

THE REPORTER

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Jewish Heritage Day at Binghamton Rumble Ponies on Aug. 5

The Binghamton Rumble Ponies, Double A affiliate of the New York Mets, will hold a Jewish Heritage Day on Sunday, August 5, at the NYSEG Stadium in Binghamton. *The Reporter* is a media sponsor for the event. Neil Auerbach will throw out the ceremonial first pitch. The deadline for purchasing within this group is Wednesday, August 1.

Among the attractions will be the playing of Jewish heritage music, the singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" in Hebrew, playing Jewish baseball trivia and doing other things in celebration of Jewish heritage. The game will be against the Harrisburg Senators and will start at 2:05 pm. The gates will open at 1 pm. A block of 24 seats have been reserved

in Section 105, third base side, under the canopy. Tickets are \$7 each. To purchase tickets and reserve a seat in that section, call the Rumble Ponies at 722-3866 and mention Jewish Heritage Day in order to be seated in this section. Tickets will be waiting at the "Will Call" window at the stadium box. "Come on out, support your local team,

and celebrate Jewish Heritage day with us and the Rumble Ponies," said event organizers. "For those who have not been to a B-Mets or Rumble Ponies game, this is high quality AA baseball with many players going from Binghamton to the Mets AAA affiliate or directly to the major leagues. We hope to see you there to join in the fun."

Jewish Food Festival in Scranton July 29-Aug. 2

The annual Jewish Food Festival in Scranton will be held Sunday, July 29, through Thursday, August 2, at Nay Aug Park in Scranton. Opening day hours on July 29 will be from 11 am-7 pm. From Monday through Thursday, hours will be 11:30 am-2 pm for lunch and 4-7 pm for dinner.



Rabbi Yitzchok Goldberg sliced shawarma off the vertical grill.

vendors and crafts.

The menu will feature an assortment of traditional "Jewish favorites," as well as Israeli and Middle Eastern food. There will also be a barbecue grill and a bakery tent to complement the celebration of ethnic kosher food.

The festival at Nay Aug Park will continue all week featuring daily grill specials. This year, the festival will

offer takeout orders with curbside service. "Simply make your selections online or by

phone and your order will be ready within 30 minutes - brought to your car," said organizers of the event.

Nay Aug Park, the city of Scranton's largest park, grants residents and visitors "a touch of nature" amid the city landscape. Walking trails, picnic areas, kid-friendly rides, playgrounds, Olympic-sized swimming pools and a waterslide complex are among the attractions. The Everhart Museum is also located within the park. A gorge and waterfalls within the park have been named a National Natural Landmark. A pedestrian footbridge opened in 2007 to access parkland across the Roaring Brook.

For more information about the festival, to download an event map or to browse the menu, visit www.JewishFoodFest.com or call 570-587-3300.



Festival patrons will be able to order from a menu of Jewish ethnic foods.

Annual Jewish Music and Cultural Festival to take place on Aug. 5 in Syracuse

By Vicki Feldman

The annual Jewish Music and Cultural Festival will take place on Sunday, August 5, at the Sam Pomeranz Jewish

At left: The band Farah will perform at JMAC on August 5. L-r: Alex Reeder, percussion and vocals; Ben Markowitz, bass and vocals; Burak Direk, percussion; Sam Asher, lead vocals and guitar.



Community Center, 5655 Thompson Rd, Syracuse. Beginning at noon, Farah will perform on the Price Chopper Stage, followed by two-time Grammy nominees The Pop Ups, with entertainment for families and children of all ages at about 1:30 pm. Other groups that will perform include the Susan Watts Jewish Music Ensemble at 3 pm and the Keyna Hora Klezmer Band at 4:30 pm.

There will also be activities and games

for children provided by the JCC during the afternoon in and around the Kids Tent, along with face painting, PJ Library® activities and the Robert Rogers Puppet Theater. In addition, there will be representatives from area Jewish community organizations. Kosher refreshments will be available.

For more information about the schedule, bands, food and activities, visit the festival website syracusejewishfestival.org.

Camp JCC's teens on a Connecticut getaway

At right: Teens in Camp JCC's TLC program went on an overnight trip to Club Getaway in Connecticut during the second week of camp. They took a break from ropes courses and more on the big chairs at the club. (See page 7 for more Camp JCC photos.)



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Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

Hello, its Sima

SIMA AUERBACH

We often talk about the demographics of our community – sometimes ad nauseam. We ask: What are we going to do? How do we get the younger people involved? (By younger people, we are usually referring to those in their late 40s to 60s.) And then there is always the thought, “What about the Jews on campus?” We talk about this, but are not sure about what to do.

Yes, as a Jewish community we are getting smaller – and yet the needs have not changed in any significant manner. The Federation – with half the donors we once had – still needs to raise \$300,000 annually and we have

to do it from far fewer people. Fortunately, we are an embracing community and donors have been increasing their gift each year – a big help. In addition, people who have experienced an unexpected windfall have shared their good luck with the Federation. Often, to our surprise, we get letters from law offices telling us that the Federation has been graciously named in wills.

So, I am announcing that we need your help. The Federation will form two committees at our September Board meeting: one to search for those uninvolved Jews amongst us and another as a Legacy Committee.

If you are interested in joining either of these committees, kindly contact me at 724-2332 or dirjfbcb@gmail.com. Looking forward to hearing from you.

P.S. An Edy update: We took a train from Poughkeepsie, NY, to Grand Central Station that runs along the Hudson River. I thought my granddaughter Edy would be mesmerized by the beautiful ride with the sun shining on the river – but no. She loved watching the people getting on and off at each stop – and there were many – welcoming them to the train, waving good-byes and always smiling. I, of course, beamed proudly.

Any volunteers to be tomorrow's Jewish doers and leaders?

By Eli Ovits

(JTA)–“Ethics of the Fathers” includes this bold advice from Rabbi Yishmael: “When we learn in order to act, we become learners, teachers, preservers and doers.”

So many Jewish institutions are asking how they might engage younger people, raise a new generation of leaders and appeal across age groups. How might they advance the Jewish journeys of their volunteers, followers and “users,” and take them further toward greater interest in and commitment to Jewish life?

Limmud, a global network of Jewish learning festivals, set out to find out from its large and growing number of volunteers what works and what doesn't. Granted, we had a favorable cohort: Volunteers make Limmud happen, set strategy, determine the vision, teach and deal with the multitude of tasks from which Limmud events are built. Even those Limmuds that have paid staff usually draw on a large cohort of volunteers.

Limmud could not exist without volunteers, but we wanted to know how volunteering helped people on their Jewish journeys. What we learned about the benefits of

volunteerism could help almost any institution in creating more effective communities.

The British sociologist Keith Kahn-Harris surveyed Limmud volunteers in communities spanning seven countries; conducted two focus groups at Limmud Festival 2017; and held conversations recently in Israel with volunteers from 50 communities across 25 countries at Limmud Connect, Limmud's first global volunteer forum. Ezra Kopelowitz of Research Success Technologies in Israel was the project adviser.

Here are three initial takeaways from Limmud Impact Study:

Get them while they're young

It is essential to invest in younger people, including young families. The study affirmed the long-term value of attracting and investing in younger people: 73 percent of volunteers 40 or under agreed that “the Jewish life I live is strongly impacted by my experience at Limmud.” Nearly 50 percent of those under 40 were likely to report a change toward greater Jewish interest and commitment since their first Limmud. The earlier you become involved

in Jewish activism through Limmud, the deeper the impact on your life.

Yet we also found that for volunteers of all ages, their commitment and curiosity grew as they continued on their Limmud journeys. The vast majority of all volunteers surveyed reported positive impacts on their lives.

It is important to recruit younger people, take them a long way and change their Jewish lives. At the same time, the Limmud study also suggests that communities are most successful when they are multigenerational. They should explore ways to promote intergenerational diversity in leadership, team composition and educational opportunities. This promises a richer communal experience for all.

Learning leads to action – and much more

Jewish learning encourages connections with other Jews and interest in the Jewish community beyond Limmud. Eighty-nine percent of Limmud volunteers who responded agreed that Limmud increased their Jewish knowledge and 68 percent agreed it exposed them to a wider variety of **See “Leaders” on page 3**

In My Own Words

States' rights

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

With the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court, commentators have been reflecting on the meaning of states' rights. This is usually spoken about in connection with abortion (if Roe vs. Wade is overturned, then each state will get to decide whether abortion will be legal in that state), but it has even greater implications.

On the one hand, the idea of states' rights sounds appealing. Allowing each state to determine its own public policy could be considered a hallmark of democracy. The different gun laws – from very strict to very lenient – are a prime example of what can occur under states' rights. This means there is no one standard for gun laws across the country. Sometimes, states' rights are helpful to particular groups, as can be seen when New York Governor Andrew Cuomo recently signed an executive order declaring that all state agencies cannot do business with companies that promote or tolerate discrimination

against the LGBTQ population. Other states, though, do not offer the same protection.

On the other hand, looking at the history of states' rights makes it far more difficult to accept this doctrine. The biggest debate about states' rights came before the Civil War. States in the American South wanted no one to restrict citizens' right to own slaves. I'm hoping (praying?) that in the 21st century I don't have to explain how wrong slavery is. (If you think it's OK to own slaves, then please let me know if you're willing to be the slave, rather than the owner. Then we can talk.) So, in the past, states' rights have actually been used to limit democracy, rather than expand it – for example, restricting the rights of minority groups and women.

One example is the right to vote: not only were African Americans and women not allowed to vote and/or hold office in some states, the same was true for Jews. Can a state designate a state religion or state church? That's actually possible under states' rights. That would mean that those who practice that religion could be favored. This happened in Europe and the state religion didn't just deny Jews and Muslims equal rights: the same applied to Christians who didn't belong to that particular church. Think it couldn't happen here? According to the doctrine of states' rights it could. What could protect us from that? Laws passed by the federal government offering equal rights to all religions and/

or the federal courts saying these laws are discriminatory and can be overturned.

However, there has also been some question about the current Supreme Court candidate's opinion on the division between governmental branches. To understand the importance of this, think about this: There is nothing to stop Congress from passing laws that discriminate against particular groups and nothing to prevent the president from signing that law. What can stop the law from being implemented? A challenge to the courts, which is a balance of power built into our system. So, suppose for a moment that the president and Congress agree that Jews should not be able to vote in presidential elections, and that law is passed by Congress and signed by the president. However, Jewish organizations could take a discrimination case to the federal court and ask the court to overthrow the law based on the constitutional idea that church and state are separate, that there is no state religion in the U.S. and no one should be discriminated against based on their religion.

So when Congress questions candidates to the Supreme Court, questions about states' rights and the division of power should be included. Anyone sitting on the Supreme Court *must* believe in equal rights and protect *all* the citizens of our country. They should be willing to stand up to Congress and the president when necessary for the good of our country and *all* its citizens.

Correction

In the July 20 issue of *The Reporter*, the news brief on page 5 titled “Gaza Palestinians send bird into Israel to set fires” was incorrectly attributed to JNS. It was actually written and provided by JTA. *The Reporter* apologizes for the error.



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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.

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Blood drive at Temple Concord on Aug. 9

Temple Concord is hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, August 9, from 10 am-2 pm. The Red Cross and our local hospitals are in desperate need of donations of all blood types," said organizers of the drive. "They are down to a one-day supply. Please help if you can. Reservations

are requested, but walk-ins will also be welcome." To sign up either call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or go to www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time. View the Temple Concord sign-up for August 9 by sorting using the zip code 13905 on the left side of the screen and

scrolling down until the Temple Concord listing appears. Then choose a donation time. Eligibility requirements for donors can be found at www.redcrossblood.org/donate-blood/how-to-donate/eligibility-requirements.html#.

Temple Israel picnic slated for August 12

On Sunday, August 12, from 2-5 pm, Temple Israel will once again hold its annual family picnic on the grounds of the synagogue. The event will include a 3 pm outdoor barbecue, with entertainment also beginning at 3 pm.

In addition to the picnic activities, two fund-raising raffles will be held that day: a 50/50 raffle and the chance

to win a decorative quilt. Admission to the picnic is \$10 per person; children 13 years of age and younger will be admitted free of charge. The raffle tickets may be purchased at \$3 per single ticket or \$10 for a package of four. Advance reservations are necessary and all RSVPs must

be made no later than Wednesday, August 1. To secure a reservation, picnic-goers are being asked to indicate the total number of people attending and provide the information by phone to Tammy Kunsman at the Temple Israel office, 723-7461, or via e-mail at titammy@stny.twcbc.com.

Kavanaugh nomination sets up battles over abortion, health care and religion

By Josefín Dolsten

(JTA) – President Donald Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh, a federal appeals court judge in Washington, DC, to replace Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy upon his retirement at the end of July.

The pick, as expected, disappointed liberals concerned about reproductive rights and civil liberties, but was welcomed by conservatives as an opportunity to reshape the court for perhaps decades.

Kavanaugh, 53, is well respected by the Republican establishment, although some on the right have said he is not conservative enough. Trump reportedly was wary of Kavanaugh's close ties to George W. Bush, who nominated him to his current position in 2003.

"A judge must interpret the law and not make the law," Kavanaugh said in remarks from the East Room of the White House on July 9. "A judge must interpret statutes as written, and a judge must interpret the Constitution as written, informed by history and tradition and precedent."

He also thanked Associate Justice Elena Kagan, who hired him to teach a course on the Supreme Court when she was the dean of Harvard Law School.

Kavanaugh is a graduate of Yale Law School and clerked for Kennedy on the Supreme Court. He helped draft the Starr Report, which called for President Bill Clinton to be impeached because he lied about having had a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky, a White House intern. He fought on the legal team urging Florida not to have a recount in the 2000 presidential election between Bush and Al Gore, Clinton's vice president. The Supreme Court decision not to do so led to Bush becoming the president. Kavanaugh served in the Bush administration, including as the president's staff secretary. His wife, Ashley Estes, served as personal secretary to George W. Bush.

In 2015, Kavanaugh, a Roman Catholic, filed a dissent in a case involving religious employers and reproductive



Brett Kavanaugh on July 10, the day after he was nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court. (Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images)

rights. The case said that religious employers did not have to provide contraceptives, but had to file a form telling the government they were not doing so. Kavanaugh argued that the requirement violated religious freedom. Kavanaugh has stated that he considers Roe v. Wade binding and would seek to uphold it, though he has ruled in some cases to place restrictions on abortion.

Liberal Jewish groups, such as the National Council of Jewish Women, said they were disappointed with Trump's pick, regretting what is expected to be the Supreme Court's long-lasting shift to the right.

"The president's nomination of D.C. Circuit Court Judge Brett Kavanaugh will threaten women's reproductive rights generally and Roe v. Wade in particular," NCJW CEO Nancy K. Kaufman said in a statement. "Kavanaugh also

dissented from rulings upholding the Affordable Care Act and claims that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is unconstitutional. He routinely decides for the powerful against the powerless when safety, equality, consumer rights, the environment and workers' protections are at stake. Although Kavanaugh worked on the impeachment of President Clinton, he now maintains that 'criminal investigations and prosecutions of the president' should be deferred while a president is in office."

The Workmen's Circle, a progressive Jewish organization with roots in the labor movement, said Kavanaugh's nomination represents the latest salvo in a "war against the working people of this country." "While the president's selection of a conservative candidate is not a surprise, it exemplifies the direction of this administration to further divide, rather than unite, our county," said Ann Toback, its executive director.

Like NCJW, the Jewish establishment tends to take progressive stances on domestic issues such as reproductive rights, LGBTQ rights, voting rights, gun control and separation of church and state. Though Kennedy was seen as a

conservative justice, he was a swing vote on some issues and authored opinions legalizing same-sex marriage and keeping Roe v. Wade intact.

The centrist Anti-Defamation League was also wary of Trump's nominee. "We are concerned that Judge Kavanaugh's judicial record does not reflect the demonstrated independence and commitment to fair treatment for all that is necessary to merit a seat on our nation's highest court," Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL's CEO and national director, said in a statement. "Because he has written and spoken prolifically on many issues of deep concern, we believe his positions merit close scrutiny. These include his demonstrated hostility to reproductive freedom and his past support for greatly expanded and unchecked executive power."

Orthodox groups are likely to welcome a court that protects public religious expression over strict separation, as it did in recent rulings confirming a baker's right to refuse to bake a cake for a same-sex wedding.

Trump's pick will need to be confirmed by the Senate and can expect opposition from Democratic lawmakers.

Leaders.....Continued from page 2

Jewish traditions. Notably, 65 percent said Limmud led them to a greater engagement with Jewish learning and 62 percent agreed it made them more curious about Jewish life and Judaism.

Learning begets greater curiosity and more learning

Beyond creating a framework for learning throughout one's lifetime, Limmud also creates opportunities for relationships among an array of people. Indeed, volunteers made new friends (84 percent), met Jews who were different from themselves (82 percent) and deepened a sense of connection to the Jewish people (68 percent).

More than a third of Limmud volunteers reported that Limmud had led them to become more involved in their communities. A full 20 percent reported that involvement in Limmud even led them to set up (alone or with others) a new Jewish initiative. These include launching educational programs, cultural events and new places of prayer.

This is the crux of Rabbi Yishmael's teaching: Learning leads to action – from prompting more learning, to building relationships with other Jews, to getting active in the broader Jewish community, including launching new initiatives.

Volunteers get from what they give

Limmud volunteers form the foundation of the grassroots, cross-communal organization. Volunteering engenders not just a deep connection to the Jewish people and Jewish learning, it also provides practical tools to take the connection further.

Significant proportions of volunteers reported that Limmud impacted on their career (41 percent), gave them a greater sense of confidence (55 percent) and helped them develop their leadership skills (55 percent). The volunteer experience offers added value for careers and raising volunteer's leadership profile.

The more the Jewish community invests in leadership skills training and provides leadership opportunities, the deeper the impact on Jewish life. We found that the more senior the leadership level in Limmud, the greater one's Jewish life is impacted. Learning to act and acting to learn creates the preservers and doers that Rabbi Yishmael promises.

Of course, for volunteerism to thrive it requires us to hand over the keys to our community and share leadership opportunities.

The bottom line: There are tangible benefits to volunteering. When your organizations hand over leadership, your activists will be more committed to Jewish life and their Jewish life will be richer. And by eliminating as many barriers to leadership as possible, you make it accessible for people of all ages and backgrounds to excel.

One note of caution from the study, however: Volunteers need support frameworks to avoid burnout. It is essential to anticipate the costs of intense volunteer involvement and plan for ways to encourage succession planning, as well as sharing of systems and best practices.

By providing these kinds of practices and opportunities, Jewish institutions can further education and engagement, and inspire communal activism for all ages and backgrounds. By investing in volunteerism and diversity, they will have more engaged Jewish leaders and one more solution to safeguarding Jewish continuity. Rabbi Yishmael would be proud.

Eli Ovits is chief executive of Limmud, which operates in 90 communities spanning 42 countries.

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

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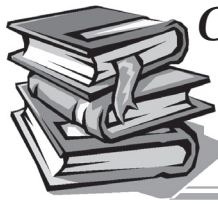
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Off the Shelf

Jewish culture and cafés

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

When people move, they often look for places to gather with others like themselves. For some Jews, that means finding a synagogue or study hall to attend. However, what of those Jews who moved to cities in early modern times and had no interest in religion? In "A Rich Brew: How Cafés Created Modern Jewish Culture" (New York University Press), Shachar M. Pinsker looks at the modern Jewish experience in six cities during the 19th and 20th centuries to show how Jews used cafés as a space to socialize and debate art and politics. He believes these interactions were central to the creation of modern Jewish culture.

Pinsker considered cafés a thirdspace – a place that is "located at and mediates between the real and imaginary, the public and the private, elitist culture and mass consumption. In the context of modern Jewish culture, the thirdspace of the

café sits on the threshold between Jews and gentile, migrant and 'native,' idleness and productivity, and masculine and feminine." The café was not a private place, like a salon, where one had to be specifically invited to enter. It was also not completely public because one usually had to buy something (even if only a cup of coffee or tea) to remain in one's seat. Pinsker sees the space as fluid because it changed depending on how it was used: whether for entertainment, intellectual discussion or nourishment. The café's social life was mostly homosocial, with few women participants. Differences in social class and political ideology meant that groups frequented different cafés. Some of these gatherings were based on similar political ideologies, while others looked to meet those in the same occupation, for example, cafés where newspaper writers or actors gathered.

The café culture came to exist because Jews were moving from rural areas and small towns to larger cities. Many arrived on their own and looked for companionship with those whom they felt comfortable. Instead of gathering in study houses or synagogues, these secular Jews found cafés a comfortable place to gather. Pinsker looks at café life in six cities – Odessa, Warsaw, Vienna, Berlin, New York City and Tel Aviv-Jaffa – but notes that most of the people he writes about traveled to and/or settled in more than one of these cities and, in each city, they would find a café. One thing that stayed the same, though: "Though they were Jews on the move, between cities and between cafés, they remained Jews, even as they picked up new languages, passports, identities, politics, and sometimes even a new religious identity."

Since the café culture, and most of the cafés under discussion, no longer exist, the author uses a wide variety of material written by those who experienced the times, but notes that their comments are subjective, rather than

objective studies. A new style of literature appeared during this period that seems reflective of café culture: the feuilleton. Pinsker calls the feuilleton a "hybrid literary-journalistic form of the sketch that mixed cultural criticism with storytelling." The author quotes from many of these pieces to give a feel of the cafés – their similarities and their differences – and notes that the feuilletons published appeared in several languages, including Hebrew, Yiddish, German, English, Russian and Polish. Sometimes the language used was based on the political orientation of the writer since, during this period, many Jews became socialists and Zionists. Although the café was considered to be part of European culture, it also thrived for a period of time in New York City and Tel Aviv-Jaffa.

In his conclusion, Pinsker discusses whether café culture still exists today. While he notes there are a few spots where people gather for intellectual discussions, in general, the culture disappeared after the 1970s. He notes that, although it's difficult to answer why, this change may be due to the fact that people are more rooted and speak the language of the nation in which they live. The cafés were the place where people went to hear their native language and/or find a social life with those of like mind. People use different spaces for that in contemporary times.

Although Pinsker does an excellent job offering great detail about the history of Jews in each city and lists those who took part in the café society, the result can be overwhelming for those less familiar with the writers of that time period. The differences between the cities also tend to get lost in the descriptions of these writers and particular cafés, which seem to have more in common with each other than they do with their country of origin. However, his work does serve as a well done introduction to a lost Jewish world.

Mailbox Shorts

Jewish recipes and more

The Jewish Food Experience, <https://jewishfoodexperience.com>, seeks to "brings people together through the universal language of Jewish food, which is so much a part of Jewish culture, tradition and even religion." In addition to information about Jewish food events in the Greater Washington, DC, area, it offers articles about Jewish food and food customs worldwide, including recipes for each. To receive a weekly newsletter with links to recipes and event, visit the website and click on the "subscribe now" box.

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:

The name of the limited liability company is: VCP Enterprises, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was June 6, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Christopher L. Roma, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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TJ Diversified, LLC - NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ("LLC")

Articles of Organization of TJ Diversified, LLC filed with the NYS Secretary of State (NYSS) on 5/31/2018. Office of LLC is in Broome County. NYSS designated as agent for service of process on 447 Plaza Drive #50, Vestal, New York 13850. Business purpose: any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of Go Victual, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/19/18. Location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: Joy Yarkoni, 109 Red Fox Run, Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Superior Sentiment Care and Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/08/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 24 Leekville Rd., Glen Aubrey, NY 13777. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: NOI SOFTWARE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 6/15/18. 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 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: West Side Enterprises, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was June 14, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company,

to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Christopher L. Roma, Esq., 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Outstanding Services 1, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is June 26, 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: PO Box 1171, Binghamton, NY 13902.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Stop That

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



Game Truck, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/19/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 19 North Morningside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Comfort Holding Group, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/22/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 501 Plaza Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Chestnut Trail, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/28/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 746 Pazzelli Rd., Windsor, NY 13865. 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 Nicolette Interiors, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is July 10, 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: 13 Sharon Drive, Conklin, NY 13748.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Howe Auction, LLC

Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/10/2018. 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, 1729 Vestal Parkway W, Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

DC Reclaimed LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/28/2018. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 1097 Castle Creek Rd., Castle Creek, NY 13744. General Purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Monroe Street Endicott Phase 2, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was July 12, 2018. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ryan M. Mead, 80 Exchange Street, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC) Name: R B Services Rental LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 26, 2018. Office location: Broome County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 39 Hazel St, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: to engage in any lawful activity governed by the New York LLC Law.

Notice of Formation of PEMworks LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/09/18. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Terrace Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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Leading tech figures declare Israel the “epicenter of magic”

By Israel Kasnett

(JNS) – Why sit behind a desk all day when you can explore Israel and meet experts in your field at the same time? That’s where REALITY Experience, an initiative by the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, comes in. The program, which offers 12 distinct journeys, each with its own focus, “brings inspiring influencers from around the globe on a transformative journey through Israel to reignite their passion and potential for repairing the world.”

JNS was invited to meet with some of the participants of Emerging REALITY, a program described on its website as “a transformative leadership experience in Israel specifically designed for leaders in the areas of augmented reality, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, robotics, computer vision, blockchain and immersive media creation who appreciate the value of collaboration, camaraderie and imagination.”

Ted Schilowitz, a futurist at Paramount Pictures, appeared full of energy and enthusiasm when he sat down with JNS. “This is quite a week. It’s like a summer camp,” he said. “It’s not just to see Israel, but to learn Israel, to really understand what makes it tick. And to see, from the particular bent of this group, why Israel is such a hotbed of innovation, startup culture, startup mentality and why the output of success is so high. I thought I had good insight on that, but now, after the first couple of days [on this trip], I have a much better insight on this.”

Schilowitz related a story from years ago when he was interviewed by a magazine in Silicon Valley. When asked where he thinks the best innovation in the world comes from, he replied, “I know you want me to say Silicon Valley, but I’m telling you it’s not Silicon Valley. It’s this little strip of desert in the Middle East that really has made the most relevant tech of our generation. And what is ironic is that the countries that surround that little strip of desert are often trying to eradicate it from the planet using all the technology that was developed by that little strip of desert... And it’s troubling to me that those [countries] don’t realize that this is a jewel. It has to be treasured, regardless of your political dynamics, because you can’t execute anything without this little strip of desert. It’s fascinating, and it’s probably only getting started.”

Schilowitz expressed amazement that “most of the eight billion humans on Earth are touching multiple things that came out of Israeli innovation every single day, multiple times a day, for many hours a day, every single day of their lives – and they have no idea that it came from Israel... It’s just so extraordinarily relevant, and it’s almost impossible to imagine that it all comes from this [tiny country].”

Amanda Goldfine, head of marketing partnerships at Oculus, was equally enthusiastic, telling JNS that this was her first time in Israel. “I’ve been wanting to come for a long time, so it’s exciting to be here... I’m learning a ton.”

Asked what appealed to her about joining the program, she mentioned a few reasons. “Obviously, it’s great networking to meet people who are in similar industries with similar interests. We are learning a ton about each other and about ourselves in the process,” she said. “On the other hand, getting a chance to learn about leadership, the industry in Israel, such a huge tech scene... being able to learn about all the different aspects of life and culture here... learning about different types of leadership and how [people here] have been able to thrive despite everything.”

Goldfine also expressed her appreciation for the program. “Everyone on the itinerary looks really impressive, and it’s sometimes the people you don’t expect that you end up learning the most from.”

Her best praise she saved for Israel: “It’s really impressive that such a small country is such a big tech powerhouse.”

Toshi Hoo, director of the Emerging Media Lab, Institute for the Future, told JNS, “I’ve been to Israel before, and it blew my mind.

“What really drew me,” he said, “was that I wanted to



Ted Schilowitz and fellow participants herded goats to better understand their roles as leaders at Neot Kedumim-Biblical Nature Reserve. (Photo courtesy of the Schusterman Family Foundation)

and I feel the encouragement to self-actualize on this trip. They’re bringing all this outside stimulation and incredible new relationships, so it’s transformative.”

Tyler Wunsch, head of sustainability at Tesla, found out about the REALITY program while he was in Morocco at a fish market when an Israeli couple asked to join him at his table. When he admitted that he hadn’t yet been to Israel, they told him about REALITY tour. When he returned home, he Googled it and became interested. “I’m here to learn about the companies and the technology and the overall culture that is Israel,” he told JNS. “There’s a lot happening.”

Like Goldfine, Wunsch expressed his delight at being in Israel for the first time. “If I were Jewish, I would have gone on Birthright. I’m not, so I wasn’t able to.

“This is a unique opportunity to come to a country and experience the culture, the food, but yet be on this curated journey that

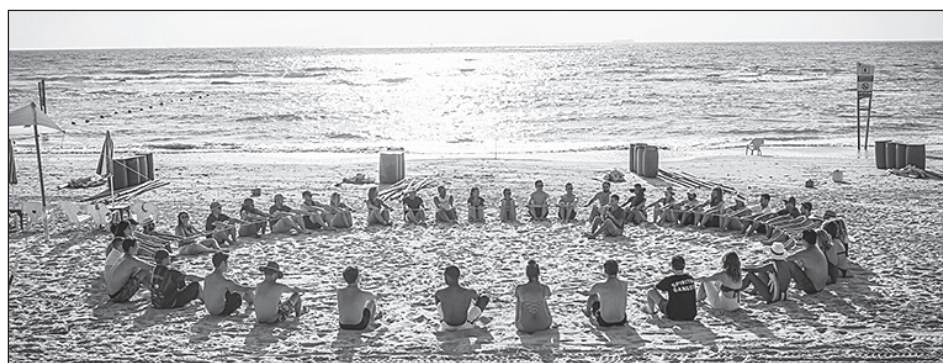
allows you to meet with the locals, allows you to meet with people hustling in business, who are really making things happen,” he explained. “It’s probably one of the most unique experiences that I’ve had.”

Schilowitz summed it up best when he said: “If you think technology is magic, this is the epicenter of magic.”

get out of Silicon Valley. I need to understand more about AI, and I’ve got incredible experts on the tour with me.”

Hoo said he was looking forward to all of the presentations the program set up. “It’s so well-curated. It’s not just interesting, enriching, tantalizing and delicious. You really feel the sense of curation of the relationships,

At right: Emerging REALITY group members participated in team building activities on Banana Beach in Michmoret. (Photo courtesy of the Schusterman Family Foundation)



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L-r: Tyler Wunsch and Maddie Callander walked along Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv. (Photo courtesy of the Schusterman Family Foundation)



Weekly Parasha

Vaetchanan, Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

Loving lima beans

RABBI BENNY RAPOPORT, DIRECTOR, JEWISH DISCOVERY CENTER

The *Shema*, one of Judaism's most important and central prayers, is found in this week's *parasha*, Vaetchanan. As Jews, we are commanded to read these words, which affirm our faith and commitment to God and His Torah, every morning and evening, whether we are in the synagogue, at home or on the road.

Indeed, throughout our history, this prayer has been whispered by young children at bedtime; its words have been shouted in defiance by thousands in times of religious persecution; and even today, this affirmation is the highlight of the closing service of Yom Kippur – the holiest day on the Jewish calendar.

It's interesting, though, that in the first few words of the *Shema*, after we pronounce our faith in the existence of one God, we proclaim the commandment to love God with all our "heart, our soul and our might."

Now, the Torah contains many do's and don'ts that dictate our daily behavior – 613 laws that we are instructed to follow – and whether or not one can understand and appreciate the meaning and relevance of the *mitzvot*, we can nonetheless incorporate them into our day-to-day lives,

to go ahead and simply fulfill them. If God asks us to do it, we can do it!

But is it really possible to ask someone to feel a certain way? To love something or someone that he or she may simply not love? Is it truly reasonable for the Torah to command us to not only obey God, but to actually love Him as well?

When I was a young child, my mother told me that I must eat the lima beans on my dinner plate. I had no choice; I had to force those stale, tasteless, sorry-looking legumes down my throat. But never once did she tell me to love those lima beans! Indeed, that is something that seems to be beyond one's control, you either love it or hate it (and in my case it was the latter).

How then can the Torah command one to feel an emotion, to love God with one's heart, soul and might?

Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, the first Chabad Rebbe, in his fundamental book of Chabad philosophy, the *Tanya*, explains that the commandment to love God is in actuality a directive to focus one's mind and intellect, to contemplate upon the greatness of the Almighty.

Knowledge and comprehension in the intellect can trickle down and feed into emotion. The power of our mind can "give birth" so to speak, to feelings.

By studying and comprehending the inherent truths of God's all-pervading reality, that He is Master and Creator of all, that He is truly the source of all life and the entire universe exists only by virtue of His primary existence; by appreciating that God transcends the world, and at the same time, lowers Himself so to speak, allowing us to bond with Him, and bestows upon us great kindnesses, both deserved and otherwise, one develops an emotional attachment and longing, and yes, a love for God.

While it is true that one can obey all of God's directives faithfully like a devoted servant, mindlessly observing the Torah's laws, we can, and must, endeavor to enrich our relationship with the Almighty by developing an emotional yearning and love for Him.

Serving God with genuine feeling is a bit of a longer path. It does take quite a bit of study and effort to develop and cultivate a love for the Almighty. The *Tanya* calls this the longer-shorter. See "Beans" on page 7

Congregational Notes

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-1793
 Rabbi's Office: 722-7514
 Fax: 722-7121
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com
 Website: www.bethdavid.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Friday, July 27.....7:15 pm
 Shabbat, July 28.....9 am
Mincha after the kiddush
Maariv 7:55 pm
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., July 29.....8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., July 30-Aug. 3.....7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun.-Thurs., July 29-Aug. 2.....8:05 pm
 Fri., Aug. 3.....7:15 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive
 Rabbi: Dena Bodian
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815
 Contact: Guilina Greenberg, 336-1523
 Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.
 Adult Ed.: Saturday morning study is held at 10 am. Call for more information and to confirm.

Rohr Chabad Center

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

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Molly Karp
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820
 Phone: 607-432-5522, 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.

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, July 27, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services in the library led by Allan Krongold.
 On Saturday, July 28, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.
 On Friday, August 3, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services with Visual Tefillah in the library led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.
 On Saturday, August 4, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.

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 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 Saturday, July 28, the aufruf of Eric Epstein and Yoon Choi will be celebrated.
 On Sunday, August 19, from 10 am-noon, Keif B'Kayitz (Summertime Fun) will be held at Ithaca Children's Garden. The event is free and open to all children, teens and their families.

Friday, July 27, light candles.....8:09 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, July 28.....9:09 pm
 Friday, August 3, light candles.....8:01 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, August 4.....9:01 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, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am

On Saturday, July 28, at 9:30 am, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11. The haftarah will be Isaiah 40:1-26.

On Friday, July 27, at 6:30 pm, there will be Shabbat on the Road at Brookdale Senior Living (across from the JCC).

On Friday, August 10, at 6:30 pm, there will be Shabbat on the Road at Vestal Park Nursing Home.

On Sunday, August 12, from 3-5 pm, there will be the Temple Israel Picnic. The cost is \$10 per person, children 13 years and under are free. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, July 31. (See article on page 3.)

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.

Kol Haverim

Affiliation: Society for Humanistic Judaism
 Address: P.O. Box 4972, Ithaca, NY 14852-4972
 Phone: 607-277-3345
 E-mail: info@kolhaverim.net
 Website: www.kolhaverim.net
 Chairwoman: Abby Cohn
 Kol Haverim: The Finger Lakes Community for Humanistic Judaism, is an Ithaca-based organization that brings people together to explore and celebrate Jewish identity, history, culture and ethics within a secular, humanistic framework. KH is part of an international movement for Secular Humanistic Judaism and is affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism, a national association with over 30 member communities and congregations around the country. Established in the spring of 1999, it offers celebrations of Jewish holidays, monthly Shabbat pot-lucks, adult education, a twice-monthly Cultural School for children, and a bar and bat mitzvah program.
 KH welcomes all individuals and families, including those from mixed religious backgrounds, who wish to strengthen the Jewish experience in their lives and provide their children with a Jewish identity and experience.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Louis Wilson, louiswilson1995@yahoo.com
 Service leaders: Lay leadership
 Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.
 Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis. Temple Brith Sholom is a small equalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is "Likrat Shabbat," while the Saturday morning siddur is "Gates of Prayer." The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

Jewish Community Center Fun in the sun at Camp JCC



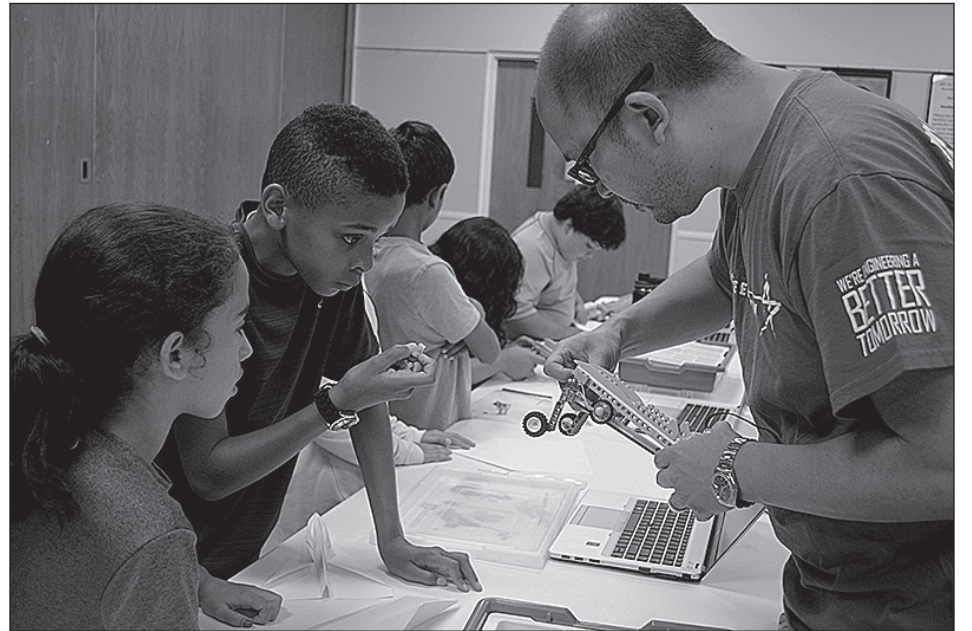
Camp JCC's theme for week two was Wizarding Week. Staff and campers dressed up as different characters from "Harry Potter."



JCC campers did the limbo at the all camp party on July 13.



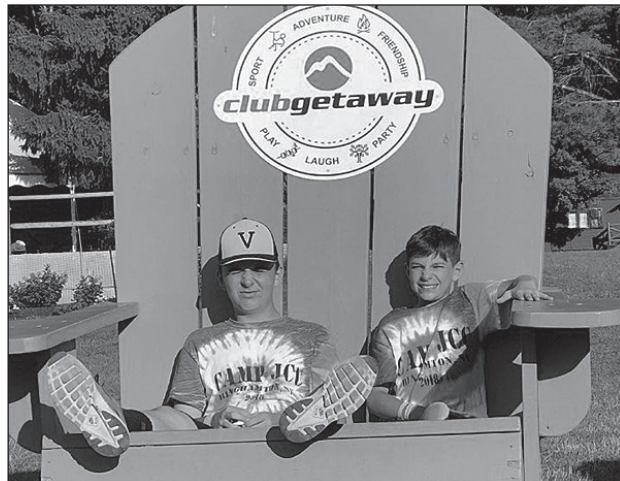
A game of Quidditch took place during Wizarding Week at Camp JCC.



Volunteers from Lockheed Martin ran a legorobotics program with the Eliter campers.



L-r: Alex Hildale and Asa Hissin relaxed at Club Getaway.



L-r: Jake Behonick and Dylan Mollo at Club Getaway.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JTA

Druze leaders challenge Israel's nation-state law

Druze leaders in Israel filed a challenge with the Supreme Court over legislation passed by the Knesset making Israel the "nation-state of the Jewish people." The Druze leaders, including three Knesset members, called it "extreme" and said it discriminated against Israel's minorities, the *Times of Israel* reported. Arabs make up nearly 20 percent of Israel's population. Members of the Druze minority serve in the Israel Defense Forces. The lawmakers were from both the ruling coalition and the opposition: Hamed Amar of the Yisrael Beytenu party, Akram Hasson of the Kulanu party and Salah Sa'ad of the Labor party. Meanwhile, Communications Minister Ayoub Kara, a Druze lawmaker of the Likud Party, is likely to get an increase in his security detail after death threats made against him and his family after he voted for the law. Kara has received death threats online and was subjected to physical harassment.

Entire Western Wall is "danger zone," archaeologist says

After a large stone fell from the Western Wall on July 23, an Israeli archaeologist declared the holy site's entire plaza a "danger zone." Other stones "could immediately fall" and

hurt people, Zachi Dvira told the *Times of Israel*. He is completing a Ph.D. on the archaeology of the Temple Mount. The boulder that fell the morning of July 23 at one of the site's areas designated for egalitarian mixed prayer weighed about 220 pounds, according to Israel Radio. It missed all onlookers, but landed close to a female worshiper. "I didn't hear or feel anything until it landed right at my feet," Daniella Goldberg, 79, told Hadashot TV news. She said that they "tried not to let the incident distract me from my prayers." Israel "doesn't do proper preservation [of the site] because of politics," Dvira said, arguing that the controversy surrounding the egalitarian prayer area has prevented the proper upkeep. While the egalitarian section has been closed since the incident, he believes visitors should stand a few feet back from the wall in all of its sections, for safety reasons. He noted that several rocks from the Temple Mount's other three supporting walls have fallen in recent years. The rock that fell on July 23 was broken in two from moisture created by the plants in the wall.

Beans. Continued from page 6 way. Yes, it is a longer journey, it is a path that takes a greater investment of time and effort, but when properly pursued is sustainable and permanent, and will certainly lead to a greater, richer and deeper connection with God.

Loving lima beans, though, might be a bit of a long shot.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JTA

Israel, seeking total withdrawal, rejects Russian offer to keep Iranian forces in Syria 60 miles away

Israel rejected a Russian offer to keep Iranian forces in Syria some 60 miles from the border with Israel. Instead, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted that Iran leave the country completely, an unnamed senior Israeli official told reporters on July 23 following a meeting in Jerusalem between Netanyahu and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. Netanyahu also demanded that all long-range missiles that could reach Israeli territory be removed from Syria, the Israeli official said during a briefing, according to Israeli reports. Israel is concerned that Iran will stockpile "hundreds and thousands of missiles" in Syria. "Iran wants to turn Syria into a second Lebanon. And we're determined to prevent that," the official said. "The removal of Iran must include the removal of long-range weapons, halting the production of precision weapons as well as the air defenses that protect the missiles, and the closure of border crossing

that permit smuggling of this weaponry to Lebanon and to Syria," said the official, according to *Haaretz*. "Russia has a certain ability to prevent this. They are a significant factor in Syria." The official said that the two-hour discussion "was a very important meeting at a significant time, during which we delved into many details, produced maps and shared intelligence, and explained in great detail our policy." The Russian delegation that came to Jerusalem on Monday also included Russian Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces Valery Gerasimov. Netanyahu said at the start of the weekly Cabinet meeting on July 23 that the Russia delegation was in Israel "at the request of President Putin, in a conversation he had with me a few days ago." Also at the meeting were Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman, National Security Adviser Meir Ben-Shabbat and IDF Chief of Staff Gadi Eisenkot. Prior to the meeting, Netanyahu said, according to a statement from his office: "The link between us is extraordinarily important and it exists, as you have seen, in the direct meetings between myself and President Putin and between our staffs. I appreciated the words that were spoken by President Putin together with President Trump regarding the security of Israel during the recent summit."

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