

THE REPORTER

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Hanukkah House Museum opens Dec. 3

The Hanukkah House Museum of Temple Concord, a seasonal teaching museum, will open to the public on Tuesday, December 3, at 5 pm, and close on Tuesday, December 24. The museum is housed in the Kilmer Mansion, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. This is its 23rd year of operation. The museum hours will be Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon-4 pm and Thursdays from 4-8 pm.

Exhibits featuring the history of the Kilmer Mansion and family will be on display. The Kilmer Mansion was designed and built in 1898 by local architect Edward

Vosbury in the Italian Renaissance and Queen Anne style. It was purchased from the Kilmers shortly after Temple Concord was established in 1950.

The other Hanukkah House Museum exhibits seek to give students and visitors a sense of the historic aspect of the Hanukkah story with tableaus and models, descriptive information and a sense of how the holiday is celebrated around the world. Also returning is a miniature recreation of living on the Lower East Side of New York at the turn of the century.

The story of Hanukkah will be told in

different mediums in the museum: fabric, written words, movies, diorama and hands-on activities. There will be displays of antique oil burning menorahs, as well as traditional and contemporary menorahs, dreidels and yarmulkes. "The hands-on activities will delight all guests," said Hanukkah House organizers.

The "Kids Place" will have games, books and puzzles for kids of all ages. Bobbie King's dollhouses will return again this year. The Judaic Gift Shop will feature a selection of Judaica for Hanukkah needs and other life cycle celebrations. The gift shop will be open

during museum hours except Saturdays.

"Club advisers, leaders and teachers looking for an interesting outing should schedule a field trip to the museum for their group," said organizers. "Groups of all sizes are welcome. Tours can be scheduled mornings, afternoons or evenings any day of the week. Dates and times fill up quickly, so schedule early."

E-mail Lisa@KilmerMansion.org for tours or with any questions. There is no admission fee to visit Hanukkah House Museum. A non-perishable food donation to CHOW would be appreciated.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca to host Hanukkah Festival on Dec. 15

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca will once again open its doors to the community in celebration of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights. The holiday begins this year on the evening of Sunday, December 22. The festival will take place the week before on Sunday, December 15, from 11 am -3 pm, and is free and open to the public. The temple is located at the corner of Court and Tioga streets in downtown Ithaca.

"Drop in and you'll find a lively indoor market where the scents of savory potato latkes and sweet apple fritters mingle with the beauty of handmade gifts for sale," said organizers of the event. Local artists will offer a wide range of gifts from jewelry and ceramics, to hand-bound books and local honey. Craft activities for all ages will be offered throughout the day. There will also be an "escape room" offered by



A chanukiah at a past Hanukkah Festival.

the temple youth community for a wide range of ages.

At noon, Rachel Lampert and friends will offer a Hanukkah presentation in the temple sanctuary. Lampert is a playwright, director and choreographer who has entertained Ithacans of all ages for many years.

For further information, call 607-257-9924.

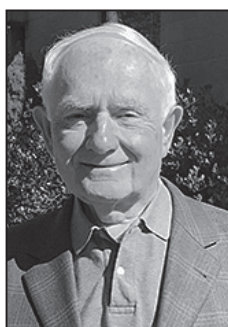
Beth David Dec. 14 luncheon speaker to talk about "The Vietnam Era: A Personal View"

Beth David's December 14 luncheon speaker will be Dr. Charles Rubin. The title of his talk is "The Vietnam Era: A Personal View." From 1970-72, Rubin held the rank of major in the United States Air Force. From 1970-71, he was stationed in Vietnam, and was chief of ophthalmology in the 483rd United States Air Force Hospital in Cam Rahn Bay. He was the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal. The citation accompanying the medal indicates that Rubin was the only fully trained ophthalmologist in Southeast Asia. He provided medical and consultation services for all United States Air Force facilities in Vietnam and for Army

personnel, as well as for the local population in a volunteer capacity in the area's hospital.

"There are many unsung heroes in our community," organizers say, "and Charles Rubin is certainly one of them. Many of us know him in his capacity as our Binghamton ophthalmologist, or as a regular at Beth David Synagogue, but his recollections about his time in Vietnam are sure to generate much interest as well as questions."

Rubin received his bachelor of science



Dr. Charles Rubin

degree at the City College of New York, and completed medical school at SUNY Buffalo. He did his residency in ophthalmology at Albany Medical Center. A longtime resident of Binghamton, he has been in private practice since 1972. He has held numerous professional and community leadership positions.

Beth David's luncheon speaker series takes place the second Saturday of the month after Shabbat morning services, and is open to the community. There is no charge for

the luncheon. Since the monthly series' continuation depends on the generosity of contributors, Beth David welcomes and appreciates donations to the Luncheon Fund in order to keep the program going. Donations can be made in honor of or in memory of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Those wishing an acknowledgment to be sent to the person being honored or to the family of someone being remembered can indicate that, along with the necessary information. Donations can be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

Cornell U. Jewish Studies Program to present a staged-reading of "Enough to Go" on Dec. 11

The Cornell University Jewish Studies Program will present a staged-reading of the new-old play "Enough to Go" by former Ithaca resident Fred Peretz Cohn on Wednesday, December 11, at 7 pm, in Barnes Hall on the Cornell campus. Doors will open at 6:30 pm. The public is invited and while tickets are not required, reservations can be made at www.tinyurl.com/enough-to-go.

The reading will be directed by Cornell alumnus and Visiting Lecturer David Winitsky '94, and will feature former Kitchen Theater Artistic Director Rachel Lampert, local arts activists Marjorie

Hoffman and Lenny Rosenfield, and Professor Jonathan Boyarin, the Paul and Bertha Hendrix director of Jewish studies at Cornell.

"Enough to Go" asks: What will happen to the last decaying tenement building on a once-vibrant New York City block? Where will the super, the old super and the last few residents go? Why are there Jaffa oranges falling out of the cabinets? And has anyone checked on that faulty fuse in the basement?

"Though not autobiographical," says Peretz Cohn, the playwright, "Enough to Go" is deeply rooted in my lifelong

exposure to and appreciation of Jewish humor, family and culture. I am deeply grateful to Jonathan Boyarin, David Winitsky, the actors and staff who have made this production possible."

Winitsky, who directed his undergrad thesis production in Barnes Hall 25 years ago, says he is thrilled to return to Cornell. "If you've ever been to the Bronx, or had a pastrami on rye from an authentic New York deli, then this play is for you," said Winitsky.

Winitsky is a Broadway, off-Broadway and regional theater veteran, and the founder of the Jewish Plays Project,

a development center for 21st century Jewish theater. He currently teaches "Sitcom Jews: Ethnic Representation on Television" at Cornell.

The cast will also include Eric Brooks in the lead role of Irving Cohen. Brooks is a veteran of many productions at Ithaca's Kitchen Theatre Company, and is a member of the Cherry Collective. Soap opera fans may remember him as Dr. Louis Darnell on "Guiding Light."

The production is sponsored by the Cornell Jewish Studies Program. For more information, visit jewishstudies.cornell.edu.

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Opinion

Ilhan Omar is just one of many guilty of hypocrisy on Turkey

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS)—The overwhelming vote by the House of Representatives in favor of a resolution condemning the genocide of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923 represented a breakthrough. Hard as it may be to believe, the vote was the first time a chamber of Congress officially designated the mass murder of 1.5 million Armenians as an act of genocide.

For decades, legislators have ducked the issue because telling the truth about what happened deeply offends Turkey. The Turkish republic that emerged from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire has always regarded the discussion about what happened to the Armenians as an insult. Ankara has always rejected any admission of responsibility or apology. For decades, it has spent vast amounts on lobbying and spreading disinformation about the history of the Armenian genocide — all aimed at forcing those who interact with the Turks to choose between affirming a historical truth and good relations with a member of the NATO alliance.

And that formula worked for them for quite a long time. But the steady drift toward authoritarianism by the government of Recep Tayyip Erdogan and its vicious hatred of Israel has lost it friends in the United States. The Turks' recent attack on the Kurdish people in northeastern Syria after getting a green light from the Trump administration has reduced the number of their friends in Washington to only a handful. So it was little surprise that the Armenian motion passed overwhelmingly with bipartisan support by a 405-11 vote, with three members voting present.

Most of the attention about that vote was centered on one of those who abstained: Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN). Since Omar has spent a disproportionate amount of her time since being elected last year lecturing the world about human rights, her unwillingness to extend the same sympathy that she devotes to the Palestinians to Armenian victims didn't escape notice.

While we are all used to hypocrisy in politicians, this is Olympic-level mendacity of the sort that ought to shame her into silence. She made it worse by echoing Turkish propaganda by issuing a statement that spoke of wanting

an “academic consensus outside the push and pull of geopolitics,” as if there was any doubt about what has been documented to have happened.

Even worse, she seemed to think it wrong to single out the Turks for genocide. Her squeamishness about condemning Turkey without mentioning every other crime against humanity in the last several hundred years also brought to mind her single-minded support for the BDS movement, which attacks Israel for boycott and destruction. She believes that the one Jewish state on the planet must be punished, though remains notably silent about the human-rights violations on a massive scale that take place on a regular basis in Islamic countries such as Iran. The fact that she had a friendly meeting with Erdogan also makes it clear that her talk about disdaining “geopolitics” is hogwash.

But while Omar has taken a deserved shellacking from supporters of Israel and even a scolding from left-wing outlets like *The Nation*, she's not the only one who has had a blind spot when it comes to Turkey.

At the top of the list right now is President Donald Trump. His willingness to give the Turks a green light for attacking the Kurds in northeastern Syria was indefensible. The Republican Party has stuck with Trump because he has governed like a conservative, benefiting many of their beliefs and programs; plus, they despise the Democrats trying from day one to destroy him. Still, his sympathy for Turkey was a bridge too far for almost everyone in the GOP, as the votes on resolutions on Syria and the Armenians showed.

There are limits even to that demonstration of principle since the Senate's reluctance to take up the House's Armenian resolution shows that senators don't want to set up a confrontation with Trump, who would be unlikely to sign the document if they passed it.

Democrats, on the other hand, have no standing to squawk about Trump. They did nothing to protest the fact that President Barack Obama publicly stated that Erdogan was one of his favorite world leaders. He appeased Erdogan as much, if not more, than Trump. Samantha Power,

Obama's ambassador to the United Nations, wrote in *The New York Times* criticizing Trump. Although she won a Pulitzer Prize for writing about the responsibility to protect defenseless populations from genocide, she did nothing to promote that issue or to act against mass murder in Syria during her time at the United Nations.

Yet the list of hypocrites on Armenian genocide would not be complete without mentioning the role of the pro-Israel community in the past.

As long as Turkey was friendly with Israel, Jewish groups swallowed their principles and didn't join with the Armenian community in spite of their rhetoric about the Holocaust and the need to stop future genocides. Former Anti-Defamation League head Abe Foxman took a lot of heat on the issue. But he stood his ground because he considered preserving good relations between Israel and Turkey — the first Islamic country to recognize Israel, added by its strong military and economic ties in the past — was more important. Sticking with the Turks seemed to aid the Jewish state's ability to defend itself against threatened genocidal attacks from Iran.

But Erdogan, who is a vocal supporter of Hamas, and has repeatedly slandered and denigrated Israel, changed all that. As he gained total power in Ankara, supporters of Israel, including Foxman, realized that there was no point continuing to kowtow to the Turks' irrational refusal to tell the truth about their history.

The long list of hypocrites on Turkey demonstrates that realpolitik usually has more to say about views about history than principles. But as bad as it may be for those like Trump, who don't grandstand about their devotion to human rights, to turn a blind eye to Erdogan's historical revisionism, it's even worse for Omar. Every time she opens her mouth about the Palestinians, she should be reminded by her fans in the liberal media that people who support antisemitic movements like BDS and yet are indifferent to Armenian genocide have no standing to pose as defenders of human rights.

Jonathan S. Tobin is editor-in-chief of JNS — Jewish News Syndicate. Follow him on Twitter, @jonathans_tobin.

In My Own Words

History, winners and the Confederate cause

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

It was a song that made me start thinking and an article given to me by a member of *The Reporter* Editorial Committee that caused me to explore the idea further. The song “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down” was written by Robbie Robertson of The Band, but the version I was listening to was performed by Joan Baez. The narrator of the song is a member of the Confederacy and talks about how the horrors of war affected his family. When I first heard Baez sing it, I liked it, partly because I was a fan and loved her voice. I can't say that I really paid too much attention to the lyrics, except to note they expressed my sentiments about the damage war causes.

The article I read was about White Nationalism and the movement's supporters who are part of the Trump administration. One paragraph mentioned a member of the administration who was concerned that Confederate merchandise was being removed from e-commerce websites after a White Nationalist attack on a black church in 2015. This took place during the recent debate about the removal of statues and flags connected to the Confederacy. The concern expressed was that doing so erased an important part of American history.

American history: That is an interesting concept because your thoughts on our history depend on which side of that history you fall. For example, Native Americans have a very different view of American history than

most Americans who came here as immigrants (from the Jamestown settlement to current new Americans). When I was very young, Indians (as everyone called Native Americans at the time) were the bad guys and the cowboys were the good guys. Studying all of American history — the good things and the bad — has changed my point of view. While I still love and appreciate the United States, I also recognize that its policies did not benefit Native Americans, nor were they always treated well, which is really an understatement of the atrocities done to them. In this case, the winner determined the history I originally learned in school and the movies, although some historians now acknowledge the harm done.

This means I can appreciate that some Southerners feel the Confederacy is an important part of their history. I can understand the sorrow and loss the narrator in “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down” feels. However, that song now also makes me uncomfortable. Why? Because for me, it's impossible to separate the Confederacy from slavery. Forget the semantics of saying the Civil War was about state's rights: the issue that caused the debate on state's rights was the right to own slaves. I imagine that African Americans feel the same way about the celebration of the Confederacy the same way that Native Americans feel about our celebrations of the United States. To give a Jewish example, how would I feel if, when walking into a

state or federal building or courthouse, there was a statue of a Nazi or Nazi collaborator? What if I were told that person was an important part of our history? So I understand the feelings of those who oppose the government flying a Confederate flag or government statues celebrating those who supported slavery.

The White Nationalist movement — the people claiming that the white race is in danger — is not one we Jews should support. Many members of that movement classify us as the enemy, as seen by the deadly attacks on synagogues by members connected to the movement. We should also beware of being thought their allies. I'm reminded of the Martin Niemöller quote, which is featured at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: “First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me — and there was no one left to speak for me.” We must speak out when anyone — any minority — is attacked. I don't care if that's done for unselfish reasons or to protect the Jewish community. Doing so speaks to our Jewish values — values that recognize we are all created *b'tselem Elohim*, in the image of God — and those values should guide our lives.



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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

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www.thereportergroup.org

TC Sisterhood white elephant gift exchange Dec. 8

Temple Concord Sisterhood will hold a white elephant gift exchange with wine and cheese on Sunday, December 8, from 5-7 pm, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. Reservations should be made by Wednesday, December 4, to Phyllis Kellenberger at pweinste@stny.

rr.com or 727-8305 or 723-2193. The program is free for all Sisterhood members. There will be a \$3 charge for non-members.

Each attendee should bring a gift-wrapped item from home that she no longer wants. Participants

will have the opportunity to exchange their "gift" for something else. "This promises to be a lot of fun," said Kellenberger.

There also will be an opportunity to shop in the Hanukkah House Judaic Shop.

TI Sisterhood to celebrate Hanukkah on Dec. 10

Temple Israel Sisterhood will host a Hanukkah celebration on Tuesday, December 10, from 7-9 pm, in the social hall. Members and guests are welcome to attend. The program will include a mystery gift exchange, an idea that Lois Levitt had several years ago. People should bring a wrapped gift (\$10 price range) of general interest with

no identifying information. Gifts will be placed on a table and participants will be given instructions to pick a gift, open it and trade with someone if desired. Refreshments will be served, and Steve Gilbert will provide music and songs (sing-alongs welcome).

The cost to attend will be \$5 per person to cover

the cost of food.

RSVP to Tammy Kunsman in the temple office at 723-7461 by Sunday, December 1, so organizers know how much food to prepare. Comments or questions should be directed to Co-chairs Barbara Gilbert, Lynne Green or Kathy Hurwitz.

BD Sisterhood' held paid-up membership luncheon



Beth David Sisterhood's paid-up membership luncheon was held on November 13. Beth David Sisterhood members and JCC Friendship Club guests enjoyed food and friendship. Seated in the forefront (l-r): Sylvia Diamond, Kathy Shelley and Ruth Goldstein.



Beth David Sisterhood members and guests enjoyed the luncheon.



Members of Beth David Sisterhood filled out mitzvah card request forms. Clockwise, l-r: Dora Polachek, Saba Weisner, Susan Hubal, Marilyn Bell and Marlene Serkin (seen from back).

ADL poll: Roughly one-quarter of Europeans are antisemites

By JNS staff

(JNS) – Approximately one in four Europeans holds antisemitic views, according to a global 2019 poll released by the Anti-Defamation League on November 21.

The results were particularly alarming with regard to Eastern and Central Europe, where the study found a significant increase in antisemitic beliefs linked to old tropes such as Jews controlling business and finance, and having "dual loyalty." In Western Europe, levels of antisemitism have remained more consistent, according to the study. In a statement released with the study, ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt called the findings a "powerful wake-up call."

"It is deeply concerning that approximately one in four Europeans harbor the types of antisemitic beliefs that have endured since before the Holocaust," said Greenblatt. "These findings serve as a powerful wake-up call that much work remains to be done to educate broad swaths of the populations in many of these countries to reject bigotry, in addition to addressing the pressing security needs where violent incidents are rising."

The survey follows ADL's 2015 Global 100 Index, which researched attitudes and opinions toward Jews in more than 100 countries. Compared to the 2015 survey, the 2019 poll, which surveyed 9,000 adults in 18 countries, showed increasing levels of antisemitic sentiment in Ukraine (up 14 percent), Poland (up 11 percent), South Africa and Brazil (both up 9 percent), Russia (up 8 percent) and Argentina (up 6 percent), while antisemitic attitudes decreased in Italy (down 11 percent), Austria (down 8 percent) and Canada (down 6 percent).

Support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel, considered to be a new form of antisemitism that attempts to undermine the Jewish state, was found to be less than 15 percent in most European countries, though 38 percent of South African respondents were supportive of the movement.

The poll found that antisemitic stereotypes were more widely accepted among Muslims. In Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom, Muslim respondents reported agreement with Jewish stereotypes at a rate three times that of their respective country averages. However, antisemitism among European Muslims was found to be lower than among Middle Eastern and North African

Muslims polled in 2014. According to the ADL, this might be attributed to the "impact of Holocaust education, exposure to Jews, and societal values of acceptance and tolerance."

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Heidi Thirer on the death of her mother,
Constance (Connie) Kapel

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israeli exports reach a record \$114 billion in 2019

Israel's exports should grow to a record \$114 billion in 2019 from \$109 billion last year according to government data, Reuters reported. The Central Bureau and Statistics and Economy Ministry assessed that Israeli exports stood at \$84 billion during the first nine months of 2019 – a 4.6 percent increase from the same period last year. The rise in exports is mostly due to almost a 12 percent rise in services exports, which includes the main high-tech sector, according to the Economy Ministry, noted the report. The strong shekel, a weak diamond market and a slowing global economy have led to a weak year in goods exports. Exports make up around 30 percent of Israel's economy, according to the report.

TIME magazine includes Israeli-water technology in top 100 inventions of 2019

A machine that makes safe, clean drinking water out of ambient air – manufactured by the Israel-based company of Watergen – was included in Time magazine's list in 2019 of the top 100 inventions published on Nov. 21. Resembling a typical water cooler and designed especially for homes and offices, the machine, which is named "GENNY," can produce as much as 27 liters of water per day. The apparatus makes water by using Watergen's patented, heat-exchange GENius technology. It first collects water vapor in the air and then cools the air at its dew point. Subsequently, the water goes through physical, chemical and biological treatment, followed by a mineralization process, to maintain its cleanliness, tastiness and healthy quality. Like Watergen's other water generators, it needs no infrastructure to operate except for a source of electricity. The GENNY was also recognized in January by the Consumer Technology Association at this year's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, earning "Best of Innovation Honoree" in the "Tech for a Better World" category; it was an honoree in the "Home Appliances" category. Watergen has been active in making its technology available to many developing countries, including India, Vietnam, Sierra Leone, Colombia, Uzbekistan and South Africa.

At right: Antisemitic graffiti found on a wall mural commemorating Jewish life in Vilnius, Lithuania. (Facebook screenshot via JNS)



Early deadlines for The Reporter

Due to holiday closings, the deadlines for the following upcoming issues of *The Reporter* are as follows. No exceptions will be made.

Issue	Deadline
Friday, December 6	Monday, November 25
Friday, December 20	Wednesday, December 11
Friday, December 27	Monday, December 16
Friday, January 3	Monday, December 23
Friday, January 10	Monday, December 30

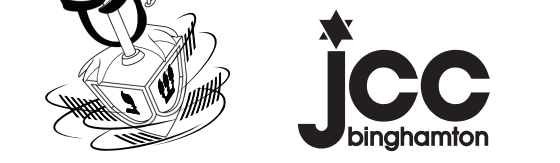
Community Hanukkah celebration

Co-sponsored by The JCC and The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton
Thursday, December 19 • 5:15-7pm

5:15pm - OUTDOOR CANDLE LIGHTING
5:30pm - ENTERTAINMENT
JCC Preschool • Hillel Academy • Community Hanukkah Video!

6pm DINNER
Latkes, Applesauce, Tuna, Rolls and Dessert

6-7pm ACTIVITIES
Dreidles, Gelt, games and crafts



500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850 • (607)724-2417
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Off the Shelf

FDR, Rabbi Wise and the truth

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

When I was young, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was spoken of highly by members of my family. As the years passed and more information about FDR – particularly the way he manipulated people and the media – was revealed to the public, my feelings about him changed. A new book offers an even more disturbing view of FDR, particularly his positions about Jewish immigration and the Holocaust. In “The Jews Should Keep Quiet: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise” (The Jewish Publication Society), Rafael Medoff shows how FDR successfully manipulated Rabbi Stephen S. Wise to prevent the Jewish community from publicly protesting his policies relating to the Jews of Europe. However, Medoff also shows how Wise’s own blinders about FDR and his refusal to form coalitions with those who did not support progressive policies prevented him from being an effective voice for European Jews.

Although FDR’s policies for the United States were progressive, his attitude toward Jews and immigration were not. While FDR was not in favor of the Nazi government, he strove to keep the U.S. on good terms with Germany before the war. It’s clear that FDR was antisemitic – a mild,

aristocratic form that allowed him to be friends with some Jews. Medoff notes that FDR’s “private remarks about Jews seem to allude to a distinction in his mind between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ Jews.” In addition, “Roosevelt’s unflattering statements about Jews consistently reflected one of several interrelated notions: that it was undesirable to have too many Jews in any single profession, institution, or geographic locale; that America was Protestant by nature, and should remain so, an overwhelmingly white Protestant country; and that Jews on the whole possessed certain innate and distasteful characteristics.” This was, of course, not the side of himself FDR showed to Wise.

The reality was that FDR had no desire to allow the Jews of Europe to enter the United States. Not only did he not want increased immigration, he supported the State Department’s refusal to fill the quotas that were already in place. For example, the annual immigrant quota in 1936 for Germany was 25,957, but only 20 percent of those spots were used. This was not a one time thing, but something that consistently occurred during the pre-war years. One of the excuses was that an influx of Jews into

this country might lead to a rise in antisemitism, a thought that did resonate with some Jewish leaders. FDR led Wise to believe the lack of immigration was not caused by the White House in order to prevent Jewish protests against his immigration policies. That was where FDR’s manipulation of Wise was most successful.

Medoff shows that Wise was very proud of his relationship with FDR, as if FDR was a personal friend. It becomes clear, though, that FDR manipulated Wise to prevent Jews from publicly protesting his policies before and during the war. Since Wise was a supporter of FDR’s other policies, he felt conflicted between what he felt was good for the country and what was good for the Jews of Europe. Wise sought to gather support from progressive Christian leaders, who disappointed him with their lack of interest. For Wise, FDR’s re-election was extremely important and that overrode any thoughts he had about Jewish immigration.

Medoff notes that “a Christian outcry might have prompted President Roosevelt to at least permit the quota See “FDR” on page 7

LEGAL NOTICE

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is DAVIDGE HOLDINGS, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is OCTOBER 10, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 3004 Pleasant Drive, Endwell, NY 13760
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: 15 Ketchum, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was October 17, 2019. 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 Donna Stack, 17184 Bay Street, Jupiter, FL 33477. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Access Auto Mart LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/1/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 32 Chenango Bridge Rd., Binghamton, NY 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Harvey’s Karate Studio, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is October 29, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of

State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 1837 Haight Pond Road, Rome, PA 18837.

- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Carol A. Clark Farm, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/17/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 98 Tide Point Ln., Kilmarnock, VA 22482. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of JEDMF LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/31/2019. Office Location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom service of process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: James E. Farrell, 9 Crestmont Road, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Next Level Hospitality Group, LLC (the “Company”). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was November 5, 2019. 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, Ste. 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Soulon Education LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 10/26/2019. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Gisela Xiangdong Jia, 2 W. 32nd St., Ste. 503, New York, NY 10001. General Purpose.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is HEATH C-TOWER, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 7, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against

it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: PO Box 658, Binghamton, NY 13902.

- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is Bonniemills LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 8, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: PO Box 2039, Binghamton, NY 13902.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Sevak LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 11/7/2019. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 1000 Front St., Binghamton, NY 13905. General Purpose.

Notice of Formation of Buckler Security Products, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/31/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 53 Highland Rd., Binghamton, NY 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Elsmere Island Partners, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/01/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 320 N. Jensen Rd.,

Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of AJEM Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/22/2018. Office Location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom service of process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Alan Anzaroot, 98 Main Street, Binghamton, NY 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Carol A. Clark Farm Operations, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/30/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 98 Tide Point Ln., Kilmarnock, VA 22482. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is MCREY FARM, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is NOVEMBER 12, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 3599 STATE ROUTE 26 GLEN AUBREY, NEW YORK, 13777.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is At Home Rentals – Binghamton, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 15, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 570 Caldwell

Hill Road, Lisle, NY 13797.

- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

Notice of Formation of Cacciatore’s Brand, LLC

Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/15/2015 and Certificate of Correction of Arts. of Org. filed on 08/05/2015. Office location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, c/o Leasure, Gow, Munk & Rizzuto, 101 Jefferson Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is SHL Transportation, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 21, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: PO Box 330, Whitney Point, NY 13862.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

- The name of the limited liability company (“LLC”) is 147 Industrial Drive LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 22, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 498 Conklin Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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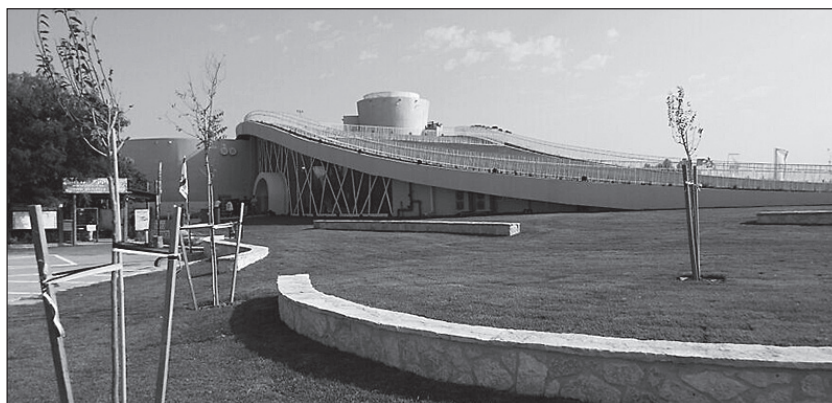
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New Hula Valley Visitor Center aims to attract millions of birders

By Judy Lash Balint

(JNS) – With the inauguration of the Stephen J. Harper KKL-JNF Hula Valley Visitor and Education Center at the Agamon Hula Park recently, Israel aims to strengthen its place as a leader in one of the fastest-growing tourism trends. Avitourism, the new word for birders who travel, is one of the most lucrative aspects of the multibillion-dollar ecotourism industry. In Canada, birdwatching is more popular than gardening. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that more than 45 million people – or one out of every five Americans – are birders. In Israel, there are hundreds of active birdwatching societies.

Israel is considered one of the best places in the world to observe the seasonal migrations of the millions of birds who travel huge distances to find warmer climes and then return to their natural habitat. Some 500 million birds fly over Israel every year. One of the prime stops in Israel for hundreds of bird species that touch down on their lengthy journey from Europe to Africa and beyond is the Hula Valley in the upper Galilee region



A view of the new Stephen J. Harper KKL-JNF Hula Valley Visitor and Education Center at the Agamon Hula Park in Israel. (Photo by Judy Lash Balint)

that includes the Agamon Lake.

In 2009, BBC Wildlife magazine named the Hula Valley one of the top 10 “most outstanding sites in the world for nature observation and photography.”

On November 6, the Visitor Center named for Stephen

J. Harper – Canada’s 22nd prime minister – was inaugurated to enhance the experience for the hundreds of thousands of birders who come to ride or walk on more than five miles of trails surrounding the lake. The center will also focus on education, conservation and research.

On a recent late fall morning, staff ornithologists counted more than 56,000 cranes at the park. Dozens of flamingoes, storks and ducks mingled in the lake as a couple of wild boar ambled nearby through the water.

The new Visitor Center blends in with its natural surroundings and features VR stations that simulate a flight from the viewpoint of a migrating bird; a 194-square-foot digital gesture-controlled wall that projects a live feed of surrounding migrating birds; a 3D digital topographical model of the

Hula Valley; the 220-seat Lauren Harper Auditorium that screens 3D films and a stereoscopic docudrama; classrooms; a café; and a rooftop observation platform for extensive views over the entire valley.

See “Birders” on page 7



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Weekly Parasha

Toldot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

Overcoming “us” vs. “them”

RABBI MARJORIE BERMAN, SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR, RECONSTRUCTIONIST RABBINICAL COLLEGE

In *parashat* Toldot, conflict abounds. We hear about how Rebecca's twins are struggling in her womb. Isaac incites the distrust and envy of the Philistines, who stop up the wells that his father, Abraham, had dug. And later in the portion, when Rebecca's children are grown, Jacob subverts his brother's birthright and Esau swears to kill him after their father has died. We are only in the sixth *parasha* of the Torah and, already, we have an “us” and “them.” In fact, it's not even the first – there's Sarah and Hagar; Isaac and Ishmael; and more.

Why do we hate? Where does prejudice come from? Why do we divide the world into us and them? Who decides who is an insider and who is an outsider? And why, when it leads to such destruction, do humans continue this behavior on both a personal and a global scale? In his

book “Deep Diversity: Overcoming Us vs. Them,” Shakil Choudhury talks about the neuroscience of racism, sexism, antisemitism and other systems of prejudice. He argues, “What if our interactions with those different from us are strongly influenced by things happening below the radar of awareness, hidden even from ourselves? ‘Deep Diversity’ explores this question and argues that ‘us vs. them’ is an unfortunate but normal part of the human experience due to reasons of both nature and nurture.”

As humans, we are categorizers. We like to figure out where things fit and where they belong. Remember that song from “Sesame Street”: “One of these things just doesn't belong here...” It was part of an educational children's show, I imagine, to help young people develop this essential tool for navigating the world. Our brains

receive millions of pieces of information every second through visual, olfactory, aural and other sensory input. Without some way to organize and filter all of it, we would be unable to function. Most of that categorization takes place on a subconscious level. The problems start to arise, of course, when we use this survival mechanism to apply to people.

How we categorize people, and the biases we have, are formed through socialization. Some of it is conscious and intentional, like teaching antisemitic or white supremacist doctrine to one's children, or in school. But much of it we pick up subconsciously, from the way people around us behave, from storybooks, from the way that our central institutions operate and from the view of history we've See “Them” 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:
 Shabbat, Nov. 309 am
Mincha after kiddush
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., Dec. 18:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., Dec. 2-67 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., Dec. 14:20 pm
 Mon.-Thurs., Dec. 2-57 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY
 Phone: 607-256-1471
 Website: www.tikkunvor.org
 E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org
 Presidents: Lauren Korfine and Shira Reisman
 Rabbi: Brian Walt
 Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky
 Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Intergenerational Shabbat, music services, and other special services. Call for the weekly schedule.
 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 Oneonta

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

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Bruce Fein, 607-423-3346
 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.

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 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.

On Friday, November 29, at 8 pm, there will be a Shabbat evening service led by Rabbi Rachel Esserman.

On Saturday, November 30, there will be no religious school, Torah study or Shabbat service.

On Tuesday, December 3, at 10 am, the Tuesday Morning Book Club at Temple Concord will meet. At 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew school.

On Thursday, December 5, there will be Hebrew school at 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm, and CHOW from 5-7 pm.

On Friday, December 6, at 8 pm, there will be a Human Rights Shabbat evening service.

On Saturday, December 7, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; at 9:30 am, there will be Tot Shabbat; and at 10:35 am, there will be a Shabbat morning service with birthday blessings.

On Sunday, December 8, from 10 am-2 pm, there will be a Temple Concord Sisterhood rummage sale.

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
 Contact: Guilia 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 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.

Friday, November 29, light candles before 4:15 pm
 Saturday, November 30, Shabbat ends 5:15 pm
 Friday, December 6, light candles before 4:13 pm
 Saturday, December 7, Shabbat ends 5:14 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 Friday, November 29, the temple office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

On Saturday, November 30, at 9:30 am, there will be Shabbat services led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Genesis 25:19-28:9. The haftarah will be Malachi 1:1-2:7. The kiddush sponsor will be Richard Schneierman.

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

On Friday, December 6, there will be a family pot luck dinner and services beginning at 5:30 pm.

A baby naming will be held on Saturday, December 7, during 9:30 am services.

On Tuesday, December 10, from 7-9 pm, there will be a Sisterhood Hanukkah celebration with refreshments and a gift exchange. The cost of \$5 per person will be collected at the door. RSVP to the office. (See article on page 3.)

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Miriam T. Spitzer
 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: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org
 President: Randy Ehrenberg
 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.

The annual Hanukkah Festival will be held on Sunday, December 15, from 11 am-3 pm. At noon, there will be a storytelling presentation for all ages by Rachel Lampert. The event is free and will feature handmade arts and crafts, Hanukkah items, a café and craft activities for the family. (See article on page 1.)

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.

Them.Continued from page 6

learned. This cultural bias – our default – defines what, and who, we see and don't see, what we hear and don't hear, and what our blind spots are. Dominant groups around the world have a hard time seeing outside of the dominant norm. I remember a time growing up when I had a department store job during my winter break from college. I was trying to explain to a co-worker about not celebrating Christmas. "Why not?" she said incredulously. "We don't believe that Jesus is the messiah," I explained. "Why not?" she responded again, even more incredulously. It was hard for her to recognize her dominant cultural status, much less understand anything outside of it.

While my department store experience was basically benign, in situations of stress or fear this tendency can turn into something else. When our sense of being in "the center," that is, the dominant cultural norm, is threatened, a number of things happen. We find it disorganizing and overwhelming. We are error-averse by nature, so, when our sense that we deserve what we have is challenged as unjust or immoral, we become defensive. Lastly, we don't like to cede power – it makes us feel vulnerable. All of these feelings lead us to "circle the wagons" and make sure that the "us" is inside and the "them" is outside.

Our Torah portion shows us this very human tendency and the consequences of it. But our tradition teaches us to examine, to question, to try and understand ourselves and others, and to always preserve the minority opinion. Adam and Eve don't think before they act. Noah thinks only of preserving himself and his family. Abraham thinks of preserving those in Sodom and Gomorrah, whom he does not even know. This trajectory clearly points out the direction we should be taking. Our job is to continually seek to observe and correct our unconscious biases and prejudices, and to try to expand our definition of "us." Our job is to read this portion with sympathy and understanding for the viewpoints of both Jacob and Esau, of both Isaac and the Philistines. There is no question that it is harder to empathize with those that are different from us. But each time we strive to do it and succeed, we are helping to heal the world.

FDR.Continued from page 4

of legal immigrants from Germany to be filled to the legal limits, a step that would have resulted in a haven for tens of thousands of Jews in 1933-1934... For such an outreach effort to have succeeded, however, Rabbi Wise and his colleagues would have needed to seek the support of clergy from across the religious and political spectrum. This is not to say that all evangelical or conservative Christians necessarily would have been responsive to such appeals, but it is likely that Wise would have found at least some support from fundamentalists who regarded the rescue of Jews, and especially the prospect of Jews ingathered to the Holy Land, as precursors to the messianic age." Unfortunately, Wise couldn't see past his progressive political leaning to approach them.

Not all members of the Jewish community agreed with Wise's policies, but Wise did his best to silence those who opposed him. He was not above trying to smear their names in the community or suggest that their policies would be disastrous. Rather than respecting those who disagreed with him, he saw them as a personal threat to his position in the community. This was even during the last days of the war, when Wise's health prevented him from being effective: he was reluctant to turn the reins over to someone with more energy to pursue the work. Medoff shows how Wise reacted badly to everyone from rabbinical students who wanted to take a more active role in supporting immigration to Zionist representatives who wanted to change American policy to allow Jews to enter Palestine. Wise's feelings about FDR blinded him to the way he was being manipulated. As the author notes, "[Wise's] interactions with Roosevelt were shaped by his deep personal loyalty to the man, his policies, and his party. In private correspondence, Wise revered FDR as 'the great man' and 'the All Highest'... Wise wrote to a friend... '[his] election is not only essential to the well-being of America, but to the highest interests of the human race.'" Unfortunately, FDR was not deserving of Wise's high opinion.

"The Jew Should Keep Quiet" contains far more material than can be discussed in this review. Of particular interest to some readers will be the arguments about American policy relating to Palestine, and the difference between Wise and those Zionist leaders who wanted the U.S. to pressure Britain to allow for more immigration. FDR's thoughts on the matter were clearly in line with his other thoughts about Jews: he was not going to do anything to actively support immigration to Palestine. Also shown is FDR's refusal to bomb railway tracks leading to concentration camps or to allow immigrants to travel on warships returning to the U.S. that could have easily transported them. Medoff clearly shows both men with all their flaws: a manipulative, uncaring FDR, whom I can no longer bring myself to admire, and Wise, who let his ego get in the way of protecting the Jewish community. Neither comes off as the hero he would like to have been. Readers interested in American Jewish history or American politics will definitely want to read this unsettling, but important, work.

Jewish Community Center

Personal trainer Kelli Carr joins JCC

By Paige Bartholomew

Kelli Carr has joined the Jewish Community Center as a new personal trainer. Carr graduated from SUNY Cortland in 2014 with a degree in fitness development and a minor in business management. She has been a personal trainer for more than five years and has owned her own personal training business for three years. She says she takes great pleasure in her passion for teaching and helping others.

While always being active from a young age, Carr learned the importance of exercise and a healthy diet after gaining a "significant amount" of weight in college. This led her to work with a personal trainer. She says she began to feel, live and understand how life-long fitness could be a priority in her life, noting she is driven by the philosophy that fitness is



Kelli Carr

for everyone. "There is always a way to better yourself no matter your size, background and experience," she says.

Carr is certified in the following: AFAA Certified Personal Trainer, ACE Fitness Nutrition Specialist, RRCA Certified Running Coach, G.E.A.R Spin Instructor, Silver Sneakers and CPR/AED. Carr says she is open and willing to work with clientele of all fitness goals. She currently works with clients who are looking to lose weight, gain strength and muscle, and increase their endurance. She also works with clients who are post- or pre-rehabilitation from

surgery or an injury.

"The Jewish Community Center of Binghamton is proud to have her on staff and welcomes her with open arms," said a JCC representative.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Church of England report: centuries of Christian antisemitism led to Holocaust

Christian theology played a part in the stereotyping and persecution of Jewish people that ultimately led to the Holocaust, according to a new report released by the Church of England on Nov. 21. Titled "God's Unfailing Word: Theological and Practical Perspectives on Christian-Jewish Relations," the 121-page report said attitudes toward Judaism over centuries had provided a "fertile seed-bed for murderous antisemitism," and that Anglicans and other Christians must repent for the "sins of the past," as well as actively challenge antisemitic attitudes or stereotypes. "The attribution of collective guilt to the Jewish people for the death of Christ and the consequent interpretation of their suffering as collective punishment sent by God is one very clear example of that," the report said. "Within living memory, such ideas contributed to fostering the passive acquiescence if not positive support of many Christians

in actions that led to the Holocaust. "Christians have been guilty of promoting and fostering negative stereotypes of Jewish people that have contributed to grave suffering and injustice. They therefore have a duty to be alert to the continuation of such stereotyping and to resist it." The report also called on Christians to be "sensitive to Jewish fears" and encouraged followers of the Church to rediscover the relationship of "unique significance" between the two faiths. The bond should be viewed as a "gift of God to the Church" to be received with care, respect and gratitude, it said. The report's section on Israel defends the Jewish people's right to self-determination and classifies some of the approaches and language used by pro-Palestinian advocates as "indeed reminiscent of what could be called traditional antisemitism."

Vatican: U.S. new stance on settlements undermines Israeli-Palestinian peace

The Vatican said on Nov. 21 that the announcement on Nov. 18 by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that the United States would no longer view Jewish settlements in Judea and Samaria as illegal under international law puts at risk the prospects for peace between Israelis and Palestinians. "In the context of recent decisions that risk undermining further the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and the already fragile regional stability, the Holy See reiterates its position of a two-state solution for two peoples, as the only way to reach a complete solution to this age-old conflict," said the Vatican in a statement. "The Holy See supports the right of the State of Israel to live in peace and security within the borders recognized by the international community and supports the same right that belongs to the Palestinian people, which must be recognized, respected and implemented," it added.

Dutch parliament OKs action against EU ruling on Israeli product labels

The Dutch parliament passed a motion on Nov. 19 objecting to the previous week's ruling by the European Court of Justice requiring products coming from the West Bank, eastern Jerusalem and the Golan Heights not to be labeled "made in Israel." The motion, which deemed the ruling as unfair and discriminatory toward Israel, passed by a tally of 82-68. The vote was largely symbolic, as it doesn't require the government to act. In the ruling, the ECJ said, "Israel is present in the territories concerned as an occupying power and not as a sovereign entity." The decision stemmed from a case brought by brought by Israeli wine producer and exporter Psagot Winery Ltd., along with the Lawfare Project. The Lawfare Project said the decision by the European Union high court not only "supports derogatory French-labeling requirements imposed on Israeli products, but it also mandates similar requirements throughout the E.U."

Jewish tombstones used as Prague cobblestones to be returned

Pieces of Jewish gravestones used for street-paving in Prague's pedestrian areas will be returned to the Old Jewish Cemetery in the Czech Republic's capital as a result of an agreement reached on Nov. 18 between Prague City Hall and the Jewish community, BBC News reported. For years, Czech Jews have been calling for the removal of the stones, which were taken from the 19th-century Jewish cemetery and used as cobblestones in the late 1980s. A majority of the stones, made from gravestones that were cut into squares, are situated at the base of Wenceslas Square, one of Prague's main squares, and on Na Příkopě, a popular shopping street. A project called "Finding the Lost Face of Jewish Cemeteries" is now underway to identify the gravestone fragments, according to Radio Prague International. The city's Old Jewish Cemetery is one of the largest Jewish temples in Europe and is run by the Jewish Museum in Prague, Fox News reported. The Czech Republic's Jewish population was about 350,000 before World War II (then called Czechoslovakia), but that number dwindled to about 50,000 by 1946. By the late 1980s, the country's Jewish population barely reached 8,000.

Birders.Continued from page 5

"The new center brings together nature and high-tech," noted Wendy Spatzner, president of JNF Canada.

Daniel Atar, world chairman of KKL-JNF, told visitors, "Lake Hula is a prime destination not only for migrating birds, but for tourists everywhere. This new beautiful center is going to bring in many more visitors and lift up the entire economy for the Northern Galilee."

Regional officials hope that the increase in tourism will create jobs, and encourage more Israelis and immigrants to move to nearby periphery towns like Hatzor and Kiryat Shmona that have been struggling to bolster their populations and attract new development.

For Shay Charka, chief ornithologist for the KKL-JNF, the new center is "the jewel in the crown." While noting that cooperation with international-birding bodies is still in its infant stages, he revealed that KKL-JNF had just signed a memorandum of understanding with the 770,000 member U.S.-based Ducks Unlimited group dedicated to the conservation of wetlands.

At a gala dinner in Jerusalem on the night before the ribbon-cutting ceremony, Harper and his wife, Lauren, were joined by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife, Sara. A delegation of hundreds of Canadian KKL-JNF donors and JNF supporters from around the world joined in a standing ovation as Netanyahu awarded a citation to Harper for his commitment to JNF-KKL and the state of Israel. "Israel has had no better friend than Stephen Harper," said Netanyahu.

Sen. Linda Frum, a Conservative member of the Senate of Canada since 2009, and her husband, Toronto Argonauts owner Howard Sokolowski, headed the Canadian delegation. Frum explained that the project grew out of a 2013 JNF gala that was a tribute to Harper when he was still in office. Since that event, more than \$5.7 million has been raised for the Visitor Center. Harper, known as a strong supporter of Israel, recounted the history of the Hula Valley, which was inappropriately drained in the 1950s in an attempt to clear out the swampy marshlands and create fertile farmland. Many natural species were wiped out, and JNF-KKL subsequently spent millions of dollars to restore the valley and return the land to productive farming.

Harper, who was raised in the United Church of Canada, is a longtime member of the evangelical Christian and Missionary Alliance. He compared the Hula Valley project to the return of the Jewish people to its native land. "This park is one of the greatest restoration stories, just like this country is to the Jewish people," he declared. "It is a magnificent honor to have this center named after me. I am grateful for this beautiful occasion and will never forget this visit."

The center is expected to be open to the public by 2020. Admission fees will be 28 NIS (\$8) per person.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israel deports Human Rights Watch director Omar Shakir for advocating BDS

Human Rights Watch's Israel-Palestine director will be deported under Israel's anti-BDS law for promoting a boycott of the Jewish state. Omar Shakir, a U.S. citizen, was ordered to leave the country after Israel's Supreme Court upheld an expulsion order under a 2017 law that allows Israel to deport foreigners who support the boycott movement aimed at economically isolating Israel, but has also been accused of antisemitism and ties with terrorism. "This has never been about BDS. It's always been about the Israeli government's efforts to muzzle Human Rights Watch," Shakir said in a statement. "But it's had exactly the opposite effect. The world has seen through this for what it is. It's an attack on the human-rights movement." Nevertheless, a watchdog group said that Shakir has long targeted the Jewish state. "Shakir's career, including at HRW, has been devoted to uniquely and intensely targeting Israel. His personal involvement in campaigns concerning Israeli banks, Airbnb and FIFA membership was meant to trigger far-reaching boycotts, divestment and sanctions. Two courts carefully reviewed the evidence we provided and came to the same conclusion," NGO Monitor said in a statement. "Now that Shakir has lost, he and HRW have suddenly forgotten the due process and exceptional access that he enjoyed," it said.

Canadian mail gets a little brighter this Hanukkah

Canadians hoping to add a little Hanukkah decor to their envelopes or gift packages this year are in luck, as Canada Post has issued a new holiday stamp to its roster this year. The new stamp was created by Lionel Gadoury, principal and director of strategy and creative services at Context Creative in Toronto. His illustration features a white menorah on a background shaded in blues and purples, and flickering yellow flames. It is meant to explore "the relationship between light and dark," Canada Post explained in a release. "Combining a stylized menorah with layered patterns and nuanced hues that range from bright yellow to deep purple, the intent is to evoke a sense of reflection and contemplation." This isn't the first time that Canada Post has issued a Hanukkah-themed stamp. It did so back in 2017 and, prior to that, had a limited number of Hanukkah stamps, created through the company's "Picture Postage" custom stamp service. Those, however, were available only in select markets. In addition to Hanukkah and Christmas stamps, which have been offered in Canada since 1964, Canada Post also offers stamps for the Muslim and Hindu holidays of Eid and Diwali, respectively. "We are very much aware of the changing demographics in Canada, and our stamp program is continuously evol-

ing to ensure that we reflect the cultural diversity of our country," said a spokesperson. As for postal customers in the United States, the U.S. Postal Service continues to make Hanukkah-themed "Forever" stamps available. Two designs are currently available for purchase, including a 2018 design featuring a silver menorah on a blue background and framed with green motifs that was issued in conjunction with Israel Post. The other design, from 2016, features lit menorah in front of a window set against a snowy winter backdrop.

Genesis Prize Foundation launches "Speak Out for Israel" to counter antisemitism

The Genesis Prize Foundation and the 2019 Genesis Prize winner Robert Kraft announced the launch of "Speak Out for Israel" – an international campaign designed to help combat the global rise of antisemitism and attempts to delegitimize the Jewish state. Through this campaign, GPF and Kraft plan to award \$1 million in grants to Israeli nonprofit organizations capable of delivering an innovative response to this grave challenge. "The theme of the 2019 Genesis Prize focuses on combating global antisemitism and increasingly aggressive efforts to challenge the legitimacy of the state of Israel," said Stan Polovets, co-founder and chairman of the Genesis Prize Foundation. "These grants are designed to help Israel's nonprofit sector stand up to this scourge by promoting a truthful, inspiring narrative of Israel to audiences around the world, countering Israel's detractors with factual, positive messages of what the Jewish state truly represents. We invite other donors to join Robert Kraft and our foundation in this effort." "Speak out for Israel" grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to entities that propose programs designed to tell the story of Israel by emphasizing democratic values, such as tolerance and respect for the rights of minorities, as well as scientific, technological and cultural achievements. The programs will aim to build cross-community bridges, dismantle stereotypes, and educate Jews and non-Jews alike about Israel. "Israel is so special to me and my family," Kraft, owner of the New England Patriots, said in a statement. "It's where I took the love of my life on our honeymoon in 1963. Since then, I have sponsored dozens of missions and countless other trips for people to experience Israel for the first time. ...Spiritually, there is no place like it on earth," he continued. "The more people learn about its history, its diverse culture and its innovation, the more we can do to change stereotypes and end antisemitism. That's why Speak Out for Israel is so timely and important to Israel's future." The Genesis Prize Foundation invites interested nonprofits registered in Israel to apply for "Speak Out for Israel" grants until Dec. 12 online at <http://www.matanisrael.org.il/?p=4928>. The competition is being administered by Matan-United Way Israel, with winners to be announced in April 2020.

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