

“Speaking Through Art as a Jew: Visual Expressions of Jewish Culture”

Spring College of Jewish Studies program in May

With the support of a grant from the Community Foundation for South Central New York – David and Virginia Eisenberg Donor Advised Fund, the College of Jewish Studies announces its spring program, “Speaking Through Art as a Jew: Visual Expressions of Jewish Culture.”

On May 3, art historian Diana L. Linden will speak on “Painting for Freedom and the Freedom to Paint: Ben Shahn’s Murals and the M.S. St. Louis.” Her illustrated talk will examine murals painted by American artist Ben Shahn (1898-1969) under the auspices of the New Deal art projects,

which challenged America’s immigration policies. Linden specializes in American art of the 1930s, public art, art and social movements, and social realism. Her book, “Ben Shahn’s New Deal Murals: Jewish Identity in the American Scene” (2015), was selected as a finalist by the National Jewish Book Awards.

On May 10, Flora Rosefsky, a visual artist, will speak on “Flora Rosefsky: Judaic Visual Artist – A Personal Inspirational Journey.” A former Binghamtonian, Rosefsky worked as the program director at the JCC and was the designer of the JCC quilt.

She will talk about how her art is spiritually driven and artistically inspired by her Jewish heritage. “The College of Jewish Studies is thrilled to have Rosefsky back in Binghamton to share her story with the community,” said CJS organizers.

Speaking on “People of the Image: Jews and Art” on May 17, Professor Marc Michael Epstein of Vassar College will discuss how Jews creating art can give insights into their views of God, the universe and other people – Jews and non-Jews – and why results range from the conservative to the controversial. He has written on various topics in visual and material culture produced by, for and about Jews. His “Skies of Parchment, Seas of Ink: Jewish Manuscript Illumination” (2015), a magisterial large-format survey of the genre with more than 300 illustrations in digital color, was the winner of the National Jewish Book Award in 2015. He is currently in the process of completing a book titled “People of the Image: Jews and Art.”

College of Jewish Studies programs are open to the entire community; general admission is \$8 per lecture, or \$20 for all three lectures; senior admission is \$5 per lecture

or \$12 for all three lectures. BU students are welcome to attend with no charge. Individual sponsorship is available (and encouraged) and donations are always welcomed. Individual sponsorship of \$100 includes admission to both fall and spring programs. All lectures will begin at 7:30 pm at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal.

The College of Jewish Studies provides opportunities for adult Jewish education for the Broome County community by offering fall and spring programs. Drawing on local resources and inviting scholars and experts from a range of universities and cultural and religious institutions, CJS sponsors a wide array of programs dealing with Jewish history, culture, religion and politics.

The College of Jewish Studies, founded in 1986, is an informal coalition between the Judaic Studies Department of Binghamton University and several area Jewish sponsoring institutions: the Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, Beth David Synagogue, Temple Concord and Temple Israel. Programming for CJS would not be See “Studies” on page 5

Federation board meeting open to community

The Jewish Federation will hold a full board meeting on Wednesday, March 21, at 7:30 pm. The community is invited to attend. Those interested in attending should make a reservation by calling the Federation at 724-2332 so that enough materials will be available.

“The Binghamton Nuvolone: Restoring an Object in Six Parts” at Binghamton U. Art Museum

“The Binghamton Nuvolone: Restoring an Object in Six Parts” exhibition opened on March 15 in the Binghamton University Art Museum. It was spotlighted in the January 26 issue of *The Reporter*, which can be found at <http://www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4811>.

The exhibition, which runs through May 19, focuses on a single work from the permanent collection: a 44” x 55” canvas artwork by Milanese Baroque painter Carlo Francesco Nuvolone (1609-1702) depicting Saint Benedict with two cherubs. “Most remarkable for its condition, the painting had been cut into six pieces, then reassembled without any effort to disguise the

damage,” said organizers of the exhibition. The painting had long belonged to Max Eisenstein (1884-1980), a Viennese businessman who fled Austria with his family in late 1938 and settled in Binghamton. His son, Norbert Eisenstein, gifted the painting to the gallery in 1982.

Eisenstein’s biography will be explored in this exhibition and yet, it is just one of the various avenues of inquiry pursued by a team of professors and consultants. The co-curators of the exhibition, Karen Barzman from art history, and Neil Christian Pages from German studies and comparative literature, teach at Binghamton University. They have been assisted by others with special expertise:

Joseph Tanski, professor of chemistry from Vassar College; Susan Blakney, paintings conservator from West Lake Conservators; geology professors Richard Naslund and Jeffrey Pietras; and classics professor Hilary Becker from Binghamton.

Visitors to the exhibition will come to understand the painting as an object that generates multiple narratives: its creation in the 17th century, Max Eisenstein’s life in Vienna, his flight to Binghamton and his efforts to restore his property, the “puzzling condition” of the painting and its recent conservation.

The exhibition will be presented as one stage in a research project that has taken team members as far away as Vienna for

archival research and Arizona to interview Eisenstein’s surviving family members. Many of the findings will be presented on labels in the exhibition, but much more will be given by team members and invited guests at a public symposium at the museum on Thursday, May 3, from 4-7 pm, near the close of the exhibition.

Two small, additional installations will complement the Nuvolone exhibition. Drawn from the holdings of the Max Reinhardt Archives and Library in the Special Collections of the Binghamton University Libraries, one installation will present a selection of materials on the life and work See “Art” on page 7

Spotlight

Judy Gold loves getting a laugh

By Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Emmy Award-winning comedian Judy Gold will appear at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, on Sunday, March 25, at 7 pm. Doors will open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$35 on the day of the show. The tickets may be purchased at the JCC front desk. For more information, contact the JCC at 724-2417.

Emmy Award-winning writer and producer Judy Gold “loves” being on stage: “Nothing compares to that,” she said in an e-mail interview. “Getting a laugh from a live audience is pure joy. It is definitely gratifying to write and to see something that you produced come to fruition, but there is nothing like performing live.”

Although Gold has acted in Off-Broadway plays she has written, the show she’ll perform at the Jewish Community Center is different. “This show is stand-up,” she said. “My Off-Broadway shows are plays. The similarities would be me, the stage and the mic.”

Gold’s credits include stand-up specials on HBO, Comedy Central and LOGO. She has also written and starred in the Off-Broadway show “The Judy Show – My Life as a Sitcom,” which received an Outer Critics Circle Nomination. In addition, Gold was nominated twice for



Judy Gold (Photo by Eric Korenman)

the American Comedy Award’s funniest female stand-up.

She noted that her stand-up shows offer her more freedom than her scripted plays. “I’m definitely more apt to improvise when playing a role that I wrote for myself,” Gold said. “Playwrights and screenwriters spend a lot of time creating their masterpieces. Writers use the words they use for a reason, and the actor needs to respect and accept that.”

Gold received the GLAAD Media Award 2007 Outstanding New York Theater: See “Gold” on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Scholars in Ithaca
Temple Beth-El will host Rabbi Naomi Levy; Ted Merwin will speak at Ithaca College.
..... Page 3

Kids’ camps at the JCC
Camp JCC will hold an information night; two spring break basketball camps at the JCC.
..... Page 7

Special Sections
Legal Notices..... 4
Book Review..... 4
Classifieds 8
Wedding, Prom & Party Guide.. 1A-8A

IN THIS ISSUE

2018 Wedding, Prom and Party Planning Guide

Israeli startup goes ga-ga over “smart” baby monitors

By Jeffrey Barken

(JNS) – “Kids who know they’re cared for and cared about have fewer behavioral problems and stronger relationships,” author Heidi Murkoff asserts in her “What to Expect” series on pregnancy and child-rearing. Many experienced parents will agree that one of the mechanisms to such constant care, at least in the very early stages, is electronic: a baby monitor.

Indeed, one of these high-quality, new-parent “must haves” can be essential to establishing foundational trust among newborns and toddlers, as well as help ensure their



At left: Nanit’s smart baby monitor, which utilizes what the company calls “computer vision” to document the quality of sleep an infant receives. (Photo courtesy of Nanit)

safety. Although they offer a window into the nocturnal lives of infants, there has been surprisingly little innovation in this realm since baby monitors were first invented in 1937. Now, an Israeli startup company called Nanit is said to be on the brink of revolutionizing an entire industry.

Nanit has developed a “smart” baby monitor with potentially far-reaching practical and even medical applications. The company has brought together a “tight-knit collection of scientists, parents and designers – experts in the first beautiful months of human life,” reads the company’s See “Startup” on page 7

Opinion

Post-Parkland activism shows teens don’t need our praise, they need a place at the table

By David Bryfman

(JTA) – In the aftermath of the fatal mass shooting in Parkland, FL, the Jewish community should take note: Teenagers are not just the future of the Jewish people, they are the dynamic force driving social change today.

Today we are witnessing history unfold as the American teenage populace is mobilizing. This moment will be recorded as one in which adolescents were the catalysts for societal change – and they will keep fighting because they know that they are on the right side of history.

The irony should not be lost here. Generation Z (teens born post-2000) are often described as the most narcissistic, materialistic generation that the world has ever known. They are referred to as “the iGeneration” and “the Selfie Generation.” Their addiction to electronic devices has been well documented and, with it, the social deficits that this addiction brings.

Those of us who study and work with today’s youth know all too well that despite the alleged self-indulgence of this generation, its members have repeatedly demonstrated that they are committed to social and political change. And now the spotlight is firmly on them – and it’s their time to shine.

Those who mistrust the influence of technology fail to truly understand these youth. For today’s youth, technology is not what they do; it is who they are. The smartphone and its apps are an extension of their lives. And social media, in all of its variations, enhances their social life and amplifies their engagement with the world.

After the tragedies of Parkland and Sandy Hook and Columbine and too many others to name, it is time to allow today’s youth to fix what we could not. Our role as adults must be to empower our young to take control of the conversation and ensure that policymakers hear their voices loud and clear.

On a recent webinar sponsored by The Jewish Education Project and 12 major Jewish organizations serving youth, 450 educators tuned in live as Saralyn Lerner – a Jewish high school senior from Boca Raton, FL, who helped organize a sit-out at her school in the days following the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland – issued the following call to action: “The best thing you can do is instead of simply just empowering your teens and allowing them to do the things they have been asking – like these marches and these sit-outs and these walkouts and these protests – [is to] actually take part in them. You, as Jewish educators, you are the ones who taught us how to fight for what we believed in, whether you’re our teachers, whether you’re our rabbis, whether you’re our cantors at our synagogues – we looked up to you. It’s your generation that put these ideas in our heads of how we can use our own voices and we’re doing exactly that. But we need your help because a generation of teenagers, as much as I’d like to hope that we could, we’re not taking over the world. We’re starting a movement, and every movement has its leaders, every movement has its followers. And on this movement, the Jewish educators... also are the leaders of this. You’re telling us since we were kids, that we need to speak for ourselves, that we need to protect, that we need to respond to one another, you showed us that way, and the only way that these peaceful protests and that change is going to happen is if you keep showing us those right ways.”

Over the next weeks and months, The Jewish Education Project will be offering guides and resources for organizations who want to elevate the voices of teenagers within their communities. With encouragement from rabbis, education directors and other Jewish professionals, we will encourage teens to raise their voices in congregations and communities across the country, particularly on Shabbat

HaGadol (The Great Shabbat), March 24, the Shabbat before Passover that for centuries has been set aside as a day for communal rabbis to deliver major sermons. This year, Shabbat HaGadol coincides with the March For Our Lives gun control demonstrations throughout the U.S. led by American teens. Through an initiative called Generation Now Voices, The Jewish Education Project will invite, collect and disseminate teen sermons that speak to the issues of our time, spark debate and inspire change.

On a personal level, as a recently naturalized American citizen, I urge every adult to offer teenagers the resources and transportation – and if need be to act as chaperones – so that they can show up to demonstrate. I would also urge every nonprofit organization to consider including teenagers on their boards as active voices and decision-makers, particularly if their voices can provide important or missing perspectives. I encourage every gathering, conference and demonstration, no matter what the issue, to find an impassioned teen to speak to that issue. In the weeks leading up to March 24 and beyond, I urge all clergy to yield their pulpit to a teenager in their congregation.

These steps are not lip service. They are recognition that today’s teenagers have something fiercely real to say – that they are here and that they have a voice worth hearing. These steps also reflect our recognition that we adults might not have all the answers, and that sometimes we might be best served in actively withdrawing to offer those better suited to fill that space.

David Bryfman, Ph.D., is the chief innovation officer of The Jewish Education Project. For more information about The Jewish Education Project, visit www.jewisheducationproject.org/.

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

In My Own Words

Our pessimistic society

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Is the 21st century a paradise on earth or are we living in desperate times? Recent articles I’ve read suggest that life is easier and better than ever before – at least for those of us who live in the First World. While I’m definitely not a see-the-world-through-rose-colored-glasses Pollyanna, there are advantages to living in contemporary times. In addition to the evidence that violence in general has been reduced (fewer wars, fewer roving bands of armed bandits, etc.), medicine today is far more advanced than any period in the past. In general, we live longer than our ancestors and are now able to cure diseases that stumped us even a few decades ago. There is more than enough food to feed the entire world if we would just distribute it correctly. Our homes are filled with what people centuries ago would consider miracles: running hot and cold water, heat, electricity and time saving devices (stoves and washing machines, etc.), to name just a few. In addition, most of us don’t

have to perform the heavy labor our ancestors did just to have access to the necessities of life. All in all, things shouldn’t seem that bad.

So, why are so many people unsatisfied? One reason is that it’s difficult to imagine what life was like in the past so few of us can really appreciate how much better things are now. Think of how parents complain that their children take the luxuries they have for granted. Well, when you grow up with technological advances, it’s hard to imagine a world without them. The same is true for us – only the technological advances have changed.

Those of us who want to improve the world, though, get frustrated because we focus on the problems that remain. That’s actually a very Jewish thing. We are required to make the world a better place, even if we’ll never completely succeed. Trouble arises because people differ on how to make the world better. For example, liberals believe that the social and economic changes that have occurred over the

past several decades have improved our lives. Conservatives tend to see the past as upholding the values and lifestyles they think are best. Those of us who are feminists, part of the LGBTQ movement or people of color don’t approve of the conservatives’ agenda because we see it as reducing our civil rights. Others, however, prefer prior decades because, during those times, everyone knew their place and what was expected of them.

Sometimes, I view our society as a see-saw: we move in one direction and then in the reverse. I don’t know that we can please everyone. Those who have recently received civil right are refusing to relinquish them to appease those who disapprove of their color, religion or sexuality. As Jews, we should remember that we have often been part of those groups – the ones denied their rights. Judaism flourishes in the U.S. because we don’t have to fit in – we don’t have to know our place – and we should not deny others that privilege.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER BINGHAMTON

Dr. Howard Warner, President
Sima Auerbach, Executive Director

607-724-2332 ~ www.jfgeb.org

The Reporter Editorial Board

Rachel Coker, chairwoman
Rebecca Goldstein Kahn, Ben Kasper,
Toby Kohn, Richard Lewis,
Robert Neuberger, Dora Polachek

HOW TO REACH THE REPORTER

Mail ~ The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Rd. Vestal, NY 13850

E-mail ~ TReporter@aol.com • Fax ~ 607-724-2311

Phone ~ 607-724-2360 or 800-779-7896

Extension#/Department ~ 1. Advertising 2. Business Office
3. Art Department 4. Circulation 6. Editorial/News

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton
BINGHAMTON, NY

OPINIONS

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

LETTERS

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

ADS

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

DEADLINE

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

Executive Editor Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Layout Editor Diana Sochor

Assistant Editor Ilene Pinsker

Advertising Bonnie Rozen

Production Coordinator Jenn DePersis

Bookkeeper Kathy Brown

Proofreaders

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



“The Reporter” (USPS 096-280) is published weekly for \$36 per year by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734. Periodicals Postage Paid at Vestal, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734 or reach us by e-mail at TREPORTER@AOL.COM.

www.thereporter.org

Temple Beth-El to hold Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Rabbi Naomi Levy April 20-21

On Friday-Saturday, April 20-21, Temple Beth-El of Ithaca will host Rabbi Naomi Levy for a Scholar-in-Residence Weekend. Levy is the founder and leader of Nashuva, a Jewish spiritual outreach movement. She was in the first class of women to enter the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

"It has long been my hope to have Naomi return to Ithaca, where she attended Cornell and taught at Temple Beth-El," said Rabbi Scott Glass of Temple Beth-El.

On Friday, April 20, at 6:15 pm, at a Kabbalat Shabbat

service, Levy will lead those in attendance in a search into the mystery of a letter by Albert Einstein and the workings of the human soul. The service will be followed at 7:30 pm by a Shabbat dinner (reservations are required for the dinner).

On Saturday, April 21, Shabbat services at 10 am will feature Levy discussing "Sometimes a Push Gets You Going On Your Way," a look at how to find the power to move from intention to action. At noon, there will be a lunch (reservations are required). At 8 pm, there will be *Havdalah* and a prayer writing workshop with Levy titled

"From Your Mouth to God's Ear: Talking to God, How to Make Prayer Come Alive in Your Life," along with a wine and cheese reception (reservations are required).

To RSVP for the dinner, lunch and/or reception, contact the temple office by Friday, March 23, at 273-5775 or secretary@tbeithaca.org.

"When her first book, *The New York Times* bestseller 'To Begin Again' was published in 1998, she seemed out of our reach," said Glass. "She was appearing on the 'Today Show' and 'Oprah,' and being interviewed by nationally distributed magazines and newspapers. After her moving and meaningful book about the transformative impact of prayer, 'Talking to God,' came out in 2002, I approached her at a West Coast event, but she explained that travel to Ithaca wasn't possible then. In 2010, her insightful third book, 'Hope Will Find You,' reinforced what I'd known for a long time – that Naomi Levy is an extraordinary rabbi, thinker and parent. Finally, this April, Naomi will return to Ithaca to share of her wisdom, insight, humor and warmth in a weekend of inspiring study."

Her latest work, "Einstein and The Rabbi: Searching for the Soul," has been called "a thoughtful, uplifting, comforting story of a spiritual quest." (See *The Reporter's* review at <http://www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4802>.)

"I hope you will be able to share what promises to be a wonderfully enriching weekend with us, studying with someone that Newsweek identified as one of the 50 most influential rabbis in the nation and the *Forward* included as one of the 50 most influential Jewish Americans," said Glass.

Dr. Ted Merwin to speak at Ithaca College on March 21

On Wednesday, March 21, at 7:30 pm, in Textor 102 on the Ithaca College campus, author Dr. Ted Merwin will present a talk on the rise, fall and rise again of the Jewish deli and its role in American Jewish life, "Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli." For much of the 20th century, the New York Jewish deli was considered an iconic institution in both Jewish and American life.

"As a social space, it rivaled – and in some ways surpassed – the synagogue as the primary gathering place for the Jewish community," said organizers of the event. "Ultimately, upwardly mobile American Jews discarded the deli as they tran-



Dr. Ted Merwin

sitioned from outsider to insider status in the middle of the century. Now, contemporary Jews are returning the deli to cult status as they seek to reclaim their cultural identities."

The lecture is sponsored by Ithaca College's Jewish Studies Program and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Rebecca Lesses, coordinator of Jewish studies, at rlesses@ithaca.edu or 274-3556. Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations should contact her by e-mail or phone.

To see *The Reporter's* review of the Merwin's book, visit www.thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=4204.

Chabad to hold community seder, makes *shmura* matzah available for purchase

Chabad Center announces that it will hold a Passover seder open to the general community on the first night of the holiday, Friday, March 30. Festivities will begin with services at 7 pm followed by the seder. Services and the seder will be held at the Chabad Center, 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal.

The seder will include all of the traditional observances, a full course dinner, handmade *shmura* matzah and "mystical insights." The haggadah will be read with participation from all present in both Hebrew and English, and the many customs and traditions of the seder will be explained. "Our seders are open to anyone who wants to attend a traditional seder and no previous knowledge or level of observance is required," explained Rabbi Aaron

Slonim, executive director of Chabad. "Be prepared to be welcomed – just as are you are – as part of the family."

There is no charge for the seder, but a suggested minimum donation of \$18 per person would be appreciated and can be sent to Chabad before or after the holiday.

"We will be serving a full course, traditional holiday dinner, but I do urge participants to have a bit to eat earlier in the evening to tide them over the ceremonial, opening portion of the seder which precedes dinner," added Rivky Slonim.

For more information and reservations, e-mail aslonim@Jewishbu.com or call the Chabad office at 797-0015.

Handmade *shmura* matzah will be available for purchase through the Chabad Center for \$15 a pound (three matzahs can be purchased for \$9) as long as the supply

lasts. Interested parties are urged to place their orders as soon as possible by calling the Chabad Center at 797-0015.

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Mark Eisenstadt**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to **Genevieve Ado-Mai** on the death of her son, **Fritz Orzelek**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Fern Rose**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to **Marion Rudin** on the death of her husband, **Norman Rudin**

JFS seeks Passover funds for needy

With people beginning to prepare for Passover, which begins on Friday, March 30, Jewish Family Service is asking the local community to do a mitzvah by contributing funds to help the needy.

"Your kindness and generosity will enable 12 Jewish families who are struggling financially to purchase Passover foods required to celebrate a seder and to help them

carry on the Jewish traditions that are so important to us all," said Roz Antoun, director of Jewish Family Service.

Checks should be made out and sent to Jewish Family Service, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850 with "JFS Passover donation" noted in the memo line. Donations must be received no later than Wednesday, March 21, so that Jewish Family Service will have time to process and distribute the funds.

"In these difficult economic times, the community's generosity will surely brighten the celebration of Passover for the recipients and remind those families that they are being remembered," said Antoun.

GoldContinued from page 1

Broadway and Off-Broadway for "25 Questions for a Jewish Mother." *The New York Times* called "25 Questions" "fiercely funny, honest and moving." Gold interviewed numerous Jewish mothers for her Off-Broadway show. She noted they started with 50 questions, but cut some because the interviews took too long. If doing the interview today, she might change a question or two: "I think I might ask the mothers about Roe v. Wade and the #MeToo movement."

The comic does believe Jewish mothers differ in some ways from other mothers. "For my show, '25 Questions for a Jewish Mother,' the first question we asked the mothers was what makes a Jewish mother different from other mothers," she said. "The answer we used was from a mother who said that she needed to ask her Christian neighbor if she would hide her children in case anything happened here."

There was one thing all the Jewish mothers had in common. "The truth is that the one similarity that all the mothers we interviewed had was that when we met them at their homes, there was always a spread," she said.

Gold has been active in the Jewish world. She was awarded the *Keshet Hachamat Lev* Award 2012 for LGBT activism in the Jewish community and was the United Jewish Appeal – Mother of the Year in 2007. "I am Jewish and I'm a mother, and no matter what, you cannot escape that," she said. "I make it a priority to remind my children that we are Jews and that we are proud Jews."

Gold said she was looking forward to performing at the JCC, but had one request: "It better not be freezing."

ERNEST H. PARSONS FUNERAL HOME

Faithfully Serving Broome County Since 1928



PRE-ARRANGEMENTS AND PRE-FUNDING AVAILABLE
Joseph Fritsch
Managing Director

71 Main St., Binghamton, NY 13905
Phone 607-724-1336
Fax 800-948-5844

parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com
www.ParsonsFuneral.com

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



Women's OB/GYN Associates is pleased to welcome **Melody Onysko, ANP, CNM**

Melody's personal warmth and extensive knowledge helps patients interested in holistic approaches to women's health care.

She is now accepting new patients who are seeking:

- Traditional and Holistic Gynecology
- Early Pregnancy Care
- Birth Control Options including IUD's and Nexplanon
- Infertility Counseling and Testing
- Menopausal Support with Bio-Identical Hormone Therapy
- Weight Management

Melody Onysko offers the area's only Optifast program including Advanced Body Composition and other Nutritional Supplements!

607.754.9870

Women's OB/GYN Associates
401 Main Street, 1st Flr.
Johnson City, NY 13790

my.womensobgyn.info



Dr. Carol Miller, Dr. Marianne Davis and Karen Castoro FNP

Visit us on the web at www.thereporter.org



Off the Shelf

Family, death and everlasting life

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Death, or the inability to die, has been a popular topic in secular and Jewish books published over the past few months. Would you live differently if you knew you'd never die? What if someone told you the day of your death? What would you change? These questions form the basis for two wonderful new novels: "Eternal Life" by Dara Horn (W. W. Norton and Company) and Chloe Benjamin's "The Immortalists" (G. P. Putnam's Sons). Moving and infused with great emotion, these works will warm your heart, even as they bring tears to your eyes.

It's difficult to discuss "Eternal Life" without spoiling the pleasures of the plot, which are slowly and elegantly revealed over the course of the novel. However, readers quickly learn that Rachel, the main character, has been alive for more than 2,000 years due to a vow made during the Second Temple times. Although a few sections focus on other centuries, Horn primarily explores Rachel's life in Roman-era Jerusalem, including how she came to take the vow, and contemporary times. The idea of eternal life, though, is just an excuse for the author to look at the mysteries of family life, especially the relationship between parents and children. The major emotions connecting Rachel to her children frequently seem a combination of love and frustration. Horn shows just how difficult it is

not to judge someone who was once totally dependent on you, and who now explores ideas and projects you can't comprehend. "Eternal Life" also examines the pain of leaving behind those you love, even when that becomes a moral imperative. While this may make the novel sound as if there's more philosophy than plot, that's far from true. The suspense, particularly towards the end of the novel, left me struggling between reading slowly to enjoy the prose and moving quickly through the pages to learn what was going to happen.

My favorite parts of the novel are when Rachel wonders if she's learned anything useful during the course of her long life. For example, she notes, "the entire purpose of life [might be] to live in such a way that one made oneself superfluous. And therein lay the root of the problem. There was no point to any of it, none at all, unless one plans to leave" – and she knows she can never leave. Throughout the centuries, Rachel has remained Jewish and made raising a Jewish family a priority. Yet, she has also seen how the religion has changed – sometimes far beyond her comprehension. Her contemporary family somehow reminds her of the religious tradition of her youth: "She had done well, she thought, in this version. 'Version' was the word she used when thinking of it – *nusach*, the liturgical term,

like a melodic variation on a theme. That's what they were, these different versions: different tones, different moods, melancholic, joyous, anxious, calm, hectic, fast, slow. This version was one of the best, the happiest, which was why she didn't want to leave." Rachel also realizes it is the details of life that matter most: "The details themselves were the still and sacred things, that there was nothing else, that the curtain of daily life itself was holy, that behind it was only a void."

"Eternal Life" is a marvelous, bittersweet work. It is quieter than Horn's other novels, but it builds in power as the pages turn. Her deceptively slow pace creates tension as readers discover not only what happened during Roman Second Temple times, but whether Rachel will accept the realities of 21st century life. "Eternal Life" is a wonderful addition to Horn's previous works.

While the premise of "Eternal Life" is that its main character can't die, "The Immortalists" explores what happens when four people learn the dates of their deaths. In 1969, the four Gold children – Varya (age 13), Daniel (11), Klara (9) and Simon (7) – visit a fortune teller who tells each child separately which day they will die. The news affects each differently: Simon, whose date is the earliest, **See "Family" on page 7**

LEGAL NOTICE

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.

1. The name of the limited liability company is Abell Productions, LLC.
2. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on 01/22/2018.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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")

1. The name of the professional service limited liability company ("LLC") is WILBUR D. DAHLGREN, PLLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is January 30, 2018.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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 Newsanity, 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

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

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Badland Outfitters, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 15, 2018.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 54 Spicebush Lane, Tuxedo Park, NY 10987.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Plateia Properties, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 20, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company

is: New Leaf Cider Co. LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 20, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: K&K Real Property LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 20, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: 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 UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW SECTION 206

Notice is given of the formation of Get Air Vestal, LLC (the "Company") for the transaction of business in the State of New York and elsewhere.

1. The name of the limited liability company is Get Air Vestal, LLC.
2. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on February 14, 2018.
3. The county in which the office of the Company is to be located is Broome County N.Y.- principal business location 2220 Old Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850.
4. 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 to the LLC, c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Ste 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228.
5. The registered agent of the Company upon whom and at which process against the Company can be served is United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Ave, Ste 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228.

6. 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 Ballyhack38 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/20/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 320 N. Jensen Rd., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: JP Defense Holdings LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 26, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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

UP IN THE AIR, LLC

Articles of Organization were filed with the NY State Dept. of State, Division of Corporations and State Records on February 12, 2018. Office and principal business location: PO Box 102, Binghamton, Broome County, New York. Secy. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: PO Box 102, Binghamton, New York 13903, principal business address of the LLC, Purpose: any lawful activity.

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

BEALBE, LLC

Articles of Organization were filed with the NY State Dept. of State, Division of Corporations and State Records on February 23, 2018. Office and principal business location: 812 Oak Hill Road, City of Binghamton, Broome County, New York. Secy. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 812 Oak Hill Road, Binghamton, NY 13901, principal business address of the LLC, Purpose: any lawful activity.

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS

THE REPORTER
Published by the
Jewish Federation
of Greater Binghamton

fulfills the
requirement
of "newspapers
of general
circulation".

Very reasonable
rates and
a broad
circulation
makes
The Reporter
a great choice
for your legal
advertising!

PARTNERSHIP
NOTICES

SURROGATE'S
CITATIONS

CHANGES
OF NAME

BANKRUPTCY
NOTICES

TRUSTEE
SALES

AUCTION
SALES

FOUNDATION
SALES

MORTGAGES
FORECLOSURES

Place Your
Legal
Advertising In

THE REPORTER

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

www.thereportergroup.org

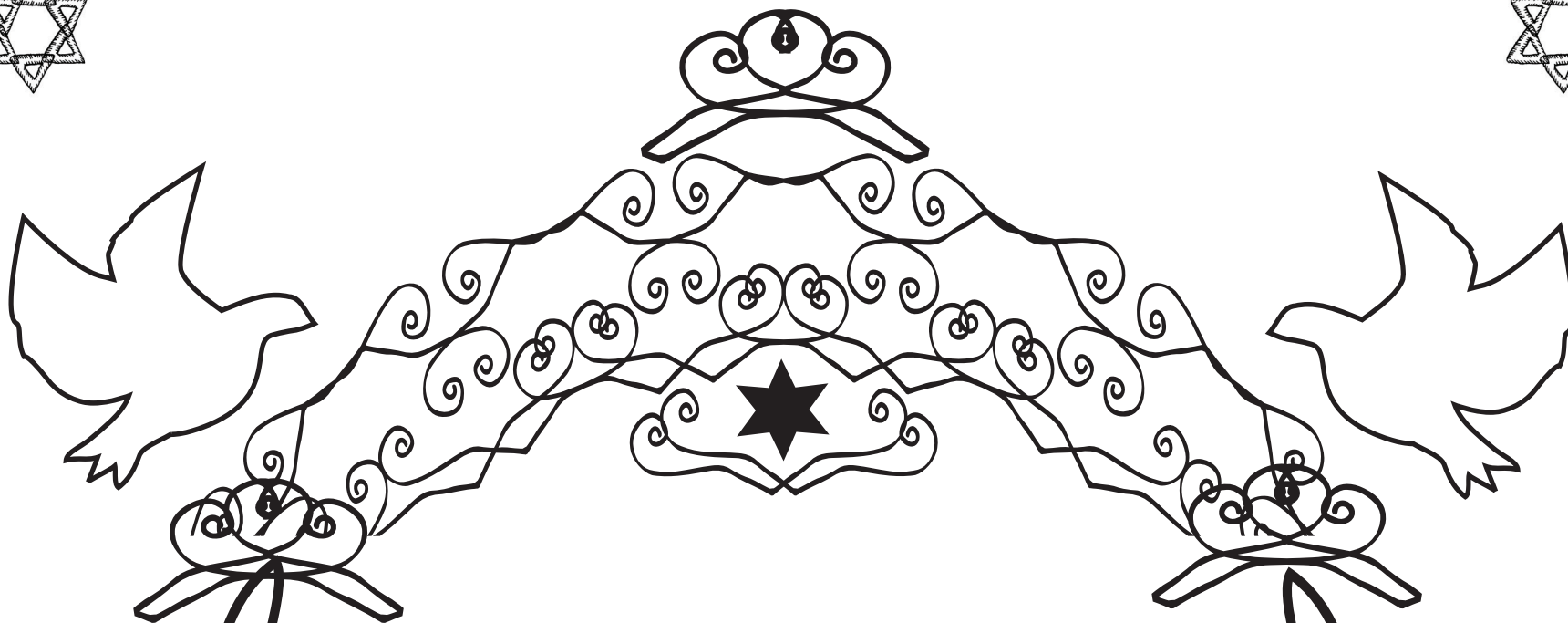
THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

SPECIAL
Pullout Section

March 16-22, 2018
Volume XLVII, Number 11



2018 Wedding, Prom and Party Planning Guide



Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

2018 Advertising Index

APPAREL/BRIDAL & ACCESSORIES

Charbel's Tuxedos and Tailoring 8A
 Dress Your Fancy 8A
 Valet Shop, The 4A

BAKERIES & DESSERTS

Lost Dog Café/Coffeehouse 6A

BANQUET HALLS

Binghamton Club 5A
 Jewish Community Center 4A
 Temple Concord 6A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

CATERING

Binghamton Club 5A
 Lost Dog Café/Coffeehouse 6A
 Number 5 3A
 Phantom Chef Catering 4A
 Silo Restaurant, The 7A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

DANCE LESSONS

Francine Stein 3A

DECORATIONS, FAVORS & PARTY SUPPLIES

Taylor Rental of Binghamton 5A

FLORISTS

Endicott Florist 2A
 KoKeDaMa Flora 8A

GIFTS & JEWELRY & CHINA

Emil's Jewelry Design 2A
 Hand of Man 8A
 Temple Concord Sisterhood Judaic Shop 8A

LODGING

Silo Restaurant, The 7A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

LIMOUSINE

Uptown Limousine 6A

MUSIC, DJ'S & ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrations with De Rue 7A
 Splash 6A

OUTDOOR WEDDING SITES

Silo Restaurant, The 7A
 Temple Concord 6A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

PARTY PLANNING

Lost Dog Café/Coffeehouse 6A
 Number 5 3A
 Silo Restaurant, The 7A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

Kristys Imagination Photography 6A

RESTAURANTS & INNS

Little Venice 5A
 Lost Dog Café/Coffeehouse 6A
 Number 5 3A
 Silo Restaurant, The 7A
 Traditions at the Glen 7A

TABLE LINENS

Taylor Rental of Binghamton 5A

TENTS, TABLES & CHAIRS

Taylor Rental of Binghamton 5A

SPA

White Rose Day Spa 3A

Five ways to showcase your rock 'n' roll wedding

(NAPSI) - So, you're gearing up for that special day. Your wedding day. Unlike many brides, though, you've been imagining something a little different from the norm. You're more of a Billy Idol "White Wedding" and apple-bobbing bride than a traditional bouquet-tossing bride. Which is great. And which is why there's a member of Professional Photographers of America out there itching to get creative with your nontraditional wedding photos.

Your wedding photos are a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to capture that crazy, special moment in time. They say the day flies by too fast and the best way to recall those memories is with your photos. So put some thought into getting a photographer and you'll be able to relive those special memories with delight. After all, long after the cake is gone, your photos will be there.

Your wedding might be the first time you've ever thought of hiring a photographer. Fortunately, photographers are ready to get all those splendid shots so you don't even have to think about it. However, you may be curious about some classic-yet-alternative photo ops. To ease your mind, here are five ways you can showcase your wedding.

► **First Look** - You may be doing things a little differently, but chances are you're getting ready in a separate room from your partner. Whether you went all out with a Gothic-style, flowing, tulle skirt or kept it minimal with a hippie-floral sundress, the first time you see your husband-to-be on your wedding day is special. A photo of that moment can

bring back smiles for many years, maybe even laughs.

◆ **Wedding Party** - Do you have 10 bridesmaids? Or do you want a photo with just your sister? Either way, the wedding party and family photos are an excellent opportunity to make the most special people in your lives feel, well... special. Having them be a part of your big day by capturing a few grins and hugs can help the togetherness last a lifetime.

◆ **Ceremony** - Maybe you're doing it short and sweet in an event hall down on Hill Street or maybe you're saying your vows in the deeper parts of the woods. Wherever you end up, this is an important moment you'll want to look back on.

◆ **Cake** - From five-tiered, Harry Potter-themed white fluff to the most creative doughnut bar, the "cake" usually has its place in your wedding album. You'll want to remember not only how sweet the day was, but how sweet it tasted as well.

◆ **Reception** - Let's call it what it is, the after-party! Are you dancing in the barn? Are you LARPing in the fields? Maybe you're having a murder mystery dinner. These moments are just dying to be photographed. It's the time when you finally get to shake off all that stress, celebrate your commitment and be with the ones you love. These are the moments you will definitely want to remember.

When the big day arrives, be at ease about catching these moments with a professional photographer. And should something go wrong, a professional can work a plan B like nobody's business.

Established in 1932, Endicott Florist has been the Southern Tier's go-to florist for three generations. Weddings, proms, funerals and everyday occasions - we provide for all your floral needs!



Wedding consultant and floral designer,
 35 years experience
 Call Sherry Tomasko

*** f | Endicott florist**
 754-2424
 119 Washington Ave., Endicott, New York
 www.endicottfloweronline.com

About the cover

This year's Wedding, Prom and Party Guide cover was designed by Jenn DePersis, production coordinator for *The Reporter*.



EMIL'S JEWELRY DESIGN

1184 Vestal Ave
 Binghamton, NY
 607-722-2436
 Tues-Fri 10-6 // Sat 10-4



Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Israelis are throwing themselves one-of-a-kind weddings in nature

By Andrew Tobin

TEL AVIV (JTA) - In this tiny country, there are only so many places to have a wedding. Or so you would think. But a growing number of Israelis are creating one-of-a-kind outdoor weddings from the ground up. In some cases, they even start with the ground.

"We brought in bulldozers for one couple," said Ori Fuks, an Israeli wedding producer. "They wanted to get married on an avocado farm, so we built them a parking lot."

"Nature weddings," as they are sometimes called, are an increasingly popular option for young Israeli couples seeking unique nuptials. In recent years, an industry has emerged around the bespoke outdoor events, offering an alternative to the traditional wedding hall blowout.

Shani Maaman, a 31-year-old high-tech worker from Jerusalem, and her husband-to-be, Ran, were determined to do their wedding themselves. With the help of Israeli wedding blogs and Facebook groups, they spent months planning and preparing a wedding they felt reflected who they are. Unlike some couples, Maaman and her fiance did not start from zero. Instead, they converted a biblical tourism center, called Genesis World, into a bohemian desert getaway with Bedouin-style tents and cushions, billowing macrame decorations and a caravan of camels on hand. A DJ played world music-inspired beats late into the night.

"Nature weddings have become common, but I know that our wedding was very, very special," Maaman said. "The nice thing about the place was that because it's not for weddings, it doesn't feel commercialized. They don't charge you for every little extra. If you want another area to chill out, they give it to you no problem."



An Israeli couple posed at their wedding in the northern Israeli forest on May 29, 2017. (Photo by Yoav Alon)

Fuks said many young Israelis have become dissatisfied with the "copy and paste" approach of wedding halls, which they see as inauthentic. Having grown up working in two such venues owned by his family, in 2009 he started his own company called Bloom, which specializes in nature weddings at sites with little to no infrastructure. "Young Israelis want their wedding to be their own," he said. "They want to feel like they're hosting you in their own home. That's why we come and say, anything you want, we can create it."

Fuks lets couples customize nearly every aspect of their wedding, starting with the location. In addition to the avocado farm, he uses forests, deserts, vineyards and fields. In 2016, he threw a wedding in a pallet factory. He works with suppliers to bring in the desired amenities, like generators for electricity, a kitchen and bar, a sound system, lighting, restrooms, tents and flowers.

Immediately after the event, everything is dismantled. No infrastructure can stay in place, Fuks said, because he rents the properties from private owners and may or may not have the required permits. Fortunately, he said, he has never had a wedding shut down.

Fuks said business has grown steadily over the years to about 30 weddings a year, mostly in the relatively sunny months between March and October. At the same time, he said he has seen his competitors in the nature wedding industry proliferate, from just a couple eight years ago to as many as 10 experienced competitors and countless upstarts today.

A saleswoman at one of Israel's poshest wedding halls said the growing popularity of nature weddings has not cut into her clientele. But speaking on condition of anonymity to protect her job, she said she expects that to change in the near future. Among her Tel Aviv friends, she said, wedding halls are already out of style. "People want their wedding to make them feel special," she said. "But this industry is all about money. You spend money you don't have, and we make money. In a couple years, everyone will be planning their own weddings."

However, nature weddings are not necessarily less expensive. Fuks said his average wedding costs about \$40,000, which is at the high end of the national average, according to a 2015 survey. Maaman's \$25,000 wedding is at the low end.

Lira Wieman, the owner of LWEvents, said nature weddings are nothing new for her clients, who include Israel's rich and famous. Nearly three-quarters of the weddings she does are in nature, she said. In May 2017, she produced a high-profile desert wedding for model Shlomit Malka and actor Yehuda Levy. "They wanted a Burning Man-style event," Wieman said, referring to the American countercultural festival. "It was crazy - three days on an isolated ranch with a 24-hour DJ party."

See "Nature" on page 7A



Shani and Ran Maaman embraced under the chuppah at their wedding in the Judean Desert on May 11, 2017. (Photo by Dana Bar-On)



An avocado grove turned wedding venue waiting for guests in central Israel on May 19, 2017. (Photo by courtesy of Bloom)



Shani and Ran Maaman enjoyed the company of camels at their wedding in the Judean Desert on May 11, 2017. (Photo by Dana Bar-On)

Social Dance Lessons

Available for Private Groups, Wedding Parties

Bride & Groom's First Dance
Mother/Son
Father/Daughter

Swing, Cha-cha, Rhumba,
Foxtrot, Waltz, Tango,
Samba, Merengue, Salsa...
you name it, I can teach it!

Call for more information
Francine Stein
729-4346

• Gift cards available •



Congratulations!

Your wedding is an occasion of meaningful commitment, and a time to celebrate. The White Rose Day Spa would like to be a part of your celebration. We will provide relaxation and make you feel and look beautiful for one of the most special days in your life.

Call today and speak to our Bridal Consultant!



Now offering Maui Teeth Whitening, Organic Spray Tanning and Permanent Cosmetics
Dr. Tali Reeis-Martin - Laser treatments and weight management

644-9123

4535 Old Vestal Rd., Vestal (Next to Mc Neil Music)
Mon. 10am - 5pm • Tue. - Fri. 9am - 8pm • Sat. 9am - 5pm
Check out our website for details! www.WhiteRoseDaySpa.com

Why settle for anything less than the best?

NUMBER 5

Prime Steaks, Fresh Seafood

607-723-0555

33 South Washington St, Binghamton, NY

www.number5restaurant.com



Voted 'The Best in Fine Dining', 'Catering', 'Seafood', and 'Cocktails' by Readers Choice Awards

Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Your Wedding Checklist

6-12 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Determine budget
- Visit rabbi (ceremony variations)
- Set day, time and location of ceremony, rehearsal and reception
- Select a caterer
- Choose wedding photographer and/or videographer
- Draw up guest list
- Obtain floral/rental/music estimates
- Invite attendants
- Discuss honeymoon and new home
- Select gown and headpiece
- Select music for ceremony and reception
- Register with bridal gift registry

4 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Order invitations and personal stationery
- Plan reception
- Plan ceremony and reception music
- Choose florist
- Mothers choose gowns
- Men choose attire
- Make honeymoon reservations
- Begin trousseau shopping
- Arrange motel accommodations for out-of-town guests

3 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Make an appointment with gynecologist to discuss birth control, etc.

2 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Order wedding cake
- Select attendants' gifts
- Plan to keep gift record
- Acknowledge gifts as they arrive
- Finish invitations -- Mail them 6 weeks before wedding
- Plan rehearsal dinner
- Check on marriage license
- Get rings engraved
- Plan luncheon for bridesmaids
- Select gift for groom
- Go over wedding ceremony details
- Gown fitting
- Bridal portrait sitting
- Arrange for limousine service
- Make hairdresser appointment

1 MONTH BEFORE WEDDING

- Make up reception seating charts
- Check wedding party apparel
- Final gown fitting
- Get blood tests for marriage license

2 WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING

- Make final check on bridal-party clothes and catering
- Arrange name changes/get marriage license
- Arrange transportation from reception to airport or wherever you are leaving from for the honeymoon

1 WEEK BEFORE WEDDING

- Wrap attendants' gifts
- Give final count to caterer
- Confirm music arrangements and check selections
- Arrange to move belongings to new home
- Check that your hairstyle complements your headpiece
- Final instructions to photographer and videographer
- Final instructions to ushers for special seating
- Give clergy fee to best man in sealed envelope (He will deliver it.)
- Begin packing for honeymoon

1 DAY BEFORE WEDDING

- Give ushers guest list
- Do something relaxing and pamper yourself!

Find wedding bliss this fall

(NewsUSA) - It may be spring, but many caterers, event halls and wedding planners are gearing up for fall wedding season, one of the busiest times of the year for hopeful couples. Fall guarantees exquisite photo opportunities without the heat of summer - and the wealth of in-season decorations are beautiful and affordable.

In fact, September and October are the most popular and third most popular months for weddings, respectively. If you're planning a fall wedding this season, www.valleyforge.org offers some helpful tips:

1. Keep warm. Since outdoor fall weddings have the potential to get chilly, keeping your guests warm is a must. Offer hot cocoa and baskets of soft blankets or cozy shawls. Set up fire pits or outdoor heating stations where guests can shake off the chill.

2. Location, location, location. Select a locale that is known for its fall scenery, autumnal hues and stunning landscape.

3. Incorporate fall colors into the wedding party wardrobe. Chocolate brown compliments a variety of fall color schemes, and it's flattering for most women. But if brown doesn't suit the plans, burgundy is another fall shade that makes the bridal white pop.

4. Select in-season flowers and decorations. Unless the bride has her heart set on lily of the valley or orchids, there are beautiful in-season flowers to choose from. Dahlias, chrysanthemums, asters, roses, zinnias and sunflowers all create elegant bouquets and floral displays with a lovely hint of fall. Add some crab apples for a playful, non-floral element.

5. Mix and match gourds, pumpkins and squash. Pumpkins can be tacky or a little too reminiscent of Halloween, so class them up by serving pumpkin soup, pumpkin cocktails or tiers of mini pumpkins. Gourds also make eye-catching vases, and all three can be arranged as charming centerpieces.



phantom
Chef

CATERING
CULINARY CLASSES

Michelle (Bank) McIlroy
Executive Chef/Owner
www.phantomchefcatering.com
607.765.2408

The Valet Shop
Your Clothing Center

"For Clothes As Special
As The Occasion"

84 Front Street, Binghamton
723-9024
John Palombaro

Visit The Valet Shop Online at:
www.thevaletshop-tuxedos.com

Let us share in your joy

CELEBRATE AT THE

JCC

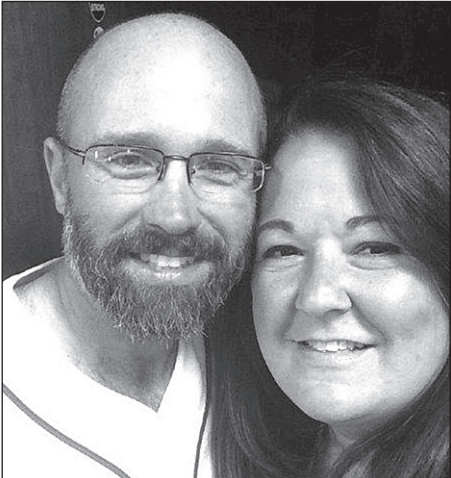
Whether you're planning a simple supper or an elegant dinner celebration, the Jewish Community Center is available to graciously serve your every need.

JCC FACILITIES INCLUDE
Kosher Supervised Kitchen • Your Choice of Caterers
Capacity for 20-175 Guests • Spacious Parking Lot
Safe Exterior Lighting • Convenient Location


THE JCC IS THE PERFECT LOCATION FOR YOUR
Wedding Reception • Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parties
Anniversary Parties • Birthday Parties

JCC binghamton
500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
607-724-2417 • www.binghamtonjcc.org

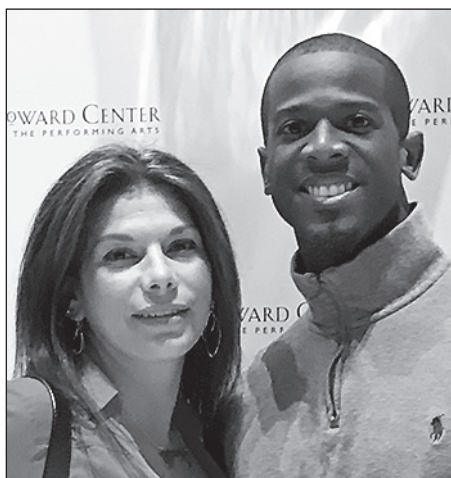
Engagements



Julie Rosenberg and Bob Steber



Stacey Robyn Shaunler and Eliezer Tzadok Silber



MiRit Wartell and Justin Samuels

Mazel Tou
to our
Engaged Couples!



STAND OUT

Today, it's not good enough to be one of the crowd. You've got to stand out, be different from the competition. You need a targeted ad campaign that's professional, specialized and affordable. Get noticed. Get your fair share, and more. **STAND OUT IN A CROWD.**

Contact **BONNIE ROZEN** at
bonnie@thereporter.org or
724-2360, ext.244

THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

www.thereporter.org

Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

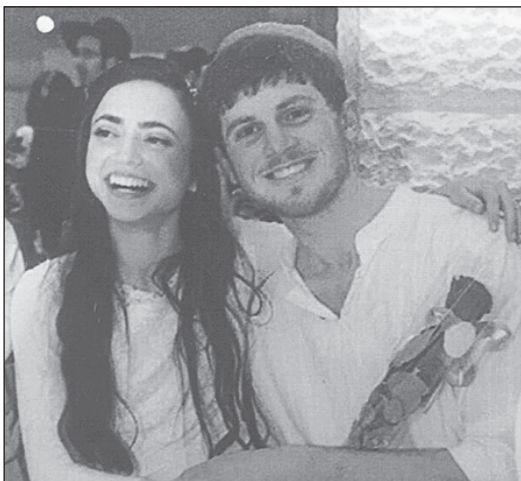
Weddings



Na'ama Rosenhok and Dov Morell
August 25, 2017



Tirtza Spiegel and Chaim Strauss
August 27, 2017



Moriyah Fox and Eliezer Morell
January 10, 2018

*Mazel Tov
to our
Married Couples!*

Love of the land (and the heart) blooms in the desert

By David Brummer

(JNS) - Israel's Arava desert seems an unprepossessing place to find uplifting stories of love. But looks are deceiving, and what may appear as a largely barren landscape to outsiders is in reality much more hospitable - and full of life and love.

Samantha met her husband, Idan Levy, while he was traveling in her hometown of Bogota, Colombia, in the early 2000s. She was attracted to his adaptability and how he seemed to carry in his backpack a possible solution for every conceivable eventuality. "He wasn't like the [Colombian] guys I knew; he was someone who was able to fix his own problems," she said.

Despite a long (in both duration and distance) courtship, Samantha, who by that time had finished her undergraduate studies, came to a crossroads. With a place to study for an M.B.A. in Spain, Samantha returned to Israel to visit Idan and realized that everything was as good as it had been on a previous visit. She converted to Judaism and they began married life, working and living in Tel Aviv.

But for Idan, whose parents moved to the Arava around 40 years ago and raised a family there, the siren call to return to his roots was a powerful one. "The desert is my landscape," he said. "From childhood, this is what I know and what I feel comfortable with."

Yael met Amit Meir while they were both traveling in Australia, following *Sherut Leumi* (National Service) and army service, respectively. Finding a home away from home at the Chabad House in Melbourne, the two began dating. Yael, originally from Haifa, studied for a bachelor's degree in interior design. Amit, who grew up in Hazeva and has a deep connection to the land that his father farmed, knew that he wanted to be with Yael, but also realized that he would be happiest in the Arava.

Amit's commitment to the land runs deep. He set up the Arava International Center for Agricultural Training, a facility enabling students from Asia and Africa - including countries that do not have official diplomatic relations with Israel, such as Indonesia - to come and learn how an area with a severe water deficit manages to be such a uniquely bountiful area. Jewish National Fund-USA, responsible for much of the ongoing community building taking place in the Arava, annually provides funding to



L-r: Amit and Yael (with their baby) and Samantha and Idan. (Photo courtesy of Jewish National Fund)

bring some 1,200 students to the center.

Amit's latest project is "Adam v'Adamah," designed for Israeli teens to receive regular school lessons and subjects, but also to combine that with agricultural labor. Through their contact with the earth, the program wants to imbue a deep love for the land - nurturing, nourishing and also protecting it. At the same time, it's also reflective of the desert where it takes place - a community where people do things because they need to be done, not because they expect elevated status.

It's not just couples or halves of couples indigenous to the Arava who have found love there. Hwtashae Lumhkawng journeyed from his home in northern Myanmar to learn about agriculture at AICAT in 2011. While there, a woman from Myanmar's south, Mya Mya Maw, enchanted him; he found her natural intelligence and problem-solving abilities a "gift of great beauty."

Hwtashae and his wife took the opportunities presented to them not only to learn all they could from Israeli farmers about agriculture, but also to study at both Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, gaining a degree in planned science with a focus on food safety and security. "The fruit and benefits from this opportunity started from the agricultural school and the Arava desert," said Hwtashae.

See "Love" on page 7A



Hwtashae Lumhkawng and his wife Mya Mya Maw. (Photo courtesy of Jewish National Fund)

Little Venice
RESTAURANT

111 Chenango Street,
Binghamton, NY 13901

724-2513

A Family Tradition Since 1946

- Bridal Showers
- Rehearsal Dinners
- Anniversary Parties

Private room available at no extra charge (up to 40 people)

Party At Our Place...

Have your party at our place!
Enjoy all the same great rentals available at Taylor Rental, but none of the hassle of using your own home.

Birthdays parties, retirement parties, bridal and baby showers and more!

238-1599

Or Yours...

TAYLOR RENTAL
of Binghamton
Party Rentals

- Tables & Chairs
- Linen & China
- Flatware & Bounces
- Tents & Glassware
- Games
- and much more!

773-1462

1029-1043 Front Street (1/2 mile north of BCC)

**take the
oyvey**

out of
planning
your big day!

Use the
information
in this annual,
keepsake guide
to plan your
event...

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Binghamton Club

83 Front Street Binghamton, NY
607-722-2329
www.binghamtonclub.com

The event specialists!
Wedding Ceremonies and Receptions
Reunions, Showers, Birthday Parties,
Corporate Dinners, Fund Raisers
Bar Mitzvahs and Bat Mitzvahs.....

Call for membership or event information.
607-722-2329

Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Couples who save lives together form lasting bonds together

By Eliana Rudec

(JNS) – While matchmaking is not something often considered a priority in the world of emergency medical services, a good number of volunteer first responders have not only met on the job, but also go out on emergency calls together, saving lives and growing closer in their own relationships because of it.

Dov and Racheli Maisel were taking care of a patient when the first met: Racheli as an EMT for her Israel national service at Shaarei Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem and Dov as a paramedic with Magen David Adom. After the couple began to date, they were called to the scene of a bad car accident, where they worked alongside firefighters. Standing over the car, watching while the firefighters cut open the vehicle to extricate the victim, Dov proposed. “You see,” he said to Racheli, “life can be very short, so maybe we can go marry now?”



Batya and Moshe Jaffe with their Psychotrauma and Crisis Response Unit K-9 Lucy. (Photo courtesy of Batya and Moshe Jaffe)

“That’s the life of a paramedic,” said Dov, who later co-founded United Hatzalah in 2006 with his best friend, Eli Beer. “At least, it was an original proposal,” he quipped. He’s now married to Racheli, a volunteer EMT for Hatzalah.

On contemplating some of the noteworthy situations they’ve shared on the job, Racheli said: “We once delivered a baby together that wasn’t ours. It was a very interesting date night.”

Still, the ability for couples to save lives together is no joke. “One of the wonderful things about our model is that it allows our volunteers to maintain their regular lives at work,” explained Beer, who in addition to co-founding United Hatzalah serves as its president. “There is no need for long shifts or extended time given by the volunteers. This allows couples to respond to calls often together without having to worry about an extended period of time away from the home. “Many people have taken advantage of this and either convinced their spouses to join the organization or even met people through their volunteering, and created a family based on their mutually shared ideals,” he told JNS.

Beer added that while the organization certainly is not a matchmaking service, “we are happy to include spouses, loved ones and couples within our family of first-response volunteers. This is especially true when these couples want to work together to make their communities safer for everyone.”

Indeed, working together makes many couples better



Yossi and Pnina Dvir, volunteers with United Hatzalah from Beitar Illit. (Photo courtesy of Pnina and Yossi Dvir)



Dov and Racheli Maisel (Photo courtesy of Dov and Racheli Maisel)

first responders. “We go back home and talk about the call, and talk about what we can do better next time,” said Dov.

These experiences also strengthen their own relationships and families. According to Racheli, she learns a lot from Dov when they go out on calls together, and it reminds her that she chose a caring and compassionate husband. She told JNS: “Dov encourages me to be independent and go out on calls when he is not there, and this gives me confidence in emergency situations.”

Likewise, Dov said, “Racheli has been the biggest support ever, and it makes me really proud to see her in the vest, talking to the patients. It makes me admire her even more.”

He also maintained that it bolsters their own family’s values. “Seeing us work together as a team to save lives, even when it is not convenient to do so, offers a great learning opportunity for our children,” said Dov. “One time, we went camping over Passover with the kids and another kid went into anaphylactic shock, and we were able to treat the kid with oxygen and medicine so by the time the ambulance got there, the kid was already breathing normally and sipping a can of Coke. It was truly an amazing moment for the kids to see.”

See “Bonds” on page 8A

Grooms: tips to survive the big day

(StatePoint) – There’s an endless stream of advice out there for brides-to-be – from insights into gown trends to leads on finding the best photographer. But grooms, who are more involved than ever these days in the wedding planning process, may have their own set of worries. Being prepared can keep the pressure of the big day at bay, say experts.

“Your wedding day involves hundreds of moving parts. But putting things in perspective and leaning on close friends, family and hired professionals can help you stay calm and happy,” says author Eric San Juan, whose book, “Stuff Every Groom Should Know,” offers suggestions to get from “yes” to “I do.”

Whether you’ve been a best man three times in the past or you’re new to the wedding game entirely, these tips from San Juan can help you survive your own big day.

◆ Be a well-groomed groom: Go beyond your normal grooming routine. This is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion and you should look the part. Consider a manicure, ensure your suit or tux is tailored to fit you perfectly. Get a haircut, trim your

nose hair. Looking impeccable on your wedding day is crucial.

◆ Melt cold feet: Even the most laid back guy can turn into a wreck once the reality of the big day settles in. Calm your nerves by talking to your best man and projecting confidence.

◆ Essentials for your pocket: Carrying these essentials with



you can help you get through the day-of emergencies: aspirin, your phone, numbers essential for the wedding (such as vendors, drivers and caterers), cash, a stain remover pen, camera, breath mints, handkerchief, lip balm and, of course, the ring.

◆ Master the meet and greet: You can’t avoid small talk on your wedding day. Consider a greeting line so you can get all your hi-and-thank-yous over in one fell

swoop. If your better half is the charming one, let her take the lead. Circulate early. The cocktail hour is the perfect time to do a quick circuit of the room. Remember, you don’t need to dwell in any one conversation. You have a built-in excuse to exit a conversation early – “I should really make my way around the room” is always a legitimate exit line.

◆ Savor the wedding night: Avoid the after party. Allow yourselves to bask in your first hours alone together. You’ll never have this night again.

Still feeling nervous? “In the United States alone, over 2.5 million guys every year manage to plan and execute one of these celebrations,” says San Juan. “Remember, you really are not alone.”

Splash
The Area's Hottest Dance Band
www.splash607.com (607) 725-2990

Kristys Imagination Photography
Kristy Johnston
607-221-1225
On location photography for any occasion!
• Weddings
• Portraits
• Events and more!
www.kristysphoto.com

room for up to 65 for dinner or 120 for cocktails!
celebrate your special day with us!
the **Violet Room**
Fabulous food • Full bar!
LOST DOG Catering
222 Water St • Downtown Binghamton
607.771.LOST • lostdog.cafe

Host your gathering at

The Kilmer Mansion and Social Hall at Temple Concord
9 Riverside Drive • Binghamton, New York 13905
607-723-7355 • TempleConcordBinghamton@gmail.com

UPTOWN Limousine Service
Robert Palencar
President
Quality Chauffeured Transportation
49 GRISWOLD ST BINGHAMTON NEW YORK 13904
607-723-0374 1-866-365-2008 UPTOWNLIMO.COM

Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Prom night safety tips: advice for parents and teens

Teachers' Insurance Plan

Prom night is probably the most anticipated night of the year for teens and the most dreaded for their parents. Most teens heading off to their prom will tell their parents that they know everything about drinking and driving – and their parents' other concerns. However, according to safety experts, it will take more than talk to ensure a safe evening.

"No matter how strong the family relationship, many parents are still unaware of the choices that teens face every day," said Ray Palermo, director of public information for national car insurer Teachers' Insurance Plan. "For parents to successfully reach their kids, they'll have to approach safety issues in new, often more direct, ways."

Palermo offers several tips that go beyond "don't drink and drive."

For parents:

- ◆ Get involved in planning your teen's prom night. Talk to



your teen in advance about how important it is not to ruin a great evening. Despite what they may say, teens want parents involved in their safety. Talk about what they should say or do in certain high-risk situations. Consider having a "contract" for the night, laying out the rules everyone agrees on.

- ◆ Set out rules regarding post-prom parties or other activities – with whom they will be, where, for how long and what they will be doing.
- ◆ Get a complete itinerary for the evening, including the names of other prom-goers they will be with and the phone numbers of their parents.
- ◆ Set a curfew based on past behavior, but be reasonable. This is a special night. Have your teen call if there is a delay.
- ◆ Send your teen a text message during the night telling them to have fun, but reminding them not to ruin a great time.
- ◆ Limit the number of passengers – at most one other couple in the car.
- ◆ Be on call for a ride home or other emergency.
- ◆ Have a "no questions asked" (at least not that night)

policy on getting home safely.

- ◆ Join with other parents and rent a limo for them.
- ◆ Be the chauffeur for the night, but don't meddle. Rent a vintage car to make it more special.

For teens:

- ◆ Make an agreement with parents to not drink and drive, and not to ride with anyone else who is drinking.
- ◆ Resist high-risk activities of all types.
- ◆ To avoid tampering, do not leave your beverage unattended.
- ◆ As a surprise, check in with your parents during the night. It will reassure them about how you are doing.
- ◆ Always buckle up.
- ◆ In short, follow your parent's rules.

Teachers' Insurance Plan regularly provides to the public news and information regarding driver safety, car insurance and education issues. Additional information is available at www.teachers.com. Teachers' Insurance Plan is underwritten by members of the Response Insurance Group of Companies.

A guide to reducing the prom price tag

(StatePoint) – Prom is a time-honored tradition and a rite of passage for teens. Originally inspired by graduation celebrations and debutante balls, prom today is now an often extravagant, defining moment in a teen's life, bearing little resemblance to promenades of the past – especially when it comes to cost.

All of this indulgence unfortunately comes with a price tag and prom expenses can put a large dent in your wallet. Teens are spending nearly \$640 on prom hair and makeup, outfits, tickets and rides, according to Yahoo Style's "2017 Prom Across America" survey – and that doesn't take into consideration any pre-prom expenses, such as the promposal, which, according to Visa's annual prom spending survey, adds another \$324.

In recent years, teens have upped the ante, finding elaborate – and often public – ways to ask someone to prom. What are some popular promposal tactics? Spelling "prom" with pastries, creating giant duct tape posters, decorating lockers and bedrooms, and popping the question on the jumbotron at a sporting event.

When proms first became common, teens were encouraged to wear their "Sunday best" – implying a nice dress or

suit they already owned. Not so anymore. For girls, prom is all about the dress and finding the perfect one at the right price is no easy task. Seventeen Magazine reported that girls spend \$231 on average for a dress, \$45 on shoes, \$23 on a handbag, \$32 on jewelry and \$118 on hair, nails and makeup.

While guys typically spend less on prom clothing and accessories, they're still shelling out for a tuxedo, corsage and other accessories.

The prom price tag is leading some teens to look at alternatives, such as ditching typical outfits and making their own, including Duck Tape formal wear. Over the last 17 years, the Duck brand Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest has attracted more than 7,000 entrants and awarded more than half a million dollars in college scholarships to teens who crafted Duck Tape prom attire. Now in its 18th year, the contest seeks to help teens save on prom by awarding creative makers for their promwear designs.

For more information, visit stuckatprom.com.

Other ways to cut the prom price tag? Hair, makeup and other accessories can cost more than \$200, so skip the salon and opt for online tutorials for hair and makeup inspiration. Also, DIYing accessories, such as jewelry, a clutch or homemade artificial flowers, can add a personal touch and keep money in your wallet.

Setting a budget and looking for opportunities to save money can help ensure prom is an amazing night that doesn't break the bank.

Love Continued from page 5A

The lasting effect of the Arava – and Hwtashae and his wife's love for it – did not end with their time in the fields or the classroom. She recently gave birth to a son, whom they decided to call Arava even though it's usually considered a girl's name.



But Hwtashae was clear about the name: "He is my first son. And I always want to remember the Arava... it has given such a precious and meaningful life to my family and me."

Arava Lumhkawng (Photo courtesy of Jewish National Fund)

Nature Continued from page 3A

To some extent, Maaman's wedding – which was also Burning Man inspired – was countercultural, too. Like a growing number of Israelis, she and her husband eschewed the Chief Rabbinate, the Orthodox authority that controls Jewish marriage in Israel. They opted for a secular humanist rabbi, and because only an Orthodox rabbi can perform a wedding in Israel, they have yet to be officially married.

Maaman said they plan to eventually marry abroad and have the union recognized by Israel's secular bureaucracy, or to enter a common law marriage – two increasingly popular options.

She said their motivation for not going through the Chief Rabbinate was more personal than principled. They wanted to do the wedding on a date that is forbidden by Jewish law and, more important, to have an egalitarian ceremony. Under the macrame *chuppah*, Maaman joined her husband in the traditional concluding ritual of breaking a glass in memory of the destruction of Jerusalem. "We're not like anti-people," she said. "What guided us was making it our wedding, fit to us. We did what we needed to do."

www.CelebrationsWithDeRue.com
607-343-6269

Celebrations With DERUE
Much More Than Just Music!

- ◆ Interactive DJ Entertainment
- ◆ Weddings & Special Events
- ◆ Karaoke • All Types of Parties
- ◆ Lighting & Video Options
- ◆ High Quality Equipment
- ◆ High Standard of Service

Your Special Day Deserves Our Special Way!

see the sunset at

The Silo Restaurant

Beautiful Gardens overlooking picturesque Silo Valley...Scenic View, Worth the Short Drive!
Superb Food • Excellent Service

With over 25 years of experience, our easy-to-work-with planning staff will show you why The Silo is the perfect place to have your Bar/Bat Mitzvah!

Open Wed.-Sun. • Sunday Brunch 10 am - 2 pm • All major credit cards accepted
Directions: Take Rt. 12 North to Greene, right at light, 6 mi. east on Rt. 206 (approx. 30 min.)
Make your reservations now! 656-4377 www.thesilorestaurant.com



Everything Under One Roof



Celebrate Your Special Day with Us.

4101 Watson Boulevard
Johnson City, New York
(607) 797-2381

www.traditionshotelandspa.com
Book Your Celebration Online!

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

For information on advertising, please contact Bonnie Rozen at bonnie@thereporter.com or 724-2360, ext. 244 or



Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Five tips for perfect wedding photos

(NewsUSA) – Your wedding is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion – something to be celebrated and cherished. Planning it, on the other hand, can feel as if you’re preparing for war – between ensuring that Uncle Sal isn’t sitting next to his brother, because they’re still holding a childhood grudge, to budgeting for everything you want and need. The one thing you don’t want to skimp on is the memories.

Choosing your photographer is one of the biggest decisions you will make. To help ensure that you get the most romantic photos of your fairytale day, Professional Photographers of America, a 29,000-plus-member association, offers these suggestions:

1. Express yourself. What kind of photos do you like? Do they tend toward the journalistic, or is your style more whimsical, classical, or romantic? Whatever your style, be

clear with your photographer so that he or she can capture your personality.

2. Say yes to the dress. It starts and ends with this iconic garment. What will make you feel like the bride you’ve always dreamed of being? Is it a flowing sundress, or a formal gown complete with train and veil? Or maybe your idea is more modern and it’s a strapless dress, in a color other than white. Whatever it is, dare to wear your dream dress.

3. Buy the shoes? Or not? Carrie Bradshaw knows shoes. And you should, too. Will you walk down the aisle in stilettos or kitten heels? Maybe cowboy boots are more your style? Can’t decide? Then leave the shoes at home and feel free to walk barefoot.



4. Rejoice in style. Your wedding day isn’t just a ceremony, it’s a celebration that brings all your family and friends together (for better or worse), and pictures of this memorable party are one way to inject your own sense of style. Be it a backyard barbecue, a tail gate at your favorite stadium, or a formal dinner, pictures of the event are a must-have.

5. Decide on your ride. Some people prefer to be whisked away by horse and carriage as if they were Cinderella herself. Others prefer luxury limos and cars as their modern equivalent. For the unique free-spirits of the world, maybe a motorcycle is more your thing. Either way, a great photo opp awaits as you leave your wedding.

Tips to help ensure financial marital bliss

(StatePoint) – Wedding bells are ringing and “I Dos” are in the air. Newlyweds are taking their first steps toward happily ever after, including combining their finances. But doing so is not without potential pitfalls.

Undeniably, money can be a huge stressor on a relationship, especially on a brand-new marriage; and most couples have an unrealistic view of how they will handle their finances,

according to a survey from credit bureau TransUnion that tracked the attitudes of engaged couples and newlyweds.

More than half of engaged couples said they intend to divide financial decision-making equally, but only 37 percent of married respondents said they actually share the responsibility equally – more than 36 percent of respondents said they make budgeting decisions by themselves.

“Before tying the knot, couples often overlook financial basics like budgeting and checking their credit scores, which can prove to be a significant oversight,” says Ken Chaplin, senior vice president at TransUnion. “To smoothly merge two separate financial lives, don’t shy away from discussions about financial goals, marriage and credit, debt payments and overall expectations.”

Still, only a quarter of engaged couples said they would inquire about their fiancé’s credit score before marriage. And while 85 percent of all respondents said they know where to look up this information, more than a quarter of married respondents and nearly a third of engaged respondents said they don’t monitor their scores.

While common, TransUnion notes that prenuptial financial missteps can be easily remedied:

1. Productively discuss finances: Most couples say they are very comfortable discussing money. However, if you

aren’t prepared with accurate financial knowledge, the conversation may not be effective. As part of this conversation, check your credit scores through an online credit monitoring tool. Together, share your financial priorities for the future.

2. Disclose debt: Many couples don’t consider how marriage and debt impact one another. Before forming the union, disclose any debt that you have. Half of survey respondents cite car payments as a source of debt, with student loans cited as the second most common source of debt for engaged and married respondents. Open and honest discussion early on will help you avoid future problems.

3. Make a financial plan: Newly married couples have big plans ahead of them – children, new homes, cars, travel dreams and more. The majority of engaged couples consider themselves to be savers and put saving money at the top of their financial agenda, according to the survey. However, make sure you are building a complete savings plan and ensure that your financial goals are aligned.

4. Get information: Remember to always check your credit score and consider consulting a financial planner for advice.

Marriage and financial planning are a perfect pair. Have the difficult conversations before walking down the aisle, to help pave the way for financial and marital happiness down the road.

Wedding list

(Names provided by area synagogues.)

- Moriyah Fox and Eliezer Morell
- Deena Goldman and Oren Vaknin
- Aries Hale and Aaron Silber
- Tobey Rose Hayes and Ryan Thomas Young
- Hadassah Head and Jeffrey Mativetsky
- Carrie Levande and Matthew Colbert
- Miriam Moskowitz and Chaim Mandel
- Margaret Philipson and Jerry Dietz
- Rebecca Pollack and James Dimond
- Na’ama Rosenhok and Dov Morell
- Leah Schild and Ethan Erlich
- Tirtza Spiegel and Chaim Strauss
- Ora Szekely and Joe Rose
- Linda Ann Vitaletti and Steven Matthew Koffman
- Rachael Weiner and Miyad Movassaghi
- Avigayil Wiener and Michael Goldman

Engaged list

(Names provided by area synagogues.)

- Tammie Brown and Andrew Mark
- Laura Gottlieb and Brandon Wyman
- Laura Katherine Raden and Benjamin Shabus Fertig
- Julie Rosenberg and Robert Steber
- Rebecca Shapiro and Jeremy Eggleston
- Stacey Shaunler and Eliezer Silber
- Sarah Strano and Joshua Young
- Kristi Sunde and Steven Swartz

Bonds. Continued from page 6A

“It gives our kids a whole different skill set of values that you don’t find in other houses,” he added. “When we leave on a call, we are going to help someone and possibly save a life. The kids understand that sometimes, we need to drop everything and go – [it’s] not only about us, us, us.”

Penina and Yossi Dvir of Beitar Illit also go out on calls together with Hatzalah: Yossi as deputy head of the Negev chapter, and Penina as a psychological first responder for the Psychotrauma and Crisis Response Unit. Before Penina began such work, she and her husband prepared packages for the family of a first responder who had been in a serious car accident. Although fulfilling the good deed took precious family time during a holiday, Penina said, “After we did it,

I learned that the more we do for others, the easier it is for our family as well.”

Likewise, Moshe and Batya Jaffe, an EMT and EMT Psychotrauma and Crisis Response Unit responder and in charge of the K-9 unit, respectively, also spoke of the positive impact on their family. Because they have young children, the couple takes turns responding to emergencies, based on what’s needed at any given time. “If we are too tired or had a hard day, we encourage each other to go out and help,” said Moshe.

Batya, an immigrant to Israel from Mexico and the only person in the world doing emergency animal-assisted therapy, often takes Lucy, her first-responder dog, out on the emergency calls with her. “When we say all of us are volunteering, it means all of us, including the dog,” Moshe told JNS.

“Our kids already understand the importance of sacrificing our convenience to help other people,” he said. “If you can help someone, you have to.”



Hand of Man
Owego, NY
Exquisite Gifts
Jewelry
Bridal Wedding Sets
180 Front St. Owego
607-687-2556
www.handofman.com



CHARBEL'S
Tuxedos, Tailoring & Dry Cleaning
Complete Tux Rental & Sales
Best Price. Best Selection.
Alterations for both Men & Women
4513 Old Vestal Rd. by McNeil Music
(607)729-7953



KoKeDaMa Flora
plant craft • flower art
34 Chenango Street
Downtown Binghamton
(607) 237-3065
studio • classes • events
Poster Maker

Making your special day memorable from the beginning...

Dress Your Fancy Bridal Boutique

- We carry the top brands of tuxedos & formal wear for men
- Our Bridal Services include: gowns, mother-of-the-bride, mother-of-the-groom, flower girl dresses, bridesmaid dresses, bridal shoes, veils, bridal accessories, invitations, on-site seamstress
- Unique Prom dresses

607-656-4200
31-33 Genesee Street, Greene, NY 13778
www.dressyourfancy.com

You will feel special with personalized service from Shelly and the staff!



Mazel Tov! Rejoice the union with these unique and functional gifts. Each piece has a tube to hold the broken glass from the wedding ceremony. The couple is sure to treasure this unique gift forever.

Wedding Shards Keepsakes
by Gary Rosenthal



TEMPLE CONCORD SISTERHOOD
Judaic Shop Fine Judaic gifts for all your life cycle celebrations
9 Riverside Drive, Binghamton, NY 13903 • 607-723-7355 • Monday - Friday

Temple Concord celebrated Purim



Temple Concord Religious School students celebrated Purim on March 1.



Temple Concord Religious School students celebrated Purim on March 1.



The cast of the February 28 Purim speil at Temple Concord.



At right: Temple Concord Religious School students baked hamantashen for Purim.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JTA

“Bookkeeper of Auschwitz” Oskar Groening dies while prison sentence under appeal

Oskar Groening, the former Auschwitz guard convicted in his 90s for his role in the murder of 300,000 Hungarian Jews at the concentration camp, has died in Germany. Reports of his death surfaced on March 12, though the German publication *Der Spiegel* reported that he died on March 9 and authorities had not yet received his death certificate. He was 96. Groening, who was sentenced to four years in prison for his crimes, died without spending a day serving his term. The man known as the “Bookkeeper of Auschwitz” was convicted in July 2015. He had been expected to enter prison at the end of January, but the continued wrangling over the state of his health kept him from beginning to serve his sentence. “The death of Oskar Groening just before he was scheduled to begin to serve his sentence in a German jail following his conviction three years ago for accessory to murder is quite unfortunate, at least on a symbolic level,” Efraim Zuroff, director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and an expert in Nazi war criminals, said in a statement issued on March 12. Zuroff pointed out that two other Nazi war criminals – John Demjanjuk, who was convicted in 2011, and Reinhold Hanning, who was convicted in 2016 – also died while awaiting decisions on their appeals. “As fate would have it, [Groening] too has now escaped justice, casting a shadow of sorts on the judicial processes,” he said. “Without at least symbolic justice these trials, as important as they are, lose an important part of their significance. Their victims never had any appeals, nor did their tormentors have any mercy, consequently these perpetrators don’t deserve either.” A clemency plea filed by Groening’s attorney with German prosecutors was rejected in January, and earlier in March he asked the justice minister of Lower Saxony, the northern German state where his 2015 trial took place, to pardon him so that he did not have to go to prison. A federal appeals court had rejected his appeal a year ago. Groening had admitted to being tasked with gathering the money and valuables found in the baggage of murdered Jews and handing it over to his superiors for transfer to Berlin. He said he had guarded luggage on the Auschwitz arrival and selection ramp two or three times in the summer of 1944. During the trial, Groening asked for forgiveness while acknowledging that only the courts could decide when it came to criminal guilt.

Haifa and Stanford hospitals to explore future of medicine together

The Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa and Stanford Medicine established a cooperation agreement to work together on the future of medicine. The institutions announced on March 9 that they will cooperate in areas including medical innovation; research in collaboration with Big Data and Machine Learning; cutting-edge drug development; and trauma and emergency preparedness. The announcement came in California during the Stanford Medicine-Rambam Symposium on Planning for the Next Generation, an event where the two institutions explored ways to share resources and collaborate. Rambam is a regional hospital with 1,000 beds and 130,000 visits to the emergency room annually, and an annual budget of \$400 million. Stanford is a 600-bed hospital with 60,000 visits to its emergency room annually and a budget of \$7 billion a year.

Studies. Continued from page 1

possible without the additional financial support of the Jacob and Rose Olum Foundation, the B’nai B’rith Lectureship Fund, the Victor and Esther Rozen Foundation, an endowment fund from the former Temple Beth El of Endicott, a grant from the JoyVel Charitable Fund, a grant from the Community Foundation for South Central New York – David and Virginia Eisenberg Donor Advised Fund, and donations of individual sponsors.

sider becoming an individual sponsor so that the CJS can continue bringing quality programs to the community,” said CJS organizers. For more information on how to become an individual sponsor or to make a donation, e-mail bingcjs@gmail.com. The College of Jewish Studies is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

For more information on the College of Jewish Studies and its programs, go to www.bingcjs.org and www.facebook.com/bingcjs.

“If you are not one already, please con-


PASSOVER 2018 Greetings

Please indicate which issue you'd like your ad to appear:
 March 30 issue (Mar. 22 deadline) April 6 Health Care issue (Mar. 29 deadline)

Passover is traditionally a time for sharing with family, friends and strangers. While your seder table may not be large enough to fit all these people, you can share the warmth of this holiday with the entire local Jewish community by placing a Passover greeting in *The Reporter*. You may choose from the designs, messages and sizes shown here - more are available. You may also choose your own message, as long as it fits into the space of the greeting you select. (Custom designs available upon request.) The price of the small greeting is \$18 (styles C & F), the medium one is \$36 (styles A & D) and the largest one (style G, not shown - measures 3.22" x 3.95") is \$72.

To ensure that your greeting is published, simply fill out the form below and choose a design that you would like to accompany your greeting, or contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereportergroup.org. Checks can be made payable to *The Reporter* and sent to: *The Reporter*, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

Wishing you and your family
 peace, health
 and happiness
 this Pesach



Your Name(s)

Style A • \$36

Actual Size: 3.22" x 1.975"

Passover
 Blessings



Your Name(s)

Style D • \$36

Actual Size: 3.22" x 1.975"

PASSOVER 2018 Greetings

Please indicate which issue you'd like your ad to appear:
 March 30 issue (March 22 deadline)
 April 6 Health Care issue (March 29 deadline)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Greeting Style _____
 Message _____
 How you would like it signed _____

We accept Visa Mastercard American Express Discover (if applicable)

Print Name on Card _____
 Card Number _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Address, City, State, Zip (Registered billing address of card) _____



Checks can be made payable to
The Reporter,
 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.



Style C • \$18

Actual Size: 1.5278" x 1.975"



Style F • \$18

Actual Size: 1.5278" x 1.975"



Weekly Parasha

Vayikra, Leviticus 1:1-5:26

Blood, guts and sacrifices

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, THE REPORTER

I've never been able to remember all the details of the sacrificial offerings. My mind starts rebelling when the Torah talks about throwing blood against the alter and removing the animal's organs before burning part or all of the animal, depending on the type of sacrifice. My anthropological side notes that at least the text doesn't say the ancient Israelites thought they were feeding God, something other ancient religions' writings suggest. It's the smoke of the fire – its sweet scent – that does rise to God.

What we don't often talk about is that a large proportion of those sacrifices went to feed the Kohanim, the priestly class. In order to have a group of people dedicated to

servicing a divine being, you have to have a way to support them. After all, if they are busy on the alter all day, they don't have time to farm the land, herd sheep and goats, and sell merchandise in the market. So while some sacrifices were completely burned and others used to feed pilgrims visiting for festivals (the best known example being the lamb sacrificed for Passover), the sacrificial system as a whole – particularly the daily sacrifices – served as the economic means for the priesthood.

What makes this remarkable is that the whole messy business of killing animals was elevated in Leviticus to the status of holiness. The bringing of animals, grains and the first fruit served as a tithe/tax on the people so the Temple

could stand and the priest be able to perform his work. At this point in time, when the worship system of religions included sacrifices, something else was added. This made the experiences different – something that people felt brought them closer to God.

That feeling is not one many contemporary Jews can relate to. My Reconstructionist leanings make me glad that the prayer books I use do not request the restoration of the sacrificial offerings. Prayer – directly speaking to the Divine – feels far more meaningful and holy to me. Yet, it also feels important to remember our past, which is an excellent reason to read from and study the book of Leviticus.

Congregational Notes

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm.
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 6 pm, Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am.

On Saturday, March 17, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Leviticus 1:1-5:26. The haftarah will be Ezekiel 45:16-46:18. The kiddush sponsor will be Debbie Schepis.

On Tuesday, March 20, at 7 pm, there will be a Board of Trustees meeting.

On Friday, March 23, at 5:30 pm there will be a Kabbalat Shabbat dinner. The cost is \$10 per adult and \$8 per child. Please call the temple office to make a reservation.

On Sunday, March 25, at 11 am, there will be a model seder for the religious school students and their families.

Those who wish to recite the Mourner's Kaddish during a weekday service can contact Howard Schwartz at schwerz@stny.rr.com or call the temple office one-and-a-half weeks or more before the date to ensure time to make up a minyan. Temple Israel holds weekday minyan services on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:30 pm. For those who prefer a different day to coincide with a yahrzeit date, contact the temple to make arrangements.

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.

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
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Friday, March 16 6:55 pm
 Shabbat, March 17 9 am
 Mincha after the kiddush
 Maariv 6:40 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., March 18 8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., March 19-23 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., March 18 7 pm
 Mon.-Thurs., March 19-22 7 pm
 Fri., March 23 7:05 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Penn-York Jewish Community

President and Treasurer-Secretary: Harvey Chernosky, 570-265-3869
 B'nai Brith: 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, March 16, light candles 6:53 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, March 17 7:54 pm
 Friday, March 23, light candles 7:01 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, March 24 8:02 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, March 16, at 8 pm, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.

On Saturday, March 17, at 9 am, there will be religious school, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study, at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services led by the religious school students and Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and at 11:35, there will be a potluck lunch.

On Tuesday, March 20, at 5:15 pm, there will be religious school; at 7:30 pm, there will be a Board of Trustees meeting.

On Thursday, March 22, at 5:15 pm, there will be religious school and at 7 pm, the Mahloket Matters Program will be led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.

On Friday, March 23, at 6:30 pm, there will be a BYO picnic dinner and at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.

On Saturday, March 24, at 9 am, there will be a religious school Passover program; 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 Jeff Strosberg.

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: rbbi@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 Saturday, March 17, Shabbat Yeladim services will be held at 11:15 am.

On Friday, March 30, erev Pesach, the siyyum bekorim service will be held at 7:30 am. A study session will be conducted by Rabbi Suzanne Brody.

There will be no evening services on the first two nights of Passover (March 30 and 31).

On Saturday, March 31, Pesach day one, services will be held at 10 am.

On Sunday, April 1, Pesach day two, services will be held at 10 am.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

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

Jewish Community Center

Camp JCC and after school info night on March 27

On Thursday, March 27, the JCC will hold an informational session about summer camps at the JCC and year-round after school programs. The event will be held in the JCC meeting room from 5-6:30 pm, with an informational presentation at 5:15 pm. Informal questions and tours will follow. There are many options at the JCC for children entering kindergarten through age 15.

Camp JCC features an on-site day camp for children ages 5-15 that is available in one-six week sessions, with overnight and travel opportunities for campers entering grades four and up. Campers will explore art, science, nature, the world of drama, sports and more during daily electives and group activities. All groups

participate in daily swim lessons and weekly off-site field trips. All campers registered by Thursday, May 10, will receive a 10 percent discount if they are paid in full by Thursday, May 31.

Information on summer co-ed sports camps, theater camp, art camp and swim camps for all ages and skill levels will be available, as well.

Kids Connection, the JCC's school age after school program, is a New York State Office of Children and Family Services licensed program that offers children an "engaging, safe and fun-filled environment." Kids Connection is open Monday through Friday from 3-6 pm while school is in session and offers a long-day program, from 7:30 am-6

pm, on days off from school, snow days and early-release days. Kids Connection follows the Vestal School District calendar. Children attending the Vestal School District can be bused to the JCC after school.

Lynette Errante, youth and camp director, and youth and camp staff will be available to answer any questions. Paperwork will be offered to register for both camp and Kids Connection.

For additional information regarding the event, or to RSVP, call the JCC Youth and Camp Department at 724-2417, ext. 421, or e-mail at LynetteE@binghamtonjcc.org. RSVPs are encouraged, although walk-ins will be welcome.

JCC to offer spring break sports camps

The Jewish Community Center will hold two basketball camps, for ages 5-13, from Monday-Thursday, April 2-5. Pricing varies per camp, with member and non-member rates. All camps are co-ed and a camp t-shirt will be provided. The entire community is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Little Stars is a camp aimed at children ages 5-10, for those just beginning to play basketball. Little Stars will run

from 9 am-noon and will focus on building fundamental basketball skills. There will also be competitions and game play. The cost is \$50 for JCC members and \$75 for outside patrons.

The 3 on 3 Tournament is a camp designed for older children with more basketball experience. The camp will run from 1-4 pm and will have the campers split into teams

of three for a tournament run throughout the week. There will also be skill development drills and competitions. The 3 on 3 Tournament costs \$50 for JCC members and \$100 for outside patrons.

For more information about the spring break camps, JCC sports programming or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

Startup.....

Continued from page 2

website. These professionals and consultants have helped tailor sophisticated data analysis algorithms that offer an interactive and adaptive learning experience for families with young children. Part of the Internet-of-things, Nanit monitors utilize what the company calls "computer vision" to document the quality of sleep an infant receives. At the same time, a high-end night-vision camera beams real time, securely encrypted video feeds to a parent's phone.

Parents unlock Nanit's true promise by subscribing to Nanit Insights. For \$10 a month or a \$100 single payment for a year of service, Nanit's all-seeing "Intelligent Sleep Guru" generates a detailed sleep summary on a nightly basis. Sleep scores chronicle everything from how long it takes for a child to fall asleep to the number of times his or her sleep was interrupted, in addition to the child's overall sleep efficiency - a statistic calculated by dividing the time a child spends asleep by the amount of time he or she is in bed. Nanit Insights further assesses indoor environmental conditions such as room temperature, humidity and nursery lighting. Subscribers also receive regular video highlights that enable parents to replay important sleep milestones like the first time their baby rolls over or successfully finds self-comfort in the wake of a startling dream. Certain statistics trigger detailed personalized sleep-routine suggestions that not only help parents construct a healthy, conducive environment for their child, but also evaluate their own interactions with their babies whenever a late-night visit to the nursery proves necessary.

"The better you sleep, the better you feel - and the better you can perform," Aaron Pollack, Nanit's vice president of marketing, tells JNS, stressing the "significant health benefits" that Nanit Insights presents for the entire family.

Nanit is the product of the Runway Program, hosted by the New York City-based Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute (a collaboration between the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa and Cornell University in Ithaca, NY). According to Fernando Gómez-Baquero, director of Runway, this paradigm-shifting program is "part business school, part research institution and part startup incubator." It offers those who have earned their Ph.D.s in the field of digital technologies a platform where academics can embrace an entrepreneurial perspective, developing state-of-the-art products and launching new companies.

"As of last summer, [Runway] has created 18 companies, raised \$19.3 million in venture-capital funding and employed 80 people. Of the 18 [companies], four have operations in the U.S. and Israel," Gómez-Baquero tells JNS.

"Not many people know that my first attempts to measure sleep with a camera were by placing a camera above my own bed at night... It was during the time that we were expecting, and I wanted to try the technology myself before looking at babies," Nanit's CEO Assaf Glazer tells JNS.

His reflections on the humble origins of his venture,

coupled with his experiences as a first-time parent, demonstrate the millennial generation's budding desire to utilize smart technologies to positively influence both their daily and nightly existence. Glazer soon realized the value that sleep data presents, helping adults distinguish best practices in the bedroom and beyond.

"It was an 'aha' moment for me," he says. "I wanted to make it bigger."

Although Nanit is not a medical device, clinical applications for the collected data soon became apparent. "Sleep - and seeing what's happening while a baby sleeps - can potentially assist in early diagnosis of global and/or individual anomalies and disorders like sleep apnea, autism and more," states Glazer. He sees schools, hospitals and senior housing as the next potential settings where Nanit can also be successfully utilized.

"The market for smart baby monitors is growing at a

rate of almost 30 percent year over year," notes Pollack, and it is not without competitors.

One company called Owlett has developed a smart baby sock that measures a sleeping baby's vitals and breathing to protect against Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS, among other conditions. Pollack stresses the risk that false positives will prompt a scare when using this device, and differentiates Nanit from Owlett by acknowledging that "they are about breathing and we're about sleeping."

Nevertheless, there is clear and mounting market pressure for companies to rethink classic baby-monitor technology and to apply effective data-analysis capability. Although priced at \$279 for the Nanit device plus basic services, it seems likely that this sophisticated monitor certainly could gain broad acceptance.

And that, of course, will cause Glazer and his team to sleep soundly.

Family.....

Continued from page 4

is convinced by Klara to throw caution to the wind and follow his dreams. Klara also follows her own path, but is haunted by her brother's death and the question of whether there is life and connection beyond this world. Daniel, who becomes a doctor, hopes to create a meaningful life, but, as his date grows closer, becomes obsessed with what occurred in 1969. Varya, whom the fortune teller says will live to the age of 84, finds that a long life does not necessarily mean one filled with love and family. Even knowing when the characters were going to die didn't detract from the plot action: the revelations that occurred throughout the work left me feeling stunned - almost breathless with emotion. The connections and disconnections between siblings are also skillfully explored as Benjamin shows that it's impossible to escape the love and pain we feel, even if we never see our families. Somehow, they live inside us.

Judaism plays a role in Benjamin's novel, even though some of the Gold siblings ignore their heritage. For example, Klara justifies leaving her parents' home after her father dies by noting a lesson she learned from her father: "If nothing else, Judaism has taught her to keep running, no matter who tried to hold her hostage. It taught her to create her own opportunities, to turn rock into water and water to blood. It had taught her that such things were possible." Although Daniel has given up the religion that sustained him as a child, he recognizes its importance in human history, telling a potential girlfriend, "In a way, I see religion as a pinnacle of human achievement. In inventing God, we've developed the ability to consider our own straits - and we've equipped Him with the kind of handy loopholes that enable us to believe we only have so much control. The truth is that most people enjoy a certain

level of impotence. But I think we *do* have control - so much that it scares us to death. As a species, God might be the greatest gift we've ever given ourselves. The gift of sanity." However, his relationship to his siblings defies Daniel's understanding: "There were times he thought of his siblings and felt love sing from him like a shofar, rich with joy and agony and eternal recognition: those three made from the same star stuff as he, those he'd known from the beginning of the beginning. But when he was with them, the smallest infraction made him irreversibly resentful. Sometimes it was easier to think of them as characters - straitlaced Varya; Klara, dreamy and heedless - than to confront them in all of their off-putting, fully bloomed adulthood: their morning breath and foolish choices, their lives snaking into unfamiliar underbrush." It is also true of his connection to Simon, even though he's not specifically mentioned. The one great undertaking of the Gold children's early lives - the visit to the fortune teller - is also what drives them apart.

"The Immortalists" is brilliantly done - an emotionally poignant story, one that made me feel happy and sad at the same time. Benjamin's characters skillfully show how we should embrace life, even when fearful of our inevitable fate. This author's second novel was so good I quickly ordered a copy of her first and look forward to future works.

Art.....

Continued from page 1


of the Austrian-born theatrical director and producer Max Reinhardt (1873-1943). Also on view will be a gathering of objects, photographs and papers relating to the work at the close of World War II of "Monuments Man" Kenneth C. Lindsay (1919-2009), founder of the Harpur College Art Department and the Art Gallery, who spent two years working for the U.S. Army finding, researching and restoring to the proper owners artwork that had been looted by the Nazis during the war. Lindsay's papers will soon be deposited at the archives of the Binghamton University Libraries.

All events are free and open to the public.

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

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

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



**HOPLER & ESCHBACH
FUNERAL HOME**

"A new family tradition"

Personal Service
Professionalism
Experience You Can Trust

COMPARE OUR PRICES
We charge far less than other area funeral homes

Kurt M. Eschbach, Funeral Director
483 Chenango Street Binghamton
607-722-4023
www.HEfuneralhome.com




NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israel sends generators to Papua New Guinea after deadly earthquake

In the wake of a devastating earthquake in Papua New Guinea, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Agency for International Development Cooperation has delivered 40 electricity generators to affected communities there. The generators were delivered on March 8 by Yaron Sultan-Dadon, Pacific Islands adviser at the Israeli Embassy in Australia. A 7.5 magnitude earthquake on Feb. 26 left 100 people dead and cut off electricity to 150,000 residents. Israel was one of the first countries to send aid. On March 8, the country was rocked by a 6.8 magnitude aftershock. Papua New Guinea's Prime Minister Peter O'Neill thanked Israel for its friendship and support. "Relations between Papua New Guinea and the state of Israel are strong, and our government and the people of PNG appreciate the support and friendship of Israel during these challenging times," he said. "We look forward to further cooperation and the enhancement of the close ties between our countries and our peoples."

Jordan to accept new ambassador from Israel, restore diplomatic ties

According to Jordanian newspaper *Al Ghad*, Jordan is expected to accept the appointment of Amir Weissbrod as Israel's new ambassador to Jordan, restoring diplomatic ties following an eight-month standoff. The announcement marks the conclusion of an impasse that escalated on July 23, 2017, with the shooting of two Jordanian attackers by Israeli embassy security guard Ziv Moyal. Israel's diplomatic mission was forced to evacuate the country. In return for the normalization of diplomatic ties, Israel was forced to "express regret" over the incident and pay reparations to Jordan. Weissbrod previously served as first secretary in Israel's Jordanian embassy between 2001 and 2004, and worked in Israel's Liaison Bureau in Morocco. Most

recently, he served as head of the Middle East Bureau at the Foreign Ministry's Center for Political Research.

U.N. commissioner: Jews in Judea, Samaria, eastern Jerusalem a "war crime"

According to a report issued by U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al-Hussein, the growth of Jewish communities in Judea, Samaria and eastern Jerusalem constitutes a war crime. "The establishment and expansion of settlements in the occupied Palestinian Territory by Israel, including the legal and administrative measures that it has taken to provide socioeconomic incentives, security, infrastructure and social services to citizens of Israel residing in the West Bank, including East[ern] Jerusalem, amount to the transfer by Israel of its population into the occupied Palestinian Territory," said Al-Hussein. "The transfer of the population by an occupying state into an occupied territory is a grave breach of article 147 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and therefore a war crime." The report is one of five charging Israel of human-rights abuses that will be presented to the council on March 19. The Human Rights Council has been criticized for issuing a significantly disproportionate number of reports against Israel. By contrast, Syria and Iran only have single reports issued against them. Al-Hussein, a member of the Jordanian royal family, is the first Muslim to hold the position of U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights.

P.A. to boycott White House conference on humanitarian crisis in Gaza Strip

The Palestinian Authority has announced its intention to boycott an upcoming conference at the White House to discuss the worsening humanitarian situation in the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. Approximately two million Arabs live in the densely populated area to the south of Israel's Mediterranean coastline. While not recognized as an independent state, Gaza is cut off both from Israel and neighboring Egypt. Gazans receive funding from the Palestinian

Authority, which does not control the strip. Several countries provide Gaza with relief aid, yet Hamas often diverts the funds to build terror infrastructure to attack Israel, including rockets and tunnels. In recent months, the P.A. has withheld funding for electricity in Gaza. Hamas, in turn, has refused to use electricity to operate Gaza's waste-treatment facility. Yet the P.A. has laid blame for the crisis on Israel. "The United States knows very well that the cause of the tragedy of the Gaza Strip is the unjust Israeli siege, and what is needed is political treatment of this issue," said Ahmad Majdalani, an adviser to Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas and a member of the Palestinian Liberation Organization's executive committee member, on Voice of Palestine radio. Majdalani accused the United States of using the conference to "liquidate the Palestinian national project," adding that America has no real concern for the residents of Gaza. The P.A. has refused to engage the U.S. administration since President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in December. Trump has threatened cutting off of U.S. funding if the Palestinians refuse to enter into a new round of peace negotiations with Israel.

Jerusalem marathon boasts highest turnout ever

More than 35,000 runners participated in the annual Jerusalem Marathon on the morning of March 9, the largest number to date. Some 4,000 participants from 72 countries also took part in the 26.2-mile (42.195-kilometer) run, including Kipkoge Shadrak of Kenya, who was announced the winner just after 9:30 am local time. Most of the runners were Jerusalemites, though thousands arrived from Haifa, Modi'in, Tel Aviv and Kfar Saba. The event was joined by guest of honor Haile Gerselassie of Ethiopia, a two-time Olympic gold medalist in the 10,000-meter run and winner of four world championships for the same distance. Marathon organizers noted that Hong Kong sent the greatest number of runners from outside Israel, followed by Los Angeles, Beijing and London. Runners pounded the pavement from the Knesset to the Mahane Yehuda outdoor market, Mount Scopus, the Old City of Jerusalem, David's Tower and the Haas Promenade. Also of note: At least one proposal of marriage was made during the event.

Israel sees sharp rise in women in national politics, but not at local level

Israel has seen a sharp rise in the number of women serving on the national political stage in recent years, though the number of women in local politics is still sluggish, new statistics released for International Women's Day have found. According to statistics compiled by the Israel Democracy Institute, the number of women Knesset members in Israel rose from nine to 34 in the last 20 years. That makes it much closer to the average in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development at 28 percent. Nevertheless, women are severely under-represented at the local level in Israel, with only 17 percent of all municipal-council members being women, and only one female mayor, Miriam Feirberg-Ikar, in the city of Netanya. "If women do not become council members or mayors, this makes it much harder for them to subsequently make their way into national politics," said Ofer Kenig, one of the co-authors of the analysis, along with Avital Fridman and Shahaf Zamir. As such, Kenig recommended that the Israeli government should create more incentives for political parties to include more women on their lists at both local and national levels. A first step of this kind is due to be taken at the upcoming local elections, and in electoral funding for parties of whom at least one-third are women, which will be eligible for a bonus of 15 percent. In comparison, as of 2018, 106 of the 535 members of Congress are now women, with 22 women serving in the U.S. Senate and 84 women in the House of Representatives.

Knesset passes two laws aimed at Palestinian terrorism and incitement

The Knesset passed two laws on March 7 aimed at cracking down on Palestinian terrorism. One allows the state to revoke the permanent residence status of convicted terrorists, and the other allows Israeli police to retain possession of terrorists' bodies in order to prevent their use in funeral processions involving incitement by and recruitment to terror organizations. The law, which allows police to condition the release of terrorists' bodies on the commitment of their families to hold modest funerals instead of mass politicized processions, passed following "intense" debate in the Knesset. According to the law, which was drafted with the advice of the Public Security Ministry, Israeli police can withhold the body of Palestinians killed during acts of terrorism in sovereign Israel and all of Jerusalem if there is a credible suspicion that the funeral would lead to further terrorism or pose a security risk. "The government doesn't want to hold on to these bodies. As far as we are concerned the bodies of these cursed terrorists will rot. We have no need for them," Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan said. The funerals of Arab terrorists are often used as opportunities to hail "martyrs" for the Palestinian cause and to recruit future terrorists. The other bill allows an interior minister to rescind the permanent residency of noncitizens who obtain that status through dishonesty, of residents of eastern Jerusalem who commit acts of breach of trust against Israel or of noncitizen immigrants living in Israel for less than 10 years who pose a danger to public order.

Eye-Catching Classifieds

SUSAN JABLON
Party Gifts
Luxury All-Natural Soap
12 Alice St. susan@susanjablon.com
Binghamton, NY 13904 607.349.0553

SUCCESS NETWORK
Success Network is a small business association whose members are exclusive in their category and are organized to assist each other in providing and receiving business leads.
Enjoy a free lunch on us when you become a member!
For more information or if you are interested in membership, please contact Bonnie Rozen at (607)724-2360, ext. 244.
Businesses helping businesses grow!
www.successnetworkbc.com

YOUR HEATING & PLUMBING SPECIALISTS
BAKER'S PLUMBING & HEATING
We Also Do Natural Gas Conversions & All Plumbing Work
Free Estimates • Fully Insured • Residential & Commercial
We Install, Service & Repair...
Furnaces • Air Conditioners
Water Heaters • Gas Fireplaces
SERVING BROOME & TIOGA COUNTIES
754-6376
pbaker927@yahoo.com

GARY RILEY
I'll drive you or
I'll deliver your vehicle near or far,
pets welcome!
REFERENCES AVAILABLE
607-760-0530
GRILES45@GMAIL.COM

HANDYMAN 4 SENIORS, INC.
All your home maintenance and repairs, along with in-home care services. These care services include but are not limited to:
• Bath Assistance
• Meal Prep
• Cleaning
• Shopping, etc.
John Jacoby M.C.
Valerie Jacoby C.N.A.
(Licensed & Insured)
888-540-0320
www.handyman4seniors.com

To advertise, contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org
THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

COOK'S TREE SERVICE
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
Our 48th Year
NEW YORK CHAPTER
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST
Professionals In All Phases Of:
• Tree Care • Tree Stump Removal
• Trimming Trees Shrubs & Tall Hedges
• Tree Insect & Disease Identification & Treatment
WWW.COOKSTREESERVICE.NET
607-748-2347
4 Pumphouse Rd Vestal, N.Y.

Cleaning Services:
• Green Cleaning
• Real Estate Cleaning
• Passover Cleaning
• Domestic Cleaning
• Office Cleaning
• Commercial Cleaning
• Construction Cleaning
• Window Cleaning
house cleaning & special projects
\$25 per hour
Dust Bunniez
Cleaning Service
www.dustbunniez.com
(607) 644-8886
Bonded & Insured