

# THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

September 22-October 5, 2023  
Volume LII, Number 19

## Holocaust memorial service to be held on Sept. 24

By Reporter staff

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton will hold a memorial service at the Holocaust Memorial Monument in the Temple Israel Cemetery on Conklin Avenue in Conklin on Sunday, September 24, at 10:30 am. The service will be led by area rabbis. The monument was one of the first memorial stones in the United States to acknowledge the Holocaust.



The Holocaust Memorial Monument in the Temple Israel Cemetery in Conklin.

“We were pleased to be able to hold the ceremony in person last year and are grateful we can hold this important event again this year,” said Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Federation. “We not only remember those who lost their lives

in the Holocaust, but honor those who developed, created and sustained this important community memorial.”

The monument was the project of the Get Together Club, which was a social and philanthropic group formed in 1948 by 13 German-speaking Jewish women. The women were the wives of cattle dealers who had resettled in the Southern Tier after fleeing Nazism. The decision to raise a memorial stone occurred after a member’s husband wished he had a place to say *Kaddish* for his parents, who, since they had died in the

Holocaust, had no grave he could visit. The club raised the necessary funds for the stone. The names of more than 250 individuals

who died in the Holocaust and had no grave were placed in a copper box, which was buried at the foot of the monument. The inscription on the stone says, “Victims of Racial Persecution who lost Their Lives in Europe During the Years 1933-1945. They Will Never Be Forgotten.”

The first ceremony took place on Sunday, November 9, 1952, and continued for 20

years. Then, after Professor Rhonda Levine spoke about the Get Together Club at the Federation’s Super Sunday in 2015, it was decided to resume the ceremony, holding it between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur each year.

“Join us for what is always a moving event,” said Hubal. “It’s important that we never forget the lives lost in the Holocaust.”

## Binghamton Jewish Film Fest announces 2023-24

By Reporter staff

The Binghamton Jewish Film Fest has announced five films for the 2023-24 season: ♦ “The Jews and the Blues” on Thursday, October 26, at 7:30 pm, in person at the

Jewish Community Center. For more information, see the CJS article on page 1.

♦ “Farewell, Mr. Haffman” with a virtual discussion on Sunday, December 3, at 6 pm, which will be moderated by Dora Polachek, Ph.D.

♦ “The Narrow Bridge” with a virtual discussion on Sunday, January 7, at 6 pm, which will be moderated by Terence M. Keane, Ph.D.

♦ “Our Almost Completely True Story” with a virtual discussion on Sunday, February 4, at 6 pm, which will be moderated by Richard Mattson, Ph.D.

♦ “March ‘68” with a virtual discussion on Sunday, March 17, at 6 pm, which will be moderated by Ben Kasper.

Donations are appreciated. The suggested donation is \$10 per film or \$45 for the See “Film” on page 4

## Federation to hold a L’Dor V’Dor Next Gen event on Sept. 27

By Reporter staff

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton will hold a L’Dor V’Dor Next Gen event on Wednesday, September 27, at 6 pm, at the Beer Tree in Johnson City for trivia night. Snacks will be available. L’Dor v’Dor is aimed

at those in their 20s and 30s. Reservations are required by Friday, September 22, and can be made by visiting [www.jfgeb.org](http://www.jfgeb.org) or contacting the Federation at 607-724-2332 or [director@jfgeb.org](mailto:director@jfgeb.org), or texting 607-222-9026.

“The Federation is excited to get a group

of young Jewish adults together again,” said Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Federation. “The previous events we’ve held have been a success. It showed us that there are lots of young Jewish people living in Binghamton and they are eager to make social connections.”

## CJS fall 2023 series to feature “Jewish Encounters with Jazz: International Perspectives”

The College of Jewish Studies fall 2023 series will highlight “Jewish Encounters with Jazz: International Perspectives.” The series will offer three events that look at jazz in the U.S., in Eastern Europe, and in modern Israel and the Middle East. On Thursday, October 12, at Binghamton University’s Casadesus Hall (located in the Fine Arts Building), jazz musicians and scholars Allen Lowe and Lewis Porter will perform. On Thursday, October 26, at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, the documentary film “The Jews and the Blues” will be shown. The series will conclude on Thursday, November 2, with a Zoom lecture by University of North Carolina Professor Jarrod Tanny on the history of Jews and jazz in Soviet Russia. All three presentations will begin at 7:30 pm.

“Jazz is America’s greatest contribution to world culture, and jazz has become a global phenomenon,” said organizers of the event. “Jews participated in its development and dissemination almost from the start, and have played a role in fostering jazz in many lands.”

“The Jewish Encounter with Jazz”

On October 12, jazz musicians and historians Allen Lowe and Lewis Porter will present “The Jewish Encounter with Jazz.” They will perform compositions by Jewish composers, including their own,



Allen Lowe (Photo by Michael Rogers)



Lewis Porter (Photo by Bill May)



Jarrod Tanny (Photo by Jarrod Tanny)

and discuss the key intersections between Jews and American jazz. The event is co-sponsored by the Judaic Studies and Music Departments, as well as the Harpur Dean’s Office. Those attending from the College of Jewish Studies should reserve seats in advance by sending their names to [jkarp@binghamton.edu](mailto:jkarp@binghamton.edu).

Lowe is a saxophonist, guitarist and music historian. He was named Artist of the Year in the 2021 Jazz Times Readers’ Poll. Lowe, who attended Binghamton’s Harpur College as an undergraduate, has performed nationally and internationally, including at New York City’s Dizzy’s, the Copenhagen Jazz Festival, Smalls, the Knitting Factory and Sweet Basil. He has released

approximately 20 compact discs under his own name, most recently the three-disc set “In the Dark and America: The Rough Cut.” The author of numerous books, Lowe’s 2021 volume, “Turn Me Loose

White Man: How to Listen to American Music 1900-1960,” was nominated for the Ralph Gleason Award.

Porter, a native of Scranton, is a pianist, composer and music historian. He received a Ph.D. in musicology from Brandeis University, and has taught at Tufts University, Rutgers, The New School and others. His album “Beauty and Mystery” was released in 2018, followed by the jazz-rock album “Transcendent” with guitar virtuoso Ray Suhy and his “Solo Piano” recording. Porter has also appeared on more than 30 albums by such notables as Dave Liebman, Marc Ribot and Gary Bartz. He is also the author of a number of books, including “John Coltrane: His Life and Music,” “The Lester

Young Reader” and “Lester Young,” and is co-author of “Jazz: A Century of Change, Jazz from Its Origins to the Present.”

“The Jews and the Blues”

On the evening of October 26, CJS, in collaboration with the Binghamton Jewish Film Fest, will show “The Jews and the Blues.” Voluntary contributions are welcome. The film follows director Drew Stone as he travels to Israel and discovers how the blues ties into a wide mix of cultures—Arab, Ethiopian and Moroccan—all of which are united through the universal tie of music. “Viewers will experience the unexpected on this expedition into uncharted territory,” said organizers. The film will be followed by a discussion led by Judaic Studies Professor Jonathan Karp.

“How They Swung in Odessa: Jews and the Birth of Soviet Jazz”

On November 2, Professor Jarrod Tanny will give a Zoom presentation titled “How They Swung in Odessa: Jews and the Birth of Soviet Jazz.” To sign up for the lecture, visit the CJS Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bingcjs/](http://www.facebook.com/bingcjs/).

Tanny said, “In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Jewish musicians from Southern Russia harnessed the traditional improvisational klezmer music of Eastern Europe to help create Russian Jazz. Although Soviet jazz musicians were heavily See “CJS” on page 4

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### Class on Kabbalah

The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute will hold a course on “The World of Kabbalah.”

Page 3

#### Visiting the past

Rhonda Levine reflects on a trip to her ancestral home of Vilnius in Lithuania.

Page 4

#### Gardening workshop

Beth David Sisterhood will host a workshop open to the community on growing plants over winter.

Page 5

#### Special Sections

Book Review..... 4  
Home Improvement..... 5  
Congregational Notes ..... 6  
Classifieds ..... 8

## Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

## With gratitude

SHELLEY HUBAL

My father's favorite blue and gray flannel shirt hangs on a hook in my closet. I wear it around the house on cold days, but try not to soil it because I can't bring myself to put it in the wash. Last night I dreamt that the shirt was ruined beyond repair. I awoke with an ache in my heart.

It has been four years since my father passed. The pain has lessened, but there is still a hole in my heart: a hole that I work every day to befriend. Suffering is part of the human experience and, I believe, part of God's plan for

each of us. Strangely, if I hold the pain long enough with tenderness, I break through to the other side and feel lighter. I wonder if God is also witnessing our pain with tenderness and patience, just waiting for us to turn to him?

In his book "This is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared," Rabbi Alan Lew says that on Yom Kippur, "Your heart is cracking through its shell to be reborn." During the holy week, we repent, we pray, we practice compassion, we ask for forgiveness and peace. On Yom

Kippur, we are confronted with the fragility of the human heart and the multitude of ways that we neglected that fragility over the last year. We know that ultimately God will be the judge and we pray to be "reborn."

On this Yom Kippur, I am wishing everyone in the Binghamton Jewish community and those in the Diaspora a meaningful experience. May it be God's will that our hearts are mended and the path for the new year be illuminated with tenderness and love. *Shanah tovah.*

## The Tree of Life murders and trial, part III: Judgment

By Bill Simons

For the survivors and families of victims, constantly in attendance – as well as the jury, judge, attorneys and journalists – at Pittsburgh's United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania, the U.S.A. v. Robert Bowers trial proved long, intense and draining. Ultimately convicted of murdering 11 Sabbath-observant Jews on October 27, 2018, and other offenses, Bowers remained enigmatic in demeanor throughout the Tree of Life proceedings, which was organized around four distinct phases: jury selection, determination of guilt, consideration of death penalty eligibility, and the decision as to whether to apply the death penalty.

In this federal case, the U.S. attorney refused the defense's attempt to plea bargain for life imprisonment with no chance of parole. More than 1,000 filings preceded the arduous jury selection process on Monday, April 24. Not until Wednesday, August 2, more than three months later, did the jury unanimously recommend imposition of the death penalty on Bowers. In passing sentence, Judge Robert Colville was bound by the jury decision.

Both the prosecution and the defense attorneys were professional, impressive in preparation and presentation, and principled. Clearly, neither money, reputation, nor condonement of Bowers' actions motivated the defense team, anchored by the very able Judy Clarke and Michael Burt. On moral and philosophical grounds, buttressed by a belief in a universal humanity, they oppose the death penalty. Eschewing publicity and subject to scathing condemnation for her choice of clients, Clarke – contained and empathetic in demeanor – has represented some of the most heinous mass murderers, amongst them Unabomber Ted Kaczynski and Boston Marathon terrorist Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Bowers' attorneys mounted no defense against the facts of the case. Nor did they minimize the tragedy of October 27, 2018. Moreover, Bowers' lawyers agreed that their client remained a menace to society. However, while they found life imprisonment without chance of parole appropriate punishment, they vigorously and skillfully argued against the death penalty. Clarke, Burt and associates asserted that their client suffered from multiple and severe mental illnesses to a degree sufficient to mitigate

punishment from execution to life imprisonment.

His alcoholic father pushed his mother down the stairs when she was eight months pregnant. According to the defense, Bowers endured an abusive, neglectful and psychologically traumatic childhood. Beatings, a car accident that resulted in cranial damage and family dysfunction contributed to emotional and cognitive instability. Bowers made several suicide attempts, including attempting to set himself on fire. His attorneys argued that delusions, psychoses, schizophrenia, social disorder and epilepsy disconnected Bowers from reality, evidenced by involuntary institutionalizations for mental illness. Mining the testimony of their expert psychiatric witnesses and medical records, including asymmetry in the brain lobes, MRI images of brain lesions and abnormal brain waves, defense counsel emphasized that "every behavior has an anatomy." While affirming the horrors of the crime, the defense asserted that Bowers did not act with conscious intent.

With analytic precision and empirical mastery, the prosecution effectively deconstructed the defense presentation. See "Trial" on page 8

## In My Own Words

Two 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The fall Jewish holidays are normally a time to review the past year and decide what changes we want to make in our lives. But this year, I am also reflecting on two 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries that occur this fall. One took place in early September and the other began in either October or November. The first celebrates something wonderful; the second acknowledges a continuing difficulty. Thinking about them reminds me that life is often a mix of wonderful moments and challenging problems.

My first anniversary celebrates the two friends I made my freshman year in college. While they aren't close anymore, I've managed to keep in touch with both of them continuously for 50 years. Abby and I met in the lunch line in our dorm's cafeteria during our first few days of school. We ate with a third person who neither of us saw again. But Abby and I kept bumping into each other: We separately attended meetings for two different extracurricular activities and discovered (for the only time during our school years) we shared a class. Then one day, Abby showed up at my door (we were on the same floor, but opposite sides of the dorm) and said something along the lines that we seemed fated to be together.

Within a week or so, Abby introduced me to her next door neighbor, Connie. They'd met because they each arrived a day before their roommates. I don't remember that introduction, but by the end of that year, we were spending a lot of time together. Connie then took a year off for an internship in Washington, DC, but found me a job there her second summer. I roomed with each of them different years (Abby in my sophomore year, and Connie in Washington and during my junior year), something that also helped us bond.

There is something special about friends you've known for decades. They become like extended family. Their children are the closest thing I have to nieces and nephews. (Abby has two boys and Connie a boy and girl.) I'm always ready to hear news of their children and now Abby's two grandchildren. We've lived through good times and bad; we've sent healing thoughts and prayers when we or family members were sick.

More importantly, they've supported and challenged me, although with very different approaches due to their unique personalities. And, yes, I meant challenged me: they made sure that I was honest with myself, in addition to encouraging me to do my best. They've also accepted me and loved me even when they haven't agreed with what I was doing. We've allowed each other to follow our own paths due to mutual respect and love.

For our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I made plaques, one for each of them. The photos were different: I found ones from our college years that showed what we shared. But I used the same quote from Penelope Lively on both because it spoke to the reality of how I felt and still feel: "Friendship is the love that is ignored; people don't theorize about it. It just goes quietly along, sustaining. Passion spends itself... But friendship is always there."

The second anniversary I'm acknowledging this fall is not as pleasant: Since 1973, I have suffered from tinnitus (AKA ear ringing, words that do not adequately describe the phenomenon). I learned I had mild hearing loss in either junior high or high school (my mind has blanked out which), but it wasn't considered a major problem because, in those days, there was nothing to be done but live with it. Certainly hearing aids weren't recommended. (Thank

goodness, actually, because the technology was pretty awful in those days.) The first period of ear ringing lasted for only a short period of time, but then it came back and has never left. Over the years, the ringing has featured several different tones, sometimes occurring at the same time. The noise made it difficult to sleep. It made it difficult to concentrate. It made it difficult to cope, something not helped by the fact the ringing would vary – sometimes bearable and sometimes almost unbearable.

By my last year of college, I was looking into alternative medical solutions to the ear ringing and other developing health problems. My last year of school was difficult: I juggled traveling from Philadelphia to Connecticut for allergy shots, attending class, working at the university and the heart-breaking illness and death of my beloved Aunt Naomi (my mother's sister), who died during Passover 1977. It took decades before I found ways to cope with the ear ringing, although there are still times it bothers me.

I'm not sure my friends always understood my health problems or the solutions I was seeking, but they each supported me in their own way, something for which I am still grateful. I normally see them about once a year: I do most of the traveling, which can also give me a chance to see their spouses and children. We spent more time together when I was back in the area for rabbinical school, although they now live in different parts of Pennsylvania.

In the past, when I thought about the anniversaries I wanted to celebrate, I used to say that I only wanted to think about having met my friends. But now I think it's important to note the difficulties of my past, too. After all, having survived 50 years of tinnitus is also something worthy of acknowledgment, if not celebration.



**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Binghamton

Shelley Hubal, Executive Director

607-724-2332 ~ www.jfgeb.org

## The Reporter Editorial Committee

Rebecca Goldstein Kahn, chairwoman

Rachel Coker, Ben Kasper,

Toby Kohn, Richard Lewis,

Robert Neuberger, Ilene Pinsker

## HOW TO REACH THE REPORTER

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

E-mail ~ TRReporter@aol.com

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

Extension#/Department ~ 1. Advertising 2. Business Office

3. Art Department 4. Circulation 6. Editorial/News



BINGHAMTON, NY

## OPINIONS

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

## LETTERS

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

## ADS

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

## DEADLINE

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

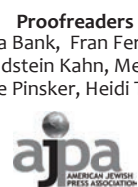
Executive Editor Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Layout Editor Diana Sochor

Advertising Kathy Brown

Bookkeeper Kathy Brown

Production Associate Julie Weber



"The Reporter" (USPS 096-280) is published bi-weekly for \$40 per year by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734. Periodicals Postage Paid at Vestal, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734 or reach us by e-mail at TREPORTER@AOL.COM.

www.thereportergroup.org

# BD luncheon of Oct. 14 to feature Shay Rabiniau

Shay Rabiniau, associate professor of Israel studies in the Department of Judaic Studies at Binghamton University and associate director of the Center for Israel Studies, will be the first speaker of the 2023-24 season at Beth David's monthly luncheon speaker series. He will talk about his 2022 replication of a hike around the Dead Sea, last undertaken in 1934 during the British Mandate period in Palestine. People are encouraged to attend the morning service, which begins at 9:30 am. There is no charge for the luncheon.



Shay Rabiniau during his 2022 hike around the Dead Sea (Photo courtesy of Shay Rabiniau)

of the Dead Sea took place amid a vastly different physical and geopolitical landscape. I plan to illustrate what it was like to walk around 'the world's strangest lake,' as I navigated international boundaries, military zones, industrial areas, sinkholes and minefields."

"We are thrilled to have such a dynamic expert in the field for our first luncheon of the series," organizers said. "This promises to be a memorable presentation; Shay is a gifted speaker, who looks forward to a lively Q & A!"

"What do we know about that first hike?" organizers asked. "Who undertook it? What records remain of that British Mandate-time trek?" These are some of the questions that Rabiniau will address in his presentation. He will also describe the challenges his hike presented. "As you can well imagine," Rabiniau said, "my 2022 circumambulation

Beth David's Luncheon Speaker Series takes place the second Saturday of the month. Since the monthly series' continuation depends on the generosity of contributors, Beth David welcomes and appreciates donations to the Luncheon Fund in order to keep the program going. Donations as well as sponsorships can be made in honor of, or in memory of,

someone, or to mark a special occasion. Those wishing an acknowledgment to be sent to the person being honored, or to the family of someone being remembered, can indicate that along with the necessary information. Donations can be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Joyce Sambursky on the death

of her sister,

**Leane Werner Dicker**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of

**Rabbi Arnold Marc Fertig**

## Sussman to speak at TC on Oct. 15

Rabbi Lance J. Sussman will speak on "In Our Time: American Jewish Life at the Beginning of the 21st Century" at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, on Sunday, October 15, at 2 pm. He will discuss his experiences and analyze the reshaping of Jewish life in the early 21st century, and read selections from his book. Following his talk, Sussman will sign copies of his recently published collection of sermons, "Portrait of an American Rabbi: In His Own Words" (Xlibris US). Copies of the book can be found at online bookstores. There is no charge to attend the event. (See interview on page 5.)

"The opening two decades of the 21st century are widely viewed as an inflection point in the modern Jewish experience," said organizers of the event. "From September 11 to COVID, dramatic changes in American Jewish life and Israel challenged the Jewish status quo in almost every

dimension. In his new book, Sussman includes dozens of essays presented in chronological order of his experience as a pulpit rabbi, and historian during this tumultuous period."

Sussman is the rabbi emeritus at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, PA. He was formerly the rabbi of Temple Concord, Binghamton, and the former Temple Beth-El of Endicott, and served as the chairman of the Jewish Studies Department at Binghamton University-SUNY. He has published numerous books and articles, including "Isaac Lesser and the Making of American Judaism" and "Sharing Sacred Moments" (a collection of his sermons); he also served as an editor of "Reform Judaism in America: A Biographical Dictionary and Sourcebook." Sussman is currently the chairman of the Board of Governors and a professor of Jewish history at Gratz College in Melrose Park, PA.

## DEADLINES

*The following are deadlines for all articles and photos for upcoming issues of the biweekly REPORTER.*

ISSUE	DEADLINE
October 6-19 .....	September 27
Oct. 20-Nov. 2 .....	October 11
November 3-16 .....	October 25
November 17-30 .....	November 8

**All deadlines for the year can be found at [www.thereporter.org/contact-us/faqs](http://www.thereporter.org/contact-us/faqs) under "Q: What Are the Deadlines for the Paper?"**

## JLI course "The World of Kabbalah" to begin on Oct. 30

The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute announced it will hold "The World of Kabbalah," a six-week course beginning Monday, October 30, at 7 pm, and running for six consecutive Mondays, both at the Chabad Center and via Zoom. The course is open to individuals of all backgrounds and knowledge levels. The course fee is \$79 per participant or \$150 per couple. The fee includes the text book. Limited scholarships are available. For registration and additional course-related information, interested participants can write to [rshea@Jewishbu.com](mailto:rshea@Jewishbu.com), call Ruth Shea at 607-797-0015, or visit [www.myJLI.com](http://www.myJLI.com).

"The World of Kabbalah" invites individuals to embark on an awe-inspiring exploration of the interconnectedness woven into the fabric of creation," said organizers of the course. "From unraveling the significance of the *seferot* to exploring the divine soul and the spiritual realms,

participants will uncover a profound sense of purpose and harmony. The premise of the course is the belief that knowledge is a bridge to connection. For both seasoned spiritual seekers and curious beginners, 'The World of Kabbalah' offers an opportunity to gain clarity about the inner workings of Jewish mysticism and its relevance to everyday life. Meticulously crafted, this educational journey breaks the multifaceted topic down into six modules: The evolution of Ego, The dawn of Limitation, The infinite Light, The world of Chaos, The great Concealment, The essence of Everything."

Organizers added, "In a world where spiritual exploration is a constant pursuit, the ancient wisdom of Kabbalah offers a path forward in unraveling the mysteries of both the divine and the human experience. This immersive journey will delve into the intricacies of the cosmic order, offering participants valuable insights for personal growth and enlightenment."

"In a world filled with complexity, 'The World of Kabbalah' offers a singular opportunity for understanding ourselves, our connection to the divine, and our place within the universe. This course provides a road map for navigating See "JLI" on page 4

Binghamton Philharmonic

### Beethoven's Fifth

Saturday, Sept 30, 2023 at 7:30pm • Forum Theatre

Copland: Variations on a Shaker Melody  
Elgar: Cello Concerto with cellist Annie Jacobs-Perkins  
Beethoven: Symphony No. 5

Box Office: (607) 723-3931 • Website: [binghamtonphilharmonic.org](http://binghamtonphilharmonic.org)  
Kids 17 and Under Get In Free!

SAME SUE, SAME RESULTS...

**SUZANNE "SUE" KRAUSE**  
NYS Lic. Associate R.E. Broker

(C) 607-760-3366 | [SUEKRAUSE@WARRENHOMES.COM](mailto:SUEKRAUSE@WARRENHOMES.COM)  
[THELAURAMELWILLETEAM.WARRENHOMES.COM](http://THELAURAMELWILLETEAM.WARRENHOMES.COM)  
33 FRONT STREET • BINGHAMTON, NY 13905

Looking for this issue's "Jewish Resources"? Visit [www.thereporter.org/streams/miscellaneous-features/miscellaneous-features/tag/80309](http://www.thereporter.org/streams/miscellaneous-features/miscellaneous-features/tag/80309) to find out what's happening online."

*Want to stay in the know?*

Send your e-mail address to [treporter@aol.com](mailto:treporter@aol.com) (with "e-mail blast" in the subject line) to stay up-to-date on the latest news between *The Reporter's* biweekly issues! We promise not to share it with anyone and we won't send you junk, just good stuff!

**THE REPORTER**

**ERNEST H. PARSONS FUNERAL HOME**

*Faithfully Serving Broome County Since 1928*

**PRE-ARRANGEMENTS AND PRE-FUNDING AVAILABLE**

**Joseph Fritsch**  
Managing Director

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

[parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com](mailto:parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com)  
[www.ParsonsFuneral.com](http://www.ParsonsFuneral.com)

**HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE**

**PACK THE PARK! PACK THE PARK!**

**Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**First Pitch 5:35 PM**  
**Gates Open 4:00 PM**

Get Your Tickets Today at the Box Office!  
CONTINGENT ON THE RUMBLE PONIES ADVANCING TO EL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

PLAYOFFS

EASTERN LEAGUE

2024 RUMBLE CLUB SEASON TICKETS ON SALE TODAY!

f /RUMBLEPONIESBB @RUMBLEPONIESBB  
607.722.FUNN [www.BINGRP.COM](http://www.BINGRP.COM)

First person

Encounters with a Litvak past – part 1

By Rhonda F. Levine

As long as I can remember, I have wanted to visit Lithuania, or what I understood as “the Pale of Jewish Settlement.” I remember my father telling stories of how his mother – the grandmother whom I was named after – barely escaped the Cossacks’ swords as she crossed the street as a young girl during what I took to be the beginning of a pogrom. And he would tell stories about how arguments between the Litvaks and those who he called the Rushishes (I think Lithuanian Yiddish for Russians, and applied to anyone that was not a Litvak, but part of the Russian Empire) would erupt in the shul of his youth in Roxbury, MA: arguments over pronunciations, or over which way to wrap tefillin.

I knew, at a young age, we were not merely Jewish, but Litvaks. As I got older, I learned I was a Litvak on both my paternal and maternal side. Both sides were from Lithuania; my paternal grandparents emigrated from Vilna Gubernia, what is today Vilnius and surrounding county, and my maternal great-grandparents emigrated from Yanova, Kovno Gubernia, which is today Jonava, in Kaunas County. Unfortunately, no one who may know more about my family’s villages of origin is alive, and the little research I was able to do did not reveal any more specifics. Nevertheless, I wanted to travel to Lithuania and just be in the vicinity, if nothing else, of my ancestors.

I began researching possible tours a few years before COVID and, in 2019, I came across a Jewish Heritage

Tour organized by Momentum Tours and Travel that looked perfect. The tour’s itinerary included several cities in Lithuania, then Riga in Latvia and Tallinn in Estonia. I did not know anything about the travel agency and could not find any reviews to speak of, so I gave them a call and spoke with Jan Olofsen, who I have since learned is an owner of the company. He told me that Momentum organizes the trips for YIVO Institute and that was good enough for me to consider booking, even without finding any reviews online. Although of Swiss and German background, my husband, Arie Ullmann, agreed to explore with me, up close, aspects of an Eastern European Jewish past. We originally hoped to travel in the summer of 2020, but that was canceled because of COVID, and between COVID restrictions and the war in Ukraine, it was not until July 2023 that a tour was once again offered.

I was finally going to see the places where the Levines and Salomons lived before making their way to the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. I did not have many, if any, expectations of what I



A watercarrier statue on Street in Vilna Jewish Quarter (Photos courtesy of Rhonda Levine)

would encounter; all my relatives that could have told me something of what to expect, or even stories from those who had emigrated from “the Pale,” had long been deceased. However, what I did encounter was not fully expected. Let me see if I can explain.

We arrived in Vilnius a day before the beginning of the tour. We anticipated needing a little time to recover from a long flight before beginning what we knew would be long days with little down time. Our hotel was in the medieval Jewish quarter of Vilna and was in a building that was originally a Jewish-owned glass-making factory. What was originally the Jewish quarter is today part of Vilnius’ Old Town, and is primarily filled with restaurants and shops.

Without a guide pointing out various plaques indicating where buildings and places of Jewish interest used to be, it would be hard to imagine why Napoleon in 1812 called Vilnius “the

Jerusalem of the North.” The dozens of synagogues, including the Great Vilna Synagogue, Jewish schools, the See “Litvak” on page 7



Off the Shelf

Teen queer romances

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

How the world has changed: I can’t imagine either “Margo Zimmerman Gets the Girl” by Brianna R. Shrum and Sara Waxelman (Inkyard Press) or “Going Bicoastal” by Dahlia Adler (Wednesday Books) appearing on library bookshelves when I was in high school. In fact, it’s unlikely that they would have been released at all, unless by small alternative presses. Although I am not the intended audience for either book, I really enjoyed these works of teenage angst, which focus on the characters’ thoughts about school, family, friendships and relationships. In fact, it would have been a real loss if they hadn’t been published: both are delightful and fun to read.

The narration in “Margo Zimmerman Gets the Girl” rotates between two characters: Margo Zimmerman and Abbi Sokoloff, both of whom are Jewish. Margo has a type A personality and recognizes that she is on the autistic spectrum: this means she plans her life carefully in order to control what happens and her reactions to events. In addition to her academic success, she’s considered part of the popular group of kids at school. Her parents are loving and supportive (along with being very funny) and her older brother, Mendel, who is bisexual, enjoys teasing her, but also clearly cares about her. Their pets even have wonderful names. Margo has been dating one of the most popular boys in school – that is, until she comes to understand something that shakes her to her core: she realizes that she is attracted to women, not men.

For a person who has her day planned almost minute by minute, this is a great shock. It’s not just that she’s attracted to women. What bothers Margo is that she doesn’t know how to be gay. That’s right: Margo believes there is a correct way to do everything, including acting and dressing for every identity, and she has no clue what she should be doing. That leads her to ask Abbi, who is openly gay and someone she knows from the swim

team, to teach her how to be gay. At first Abbi dismisses Margo’s concerns since she has problems of her own. Abbi’s grades are not in great shape and, if she fails the one class she shares with Margo, her college acceptance will be withdrawn. Since life at home with her parents is horrible (they not only fight all the time, but generally ignore her existence), she can’t wait to leave for college. Abbi makes a deal with Margo: help me pass my class and I’ll teach you how to be gay. The result is a laugh-out-loud plot of mix-ups and misunderstandings.

Margo and Abbi both claim that the other is not their type, but readers will know better. (This is a romance, after all, so that really doesn’t spoil any surprises.) The fun is watching them finally understand they are made for each other. The novel does touch on serious subjects, but it’s the snarky comments and the humorous actions that make the pages fly.

While “Margo Zimmerman Gets the Girl” focuses on one romance, “Going Bicoastal” offers two. Its premise is very clever: Natalya Fox has 24 hours to decide how she will spend her summer. She can remain in New York City with her father, or she can travel to California and live with her mother. Natalya is not particularly brave or daring, so her father warns her if she stays in the city, she has to try something different. The thought of spending time with her mother makes her uneasy: the two have not remained close since her mother moved out and then relocated across the country. Natalya knows she will miss Shabbat dinner with her father if she goes to Los Angeles, especially since her mother gave up her religious practice after the divorce, but it would offer them a chance to reconnect. However, Natalya remains torn between her choices.

What the author does is give the readers the best of both worlds: There are two chapter threes. In one, Natalya chooses to remain in New York City and, in the other, she

decides to go to California. The chapters then alternate: Tal (as she’s called in New York) looks for a summer job and becomes acquainted with a girl she’s had a crush on forever. But Tal is unsure whether her new friend is interested in romance and still faces deciding what she wants to do with her life. In Los Angeles, Nat (as she’s called there) works as an intern for her mother’s company. However, the other intern is a young man who resents her because he worked hard for his job, while Nat’s was handed to her for no reason other than her mother is part of the firm. In both cities, Natalya finds romance. She also discovers that her artistic skills might offer her a future, something that is a relief since, at the beginning of the summer, she had no idea what path to follow after high school.

Readers may wonder how the author resolves the difficulty of writing about two romances in one book since Natalya (both the Nat and Tal versions) will be in New York City for her last year of high school once the summer is over. The ending – sorry, no clues given here – was satisfying, at least to this reader. This is not the first book of Adler’s I’ve read (you can find the review of her “Cool for the Summer” at (www.thereportergroup.org/streams/miscellaneous-features/miscellaneous-features/teens-in-the-present-day-and-times-past) and I hope it’s not the last. In fact, I look forward to more books by all the authors.

JLI.....Continued from page 3

life with intention, purpose, and profound insight,” stated Rivkah Slonim, course instructor.

JLI, the adult education branch of Chabad-Lubavitch, offers programs in more than 800 locations in the U.S. and in numerous foreign countries, including Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Panama, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela. More than 400,000 students have attended JLI classes since the organization was founded in 1998.

Film.....Continued from page 1

series. The final four films will be viewed virtually. Information about how to access those films will be published in future issues of The Reporter.

“We are very excited about this new season,” said Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, which sponsors the Film Fest. “The Federation extends its gratitude to our Film Fest committee members who worked hard to select a diverse and compelling selection of films.” Committee members are Hubal, Susan Hubal, Ben Kasper and Steve Lisman.

Shelley Hubal notes that the Federation also wanted to thank the film moderators for “generously sharing their time and wisdom to lead our discussions.” In addition, she thanked “our generous sponsors The Victor and Esther Rozen Foundation and The Ithaca Area United Jewish Community.”

CJS.....Continued from page 1

influenced by American jazz, the wild music performed by the Jews for swashbucklers, criminals and merry-makers in the seedy taverns of Odessa left an indelible imprint on Soviet music. This music captured the spirit of the Odessa myth, a seaport town legendary for its Jewish gangsters and deviants who refused to conform to the ‘proper’ puritanical behavior demanded by the Soviet government.”

Tanny is associate professor of history and the Charles and Hannah Block distinguished scholar in Jewish history at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, and is the author of a study of “Jewish Odessa, City of Rogues and Schnorrers” (Indiana University Press, 2011) and “The Seinfeld Talmud” (Academica Press, 2023), a satiric take on the hit TV series, in which the rabbis of the talmudic era gather in a yeshiva to discuss and debate the issues raised in each “Seinfeld” episode in the context of Judaic law. He has also published numerous scholarly essays on Jewish humor in post-World War II America and its place within the larger context of the European Jewish past.

The College of Jewish Studies provides opportunities for adult Jewish education for the Broome County community by offering fall and spring programs. Drawing on local

resources, and inviting scholars and experts from a range of universities and cultural and religious institutions, CJS sponsors a wide array of programs dealing with Jewish history, culture, religion and politics.

The College of Jewish Studies, founded in 1986, is an informal coalition between the Judaic Studies Department of Binghamton University and several area Jewish sponsoring institutions: the Jewish Community Center, the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, Beth David Synagogue, Temple Concord, and Temple Israel. Programming for CJS would not be possible without the additional financial support of grants from The Community Foundation for South Central New York – David and Virginia Eisenberg Donor Advised Fund, 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.

Anyone interested in becoming an individual sponsor so that the CJS can continue bringing programs to the community, or who wants to make a donation, should contact CJS at bingcjs@gmail.com. The College of Jewish Studies is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

# Beth David Sisterhood to offer workshop on Oct. 11

Beth David Sisterhood will meet on Wednesday, October 11, at 1:30 pm, at Beth David Synagogue for a hands-on workshop during which Stacey Silber will teach the proper way to pot seeds to grow inside during the winter, in order to be ready for planting in the spring. The meeting will be held outside, weather permitting. Refreshments will be served.

The meeting will be open to the entire

community. Membership in Sisterhood, which is \$25, is always encouraged, but all are welcome, including men. There will be a token fee of \$3 per plant taken home, since the Sisterhood will be providing seeds, pots and soil.

In addition to being a gardener, Silber is the owner of Silber Creations, which sells crocheted and other items she has crafted herself. As a fund-raiser for Sis-

terhood, she sells new and used items, which have been donated to her for that purpose inside Your Needful Things, a multi-vendor indoor market located at 136 East Service Rd., Binghamton. Anyone wishing to donate items for sale should contact Silber at 607-727-9738 or by visiting [www.silbercreations.com](http://www.silbercreations.com).

Silber noted that, at the workshop, "I will be providing five types of seeds

that are commonly used in our kitchens. I will explain the necessity for proper drainage and nourishment, and will provide instructions for the care and maintenance of the plants throughout winter, so they can be planted outside in the spring, if desired."

Donations for CHOW will be collected at the meeting and Sisterhood dues or payment for mitzvah cards will be accepted.

## Sussman reviews his legacy

**By Rabbi Rachel Esserman**

Rabbi Lance J. Sussman will speak on "In Our Time: American Jewish Life at the Beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, on Sunday, October 15, at 2 pm. For more information, see the article on page 3.

Jewish preaching has played an important role in the life and work of Rabbi Lance J. Sussman and that began at an early age. "The fact is that I was inspired by the sermons given by the rabbis of my youth and then started studying sermons in rabbinic school," he said in an e-mail interview. "Jewish preaching was central to both my master's and doctoral theses. So, I have always had a heightened awareness of the rabbinic message."

Sussman has noticed a change in the sermons given by rabbis in recent years. "I and others have observed the decline of the rabbinic sermon: shorter, less content, more entertainment," he said. "I believe that with enough focus, rabbis can restore part of the importance of the sermon as a vehicle, which connects today's Jewish community to its past and future. The spoken word can be a powerful tool, even in an age of images and short digital messages."

The book also served a personal purpose. "Finally, I wanted a permanent record of my life's work," Sussman said. "It's good to be able to look back and see what you have done, and to present that record to the rising generation of my family."

"In Our Time" is not the only book of sermons that Sussman has published. During his tenure as spiritual leader of Temple Concord in Binghamton, Keshet

Press published "Sharing Sacred Moments," a collection of his earlier sermons, in 1999. "The new book helps record my pulpit experience in the subsequent years until my retirement in 2022," he said.

Those years included many changes in both the United States and Israel. "My Philadelphia years [at Congregation Keneseth Israel] began with 9/11 and ended with COVID and its aftermath," Sussman said. "Politics both in Israel and the U.S. have been tumultuous. The Jewish communities I have served have faced permanent demographic challenges. But despite all that, my basic love of Judaism remains, [as does] a deep desire to see it continue into the next generation. Like every parent and grandparent, I am puzzled by the rising generations, but also have faith that they will find their own Jewish pathway. We have an old, venerable tradition. We can survive the cell phone revolution. I just don't know what it will look like, but it will be there in some transformed manner."

When reviewing the sermons he gave at KI, Sussman noticed "the continuity of my message. While circumstances change and headlines include new challenges, I remained anchored in the belief that a thoughtful presentation of Judaism anchored in Jewish scholarship with a touch of humility and humanity is what our people want and need. I am glad the record shows I have been a staunch supporter of Israel, even when I have been critical of some of its actions and policies. We have lots of political challenges here in the States, too, but it does not mean you give up on the

country you love!"

Sussman also noted "the clarifying moment" of his personal theology. That happened during the Reform Movement's 1998 Pittsburgh Platform. That enabled him "to define myself as a theological liberal who is warm to traditional practice and deeply anchored in a critical view of the entire sweep of Jewish history," he said.

There were some surprises when he

gathered the works for this book. "I was surprised I had so much material," Sussman said. "I never feel I have done enough, but the record shows I have been busy and engaged. Currently, I am working on several projects, including an anthology of my academic publications, a book on Jews and the American Revolution, and an illustrated history of Reform Judaism. Good thing I retired. I'm too busy to work!"

## Sephardic music concert in Syracuse on Oct. 21

The concert "Old and New: Sephardic Reflections" will be held on Saturday, October 21, from 7:30-9:30 pm, at the May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, 3800 E. Genesee St., Syracuse. The cost of a ticket is \$20 public/\$10 student. The concert will include early and contemporary music from the Jewish Sephardic tradition by fivebyfive and Pegasus Early Music/NYS Baroque. For more information, call 585-703-3990 or e-mail [deb@pegasusearlymusic.org](mailto:deb@pegasusearlymusic.org).

Sephardic music has its roots in the musical traditions of the Jewish communities in medieval Spain and Portugal. The two

ensembles, fivebyfive and Pegasus Early Music, will offer audiences to "old" and "new" versions of Sephardic tunes, with artist Lynne Feldman presenting original tapestries celebrating Jewish life shared as part of the performance.

Music by fivebyfive includes a new arrangement of Brazilian composer Clarice Assad's "Sephardic Suite" and a new setting of three Sephardic songs by Eastman graduate Keane Southard. Music from Pegasus will include some of these tunes as well as "Scalericca de oro," "Morena me llaman" and more.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

#### Legislators push boost in funds to harden at-risk nonprofits

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) suffered a drop this year with \$18 million less as part of an across-the-board decrease in Homeland Security projects, causing an already underfunded and much-in-demand service to fulfill 43 percent of requests. Now, Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT), who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Homeland Security, has pushed back, insisting on an increase to the program that provides security grants to nonprofits at threat of terrorist attacks. Murphy said he wanted to "deliver another big, meaningful increase in the not-for-profit security grant program."



**Please support our advertisers and tell them you saw their ad here!**



*Fine Custom Framing | Quirky Cards and Gift Shop*

116 WASHINGTON ST. BINGHAMTON, NY  
(607) 723-5172 | [shop@garlandgallery.com](mailto:shop@garlandgallery.com)

**WWW.AUDIOCLASSICS.COM**

AUDIO • HOME THEATER • STEREO

Phone/Fax **607-766-3501**

BUY • SELL • TRADE • REPAIR • CONSIGN

3501 Vestal Road Vestal, NY 13850 Hours: Mon-Fri 8-5:30 • Sat 11-4

## Annual Campaign 2024

### WE TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN. MAKE YOUR PLEDGE EARLY!

**We hope we can count on your generosity again in the year to come.**

**You can make your pledge 3 ways:**

- 1) Visit the Federation website at [www.jfgeb.org](http://www.jfgeb.org) and click on "make a pledge."
- 2) E-mail Federation Executive Director Shelley Hubal at [director@jfgeb.org](mailto:director@jfgeb.org) with "pledge" in the subject line.
- 3) Fill out the form in this ad and mail it to the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

**Mail this form to:**

**Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton,  
500 Clubhouse Rd.,  
Vestal, NY 13850**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_



City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Pledge: \_\_\_\_\_



Haazinu, Deuteronomy 32:1-52

# Uncovering the Divine

RABBI BEN MENORA, CO-DIRECTOR, JLIC AT BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

The days between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, the “*Yamim Nora'im*” or “Days of Awe,” are days during which we confront fundamental questions about ourselves and our relationship with the Divine. How does God relate to us and what is being asked of us?

A peek at this week's Torah portion, Haazinu, might provide some direction. Moses tells the Jewish people that when they enter the land of Israel, it will not be as it was in the desert. God's presence will no longer be overtly manifest as pillars of cloud and fire, or bread raining from heaven. Rather, “there, the Lord's name is proclaimed” (Deut. 32:3), alluding to a more hidden bond.

For 40 years, the Hebrews wander on their way to the holy land, only to find out that their entrance will negatively impact their connection with God.

Rabbi Meir Simcha of Dvinsk (1843-1926), in his commentary on Torah, “The Meshech Chochma,” explains the transition as follows: When entering the Land of Israel, the Jewish people's experience of overt miracles in the desert would transition to a more subtle connection to God through Torah and *mitzvot* embedded in the natural world.

Rabbi Meir Simcha saw this hidden relationship as ideal. Engaging with the Divine through ethical behavior, spiritual growth and spreading monotheism within the

normal rhythms of life enables a deeper impact than flashy miracles that render personal initiative obsolete.

There is a story told of a devoted follower of the Baal Shem Tov who wished to see the prophet Elijah. For months he implored the great Chasidic master, yet the Baal Shem Tov discouraged him. Finally, he instructed the follower to fill boxes with food and bring them to a poor family before Passover.

The man did so, celebrating the holiday with the impoverished family. But Elijah never appeared. Perplexed, he returned to the Baal Shem Tov, who told him to go back. See “Divine” 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: Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Thurs. 9 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  
Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

### Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative  
Rabbi: Micah Friedman  
Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850  
Phone: 607-723-7461 and 607-231-3746  
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 am-3:30 pm; Fri., 8 am-3 pm  
E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com  
Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org  
Service schedule: Tues., 5:30 pm; Fri., 5:30 pm; Sat., 9:30 am

On Fridays and Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, services will be led by Rabbi Micah Friedman via Zoom and in-person (masks are required for unvaccinated participants).

On Saturday, September 23, Shacharit services will be held at 9:30 am via Zoom and in-person (masks are required for unvaccinated participants). The Torah portion is Deuteronomy 32:1-52 and the haftarah is Joel 2:15-27. There will be no Zoom Havdalah service.

See “Israel” on page 7

### Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated  
Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045  
Phone: 607-756-7181  
President: Nick Martelli  
Cemetery Committee: 315-696-5744  
Website: templebrithsholomcortland.org  
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Brith-Sholom-114006981962930/  
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 Facebook page or 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.

Services and programs are held by Zoom on the first and second Fridays of the month.

On Sunday September 24, erev Yom Kippur, Kol Nidre at 6:45 pm.

On Monday September 25, Yom Kippur morning services at 10 am; Yizkor, Musaf at 11:30 am; Jonah at 5:30 pm; Neilah at 6 pm; and break the fast at 7:15 pm.

### 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: David Regenspan  
Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815  
Phone: 334-2691  
E-mail: fertigj@roadrunner.com  
Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 373-5087  
Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.  
Adult Ed.: Shabbat study sessions are held on designated Saturday mornings at 10 am. Call ahead, text or e-mail to confirm dates.

**Synagogues limit face-to-face gatherings**  
For specific information regarding services (including online services), meetings and classes at any of the area synagogues, contact them by phone or e-mail.

### Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism  
Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY  
Phone: 607-256-1471  
Website: www.tikkunvor.org, E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org  
Rabbi: Shifrah Tobacman, rabbishifrah@tikkunvor.org  
Presidents: Sue Merkel and Laurie Willick, presidents\_22@tikkunvor.org  
Education Director/Administrative Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky  
Bnai Mitzvah Coordinator: Michael Margolin  
Services: All services currently on Zoom. E-mail info@tikkunvor.org for the times and links. Contemplative morning services every Tuesday from 8:30-9:30 am. Saturday mornings, Gan Shabbat and other special services at least once a month. Call for the weekly schedule.  
Jewish Learning Experiences (JLE) for second through seventh grade classes meet on Sunday mornings. Sixth and seventh grades also meet on Wednesday afternoons. Family programs for kindergarten and first grade held monthly.  
Adult Education: Offered regularly throughout the year. Check the website for details.

All are welcome to join with Tikkun v'Or for the holidays; tickets and membership are not required, and services will be held simultaneously in-person and on Zoom. TVO requires registration for all in-person holiday services. Contact High-Holidays@tikkunvor.org for information on registration and for Zoom links. More information about Sukkot, Simchat Torah and weekly Shabbat services can be found on TVO's website.

On Sunday, September 24, Kol Nidre led by Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman at 6:30 pm.

On Monday, September 25, Yom Kippur morning service led by Michael Margolin and Rabbi Shifrah Tobacman from 9 am-noon; yoga with Beth Cohen from 12:15-1 pm; youth program for students and their families from 1:15-2:15 pm; meditation with Ira Kamp (on Zoom only) from 1:30-2 pm; “The Isaiah Challenge” lecture from 2:30-4 pm; Avodah service from 4:15-5:15 pm; Yizkor from 5:30-6:15 pm; Neilah/Havdalah/shofar from 6:15-7:15 pm; and community break the fast at 7:15 pm.

### Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch  
Rabbi Aaron and Rivkah Slonim, Directors  
E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu  
rslonim@chabadofbinghamton.com  
Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850  
Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095  
Website: www.Chabadofbinghamton.com  
Rabbi Zalman and Rochel Chein, Education  
E-mail: zchein@Jewishbu.com, rchein@Jewishbu.com  
Rabbi Levi and Hadasa Slonim, Downtown and Development  
Chabad Downtown Center: 60 Henry St., Binghamton  
E-mail: lslonim@Jewishbu.com, hslonim@Jewishbu.com  
Rabbi Yisroel and Goldie Ohana, Programming  
E-mail: yohana@Jewishbu.com, gohana@Jewishbu.com  
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.  
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.  
Chabad will be holding pre-Shabbat virtual programs. For more information, visit www.JewishBU.com/S2020Partnership.

Friday, September 22, light candles before ..... 6:43 pm  
Shabbat ends Saturday, September 23..... 7:42 pm  
Sunday, September 24, light candles before ..... 6:39 pm  
Monday, September 25, yom tov ends ..... 7:38 pm  
Friday, September 29, light candles before ..... 6:31 pm  
Saturday, September 30, light candles after ..... 7:29 pm  
Sunday, October 1, yom tov ends..... 7:28 pm  
Friday, October 6, light candles before ..... 6:19 pm  
Saturday, October 7, light candles after ..... 7:17 pm  
Sunday, October 8, yom tov ends..... 7:16 pm

### Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism  
Rabbi: TBA  
Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905  
Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm  
Phone: 607-723-7355  
Fax: 607-723-0785  
Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com  
Website: www.templeconcord.com  
Regular service times: Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.  
Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm on Tues. and Thurs. during the school year unless otherwise noted.

Some services and programs are online only.  
Friday, September 22: At 7:30 pm, Shabbat Shuvah service led by Suzanne Holwitt, Rabbi Rachel Esserman and Robin Hazen. Masks are optional for those attending in person. Join via Zoom at https://bit.ly/3hRmW2Y, meeting ID 869 9699 8146 and passcode 826330, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/templeconcord/.

Saturday, September 23: At 9:15 am, Torah study, in person and Zoom (http://bit.ly/3XDnvRE, meeting ID 825 1226 2831 and passcode 743892).

Sunday, September 24: Yom Kippur evening (Kol Nidre) service, with musical interlude at 7:30 pm and service at 7:45 pm.

Monday, September 25: At 9:30 am, Yom Kippur service; 10:30 am, Religious School service; 3 pm, meditative music; 5 pm, healing service; and at 6 pm, Neilah with Havdalah and break fast to follow.

Friday, September 29: At 8 pm, erev Sukkot service with Barbara Thomas, Helene Philips and Robin Hazen. Join via Zoom at https://bit.ly/3hRmW2Y, meeting ID 869 9699 8146 and passcode 826330, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/templeconcord/.

See “Concord” on page 7

### Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
Rabbi: TBA  
Rabbi Emeritus: Scott L. Glass  
Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292  
Phone: 273-5775  
E-mail: president@tbeithaca.org, secretary@tbeithaca.org  
Website: www.tbeithaca.org  
Presidents: Melanie Kalman and Alexis Siemon  
Sisterhood President: Gail Zussman  
Director of Education: TBA  
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 teen No'ar program meets twice per month (every other Sunday from 5-7 pm) and is designed with the flexibility to accommodate busy student schedules.  
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.  
For upcoming services and events on Zoom, visit www.tinyurl.com/HappeningAtTBE.

### Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism  
Cantor: David Green  
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  
Regular service times: Contact the temple for days of services and times.  
Religious School/Education: Religious School, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings.  
For the schedule of services, classes and events, contact the temple.

On Sunday, September 24, erev Yom Kippur, candle lighting at 6:50 pm and Kol Nidre at 7 pm.

On Monday, September 25, Yom Kippur services at 9:30 am, followed by Yizkor, Torah study and the “Forgiveness” workshop; Neilah at 6:15 pm; and final shofar blast at 7:30 pm, followed by break-the-fast.

**Livnak . . . . . Continued from page 4**

places where important Jewish scholars lived and prayed, including the prayer house of the Gaon of Vilna, the great talmudic scholar, the original home of the YIVO Institute that at one time was the largest center for the study of Yiddish and Jewish culture, publishing houses like the Romm printing house where the Babylonian Talmud was printed along with Jewish literature both in Hebrew and Yiddish, and even Jewish socialist newspapers, no longer exist. Most were destroyed by Nazis during World War II and some after, during the Soviet period. It seemed, to Arieh and me, much of "Jewish Vilna" has been reconstructed after 1991, when Lithuania was no longer a Soviet republic.

We learned a great deal of Vilnius' history from our guide as we walked along Zydu g, known as Jewish Street, which was a few steps from our hotel, and walked through what was known as the "little ghetto" (which refers to the neighborhood in the pre-Nazi period), learning how some of the houses were most likely at one time Jewish homes because the door to the house was in the back and opened to the courtyard, leaving the front part of the house to be occupied by shops. We also walked by the site of the Vilna Gaon's prayer house and the Great Synagogue, and learned because there was a law that buildings could only be so high, the Great Synagogue's first floor was built below ground so that the height would not be a problem. Although it was destroyed during World War II, there have been excavations and some remnants of the synagogue have been found, and a project of restoration is underway.

There is only one working synagogue left in Vilnius that we were able to visit. We walked along Jewish Street, with its cobblestones from the "little ghetto" to the "big

ghetto," walking along the street where the butchers were, or the bakeries were housed. We learned about the gates that surrounded what was once a lower-income neighborhood with the understanding that this was a "ghetto" that offered little freedom of movement, high rates of poverty, disease and misery. Jews who lived outside of this area were brought into it in 1941 when the Nazi occupation meant that, within a few months, 40,000 Jews were concentrated and 90 percent of them massacred in the nearby Ponar Forest.

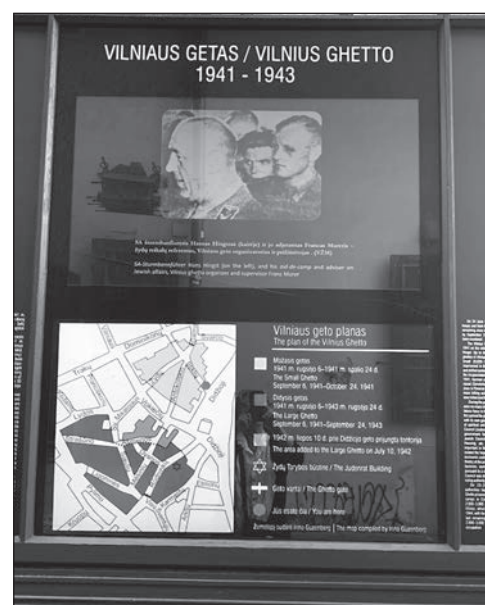
Visiting the Ponar Forest was extremely moving. And to realize that so many people were shot and then burned so not to leave any evidence, we had to agree with our guide that the Holocaust began in Lithuania, and predated "the final solution" and its concentration camps. The Vilnius Jewish Museum and Art Gallery offered a detailed history of Vilnius and, along with the much smaller Holocaust Museum, gave an eye-opening account of the Nazi period and the willingness of many Lithuanians to collaborate with the Nazis. Our guide was very forthright about the collaboration. She was not Jewish, but her family, specifically her grandmother, was able to save 30 Jewish children. Her grandmother was honored by Israel as being a Righteous Among the Nations.

*Part two of this column will appear in the next issue of The Reporter.*

*Rhonda F. Levine is a professor of sociology, emerita, at Colgate University.*



The site of the Ponar Forest murders.



A plaque on a building in the Vilna Ghetto about events in World War II.

**Moving any time soon?**  
 Whether you're moving across town or across the country, please let *The Reporter* know! E-mail [treporter@aol.com](mailto:treporter@aol.com) with "Reporter Address change" in the subject line, or call 607-724-2360, ext. 254, to let *The Reporter* know about your new address.

**Divine . . . . . Continued from page 6**

and listen outside their window.

The man heard the family rejoice that surely God would send Elijah again with food, as He had during the first days of Passover. Suddenly the man understood: if you wish to see Elijah, fill the hungry with good deeds and you will see him in yourself.

As we approach Yom Kippur, perhaps we should reflect on cultivating an invisible bond with the Divine through acts of lovingkindness and daily holiness. As the Meshech Chochma taught, this requires initiative because the natural order conceals God's presence, demanding that we find Him through righteous living, not waiting for supernatural revelation.

The blast of the *shofar* is meant to awaken us to hear the soft, perpetual call from within to elevate our fragmented lives. Yom Kippur gives us sacred space to reconnect to that call, beckoning subtly beneath the din of distractions, summoning us to meet God and live the Torah through compassion and righteousness – not by awaiting miracles, but by sanctifying the world we live in.

In his book, "The Lonely Man of Faith," Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik describes a transition that occurred after the era of prophecy ended in the Jewish tradition. During the time of prophets like Moses, there were supernatural divine-human encounters where God directly revealed Himself and His truths to humanity. However, after prophecy ceased, Judaism transitioned to an "Adam the second" relationship where God is hidden and nature follows its own laws. Without prophetic revelation, humans must

search for God themselves through study, prayer, reason, and examining nature and morality.

In this "new" reality – what Rabbi Meir Simcha categorizes as post-desert, and Rabbi Soloveitchik as "post-prophecy" – we no longer passively receive truth from prophets and no longer experience the Divine through passive inspiration. We must take an active role in uncovering holiness and meaning amidst the concealment through spiritual self-development and righteous living. This captures the transition from supernatural prophetic relations with the Divine to a mature, natural search for God in a post-prophetic era.

The Divine whispers to us through simple acts of giving. Holiness glimmers through a smile given freely, a door held open in patience, flowers left anonymously on a doorstep. God's presence shines through lending a listening ear to one in need, preparing a meal for a sick neighbor and volunteering time to those less fortunate. In visiting those who are lonely, helping someone carry a burden or speaking gently in the face of anger, we find ourselves drawing closer to the image of God within. Divine light spills into the world each time we choose compassion. With consistent practice, these small acts of lovingkindness compound into a holy life: a light-filled existence full of gentle power, courageously given each day.

We strive to attune our ears to hear that call emanating from the natural world, reminding us that Divinity is uncovered through nurturing our ethical selves and celebrating the Godliness inherent in our world.

**Israel . . . . . Continued from page 6**

On Saturday, September 30, at 9:30 am, Shacharit services will be held via Zoom and in-person (masks are required for unvaccinated participants). The Torah portion is Leviticus 22:26-23:44 and the haftarah is Zechariah 14:1-21. There will be no Zoom Havdalah services.

On Tuesday, October 3, there will be an Executive Board meeting at 7 pm.

**Concord . . . Continued from page 6**

Saturday, September 30: At 9:15 am, Torah study, in person and Zoom (<http://bit.ly/3XDnvRE>, meeting ID 825 1226 2831 and passcode 743892).

Sunday, October 1: From 10 am-2 pm, Sisterhood Rummage Sale. Shoppers are asked to use the Oak Street entrance.

Tuesday, October 3: At 10:30 am, Tuesday Morning Book Club: "Kantika" by Elizabeth Graver, in person or on Zoom. To join via Zoom, visit <https://bit.ly/3CXVd9b>, meeting ID 881 6469 4206 and passcode 653272. For more information, contact Merri Pell-Preus at 607-222-2875 or [merrypell.preus@gmail.com](mailto:merrypell.preus@gmail.com).

The Rabbi's Search Committee will hold meetings for members on Sunday, October 1, at 10:30 am, and Wednesday, October 4, at 7 pm, in the social hall. For more information, contact Phyllis Kellenberger at 607-727-8305.

**HOPLER & ESCHBACH FUNERAL HOME**  
 "A new family tradition"  
 Personal Service Professionalism Experience You Can Trust  
 COMPARE OUR PRICES  
 We charge far less than other area funeral homes  
 Kurt M. Eschbach, Funeral Director  
 483 Chenango Street Binghamton  
 607-722-4023  
[www.HEfuneralhome.com](http://www.HEfuneralhome.com)

*Celebrate the Simcha*  
 If you can celebrate it, we can make an ad for you!  
 Engagements • Weddings  
 Births • Birthdays  
 Graduations • Moves  
 Promotions • Retirements  
 Anniversaries & much more!  
 To place a simcha, please contact Kathy Brown at 724-2360, ext. 244 or [advertising@thereportergroup.org](mailto:advertising@thereportergroup.org)  
**THE REPORTER**  
 Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

**The Reporter is offering sponsorships!**  
 Celebrate your simcha with the community or honor your loved one.  
 There are four levels: Bronze \$200, Silver \$400, Gold \$600 and Platinum \$1,000.  
 To arrange for a sponsorship or for answers to questions, contact Rabbi Rachel Esserman at [rachel@thereportergroup.org](mailto:rachel@thereportergroup.org).

**Women's OB/GYN Associates**  
 (607) 754-9870  
[www.womensobgynassociates.com](http://www.womensobgynassociates.com)  
 Carol Miller, MD  
 Kelly Wilmarth, FNP-C  
 Tamara Burger, CNM  
 401 Main Street, 1st Floor, Johnson City, New York 13790  
 Kelly Wilmarth FNP-C and Tamara Burger CNM are now accepting new patients seeking care that includes annual well woman visits, IUD's, and other gynecology concerns.  
 Kelly and Tamara offer individualized comprehensive medically monitored weight management and healthy lifestyle support utilizing lab evaluation (including hormones), medication, comprehensive diet education, and active program guidance.  
 Request an appointment with one of our providers by calling 607.754.9870 or by visiting our website at [www.womensobgynassociates.com](http://www.womensobgynassociates.com).

# PJ Library families enjoyed event



The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton's PJ Library program held a Rosh Hashanah family event on September 10, co-sponsored with Beth David Synagogue, the Jewish Community Center, Temple Concord and Temple Israel. PJ Library children played on the JCC playground during the program.



Tara and Eitan Kaminsky were among those attending the PJ Library Rosh Hashanah family event.



Bennett Eggleston enjoyed coloring a picture at the PJ Library event on September 10.



Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu blew the shofar at the PJ Library Rosh Hashanah family event on September 10.

# BD Sisterhood meeting featured challah making



L-r: Judy Silber, Toby Kohn and Harold Kohn prepared to begin making their challahs.



L-r: Gina Santiago, Charlotte Witter and Josh Witter each had a different strategy for braiding their challahs.



L-r: Susan Wright, Kerry Wright, Deborah Sliom, Susan Hubal, Annette Shaw and Dora Polachek listened to instructions on how to begin making their challahs. (Photos by Elie Silber)



Stacey Silber showed off her lulav and etrog challah "masterpiece."

On September 6, the Beth David Sisterhood held its opening meeting of the year. The program was a demonstration by Stacey Silber of different ways to braid challah. Techniques included the standard challah braid, a technique for making a round challah, a pull-apart challah and one with eight braids that could serve as the basis for making a lulav-shaped challah. Each participant had the opportunity to make at least two challahs from dough, which was prepared by Silber and baked during the meeting.

## Trial . . . . . Continued from page 2

Troy Rivetti, acting U.S. attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and his team raised serious questions about the qualifications and findings as well as the pecuniary motives of the psychiatrists employed by the defense. Despite their asymmetry, Bowers' brain lobes displayed no abnormalities. Neither medical professionals nor Bowers himself ever reported evidence of an epileptic seizure, and his brain lesions are of a sort common to his age cohort. The prosecution asserted that the best prepared and reputable of the medical professionals to give testimony, forensic psychiatrist Dr. Part Dietz, found that "white separatist beliefs," not delusions, drove Bowers' rampage.

Amongst ideological allies on Gab social media, Bowers shared his hatred of the Jews and plans to kill as many of them as possible. His months-long planning, including endless practice in the reloading of his Colt AR-15 semiautomatic rifle, was meticulous. In particular, Bowers hated the liberal policies toward asylum seekers supported by many Jews, such as the congregants of Dor Hadash. Slaughtering Jews, he believed, would deter the replacement of whites by immigrants.

Bowers agreed with the portrayal of himself provided by the prosecution. Although his attorneys battled diligently to save his life, he rejected their characterization of him as emotionally damaged, delusional and absent of intent. As depicted by the prosecution and as Bowers insisted, at length, to police and psychologists, he was a soldier, committed to the ideology of white nationalism and determined to kill as many Jews as possible.

Of course, the ordeal is not over. The trauma has no closure. With years, if not decades, of appeals ahead, each stage will force survivors and supporters to relive the horrors of October 27, 2018. The 50-year-old Bowers may well die many years from now of natural causes.

No consensus exists amongst Jews concerning the death penalty. According to Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky, Jewish law provides no "single, unequivocal, straightforward answer" on this issue. There are conflicting views about capital punishment between synagogues and within synagogues. Jewish scholars and rabbis differ. Most Tree of Life survivors and families of victims support the death penalty, but not all do.

Despite their profound and enduring grief, the family of Dr. Jerry Rabinowitz opposes the death penalty. Miri Rabinowitz states that capital punishment would conflict with her late husband's devotion to "the sanctity of life." Although the massacre claimed the lives of members of his congregation and damaged his own mental health, Rabbi Jonathan Perlman wrote, "Revenge will not bring our slain loved ones back to life. And seeking it may even hurt ourselves and extend our sadness." During his victim's impact statement, gun-wound survivor Dan Leger stated that the tragedy "left empty places in our hearts and homes. It has moved some to... experience hate themselves. It has moved [others to]... appreciate the fragility and beauty of life on earth."

Our government is a constitutional democracy. And we subscribe to our nation's laws. New Light Congregation's public declaration captured the perspective of most U.S. Jews: "We live by the American legal system, where there are rules... We are prepared to trust the system."

Bill Simons is a professor emeritus at SUNY Oneonta where he continues to teach courses in American history. He is also the co-director of The Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture, and served as a speaker for the New York Council on the Humanities.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

### U.S. Treasury sanctions Hezbollah supporters in South America

A charcoal export business has now been exposed as one cog in a terrorism funding machine crossing continents to support Iran's efforts to expunge the Jewish state. The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (or OFAC) and the Drug Enforcement Administration named numerous individuals and businesses it designated as supporters of Hezbollah. Brian E. Nelson, the under secretary of the treasury for terrorism and financial intelligence, said that "today's action underscores the U.S. government's commitment to pursuing Hezbollah operatives and financiers, no matter their location."

# Eye-Catching Classifieds

**The Care You Need - in the Home You Love**  
**Affordable, Professional Home Care You Deserve**

Let At Home Help provide you or your loved ones independence and dignity by providing non-medical care services in the familiar surroundings of home, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Some of our many services:**  
 Companionship • Alzheimer's & Dementia Care • Medication Reminders • Grocery Shopping • Laundry • Hospice Support • Overnight Care • Meal Preparation • House Cleaning  
 Plus other services tailored to your needs

607-238-1123 • Locally owned and operated • Free consultation  
 AtHomeHelpofBinghamton.com

**Silber Creations**

Stacey Silber  
 (607) 727-9738

www.silbercreations.com

@silbercreations  
 Silber Creations

Located Inside  
 Your Needful Things  
 136 E Service Rd  
 Binghamton, NY 13901

**YOUR HEATING & PLUMBING SPECIALISTS**  
**BAKER'S PLUMBING & HEATING**

We Also Do Natural Gas Conversions & All Plumbing Work  
 Free Estimates • Fully Insured • Residential & Commercial  
 We Install, Service & Repair...  
 Furnaces • Air Conditioners  
 Water Heaters • Gas Fireplaces  
 SERVING BROOME & TIoga COUNTIES

754-6376  
 pbaker927@yahoo.com

It just makes cents to advertise here in **The Reporter!**

For information on advertising, contact Kathy Brown at 724-2360, ext. 244, or advertising@thereportergroup.org.

**THE REPORTER**  
 Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton