

THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

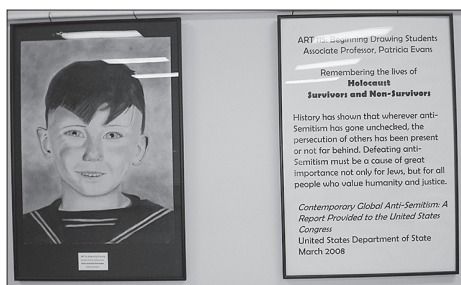
May 11-17, 2018
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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

“Faces: Holocaust” exhibit on display at the JCC

The Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, is holding the exhibit “Faces: Holocaust” through Thursday, June 14, in the meeting room. The artists are from SUNY Broome, who drew faces of marginalized and overlooked people for the exhibition series “Faces.” The exhibit at the JCC is the second in the series.

The exhibit showcases a series of classical realist larger-than-life-size portrait drawings rendered in charcoal, pencil and mixed media along with life stories that represent survivors, as well as those who perished during the Holocaust. SUNY Broome Associate



Above, left and right: The exhibit “Faces: Holocaust” is now on display at the Jewish Community Center. The artists are SUNY Broome students and the portraits represent survivors and non-survivors of the Holocaust rendered in charcoal, pencil and mixed media.

Professor Patricia Evans’ beginning drawing students seek to tell the story of sacrifice and struggle, and to make a difference through form and content. Part of their project was researching the history of Holocaust survivors and non-survivors, including their birth and death records, culminating into a lesson on social and cultural history.

The JCC requests that people call its office at 724-2417 to find out if the meeting room, which is located just off the lobby, is available for viewing. The lobby is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am-8 pm and on Friday from 8:30 am-4 pm.

TC-TI to hold iEngage programs

Temple Concord and Temple Israel, in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, will bring the Shalom Hartman Institute’s iEngage program on “Israel’s Milestones and their Meanings” to the Binghamton Jewish community. The program will explore the legacy of the past and the challenges of the

future through video lectures, discussions and texts. Each participant will get their own booklet of materials and access to all the lectures and more online reading materials to continue their explorations. The cost is \$20 per person for the entire program, starting with two spring sessions, Thursdays, May 31 and June 21,

from 7-9 pm, then continuing with six more sessions in the fall. Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Rabbi Geoffrey Brown will be facilitating the sessions. Advanced registration is requested so the booklets can be ordered.

“iEngage: Israel’s Milestones and Their Meanings” will explore the events of 1917, 1947 and 1967 as key moments when Zionism unleashed new thinking about the meaning of Jewishness. Each session includes text study and discussion led by Brown and Goldman-Wartell, and video lectures and roundtable discussions with leading Hartman scholars.

“I’m excited that we are offering this program to the Jewish community since the program expands the way we might

understand these important milestones,” said Goldman-Wartell. “Memory is a central element in defining modern Jewish identity. As we look to Israel’s future, we need to engage anew with our past and explore its meanings and consequences. This iEngage series grapples with the different ideas and values that shape the meaning of modern Israel, Zionism and Jewish identity today. Together we will engage in a new values-based discourse about Israel, including such topics as nationhood, land, sovereignty, Jerusalem, occupation and moral red lines.”

To make a reservation, contact Temple Concord at 723-7355 or templeconcord-binghamton@gmail.com, or Temple Israel at 723-7461 or titammy@stny.twcbc.com.

TI Sisterhood to host book review on May 22

The Temple Israel Sisterhood will host the Sisterhoods of Temple Concord and Beth David Synagogue, and welcomes the community to join them on Tuesday, May 22, at 7 pm, for a dairy dessert event at which Merri Pell-Preus will present a review of Ruth Gruber’s book “Haven.”

According to organizers, “This book offers a first-hand account of a remarkable rescue that took place during the Holocaust and which, unknown to many of our local residents, has an important historical connection to an area here in upstate New York.”

“Haven” tells the true story of the 1,000

World War II refugees who were personally escorted to the U.S. in August 1944 by Gruber, a Jewish American journalist. It details how the author went to Italy and managed to shepherd refugees from 17 countries all the way to Fort Ontario, a retired U.S. Army camp in Oswego, NY. Gruber was also considered instrumental in helping them to obtain United States citizenship after the end of the war.

To ensure adequate preparations for the evening, advance reservations are required by Friday, May 18, to the temple office at 723-7461 or e-mail titammy@stny.twcbc.com.

Federation board meeting open to community

The Jewish Federation will hold a special board meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 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.

CJS spring program on “Speaking Through Art as a Jew” to conclude with “People of the Image” on May 17

The third lecture in the College of Jewish Studies spring 2018 program “Speaking Through Art as a Jew: Visual Expressions of Jewish Culture” will be held on Thursday, May 17, at 7:30 pm, at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. Professor Marc Michael Epstein will speak on “People of the Image: Jews and Art.” The program is open to the entire community. General admission is \$8 per program or \$20 for all three programs; senior admission is \$5 per program or \$12 for all three programs. BU students are welcome to attend at no charge.

“Everyone knows that Jews are a ‘People of the Book,’” said organizers of the event. “But everybody also ‘knows’ that the second commandment prohibits the making of art. As it turns out, everybody knows wrong: Jews, while indisputably

bookish, are also the ‘People of the Image’ as well, creating art that can give us insights into their views of God, the Universe and other people – Jews and non-Jews – with results ranging from the conservative to the controversial.”

Epstein has been teaching at Vassar College since 1992 and is currently a professor and the Mattie M. Paschall (1899) and Norman Davis Chair in Religion and Visual Culture. He was Vassar’s first director of Jewish studies. He is a graduate of Oberlin College and received his Ph.D. from



The Golden Haggadah will be discussed during Marc Michael Epstein’s lecture.

Yale University. Epstein did much of his graduate research at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is the author and editor of numerous scholarly books and articles, recipient of several awards and has lectured widely, holding several distinguished lectureships over the years.

His 2011 book, “The Medieval Haggadah: Art, Narrative, and Religious Imagination” (Yale University Press), was selected by the *London Times* Literary Supplement as

one of the best books of the year. His “Skies of Parchment, Seas of Ink: Jewish Manu-

script Illumination” (Princeton University Press, 2015), a 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. During the 1980s, Epstein was the director of the Hebrew books and manuscripts division of Sotheby’s Judaica department, and continues to serve as consultant to various libraries, auction houses, museums and private collectors throughout the world. Epstein has written widely on various topics in visual and material culture produced by, for and about Jews. He is currently in the process of completing a book titled “People of the Image: Jews and Art,” to be published by Thames and Hudson, which also published his 2016 edition of “The Brother Haggadah: A Medieval Sephardi Masterpiece in Facsimile.”

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Opinion

Jerusalem experiment breeds peace

By Linda B. Glaser

I watched the red-haired girl race around the kindergarten class, laughing delightedly as the black-haired girl joined her. A normal classroom scene in Israel, except for one thing: the red-haired girl is Jewish and the black-haired girl is Arab. They are students in an experiment in coexistence that boasts a student body unrivaled in the Middle East: the bilingual Max Rayne Hand in Hand Jerusalem School.

The school is tucked away between the Arab neighborhood of Beit Tsafafa and the Jewish neighborhood of Pat, with a beautiful view from its hallways. My daughters, husband and I visited on a recent trip to Israel. The walls of the school are filled with Arabic and Hebrew posters, often with messages that encourage the students to see the person behind the labels in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

School officials described the inspiring Hand in Hand goal to us as creating "a practice of shared living." Sixteen-year-old Yasmine, an Israeli Arab, told us her parents sent her to the school so she would have more options and "to

live with people who are not the same as I am."

The school's importance sprang into focus during the war with Gaza in 2014. Instead of the divisive arguments I saw in my own school community in the U.S., more than 100 parents gathered in the Hand in Hand library to discuss the conflict and what it meant to them. Fadi Suidan, an Arab parent, described the conversation to us as "really, really hard. There were families whose sons were serving in the Israeli army, and people with family living in Gaza. But they sat together in the same room and said, 'I hope your family stays safe. Because it doesn't have to be us or them.'"

The knife intifada has generated more hard conversations between the kids, who see the incidents in very different ways, though they told us no one at Hand in Hand supports violence. The painful issues are personal: when a Jewish tutor at the school was killed in a terrorist attack, the Arab families took the lead in organizing a multifaith prayer for the family.

In a conversation with art teacher Efrat Meyer, sur-

rounded by colorful samples of the students' artwork, she said that "Knowing how to look at other people in an equal way, it's priceless. It's an unbelievable practice for life."

Suidan said he was interested in Hand in Hand at first because it would give his daughter a better education and preparation for Hebrew-language colleges. But he found something else. "Hand in Hand gave me a more secure future," he told me. "For the first time I feel there is hope."

There are now five other Hand in Hand schools in the country, with more in the planning stages.

Sixteen-year-old Jewish Inbar told us that "as long as you listen and respect other opinions and accept the fact that not everyone's going to agree with you, there is a possibility for a future. We don't agree about anything that happened in the past and we argue about it all the time, but the thing that we do agree about is there has to be a better future."

The school makes a concerted effort to bring families and not just students together, Noa Yammer, the school's engagement coordinator, told us as she led us on a tour of the building. She described the language classes the school offers parents, as well as the kind of relationship-building activities you'd find in the U.S., like picnics and basketball games. More directly, the school also facilitates discussions about political situations. As Suidan described them later, these shared moments, as well as the casual interactions that occur when parents are waiting to pick up students or attending classroom events, help the parents to see one another as people first and other identities as secondary. From this, friendships grow.

But the tolerance promoted at the school is not always felt outside its doors. "Anyone who comes to this school experiences hate and comments," 17-year-old Jewish Lelia told us, describing how students are afraid to get on public buses wearing the school t-shirt, with its Arabic and Hebrew insignia, because of negative comments. Inbar has had similar experiences; she said she has been called a "traitor" for attending the school. It seems that for some Israeli Jews, Hand in Hand's success in building relationships between Jews and Arabs is precisely its danger, as they see it leading to intermarriage and assimilation.

Real danger to Hand in Hand came in 2014, when members of a Jewish organization against assimilation set fire to two first grade classrooms. It happened at night so no one was hurt, but the destruction and hateful graffiti were devastating, the students and staff told us.

See "Experiment" on page 6

The Sanhedrin way

By Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell

One of the challenges of our day is to be able to express oneself with others with whom we might not agree. Much is lamented about the lack of civil discourse and the personal and public attacks and demonizing of those who don't agree with "us." Judaism has much to offer to guide us in how to disagree in constructive ways. The model of constructive conflict is Hillel and Shammai and their descendents. The example of destructive conflict is Korach from the Book of Numbers.

I have been involved for more than two years in exploring more about how to be a *rodef shalom*, a person who pursues peace and strives to help others learn how to be peace makers. This includes engaging in conversation with others in respectful ways. It also includes exploring the issues from many perspectives, not only our own, to better understand the issues and various positions. Temple Concord has been part of a Community of Practice of the Union of Reform Judaism on Constructive Conflict for this past one and a half years to bring the mind set and perspective of constructive conflict into our hearts, minds and the way we function on an ongoing basis. These programs are all in conjunction with the Pardes Institute in Jerusalem. I have been involved

in my congregation and with the Children of Abraham as one of the testers of its new program "Mahloket Matters: How to Disagree Constructively" this winter and spring.

The culminating event of this program is "The Sanhedrin Way," a two-hour program on Saturday morning, May 12, where we will explore how the Sanhedrin functioned to explore many sides of issues, to debate, negotiate and reach decisions on matters of the time. We will use the Sanhedrin model to explore in our own time the question: "Keep or Cancel the Controversial Speaker? You Decide!" At the end of the program, we will reach a consensus decision on the question, which we will submit to Pardes. They are collecting these materials from groups worldwide which they will release in August for us to learn more about how the same process and question was resolved in different groups. If you would like to join us on May 12, please contact Temple Concord at 723-7355 or templeconcordbinghamton@gmail.com.

I have been greatly enriched and profoundly impacted for the good by my learning and explorations in these materials. I have found it is applicable to all parts of my life.

Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell is the spiritual leader of Temple Concord.

In My Own Words

Books and youth

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

I'm not particularly nostalgic. I spend very little time thinking about the early parts of my life unless they somehow impact the present. Unlike some people I know, I never experienced a halcyon period – a time that seems perfect in retrospect. The main exception to reviewing years gone by occurs when a book stirs my memory. That happened recently when reading Ann Hood's "Morningstar: Growing Up with Books."

Hood's short memoir discusses the effect books had on her life. Neither of her parents were interested in reading; her mother considered it a waste of time and the buying of books a waste of money. For Hood, books widened her experience, giving her what she needed to escape her small town and become a novelist. I've read fewer than half of the books she mentions, so it wasn't the novels themselves that brought back memories. Nor was it her writing about her blue-collar, Italian family since mine couldn't have been more different: my middle-class Jewish parents encouraged us to read. What Hood did, though, was make me think of books that influenced me – in this case, two books I read after graduating from college when I was facing health problems that left me feeling uncertain about my future.

The first book was "Flotsam" by Erich Maria Remarque. My father introduced me to Remarque's writing

when I was in sixth grade. His best known novel, "All Quiet on the Western Front," was never my favorite. In high school, I preferred "Arch of Triumph," a novel about refugees in Paris in 1939, in particular a German doctor who had to practice his trade illegally. There is drama and romance, and I'd read it several times by the end of my college years. However, it was Remarque's other novel about refugees, "Flotsam," that spoke to me when my life was in a flux and my future seemed insecure. It also tells the story of displaced persons who wandered Europe after World War I because no country wanted them. What appealed to me was the lesson one refugee taught: that in order to survive, they had to forget about the past and focus on the present, on making it through today. As someone who had to give up many of her dreams, that was the message that I needed: let go of the past and face my new reality.

The second book – or rather the trilogy – that spoke to me during that time couldn't have been more different. The fantasy series "The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant, the Unbeliever" by Stephen R. Donaldson tells of a man with leprosy who is transported to another world. There he is thought to be in the incarnation of its greatest hero, something he finds impossible to accept. To keep his sanity,

he won't allow himself to believe the world is real, yet he finds it impossible to remain neutral. The plot is complex and the prose filled with anguish. The title character is in great despair, something that I could relate to since my life felt out of my control. Yet, the lesson I learned didn't come from Thomas Covenant. Instead, I listened to his friend, Salthart Foamfollower, a giant who believed that one must fight despair with laughter. I clung to that message over the years. Donaldson wrote a second trilogy and a final four-book series, but none of them affected me quite the same way.

Hood notes that sometimes a book can have a profound effect on our lives. She writes, "[that book] falls into your hands at just the right moment when you need to read it. It transforms you. Perhaps it lifts you up when you are at your lowest; perhaps it shows you what love is, or what it feels like to lose love; perhaps it brings you places far away or shows you how to stay put when you need to." These books don't have to be classics; they just have to resonate the way other, sometimes far greater, works don't. That's why the echo of these books remains with us, even if we forget the plot or the characters' names. It's that feeling – that sense of understanding – that speaks to our hearts forever.



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

LETTERS

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

ADS

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May 12 BD luncheon speaker to discuss “The Synagogues of Italy and their Jewish Legacy”

By Dora E. Polachek

On Saturday, May 12, Beth David’s luncheon speaker will be Dr. Howard Warner, who will share his discoveries about Italy’s Jewish heritage that resulted from a trip taken by the Warners last November.

“For me, it was a chance to see history up close,” Warner said. “Anyone who knows me can appreciate how enthusiastic I was to experience the locations and people that I had spent years studying.”

Guided by his daughter, who was spending a semester abroad in Italy, Warner had a chance to visit the synagogues in Rome, Florence and Venice, as well as find out more about the ghettos that had existed. “We even had the good fortune of attending services in Florence,” said Warner. “The history of Jews in Italy is complicated and multi-faceted. I plan to provide an un-



Dr. Howard Warner

derstanding of the condition of our ancestors in Italy. I will discuss the development of the Italian ghetto and the freedom that came with the modern Italian state.”

Photos and other illustrations will be part of the talk. “Many of us have visited Italy,” organizers said, “but Howard’s experience will highlight aspects of Italy’s Jewish heritage that we may not have had the chance to explore on our own. We are honored to have him as our May speaker, and are looking forward to a talk that is guaranteed to be both enjoyable and educational!”

A longtime resident of Binghamton, Warner grew up in Brooklyn, majored in biology at University of Washington, St. Louis, and received his dental degree from New York University. Before opening his own practice in Kirkwood, he was a dentist in Bainbridge and Greene, NY.

An active member in the Jewish community, Warner has served on Temple Israel’s board for many years, and was its president from 2009-2011. He served on the rebuilding committee for Temple Israel, and is house chair for the synagogue. A longtime board member of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, he is currently its president.

Beth David’s luncheon speaker series takes place the second Saturday of the month after Shabbat morning services and is open to the community. There is no charge for the luncheon. Since the monthly series’ continuation depends on the generosity of contributors, Beth David welcomes and appreciates donations to the Luncheon Fund. Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Acknowledgments for the person being honored or to the family of someone being remembered will be sent to those requesting them. Donations can be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

TC-TI adult ed. program on “Remembrances of growing up in Nazi Germany” on May 12

Walter Selan will give a *Havdalah* program for the joint Temple Concord-Temple Israel adult education program on Saturday, May 12, at 7:30 pm, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

Selan and his family emigrated from Germany in November 1938 to the United States, when he was 10 years old. Selan “has vivid recollections of his young life as Germany became increasingly Nazified. He and his fam-

ily suffered and finally escaped after Kristallnacht, under harrowing conditions,” said organizers of the program. Selan’s family arrived in Chicago in June 1939, and he later graduated high school and university. He enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1947 and was on active duty after the Korean War. He coached basketball while in the service. He married in 1954, meeting his future wife in Miami Beach. He became a successful businessman in

his new country and founded his own company, Waltco Toys. He also became a professional bass fisherman, winning cash and prizes.

In 1981, his daughter and her family moved to Broome County, and he began visiting here. He moved to Vestal 20 years later. He attended the bar mitzvah of his grandson at Temple Concord. Coincidentally, the rabbi of Temple Concord at the time, Lance Sussman, was a distant relative of Selan’s mother.

Although not required, call Temple Concord at 723-7355 for reservations. There is a nominal \$5 attendance fee and a nosh will be served. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentation.



Walter Selan

TC Sisterhood Shabbat and installation on May 18

Temple Concord Sisterhood Shabbat and installation of 2018-2019 officers will be held on Friday, May 18, at 8 pm, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

Sisterhood Shabbat is being organized by Cathy Eckert and Shari Neuberger. Members of the Sisterhood will be

participate in the service.

Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell will be the installing officer for the officers and Board of Directors members. Sisterhood will sponsor the *oneg* following installation and services. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

TI TIKA created a sign for the TI garden



L-r: Jacob Weinstein, Alex Stupple, Susannah Stupple (sign designer) and Sonia Horowitz with the sign.



On April 29, Temple Israel’s TIKA (Temple Israel Kidz Association) designed and painted a sign that will be in clear view of anyone driving or walking by TI announcing the garden.

At left: Cara Miller painted a section of the sign.

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Off the Shelf

Kashrut, community and diversity

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Food as a means to teach about Judaism: that summarizes Lori Stein and Ronald H. Isaacs' "Let's Eat: Jewish Food and Faith" (Rowman and Littlefield). The work serves as a primer about Jewish history, holidays and lifecycle events, with an emphasis on Jewish food customs across the globe.

Stein, whose book/packaging firm has produced more than 200 books, and Isaacs, a rabbi who has served in the pulpit for more than 40 years, recognize that "Judaism is a complex religion" and that food alone cannot define it. However, foods can serve as a way to discuss diverse Jewish experiences across the globe. The introduction offers a short look at Jewish texts, major contemporary Jewish movements and some basic Jewish geography. The timeline at the end of the chapter is helpful, although it did feel odd that the last events take place in the 1980s.

Each holiday – including Shabbat – has its own chapter. Much of what is discussed will be familiar to those with a basic knowledge of Judaism. What is of greater interest are the customs – especially food customs – specific to different cultural heritages. Many of the discussions include a recipe so that readers can experiment with new dishes. The work concludes with a chapter about lifecycle events and focuses on the "mitzvah meals" that often accompany these events. Each chapter ends with a

section about traditions from around the world.

My favorite parts of "Let's Eat" are food customs with which I was not familiar. For example, in the past, Sephardic families celebrated Shabbat with *khubz*, a flat bread that contained no eggs and were sometimes flavored with sesame seeds or other Middle Eastern spices. Spiced flat breads were also featured in other cultures: Ethiopian Jews made theirs in a frying pan, while in Iran and India, the breads were baked.

The list of traditional foods for Rosh Hashanah goes beyond those normally found in Ashkenazic homes. For example, while I've heard of people eating fish heads during the holiday because the Hebrew word *rosh* means head, I was unaware of the Bukharan custom of using a ram's head. Preparation includes removing the fur, but the eyes and teeth are still part of the head that's placed on the table. According to the authors, this custom is still practiced in Israel. This was also the first I've heard about a Rosh Hashanah seder (although I am aware that people have done seders for other holidays). Like the Passover seder, foods are used as symbols, in this case, wishes for what will occur during the upcoming year. Foods used in the past include white beans (which are a request for good deeds and a strong heart), leeks (which ask that our enemies

be cut to pieces), pomegranates (for a fruitful year) and many others. The authors encourage readers to create their own symbols and use them during the seder.

Other customs I found particularly interesting include:

- ◆ The celebration of *Chag HaBanot* (Holiday of the Daughters), which takes place on the sixth night of Hanukkah. Jews from Yemen and North Africa open their synagogues to women who dance and bless their daughters.

- ◆ The building of a huge snowman by Uzbekistan Jews during Purim. The snowman represented Haman and they threw spoiled food at it. The day concluded with a large bonfire that was used to melt the villain.

- ◆ Various food customs for Sukkot. Italian Jews eat their version of a bagel covered with ricotta cheese, while Indian Jews celebrate a local harvest holiday, *Khiricha* (the pudding holiday), during which they eat a corn and coconut pudding.

While I haven't tried any of the recipes in "Let's Eat," the instructions seem easy enough to follow. The book includes everything from a basic recipe for challah to stuffed food from a variety of cultures to sweets from different nations. It serves as an easy introduction to basic Judaism for those unfamiliar with the religion, or as a way for foodies to expand the meals that grace their holiday tables.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Dress Your Fancy LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is March 28, 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: 1308 Vestal Parkway E, Space A, Vestal, NY 13850.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Upstate Holdings 1, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/26/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 978 Vestal Ave., Binghamton, NY 13903. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: Remington Consulting Solutions, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/23/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date of dissolution: None.

Notice of Formation of Tony Tools, LLC

Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/27/2018. Office location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, P.O. Box 339, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: 81 State Hospitality Group, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was April 4, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is

Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Florence V. Properties, LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/ SSNY 1/24/18. Office in Broome Co. SSNY designated for service of process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: US Corp. Agents, Inc, 7014 13th Ave. Ste. 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of Deerfield Place Associates, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/22/04. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 300 Plaza Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Frazier Apartment Management, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is April 20, 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: 2309 North Street, Endicott, NY 13760.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: W3ZEN, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 4/3/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated LLC agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LLC, Attn: John G. Dowd, PO Box 1905, Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Date

of dissolution: None.

Notice of Formation of Chapin Street, LLC

Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/11/2018. Office location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, c/o 101 Jefferson Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY OF FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW ("LLCL")

1. The name of the foreign limited liability company ("LLC") is WHITE ANGELICA LLC.
2. The date of filing of the application for authority with the Secretary of State is April 24, 2018.
3. The jurisdiction of organization of the LLC is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the date of its organization is July 30, 2015.
4. The County within the State of New York in which the office of the foreign Limited liability company is to be located is Broome County.
5. The Secretary of State of the State of New York has been designated as agent of the foreign limited liability company 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: 226 Jones Road, Friendsville, PA 18818.
6. The principal office of the foreign limited liability company is 226 Jones Road, Friendsville, PA 18818
7. The name and address of the authorized officer in its jurisdiction of organization where a copy of its certificate of organization is filed is: PA Department of State, Corporation Bureau, 206 North Office Building, 401 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120.
8. The character or purpose of the business of the foreign limited liability company is any purpose allowed by law.

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

THE ANNUAL RETURN OF THE EVA AND MILTON J. BRASLOW FOUNDATION for the calendar year ended 12/31/17 is available at its principal office, located at 220 East 42nd Street, 29th Floor, New York, New York 10017 for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days hereof. The Principal Manager of the Foundation is Michael K. Federman.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Kingsforge Holdings LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 1, 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: 109 Sergeant Street, Johnson City, NY 13790.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Duff's Dairy Treats, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 2, 2018.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Cortland.
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: 5378 Gee Brook Road, Cincinnati, NY 13040.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Appraisal Pros. LLC, 26 Ritchie Rd. Binghamton, NY 13901
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is April 30, 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: 26 Ritchie Rd., Binghamton, NY 13901
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: 55 North Main, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was May 3, 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 JEFF'S QUALITY BAIT LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/26/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 244 Bean Hill Rd., Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

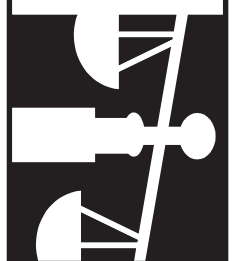
THUNDER CLOUD PROPERTIES, LLC - NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ("LLC")

Articles of Organization of THUNDER CLOUD PROPERTIES, LLC filed with the NYS Secretary of State (NYSS) on 4/25/2018. Office of LLC is in Broome County. NYSS designated as agent for service of process against it. NYSS shall mail process to 1963 Bradley Creek Road, Endicott, NY 13760. Business purpose: any lawful activity

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THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton



Five biblical concepts that relate to the land of Israel

By Maayan Jaffe-Hoffman

(JNS) – There are hundreds of references to Israel on every page of Tanach, according to Tuly Weisz, founder and CEO of Israel365. As such, in honor of Israel Independence Day on April 19, Weisz released a new 2,000-page Bible that centers on the land of Israel, the people of Israel and the relationship between them.

The Israel Bible, edited by Weisz and co-published by Israel365 and Menorah Books (an imprint of Koren Publishers Jerusalem), is meant to demonstrate that Israel belongs to the Jewish people – today and for thousands of years beforehand. “To understand what is going on in Israel in 2018, one cannot only go back to 1967 or 1948,” Weisz told JNS.org. “One must go back to Tanach.”

The Israel Bible, through its more than 1,000 study notes, presents that the founding of the modern state of Israel is the Bible’s prophecy fulfilled. Every Israeli prime minister, including the current one, is quoted in the volume, alongside classic Jewish commentators.

The book contains both Hebrew lessons and what Weisz calls “Israel lessons.” Even the dust cover’s live design weaves together the iconic image of the paratroopers liberating the Western Wall 50 years ago and the ancient Temple, enveloped in an Israeli flag.

“The Hebrew Bible is a description of a love story between a people and its land,” said Rabbi Jacob J. Schacter, professor of Jewish history and Jewish thought at Yeshiva University in New York. “From its earliest history, *Eretz Yisrael* has been central to Jewish living and Jewish destiny.”

Christian Zionists also see the Bible coming to life in Israel. “Today, most evangelical Christians believe in a real world interpretation of the Bible,” explained David Parsons, vice president and international spokesman for the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. “There are all these verses that connect the Jewish people to the land and promise to bring them back. This is fulfilled with the return of the Jewish people to Israel today.”

Weisz said at least five core concepts in the Tanach relate to the founding of the state of Israel. First, the ingathering of the nations (in Hebrew, *kibbutz galuyot*) is promised in multiple places. “In Ezekiel 34:13, we learn that although the people of Israel are scattered throughout the four corners of the earth, God will one day gather the people of Israel and return them to their ancient soil,

the land of Israel,” explains Weisz. “With the founding of the state of Israel and the many waves of immigration that have taken place in recent history, we are beginning the fulfillment of this miracle.”

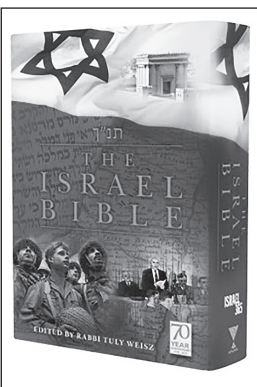
Second, he cites the revitalization of Hebrew. Weisz said the Prophet Nehemiah (13:24) bemoaned the fact that in 70 years of exile, the Jews of his generation had forgotten how to speak Hebrew. “After 2,500 years of exile, Hebrew was nearly extinct, reserved exclusively as the Jewish holy language for prayer and study,” said Weisz. “This all changed with the advent of the Zionist revival and the founding of the state of Israel.”

Third, “we are witnessing the deserts blooming,” said Weisz. He noted that while under foreign occupation, as described in the book of Isaiah, Chapter 5, the land of Israel was arid and dry. “Under Jewish sovereignty, it has come to life.”

Next, Weisz said the land of Israel was born out of a spiritual partnership between Jews and non-Jews. In biblical times, it was Cyrus’ edict that allowed the people of Israel to return to the land of Israel and rebuild the Temple, which was completed in the sixth year of the reign of Darius, with his permission. Similarly, the British government’s 1917 Balfour Declaration possessed a similar promise. And, in 1948, when U.S. President Harry Truman recognized the state of Israel, he said: “I am Cyrus.”

Fifth and finally, “Since the founding of the state of Israel, we are witnessing growing unity between Jews and non-Jews,” said Weisz. He noted that in Isaiah 49:22, the prophet describes the great contributions that the nations will play in the resettlement of the land. “In modern times, this prophecy is being fulfilled by the unprecedented number of non-Jews who visit, support and pray for Israel,” said the professor.

However, Yaakov Beasley, who has lectured on the Bible for 20 years and crafted the commentaries on the books of the Prophets for “The Israel Bible,” told JNS.org that one must be cautious to assume that the return of the Jewish people to Israel in the modern era is a sign of redemption. “I would love to say the Bible gives us a guarantee that now that we are back in Israel, everything will be rose-colored, but that is not the Bible,”



The Israel Bible 3D (Photo courtesy of Israel365 and Menorah Books)

he said. “The Bible teaches us that you have to keep working [at being good Jews], that you have to keep going.”

Specifically, Beasley said he found in his study of the prophets Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi “that the return of the Jewish people to Israel in the time of the Second Temple parallels what we see today. Then, like now, there were idealists, driven by hope that when the Jewish people returned to Israel that everything would be good and redemption would come. While these prophets maintained some level of ide-

alism, they taught that unless the Jewish people understood why they lost the Temple the first time, they would not be destined to keep it the second time.”

Still, Beasley said the Tanach is the key connection between the Jewish people and the land of Israel. He noted that when David Ben-Gurion settled the land as an atheist Zionist, “he understood the power and importance of the Bible as the central document, as our deed to the land.”

He said Bible study has been under-exercised for years in the Jewish curriculum. “Seventy is a number that represents wisdom and maturity,” noted Beasley. “As the country reaches 70, it is fitting that the Bible one again assumes a central place in the Israeli narrative.”

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Frutarom sold in second-largest “exit” in Israeli history

In the second largest sale, or “exit,” of an Israeli company to date, the American firm International Flavors and Fragrances Inc. is acquiring Israeli flavor and ingredient producer Frutarom in a deal worth approximately \$7.1 billion. Only one deal in Israel’s history surpasses the Frutarom exit – the sale of Israel’s Mobileye, makers of vision-based advanced driver-assistance systems, for \$15.3 billion in 2017. Frutarom is based in the coastal city of Haifa, and develops and manufactures primarily natural food, flavor, fragrance, pharmaceutical and cosmetic ingredients. It currently employs 2,700 employees around the world and sells more than 70,000 products to 30,000-plus clients in more than 150 countries. The company anticipates topping \$1.6 billion in sales in 2018, with that number expected to increase to \$2.25 billion by 2020.

Jordanian MP incites violence at PNC session

(MEMRI via JNS) – Jordanian Parliament member Yahya Al-Saud delivered a “fiery” speech at the Palestinian National Council meeting in Ramallah at the first PNC session in more than two decades. “I am a slave to whoever teaches me the path of martyrdom,” he said, and called Ahmad Jarrar, who gunned down an Israeli citizen in January 2018, a “great martyr.” Al-Saud, who chairs the Palestine Committee of the Jordanian Parliament, praised the nation whose “children charge into fire, armed with knives, determination and absolute faith in Allah,” and prayed to Allah to “liberate our holy places from the plundering Jews” and “grant us martyrdom on the threshold of the Al-Aqsa Mosque.” His speech, which was attended by Palestinian leaders, was broadcast by the official Palestinian Authority TV channel on May 1.

CJS..... Continued from page 1

College of Jewish Studies programs are open to the entire community; general admission is \$8 per program, or \$20 for all three programs; senior admission is \$5 per program or \$12 for all three programs. BU students are welcome to attend at no charge. An individual sponsorship, of \$100, is available and includes admission to all fall and spring programs. Donations are always welcomed. For more information on how to become an individual sponsor or to make a donation, e-mail bingejs@gmail.com. The College of Jewish Studies is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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 an 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 possible without the support of a grant from the Community Foundation for South Central New York – David and Virginia Eisenberg Donor Advised Fund, and additional financial support from 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, and the donations of individual sponsors.

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Seven treasures from a centennial exhibit on Leonard Bernstein

By Penny Schwartz

(JTA) – From his birthplace in Boston to New York, Berlin, South Africa, China and Israel, Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990), the larger-than-life conductor, pianist, composer, educator and bon vivant, is being celebrated in a two-year bonanza of concerts, stage productions and programs marking the centennial of his birth. The American-born son of Ukrainian Jewish immigrants, Bernstein's influence spanned the musical world, from classical music to Broadway.



Leonard Bernstein in 1970. (Photo courtesy of Fox Photos/Hulton Archive/Getty Images)

Thousands of events are featured as a part of #Bernsteinat100, including "Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music," an exhibit that recently opened at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. The Library of Congress recently got in on the act, making available online for the first time free access to more than 3,700 items – including letters, photographs, audio recordings, and other material – from its vast Leonard Bernstein Collection. The release nearly tripled the library's digital offerings.

Curious fans with time on their hands can cue up "West Side Story," "On the Town" or the "Chichester Psalms," and peruse volumes of scrapbooks in the Library's collection that were compiled by Helen Coates, his piano teacher and, later, his career-long secretary.

"Bernstein arguably was the most prominent music figure in America in the second half of the 20th century," according to Mark Horowitz, the collection's curator, who has been immersed in the details of the maestro's life for a quarter century. He described Bernstein as a "polymath, a Renaissance man who wanted to do it all," from music to education to social activism.

Born on August 28, 1918, in Lawrence, MA, to Jennie and Samuel Bernstein, the young musician catapulted onto the world stage in November 1943, when he filled in on short notice as conductor for the New York Philharmonic

and very technical, difficult, effective." These descriptions "would later characterize his own compositions," Oja observed in an e-mail.

Years later, with his 1958 appointment as music director of the New York Philharmonic, Bernstein became the first American-born and educated conductor – and the first American Jewish conductor – to lead a major American orchestra.

With an estimated 400,000 items, the Bernstein Collection is one of the largest and most varied in the Library's music division, Horowitz told JTA. The archives fill 1,723 boxes that measure 710 linear feet.

Here are seven treasures from the Library of Congress collection:

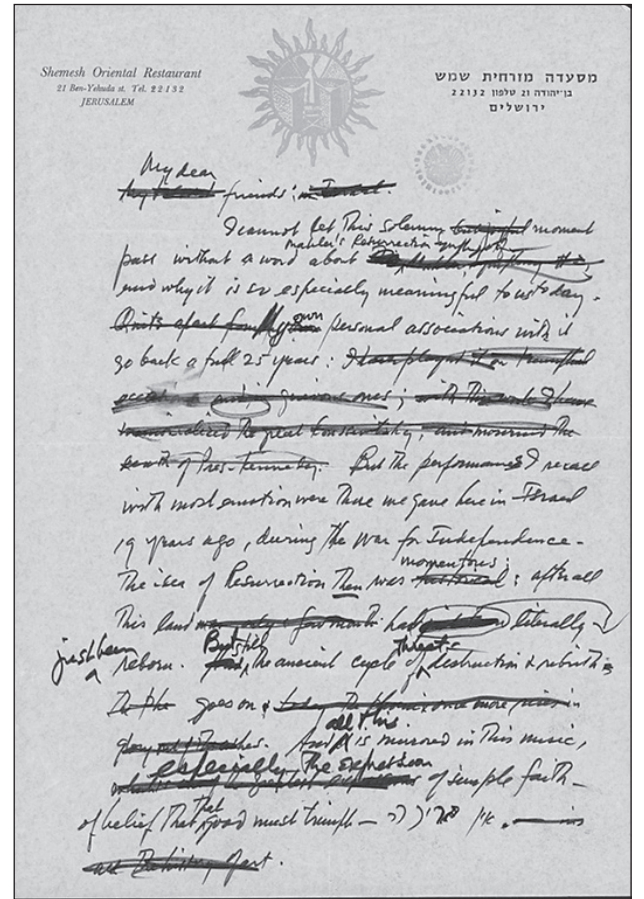
1. Bernstein grew up in Boston in a religious family and was influenced by the music he heard at Congregation Mishkan Tefila. At Congregation Mishkan Tefila, his family's synagogue, the young Bernstein came under the influence of Solomon Braslavsky, a Viennese composer who became the synagogue's music director and led its choir. On October 10, 1946, Bernstein wrote to Braslavsky, shortly after Yom Kippur: "I have come to realize what a debt I really owe to you... for the marvelous music at Mishkan Tefila services. They surpass any that I have ever heard."

Bernstein had a strained relationship with his father, a successful business owner, whose life was guided by Talmudic learning. While he described his father as authoritarian, he admired his depth of knowledge of Jewish texts and thought.

2. Bernstein's Harvard years were considered instrumental in shaping his music. A page in a bluebook dated January 25, 1937, during Bernstein's sophomore year at Harvard University, displays "handwriting thoroughly familiar to a Bernstein scholar," according to Carol Oja, a professor at the Harvard Department of Music. In the exam book, Bernstein described Baroque-era toccatas, a musical notation for virtuosic keyboard, as "dramatic, brilliant,...

and very technical, difficult, effective." These descriptions "would later characterize his own compositions," Oja observed in an e-mail.

3. Bernstein was smitten by Israel, and became a devoted and influential supporter of the Israel Philharmonic. In November 1948, during Israel's War of Independence, **See Bernstein" on page 11**



A handwritten speech Bernstein wrote for a concert in Israel, July 1967. (Photo courtesy of Library of Congress, Music Division)

Experiment.....

Continued from page 2

Community response, though, turned the tragedy into an affirmation of the school's purpose. Three thousand people joined a march in solidarity with the school, including Jerusalem's mayor. Inbar was even invited to the White House; the staff proudly pointed out a picture of her lighting a menorah with President Barack Obama. (The arsonists were caught and are now in jail.)

Jewish parent Ilana Nelson said that being part of Hand in Hand is "living the dream of being friends and creating community with people we're alienated from in general

society. As a religious family, sending our kids to Hand in Hand is an ideological choice bringing deeper meaning to our life. We are bombarded with so much fear and hatred all the time, and this is the best way to combat it."

Suidan's parting words to us summed up what we'd learned in our visit to Hand in Hand perfectly: "I know Jews are not going to disappear and I know Arabs are not going to disappear," he said. "We are going to live together. Hand in Hand is teaching the children how to do this."

Linda B. Glaser is a staff writer and publicist at Cornell University who recently visited Israel with her family.



Noa Yammer, Hand in Hand Engagement coordinator, stood in front of student artwork. (Photos by Phil Glaser)



Hand in Hand student artwork, symbolizing different religions coexisting.



Art teacher Efrat Meyer in the Hand in Hand library with student projects behind her.



L-r: Noa Yammer, Hand in Hand engagement coordinator, with Hand in Hand high school students.

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Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Issue Date: May 25

Ad Deadline: May 17



A Montreal pilgrimage in the footsteps of Leonard Cohen

By Ben Harris

MONTREAL (JTA) – Just inside the gate of the Shaar Hashomayim synagogue off Boulevard du Mont Royal, a gravestone bears an unusual Star of David, the sharp angles of its two opposing triangles – one reaching heavenward, the other aimed at the earth – softened into the shape of hearts. A dozen red roses scattered on the ground are signs of recent visitors, and an overflowing mound of stones on top, in keeping with the Jewish custom, is evidence of many more.

The footstone is engraved in Hebrew with the name of the deceased, Eliezer the son of Nissan HaKohen. And beneath that, the name by which he is known to the world: Leonard Cohen.

The singer, songwriter, poet and novelist was interred here in a private ceremony in 2016, just hours before his family would inform the world that he had died days earlier, at the age of 82, at his home in Los Angeles. Though Cohen had been suffering from cancer and knew his death was looming, he died peacefully in his sleep after a nighttime fall. His grave is in the family plot beside three generations of his forebears.

“He came into the world a Montreal Jew and he left the world a Montreal Jew,” said Gideon Zelermyer, the cantor at Shaar Hashomayim, who presided over the burial with the synagogue’s rabbi.



Leonard Cohen’s grave, next to three generations of his family, in the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim cemetery in Montreal. (Photo by Ben Harris)



A painting of Leonard Cohen towering above Crescent Street in downtown Montreal. (Photo by Ben Harris)

It’s little surprise that a steady stream of visitors continues to make its way to Cohen’s gravesite more than a year after his death. Already well into his 70s, the singer achieved something rare in popular music – a late-career renaissance. It included five years of worldwide touring, hundreds of sold-out shows and several celebrated albums including “You Want It Darker,” which was released just weeks before he died, earning him his first solo Grammy Award.

With his passing, interest in Cohen has surged even more, particularly in his hometown.

Musee d’Art Contemporain du Montreal recently wrapped up a five-month multimedia exhibition that featured works by 40 artists commissioned by the museum in “loving tribute” to Cohen. A 10,000-square-foot portrait of the singer, barely-there smile shadowed by his trademark fedora and hand held over heart, towers over Crescent Street in the heart of downtown. Another nine-story mural of Cohen was completed last year. And in November, a star-studded tribute concert at the city’s Belle Centre featured appearances by Sting, Elvis Costello, Seth Rogen and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

The Montreal Jewish community that nurtured Cohen in his early years has not been overlooked in the Cohen surge. For a while, media interest in Shaar Hashomayim was so intense that the leadership had to issue a statement asking people to stay away.

Inquiring at the city’s Jewish institutions today inspires knowing smiles from people who have grown accustomed to fielding questions about Cohen. “At least the third today,” said an official at the cemetery when a visitor asked for directions to Cohen’s grave.

Cohen first encountered the biblical metaphors and liturgical themes that would inspire so much of his life’s work at Shaar Hashomayim, a fortress of a synagogue built by his ancestors that today occupies the better part of a city block. Cohen’s childhood home, at 599 Belmont Ave., is just up the hill, and a photograph of a teenage Cohen in double-breasted jacket at his Hebrew school graduation in 1949 still hangs on the wall.

Music remains central to the service at Shaar Hashomayim, with a cantor leading prayers in the now nearly obsolete choral tradition once prevalent in Europe. It was that sound that Cohen sought out for “You Want It Darker,” which features Zelermyer and the synagogue choir providing backing vocals.

See “Cohen” on page 8



A photograph of Leonard Cohen, front right, from his 1949 Hebrew school graduation hangs in a foyer at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Montreal. (Photo by Ben Harris)

SUMMER CAMPS

Top 10 reasons you should send your kid to summer camp

By Brian Presley

For most people, summer camp is just something they did for a couple of weeks as a kid, but for many it was much more than that. As someone who has experienced summer camp as both a camper and a counselor, I can tell you that it will not only give the parents a rest but can also change a kid’s life for the better.

Summer camp gave me the confidence to be a stay-at-home dad and to self-publish a book based on the games and activities that filled my summers. Summer camp was a great experience for me as a kid growing up in a government town and has created some life-long friends and memories. With that in mind, here are my top 10 reasons why you should send your kid to summer camp:

1. It gets them out of town – For kids living in a city, there often aren’t many parks, and the parks that are there are not very big and are usually crowded. If you’re lucky, there’s a swimming pool or splash pad nearby. For those living in a house, the backyard can get boring, and if you live in a new house, chances are your backyard is the size of a postage stamp. Kids in smaller towns can also get bored with the limited amount of activities available. Most summer camps are located outside cities and surrounded by trees



near lakes or rivers. The air is cleaner and the noise is all natural. It’s a nice change for kids whose only exposure to wildlife is squirrels, pigeons and maybe the odd rat.

2. It gets them away from their family – Yes, you love them, and the kids love you, too. It may sound cruel, but everyone can use a break at least once. Being away from home can also give kids an appreciation of what they have.

3. It gives them a sense of independence – For most kids, this will be the first time they travel anywhere without their parents and that can be exciting for them. There will be rules to follow, but it’s different when mom and dad aren’t around. They’ll be with other kids and chances are the counselors are not that much older, since they are most likely high school or college age, so it won’t feel like they’re at home with their parents. For many kids, it’s like being paroled from the routine of home and school.

4. It exposes them to different people – Most summer camps attract kids of different races, religions and economic standing from different parts of your city and even from different cities all together. It provides an opportunity to meet and discover other kids regardless of what their background is, what school they go to and where they’re from.

5. They can be themselves – At school and with their friends, a lot of kids can feel the pressure of acting like everyone else, but a good camp program lets kids be themselves. They can be who they are and the only acting they’ll have to worry about is during the campfire skit!

6. They can learn new skills – The most important thing I ever learned at summer camp was to swim and that’s a skill that every kid should learn. Learning to swim allowed me to learn other skills such as canoeing, a bit of sailing and how to keep safe near water. The field sports program that I ran as a counselor introduced kids to sports that they may not have had a chance to learn at home, such as volleyball, basketball, badminton and softball, just to name a few. For many, it was the first time they ever got to play and learn about a different sport. One of the more popular areas of a

See “Camp” on page 8

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*Open to any and all 3rd-10th grade boys (as of fall 2018)

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www.binghamtonlacrossecamp.com

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Cohen.....Continued from page 7

But Cohen's connections to the affluent Montreal Jewish community of his youth was never without complications. He fled the city's confines early and often – first to study literature at Columbia, then to the Greek island Hydra, and eventually to Southern California, where he lived in a Zen monastery for years. Montreal was a place to which he returned occasionally “to renew my neurotic affiliations,” he once wrote.

Liel Leibovitz, author of a 2014 book exploring Cohen's artistic evolution, points to a 1964 speech that Cohen delivered to a symposium at the Montreal Jewish Library as the moment he found his prophetic voice. In the speech, which Leibovitz reconstructed from notes found in Cohen's papers, the singer lambasted Montreal Jewry for worshipping a “hideous distortion” of God.

“Bronze plaques bearing names like Bronfman and Beutel were fastened to modern buildings, replacing humbler buildings established by men who loved

books in which there were no plaques at all,” Cohen said.

Today, the library has migrated from the cold water flat it once occupied to a modern campus in the western suburbs of the city, a symbol of the very Jewish fixation on buildings decried by the young poet. Yet Cohen never severed his connection to Montreal and its Jews, and the embrace only seemed to intensify as the years passed.

“There are times when you want to show the flag, when you want to indicate that there is nourishment to be had from this culture, that it is not entirely irrelevant to the present situation, that it does not serve a nation's best interests to reject and despise it,” Cohen told an interviewer in 2016.

And the synagogue reciprocated, waving the flag of its most celebrated alumnus.

Outside the sanctuary, across the lobby from where the faces of Cohen's grandfather and great-grandfather, both past presidents of the synagogue, peer

down from austere Victorian portraits, a glass case houses a vinyl copy of “You Want It Darker” and the Juno Award the album won from the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Facing the case is a display showcasing Canadian Jewish history that features a photo of Cohen onstage in a section about the community's cultural contributions.

After Cohen's death, Zelermyer chanted the *El Malei Rachamim* memorial prayer for Cohen during Shabbat services, sung to the tune of the singer's iconic “Hallelujah.”

“It was such a validation of the fact that we hang on to these traditions,” Zelermyer said of Cohen's enduring connection to the synagogue. “I go and I teach cantorial students and I tell them the same thing: You never know who that young person is going to be sitting a few rows away from the pulpit and how the experience of being in *shul* and listening to someone praying with intention, how they're impacted by that. I just find it remarkable.”

Mailbox Shorts

Jewish American Heritage Month new website

Jewish American Heritage Month, a national commemoration of the contributions that American Jews have made to the fabric of United States history, culture and society, announced the theme for the May 2018 celebration: “American Jews and Music.” A newly revamped website, www.jahm.us, offers interactive content and educational resources to facilitate the nationwide engagement around this year's edition. First established by presidential proclamation in 2006 and renewed every year since, JAHM encourages people of all backgrounds to learn about and draw inspiration from the more than 360-year history of Jewish life in this country.

SUMMER CAMPS

Camp.....Continued from page 7

summer camp program is the crafts. Some camps still make the traditional key chain and bracelet, but a lot of programs teach drawing, painting and sculpting that they may not get to try at home or would want to admit to be interested in to their friends. For a lot of kids, it's a chance to discover their artistic abilities.

7. Learn life skills – Life skills are something that many kids learn without realizing it. Simple daily procedures such as cleaning their cabin or tent, making their bed, setting the dining table for a meal and cleaning up afterward are habits that can carry on after they leave camp. The kids will learn teamwork

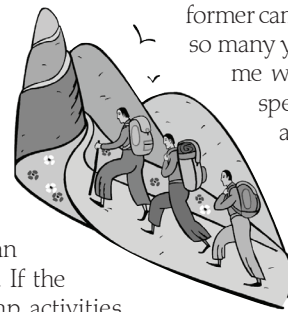
and cooperation since they'll be participating in a group or as “a cabin.” The “all for one and one for all” philosophy works wonders at summer camp, and can help make your kids become more confident and out-going. They may also pick up a few good habits as well. A number of parents have told me that their kids would start helping to clear the table after meals and make their beds, at least for a little while.

8. It gets them active – Summer camp is filled with activities that involve running, swimming, hiking and of course playing. There are also times in the day where kids can just relax, but the sign of a good camp

experience is when the kids are tired, but happy, at the end of the day.

9. Everything is low tech – The majority of summer camps have a “no electronics” policy that may be harsh for some kids, but is a great way to help them realize that they can live without it for a little while. If the kids ask, tell them that all camp activities are in “real-time” and are “interactive.” There is no “delete” or “return” button, so they may have to try doing something again and again. Announcements are made in the dining hall live and in person. There are no texts, e-mails or Snapchats, so messages are passed on to each other by actually speaking to another person. The only hi-tech item they should have is a flashlight.

10. It creates memories – As a camper and as a counselor, I learned a lot of new skills, and a lot about myself and others at summer camp. There are people that I can picture exactly how they looked more than 30 years ago and moments that have helped make me who I am today. It's great to meet up with old friends and a real treat to be recognized by a



former camper who can recall a fun moment so many years ago. It's also quite special to me when these campers, now adults, speak fondly of their time at camp and it gives me a great feeling of knowing that I was a part of it.

There are a lot of private camps and camps that are operated by non-profit groups that can help you send your kids regardless of your financial situation. As a camper, my fees were subsidized so my parents could afford to send me, but when I was up there, I was just one of the kids.

Specialty camps are very popular these days and day camps in the city are fun, but getting out of town and going to a traditional summer camp is an experience that every kid should have once. They may not come back with all their socks and towels, but they will have memories that can last a lifetime.

Brian Presley is a former camper, counselor and program director at Camp Minwassin located near Eganville, Ontario, Canada. He is also a semi-retired stay-at-home dad and the owner of whattodowiththekids.com.

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For information or to register, please call 724-2417.

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 Fee: \$150/\$100 JCC Members • includes a t-shirt and ball

Little Stars Basketball Camp

Ages 5 - 10 • Dates: August 13 - 17 • Time: 9 - 12pm
 \$100/\$50 JCC Members • includes t-shirt

Nothing But Net Shooting Camp

Ages 11 - 15 • Dates: August 13 - 17 • Time: 1 - 4pm
 \$100/\$50 JCC Members • includes t-shirt

NBA Week

Ages 11 - 14 • Dates: August 20 - 24 • Time: 9 am - 3:30 pm
 Fee: \$150/\$100 JCC Members • includes at-shirt

Intro to Competitive Swimming

Ages 8 -15 • August 13 -17 • Time: 9am - 3:30pm
 Fee: \$175/ \$125 JCC Members

Intro to Synchronized Swim Camp

Ages 6-12 • Dates: August 20-24 • Time: 9am - 3:30pm
 \$175/\$125 JCC Members

Tennis Camp

Ages 5-11 • Dates: August 13-17 • Time: 12:30-3:30pm - 3:30pm
 \$75/\$100 JCC Members

2-Week Theatre Camp

Ages: 8 - 11 • Dates: August 13 - 17/August 20-24 • Time: 9am - 12pm
 Fee: \$160/\$130 JCC Members

Art Camp

Ages 5-11 • Dates: August 13-17 • Time: 12:30-3:30pm
 Fee: \$90/\$70 JCC Members

500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850 • www.binghamtonjcc.org

“Everybody’s Birthright Experience”

By Carin M. Smilk

(JNS) – Monica Smolyar is like any other 21-year-old. She wants to get out and see the world. One of the places she always dreamed of visiting was Israel. She has a lot of family there, and her parents have been to the Jewish state many times to see them. Her older brother, Ari, went on a two-week trip in ninth grade and studied there for four months when he was a senior in Jewish day school.

“She was enthralled by the idea,” says her mother, Suzanne. “She had done some travel through summer camp, but nothing major. The main thing was that she wanted to go on her own. And if she wants something, there is literally no way to stop her.”

Monica, however, is not like every other 21-year-old. The resident of West Orange, NJ, has been diagnosed with severe ADD and has learning disabilities. Meaning, a trip abroad would be not only challenging, but downright difficult. “In my wildest dreams, I could not imagine that Monica would go on her own,” says Suzanne.

But she did. They came across a Birthright Israel trip sponsored by Friendship Circle, which Monica has been involved with for about 10 years. And even though Suzanne and her husband, Alexander, were a little nervous, their daughter got on a plane last summer – and had the time of her life. “She fell in love with the land itself,” says Suzanne. “That’s something you can’t teach; you need to experience it for yourself.”

Monica notes that there were two places she really wanted to see: the beach in Tel Aviv, which she had read a lot about before going, and the Western Wall (Kotel) in Jerusalem. As for the latter, the *Kotel*, she says: “I wanted to see if God could hear me there. If I could really feel Him.”

While those may have been her personal highlights, Monica adds that she enjoyed many aspects of the 10-day trip. She liked the water-rafting and the Jeep ride, though she says the hikes were challenging. She liked eating falafel from the street stands and spending time with her Israeli cousins. She liked learning about Israel’s battles and eventual independence, and about the history of the Second Temple. A very social person, Monica liked being with her peers, meeting new people and having freedoms she doesn’t necessarily get at home.

Truth be told, she liked just about everything. And she can’t wait to go back. Her mother says all Monica talks about is the trip and the friends she made, which her mother thinks is “phenomenal.”

“It can be hard for kids with special needs to make friends,” explains Suzanne. “She came home knowing new people, and now exchanges messages, sees others from the



White-water rafting in Israel was a highlight for many of the participants on a Birthright Israel trip for young adults with special needs. (Photo courtesy of The Friendship Circle)

trip and chats with them on Facebook. And she seemed a bit more mature when she got back; after all, she had to take care of herself. She’s also more focused on Judaism. On every level, this trip appealed to her.”

This December, the Smolyars will be traveling to Israel as a family to attend a cousin’s bar mitzvah, and for Monica, who says she’ll go back “any day, any time,” it couldn’t be soon enough.

Also on the trip was Julian Reiss, a fellow Friendship Circle participant. Julian lives with his parents, Allan Reiss and Cornelia Peckman in New Jersey; his older brother, Albert, is a graduate student at Brandeis University. The 21-year-old, who has autism, is in his last six months at a therapeutic school and enjoys art, reading, sports and going to synagogue.

Julian says his mother saw an advertisement for the trip at Friendship Circle and asked if he wanted to go to Israel. He didn’t really know what to expect, but knew from Hebrew school that “Israel is the home of the Jews.” To help with background and get “the full Israel experience,” his mother gave him a bunch of books, including “Exodus” by Leon Uris, which he read while there.

Julian notes that he didn’t speak as well last summer as he does now, and so communicating was hard. (In fact, when sent a list of questions about his trip, he took the time to write out the answers, and afterward spoke slowly, but determinedly, on the phone to flesh them out. He also made it a point to say that he had fun during the process; it made him relive those 10 days.) Cornelia adds that since he got back from Israel, she’s noticed “a huge leap in language.”

Like Monica, Julian was also touched by his visit to the

Kotel, saying he could “feel the centuries of people who have prayed at the wall.”

While connecting young adults to their Jewish roots is one of the more concrete goals of Birthright, some of the other objectives are more nuanced, according to Rabbi Zev Baram, executive director of the Friendship Circle in Philadelphia, who led the trip for the 22 young adults last June. These goals include connecting to people – the participants themselves and those they meet in Israel along the way – and increasing participants’ independence, even for so short a time.

“People connect to each other and what is going on around them,” says Baram. There is a comfort level, an acceptance, he notes, about being around others with different needs. For instance, he has heard the comment: “I chose this trip because I won’t be judged for the quirks I have.”

That’s empowering, and it comes in other forms as well. While the program is adjusted to meet certain requirements regarding inclusion, especially when it comes to more physical activities, it basically follows the typical format: a climb up Masada (though via cable car or for some trips up the Roman ramp); a visit to Tzfat, and the artist colonies and synagogues there; rafting on the Jordan River; shopping in Tel Aviv; walking around Jaffa; and Shabbat spent in Jerusalem. The group also went to Yad Vashem, the Israel Museum, the Biblical Zoo and the Davidson Center, all in Jerusalem, and had the opportunity to plant trees.

Birthright Israel started offering free, 10-day trips for Jewish young adults between the ages of 18 and 26 back in 1999. Since then, more than 600,000 young people from nearly 70 countries have taken advantage of the program, though the majority of participants come from North America. At the end of 2017, the age eligibility for certain trips was raised to 32 to widen the pool of applicants.

Friendship Circle started leading trips in 2008 – offering one trip per year – and has since connected about 230 teens and young adults (these trips are geared for those ages 18 to 29) with their homeland. This summer’s trip, which takes place from June 17-28, will be Friendship Circle’s 10th excursion to Israel.

“They surprise themselves with what they can do,” says Baram. “For many, this is the first time they have been abroad, even the first time away from their families. They learn to be more independent; they have to be. Plus, we don’t water down the experience. There are some changes on the ground – our hikes are lower-key, and we provide more time for transitioning to activities – but that can happen anyway in Israel due to weather and other logistical concerns.”

See “Birthright” on page 11

SUMMER CAMPS

Camp do’s and don’ts

- ◆ Don’t overpack. Bunk storage space is limited and too much gear can be overwhelming.
- ◆ Don’t pack items that camp instructions warn will be confiscated, i.e., pocket knives, hot pots, etc.
- ◆ Don’t send valuables to camp, i.e. expensive clothing, accessories, jewelry, large amounts of cash, iPods, cell phones, or hand held games (ie: Gameboy, Nintendo DS).
- ◆ Don’t call your camper during the first two weeks. This is a critical time of adjustment and your call may bring homesickness.
- ◆ Do check with the camp to see if they accept e-mail. If so, your letters will arrive when you write them.
- ◆ Don’t send packages laden with junk food. They attract animals to the bunk and take away appetite for meals.
- ◆ Do write to your camper before camp starts, so your child will have mail waiting when he or she arrives.
- ◆ Do write often. Mail call is an important time at camp.
- ◆ Keep your letters newsy and upbeat. Making up surveys or questionnaires for your camper to complete and return to you is one way of finding out about camp life and routines.
- ◆ Do pre-address and stamp envelopes for younger campers.
- ◆ Do send packages. Include small games, books, comics, newspaper clippings, cards, etc. If you do send candy, include enough to share with bunkmates.

- ◆ Do send a plastic crate or covered container for extra storage. Canvas shoebags with pockets make good organizers for a flashlight, bug spray, shampoo, etc.
- ◆ Do discuss your camper’s concerns about being away from home, stressing all the positive aspects of camp, i.e., making new friends, participating in a variety of activities, never having “nothing to do.”
- ◆ Do say your “good-byes” with a smile and encouragement. A positive attitude is contagious.

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THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

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Behar-Bechukotai, Leviticus 25:1-27:34

No exchanges or refunds

RABBI BENNY RAPOPORT, CHABAD OF THE ABINGTONS, PA

In the last verses of the book of Leviticus, the Torah details the process of tithing animals where the farmer would pass the flock through an entranceway and mark the 10th animal as *kodesh* (holy). Just one sentence before the congregation is to call out “*chazak, chazak v' nitchezek*” (“may you be strong, may you be strong and strengthen yourselves”) to mark the end of book of Leviticus; the Torah adds, “He shall not exchange it nor substitute another for it” (Leviticus 27:33).

Every commandment in the Torah has its simple expla-

nation, its practical application, as well as layers of deeper meaning and relevance whose message applies to each and every individual, in all times, even if the ability to perform that specific mitzvah is no longer possible.

Allow me to share a deeper view of the prohibition of exchanging one “tithed” animal for another.

Every person was born with a mission in life that is distinctly, uniquely and exclusively their own. No one – not even the greatest of souls – can take his or her place. No person who ever lived – or who ever will live – can

fulfill that particular aspect of God’s purpose in creation in his or her stead.

There’s a well-known story told about a wealthy businessman and his coachman who arrived in a city one Friday afternoon. After the rich man was settled at the best hotel in town, the coachman went off to his humble lodgings.

Both washed and dressed for Shabbat and then set off to the synagogue for the evening prayers. On his way to *shul*, the businessman came across a wagon which had **See “Exchanges” on page 11**

Congregational Notes

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 607-722-1793
 Rabbi's Office: 607-722-7514
 Fax: 607-722-7121
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com
 Website: www.bethdavid.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Friday, May 11 7:15 pm
 Shabbat, May 12 9 am
 Mincha after the kiddush
 Maariv 7:45 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., May 13 8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., May 14-18 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun.-Thurs., May 13-17 8 pm
 Fri., May 18 7:15 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch
 Rabbi: Aaron Slonim, E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095
 Website: www.Chabadofbinghamton.com
 Chabad on the West Side
 Rabbi: Zalman Chein, E-mail: zchein@JewishBU.com
 Address: 27 Bennet Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-3252
 Regular service times: Daily 7:30 am, Friday evening 6 pm, Shabbat morning 9:30 am, Maariv and Havdalah one hour after candle-lighting time, Sundays 9:30 am.
 Linking Hearts for youngsters with special needs: This program connects Jewish special-needs children and teenagers, ages 5-14, who have mental, physical and/or functional disabilities, with student volunteers who will visit participating youngsters weekly in their homes.
 To join the mailing list, for up-to-date information on adult education offerings or to arrange for a private tutorial, for details concerning the Judaica shop and resource center, or for assistance through the Piaker Free Loan Society or Raff Maasim Tovim Foundation, call Chabad's office at 797-0015.

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.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

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

Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm
 Phone: 723-7355
 Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.
 On Friday, May 11, at 8 pm, there will be a Fair Trade Shabbat evening service led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.
 On Saturday, May 12, from 9:15-10:45 am, there will be a study program on “Keep or Cancel the Controversial Speaker? You Decide!: How to Disagree Constructively, Exploring the Sanhedrin Model for Decision Making from Text to Practice,” part of this year’s 9Adar Pardes Project; and at 7:30 pm, there will be a Temple Concord/Temple Israel adult education Havdalah program on “Remembrances of growing up in Nazi Germany and coming to America” with Walter Selan at Temple Concord.

On Friday, May 18, at 8 pm, there will be a Sisterhood Shabbat and Installation service led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Shari Neuberger.

On Saturday, May 19, from 9:15-10:45 am, there will Torah study, and at 7 pm, there will an erev Shavuot Ice Cream Extravaganza. RSVP to Temple Concord by Thursday, May 17.

On Sunday, May 20, at 10:30 am, there will be a Shavuot and Yizkor service and dairy potluck lunch.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Scott L. Glass
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
 Phone: 273-5775
 E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org
 President: Jerry Davis
 Sisterhood President: Julie Paige
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody
 Administrative Assistant: Jane Griffith
 Services: Friday 8 pm; Saturday 10 am, unless otherwise announced. Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sundays and legal holidays).
 Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday afternoons, 3:45-5:45 pm. The Midrashah (eighth-grade and high school) classes will meet at times designated by their respective teachers.
 Adult Ed.: Numerous weekly courses, several semester-long courses and a variety of mini-courses and lectures are offered throughout the year. Call the temple office for more details.

On Friday, May 11, the gimel class service will be held in the chapel at 6:15 pm, and Kabbalat Shabbat for the congregation at 8 pm.

On Saturday, May 12, Shabbat Yeladim will be celebrated at 11:15 am.

On Wednesday, May 23, from 4-6 pm, Ithaca area fifth-, sixth- and seventh-graders – from Temple Beth-El, Tikkun v'Or, Kol Haverim and unaffiliated – are invited to attend “Big Questions: Being Jewish in Middle School,” a PJ Our Way Program, at Temple Beth-El. RSVP by Wednesday, May 9, to 273-5775 or info@tikkunvor.org.

On Saturday, May 19, the erev Shavuot service will be held at 8:30 pm, followed by a study session.

On Sunday, May 20, a Shavuot service will be held at 10 am, followed by a dairy dish-to-pass lunch. At 9:30 pm, there will be an erev Shavuot 2 service.

On Monday, May 21, a Shavuot 2 service will be held at 10 am; Yizkor will be recited.

Friday, May 11, light candles 7:55 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, May 12 8:57 pm
 Friday, May 18, light candles 8:02 pm
 Saturday, May 19, light candles after 9:03 pm
 Sunday, May 20, light candles after 9:04 pm
 Monday, May 21, yom tov ends 9:06 pm

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, May 12, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Leviticus 25:1-27:34. The haftarah will be Jeremiah 16:19-17:14. There will be a memorial for Harold Herz and a farewell for the Binghamton University students leaving for the summer. The kiddush sponsor will be Beverly Rozen.

On Tuesday, May 15, at 7 pm, there will be the Annual Congregational/Board of Trustees meeting.

On Sunday, May 20, at 9:30 am, there will be first day of Shavuot services.

On Monday, May 21, the office will be closed for the second day of Shavuot.

On Tuesday, May 22, at 7 pm, there will be a Sisterhood book review of “Haven.” RSVP to the office.

On Saturday, May 26, at 9:30 am, there will be the b'nai mitzvah of Alexander and Susannah Stuppel.

Penn-York Jewish Community

President-Treasurer-Secretary: Harvey Chernosky, 570-265-3869
 B'nai B'rith: William H. Seigel Lodge
 Purpose: To promote Jewish identity through religious, cultural, educational and social activities in the Southern Tier of New York and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania, including Waverly, NY; Sayre, Athens and Towanda, PA, and surrounding communities.

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.

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 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, E-mail: TBEOneonta@gmail.com
 Website: www.templebetheloneonta.org
 Regular service times: visit the temple website for days of services and times
 Religious School/Education: Religious school, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings. Rabbi Karp conducts services and holds classes in Torah, beginning Hebrew and Maimonides.
 For schedules of services, classes and events, see the website.

Bernstein..... Continued from page 6

amidst fighting between the Israeli and Arab armies, Bernstein made his second conducting tour of Israel. He wrote a nine-page letter to his mother, Jennie, that glows with colorful, playful illustrations by Yossi Stern, a Hungarian refugee who became known as the "painter of Jerusalem."



Bernstein and his wife Felicia leaving for Israel in 1957. (Photo courtesy of Library of Congress, Music Division)

"You can see his passion for the young state of Israel, its land, the people and the culture," according to Ivy Weingram, curator of the exhibit at the NMAJH, where visitors can see one page of the original letter, on loan from the Library of Congress.

Over his career, Bernstein conducted the Israel Philharmonic in 25 different seasons, in Israel, Europe and the U.S.

4. Following the Six-Dar War, Bernstein performed a concert in Israel. The July 1967 concert, with violinist Isaac Stern and the Israel Philharmonic, included "Hatikvah," Israel's national anthem; Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto"; and the final movement of Mahler's "Second Symphony," known as the "Resurrection Symphony."

In his speech at the performance, handwritten on stationery from Jerusalem's Shemesh Oriental Restaurant, Bernstein recalled his exhilaration conducting the Mahler symphony 19 years earlier, during Israel's War of Independence. He marveled at the recent unification of Jerusalem, a city he envisioned would inspire peace. "Is it too much to hope that this growing together of people in peace may radiate out to this general region... and eventually... the world," he wrote. "Why not? This is Jerusalem," with the name of the city written in Hebrew.

5. Bernstein was gay. His wife Felicia seemed OK with that. In 1946, Bernstein married Felicia Cohn Montealegre, a Chilean actress who performed the role of narrator in Bernstein's "Symphony No. 3," the "Kaddish Symphony." They had three children, Jamie, Alexander and Nina.

Bernstein didn't hide his homosexuality and attraction to men from his wife. Early in their marriage, Felicia wrote a stirring and remarkably broad-minded letter, undated, that revealed the deep love and bond between the couple. "You are a homosexual and may never change - you don't admit to the possibility of a double life, but if your peace of mind, your health... depend on a certain sexual pattern, what can you do?" she wrote. "I am willing to accept you as you are, without being a martyr. I happen to love you very much ..."

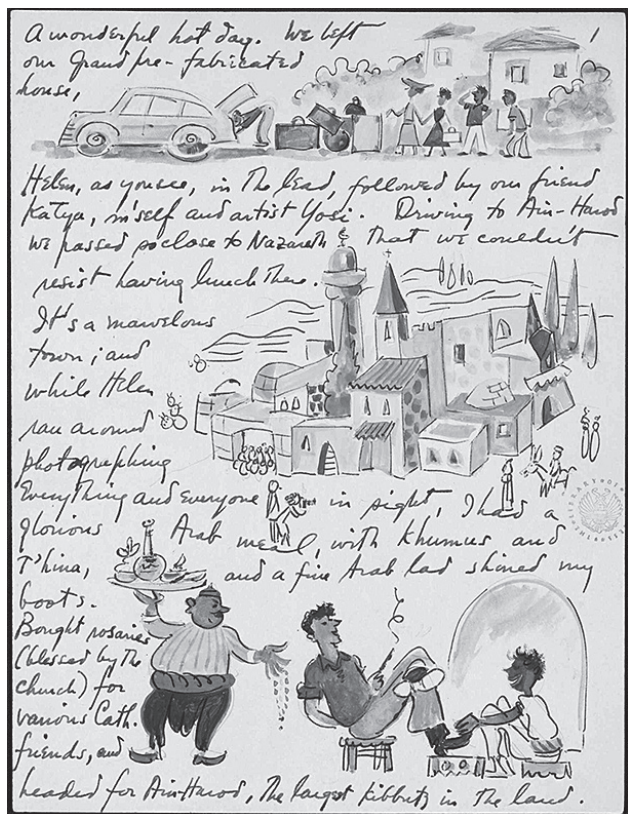
6. "West Side Story" was originally about Jews and Catholics. In the 1950s, Bernstein and choreographer Jerome Robbins took inspiration from William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," adapting it to the ethnic and racial tensions of the 20th century. An annotated copy of "Romeo and Juliet" in the Library of Congress collection is on view at the NMAJH exhibit and includes notes by Bernstein and Robbins. It was originally conceived as "East Side Story," about conflicts between Jews and Catholics. Audition notes for "West Side Story," which opened on Broadway in 1957, include Bernstein's comments about a young Warren Beatty, who sought the role of Riff ("Good voice, can't open jaw - charming as hell - clean cut").

7. Bernstein had a passion for education. Bernstein relished his role as an educator. His children often say it's among their father's most enduring legacies. Just two weeks after beginning his role as music director of the New York Philharmonic, Bernstein stepped up to the podium at Carnegie Hall to lead the first of his dozens of Young People's Concerts. It was the first time the series was broadcast live on national television, bringing the engaging maestro into America's living rooms.

For the February 28, 1961, Young People's Concert, Bernstein captivated his audience with the question, "What Makes Music Funny?" The 39-year-old maestro started off with a joke about an elephant and a mouse. Humor, even in music, needs an element of surprise, he said. "It's like a bag full of tricks coming at you," and always has "something new and eye opening."

Throughout, Bernstein lifted his baton, leading the orchestra in selections from Haydn and Gilbert and Sullivan to Prokofiev and Brahms.

The Library of Congress is hosting a series of programs from May 12-19 including performances and film screenings. On Saturday, May 19, rarely seen materials from the collection will be on display. More details on the Bernstein events are on the Library's website.



"It's a marvelous town ... I had a glorious Arab meal with khumus and T'hina," Bernstein wrote about a lunch in Nazareth. This is the first page from a long letter he wrote to his mother that was illustrated by Yossi Stern. (Photo courtesy of Library of Congress, Music Division)

Exchanges..... Continued from page 10

swerved off the road and was stuck in a ditch. Rushing to help a fellow in need, he climbed down into the ditch and began pushing and pulling at the wagon together with its hapless driver.

For all his good intentions, however, the businessman was hopelessly out of his depth. After struggling for an hour in knee-deep mud, he succeeded only in ruining his best suit of Shabbat clothes and getting the wagon even more hopelessly imbedded in the mud. Finally, he dragged his bruised and aching body to the synagogue, arriving a scant minute before the start of Shabbat.

In the meantime, the coachman arrived early to the synagogue and sat down to recite a few chapters of Psalms. At the synagogue, he found a group of wandering paupers and, being blessed with a most generous nature, invited them all to share his meal. When the synagogue sexton approached the paupers to arrange meal placements with the town's householders (as is customary in Jewish communities), he

received the same reply from them all, "Thank you, but I have already been invited for the Shabbat meal."

Unfortunately, however, the coachman's means were unequal to his generous heart and his dozen guests left his table with but a shadow of a meal in their hungry stomachs.

Thus the coachman, with his 20 years of experience in extracting wagons from mud-holes, took it upon himself to feed a small army, while the wealthy businessman, whose Shabbat meal leftovers could easily have fed every hungry man within a 10 mile radius, floundered about in a ditch.

Friends, every soul is entrusted with a mission unique to him or her alone, and is granted the specific aptitudes, talents and resources necessary to excel in her ordained role.

As we go through life, we must take care not to become one of those "lost souls" who wander about trying their hand at every field of endeavor except for what is truly and inherently their own.

"Chazak, chazak v'nitchazek!"

Jewish Community Center

JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club met on Wednesday, May 2. Sue Herzog started by telling us about Lag B'Omer, which began the evening of this meeting. She added that this holiday is not mentioned in the Torah. It is the 33rd day of the counting of the omer between Passover and Shavuot. It is the only day that it is permissible to have a wedding, cut hair or shave during this period of mourning. She told us about Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Simeon. In Israel, children have picnics and play outdoors. It is also customary to have bonfires.

Sue told us about a book by Dorit Rebanayam titled "All The Rivers." The story is about an Israeli girl, named Liat, who comes to America and meets a Palestinian boy named Hilmi. They become lovers and in doing so describe life in Israel from their experiences. Sue told us the book was banned from schools in Israel and so many people bought it that the book stores ran out of copies of it.

The meeting was called to order by Sylvia Diamond. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Sue said the blessing over the cookies, which were provided by Bruce Orden.

Come join us on Wednesday, May 16, when Carol Hawley will have exercises for senior citizens. On Wednesday, May 23, Linda Conroy will play piano for "Name That Tune." We meet almost every Wednesday at the JCC at 1:30 pm.

Sylvia Diamond
President

Birthright... Continued from page 9

All in all, the rabbi emphasizes, it's the same trip: "This is everybody's Birthright experience."

Julian definitely believes that to be true. An athletic person (he's on a Special Olympics swim team), Julian says: "I think everyone should go to be better people and better Jews" - and has been considering returning for some kind of work-study program, even for as long as a year.

His parents have acknowledged that. They've been gathering information and talking to others about options for young people with disabilities and, if it goes anything like the Birthright trip, where Baram kept in daily contact posting photos and updates on Facebook, they will be reassured by this hugely independent step.

Julian's mother says he expressed interest in going back to Israel literally from the minute he got off the plane. And why not? Knowingly, Cornelia attests: "It's the best thing he's ever done in his life."

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JTA

Hamas leaders in Gaza reportedly offer long-term cease-fire to Israel

Hamas leaders in Gaza have sent messages to Israel through various channels in recent months offering to negotiate a long-term cease-fire. According to a report on May 7 in the Israeli daily Haaretz, Hamas wants to tie the cease-fire to an easing of the blockade on Gaza, a green light for large-scale infrastructure projects and a prisoner exchange. Israel has "not responded clearly" to the messages, according to Haaretz. Hamas reportedly is more open to discussing such a cease-fire since it is in "dire and unprecedented strategic distress," the report said. In addition, reconciliation efforts between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority remain frozen in the wake of an assassination attempt in March on P.A. Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah during his visit to Gaza. Hamas has called on Gaza Palestinian demonstrators to continue to protest at the Gaza border as part of the March of Return protests, and has vowed that the protests will continue past what was supposed to be the end date, May 14, the date on the Gregorian calendar that marks Israel's 70th birthday.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Trump withdraws from Iran nuclear deal, imposes new sanctions

U.S. President Donald Trump reportedly told French President Emmanuel Macron on the morning of May 8 that he planned to fully withdraw from the 2015 Iranian nuclear deal. According to a person briefed on the conversation, Trump plans to reinstate all sanctions it had waived as part of the nuclear deal, as well impose additional economic penalties on the Islamic Republic, *The New York Times* reported. Trump publicly announced his plans for the deal the afternoon of May 8 from the White House. On Jan. 12, Trump outlined his intentions to “fix the terrible flaws” of the Iran nuclear deal, giving U.S. and European negotiators a 120-day timetable to implement the changes, which include allowing inspections on military sites, an end to sunset clauses and addressing Iran’s testing of ballistic missiles. American and European negotiators were apparently unable to make the changes to the deal, while the other key signatories – Iran, Russia and China – were opposed to any alterations. In recent weeks, Trump has been visited by Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who both lobbied the U.S. leader to remain in the deal. Shortly after his announcement, Macron said he regrets the decision by Trump. “France, Germany and the United Kingdom regret the U.S. decision to get out of the Iranian nuclear deal,” Macron tweeted. “The international regime against nuclear proliferation is at stake.”

Azaria released from prison after nine months

Private Elor Azaria, who was found guilty of shooting already-neutralized terrorist Abdel Fattah al-Sharif at point-blank range in Hebron in 2016, was released from prison on May 8. He served nine months of his 14-month sentence. Al-Sharif had been shot by members of Azaria’s command after attempting to stab two Israel Defense Forces soldiers and was lying wounded on the ground when Azaria shot him in the head. The prosecution argued that Azaria used unnecessary force against al-Sharif that ultimately caused his death, whereas the defense argued that al-Sharif was still moving and continued to pose a security threat. The case raised a moral debate across the country regarding IDF rules of engagement. Opponents of Azaria’s actions argued that he broke the rules and took the law into his own hands, while supporters said that IDF soldiers deserve the benefit of the doubt when up against terrorists. Azaria was originally scheduled to be released on May 10, as per the decision of the army parole board. But the board approved a request for release on May 8 so he could take part in his brother’s wedding on May 9. Azaria had originally been sentenced to 18 months in prison, but his sentence was reduced by IDF Chief of Staff Gadi Eisenkot. He arrived to his home city of Ramla to a celebratory welcome, with signs, decorations and custom-printed T-shirts.

Transportation and Intelligence Minister Israel Katz called for Azaria’s criminal record to be erased, while Education Minister Naftali Bennett tweeted a picture of Azaria at home with his family and wrote: “Elor, it’s so good to have you home.”

ADL report finds 4.2 million antisemitic tweets in 2017

A new report from the Anti-Defamation League found that there were roughly 4.2 million antisemitic tweets in 2017 shared by more than three million users on the social-media platform. “This new data shows that even with the steps Twitter has taken to remove hate speech and to deal with those accounts disseminating it, users are still spreading a shocking amount of antisemitism, and using Twitter as a megaphone to harass and intimidate Jews,” said ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt in a statement. The ADL report, using a data set of roughly 55,000 tweets screened by researchers for indications of antisemitism, evaluated the tweet based on subjects ranging from Holocaust denial and antisemitic slurs to positive references to antisemitic figures, books and podcasts. The organization also counted coded words and symbols such as the triple parentheses, which has been used by white supremacists to single out Jews. The ADL noted that there were spikes in antisemitic tweets that occurred around major news events, such as the Harvey Weinstein scandal or former White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer’s comment that Hitler didn’t use chemical weapons. Nevertheless, the antisemitic accounts constitute less than 1 percent of Twitter’s some 336 million active users. The report by ADL comes as social-media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook have fallen under greater scrutiny by the U.S. government, public and media for concern over harassment and their role in spreading fake news, especially during the 2016 presidential election. Twitter has sought to make changes to its platform, such as prohibiting offensive account names and better enforcing its terms of service.

As Jerusalem’s mayor affixes U.S. embassy signs, P.A. official demands global boycott

As Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat affixed the first street signs directing drivers to the “U.S. Embassy” in the capital, senior Palestinian official Saeb Erekat called on foreign dignitaries to boycott the celebratory opening on May 14. Approximately 800 American and Israeli visitors are expected at the inauguration of the new embassy in Jerusalem’s Arnona neighborhood, but officials from other countries have also been invited. The U.S. will be sending a delegation comprised of some 300 dignitaries and officials. On May 13, Israel’s Foreign Ministry will host an event celebrating the moves to Jerusalem of the American and Guatemalan embassies, which will also be attended by U.S. officials, as well as Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales.

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