the brunch is \$5 per person. To make a reservation, contact the Temple Israel office at titammy@stny.twcbc.com or 723-7461.

Binghamton University students win \$10,000 grant in third annual Campus Pitch Competition

NEW YORK – World Jewish Congress and Israel's Consulate in New York recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to Binghamton University students Talia Chasen, Gabriel Gang and Hannah Werner, first place winners of the third annual Campus Pitch Competition aimed at encouraging students to propose creative ways to change the discourse about Israel and antisemitism at colleges and universities.

The winning team from Binghamton proposed organizing a campus-wide "Water Gala" to help raise funds to bring Israeli innovation to African villages to help alleviate the ongoing water crisis. The team vied against four other student groups from New York University, Baruch College, the University of Pittsburgh and Cornell University for a chance to win the grant, which had initially been set

at \$5,000. World Jewish Congress CEO/Executive Vice President Robert Singer surprised the students by raising the first prize to \$10,000 and awarding the other four finalist groups \$5,000 each to carry out their initiatives as well.

"College campuses have become one of the strongest frontlines in the fight for Israel's legitimacy. It is a fight that we shouldn't have to have, but it is one that we must have, as Jewish and pro-Israel students feel silenced and threatened by the dangerous initiatives of those seeking to boycott and delegitimize Israel and Jewish communities," Singer said. "The groups presenting today have proven their courage and determination in striving for a more balanced dialogue and a safer space. The World Jewish Congress stands fully behind their advocacy efforts. Together, we can and will change the

conversation about Israel and antisemitism on campus."

Israel's Consul General Dani Dayan said, "They say we are the start-up nation, but I believe we are the innovation nation. When it comes to public diplomacy, however, it can be difficult for us to come up with new ideas. We need more innovative, out of the box thinking and we believe that students and the next generation can give us ideas that may be overlooked. The other reason this competition is so important is because the battle for Israel's legitimacy, for justice, is mainly fought on campuses, and you are our young ambassadors."

Other finalists in the 2018 Campus Pitch Competition included Cornell University students Adam Shapiro and Emily Klimberg, who plan to organize a mentorship program pairing Israeli mentors with non-Jewish students.

TC volunteers made hamantashen



At left: Temple Concord religious school parents, with the help of one teenager, made hamantashen as part of an annual fundraiser on February 3.

At right: Teenager Sophie Coker rolled her dough.



Lauren Epstein (on left) and (front to back) Claudia Stallman, Lisa Blackwell and Sophie Coker worked with the hamantashen dough. Epstein helped organize the fund-raiser.

Beth David Sisterhood held genealogy program



Beth David Sisterhood's January meeting program on genealogy was held at the George F. Johnson Memorial Library in Endicott.



Sisterhood members were busy at computers learning how to do genealogy.



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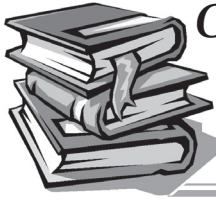
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Off the Shelf

Israelis – part two

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Most headlines about Israel focus on the difficult issues the country faces, one example of which is the ongoing Arab-Israeli conflict. More recently, there have been discussions about the reactions of young Israelis who have spent their army service in the territories. For several of the novels featured in this review, the line between political and personal is hard to define, especially when the desires of the heart and the mind can't be reconciled.

“Sadness is a White Bird”

Life can be extremely difficult when you can see both sides of an issue so clearly it's almost impossible to choose a side. Yet, in Israel, when Israeli-American Jonathan receives his draft notice, he feels he must join the IDF. His Zionism and the destruction of his grandfather's Greek family in the Holocaust made that seem inevitable. However, by refusing to avoid Army service, Jonathan faces losing two of his closest friends – Nimreen and Laith – who have shown him a different side of Israel, one far less perfect than the Zion of his dreams. In Moriel Rothman-Zecher's moving “Sadness is a White Bird” (Atria Books), Jonathan's hopes and desires are called into question when his unit is sent to the territories.

Jonathan's first person narrative is addressed to Laith, to whom he not only explains his current situation, but

recounts the details of their joint past. He also explores his own history: the antisemitism he faced at school in the U.S.; his love and admiration for his grandfather, the only member of his generation to escape the Holocaust because he had immigrated to Israel; and Jonathan's own dream of becoming a different type of Jew than he was in the United States. Jonathan notes, “I was tired of being People of the Word. I wanted to be People of the Sword. I wanted tanned arms and campfires, braided folk songs and righteous rifles. I wanted to be like Saba [Grandfather] Yehuda, teeth bared like tiny shields against the stabbing world.” As much as he knows how badly the world has treated Jews and how precarious life is in Israel, Jonathan also learns the mistakes Israel has made and how Arabs are not always treated as equal citizens or even equally human. Jonathan believes he can balance his desires when he's in the Army. This proves far more difficult than expected; seeing the enemy as human makes it difficult to act or causes one to regret a decision once made.

Rothman-Zecher does a remarkable job making readers feel for all his characters. They are human and their actions, thoughts and desires ring true. Each side is well portrayed and that makes the novel both compelling and frustrating because it provides no easy answers. Turning the last page

left me feeling stunned because I was not yet ready to part with Jonathan. “Sadness is a White Bird” is a beautifully written, heart-rending work of art.

“All the Rivers”

Romeo and Juliet: that's the love story that came to mind when reading “All the Rivers” by Dorit Rabinyan (Random House). There are some major differences: not only are the characters older and living in New York City, the Juliet – Jewish, Israeli Liat – sees her romance to Hilmi, a Palestinian artist, as temporary. No matter how much she loves him, she can't envision any way for them to be together once she must return to Israel. The only possible option would be to leave her homeland forever – something that feels unthinkable. Yet, she is unable to break off their relationship, even as she tries to prevent her Israeli friends in New York and her parents in Tel Aviv from learning about the affair.

The novel takes place in 2002 when anyone Middle Eastern risked being suspected a terrorist. When the story opens, Liat finds two FBI agents at her door because someone from a café she visits reported her as a suspicious character. This leads to her first meeting with Hilmi, when he brings her a message from a mutual friend who was unable to reach See “Israelis” on page 5

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Notice of Formation of Sarah L. King, LCSW, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/02/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 427 Chrysler Rd., Endwell, NY 13760. Purpose: to practice the profession of licensed clinical social work.

Notice of Formation of Dust Bunniez Cleaning, LLC

Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/08/2017. Office Location: Broome County. Princ. office of LLC: 908 Irving Ave. Endicott, NY 13760. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of princ. office. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is El Pulpo Mexican Restaurant and Grill, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 16, 2018.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- 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: 30 Fenton Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13901.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Crew4, LLC.

- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 19, 2018.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- 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: 870 Conklin Road, Binghamton, NY 13903.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: The Venue at Beagell Farms, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was January 19, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Kidz Kingdom LLC

Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/1/2017. Business location: Broome County. Princ. Office of LLC: 1241 Front St, Unit 2, Binghamton NY 13905. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of princ. office. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Hypnosis for Healing, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/16/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 418 West Chenango Rd., Castle Creek, NY 13744. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Leadership Solutions Advisers LLC.

- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 24, 2018.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- 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: 1873 State Route 7, Harpursville, NY 13787.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Aponi Aerial Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1704 Campus Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Stickle & Sons, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1350 Millburn Dr., Conklin, NY 13748. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Ta Realty Properties, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 83 Endicott Ave., Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW SECTION 206

Notice is given of the formation of Abell Productions, LLC (the “Company”) for the transaction of business in the State of New York and elsewhere.

- The name of the limited liability company is Abell Productions, LLC.
- The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on 01/22/2018.
- The county in which the office of the Company is to be located is Broome County N.Y.- principal business location 824 Shale Dr., Endicott NY 13760.

- The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the Company upon whom process against the Company may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process served against the Company to the Company at 824 Shale Dr. Endicott NY 13760.
- The registered agent of the Company upon whom and at which process against the Company can be served is 824 Shale Dr. Endicott NY 13760.
- The purpose of the Company is to engage in any lawful act which limited liability companies may be organized under the New York LLC.

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

- The name of the professional service limited liability company (“LLC”) is WILBUR D. DAHLGREN, PLLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 30, 2018.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the professional service LLC is to be located is Broome County.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the professional service LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the professional service LLC served upon him is: 99 Corporate Drive, Binghamton, NY 13904.
- The character or purpose of the business of the professional service LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Under Section 1203 of the Limited Liability Company Law

Notice of Formation of Bandel Properties, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/31/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: P.O. Box 435, Harpursville, NY 13787. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Newbsanity, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/31/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC

upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 782 Dunham Hill Rd., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Four Corners Assessment and Counseling, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/31/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 231 Main St., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Dapper Rascal Studio LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY ON 04/14/2017. Office: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Eva Duarte 8 Highland Avenue Binghamton, NY 13905. LLC at 60 Court St, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Amogh, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on January 18, 2018. Office location: Broome County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to: 1012 Siena Lane, Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: To engage in any lawful act or activity within the purposes for which limited liability companies may be organized pursuant to Limited Liability Company Law of the State of New York.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Badland Outfitters, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 15, 2018.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- 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: 54 Spicebush Lane, Tuxedo Park, NY 10987.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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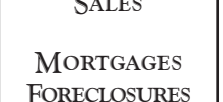
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Hillel Academy students visited Binghamton court house

After Hillel Academy students in grades three-five discussed and studied some of the issues in *parashat Mishpatim* and were taught about citizenship by Sarah Thomas, they went on a field trip to the court house in Binghamton. They went through security and then proceeded to the courtroom.

Judge Jeffrey Tait welcomed the students and then explained the legal system practiced in the United States. He divided the students into groups: jurors, witnesses, lawyers, prosecutors and defendants, and simulated a discussion about a car accident. The children did not prepare a statement of defense or claim. The judge noted that this



L-r: Shira Green was appointed to be a judge by Judge Jeffrey Tait.



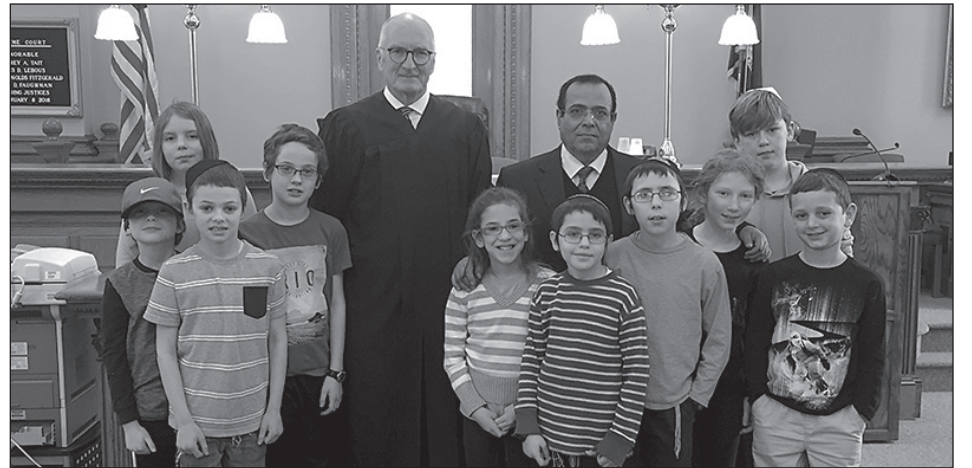
At the trial in Binghamton court. L-r: Mika Friedman, Sarah Goldin, Mendel Chein, Max Titus, Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu, Sarah Thomas, Isaac Sambursky, Mendel Slonim, Aron Sambursky, Berke Chein, Shira Green and Ezra Weiss.

also happens in reality.

The students were interested, asked questions and listened to Tait's answers and explanations. Toward the end, they saw a video about the legal system then and now, as well as an explanation of juries and the way they are chosen.

"I hope that the students have learned and been exposed to this important subject

of our lives, and very much hope that this visit added to their learning experience," said Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu. "I would not mind if some of them will study law and become lawyers and judges. Shira Green is already on her way to being a judge (see photo). We are proud and believe in our students for their exemplary behavior of cooperation and striving for excellence."



L-r: Aron Sambursky, Sarah Goldin, Mendel Slonim, Isaac Sambursky, Judge Jeffrey Tait, Shira Green, Berke Chein, Rabbi Shmaryahu, Mendel Chein, Mika Friedman, Max Titus, Ezra Weiss.



L-r: Mendel Slonim and Sarah Goldin watched as Isaac Sambursky, the defense witness, was sworn in by Carol Fabrizio to "tell the truth and only the truth."

Israelis.....Continued from page 4

her. The two feel an immediate connection, even though Liat can't help remembering all the negative comments she's heard in Israel about Israeli women who marry Arab men. When the two argue about politics, Liat finds herself on a different side of the discussion than normal: while a liberal when talking about Arab-Israeli relations with her parents, she finds herself constantly defending her country. But knowing Hilmi does lead her to a different understanding of the relationship between the two groups, particularly how Tel Aviv appears from a Palestinian point of view. When watching a video Hilmi's brother made in Ramallah, Liat notes, "My eyes are fixed firmly on the bottom of the screen, scanning the outline of the increasingly gray rooftops in Tel Aviv... I cannot avoid seeing my home in the crosshairs of a missile, from an artillery launchpad, through the telescopic lenses of God knows what. I cannot avoid realizing how exposed and vulnerable everything is, how short and intimate the distance... How enviable, how infuriating, how hateful we look to them from this vantage point."

"All the Rivers" is far more about romance than it is about politics. Still, the two are sometimes impossible to separate. It's difficult to write about the ending without spoiling the plot. However, for me, although the conclusion was moving at first, upon more thought, it felt manipulative, as though the author was refusing to make a firm choice. Still, the work does offer an interesting look at what happens when love and politics clash.

"Moving Kings"

Traveling the world after finishing army service has become a right of passage for many Israelis. Some visit exotic Asian or African countries; others spend time in the U.S. That's the case for 21-year-old Uri Matzav, who travels to New York City to work for his distant cousin, David King, in "Moving Kings" by Joshua Cohen (Random House). David's story opens the novel: he attends political gatherings as the "tamed"

Jew, looking to make connections in order keep his moving and removal business a going concern. Some parts of his business are less pleasant than others, particularly when his staff has to force delinquent tenants to move. Yoav begins working for David and is soon joined by his Army buddy, Uri Dugri, who's having difficulty adjusting to civilian life. Unfortunately, their paths cross with someone unwilling to surrender his home to Kings Moving Inc., which creates a problem for these former soldiers.

The most interesting sections of the novel focus on Yoav and Uri's time in the IDF and their adjustment to post-army life. The soldier's desire to leave Israel is described as having "come to feel as compulsory as the service itself, as if vacationing were merely war's covert continuation, an undercover mission camouflaged in sportsgear." Unfortunately, too much of the writing is not as clear: Cohen writes long, meandering sentences in sections that felt like stream of consciousness and were difficult to follow. That was particularly true in the chapters featuring David. By the third section, I wondered how Cohen would manage to connect the disparate characters, something that he actually managed to do very well. It's possible to question some of his narrative choices, but one made it easier to absorb a tragic event with less emotion.

"Moving Kings" didn't feel like a completely successful novel, although, looking back, it offers a great deal to ponder, including an Israeli rabbi's comments to Uri: "You can't stop being a soldier, just like you can't stop being a Jew. They are permanent conditions for life. This is the position of the State of Israel. You were born a soldier, because you were born a Jew, and if you weren't given an Uzi at your bris it was only because the government won't issue them to anyone not old enough to handle the commitment." That statement and others like it will challenge readers, which, in retrospect, makes "Moving Kings" worth reading.

Wedding and engagement photos wanted

The Reporter is looking for photos of couples who became engaged or married in 2017 for the annual Wedding, Prom and Party Guide issue (coming March 16). Please mail or drop off these photos with identification – not written on the photos, but on a separate piece of paper – including the names of all those in the photo, date and place of the prom by Tuesday, March 6. They can also be e-mailed, in TIF or JPG format, to TReporter@aol.com; please note in the subject line that a wedding/engagement photo for The Reporter is attached and include the necessary information in the message. Or they can be mailed to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

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An Israeli-Ethiopian woman brings the food of her cultures to Harlem

By Josefina Dolsten

NEW YORK (JTA) – At Tsion Café in Harlem, visitors can order a vegetable injera, an Ethiopian sourdough flatbread topped with vegetable, lentil and chickpea stews. There is traditional shakshuka, a dish common in Israel and the Middle East where eggs are cooked in a tomato sauce. And then there's the scrambled eggs with caramelized onions and lox.

The assortment of menu items – random as it may seem – tells the story of the eatery's owner, Beejhy Barhany, an Ethiopian Jew who moved here by way of Israel.

Tsion Café, which is located in the historic Sugar Hill district of the Manhattan neighborhood, represents all of Barhany's identities. "It's a celebration of the Ethiopian, Israeli and American [cultures], so we are encompassing and celebrating all of these together," she told JTA in January.

Barhany, 42, also wants the restaurant to serve as a cultural center of sorts. On the wall hang paintings by local artists, and on the weekends bands play jazz, a nod to the neighborhood's role during the Harlem Renaissance, when African-American artists, musicians and writers converged in Harlem.

The restaurant's venue is historic in itself. It previously was the home of Jimmy's Chicken Shack, an eatery and jazz spot frequented by Malcolm X and comedian John Elroy Sanford, also known as Redd Foxx, and where jazz saxophonist Charlie Parker Jr. washed dishes before his big break.

"A lot of inspirational people passed through, and we're very happy to continue



Beejhy Barhany opened Tsion Café in 2014 with her husband. Photo by (Josefin Dolsten)

Barhany disputes what she sees as a common, but distorted, narrative: that Ethiopian Jews were poor and suffering prior to moving to Israel. She said her family chose to leave Ethiopia because of a longstanding wish to return to the Jewish homeland. "[W]e voluntarily left Ethiopia because we wanted to be in Israel," she said. "We had our land, we had our properties, we didn't starve or anything like it. We were doing very well."

Barhany opened Tsion Café in 2014 with her husband, Padmore John, a native of the Caribbean island republic Dominica. The pair wanted to start a restaurant that offered both healthy food and culture. "I think it's important that you eat healthy food, good products, and I wanted to have a venue where I can encompass everything – a little bit of culture, a little bit of food and in a place where nobody did it before," Barhany said.

She wants Tsion Café to serve as a venue for people to connect. "My bigger vision is for people from all backgrounds [to] come and talk and have a discussion, a dialogue, and to be more open minded, despite the political situation that we are in, to be more embracing and welcoming one another," she said.

Barhany is also the founder of Beta Israel of North America, a group for Ethiopian Jews. She founded the group in 2000, so she could come together with others who shared her background. She estimates that some 1,000 Ethiopian Jews live in the New York area. "I had nobody to reach out to, so I said, 'Let me create that, so whoever comes at least can be assisted,'" she said.

See "Harlem" on page 11

Austria Continued from page 1

would support the candidacy of Israel for nonpermanent membership in the U.N. Security Council."

The meeting, which Netanyahu noted was held at Kurz's request, was the first between the two leaders since Kurz's conservative Austrian People's Party formed a right-wing government with the far-right Freedom Party of Austria. Founded by former Nazis six decades ago, the Freedom Party long ago left the political fringes to establish itself as a mainstream party, gaining approximately a quarter of votes in the October 15 parliamentary elections.

In December, Netanyahu announced he would boycott Freedom Party ministers.



Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on February 17. (Photo from Twitter)

that by playing music and celebrating the diversity within Harlem," Barhany said.

Barhany came to New York in 2000: She was enamored with the city on a trip here after completing her Israeli army service. In this city, she feels less defined by her race or status as an immigrant than she did in Israel.

"Here you could be whomever you are and nobody knows who I am. I'm Ethiopian, I'm a New Yorker, I'm here, but I'm not categorized as Ethiopian, Russian, Yemenite," she said, referring to immigrant groups to Israel that have faced various types of discrimination.

Barhany was 4 years old when her family left Ethiopia for Israel. The journey took three years, passing through Sudan, Kenya, Uganda and Europe. They arrived in the Jewish state in 1983, in the early days of the Ethiopian migration to Israel.

In Israel, the family initially lived in an immigrant absorption center in Pardes Hana, in the country's north, later moving to the city of Ashkelon. At 13, Barhany decided to move to a kibbutz, where she lived until joining the Army at 18.

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Proactive steps to reduce your fall risk

(NAPSI) – Research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that falls are the leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries for seniors. Fortunately, through a combination of technology solutions and lifestyle choices,

seniors can be prepared for the event of a fall.

For example, medical alert devices can provide access to a response center to contact emergency help should a fall occur. In the event of a fall, time between the fall and getting medical attention matters. Studies show that seniors using a medical alert device saw an emergency response time more than 320 times faster than seniors having to call for help on their own. Beyond using these devices, seniors should stay physically and mentally active to help prevent falls. To begin and maintain this activity, here are three recommended steps from www.lifeline.philips.com seniors can take to support an independent and healthier life:

◆ Establish a regular fitness regimen. Sedentary lifestyles can gradually cause poor flexibility, loss of strength and decreased bone mass – all of which will increase the chances of falling. Establishing a consistent fitness routine will put your body in better shape and make exercise easier as you get older.

◆ Adhere to medication and physician orders. Eighty-seven percent of adults aged 65 or older take at least two medications and 42 percent take five or more. With long lists of medication, adherence can be difficult – but it's vital to follow all directives and advice from your physician to avoid mistakes that can lead to falls.

See "Fall" on page 7

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Vienna's growing kosher scene a case study of thriving Jewish life in Europe

By Elizabeth Kratz

(JNS) While much of American and Israeli Jewry view Europe either as a “flyover continent” or as a vast and dangerous pit of antisemitism from which all Jews must flee, many overlook the facts and figures that indicate rising numbers of Jews living in relative comfort in many of Europe’s largest cities.

Jewish organizations, schools, stores and restaurants that are cropping up, particularly in Austria’s capital of Vienna, indicate the community has experienced enormous growth in waves, as wars and political changes have forced and enabled immigration to the region. On the banks of the Danube canal, the Jewish community in Vienna now houses an estimated 15,000-20,000 Jews, according to Austria’s largest newspaper *Der Standard*, though the community’s own last census in 2001 counted only 8,000 Jews. After World War II, the number of Jews surviving the war stood at about 8,000, coming down from well over 185,000 before the Nazis came to power in 1938.

Since I was in Vienna with my family visiting relatives during New Jersey’s January “yeshiva break” vacation, I noticed that a viable cross-section of today’s modern Jewish community in Vienna is easily seen by kosher-keeping visitors just by virtue of our daily pursuits. While we primarily visited with family and stopped at sights such as the famed Vienna Opera House, the Musikverein symphony hall, and various palaces and museums, we also, of course, had to eat and drink. Speaking with a shop assistant in Ferszt Vinothek, an entirely kosher wine store, I learned that the store sells a whopping 300-500 bottles of wine each week,



The interior of the Stadttempel, the main synagogue in Vienna, Austria. (Photo by Wikimedia Commons)

depending on whether the store is catering for bar mitzvahs, weddings or engagement parties. The shop is located in Leopoldstadt, also known colloquially as Matzoinsel (Matzo Island), the second district of Vienna, where there has been an active Jewish community since as early as 1194, when Duke Frederick I promoted a Jew to the role of *munzmeister* (master of the mint).

While the City Temple (Stadttempel) was the only Vi-

enna synagogue to survive Kristallnacht, the growth of local Jewish life today indicates a rebirth of a resilient, traditional and vibrant community.

While Austrians and the Austrian government have demonstrated an on-again, off-again relationship with their capital’s Jewish inhabitants, alternately expelling them and warmly welcoming them through the centuries, the community is, for now, on an upswing. Ten or more kosher restaurants now dot the city, with most of them centered in Leopoldstadt, which is also filled with Jewish institutions, including Chabad, Tomchei Schabbos (a charity organization) and the Ronald Lauder Foundation yeshiva. The city’s three largest kosher supermarkets, which carry many fresh and frozen kosher brands, rival any in Israel or the New York metropolitan area. Five kosher bakeries are also located in the district. Delicacies such as Mozart kugel, a uniquely Austrian, round chocolate-dipped treat filled with cake, cream and marzipan, as well as pink rum cakes and wienerbrot (a unique cross between seedless rye bread and sourdough), are available in peak kosher form at Bakerie Ohel Moshe.

Vienna has also become a popular first stop for American and Israeli Chasidic Jews from Boro Park or Bnei Brak, as they embark on *kever* (grave) tours of famed rabbis in Hungary, Germany, Czech Republic, Poland and Ukraine. These visitors arrive in Vienna weekly and are hosted once each week at the beginning of their tour in the Alef Alef restaurant. They make use of Vienna’s easy-to-navigate infrastructure, Shabbat-friendly hotels and guesthouses. See “Vienna” on page 8

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Tips to live a healthier, more active lifestyle well into your later years

(NAPSI) - According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, by 2030, one in every five Americans will be over the age of 65. Whatever your age now, it’s wise to prepare yourself mentally and physically for growing older. Adults today, the CDC adds, are looking not only to extend their lives, but to enjoy a healthier, more active

lifestyle well into their later years.

Here are a few simple tips to incorporate into your daily routine to ensure healthy aging:

1. Tailor your diet to include lots of organic fruits and vegetables, as well as healthy fats such as omega-3s, and limiting your intake of processed foods and added sugar.

2. Exercise three to four times a week, including a mix of moderate-intensity activity like brisk walking or water aerobics, along with vigorous-intensity activities such as playing tennis or hiking. Adding strengthening activities that work all major muscle groups is important to consider as well.

3. Work with your health care provider to introduce a foundational supplement regimen into your daily routine. Nutritional supplements contribute to adequate intake of vitamins, minerals and other beneficial compounds such as antioxidants, resveratrol and other phytonutrients to keep your cells healthy. In addition to multivitamins, other top supplements that are considered beneficial for healthy aging include:

- ◆ Omega-3 fatty acids such as fish oil that help to balance inflammation and support joints, as well as cardiac and cognitive function
- ◆ A multistrain probiotic to support healthy gut bacteria, leading to improved digestion and strengthened immunity
- ◆ Co-enzyme Q10, an antioxidant beneficial for cellular repair and increased energy.

Healthy aging is not just exclusive for the older generations. Now, people across all generations are making long-term lifestyle changes to feel good from the inside out. Different age groups, however, have different needs.

◆ The 30s: Whether focused on getting that next promotion See “Lifestyle” on page 8

Fall •Continued from page 6

◆ Stay social in your community. Although many older Americans value their independence, it’s important to be social and surrounded by others who care about you. This will help lower your chances of depression, make you happier as you age and increase the chances of someone being there for you if you fall and need help.

If you or a loved one is concerned about fall risk, take this advice to heart and consider sharing with friends. By combining this advice with available technologies, such as medical alert devices, you can be properly prepared for all circumstances.

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Vienna.....Continued from page 7

and excellent array of kosher foods and baked goods to organize, pack and embark on their tours.

The permanent Jewish community in Vienna is comprised of three parts, which also have subgroups. The community is made up of both Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews from Central Asia, Georgia, Russia, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Israel.

The first is the community of Jewish survivors (and their descendants) of the Holocaust and specifically from European ghettos, most often from Budapest. The Budapest Ghetto was created later than the others, in 1944, and the Jews were not fully deported from there by the time the war ended in 1945. Many young female survivors from Budapest married Jewish men

who survived the war and settled in Vienna. While many Jews took the opportunity to leave Europe for America or Israel, some of the individuals who stayed were able to build profitable businesses in the post-war years, many of which focused on Vienna's textile and fur industries.

The second wave of Jews are primarily Sephardic, Bukharian Jews from Ukraine and the former Soviet Union, who moved to Vienna during the late 1970s and 1980s. Vienna's first Bukharian synagogue was opened in 1990.

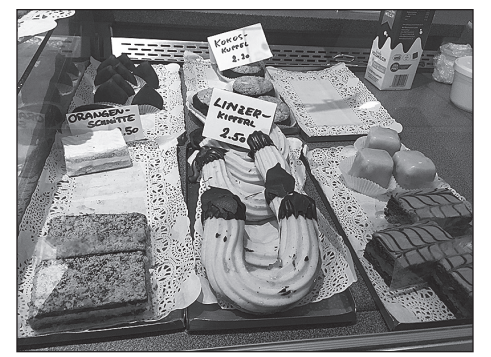
A third wave of Jews are from Israel and America, who have come together to join Kollels (institutes for advanced Talmud study) and to staff yeshivas created to educate the Jews coming from the former Soviet Union communities. As this community has grown, it has brought with it a taste of modern Israel.

Without a unified authority in Vienna like America's Orthodox Union to provide kosher certification, the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Wien (Jewish community of Vienna), like its counterparts in Britain, Germany and France, provides a hefty list of branded food items available in Austria that are kosher without markings on packages. For their growing number of restaurants and bakeries, Vienna's kosher-keeping communities have several certifying rabbis.

A young couple, Janet and Izhak Faiziev, own a 3-month-old Asian fusion restaurant called Mea Shearim, serving sushi, Chinese



Mea Shearim Restaurant is a new restaurant serving Asian fusion cuisine. (Photo by Elizabeth Kratz)



A view of the pastry display case at Bakerie Ohel Moshe. (Photo by Elizabeth Kratz)



The Chabad House in Vienna offers coffee and hot chocolate to visitors. (Photo by Elizabeth Kratz)

food and noodle bowls. The restaurant was recently written up as "kosher, cool und Asiatisch" (kosher, cool and Asian) in Wina Magazin, an independent Jewish magazine published in German. The restaurant's clean lines, ultra-modern design and unique tableware contribute to the hotspot's modish appeal.

"It was my dream to open a restaurant here where I grew up," Janet Faiziev told me. She explained that the name of Mea Shearim comes not from the name of the *haredi* neighborhood in Jerusalem, but from a verse in the Torah (Genesis 26:12) about the patriarch Isaac (her husband's namesake) that states, "Yitzchak sowed in that land, and in that year he reaped a hundredfold (*mea shearim*); God had blessed him."

As this young couple joins a vibrant landscape with at least five kosher restau-

rants within just a few blocks in the historic Leopoldstadt, it is with cautious optimism that the community continues to grow and support itself. The community is still heavily guarded both by private security forces and the Austrian government, as the Stadttempel was the site of a horrific Palestinian terror attack in 1981 that injured 21 and killed two. Like all Viennese synagogues, the Stadttempel, yeshivas and many institutions are protected by round-the-clock security. Otherwise, the community is as welcoming to its visitors as any other, and kosher food is plentiful and is served to the city's many visitors with a smile.

Elizabeth Kratz is the associate publisher and editor of The Jewish Link of New Jersey and The Jewish Link of Bronx, Westchester and Connecticut.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Lifestyle.....Continued from page 7

or raising a family or both, many people in their 30s find the demands of daily life require all hours of the day. Nutritional supplements, especially probiotics and those that boost energy and immunity, provide support for their fast-paced lifestyles.

◆ The 40s: People in their 40s know that smart decisions today pay off later. In what is the peak career decade for many, 40-somethings want to stay sharp to make

the most of each day, but have developed an appreciation for simplicity. For them, supplementation often includes fish oil and plant-based proteins.

◆ The 50s: Today's 50s are not slowing down. They're all about vibrancy and continued growth. However, as the natural effects of aging begin to take their course, hormone levels often diminish, so it's important to regulate levels of sex, thyroid

and adrenal hormones to feel and function your best. Also, supporting musculoskeletal system health can help enhance mobility and joint function.

◆ The 60s and 70s: People in their 60s and 70s know that aging is about getting the most life out of their years. During these decades, nutritional supplements can support healthy vision, cognition and digestive health.

"Aging is a beautiful, healthy process," explains Kristi Belohlavek, registered dietitian and director of product development

and education at Douglas Laboratories. "With the right nutrition regimen, people can look and feel their best, no matter how many candles they're adding to their birthday cake. With a balanced diet, exercise and proper supplementation, busy bees can stay mobile and active later in life, despite changes in muscle function and decreases in bone density."

It is recommended to consult with your health care practitioner before introducing any new changes or additions to your current nutritional supplement routine.

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The Israeli who founded Moishe's Moving wants to make New Jersey an artists' mecca

By Ben Sales

JERSEY CITY, NJ (JTA)—The side of the building looks like any abandoned factory: weathered brick surrounded by a chain-link fence, with railroad tracks running on the other side of the street. But step inside this massive complex of nearly two million square feet and the postindustrial vibe gives way to what might be called a chic, artsy aura.

The first floor of this former tobacco factory features a broad wooden art installation slightly off the ground. Nearby, art in an exhibit titled "Occupy Mana" criticizes President Donald Trump. Other floors house an art academy, museums, a dance company, a photography center and studio spaces for artists. Another building on the property contains a foundry for metal sculpture. More than 400 artists work in studio spaces in the complex, which also features apartment buildings that are currently being renovated for occupancy.

The complex, called Mana Contemporary, is the latest project of Moishe Mana, an Israeli immigrant whose moving trucks bearing his first name are a staple on the streets of Manhattan. Now he hopes this sprawling space across the Hudson River, founded in 2011, will revolutionize both the contemporary arts scene and Jersey City, a once-gritty manufacturing town that appears to be on the rebound. "Art connects between people, and I was very lucky enough to be invested in building the art community, which we're going to extend," Mana told JTA. "Investing in the talent, investing in the technologies and the facilities and creating community, this is the future of the world."

Mana came to New York City in 1983 as a 25-year-old



Moishe Mana at a party in Miami on December 6. (Photo by Romain Maurice/Getty Images for InList)

law school dropout and spent one night that year sleeping on a park bench. Eventually, he became a "man with a van," doing small moving jobs (including a regular gig running towels to a laundry for a gay bathhouse). Within a few years he had expanded to a fleet of trucks and broken into the heavily unionized moving industry. At one point, he says, he received a call from mob boss John Gotti, who threatened to kill him for infringing on his business. Mana, unfazed, gave Gotti his address, but the Gambino family don never made good on the threat.

"Some people succeed out of desperation, some out of inspiration," Mana

said. "In my case, inspiration and desperation worked as one. It's easier to succeed when you come from the outside because you have a better overview [of the landscape]. You have a better drive."

More recently, Mana added storage to his business, including art — a specialty that requires controlling rooms for temperature, humidity and dust. His company now handles some 1,200 collections. The art storage business led him to purchase the grounds of abandoned canning and tobacco factories in Jersey City, and dedicate them to contemporary art. He's also opened similar complexes in Chicago and Miami.

Mana sees the arts complex as a way to lift up Jersey City, which is minutes away from downtown Manhattan by public transit, but with much cheaper real estate. He acknowledges that part of the reason he brought contemporary artists to Jersey City is because he believes an arts scene will lift real estate prices in the area.

But unlike neighborhoods in Brooklyn that have gone from artists' districts to yuppie hotspots, Mana and his partners have vowed to always reserve space for the arts on his property. "It's not a secret that when there is art, it becomes an amazing real estate opportunity," said Shai Baitel, Mana Contemporary's senior vice president of strategy. "The difference between us and the rest is we will not allow for the real estate appreciation to push out the artists."

In addition to introducing Jersey City to the art world, Mana Contemporary hopes to introduce the art world to Jersey City. The complex's management has dubbed the space "Tribeca West," named after the Manhattan neighborhood, and hopes to draw the New York art scene elite outside the boundaries of the big city.

Yigal Ozeri, an Israeli artist who co-founded Mana Contemporary, said the location gives artists a community of fellow creators, as well as far more space and natural light than they would get in, say, Tribeca. "A guy gets a studio, he has light, he has galleries and it's much cheaper than New York," Ozeri told JTA. "The pitch is the community. The moment the artist gets here, there's a symbiosis with young and old artists."

As in Mana's other businesses, several Mana Contemporary employees are Israelis, as are many of the artists who rent studios there. But Mana is quick to note that he doesn't recruit only his co-nationalists. The complex's Middle East Center for the Arts, for example, brings in artists from far beyond the borders of the Jewish state. And despite his rags-to-riches story, Mana thinks Israelis who follow his path today will have a harder time than he did. He says the Trump administration, which he has criticized in op-eds, has created an anti-immigrant feeling in the United States that makes it less inviting.

See "Artists" on page 11

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Weekly Parasha

Tetzaveh, Exodus 27:20-30:10

Moshe's distinctive nature

RIVKAH SLONIM, EDUCATION DIRECTOR, CHABAD CENTER

Parashat Tetzaveh is always read in close proximity to the seventh day in the month of Adar, the day that marks both the birth and death of Moshe *rabeinu*, Moses. It is curious that this *parasha* is the only one in the entire Torah from after the birth of Moshe in which Moshe's name is not mentioned. However, the entire *parasha* is comprised of God's word to Moshe, beginning with "And you shall command..." Therefore, Moshe is implicitly present while seemingly absent.

Herein lies a profound lesson about the distinctive nature of Moshe, in particular, and Jewish leadership, in general. The *parasha* is called Tetzaveh, which is conventionally defined as command, just as the Hebrew word mitzvah is rendered commandment. A look at the etymology of the word, however, reveals its deeper meaning. Mitzvah is rooted in the notion of *tzavta v'chibur*, which means

attachment. Simply speaking, the way in which a Jew connects with his or her Creator is through keeping the commandments of God. Moses is traditionally referred to as Moshe *rabeinu*, Moshe our teacher. Thousands of years later, we speak of his role in present tense for it is Moshe who gave us the Torah thus allowing us to connect with our Creator eternally.

While Moshe's name is not mentioned within it, the very name of our *parasha* reveals this essential characteristic of Moshe. Moshe's role was not to serve as an intermediary between God and man, but to facilitate their connection. A Jewish leader might best be compared to a clear glass that serves to showcase that which is poured into it without tinting it at all. To serve as an effective connector means to withdraw the self and simply act as a conduit for a flow of energy.

It is not happenstance that Moshe, the leader of the Jews at their most formative stage and the single most influential teacher of all time, suffered from a speech impediment. Here was a man with no oratory skills, who is bereft of eloquence and the gift of commanding presence. And yet it was Moshe that God chose for this role. It was not about form, is the subtle, but indisputable, message; with Moshe, it was all about substance. It was simply God's word that flowed through him.

As we take time to remember Moshe on his *yahrzeit* and to reflect upon his great role in Jewish history and his continuous presence in our lives, it behooves us to remember the hallmark of a truly great leader in Israel: humility. In a poignant directive through His prophet Malachi (3:22), God exhorts, "Remember the Torah of my servant Moshe."

Congregational Notes

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 607-722-1793, Rabbi's Office: 607-722-7514
 Fax: 607-722-7121
 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:
 Friday, Feb. 235:30 pm
 Shabbat, Feb. 249 am
Mincha after the kiddush
Maariv 6:50 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., Feb. 258:30 am
 Mon.-Wed., Feb. 26-Feb. 287 am
 Thurs. March 16:50 am
 Fri. March 27 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., Feb. 255:35 pm
 Mon.-Tues., Feb. 26-Feb. 277 pm
 Wed., Feb. 286:35 pm
 Thurs., March 14:45 pm
 Fri., March 25:40 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch
 Rabbi: Aaron Slonim, E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095
 Website: www.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.

Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive
 Rabbi: Dena Bodian
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815
 Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 373-5087
 Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.
 Adult Ed.: Saturday morning study is held at 10 am. Call for more information and to confirm.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

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

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm.
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 6 pm, Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am.
 On Saturday, February 24, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 27:20-30:10. The haftarah will be I Samuel 15:2-34.
 On Saturday, February 24, at 10 am, there will be a creative service and pot luck lunch. At 7 pm, there will be Minyan Martini Mania at the home of Alan and Julie Piaker. Those planning to attend should RSVP to the office and indicate what dish they will bring.
 On Wednesday, February 28, at 7 pm, there will be a Purim service and celebration.
 On Tuesday, March 6, at 7 pm, there will be an executive board meeting.
 On Saturday, March 10, at 10 am, there will be a creative service, kids' Shabbat and pot luck lunch.

Penn-York Jewish Community

President and 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.

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.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Louis Wilson, louiswilson1995@yahoo.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.

Friday, February 23, light candles 5:28 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, February 24 6:30 pm
 Friday, March 2, light candles 5:36 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, March 3 6:38 pm

Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm
 Phone: 723-7355, Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 On Friday, February 23, at 6 pm, there will be a Shabbat picnic dinner and at 8 pm, Shabbat services with visual tefillah will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Jason Flatt.
 On Saturday, February 24, at 9 am there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; at 9:30 am there will be Tot Shabbat; and at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Jason Flatt.
 On Tuesday, February 27, at 5:15 pm, there will be religious school.

On Wednesday, February 28, at 6 pm, there will be a Purim dinner and at 6:45 pm, there will be a Purim service and Beatles-themed Purim spiel.

On Friday, March 2, at 8 pm, Shabbat services with the Loews' anniversary celebration will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Shari Neuberger.

On Saturday, March 3, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; and at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services.

On Sunday, March 4, from 10 am-2 pm, there will be a Sisterhood rummage sale. Buy one pair of slacks, get one free.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Scott L. Glass
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
 Phone: 273-5775
 E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org
 President: Jerry Davis
 Sisterhood President: Julie Paige
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody
 Administrative Assistant: Jane Griffith
 Services: Friday 8 pm; Saturday 10 am, unless otherwise announced. Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sundays and legal holidays).

Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:45 pm. The Midrashah (eighth-grade and high school) classes will meet at times designated by their respective teachers.

Adult Ed.: Numerous weekly courses, several semester-long courses and a variety of mini-courses and lectures are offered throughout the year. Call the temple office for more details.

On Wednesday, February 28, the Purim Carnival will be held at 5:30 pm, a light dinner at 6:30 pm (RSVP required) and the eve of Purim megillah reading at 7 pm.

On Thursday, March 1, at 7:30 am, a Purim service will be held.

On Thursdays, March 1, 8 and 15, at 7 pm, "Origins of the Passover Seder and Haggadah" will be taught by Ross Brann in the Hecht Library.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Molly Karp
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
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Saudi-based Muslim body rejects Holocaust denial

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—A Saudi-based Muslim group rejected Holocaust denial in a letter to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

“History is indeed impartial no matter how hard forgers tried to tamper with or manipulate it,” said the letter sent on January 22 to the museum by Mohammad Al Issa, the secretary general of the Muslim World League, five days before International Holocaust Remembrance Day. “Hence, we consider any denial of the Holocaust or minimizing of its effect a crime to distort history and an insult to the dignity of those innocent souls who have perished. It is also an affront to us all since we share the same human soul and spiritual bonds.”

The letter was posted on January 25 on the site of the

Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Al Issa suggested the letter was prompted in part by his friendship with the think tank’s director, Robert Satloff, who has written extensively about North African Muslims who protected Jews during the Holocaust.

Writing separately, Satloff described meeting Al Issa in December when he led a delegation of lay leaders of his think tank to Saudi Arabia. A former justice minister, Al Issa had taken over the Saudi-funded Muslim World League in 2016. Satloff wrote that the league had been a linchpin in propagating “a radical, hate-filled, anti-West, antisemitic version of Islam.” Al Issa expressed a willingness to visit the Holocaust museum the next time he was in Washington.

The appointment of Al Issa appears to be of a piece

with Saudi Arabia’s pivot westward under its new crown prince, Muhammad bin Sultan, Satloff said.

“Taking his lead from Muhammad bin Salman, the current crown prince who has vowed to cleanse his country of extremism and return it to ‘moderate Islam,’ Al Issa seems to have a specific mandate to transform the MWL from an organization synonymous with extremism to one that preaches tolerance,” he said.

Al Issa did not specify Jews as victims of the Holocaust in his letter to the museum director, Sara Bloomfield, but instead spoke of “this human tragedy perpetrated by evil Nazism” and “our great sympathy with the victims of the Holocaust, an incident that shook humanity to the core, and created an event whose horrors could not be denied or underrated by any fair-minded or peace-loving person.”

The Muslim World League, which was founded in 1962, is funded principally by Saudi Arabia’s government. President Donald Trump, visiting Saudi Arabia in June, encouraged it and other Sunni Arab countries to combat radical Islam.

Holocaust denial has proliferated for decades in the Arab and Muslim worlds, sometimes encouraged by official government bodies, including in the past by Saudi Arabia. President Barack Obama in his 2009 speech to the Muslim world delivered in Cairo said the perpetuation of Holocaust denial was an obstruction to better relations with the West.

Deciphering the past

A 1,500-year-old church and monastery unearthed in Israel

By JNS staff

(JNS)—The ruins of a 1,500-year-old church and monastery have been unearthed near the Israeli city of Beit Shemesh in an excavation led by the Israel Antiquities Authority.

More than 1,000 Israeli students assisted the effort, which uncovered Byzantine-era buildings with full mosaic floors and marble items. Several walls discovered in the excavation were made of “expensive smooth stones” imported from Turkey.

“We were surprised by how well the findings were preserved, as well as by the wealth and beauty we discovered,” said Benyamin Storchan, director of the excavation for the IAA. “This wealth may prove that the large building, which served as a monastery, was an important center, and it could be that it was one of the main pilgrimage centers in the Judean plain.”

According to the IAA, the monastery was abandoned in the seventh century A.D. and only a small portion of the entire compound has been unearthed.

The archaeological dig was initiated ahead of the construction of a new residential neighborhood in Ramat Beit Shemesh.



Israeli students participated in excavations that uncovered a 1,500-year-old church and monastery near Beit Shemesh. (Photo by Assaf Peretz/Israel Antiquities Authority)

Ritual baths excavated at destroyed Great Synagogue of Vilna

By Israel Hayom staff/Exclusive to JNS.org

A team of Israeli, Lithuanian and American archaeologists has unearthed the remains of two *mikvahs* (ritual baths) used by congregants at the Great Synagogue in Vilna, which is the modern-day capital of Lithuania. The synagogue, which was at heart of Vilna’s large Jewish community for hundreds of years, was completely destroyed in the Holocaust, but evidence of underground spaces discovered in a study carried out last year led to the excavation of the site and the exposure of the ritual baths.

The Great Synagogue of Vilna, built in the 17th century in Renaissance-Baroque style, was a large community center and a hub for Torah study. The facility included 12 different synagogues and study halls; *mikvahs*; the community council building; kosher meat stalls; and the school of Rabbi Elijah ben Solomon Zalman, who is more commonly known as the “Vilna Gaon.” During the Holocaust, Germans looted and burned the synagogue complex. Any remains were completely obliterated after the war by the Soviets, who built a modern school at the site.

The Israeli-Lithuanian-American team discovered the *mikvahs* last summer. The sections of the ritual baths that the archaeologists uncovered date to the early 20th century, and feature tiled walls and floors, steps leading to a pool, and an auxiliary pool in which water is collected for the *mikvah*.

“These discoveries add a new dimension to the understanding of the daily lives of the Jews of Vilna, and will certainly provide a new focus for understanding the lost cultural heritage of the Jewish community of Vilna, the ‘Jerusalem of Lithuania,’” the researchers explained.



Remains of a newly excavated mikvah that was used by congregants at the former Great Synagogue in Vilna. (Photo by Israel Antiquities Authority)

HarlemContinued from page 6

The organization hosts the annual Sheba Film Festival, now in its 15th year, which highlights the experiences of African Jews.

Her two children, a 12-year-old girl and 8-year-old boy, are part of the Ethiopian Jewish community here – and other communities as well. “They are Ethiopian, Israeli, American, Caribbean,” she said.

Barhany said she finds ways in Harlem to honor all the different parts of her identity – and to incorporate them in the dishes at Tsion Café. “I’m a proud Ethiopian, a proud Jew, a proud black female living in Harlem, so all of that is part of me,” she said. “I celebrate all of that.”

ArtistsContinued from page 9

But whether by renting studio space, renovating apartments or loading up moving trucks, Mana says he is doing what he can to help. “Given the Trump situation and his rhetoric and the American desire to eliminate immigration or reduce immigration, and go into isolationism, it’s becoming much harder for an immigrant to feel welcome in this country,” he said. “We want to help those who need the help. I’m totally committed to it. I was given the opportunity, I was given the chance, so I must give the chance to others.”

Jewish Community Center

JCC Friendship Club



On February 15, the Friendship Club members prepared almost 40 shalach manot gifts for those who are homebound or living in nursing homes. L-r: Ann Brilliant, Sylvia Diamond, JFS Director Roz Antoun and Renee Fromer.

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



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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Syrian civilians targeted by Assad, 20 children killed

At least 100 civilians, including 20 children, were killed in fighting in Syria's rebel-held Eastern Ghouta the week of Feb. 19, evidence of "major escalations" on the part of dictator Bashar Assad's regime. The area has been held by rebels for the last five years. The United Nations issued a warning that Assad's targeting of civilians with airstrikes, missile fire and artillery in the area "must stop now." The town of Douma also experienced shelling, with journalists reporting young children being rushed to the hospital. As few as 340,000 people have been killed in the civil war to Israel's north since 2011, following protests against Assad's government which ended in arrests and killings. Over the past five years, Israel has admitted 4,071 Syrians affected by the war to Israeli hospitals for free treatment. In the last year, Israel has treated more than 1,000 Syrian children.

Israeli natural gas to be sold to Egypt in \$15 billion deal

The operators of Israel's Tamar and Leviathan offshore natural gas fields have announced a landmark \$15 billion, 10-year deal to sell the gas to Egypt. Israeli-based Delek Drilling and U.S.-based Noble Energy announced that it has signed two agreements with Egypt's Dolphin Energy worth an estimated \$15 billion. According to the terms of the deal, Delek and Noble will supply Egypt with about seven billion cubic meters of gas annually, with half coming from the already operating Tamar field and the other half from the Leviathan field, which plans to begin operations next year. The companies are looking at various options to transfer the gas, including an eastern Mediterranean pipeline or a Pan-Arabian pipeline via Jordan. Commenting on the agreement, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hailed the deal as "historic," adding "many people did not believe in the gas outline. We led it knowing that it would strengthen our security, economy and regional relations, but, above all, that it would strengthen Israel's citizens. This is a joyous day." Yitzhak Tshuva, the controlling shareholder of Delek Group, which controls Delek Drilling, called the deal an "important milestone" in the road toward making

Israel a major energy exporter in the region. "The agreement will strengthen the relationships between Israel and its neighbors, and increase economic cooperation between them," he said.

Israel tests state-of-the-art Arrow 3 missile system

Israel's new long-range Arrow 3 missile defense system was tested successfully the morning of Feb. 19, in a joint trial carried out in partnership with the United States. The Arrow 3 system, which joins the missile defense arsenal comprised of the Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrows 1 and 2, is designed to protect Israel from short-, medium- and long-range missiles and is among the world's highest-level multi-tiered missile defense network. Arrow 3 is designed to shoot down intercontinental ballistic missiles, while incapacitating nuclear, chemical, biological, or conventional warheads.

Israel advances bill to offset P.A. terror salary payments

Israel's Ministerial Committee for Legislation advanced a bill on Feb. 18 to withhold funds from tax revenues Israel collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority to offset payments made by the P.A. to the families of terrorists. Incarcerated and released terrorists received 550 million shekels (\$155.6 million) from the P.A., while families of killed and injured terrorists received 687 million shekels (\$194.3 million). These payments account for approximately 7 percent of the P.A.'s total annual budget. Payments for terrorists are issued monthly, with those receiving sentences of three to five years being allocated 2,000 shekels (\$566) a month and those receiving 20- to 35-year sentences earning 10,000 shekels (\$2829) per month for life. Married terrorists get a bonus of 300 shekels (\$85) per month, with an additional 50 shekels (\$14) monthly per child. The bill requires the Security Cabinet to decide monthly whether to dock the taxes and tariffs Israel collects for the Authority. The Cabinet could also opt to freeze the funds and pay later, or not to deduct any funds at all. Funds that are withheld from the P.A. would instead be paid into a fund for families of victims of terror. The P.A. issued a statement blasting the law as "yet another crime added to the Israeli occupations' ongoing crimes committed against the Palestinian people."



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