

Annual Community Hanukkah Celebration at JCC set for Dec. 19

The annual Community Hanukkah Celebration, which is being co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation, will take place at the JCC on Thursday, December 19, from 5:15-7 pm.

The evening will begin with the Hanukkah torch walk, during which children and teens from the community will lead a procession of lights from the entrance to Temple Israel's parking lot to the front of the JCC. There will be a brief ceremony with music and recitations, after which there will be performances by the JCC Early Childhood

Center and Hillel Academy and a showing of the annual community Hanukkah video in the JCC's Auditorium.

The torch walk will take place from 5:15-5:30 pm, followed by entertainment from 5:30-6 pm, at which time the food buffet will open. Food tickets will be sold for \$8 per person, \$6 for seniors and children, with a family maximum of \$28. There will be games, face painting and arts and crafts, as well as dreidels and chocolate gelt while they last.

Reservations are appreciated and can be made by calling the JCC office at 724-2417.



JCC Early Childhood Center children entertained the audience with a few songs at last year's community Hanukkah party.



Teens lined up in front of the JCC and gave readings for each "candle" they held at last year's community Hanukkah party.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca to host Hanukkah Festival

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 the temple



A chanukiah at a past Hanukkah Festival.

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.

The Hanukkah House Museum of Temple Concord, a seasonal teaching museum, is now open to the public and will 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 are Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from noon-4 pm and Thursdays from 4-8 pm.

The museum is showcasing three of Marilyn Belford's art quilts this year: "Miriam's Dance," "Mordechai and Esther" and "Deborah Daydreaming." Organizers said, "Following a successful career in the art world, Marilyn brought her artistic talents and childhood sewing skills to a newly discovered love - quilting. The results are breathtaking. Come see for yourself!"

Other exhibits feature the history of the Kilmer Mansion and family. 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. Bobbie King's dollhouses will return again this year. Also returning this year is a miniature recreation of life on the Lower Ease Side of New York at the turn of the century.

Additional Hanukkah House Museum exhibits seek to give students and visitors



A few of the items on display at last year's Hanukkah House Museum.

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. The story of Hanukkah will be told in different mediums in the museum: fabric, written words, movies, dioramas 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. 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.

Reporter seeks e-mail addresses for e-mail blasts

By Reporter staff

The Reporter is about to launch its new website and will begin e-mail blasts with headlines, blurbs and website links for articles from the upcoming issue of the paper. Anyone interested in receiving these e-mail blasts should e-mail thebingreporter@gmail.com with the subject line "e-mail blast."

"Looking to check out the book review column or see what's appearing on our oped page?" said Rabbi Rachel Esserman,

Reporter executive editor. "Now you can find out ahead of time. The e-mail blast will include links to selected local articles so you can be ahead of the curve."

Jenn DePersis, Reporter production coordinator and webmaster, noted, "The e-mail blasts will be a sneak peek of what to expect every week. Our newly designed site will feature an easy-to-navigate design, as well as frequent content updates. We'll have some online-only

content coming after the new year. Besides our paper copy, we want www.thereporter.org to be your source for Jewish news and happenings. Our homepage will have up-to-the-minute 'World Jewish News' via a Jewish Telegraphic Agency news ticker. Our readers will find it easier to visit us online and share the articles they like with friends and family. We know this will not only benefit our organizations, but will

give our community a 'worldly reach.'"

Esserman added, "We're looking forward to launching the new website and are very excited about the changes that are coming."

The e-mail blast will arrive a day or two before the paper arrives in people's mailboxes. It will also be easier to follow local events when people are away from home, or for readers to find a particular article they want to read or share.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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An ADL conference looked at antisemitism on middle school to college campuses.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Racist graffiti found at New York Holocaust museum

Racist graffiti was discovered at a New York Holocaust museum for the second time in two weeks. The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County in Glen Cove was defaced with swastikas and other vandalism. "It's shocking because we're a museum and education center," Deborah Lom, acting director of development at the

museum, told *Patch* on Dec. 5. "And now, we're faced with this incident right here," she said. "That makes it even more shocking to us." In a statement on Dec. 5, the Center said, "We are shocked and saddened about the appearance of this representation of Nazi ideology. Ironically, we learned about this symbol of hate appearing here on the same day we hosted a major public event on antisemitism." The vandalism occurred 10 days after graffiti, including a racial smear, was discovered on the museum. Glen Cove police are investigating the vandalism.

Opinion

If NATO is going to fight terrorism, it needs Israel

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS) – President Donald Trump thought the 70th anniversary celebration of the founding of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization held recently was going to be a political triumph that would help distract Americans from the attempts by Democrats to impeach him. Unfortunately for him, the summit will primarily be remembered for a hot mic moment in which the various heads of government commiserated about their distaste for the president.

But Trump's problems at the conference weren't limited to his being openly mocked by his foreign counterparts. Far more important was the widely applauded statement of French President Emmanuel Macron who said that what he termed the "loss of American leadership" had led to the "brain death" of NATO. While that remark made headlines, the irony is that Macron actually agrees with Trump – and disagrees with many other NATO leaders – that the primary focus of the alliance ought to be combating terrorism rather than on stopping Russian expansionism, as it was in the past when the opponent was the Soviet Union.

Both Trump and Macron are right about that. But if NATO members and foreign-policy pundits could get past their obsessive antipathy for the president of the United States, they'd see the alliance's real problem as it heads into its eighth decade is not Trump's transactional view of NATO, which has led him to rightly demand that other members increase defense spending and pay their fair share of the cost of their defense – primarily the burden of American taxpayers at present. Nor is it the way the president has, at times, sounded skeptical about America's Article 5 obligations to defend other nations under the NATO treaty. It's that its Cold War origins and its Eurocentric focus have blinded the alliance to the fact that a full-fledged member of the alliance – namely, Turkey – has mixed sympathies with respect to the fight against terrorism, and that it continues to exclude from its membership the state of Israel, one of the world's key players in that battle.

NATO is still needed to act as a check on Russian President Vladimir Putin's desire to reassemble the old tsarist empire and defend the independence of Eastern European states, as well as those that were captive nations inside the Soviet Union. Trump has actually done more to aid those countries than President Barack Obama ever did. But his obsequious attitude toward Putin, which raises doubts about America's commitment to stopping Russian aggression, has understandably distracted the public from the substance of the administration's policies.

Yet Trump and Macron are right that thinking about NATO solely in terms of the geostrategic conflict with Russia makes it irrelevant to the ongoing and arguably far more serious struggle against Islamist terror. That's NATO's real job in the 21st century. It's also why its current structure with Turkey on the inside and Israel on the outside looking in remains a huge problem.

Turkey joined NATO, alongside its historical antagonist Greece, in 1951 – two years after the alliance was founded. Admitting Turkey made sense at that time for two reasons. One was that its strategic position bordering the Soviet Union made it essential to any effort to contain Moscow's expansionist drive to both undermine the stability of the post-war world and to spread communism. Post-war Turkey was also a thriving secular democracy whose governing parties were interested in becoming part of Europe, rather than focusing on the lost glories of the Ottoman Empire.

But contemporary Turkey is a very different country. In the last two decades, the rise of the AKP Party and its leader, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, has transformed an avowedly secular democratic republic into an Islamist authoritarian state. As such, it has turned away from NATO's mission of defending European democracy. It plays both ends against the middle with respect to Russia by buying a missile-defense system from Moscow and refuses to coordinate security policy with the United States and NATO.

Erdogan also criticizes NATO for being insufficiently concerned with terrorism. But by that he is referring to the understandable reluctance of the alliance's members to share his enthusiasm for Turkey's war on the Kurds. The Turks have attempted to wipe out Kurdish identity inside of their borders and regard Kurdish nationalism elsewhere as a threat to its own sovereignty, despite the sufferings of this group of people. There are, in fact, Kurdish groups considered to be terrorists, but to regard all Kurdish nationalism in that way is deeply wrong. And for a country like Turkey, which has consistently backed the terror group Hamas, the notion that it represents a bulwark against terror is absurd.

At the same time, the United States and NATO rely heavily on Israel when it comes to counter-terrorism. It's no secret that the intelligence information shared by Israel is vital to U.S. security and that of the alliance. Israel coordinates closely with the Americans and Western Europeans when it comes to the battle against ISIS and the threat from Iran. The joint exercises that America and some other NATO allies conduct with Israel are also an indication that even though the Jewish state is not part of a formal alliance structure like NATO, it is an essential element in the defense of the West. And yet Erdogan was feted, along with the rest of the NATO leaders, at the anniversary summit in London while Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was pointedly excluded.

Talk about scrapping NATO – whether it comes from "America First" neo-isolationist Trump supporters or leftists who view the projection of U.S. power as inherently evil – are equally wrong. But if NATO is to continue to play the role in defending democracy that its founders intended, then it will have to change. It can start by figuring out a way to sideline Erdogan's Turkey, while either formally or informally bringing Israel inside the alliance.

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

In My Own Words

Free speech

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Do you really believe in free speech? Does that include speech or symbols you find offensive? A challenge to my thoughts about free speech happened recently with the news that a local homeowner painted a swastika on his house. The village of Owego officials made it clear that, while they don't approve of the symbol, there is nothing they can do to make the homeowner remove it. He, and his symbol, are protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Before you decide that there should be an exception to the First Amendment because you find that symbol offensive, you need stop and consider what this means. Think back to recent Gay Pride Marches that banned Jews from marching with the Israeli flag because the organizers saw that flag as offensive. The same organizers also refused to let the Jewish Gay Pride flag – a rainbow flag with a Star of David – be displayed because it was considered offensive. In fact, one of the organizers said they were banning "all nationalist symbols" from "nations that have specific oppressive tendencies." (That included the U.S. flag. The irony is that they allowed the Palestinian flag, even though male homosexual conduct is illegal in Gaza.) In my mind, all political flags should have been banished or

all should have been displayed. The same is true for religious symbols: picking and choosing is a judgment that often discriminates.

The fact that the article about the swastika appeared after I'd just written a column about symbols of the Confederacy, which I said don't belong in public places, caused me to think more about this issue. (To read that column, visit www.thereporter.com/group/Article.aspx?aID=5376.) Finding something offensive isn't enough to ban it from people's personal lives. So if someone wants to put a Confederate flag on their home or car, there isn't anything we can do about it. If it's on a store, then we have the choice of shopping elsewhere. (I don't know what people could do, though, when that is the only store available.) However, as I said in that column, these symbols have no place on government buildings or in areas that technically belong to all citizens.

We then have to question whether other symbols should be banned on public property. While Nazi symbols seem obvious, there seem to be far too many people who support the ideas espoused by the Nazi cause – just think of all the news articles about swastikas that have been drawn on buildings, particularly Jewish ones, in recent years. If you feel the Confederate flag stands for slavery, which is the

reason given for removing it from public property, then it should be removed. But how do you feel about other oppression? When does a flag come to represent a particular policy, rather than a whole country? That's what we face when people equate the Israeli flag with oppression. You can disagree with Israeli policy and still believe Israel has the right to exist as a nation. The line between being anti-Israeli policy and being antisemitic has become far too porous for me.

I think that we just have to accept that, in order to live in a democracy, we will be faced with symbols and statements we find offensive. We may have to deal with neighbors who paint symbols on their houses that offend us, or make statements online or off that we believe are bigoted and prejudicial. I normally say that education is the key to correcting this problem, but, obviously, that hasn't worked, at least not so far. I'm not sure what I would do if a neighbor painted a swastika on his/her house. Perhaps I would call on local Jewish organizations in the hope that they could help me deal with it. Would I move if the symbol was never removed? Would that mean a bigot won if they drove a Jewish person from her home by making her feel that uncomfortable? Let's hope we never have to find out.



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

LETTERS

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

ADS

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.thereporter.com

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 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.



Dr. Charles Rubin

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.

“The power of young people”

Skokie teens take proactive steps to introduce Judaism to peers

By Carin M. Smilk

(JNS) – Like any American high-schooler, Riva Weiss started the school year off with a flurry of activity, albeit with a new development she has been mulling over since late spring. That’s the start of the Association of Jewish Students, a Jewish club at Niles North High School in Skokie, IL, with its goal of educating fellow students about holidays, traditions and history. The first meeting took place on September 19.

An Israeli club has already been active there, as Skokie has long had a significant Jewish population. At its peak in the mid-1960s, nearly 60 percent of its population was Jewish – the largest percentage of any Chicago suburb. In fact, it garnered international attention for a 1977 court case dealing with freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, National Socialist Party of America v. Village of Skokie, protesting a planned march by neo-Nazis in an area home to numerous Holocaust survivors. For a number of reasons, the march never did take place there; it was held in nearby Chicago instead, though it made Skokie a household name among Jews across the country.

Weiss, 15, knows the story well, and it prompted her and other Jewish teenagers to begin the new club after what they felt was another scare back in May. The school district had listed an optional educator’s training course called “Teaching Palestine,” with content that became an immediate cause for concern.

Objectives of the course, according to printed materials, include a focus on the political context of the Israeli “occupation” of “Palestine” and the Palestinian liberation struggle; strategies on how to respond to Zionist curricula, or when parents/staff/others object to anti-Zionist curriculum; and connections between “Palestine” and issues affecting students, such as state/police violence, the struggle for racial justice in America, settler colonialism in “Palestine” and the United States, and access to education for historically marginalized youth.

“I was very upset,” says the 10th-grader about hearing the news. “My religion matters a lot to me. I am a Jew, and I’m proud; my home and school are the two most important things to me.”

(A direct reminder of Jewish heritage is the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, across the expressway and just minutes from Niles North.)



Students from Niles North High School in Skokie, IL, met as part of a newly created club, the Association of Jewish Students. At right is special-education teacher Dr. Anne Zavell, the club sponsor. (Photo courtesy of CTeen)

She and about a dozen other students met at their CTeen (Chabad Teen Network) chapter, led by Rabbi Yochanan Posner, to talk over issues and feelings the course engendered. At about the same time, the Israel-education organization StandWithUs, invited to the meeting by the rabbi, sent out an Action Alert that galvanized an instant response from the local community. In short form, the district retracted the class from its list of offerings with apologies for not realizing “the one-sided nature” of a course, it stated, that “addresses a very complex topic.”

“When it was removed, I literally jumped up and down,” recalls Weiss. “I definitely felt empowered. It can be hard to be open about your religion in a public school, but I don’t want to be afraid; I want to show who I am. I grew from this.”

Jac Copeland, also in 10th grade at Niles North and who is helping to form the Jewish club, was likewise in disbelief at first. “I thought, hasn’t Skokie been here before? Haven’t others learned from their mistakes?”

He says that even after the quick action of the school district and the removal of the course, “the fact that it happened, we weren’t going to let it slide. We had another meeting on what teens can do, where to go from here, and we decided on the club. It’s for Jews and non-Jews, so we can share information and promote education about Judaism, and get to know each other more.”

See “Teens” on page 6

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Stanton Drazen**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Bill Jaker**

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 27	Monday, December 16
Friday, January 3	Monday, December 23
Friday, January 10	Monday, December 30

Selma Spector, long-time member of the Binghamton JCC, active volunteer, talented quilter and beloved aunt of Janet and Harvey Levine passed away on Nov. 12 on Long Island at the age of 99. Also an avid knitter Selma regularly donated her baby hats and blankets to area hospitals. Selma was a true inspiration and will be greatly missed. Condolences to her family.

Sheryl Brumer





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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



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Off the Shelf

Revisiting a biblical tale

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

I'm always fascinated to discover new interpretations of biblical tales. One source of inspiration has been comments made by members of a study group or class I'm teaching. Other new ideas have been found in some traditional formats: books of essays about the *parasha* or *d'var* Torah columns in newspapers or online. Unless an interpretation plainly contradicts the facts of the biblical verse, it's difficult to say it's wrong. That's because the text leaves so much to the imagination, in particular, what most of its characters are thinking or feeling. So I was curious about why I so greatly disagreed with Stephen Mitchell's interpretations in "Joseph and the Way of Forgiveness: A Biblical Tale Retold" (St. Martin's Essentials). His characterization of Joseph rubbed me the wrong way, even though his interpretation is entirely plausible. That left me to explore why there were such substantive differences in our thoughts about this biblical character.

The very reason that Mitchell and I could have such different thoughts about Joseph is what attracted Mitchell to the story in the first place: "Not just because of what [the biblical text] says, but because of what it leaves unsaid. It cries out for the ancient Jewish art of midrash, or creative transformation – a way of inhabiting the text in order to deepen your understanding of it." Mitchell wants

An additional Off the Shelf column can be found on page 11.

to understand Joseph's feelings and the transformation he believes the character undergoes. He also sees Joseph "as the most spiritual mature character in the Hebrew Bible, someone who has literally ascended from the depths to a freedom that every reader can recognize and enjoy." It is here that I parted company with Mitchell's ideas, but I didn't realize that at first since this idea is not fully realized in his introduction.

The main text of "Joseph and the Way of Forgiveness" is a retelling of the story with Mitchell filling in the gaps to describe the characters' thoughts and emotions. Mitchell sees the young Joseph as a spoiled, arrogant youth who doesn't take his brothers' feelings into consideration. It's not hard to see why his brothers would resent him: he was clearly their father's favorite, something shown in emotional and practical ways. There comes a time, though, when Joseph's behavior becomes too great for the brothers to ignore. While Mitchell questions what was the "final straw," he admits it's too hard to determine. In all this, I

agree with him. It's the next step in his thinking that proved difficult for me to accept.

When Joseph's brothers place him in the pit and prepare to sell him into slavery, Mitchell believes that Joseph undergoes a spiritual transformation. Joseph not only lets go of the idea that he is special – recognizing his arrogance for the sin it was – but accepts that "everything that happened was God's will, else it wouldn't have happened... So, as strange as it sounded, it was God who had thrown him into this pit. It was God who would let him live now or die." My problem is that I don't believe Joseph felt no anger or despair. Mitchell's and my thoughts are both possible interpretations of the text, but his doesn't resonate with me because it feels unrealistic.

Joseph's miraculous transformation continues through all his ordeals. Being a slave doesn't bother him; being thrown into prison doesn't bother him because he feels sorry for Potiphar's wife. At this point, I began to wonder about Joseph's continued tranquility of mind. Perhaps, I thought, there is something about Mitchell that makes him see Joseph's behavior differently. The reason became clear when I looked at the short biographical blurb feature on the book jacket: "Stephen Mitchell was born in Brooklyn. See "Tale" on page 6

LEGAL NOTICE

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Harvey's Karate Studio, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is October 29, 2019.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 1837 Haighs Pond Road, Rome, PA 18837.
5. 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.

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1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is HEATH C-TOWER, LLC.
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5. 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.

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

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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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is SHL Transportation, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is November 21, 2019.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: PO Box 330, Whitney Point, NY 13862.
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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY UNDER NEW YORK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY LAW

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

Notice of Formation of Oasis Stone Works LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/12/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o John Sacco, 100 Oakdale Rd., Johnson City, NY 13790. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Industry Building Blocks LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is December 3, 2019. The effective date of the Articles of Organization is January 1, 2020.
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Harvey A Sherman LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 12/4/2019. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Harvey Sherman, 59-50 261st St., Glen Oaks, NY 11004. General Purpose.

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At ADL conference, a focus on schools, reactions by students and teachers to antisemitism

By Faygie Holt

(JNS) – For many of the attendees at the recent “Never Is Now” conference in New York sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League, the global and geopolitical impacts of the uptick in antisemitism were front and center of the discussions. And for a significant number, the concern was also about antisemitism and anti-Zionism on college campuses, as well as its creep into the middle- and high school spheres – a fact that was acknowledged by the presence of 300 high school students who attended the conference. As Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL’s CEO and national director, noted in his opening remarks, troubling reports have included high-schoolers who think it’s amusing to “sling ‘Heil Hitler’ salutes at one another.”

In 2018, the ADL recorded 344 incidents of antisemitism at kindergarten through 12th grade non-Jewish schools. Among this year’s reported incidents were swastikas at schools in Connecticut, California and a number of other states; a “Kill the Jews” page on social media created by middle-school students in Massachusetts; and a threatening note left on the desk of the daughter of a Las Vegas rabbi.

High school students were a “significant part” of the audience in two morning panels: “Anti-Israel vs. Anti-Semitism: An Interactive Workshop Examining Their Distinctions and Where They Overlap,” which highlighted various scenarios and asked participants to vote via an app on their feelings of whether the act was antisemitic, anti-Zionist, both or neither; and “Voices From Campus: Exploring Anti-Semitism and Its Impact on College University Communities.”

For high school senior Thomas Bocian, 17, attending the ADL program was important as a Jew, a student leader



Jason Greenblatt, CEO and national director of the Anti-Defamation League, with students at the “Never Is Now” conference in New York. (Photo courtesy of the Anti-Defamation League and Facebook)

and as someone who is currently applying to colleges. “The level of awareness about antisemitism is a lot lower than it should be, and to be able to come here and learn how to handle these situations is very important for me as a student leader,” said Bocian, who attended the conference on behalf of his high school, Princeton Day School, a private school in New Jersey. He added that he is proud of his heritage and religion, and has already ruled out attending at least one top-tier college because he was disappointed by the way the administration handled an incident regarding the BDS movement.

Bocian, who spoke to JNS as he was getting ready to

enter the “Voices From Campus” panel, was accompanied by teacher David Freedholm and guidance counselor Alex Portale, who were there to gain tips for an upcoming school workshop on antisemitism.

Judaic-studies teacher Yael Weil brought a group of 10 seniors from the Ma’ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls in Teaneck, NJ, to offer them a sense of what to expect when they go on to college and beyond. “I think it’s an important issue that kids are aware of,” she said. “Our group of seniors will be graduating and going outside of their bubble, and need to see what’s out there and how to deal with it. They are seeing how the larger Jewish community outside of the Orthodox community is addressing the issue.”

Attendees at the conference included people of different races and faith. Several speakers noted that if the Jewish community is to succeed in battling antisemitism and anti-Zionism, it will need support from other groups and people who are willing to denounce hate in all its forms.

Perhaps in an odd bit of irony, however, some public discussions centered on how diversity in books and media tend to exclude Jewish groups from “minority” concerns. That may be why several people interviewed at the conference suggested that antisemitism and anti-Zionism aren’t acknowledged in the discussions on hate and racism going on at high school and middle-school campuses. One educator even suggested that she was glad that she came with students so they could understand what antisemitism is and why it’s so dangerous.

That doesn’t surprise Miriam F. Elman, executive director of the Academic Engagement Network, who has researched antisemitism and anti-Zionism on campus, though was not at See “ADL” on page 16

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Annual Shabbat Project sees “unprecedented” participation in U.S., Israel and worldwide

By JNS staff

(JNS)—The seventh annual international Shabbat Project reached 1,685 cities and 106 countries across the world this year, attracting record numbers of participants in many of those cities. The 2019 Shabbat Project that took place from November 15-16 called on Jews to “Jump Together” in response to rising levels of violent antisemitism in the United States and worldwide.

American Jews responded to the call through a “dramatic uptick” in participation, with events including challah bakes, *Havdalah* concerts, family and community dinners, festive prayer services and children’s activities taking place in 771 U.S. cities. Other major Diaspora communities such as France (51 cities), Russia (36 cities) and Argentina (21 cities) also continued to expand their involvement in the effort.

“The growing numbers of people and passionate level of engagement demonstrate the Jewish people’s connection to the values of Shabbat: faith, family, community and uni-



A women’s challah bake in Cali, Colombia. (Photo by The Shabbat Project)

ty,” says South African Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, the founder and director of the project. “This past Shabbat, we showed the world and ourselves who we truly are.”

The Shabbat Project and its partners facilitated thousands of events around the world, while reaching 210 new cities

and seven new countries (Rwanda, Papua New Guinea, Antigua and Barbuda, United Arab Emirates, Latvia, Afghanistan, Luxembourg and Oman).

“The 1,685 cities participating worldwide represent more than 10 percent growth from the 1,511 cities that took part in 2018,” says Tanya Harati, global director of operations.

One example of Jewish unity occurred amid the recent rocket attacks on southern Israel from the Gaza Strip. The longtime partner White City Shabbat in Tel Aviv expanded its already oversubscribed Friday-night dinner for more than 1,000 people to residents of southern Israel free of charge, while local Tel Avivians also opened their homes to families fleeing the line of fire.

“There wasn’t even a question; this is what the Jewish people are all about,” said Deborah Danan, co-founder of White City Shabbat. “We support each other. We comfort each other. We make room at our table for one another. For us, there was no better way to express our commitment See “Project” on page 15

Teens.....

Continued from page 3

Weiss and Copeland are also involved with the Israeli club, which focuses more on the culture of the Jewish state. “We realized,” says Copeland, also 15, “that a lot of kids don’t know much about Judaism and the issues we face as Jews, particularly in this polarized environment of ‘I’m right, and you’re wrong.’ We can’t just push each other away; we have to open access for learning. And we need to present facts without biases.”

Next on tap for the Association of Jewish Students is putting up a sukkah, where students of all backgrounds can sit and eat; holding a Hanukkah menorah-lighting and latke party; hosting a mock seder during Passover time; and offering opportunities to introduce traditional Jewish foods throughout the year. As far as the Israeli club goes (it is affiliated with NSCY, a Jewish youth group under the auspices of the Orthodox Union, and sponsored at the high school by Anna Raiber), it offers folk-dancing, the celebration of Israeli-specific holidays and will be putting on a musical.

Posner, director of the Skokie CTeen chapter, says the energy of the students is telling; that they were the ones behind the launching of the new club, and he is there to support them. “There are strong feelings out there,” he



Rabbi Yochanan Posner, director of the Skokie CTeen chapter, helped students make a shofar from scratch at the first meeting of the Association of Jewish Students, a Jewish club at Niles North High School in Skokie, IL, on September 19. (Photo courtesy of CTeen)

says. “They have ideas, insight, sophisticated opinions – and they can make a difference. Don’t ever underestimate

the power of young people!”

He believes that the school district consists of “good people who are not antisemitic or anti-Israel; they simply didn’t understand the nuances of the course” or the consternation it would engender. Posner credits the school district for working quickly and decisively to correct what he feels was “an innocent mistake.”

What he can do as a religious adviser, he explains, is “to give students the knowledge and the tools to expose their Jewishness in a positive way,” and what the teens can do together at school is “to educate non-Jewish students and teachers about Judaism. Through familiarizing them with who we are, we hope to reduce antisemitism.”

He is being assisted on the school premises by special-education teacher Dr. Anne Zavell, the club sponsor. She has taught for 33 years – 26 of them at Niles North. Zavell notes that the population of both the community and the school has changed over the decades; that back in the 1980s (when her husband attended), it was actually known as “a Jewish school.”

Now, with a mix of different ethnicities, including a sizeable Muslim population, a need has arisen, she adds, for cultural information – for more information, period. So when the teens came to her for support, she says, “I couldn’t say ‘no’ to them. I was happy to help.”

At that first meeting on September 19, participants handmade a *shofar* with equipment the rabbi brought in, and tasted different types of apples and honey – timed to the upcoming High Holidays – and discussed the goals of the new club to be and how similar issues can be addressed in the future. They also handed out food to curious students who wandered in from the hallway, putting words into action by being welcoming and inclusive.

“I think the kids are very brave to show they are Jewish, to be so visible – not hiding their identities and wanting others to understand them. It also gives them an understanding of what to expect after high school,” says Zavell, when they leave the so-called “bubble” of their community and of Chicago-area Jewish resources. Such resources include StandWithUs, which was present at the first general meeting of students on May 31, along with the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Midwest managing director Assaf Grumberg explains that the issue with the course in question, like other Palestinian-related curriculums circulating through the United States, has to do with legitimate criticism of Israel and its policies versus antisemitism and hatred of Jews. “There are stronger and stronger attempts to delegitimize the state of Israel,” he says. “There is increasingly venomous antisemitic content that is easier to recognize,” at least, for those familiar with the material.

The teacher’s course “was not factual,” says Grumberg. “The community at large protested it; they would not accept antisemitism as fact.”

The problem, he explains, is that in places where such courses do get successfully taught, any misinformation will inevitably go from teacher to student eventually.

While in Skokie the decision was reversed the same day, says Grumberg, that’s not often the case. He notes that adults often can’t recognize biases when it pertains to the kinds of text in question, which become more nuanced and more difficult to identify an underlying agenda, and that’s why his organization is there: “What we do is educate.”

As for the teens, he says they should feel confident and know that support is out there. “Do not stay silent,” he advises. “Do not be afraid to speak out. We have your back. We have the tools and resources to identify forms of antisemitism, and to educate communities.”

Of this particular group of students, he points out that what happened in Skokie represents “the core of activism. ... These are the students you’re always looking for,” says Grumberg. “These are leaders. These are the people who say, *Hineni*, ‘We are here.’”

Tale.....

Continued from page 4

educated at Amherst, the Sorbonne, and Yale, and de-educated through intensive Zen training.” The last part of that sentence explained the way Mitchell feels about Joseph, even though he never specifically says it: his interpretation is based on the idea that Joseph went through a Zen experience while in the pit and lived the rest of his life viewing the world through Zen eyes.

This is an interesting interpretation and Mitchell uses it to explain Joseph’s behavior when his brothers come to Egypt. Joseph forgives his brothers because he sees God’s hand behind everything that happened. His concern is less for himself than for making certain his brothers understand that they need to ask for forgiveness for their own sake, not for Joseph’s. Mitchell suggests that Joseph “felt a welling-up of love for [his brothers], and it was easy to imagine what a heavy burden of conscience they might have been carrying all these years.” There is no hint of triumph or arrogance in Mitchell’s interpretation, nor does he consider that Joseph’s pride allows him to believe he, and he alone, is the center of God’s planning.

What I realize after thinking about our differences is that each of our interpretations speak more about our

own experiences and thoughts than they do those of the original biblical text. At the end of the work, Mitchell claims that Joseph felt that “there was nothing [in his life experiences] that he would change. There was nothing in it that he could call evil – not the pit, not the prison, not slander, famine, destruction, death. It had all led to this moment.” The hubris of these thoughts doesn’t strike me as a Jewish approach to the story since there is no recognition that evil exists in the world – that even if we use our experiences to make us a better person, our lives might have been more spiritually satisfying if they never had occurred.

“Joseph and the Way of Forgiveness” is well written and Mitchell’s prose is easy to read. The short chapters keep the pace moving quickly. While readers don’t have to have read the biblical text in order to appreciate Joseph’s story, knowing the text helped me understand where I agreed and disagreed with Mitchell’s interpretation. Although my final thoughts are still not in tune with the author’s, reading his book was an interesting challenge. Disagreeing with an interpretation can sometimes teach us more than reading one with which we completely agree.

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Sigd: The ultimate Zionist festival

By Judy Lash Balint

(JNS) – The 29th of Cheshvan is not a particularly noteworthy day for most Jews. Cheshvan is the only Hebrew month that has no holidays or fast days. But for Jews from Ethiopia, this date has long been observed as one of the most important in the calendar.

Known as Sigd – “prostration” in Ge’ez, the Ethiopian liturgical language – it’s a day of rededication to God and the Torah, a celebration of the connection of the community to Jerusalem and a commitment to Jewish unity. In other words, it’s the ultimate Zionist festival.

In 2008, the Knesset recognized Sigd as a national holiday, raising awareness of both the festival and of Jews of Ethiopian origin.

For the 120,000 who emigrated from Ethiopia to Israel since the early 1980s, the 29th of Cheshvan is a combination fast day, day of thanksgiving and clan gathering. Celebrated today in Jerusalem both at the Western Wall and on the Haas-Sherover Promenade that overlooks the Old City, the event is a multi-generational gathering that attracts thousands from all over the country.

Early in the morning, a delegation of *kessim* (Ethiopian Jewish religious leaders) makes their way to the Western Wall to give thanks. The figures cut a path through the *Kotel* plaza. Swathed in simple white robes, *tallitot* draped over their narrow shoulders, the *kessim* are accompanied by an entourage that includes escorts who hold colorful umbrellas over their heads.

The Ethiopian women arrive separately, clothed in distinctive white dresses adorned with hand-embroidered trim in the Ethiopian national colors of green, yellow and orange. Shoulders cloaked in white shawls, heads covered with colorful head scarves, the women advance shyly toward the *Kotel* to take part in the prayer service.

Less than a mile away, on the Haas-Sherover Promenade, the crowds gather for the official Sigd all-day celebration. With surrounding streets closed off to accommodate



Thousands of Ethiopian Jews took part in a prayer of the Sigd holiday on the Armon Hanatziv Promenade overlooking Jerusalem on November 27. (Photo by Olivier Fitoussi/Flash90)

dozens of buses that bring thousands from throughout the country to the gathering, there’s an upbeat atmosphere, despite the seriousness of the religious holiday.

From the promenade, there’s a clear view of the Temple Mount, and thousands of Ethiopians of all ages come together to commemorate their holiday. Mingling with the colorful costumes and umbrellas of the elders are the khaki, green and white uniforms of dozens of young Ethiopian men and women serving in the Israel Defense Forces.

Younger teens – largely ignoring the hours of religious chanting of the elders – are socializing and decked out in a variety of trendy clothing on this festive day. Representatives of all the major youth movements in their signature white or blue shirts are a prominent presence and consist of many teens of Ethiopian origin. Ancient Geez chants make themselves heard over the gangle of street

Hebrew as the day progresses.

Prior to their mass *aliyah*, generations of Ethiopian Jews yearned for Zion and expressed their longing in the annual Sigd festival. Jews would walk for days to arrive at a mountaintop, where thousands would join in prayer and listen to Torah readings. Following afternoon prayers and the blowing of the *shofar*, the community would descend from the mountain to partake of a festive meal.

The holiday has its origins in the time of the prophets Ezra and Nehemiah, following the return of the Jews from Babylonian exile and the rebuilding of the Second Temple. Tradition holds that the entire Jewish community assembled in Jerusalem then for a day of fasting and confession. “Ezra blessed the Lord, God, and the entire people responded ‘Amen, Amen,’ and they... bowed down and prostrated themselves”

(Nehemiah 8:6).

Sigd as observed today in Israel is led by the *kessim*, and many of the elders prostrate themselves in response to the readings.

On the promenade, one *kes* – a diminutive man with a silver beard wearing a white knitted *kippah* – tells visitors about his life story and explains where Sigd fits into the life of Ethiopian Jews. He describes how men and women would separately observe the ritual of ascending the mountain for the great Sigd gathering. He points out that the tradition of Sigd was handed down by oral tradition. “Many Jews believe that we didn’t know from the oral tradition,” he says. The *kes* explains the Ethiopian Jewish engagement and wedding ceremonies, and asserts that their practice conforms to the *mishnaic* description in Tractate Kiddushin (part of the Oral Law) of what constitutes proper Jewish betrothal.

He finishes his story by noting that Sigd was essentially a way of remembering Jerusalem and strengthening Jews in a difficult Diaspora situation. But the holiday is just as relevant today. “We missed Jerusalem for thousands of years,” he notes. “Today, in Jerusalem, we celebrate... but just as we say ‘Next year in Jerusalem’ at the Passover seder, so, too, at Sigd, we pray for a rebuilt Jerusalem.”

Just behind him, two young men preside over a table full of information about the rebuilding of the Temple and a large picture of a dozen *kessim* standing in front of a reconstructed Temple.

Over the past few days, various members of the Ethiopian Jewish community have used the Sigd holiday to speak out in the media about their experiences and concerns.

Danny Adino Abebe, a journalist who came to Israel in 1984 at age 9 with his parents as part of “Operation Moses,” explains how deeply the lengthy, dangerous trek through the Sudan affected him and his family. “Sudan is ingrained in us. We never left Sudan, in some sense,” he says. **See “Sigd” on page 10**

CHANUKAH Greetings

Deadlines: December 12 (December 20 issue) **and December 19** (December 27 Health Care Greetings issue)

Once again this year, *The Reporter* is inviting its readers and medical professionals to place personal Chanukah greetings to the community. These Chanukah greeting ads will appear in our December 20 and 27 issues.

You may choose from the designs, messages and sizes shown here - more are available. You may also choose your own message, as long as it fits into the space of the greeting you select. (Custom designs available upon request.) The price of the small greeting is \$18 (styles B, E and F), the medium one is \$36 (style A, C and D) and the largest one (style G) is \$72.

To ensure that your greeting is published or for more information on additional styles, sizes & designs, please contact Bonnie Rozen at 724-2360, ext. 244 or bonnie@thereporter.org. Checks can be made payable to *The Reporter* and sent to: *The Reporter*, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

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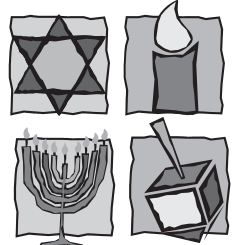
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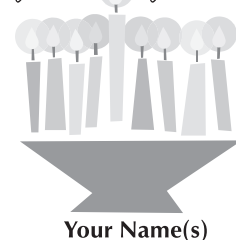
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 of Chanukah
 shine in
 your hearts
 forever



Your name(s)

Warm Chanukah wishes to
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Your Name(s)

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Style E - \$18
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Style F - \$18
 Actual Size:
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Your Name(s)

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Manischewitz Chanukah Candles - 44 count

99¢



\$5.99

Kosher Boneless & Skinless Chicken Breast Fillet - per pound



\$2.69

Fresh Kosher Whole or Cut Up Fresh Chickens - per pound



Manischewitz Chanukah Donut Mix 11.5 ounce

2 FOR \$5



Daisy Sour Cream 16 ounce

\$1.99



Elite Milk Chocolate Coins 0.53 ounce

3 FOR \$1



Challah Bread each

\$3.50

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Streit's Potato Pancake Mix 6 ounce

2 FOR \$3



Selected Manischewitz Broth 32 ounce

\$1.99



Selected Kedem Sparkling Juice 25.4 ounce

2 FOR \$6



Joyva Marble or Chocolate King Size Halvah Bars 3.5 ounce

4 FOR \$5



Osem Falafel Mix 6.3 ounce

2 FOR \$5



Selected Streit's Egg noodles 12 ounce

10 FOR \$10



Lipton Kosher Onion Soup Mix 1.9 ounce

2 FOR \$3



Savion Fruit Slices 8 ounce

2 FOR \$5

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Jews in sports

Israeli non-profit brings American football to Israel

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS) – Born and raised in a country that adores soccer over most other sports, Israeli educator and sports coach Erez Lustig fell in love with American football from a young age. His improbable love for the game can be traced to his family in the United States, watching the sport on television, as well as the way football “collaborates fun with values.”

Attending a yearly clinic in Alabama with 1,200 football coaches and lectures by NFL and college-level head coaches, Lustig was the only foreign coach, “the *meshuganah* that came from Israel,” he told JNS. Other coaches would quip, “Are you lost?”

But Lustig was not lost. Quite the opposite; he was on a mission, he said, “to promote the acquisition of life skills and values for children through the culture and game of American football.”

Nine years ago, Lustig, now 46, founded Young Champions, an Israeli nonprofit that today brings together 200 girls and boys, ages 6-16, on four teams that practice after school. More recently, he has brought American football to elementary schools in partnership with Israel’s Ministry of Education, with programming for nearly 650 students.

In his classes, teachers learn to “teach like coaches” and students learn teamwork, problem solving, respect, creativity and ‘American-style’ character and leadership, applied both on the field and in the classroom.”

“Football is the vehicle for the education,” he stated, adding that it is the educator’s responsibility to establish the foundation of values for students, such as how to work toward their goals.

Employing sports analogies to promote doing well in school, said the father of a 17-year-old son, “I tell students that the school is giving them their playbooks of how to ‘win,’ with tests in history, language and math. I tell them that they must be a student first, then an athlete.”

For Israeli students, maintained Lustig, who grew up in a very small village playing soccer, and interested in volleyball, martial arts and climbing trees, these are important values for those who have problems with attention span, discipline and respect for elders.

“It creates a ‘reset’ for students in between classes,” he said. “It’s a high-discipline sport. When you have the same purpose, everyone works as a team, and at the end of the day, people just want to



Erez Lustig, founder of Young Champions, helped a kid with his shoulder pads. (Photo courtesy of JNS)

play with friends.”

Last year, 21 of his students ages 13-16 participated in the Gridiron Imports two-day intensive training academy in Germany, which searches for “exceptional players” from Europe, seeking “the next generation of the best of the best who will have the opportunity to earn a scholarship to go to the States.” Out of 164 competitors, only 60 finished, including all 21 from Israel.

At the training academy, coaches would ask Lustig, “Why do all your kids have sparks in their eyes?”

His answer to them is the kids’ Israeli upbringing. “They have a purpose,” he would say.

“Growing up in Israel, it’s a different story than other nations. Everything is boiling here, so you need to be tough,” he said. “We are a startup nation and Israelis are very creative. We don’t take anything for granted – this is how you live in Israel.”

Two of his students recently became the first Israelis to be accepted and awarded a two-year combined scholarship of \$227,000 to go to the Kiski School in Pennsylvania, a private boarding school to learn and play football.

Young Champions has also garnered the attention of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a group of evangelical Christians who come to Israel for a summer clinic with former NFL and NCAA players and coaches, like Northern Irish professional footballer Jonny Evans and former Pittsburgh Steelers’ Jon Kolb.

See “Football” on page 15



Israeli children participated in an American Football game as part of the Young Champions program founded by Erez Lustig, an Israeli nonprofit that today brings together 200 girls and boys, ages 6 to 16, on four teams that practice after school. (Photo courtesy of JNS)

A father-and-son Israeli duo makes its mark in mixed martial arts

By Howard Blas

(JNS) – Israeli fighter Haim Gozali has experienced mixed martial arts at New York City’s Madison Square Garden and has twice fought in it. The 47-year-old and his son, Aviv, 18, are mixed martial-arts fighters and were fighting on the same MMA card on November 14 as part of Bellator 234 at Tel Aviv’s Menora Mivtachim Arena.



Israeli mixed martial-arts fighter Haim Gozali went head to head against Arsen Faitovich. (Photo courtesy of JNS)

Haim and Aviv both won their fights.

While not nearly as popular as basketball, soccer, tennis or most other sports in Israel, mixed martial arts continues to grow in popularity. In a phone interview with JNS from his home in Bat Yam, Israel, Haim Gozali observes, “In 2016, no one in Israel knew about MMA. Now, young fighters have a future.”

Gozali notes the steady rise in attendance at MMA fights in Israel. “The first year, 6,000 people came, then 7,000 the next year, then 9,000,” he reports. “Now, when I walk on the streets, people know me and want to take a selfie!”

After three sellouts in Israel, Bellator MMA, which hosts events around the world in such locations as England, Japan, Ireland and Italy, and Hawaii, California and Connecticut in the United States, he returns to Tel Aviv for matches that will feature the heavyweight main event between hard-hitting Sergei Kharitonov and former No. 1 contender Linton Vassell. The evening will also feature lightweights Roger Huerta vs. Sidney Outlaw, and Austin “The Gentleman” Vanderford vs. Grachik Bozinyan. Haim, a former Border Police officer, and Aviv will also fight that night.

Haim has been fighting professionally since 1998. He got his start at an early age. “When I was a kid, I watched ninja movies and wanted to be a ninja,” he relates. He started taking karate lessons and saw his first UFC fight in his 20s. “I

have to do that!” he recalled and began training with Renzo Gracie in the United States in 1995. Haim, a welterweight with an 11-6 record (10 submissions, 1 knockout), became a fourth-degree black belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu black belt under Gracie. Haim stands 5-foot-11-inches tall, weighs 170 pounds and is nicknamed “Batman” because of his collection of Batman comics, paraphernalia and tattoos.

He and Aviv train at the Body Shop in Los Angeles and also in Israel. Haim reports that his son started learning at the age of 3. Aviv began to show interest in the sport when he saw people come to train in the home gym with his father. “I put him in judo at age 3 and he started fighting at age 5.”

Aviv acknowledges the memory, adding, “I basically grew up in this world of MMA.”

Aviv (nicknamed “The King”), a lightweight at 6 feet and 155 pounds, made his MMA debut in November 2018 and has a 3-0 record. Each of his first three victories has come by way of first-round submission. He recently defeated Eduard (“The Hunter”) Muravitskiy in August just 11 seconds into the fight; the submission is the fastest in Bellator MMA history.

Haim enjoys fighting and playfully notes, “I will do it until they tell me they have to bury me!” He says he is proud to represent Israel, saying, “I go with the Israeli flag everywhere.”

He has been welcomed by Israeli Prime See “Duo” on page 15



At left: Israeli mixed martial-arts fighter Aviv Gozali with his training staff following a fight against Eduard Muravitskiy. (Photo courtesy of JNS)

Sigd..... Continued from page 8

Similar to many Holocaust survivors, it’s taken decades for the older generation, who suffered the physical and emotional trials of leaving a hostile Third World country to arrive in modern Israel, to start to open up about their painful experiences.

While noting that Ethiopian Jews of his generation have become successful in many fields, “nevertheless we have a problematic, complicated past,” says Abebe. “We’ll only ever overcome it if we make this part of Israeli culture.”

Sharon Shalom immigrated to Israel alone at the age of 9. Today, he is an ordained rabbi and serves as a captain in the IDF reserves. He is also a senior lecturer at Ono Academic College, teaches at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan, and serves as rabbi of the “Kdoshei Israel” community in Kiryat Gat. In a short Hebrew video titled “Ten Facts You Didn’t

Know About the Sigd Festival,” Shalom points out that in addition to the religious significance of the day, one of the main themes of Sigd activities is reconciliation and the breaking down of barriers between people.

It’s a message echoed by Ofer Berkovitch, former deputy mayor of Jerusalem and head of the Hitorerut (“Awakening”) Party, who is also a member of the Jerusalem city planning and construction committee. “The Beta Yisrael community is part of the rich diversity that makes up Israel,” Berkovitch tells JNS. “As a representative of the Jerusalem municipality, I’m here to express the wish to see all Jews join together. Jews of Ethiopian origin yearned for centuries for Jerusalem. They have a unique and special culture, and we need to make efforts to ensure their integration while maintaining their identity.”

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Off the Shelf

Books for Hanukkah gifts

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

It should come as no surprise that I think books make great presents for Hanukkah, birthdays or as a way of saying, "I'm thinking about you." That's because you can find a book suitable for everyone. (Yes, even non-readers might like comic strip books or graphic novels or books of photographs – you get the idea. You just have to be creative.) Below are a few gift ideas that include a picture book, a short story in book format for young (and young at heart) readers, a new encyclopedia that's definitely for adults and something for the literary scholar.

"Goodnight Bubbala"

The delightful "Goodnight Bubbala: A Joyful Parody" by Sheryl Haft and illustrated by Jill Weber is a Jewish take-off on the picture book "Goodnight Moon." Although the young rabbit featured (known by the term of endearment *bubbala*) is in bed when the tale opens, the whole *mishpacha* (family) arrives in order to celebrate Hanukkah before he goes to sleep. There are bobbies and zaydes, and the eating of bagels and kneidels. There are also toys and

dreidel games, along with singing and dancing and a zayde who falls asleep before *bubbala*.

"Goodnight Bubbala" made me laugh and I could easily see reading it to little ones all eight nights of Hanukkah. There is a Yiddish-English glossary, although I only had to look up one word (and I don't know a lot of Yiddish). As an added treat, it features an "Easy Latkes" recipe by Ina Garten, one of the stars of the Food Network. The book is so adorable you might even be tempted to buy it for older folks who love Yiddish.

"Theodore Bikel's The City of Light"

Aimee Ginsburg Bikel's "Theodore Bikel's The City of Light" (MomentBooks/Mandel Vilar Press), with illustrations by Noah Phillips, is a far more serious work. Written by Theodore Bikel, it originally appeared in Moment Magazine and tells in the third person the story of a young boy living in Austria when the Nazis took over the country. He writes a bit about the changes that occurred, but skips over the war and Holocaust. He does mention those who moved back to Austria and those who could not return. Except, now as an old man, the boy does visit the place of his birth and learns the light he thought was extinguished by the war remains lit in his own heart.

Aimee, Theodore's wife, places the story in context and writes movingly of her husband's return to Austria after he was invited to perform by a former president of the Austrian government. In addition, she includes a two page Yiddish dictionary, a recipe for "Oma's Honey Cake (Lekach)" and the words to a Hanukkah song, "Little Candles Fires," that was written when her husband was a young boy, along with two links where readers can hear the song sung by Theodore.

"Theodore Bikel's The City of Light" would serve as a beautiful gift for middle grade or older children. I can also see it as a perfect gift for adults, especially those who are fans of the singer. With its celebration of the light found in human hearts, it makes a perfect gift for Hanukkah.

"The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia"

My first reaction to hearing about this book was, "Do

I really want a new encyclopedia? After all, I have a hard copy of the latest edition of the Encyclopedia Judaica at home." Then I noticed the writers were connected to the online magazine Tablet and remembered how much I enjoyed its recently published work. "The 100 Most Jewish Foods: A Highly Debatable List" edited by Alana Newhouse with Stephanie Butnick (which, by the way, would make a perfect holiday gift for your Jewish foodie friends. You can find *The Reporter's* review at <http://thereporter.org/Article.aspx?aID=5263>). This latest book is definitely not your grandparents' Jewish encyclopedia. Instead, "The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia: From Abraham to Zabar's and Everything in Between" by Liel Leibovitz, Mark Oppenheimer and Stephanie Butnick (Artisan/Workman Publishing Company) is an irreverent romp and guide to almost everything Jewish.

The humor starts with the very first entry. None of my Hebrew school (or rabbinical school) teachers ever described Aaron this way: "Like a biblical Rodney Dangerfield, our first high priest couldn't get no respect. Sure, he was a prophet, and he got to wear the urim and thummim, the special breastplate through which God's Will could be divined. But his brother, Moses, was still way cooler." The entries are definitely not objective and should not be the starting place for someone interested in *halachah* (Jewish law), but that doesn't make them any less amusing.

The book is also beautifully designed. In clever, modern-looking graphic spreads, the writers look at "Banking and Jews," "Booze and Jews," "Jewish Greetings: What to say and when," "Shabbat in Seven Easy Steps" and "Notable Jews in Sports," just to name a few. There are large color photos and interestingly arranged entries about individual writers, musicians and film makers.

A few entries are so good I can't resist quoting from them: ♦ "But is it good for the Jews?" The ultimate question about anything."

See "Books" on page 12

Mailbox Shorts

Hanukkah special on the Food Network

The Food Network will premiere the "Ultimate Hanukkah Challenge" on Saturday, December 21, at 9 pm. The host is Molly Yeh. Four chefs will be asked to put a creative spin on classic Hanukkah dishes, such as latkes, brisket and *sufganiyot*. Judging the dishes will be Duff Goldman and Sharone Hakman. The prize for the winning chef is a vacation to Paris, France, and the title of "Ultimate Hanukkah Champion."

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Latkes or *sufganiyot*?

By Rabbi Rachel Esserman

I've never understood the debate about whether latkes or hamentashen is the better food. After all, they're served on two different holidays, so there is plenty of time to enjoy both. However, there is a more appropriate debate, one strictly for Hanukkah: Do you prefer latkes or *sufganiyot* (doughnuts)?

Since the food requirement (Jewish holidays always seem to have one) is that we are supposed to eat a food fried in oil, we could really serve anything as long as it's fried, but latkes and *sufganiyot* seem to have won the draw. One interesting note: during the time the events of Hanukkah originally took place (the second century B.C.E.), no one in the Middle East was eating latkes because potatoes were a New World food and didn't arrive in Europe until the 16th century.

It does look like doughnuts, or at least something that resembled doughnuts, were around the Middle East for a far longer period. Tori Avey, a food blogger and historian, notes that the ancient Greeks and Romans were frying dough. By medieval times, Arab cooks fried an unsweetened yeast dough and added syrup afterward to make them sweet. Like modern *sufganiyot* (at least the ones I've seen), these fried treats did not have holes.

The advantage of Hanukkah is that there are eight days in which to enjoy whatever fried foods you want. So, you can feast on latkes one night and *sufganiyot* the next. Or, if you don't have gallbladder problems, you can serve latkes for your main course and eat *sufganiyot* for dessert.

Below are links to recipes for several varieties of each of these foods. If you want someone to be a taste tester, let me know ASAP so I can diet in preparation for the holiday.

Latke recipes

Classic latke recipes can be found at:

- ◆ www.allrecipes.com/recipe/16073/potato-latkes-I/
- ◆ www.foodandwine.com/recipes/best-ever-potato-latkes
- ◆ www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/recipes/a50756/best-latkes-recipe
- ◆ www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/potato-latkes-recipe2-1963445

I'm a big fan of sweet potato latkes, which feel like dessert to me. Recipe possibilities include:

- ◆ www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/sweet-potato-latkes-105919
- ◆ www.allrecipes.com/recipe/212381/kerrys-sweet-potato-latkes/
- ◆ www.foodnetwork.com/healthyeats/recipes/2015/12/sweet-potato-latkes-2-ways

People who want to make their latkes healthier (relatively speaking) can use these recipes, which include vegetables in the mix:

- ◆ www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/vegetable-latkes-352749
- ◆ www.chabad.org/recipes/recipe_cdo/aid/2355838/jewish/Vegetable-Latkes.htm
- ◆ www.allrecipes.com/recipe/16120/vegetable-and-feta-latkes

- ◆ toriavey.com/toris-kitchen/curry-vegetable-latkes/

Speaking of healthy, if you don't want to fry your latkes, here are some recipes for baked latkes:

- ◆ www.skinnytaste.com/waffled-vegetable-latkes/
- ◆ www.chabad.org/recipes/recipe_cdo/aid/773107/jewish/No-Fry-Latkes.htm
- ◆ www.food.com/recipe/no-fry-potato-latkes-27129
- ◆ www.kveller.com/article/oven-fried-potato-latkes

Sufganiyot recipes

Some basic *sufganiyot* recipes are featured at:

- ◆ www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/sufganiyot-40003
- ◆ www.delish.com/holiday-recipes/hanukkah/g3124/jelly-donut-recipe/
- ◆ <http://mynameisyeh.com/mynameisyeh/2013/10/recipe-easiest-sufganiyot-ever>
- ◆ www.myjewishlearning.com/recipe/sufganiyot/
- ◆ www.allrecipes.com/recipe/11438/sufganiyot/
- ◆ www.chowhound.com/recipes/sufganiyot-israeli-jelly-doughnuts-10818

If you want to take a break from frying food on the stove, you can make these baked *sufganiyot*:

- ◆ <https://marcussamuelsson.com/recipe/baked-sufganiyot-recipe>
- ◆ www.goodhousekeeping.com/food-recipes/a9889/sufganiyot-recipe/
- ◆ www.goodhousekeeping.com/food-recipes/a9889/sufganiyot-recipe/
- ◆ <https://jamiiegeller.com/recipes/baked-sufganiot-jelly-doughnuts>
- ◆ <https://itsrainingflour.com/baked-sufganiyot-jelly-doughnuts/>

For those looking for something really different, you can try out these savory *sufganiyot*, although I have to admit not all of them look equally appealing. Who knows, though. They might be perfect for your family:

- ◆ <https://littleferrarokitchen.com/savory-sufganiyot-swiss-chard-raisins/>
- ◆ <https://whatjewwannaeat.com/savory-sufganiyot/>
- ◆ www.tabletmag.com/jewish-life-and-religion/219524/savory-sufganiyot
- ◆ www.ronniefein.com/blog/d5j0ynmdyxwhz6nhw4s-92mol6bfvrz
- ◆ <https://blog.growandbehold.com/recipes/lamb-and-mushroom-sufganiyot/>

Books. Continued from page 11

- ◆ Comic books: "Next to Scripture, it's the second greatest literary gift Jews have given the world."
- ◆ Long Island: "The other Promised Land."
- ◆ Nachman of Breslov: "Since the passing of the sassy, saucy sages of the Talmud, most of the rabbinic greats have been, well, not so much fun. Too much yeshiva, not enough corner pub. Not so with Reb Nachman, as he was known. If you're looking for a good time with a soulful man, for a stiff drink with someone who will *really listen*, this is the Hasidic master for you."
- ◆ *The New York Times*: "According to some critics, a pro-Israel rag run by unrepentant Zionists. According to other critics, an anti-Israel rag run by self-loathing Jews. Both sets of critics are *this close* to cancelling their subscriptions."
- ◆ Yachting: "No clue." [This is the complete entry.]

By now it should be clear that "The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia" is definitely not for everyone. However, those with a Jewish funny bone will get a kick out of its approach to our heritage, if only to groan when the entries are flip and ridiculous. Or maybe you'll learn something like I did. Who knew that Bugs Bunny was "one kosher rabbit" and said to be inspired by Groucho Marx? That certainly explains why I loved his cartoons when I was a kid.

Another possible gift

I haven't had a chance to read "The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization Volume Six: Confronting Modernity, 1750-1880" edited Elisheva Carlebach (Yale University Press/The Posen Foundation), but wanted to mention it as a potential gift book. Its more than 500 pages include short biographies of writers from this period and selections from their works. It also features almost 100 pages of photographs of "material culture, synagogue architecture, and fine art." The work would be of interest to literary scholars or those wanting to know more about Jewish culture from this period.

Mailbox Shorts

Garden exhibit in Florida

The Jewish Museum of Florida – FIU will hold the exhibit "Mira Lehr: A Walk in the Garden" through February 3. Mira Lehr is a self-described eco-feminist artist whose career spans more than five decades. Lehr's nature-based imagery encompasses painting, design, sculpture and video installations. This exhibit is a site-specific installation that takes the viewer "through a magical journey in a fantastical garden." For more information, visit <https://jmof.fiu.edu> or contact the museum at 305-672-5044.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Corbyn-led British Labour Party named No. 1 antisemitic threat worldwide

The Simon Wiesenthal Center released its annual list of the top 10 global antisemitic incidents, along with antisemitic people, and the No. 1 spot was given to the Jeremy Corbyn-led British Labour Party. “No one has done more to mainstream antisemitism into the political and social life of a democracy than the Jeremy Corbyn-led Labour Party,” said the Simon Wiesenthal Center. “Members and staff who have dared to speak out against the hate were purged, but not those who declared ‘Heil Hitler’ and ‘F—k the Jews.’” The list is normally published in late December or early January, but was released early this year, perhaps due to upcoming elections on Dec. 12, according to *The Times of Israel*. Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, told the *Daily Mail* that if Corbyn becomes the new prime minister of the United Kingdom, he will make Britain “a pariah on the world stage.” On Dec. 8, more than 3,000 people gathered in Parliament Square in central London to stand against antisemitism and to hear speeches about its dangerous rise. The square was filled with rally-goers holding signs that said “together against antisemitism” and “solidarity with British Jews.”

Trudeau: Canada’s “steadfast” support for Israel remains, despite anti-Israel U.N. vote

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Dec. 9 before a menorah-lighting ceremony that Canada’s recent vote in favor of an anti-Israel resolution at the United Nations does not mean that his government has changed its policy against singling out Israel in the international body. In late November, Canada voted in support of a U.N. General Assembly resolution co-sponsored by North Korea that was not favorable to the Jewish state. Jewish community leaders have expressed their concerns about that vote, as well as other parties and members of Trudeau’s own caucus. Former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley accused Canada of striking “a deal with the devil” and “trading its integrity” for a seat on the U.N. Security Council next year by voting in support of the resolution. Canada has voted against such resolutions for more than a decade, but Trudeau said he felt he had to vote differently on that one resolution in order to counter threats to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, according to *The Canadian Press*. “I understand that many of you were alarmed by this decision,” Trudeau told those gathered at the menorah ceremony. “The government felt that it was important to reiterate its commitment to a two-states-for-two-peoples solution at a time when its prospects appear increasingly under threat. ...But let me be very clear. Our enduring friendship with Israel remains. We will continue to stand strongly against the singling out of Israel at the U.N.,” he added.

Jerusalem chief rabbi attends interfaith event in Bahrain

Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem Shlomo Amar, who previously served as the Sephardic chief rabbi of Israel, met Bahraini King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on Dec. 9 during a rare visit to the Persian Gulf state. Amar, who before becoming chief rabbi of Jerusalem served as Sephardic chief rabbi of Israel, was invited to Bahrain by the king to participate in an interfaith event, alongside clerics from Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Egypt, India, Jordan, and other Arab and Islamic countries. “The people of the Middle East want peace with Israel and for the leader-

ship to promote it. The Jewish faith includes the value of peace that we all want,” said Amar during his visit, according to a report by Arutz Sheva. He conveyed to king “a blessing from Jerusalem that will lead to a solid relationship with the State of Israel,” *The Times of Israel* reported. Even though Israel does not have official relations with Bahrain, connections exist between the two countries. This past summer, for example, Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz and Bahraini Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa met publicly in Washington, DC.

Patriots’ Edelman wears custom cleats to support Israeli baseball


New England Patriots wide receiver Julian Edelman wore customized cleats on Dec. 8 against the Kansas City Chiefs to support baseball in Israel. His blue shoes donned a Star of David and the Israel Baseball Association’s logo as part of the NFL’s “My Cause, My Cleats” campaign. They will be auctioned to raise money for the IBA. In an Instagram post with a picture of the cleats, Edelman said he visited Israel in 2015 for the first time, and that the trip was “meaningful” and “helped shape my perspective on things.” “This year my cleats will benefit the Israel Baseball Association. They do so much for the Israeli community, bringing together people of all ages through the love of the game,” wrote Edelman in the post. “They also support minor league youth baseball in Israel, and if you know anything about me, you know I lived for little league. ...The Hebrew on the cleats says yalla, which means, ‘let’s go,’ because for the first time in the country’s history, Israel is going to compete in baseball in the Olympics.”

Lauder declares \$25 million effort to fight antisemitism in American politics

Amid the rise of antisemitism in the United States, former U.S. Ambassador to Austria and philanthropist Ronald S. Lauder announced on Dec. 9 the launch of the Anti-Semitism Accountability Project (or ASAP), investing \$25 million in political campaigns against federal, state and local candidates who support or normalize antisemitism. The group will focus on candidates from both parties who are on the ballot before or on Election Day in November 2020. ASAP will produce and run television and digital advertisements, opposition research, grass-roots and grassroots outreach, on-campus organizing and rapid response to defeat candidates supporting antisemitic ideas. “Antisemitism has become fashionable again and for too long, American Jews have been silent. It’s time to make our voices heard. It’s time to confront our haters, without fear or apology,” said Lauder in a statement. “ASAP will finally add real teeth in the fight against antisemitism in American politics and culture. All candidates and American cultural leaders who traffic in hatred against Jews should consider themselves on notice.” The launch of ASAP comes in response to a documented surge in antisemitism across America. According to a poll commissioned by ASAP and conducted by Douglass Schoen of Schoen Consulting, antisemitism – as defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance – has doubled over the past five years. Today, 14 percent of Americans hold antisemitic beliefs, as compared to 7 percent from a survey released by the Anti-Defamation League in 2014. ASAP will partner with existing organizations working throughout the country to combat antisemitism. ASAP will also respond and take action against institutions and cultural figures who support antisemitism. The ASAP campaign will be managed by Tusk Strategies, and its founder and CEO Bradley Tusk.

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Vayishlach, Genesis 32:4-36:43

Increasing our Torah knowledge

RABBI EVAN SHORE, SHAAREI TORAH ORTHODOX CONGREGATION OF SYRACUSE

For many years, Jacob lived outside the land of Israel. He left Israel fearing for his life. Jacob was told by his mother, Rebecca, that Esau, his brother, wanted to kill him. After more than 20 years, the brothers will once again meet, but before they do so, Jacob sent the following note through a messenger: "For 20 years I lived with Laban (Jacob's father-in-law) but did not learn from his evil ways." This is a very strange message indeed.

However, I would like to dwell on the concept of not learning from others. Rabbi Baruch Sorotzkin, in his book, "Eitz HaDaas," pointed out that it is true Jacob did not learn from Laban, but why didn't Laban learn from Jacob?

Jacob, one of the three patriarchs, seems to have no effect whatsoever on his conniving father-in-law. Why didn't Laban take note of the positive actions of his son-in-law?

Today the same question may be asked. Why are so many unwilling to learn from the exemplary and positive actions of others? The answer is simple. People think they know better, have the answers or are just happy with their own ignorance.

Chester Barnard once said, "It is what we think we know that keeps us from learning." How true this is when it comes to our Torah knowledge. Many are of the mistaken assumption they know enough. In fact, a person of great

Torah knowledge is known as a Talmud *chacham*, a student of knowledge. This means that knowledge, the acquisition of Torah, is an ongoing, lifelong pursuit.

A recent Pew study revealed how weak the knowledge of Torah is throughout portions of the American Jewish community. It is time we realize the timeliness of Rabbi Sorotzkin's insights and ask ourselves the question, "If so much Torah is available to us through books, apps, social media and the Internet, why aren't we increasing our knowledge?" Now is the time to do something about it and increase our Torah knowledge, for if not now, when?

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, Dec. 13..... 9 am
Mincha after kiddush
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., Dec. 15..... 8:30 am
 Mon.-Fri., Dec. 16-20..... 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., Dec. 15..... 4:20 pm
 Mon.-Thurs., Dec. 16-19..... 7 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, December 13, at 8 pm, there will be a Shabbat evening service led by Anne Bussard.
 On Saturday, December 14, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, Torah study will be held; and at 10:35 am, a Shabbat morning service will be held. Hanukkah House Museum will be open from noon-4 pm.
 On Sunday, November 15, Hanukkah House Museum will be open from noon-4 pm.
 On Tuesday, December 17, from noon-4 pm Hanukkah House Museum will be open. There will be Hebrew school at 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm.
 On Thursday, December 19, there will be no Hanukkah House Museum or Hebrew School. From 5-7 pm, the CHOW pantry will be open.
 On Friday, December 20, 8pm, there will be Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Goldman-Wartell with URJ Biennial report and birthday blessings.
 On Saturday, December 21, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study. There will be no religious school or morning service. Hanukkah House Museum will be open from noon-4 pm.
 On Sunday, December 22, Hanukkah House Museum will be open from noon-4 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
 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, December 13, light candles before..... 4:14 pm
 Saturday, December 14, Shabbat ends 5:14 pm
 Friday, December 20, light candles before..... 4:16 pm
 Saturday, December 21, Shabbat ends 5:17 pm

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
 Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
 Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri., 8 am-3 pm
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am
 On Saturday, December 14, at 10 am, there will be Shabbat services led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. This will be a learners service and will include a baby naming. The Torah portion will be Genesis 32:4-36:43. The haftarah will be Hosea 12:13-14:10. A kiddush luncheon will be sponsored by the Schiffries/Wang family.
 There will be a Hebrew school Hanukkah party for students and parents on Sunday, December 15, at 10 am.
 On Monday, December 16, at 7:30 pm, there will be a Ritual Committee meeting.
 On Tuesday, December 17, at 7 pm, there will be a Board of Trustees meeting.
 The temple office will be closed Monday-Wednesday, December 23-25.
 There will be a brunch at the synagogue on Wednesday, December 25, from 10 am-1 pm.

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.)

The annual Hanukkah Latke Party will be held on Sunday, December 29, at 6 pm, in the social hall. Those attending are asked to bring a menorah and candles for the group lighting event. The cost is \$8 and RSVPs are required by noon on Friday, December 22. To reserve a spot, register at the temple website.

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.



Football. . . Continued from page 10

One of Lustig's key future goals is to create an English-immersion football summer camp for 40 kids in Israel where "sports is a common language," joining forces with American schools who would visit Israel, allowing for opportunities to make Israeli friends, "learn to become a champion" and "share their ideas of how they want to change the world."

As football falls out of favor for some in the United States because of potential injuries and problems with concussions, Lustig said, "I'm telling my American friends, 'Just you wait – the revival of American football will come from Israel,' and though they laugh at first, they then immediately ask where to sign up to join us."



An Israeli girl displayed one of the Young Champions T-shirts. (Photo courtesy of JNS)

Project. . . . Continued from page 6

to Jewish unity and the magic of Shabbat than inviting families from the south to join our mega-Shabbat table."

In North America, challah bakes exemplified a rallying point for the Shabbat Project, with "pink challah bakes" to raise breast-cancer awareness in more than 20 U.S. cities and a cross-border challah bake bringing together communities in San Diego and Tijuana. Perhaps most moving was a moment of silence across Pittsburgh in commemoration of the 11 Jewish worshippers shot and killed in the Tree of Life*OrL'Simcha synagogue last October, which occurred on the weekend of last year's Shabbat Project.

Such global involvement, said Goldstein, "points the way to the formula for a vibrant Jewish future: active participation. To be a Jew is not to be a passive spectator. It is about active involvement, real engagement, personal responsibility and leadership."



Getting together as a community in Modi'in, Israel. (Photo by The Shabbat Project)

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Columbia launches dual-degree program with Tel Aviv University

Columbia University announced the launch of its dual-degree program with Tel Aviv University. "This is the first time that an Israeli university is collaborating with an elite American institution to offer a dual undergraduate program of this kind," said Professor Raanan Rein, vice president of Tel Aviv University. The program will offer undergraduate students "an international educational experience ... to enhance their global outlook and develop their language skills and communication abilities to the highest academic level," according to its website. "Wherever your passions lie, in the humanities, natural sciences, or social sciences, the dual-degree program offers you the opportunity to engage in the study of your chosen fields with world-renowned faculty on both sides of the Atlantic and to immerse yourself in two distinct academic, social and cultural environments." Students in the four-year program will spend their first and second years studying a wide range of liberal arts options at Tel Aviv University. During years three and four, they will be at Columbia University completing requirements for a major and the core curriculum. Dual-degree program advisers and tutors, assigned at the start of the program, will help undergrads navigate academic and student life at both universities. After completing the four-year program graduates earn two bachelor's degrees, one from each school. The program's inaugural class will begin in the fall of 2020. "By giving students the opportunity to study full-time at a top-tier university in the Middle East before bringing them to study in the Ivy League, they will not only benefit from being immersed in a wide range of cultures and experiences, but will also make an immense contribution to the Columbia undergraduate classroom," said Professor Lisa Rosen-Metsch, dean of Columbia University School of General Studies.

Jewish Community Center

JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club met on December 4 and heard Hersh Rozen talk about his hobby of knitting. He said that he learned to knit when he was 9 years old. His teacher at school taught everyone in his class. They made squares and they were put together and then the blankets were sent overseas to soldiers during World War II. The teacher's husband was a soldier. Hersh did not knit for many years. When he picked up knitting needles again, he said he made many mistakes so he took some lessons.

Now in his 80s, he makes many different items such as stoles, scarves and wraps. He also made purses at one time. His wife Beverly likes to take pictures of nature and he gets his ideas for patterns from her pictures. He said that he gets involved with each item and gives each one a name. The first picture his wife showed us from a computer on a screen was a scene of a snowfall on trees and the ground. He made the scarf black and white, and named it "Moon Beam." He made a scarf from a picture of a stand of vegetables at Russell's Farm on Vestal Road in Vestal. There were different colors of beans, peppers and beets. The scarf was multicolored and he named it "Jams and Jellies." She showed a picture of a waterfall at Watkins Glen with moss on the rocks. He made a green scarf and named it "Mint Tea." This scarf was very soft and felt like cashmere. Some were close knit and some were loose. Some had beads knitted into them and some had ribbons or fabric in the stitches. He said he gets involved with each one and says "good-bye" to it when he sells one. He sells them at craft fairs and other markets.

All the club members and guests enjoyed the program. We welcomed Marie Warner and Joy Judsky,



Hersh Rozen spoke to JCC Friendship Club members and visitors about his hobby of knitting and how his wife Beverly's photos inspire some of his patterns.

who joined us for this presentation.

After the program was over, Sue Herzog brought out two birthday cakes and we celebrated the birthdays of Bruce Orden and Marie. On November 13, we went to Beth David Synagogue and attended its Sisterhood's annual luncheon. On November 20, we joined other senior groups at the Tri-Cities Opera for a program called "Memory Makers." The singers sang different songs and then we talked about what the songs reminded us of. One song reminded us of a carousel and we talked about the carousels in this area. For another, there were three people playing on one piano. It was a rousing Sousa march.

Because Sue, our program chairwoman, is going to Florida for the winter, we will be a smaller group. Bruce will show one of three movies we borrowed from Rose Shea, director of Jewish Family Service, at an upcoming meeting. Come join us at the JCC on Wednesdays at 1:30 pm.

Sylvia Diamond
President



Hersh Rozen displayed one of his scarves.

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Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and was the first Israeli to fight in Madison Square Garden. "All the legends – [Muhammad] Ali, [Mike] Tyson, [Rocky] Marciano and me, Haim from Bat Yam, got to fight there."

He considers this an important part of his legacy. In addition to fighting, Haim also works for Bellator, where he scouts out and signs new fighters, as well as produces matches in Israel. He also heads the Renzo Gracie Israel Academy in Bat Yam.

Haim says he feels fortunate to be able to spend so much time with his son. "We mostly live together. And it is nice when a father and son do and love the same thing."

Aviv agrees, saying, "To train with my father, it's the best feeling in the world. To learn from him and to laugh with him during training gives me a lot of confidence and a lot of small things to improve that no one can see."

He adds that he was excited to fight on the same card as his father – and confident, too. "I fought with my father in the same card last year, but this time, both of us are going to win! He's 47, and this is his last fight now, so I'm continuing the legacy."

Moving any time soon?

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Scientists discover molecule that destroys pancreatic cancer cells

By Abigail Klein Leichman

(Israel21c via JNS) – A little molecule named PJ34 can cause cancer cells to self-destruct, according to an Israeli study published recently in the biomedical journal *Oncotarget*.

Professor Malka Cohen-Armon and her team at Tel Aviv University's Sackler Faculty of Medicine conducted an experiment using xenografts – transplantations of human pancreatic cancer into mice. The mice's immune systems were compromised so that their bodies wouldn't reject the transplanted cells.

In collaboration with Dr. Talia Golan's team at the Cancer Research

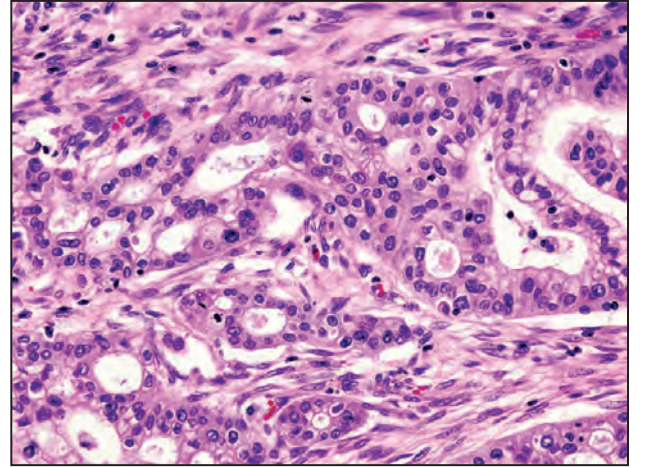


L-r: Professor Malka Cohen-Armon of Tel Aviv University and Dr. Talia Golan of Sheba Medical Center (Photo courtesy of Tel Aviv University)

Center at Sheba Medical Center, the scientists then injected PJ34 into the mice for 14 days in a row.

PJ34 originally was developed to treat stroke, but it has been found to have a "powerful effect" on human cancer cells. The molecule causes something to go wrong during cell duplication, leading to rapid cell death.

"In research published in 2017, we discovered a mechanism that causes the self-destruction of human cancer cells during their duplication [mitosis] without affecting normal cells," explained Cohen-Armon. "We have now harnessed this information



A micrograph of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, the most common type of pancreatic cancer. (Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons)

to efficiently eradicate human pancreatic cancer cells in xenografts."

A month after the molecule was administered, the number of cancer cells in the mice's tumors were found to be reduced by 80 percent to 90 percent. One mouse's tumor completely disappeared.

Cohen-Armon noted that the treated mice suffered no adverse effects from the PJ34 molecule regimen, nor did they experience changes in weight or behavior.

Also significant is that the PJ34 molecule exclusively interrupts the duplication of human cancer

cells, leaving normal cells alone.

Although PJ34 could work on other types of cancer cells, pancreatic cancer presents a pressing need. It's the 12th most common cancer worldwide and the fourth leading cause of cancer death. This type of cancer is often resistant to existing treatments.

Early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer is difficult, as often there are no symptoms. As a result, around 80 percent of patients are diagnosed at the metastatic stage, and fewer than 3 percent of patients at that stage survive for more than five years after diagnosis.

Therefore, the Israeli research holds "great potential" for the development of a new, effective therapy to treat this aggressive cancer in humans. It could also prove effective against aggressive forms of breast, lung, brain and ovarian cancer.

PJ34 now is being tested in pre-clinical trials according to FDA regulations before larger animal trials and then human clinical trials can begin.

Last June, Israel21c reported on a multinational research study led by Golan demonstrating the effectiveness of a new drug regimen for pancreatic cancer in people with BRCA mutations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Jordanian court sentences man for plot to attack Israeli embassy

A Jordanian court has sentenced a man to eight years in jail for plotting to attack the Israeli embassy in Amman last year, AFP reported on Dec. 9. The country's state security court ruled that the 33-year-old Khaled Abu Raya had "threatened to carry out terrorist acts," according to the report. Raya planned "to open fire on the embassy and its employees in a bid to kill a large number of Israelis," according to the charge sheet, which also said he was motivated by the transfer of the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem last year, as well as Israel's policy toward the Gaza Strip. The court also sentenced another Jordanian, Munir Ibrahim, to three years in prison for planning to sneak into Israel and attack soldiers, according to the report. Despite a peace treaty between the two countries, most Jordanians are hostile toward Israel. Earlier in December, a group of Israeli deputy mayors seeking to visit Petra was reportedly stopped at the Israel-Jordan and refused entry over their religious attire.

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the conference. In an interview with JNS several days later, she said, "I have found that antisemitism is often sidelined in discussions of diversity, equity, tolerance and inclusion. In such discussions, the emphasis is typically on racism."

She continued, saying, "When antisemitism is included in these conversations, the tendency tends to be on hatred coming from far-right white supremacy. As you know, left[leaning] antisemitism typically gets a pass because the people engaging in it are often minority groups and individuals who are themselves championing social justice and anti-racism platforms. The connection between anti-Israel expression, anti-Zionism and antisemitism is not addressed in these venues."

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