

THE REPORTER

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Community Purim Carnival at JCC on March 24

The Jewish Community Center of Binghamton will host its annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 24, from 1-3:30 pm. The cost to attend is \$5 per child and \$1 per adult, with a \$20 maximum per family. The entire community is welcome to attend. All proceeds will benefit the JCC Youth Department.

On Purim, children and adults dress up and celebrate by giving gifts and *zedakah* (charity). Everyone, young and old, is encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Purim character or in any costume of their choice. The JCC Kids

At right: The Jewish Community Center will host its annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 24.



Connection staff, who run the event, said they love to create different themed costumes each year.

There will be a number of activities geared toward children, including carnival games, inflatable play areas, arts and crafts, and face painting. All games earn children points that can be traded in at the prize table. Traditional Purim food will be available for purchase during the event.

For more information about the Purim Carnival, JCC youth programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

Ithaca Area United Jewish Community to launch Campaign on March 31

The Ithaca Area United Jewish Community will hold its Campaign launch party, "Enriching Jewish Community!," on Sunday, March 31, from 5-7:30 pm, on the main floor of the Cornell University Biotech Building.

"We invite you to dine with us, celebrate our successes and jump-start our 2019/2020 Campaign!" said an IAUJC representative. "Four of our important programs will be highlighted during the reception. Representatives will share information with attendees on our Holocaust Education and Commemoration efforts; our PJ Library and PJ Our Way programs since 2008; our Jewish Camp and Teen Summer Experience Initiative, which awards financial aid to local families; and our Humanitarian Aid to Israel project, which awards grants to important programs in Southern Israel,



Randy and Ron Ehrenberg



P.A. and Elliot Rubinstein



Rabbi Ari Weiss

through an anonymous contribution."

The IAUJC will honor and thank long-time supporters Randy and Ron Ehrenberg, and P.A. and Elliot Rubinstein. "These two couples have been on the Ithaca scene for many years and have contributed greatly

to the vibrancy of our community," said an IAUJC representative.

The keynote speaker will be Rabbi Ari Weiss, executive director of Cornell Hillel, who will discuss the potential of emerging Jewish leaders on the college campus. Kira

Singer, an Ithaca College Hillel student, will also speak on how the Jewish community on campus has impacted her life.

A reception and dinner, by 104 West! Cornell Kosher Catering, will cost \$60 per person or \$25 per student. An RSVP and payment in advance is required by Monday, March 18, online at <https://iaujc.org/tickets>.

Tribute gifts in honor of the Ehrenbergs and Rubinsteins may also be made online.

Those who need transportation assistance are asked to write to marjorie@twcny.rr.com or call 257-9924. Childcare may also be available depending on interest. Free parking will be available at Hoy Road/Schoellkopf Garage, with handicapped drop-off at the Biotech Building.

Additional information concerning the Ithaca Area United Jewish Community may be found at <https://iaujc.org>.

Greenblatt blasts Palestinian Authority, U.N. for financially rewarding terrorists

By JNS staff

U.S. special envoy Jason Greenblatt blasted the Palestinian Authority and the

United Nations for aiding and abetting the Palestinian financial payments toward terrorists and their families.

In a closed-door U.N. Security Council meeting on March 8, instigated by Indonesia and Kuwait, Greenblatt defended Israel's choice in February to reduce Palestinian tax revenues due to the P.A.'s "pay to slay" initiative, which has been a primary obstacle in peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, sources told *The Washington Free Beacon*. The Trump administration's Mideast peace plan, which Greenblatt and others have been crafting for almost the past couple years, is expected to be released after Israeli elections on April 9.

"The time has come to make it clear that the Palestinian Authority, if it aspires to the status of a government, it must behave like one," reportedly said Greenblatt. "It is unacceptable for the Palestinian Authority to pay these terrorists and their families a reward for criminal acts."

The United States was the only Security Council member to back the Israeli move while the rest called on the Jewish state to unfreeze and allocate the remaining tax revenues. "It is entirely inappropriate to focus on Israel as the source of this crisis," said Greenblatt. "It is the Palestinian Authority that has chosen to manufacture the current

crisis...."The Palestinian Authority is refusing to accept over \$150 million in revenue to protest the fact that \$11 million is being

See "U.N." on page 3

Hillel Academy students give tzedakah to JFS



Hillel Academy students in Hadasah Slonim's (far left) pre-kindergarten and kindergarten class brought tzedakah to Jewish Family Service Director Roz Antoun (far right) for Purim.

Wedding, Prom and Party Planning Guide

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Purim celebrations around town; a look at websites with sweet and savory hamantashen recipes. Pages 5 and 6

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE NOTES

Beyond the Rainbow wrap-up

ROZ ANTOUN, DIRECTOR

In retrospect to the program Beyond the Rainbow: LGBTQ in the Binghamton Jewish Community, held at Temple Concord on February 26, Suzanne Holwitt said, "It was heartwarming to see the number of people who felt this was an important and valuable program and came out to support it and who came to learn." Sixty-three people in all, some who came from as far away as Corning, shared dinner, comradery and the warmth of friendship in a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere to heighten their knowledge of LGBTQ terminology related to sexual identities, and to learn how to be advocates for friends, family and neighbors who identify in the LGBTQ community.

As a guest speaker along with Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell of Temple Concord, both of whom placed

this program within a Jewish context, Rabbi Rachel Esserman said, "The program opened my eyes into new ways of thinking about our identities. I was also pleased to be able to present how rabbinic Judaism recognizes that there is more than two genders and sought to include all five genders into Jewish religious practice. Too many people think that these ideas are foreign to Judaism when they are not."

With knowledge gained from the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, I, as director, am pleased to have been a lead agent of change through Jewish Family Service in coordinating this effort. I want to give special thanks to all who participated in making Beyond the Rainbow a success: the anonymous donors who provided funding for the associated expenses, Temple Concord

that provided the meeting space, and the Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project/Pride and Joy Families that organized the educators and panelists.

"The program was very enlightening, engaging and really personalized the way in which society has marginalized the LGBTQ community," said Sandy Foreman. She agreed with others in the audience that having the panelists tell their own stories of coming out and talking about the positive and less-than-welcoming experiences within the Jewish context broadened their understanding of what the panelists want and need to feel fully accepted.

Photos of the event can be found below.

For further information about this program or for referrals, please contact me at the Jewish Family Service office, 607-724-2332 or Rozjfs@stny.rr.com.



L-r: A panel including Claudia Stallman, Harrison Cohen and Jacob Aronson offered first person accounts by folks who live at the intersection of Jewish and LGBTQ identities.



The "Beyond the Rainbow: Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer in the Binghamton Jewish Community" program was held on February 26. More than 60 people attended the event.



L-r: Rabbis Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Rachel Esserman offered examples of the multiple genders mentioned in the Bible and the Talmud.



L-r: Claudia Stallman, project director of the Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project/Pride and Joy Families, and Roz Antoun, director of Jewish Family Service, helped organize the program.



Trainer and teacher Alex Compton-Monell led a discussion about gender identity and sexual orientation, and how to be an ally.

Opinion

In My Own Words

Paying the price, even years later

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Almost everyone seems to agree that child abuse is wrong. Unfortunately, in the past, religious organizations often sought to protect the offenders from being punished for their actions. Some even suggested the child must be lying or mistaken because no priest/rabbi/minister/teacher would ever perform those actions. Offenders were allowed to retain their positions or moved to different areas of the country, usually without warning people that the person was potentially dangerous. I'm not just speaking about the Catholic Church, although its problems have received the most headlines. The same thing has happened in Jewish day schools, camps and *yeshivot*. This included students and their parents being pressured to keep quiet, to not disturb the status quo or report abuse to the police.

With the recent passing of the Child Victims' Act in New York state, the statute of limitation, particularly for civil suits, has been extended. That means that those who were abused decades ago now can have their day

in court. They may not be able to put someone in jail, but they can make the schools, camps, etc., pay for ignoring the predators in their midst. They can even sue the abuser themselves.

Unfortunately, some Jewish organizations opposed the bill. Their worry is the impact these actions might have on their finances if they are sued by those who were abused. That makes me wonder if they're worried because they know that abuse occurred that was overlooked or ignored by their organizations. Do they fear that their refusal to deal with these problems may be exposed? Or that their lack of compassion and understanding for abused children will be revealed?

While these groups pay lip service to the suffering of the abused, they believe the survival of their organizations are more important than what happened to any particular individual. They suggest that the abuse was horrible, but don't want to accept any moral or financial responsibility

for what occurred. In fact, publically opposing the Child Victims' Act may influence community members since it suggests that anyone putting forth such a lawsuit has no concern for the greater good of the community.

How worthwhile, though, is an organization that ignores the needs of those in its care? If it refuses to acknowledge that rabbis, leaders and teachers – no matter how learned – can still do horrific things? The sanctity, the holiness, that is attributed to those positions makes it even easier to abuse those who are the most vulnerable.

A recent article in *The Jewish Week* suggests that most of the lawsuits will be against individual predators, rather than schools and camps. But, if a school knowingly allowed a predator to continue abusing students, then it should suffer the financial and social repercussions – even if it goes out of business. That will serve as a lesson to future generations: protect the innocent, rather than those who prey on them.



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

LETTERS

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

ADS

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www.thereportergroup.org

TC Sisterhood's annual donor program on March 31



Tim Gleason

On Sunday, March 31, from 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Temple Concord Sisterhood will hold its annual donor program in the Kilmer Mansion. Sisterhood members are invited to a presentation about KNOW Theatre to be given by Tim Gleason, the artistic director of this local theater in Binghamton. Gleason will also give several short performances.

"Not a donor? It's never too late to become one." said orga-

nizers. "To attend, pay Sisterhood dues plus make a donation of \$25, or \$36 if you wish to bring a guest to the event." A guest is someone who is not eligible to join Sisterhood such as a gentleman, daughter or a member of another temple's Sisterhood.

Brunch will be \$5 per person to help cover the cost of the food. Payment, including donor if that donation hasn't already been made, may be made at the door the day of the event. Reservations should be made by Friday, March 22, at the temple office.

TC Sisterhood to vote for 2019-20 board on April 3

On Wednesday, April 3, at 7:30 pm, Temple Concord Sisterhood members are invited to an evening of voting for the 2019-20 board members, followed by making ice cream sundaes and playing board games.

Participants should bring board and card games to play. Reservations may be made by calling the Temple Concord office by Friday, March 29, to ensure there are enough tables, ice cream and toppings.

Officers proposed for the 2019-20 board are Lani Dunthorn, president; Helene Philips, past president; Sandy Gutman, treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary; Marty Eisenstadt, recording secretary; Hayman, corresponding secretary; Babs Putzel-Bischoff, Marsha Luks, Barbara Thomas and Deb Williams, directors; Williams, Nominating Committee chairwoman; Phyllis Kellenberger, ways and means vice president; Deb Daniels, education vice president; Putzel-Bischoff, Kellenberger and Dunthorn, publicity; Putzel-Bischoff, Barbara Dickman, Gayle Klein and Luks, Rosh Hashanah *Kiddush*; Pam Burgman and Hayman, rummage; Carol Herz and Sue High, Judaica Shop; Philips and Marilyn Strosberg, Holiday Artisan Marketplace, with Luks and Roz Antoun doing the bake sale; Hollie Levine, Sisterhood Sabbath; Ani Loew, Intersisterhood; Thomas, cradle roll; Amanda Donahue, High Holiday child care; Rachel Coker, religious school parties; Daniels and Kellenberger, adult education/programming; Dickman (paperwork); Sylvia

Diamond and Eisenstadt, Friday night *onegs*; Philips and Elaine Rapaport, membership/retention; Hayman, house; Sandy Foreman and Eisenstadt, co-chairwomen of Hospitality Committee; Linda Krushansky, Olwen Searles, Jan Dickler, Arlene Krassin, Linda Lisman, Jodi Sampey, Robin Hazen and Cathy Eckert, members of Hospitality Committee; Putzel-Bischoff, Nancy Dorfman, Dunthorn, Kellenberger and Hayman, Nominating Committee; and Jean Hecht, Sisterhood funds.

Positions still to be determined are co-treasurer, Whale of a Sale team, Hospitality Committee, donor and retreat.

TC Religious School class led service



Members of the Temple Concord Religious School's hey class led Shabbat morning services on March 2 with assistance from their teachers.

Yad Vashem exhibit details death march of Jewish women in 1945

By JNS staff

(JNS) – To mark Women's History Month, the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial and museum in Jerusalem is featuring an online exhibit titled "The Death March to Volary," depicting the fate of Jewish women forced on a death march in the winter of 1945. Of the approximately 1,300 prisoners sent on the march, some 350 survived.

The exhibit utilizes updated research on Nazi-enforced marches of concentration- and labor-camp prisoners over long distances under unbearable conditions, during which the prisoners were abused by their accompanying

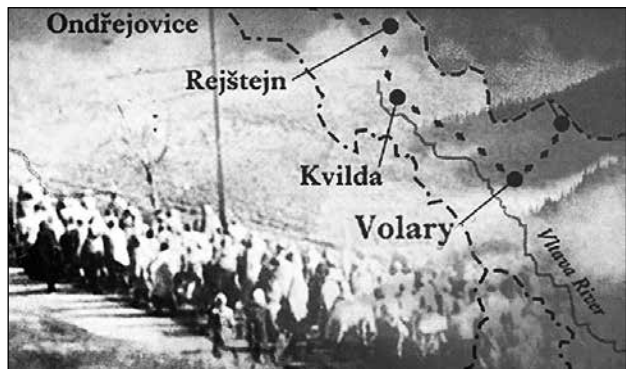
guards and often murdered along the way. Testimonies of survivors and U.S. Army veterans are included, as well as documentation from the trials of death-march commander Alois Dörr and his accomplices, shedding light on this little-known chapter of the Holocaust.

The exhibition – available in English, Hebrew, German and Spanish – is currently being featured on Yad Vashem's website. It retraces the march utilizing interviews with surviving women, written testimony and historical pictures.

The march began on January 24, 1945, when female Jewish prisoners were evacuated from the Schlesiensee (today Slawa) concentration camp in Upper Silesia in western Poland, a region annexed to Germany. The women were forced to march on foot in a southwesterly direction, unaware of their destination, in freezing conditions.

It concluded 106 days and more than 800 kilometers later on May 5, 1945, in the town of Volary (German: Wallern) in Czechoslovakia, not far from the border with Germany and Austria. There, they were liberated by the U.S. Army.

The exhibit also features testimony of one of the liberating U.S. servicemen, Maj. Aaron S. Cahan, a Jewish medical See "March" on page 7



A Nazi-enforced death march of Jewish women prisoners began from the Schlesiensee (today Slawa) concentration camp in Upper Silesia in western Poland on January 24, 1945, ending 106 days and more than 800 kilometers later on May 5, 1945, in the town of Volary (German: Wallern) in Czechoslovakia. (Graphic by Yad Vashem)

U.N.Continued from page 1

withheld, only to make a political point," he added. "Does that sound like a governing authority that is concerned with the welfare of its people?"

Senior Palestinian official Saeb Erekat slammed Greenblatt's remarks as "patronizing and disingenuous," and defended the payments. "The welfare of thousands of families has now become a tool for the Israeli government and the Trump administration to dehumanize Palestinians, while whitewashing the effects of the Israeli occupation over millions of Palestinian lives," wrote Erekat on March 10 in *Haaretz*. "Such payments are a social responsibility; they also contribute to the costs of reinserting released prisoners back into society, among other important considerations," he added.

Erekat also said that "the Palestinian leadership has taken a position of principle by not accepting Israeli piracy. We either receive all the money that under signed agreements is legitimately ours, or we won't accept it. No step will be taken that may legitimate such gangster-style tactics of the Israeli occupation."

OF NOTE

Shapiro

Jonathan Shapiro, the son of Jared and Julie Shapiro of Vestal, received an award from the Tri-Cities Women's Club Youth Poetry and Short Story Contest. He took the first place prize in poetry for his poem titled "I Am Words."

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Anne Marie Rosen**

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to the family of **Kurt Salm**

Please donate all your unwanted/unused items for us to sell at the JCC Yard Sale

All proceeds go to our fitness program!

Items We Accept:

- Gently used clothing
- Gently used shoes
- Working household items of medium/small size (ex: lamps, books)
- Working toys and games
- Jewelry
- Accessories

*NO ENCYCLOPEDIAS, TV'S, OR COMPUTERS

Donations being taken the entire month of March - all donations must be brought to the fitness desk.

Join us on April 7 here at the JCC for our indoor yard sale!



500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
(607)724-2417

www.binghamtonjcc.org

Welcome to our newest practitioner, Heather Nannery, FNP!

Heather serves women seeking care that includes annual well woman visits, IUD's, and other gynecology concerns.

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Off the Shelf

Finding a life path

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Sometimes a person's cultural identity is set when they're very young. These people feel comfortable within the personal/religious/national identification offered them by family and the surrounding culture. Others struggle with their identities – exploring different options in order to find a place that feels like home. The writers of two recent memoirs belong to this second category: Ilana M. Blumberg examines how her experiences as a teacher led her to move her family to Israel in "Open Your Hand: Teaching as a Jew, Teaching as an American" (Rutger's University Press), while in "A River Could Be a Tree: A Memoir" (Fig Tree Books), Angela Himsel chronicles her travels from evangelical Christianity to Judaism. Both writers portray the difficulties and joys of their spiritual journeys.

Blumberg's memoir begins with a clash between her American and her Jewish identities. For most of her teaching career, she saw no difference between what she calls her "identity as an observant Jew and a passionate American." Both of her identities profoundly affected her teaching style, whether she was working in a small Jewish day school with very young children, as a college professor or as a volunteer at a middle school. For Blumberg, her Judaism and her civic Americanism meant her teaching should affect change in the world: "I had been teaching with the belief that there was no meaningful education, whatever the content, without ethics and that the deepest purpose of teaching and studying, particularly the humanities, was not self-advancement or personal pleasure, but the transformation of a world in urgent need of intelligent, sustained care."

Her teaching ideas were formulated during her time at a Jewish day school. The school sought not just to teach basic skills, but the children themselves. Rather than treating each subject on its own, lessons overlapped – connecting reading to writing to science to nature, etc. Students were encouraged to talk to each other, not just to the teacher, since this created connections between them, allowing them to learn from each other. Unfortunately, Blumberg found it far more difficult to create student-to-student learning in her college courses. When teaching a writing course, she also sought material to make the students think so they not only learn to become better writers, but discover important lessons from the lives of those who were oppressed or had fewer opportunities. While the students did address the material in the classroom, Blumberg realized that few incorporated these lessons into their lives outside the class.

Even worse was her experience volunteering at an impoverished middle school. Classroom doors were locked and supplies were few. Students appeared and disappeared for reasons she wasn't always able to determine. The experience makes Blumberg look closer at the type of society in which she wants her children to live. It seems to her that there is a divide between American education and the type of education she wants her children to have. This makes her long for something different: "I wanted to go home... to a community of people who believed as I did that the aim of human life was... to transform and make holy. I wanted to be in the company of people who believed that no world where some people suffered because they were poor or black or both was a good enough world." Blumberg realizes she wants her children to live in that type of community and decides to move to Israel.

Life is not perfect in Israel. It proves impossible to find the same kind of day school her children attended in the U.S. One child in particular has great difficulty adjusting, so much so that the parents visit a psychologist to help deal with the problem. Yet, Blumberg slowly sees her children becoming more Israeli, even as she feels more and more American. She also runs into some of the same problems with her students in an Israeli university setting that she did in an American one. However, that doesn't leave her dissatisfied with her move, but rather looking for ways to improve her life in Israel.

"Open your Hand: Teaching as a Jew, Teaching as an American" made compelling reading because of the author's open and honest discussions of her successes and failures. She admits her own learning curve – recognizing that she will always have to adjust her expectations and teaching style in order to help different types of students. Readers will rejoice in her successes, while discovering that even the best teachers may not be able to help students overcome all their obstacles.

While Blumberg grew up in a Jewish home, Himsel was raised in an evangelical household that belonged to the Worldwide Church of God. The rest of her parents' Midwestern families were members of the more traditional Lutheran or Catholic churches. So her parents change of religion proved a source of conflict. Most of the citizens in her home state came from German stock, and she grew up in a family where emotions were rarely expressed. Family life centered around the teaching of the Worldwide Church of God, which was started by the controversial figure Her-

bert W. Armstrong. Armstrong believed the world would end shortly and the only people to be saved would be those belonging to his church. He based parts of his religion on the Old Testament. While members of his church accepted Jesus as their savior, they did not celebrate Christmas or Easter, instead observing biblical Jewish holidays. He also forbade his followers from seeking medical help no matter how ill they were, something that had a great effect on Himsel and her family.

Himsel longs to travel the world, but figures there won't be time before the world ends. When that doesn't occur as early as expected, she finds herself in college and decides to study abroad for a year. Her first thought was to spend the time in Germany since that's her family's heritage. However, when she spots a brochure about a year abroad in Israel, she opts to visit the Holy Land in the hopes of having a spiritual experience. The Israel she found in the early 1970s was different from that of the Bible, though: "I pictured Jerusalem as spacious and silent and filled with holy people, people who were friendly and good and might even bear a likeness to the prophets. That expectation soon proved wrong." Israel, instead, is noisy and full of demanding people. As a young blonde American, Himsel received a great deal of unwanted attention. She does come to appreciate her time there, so much so that she remains in the country for a second year of school.

Adjusting after her return to the Midwest proves difficult. She decides to move to New York City with the help of a friend made in Israel and looks forward to a different type of future. Yet, she finds herself unable to give up the church completely since it offers her a chance to be reunited after death with a loved one. That doesn't stop her from taking synagogue classes and learning more about Judaism. Dating an older Jewish man on and off, Himsel is unsure what she wants: whether to practice Judaism or any religion. Once she finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, she finally decides to convert.

The most interesting sections of "A River Could Be a Tree" described Himsel's childhood and her parents' connection to the Worldwide Church of God. Also absorbing were her tales of the hard-scrabble life her parents led and how they kept their faith even during difficult family circumstances. Himsel's clear and open look at her own life and that of her family shines light on their flaws and on their desire to live a spiritual and worthy, if unconventional, life.

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 BIH Trucking LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 1, 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: 26 Timberland Drive, Binghamton, NY 13903.
5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Maggie Blake, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 6, 2019.
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Northern Tier PT, OT, SLP, PLLC: Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on February 6, 2019. Office: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent for LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 948 Allie Buck RD Nanty Glo PA 15943. Purpose: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology and any lawful business.

Notice of Formation of NIYA NICOLE LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/12/2019. 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: Niya Carrington, 2011 Chatterton Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Vision 72, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/05/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 45 Lewis St., Binghamton, NY 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

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1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is JCJ Property Management, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 19, 2019.



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

3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
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5. The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

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The name of the limited liability company is: Midstate Group, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 19, 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, Suite 700, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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Notice of Formation of 3CE Renovation, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/28/2019. 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 Bishop, Jr., 3301 Foster Avenue, Apt. 1C, Brooklyn, New York 11210. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Goldenrod Studios Design, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/4/2019. 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: Erin Slavik, P.O. Box 285, Binghamton, New York 13903. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice is hereby given that an order entered by the Supreme Court, Broome County on the 6th day of March, 2019 bearing Index No. 2019-0313, a copy of which may be examined at the office of the clerk, located at Governmental Plaza, Binghamton, NY grants me the right to assume the name of Cinthia Marlene Fonteyn. The city and state of my present address are Binghamton, NY; the month and year of my birth are November 1990; the place of my birth is Los Angeles, California; my present name is Cinthia Marlene Campos.

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**SPECIAL
Pullout Section**

March 15-21, 2019
Volume XLVIII, Number 11



Wedding, Prom and Party Planning Guide



THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton



Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

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How to keep or rekindle the romance in your marriage

(StatePoint) – Whether you're a honeymooner or you're celebrating your 50th anniversary, there's a chance that the romantic spark that brought you and your partner together in the first place needs to be rekindled. Experts say that a continually fulfilling relationship requires establishing and maintaining a complete connection.

"Marriage is more than a wedding and a license, it's a psychological, emotional and spiritual sense of connection," says Dr. Frederick D. Mondin, a marriage counselor, human sexuality professor and author of the book "Erotic Love & Marriage: Improve Your Sex Life and Emotional Connection."

Mondin is sharing tips and insights to all couples seeking to connect or re-connect with one another.

♥ **Keep dating:** No matter how busy you become, you should never stop having the kind of fun you had when you were courting. Whether it's shiking beautiful trails, going to concerts, or giving and attending parties, these activities should be carried into any long-term relationship if you intend to have a meaningful romantic life together and a healthy emotional connection.

♥ **Take each other seriously:** Don't allow gender stereotypes to lead you to discount each other's feelings or opinions as irrational. You'll communicate more effectively, and be happier as a result, if you listen to your partner and take him or her seriously. In other words, there should be no "boss" in the marriage. Work at maintaining a peer relationship.

♥ **Ritualize contact time:** Couples

need ritualized contact time in which they get together, such as going to lunch once a week, having coffee together in the morning or watching a television program they both like. This is one of the most important components of having a close, emotionally intimate relationship.

♥ **Speak the language of love:** Emotional intimacy has its own language, the language of endearment. Focus on all the right features of your partner – the personal qualities you saw when you first met and still appreciate, and start to verbalize that information. If your partner reciprocates, it will create a feeling of closeness. These words don't have to be rational or logical, but they should always be a validation of the relationship and your partner.

♥ **Lose your inhibitions:** Be open with each other about everything – including sex. Unfortunately, lingering guilt, fear and shame on this topic prevent many couples from being candid with one another. Learn to lose those inhibitions so that you can share your needs, desires, feelings and concerns.

♥ **Give each other space:** You don't need to do everything together to have a happy relationship. In fact, the happiest couples tend to give each other the support and space needed to maintain their independent interests.

You don't have to resign yourself to receding happiness as time passes. A challenge of your current beliefs can help you rekindle the spark and enjoy a closer, more meaningful relationship.



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*Mazel Tov
to our
Engaged Couples!*

Books to help you prepare for your Jewish wedding

By Reporter staff

Planning a Jewish wedding can be a stressful time for couples. Not only do they have to deal with relatives and caterers, they also have to decide exactly what type of Jewish wedding to hold. In addition, there are issues of Jewish law that may have to be addressed. The following books can help make the process easier.

“The Jewish Way of Love and Marriage”

Orthodox and traditional Jews will want to read Maurice Lamm’s “The Jewish Way of Love and Marriage.” While not a wedding planner (you’ll find no information about catering here), this book answers questions about marriage from a halachic (legalistic) point-of-view. It also explains each step in the traditional marriage ceremony.

“The Jewish Wedding Now”

Liberal Jews will want to turn to “The Jewish Wedding Now,” previously titled “The New Jewish Wedding,” by Anita Diamant. In her updated book, Diamant discusses the legalistic aspects of marriage from a liberal perspective. Her step-by-step approach to planning the wedding ceremony offers options not found in more traditional ceremonies. She also includes information about same-sex ceremonies and about how to include non-Jewish family members in the ceremony.

“The Creative Jewish Wedding Book”

In “The Creative Jewish Wedding Book,” Gabrielle Kaplan-Meyer offers suggestions on how a couple can use their wedding preparations to explore their relationship to Judaism. Her book is for those looking to individualize their ceremony and includes information about everything from Jewish music to how to design your own ritual objects for the ceremony.

Five tips for perfect wedding photos

(NewsUSA) – Your wedding is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion – something to be celebrated and cherished. Planning it, on the other hand, can feel as if you’re preparing for war – between ensuring that Uncle Sal isn’t sitting next to his brother, because they’re still holding a childhood grudge, to budgeting for everything you want and need. The one thing you don’t want to skimp on is the memories.

Choosing your photographer is one of the biggest decisions you will make. To help ensure that you get the most romantic photos of your fairytale day, Professional Photographers of America, a 29,000-plus-member association, offers these suggestions:

1. Express yourself. What kind of photos do you like? Do they tend toward the journalistic, or is your style more whimsical, classical, or romantic? Whatever your style, be clear with your photographer so that he or she can capture your personality.
2. Say yes to the dress. It starts and ends with this iconic garment. What will make you feel like the bride you’ve always dreamed of being? Is it a flowing sundress, or a formal gown complete with train and veil? Or maybe your idea is more modern and it’s a strapless dress, in a color other than white. Whatever it is, dare to wear your dream dress.
3. Buy the shoes? Or not? Carrie Bradshaw knows shoes. And you should, too. Will you walk down the aisle in stilettos or kitten heels? Maybe cowboy boots are more your style? Can’t decide? Then leave the shoes at home and feel free to walk barefoot.
4. Rejoice in style. Your wedding day isn’t just a ceremony, it’s a celebration that brings all your family

See “Photos” on page 8A



“Make Your Own Jewish Wedding: How to Create a Ritual That Expresses Your True Selves”

Ana Schwartzman and Zoe Francesca offer practical and spiritual advice about all aspects of a wedding, from the engagement to the honeymoon, in “Make Your Own Jewish Wedding: How to Create a Ritual That Expresses Your True Selves.” The book also offers concrete suggestions for dealing with potential problems with family and friends.

“Jewish Weddings: A Beautiful Guide to Creating the Wedding of Your Dreams”

“Jewish Weddings: A Beautiful Guide to Creating the Wedding of Your Dreams,” by Rita Milos Brownstein with Donna Wolf Koplowitz, seeks to help couples balance the religious and aesthetic aspects of their wedding ceremony. The book, which has more than 200 photographs, includes menu suggestions for the engagement party, the bridal shower, the wedding and the week of festive meals after the wedding. It also gives examples from seven real-life Jewish weddings.

“The Everything Jewish Wedding Book”

Rabbi Hyim Shafner offers “The Everything Jewish Wedding Book: Mazel tov! From the chuppah to the hora, all you need for your big day.” The work guides readers through the Jewish concept of a marriage, how to work with a rabbi or ritual director and information about the ceremony. It offers information for Jewish or interfaith couples.

“The Committed Marriage: A Guide to Finding a Soul Mate and Building a Relationship through Timeless Biblical Wisdom”

Looking to get a marriage off to a good start? In “The Committed Marriage: A Guide to Finding a Soul Mate and Building a Relationship through Timeless Biblical Wisdom,” Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis shows how to build a good relationship, starting with finding one’s soul mate to dealing with the problems that can arise during a marriage. Her book is filled with true stories of people she has helped to create successful marriages.

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Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Your Wedding Checklist

6-12 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Determine budget
- Visit rabbi (ceremony variations)
- Set day, time and location of ceremony, rehearsal and reception
- Select a caterer
- Choose wedding photographer and/or videographer
- Draw up guest list
- Obtain floral/rental/music estimates
- Invite attendants
- Discuss honeymoon and new home
- Select gown and headpiece
- Select music for ceremony and reception
- Register with bridal gift registry

4 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Order invitations and personal stationery
- Plan reception
- Plan ceremony and reception music
- Choose florist
- Mothers choose gowns
- Men choose attire
- Make honeymoon reservations
- Begin trousseau shopping
- Arrange motel accommodations for out-of-town guests

3 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Make an appointment with gynecologist to discuss birth control, etc.

2 MONTHS BEFORE WEDDING

- Order wedding cake
- Select attendants' gifts
- Plan to keep gift record
- Acknowledge gifts as they arrive
- Finish invitations -- Mail them 6 weeks before wedding
- Plan rehearsal dinner
- Check on marriage license
- Get rings engraved
- Plan luncheon for bridesmaids
- Select gift for groom
- Go over wedding ceremony details
- Gown fitting
- Bridal portrait sitting
- Arrange for limousine service
- Make hairdresser appointment

1 MONTH BEFORE WEDDING

- Make up reception seating charts
- Check wedding party apparel
- Final gown fitting
- Get blood tests for marriage license

2 WEEKS BEFORE WEDDING

- Make final check on bridal-party clothes and

- catering
- Arrange name changes/get marriage license
- Arrange transportation from reception to airport or wherever you are leaving from for the honeymoon

1 WEEK BEFORE WEDDING

- Wrap attendants' gifts
- Give final count to caterer
- Confirm music arrangements and check selections
- Arrange to move belongings to new home
- Check that your hairstyle complements your headpiece
- Final instructions to photographer and videographer
- Final instructions to ushers for special seating
- Give clergy fee to best man in sealed envelope (He will deliver it.)
- Begin packing for honeymoon

1 DAY BEFORE WEDDING

- Give ushers guest list
- Do something relaxing and pamper yourself!

Find wedding bliss this fall

(NewsUSA) – It may be spring, but many caterers, event halls and wedding planners are gearing up for fall wedding season, one of the busiest times of the year for hopeful couples. Fall guarantees exquisite photo opportunities without the heat of summer – and the wealth of in-season decorations are beautiful and affordable.

In fact, September and October are the most popular and third most popular months for weddings, respectively.

If you're planning a fall wedding this season, www.valleyforge.org offers some helpful tips:

1. Keep warm. Since outdoor fall weddings have the potential to get chilly, keeping your guests warm is a must. Offer hot cocoa and baskets of soft blankets or cozy shawls. Set up fire pits or outdoor heating stations where guests can shake off the chill.

2. Location, location, location. Select a locale that is known for its fall scenery, autumnal hues and stunning landscape.

3. Incorporate fall colors into the wedding party wardrobe. Chocolate brown compliments a variety of fall color schemes, and it's flattering for most women. But if brown doesn't suit the plans, burgundy is another fall shade that makes the bridal white pop.

4. Select in-season flowers and decorations. Unless the bride has her heart set on lily of the valley or orchids, there are beautiful in-season flowers to choose from. Dahlias, chrysanthemums, asters, roses, zinnias and sunflowers all create elegant bouquets and floral displays with a lovely hint of fall. Add some crab

apples for a playful, non-floral element.

5. Mix and match gourds, pumpkins and squash. Pumpkins can be tacky or a little too reminiscent of Halloween, so class them up by serving pumpkin soup, pumpkin cocktails or tiers of mini pumpkins. Gourds also make eye-catching vases, and all three can be arranged as charming centerpieces.

Weddings



Tammie Brown and Andrew Mark
March 18, 2018



Caryn Gusefski and Junior Bernal
June 15, 2018



Yoon Hyung Choi and Eric G. Epstein
August 12, 2018



Stacey Shaunler and Elie Silber
August 12, 2018

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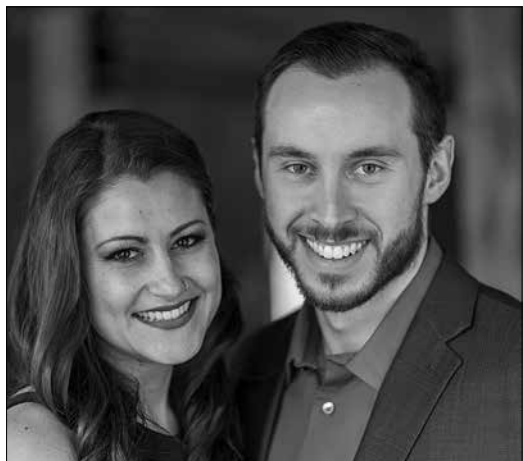
Weddings



Rebecca Shapiro and Jeremy Eggleston
September 8, 2018



Julie Rosenberg and Bob Steber
September 22, 2018



Cassandra Ducharme and Samuel Van Kuren
December 31, 2018

Mazel Tou to our Married Couples!

Jewish "Bubbies" do matchmaking, share dating wisdom in new TV show

By Shiryn Ghermezian

(JNS) – In each episode of "Bubbies Know Best," which premiered on February 11 on JLTV, S.J. Mendelson, Linda Rich and Bunny Gibson interview three potential suitors before picking one to go on a date with their bachelor or bachelorette. The bubbies then watch them – with the help of a live camera – go on a date and afterward give pointers on what the daters did right and wrong.

The Los Angeles-based grandmothers set up singles of all ages, both Jewish and non-Jewish, and sexual preferences. One episode features daters in their 60s and 70s, while another features a member of the LGBTQ community looking for love. In one episode, Gibson rides a motorcycle with one of the bachelors because "I had to do it to make sure that the lady we picked for him would be safe," she said, jokingly adding, "I even suggested we go cross-country."

Mendelson, who was a contestant on season 12 of "America's Got Talent," has three grandchildren and grew up in Brooklyn, NY. Her grandmother, "a yenta," as she called her, was a matchmaker and used to say: "There's a cover for every garbage can, and if a guy has a club foot, he'll make up for it in bed." Mendelson had her own matchmaking service in the 1990s and said she's "a natural" at setting people up.

Gibson is a great-grandmother and was one of the original dancers on "American Bandstand," Dick Clark's music performance and dance television program. She has experience working with two matchmaking services and has appeared in more than 65 television shows and films.

Rich is a bubbie to seven grandchildren and has been a cantor for 30-plus years. She was the first female cantor in history to serve a Conservative congregation. She does couples counseling and said she draws a lot of her wisdom about dating from the Torah.

"With age comes wisdom... we have a good idea of what works and what doesn't work in relationships, so I think it's important that they listen to us," Mendelson said about the singles who come on the show. "We know a little something that they might want to learn from."

After all, quipped Gibson, "We have 200 years of wisdom amongst us."

The three women, who didn't know each other prior to filming the show, are now like sisters, they said. Rich and Mendelson have even been helping Gibson learn about Judaism since the latter took a DNA test last year and found out she is 50 percent Jewish. She said since the discovery, she has been embraced by the Jewish community, JLTV and her fellow "bubbies."

"It was quite a shock, but really such a great thing. I love being Jewish," Gibson, who was adopted and raised Catholic, noted. She said about her co-stars, "I have now two new Jewish sisters; it's wonderful!" To which Mendelson added, "We're glad to have you in the tribe."

The women agreed that some of the biggest mistakes people make when it comes to dating include getting into bed too quickly with a person, talking about themselves too much and complaining a lot throughout the date.



L-r: Bubbies S.J. Mendelson, Linda Rich and Bunny Gibson. (Photo courtesy of JLTV)

Rich celebrated her 30th wedding anniversary in October. She met her husband one Shabbat during Valentine's weekend. A member of the temple where she was a cantor invited her now-husband to come to the synagogue to meet her and hear her sing. After services, they talked and, Rich said, "It was love at first sight, really." But, she pointed out, "it did take someone to put us together: a matchmaker."

Mendelson, who celebrated her 16th wedding anniversary not long ago, met her husband at a bank. They lived in the same neighborhood and she used to see him tend to his mother by helping her in and out of the bank, and holding the door for her. She told JNS, "You want a man who's good to his mother. That tells you something right there."

When Mendelson saw her now-husband after his mother passed away, she expressed her condolences and gave him her card with her contact information. He called a few weeks later, and they started dating. They were engaged after 45 days and got married in three months.

Gibson, who is searching for that special someone, told JNS, "I am single for many, many years. I know everything that doesn't work, so I can obviously give advice. A rabbi once told me: You can be right, and you can be right and, guess what, you can both be alone. You have to learn to compromise."

The show's host, Erin Davis, a New Yorker who

See "Bubbies" on page 6A

The Wedding & Party Planning Guide is an annual edition. Please save it for future reference!

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Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Israeli device lets wheelchair-bound groom stand under chuppah

By Abigail Klein Leichman

(Israel 21C) – Forty days before his marriage, a wheelchair-bound Israeli man named Adir wrote to UPnRIDE Robotics sharing his dream to stand under the chuppah (wedding canopy) with his bride, Liat. CEO Oren Tamari invited Adir to company headquarters in Yokne'am Illit to try the UPnRIDE 1.1 mobility device, now in transition from research-and-development to market.

"We saw he managed well with it, and we arranged for him to use the device during his wedding" on November 12, Tamari tells ISRAEL21c.

The next day, Adir posted on UPnRIDE's Facebook page: "Thank you all for [the] wonderful experience and magnificent night. Our chuppa was so amazing, people cried when [they] saw me standing and praying. My wife and I just want to say that you made our night as close as possible to perfection!!!"

UPnRIDE was invented by Amit Goffer, whose revolutionary ReWalk robotic exoskeleton allows paraplegics to stand, walk, navigate steps and even run marathons. Goffer, who has a Ph.D. in electrical

and computer engineering, could not use ReWalk himself because he is a quadriplegic, paralyzed from the neck down.

So he and Tamari formed a new company to develop an upright mobility solution enabling any wheelchair-bound person – quadriplegics, paraplegics, people with multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, ALS and traumatic brain injury – to recline, stand and navigate indoors and outdoors.

Jointed braces and harnessing straps provide support, while advanced motion technology and real-time computing ensure automatic balancing and stability on uneven terrain. Goffer says other types of standing wheelchairs can't be used outdoors because of the danger of tipping over.

Goffer, CTO and president of the company, doesn't yet have his own UPnRIDE because the sample models are for testing. He borrows one on weekends and for special events – such as his daughter's wedding last July.

Like Adir, he was able to stand under the chuppah and with his family for photos.

"My son and middle daughter were already married years ago," he tells ISRAEL21c, "and it was a very different feeling at the wedding of my 'baby' because I was standing like the rest of the family. I was also able to mingle with guests as never before."

Eventually, Goffer expects UPnRIDE to become his everyday wheelchair. "I enjoy it because I can stand and sit easily whenever I want; I don't have to be moved and lifted by someone else. It can recline, too, so it's better for napping or receiving medical treatment."

The smart wheelchairs are to be manufactured in a northern Israel factory run by Sanmina, an American electronics manufacturing services provider.

Tamari says the company plans to use proceeds from the current funding round for marketing, establishing mass production and developing advanced and new models.

For more information, e-mail oren@upnride.com. To read the complete story, visit www.israel21c.org/israeli-device-lets-wheelchair-bound-groom-stand-under-chuppah/.

Grooms: tips to survive the big day

(StatePoint) – There's an endless stream of advice out there for brides-to-be – from insights into gown trends to leads on finding the best photographer. But grooms, who are more involved than ever these days in the wedding planning process, may have their own set of worries. Being prepared can keep the pressure of the big day at bay, say experts.



"Your wedding day involves hundreds of moving parts. But putting things in perspective and leaning on close friends,

family and hired professionals can help you stay calm and happy," says author Eric San Juan, whose book, "Stuff Every Groom Should Know," offers suggestions to get from "yes" to "I do."

Whether you've been a best man three times in the past or you're new to the wedding game entirely, these tips from San Juan can help you survive your own big day.

- ◆ Be a well-groomed groom: Go beyond your normal grooming routine. This is a once-in-a-lifetime occasion and you should look the part. Consider a manicure, ensure your suit or tux is tailored to fit you perfectly. Get a haircut, trim your nose hair. Looking impeccable on your wedding day is crucial.
- ◆ Melt cold feet: Even the most laid back guy can turn into a wreck once the reality of the big day settles in. Calm your nerves by talking to your best man and projecting confidence.
- ◆ Essentials for your pocket: Carrying these essentials with you can help you get through the day-of emergencies: aspirin, your phone, numbers essential for the wedding (such as vendors, drivers and caterers), cash, a stain remover pen, camera, breath mints, handkerchief, lip balm and, of course, the ring.
- ◆ Master the meet and greet: You can't avoid small talk on your wedding day. Consider a greeting line so you can

get all your hi-and-thank-yous over in one fell swoop. If your better half is the charming one, let her take the lead. Circulate early. The cocktail hour is the perfect time to do a quick circuit of the room. Remember, you don't need to dwell in any one conversation. You have a built-in excuse to exit a conversation early – "I should really make my way around the room" is always a legitimate exit line.

Bubbies Continued from page 5A

runs a dating service, said her 95-year-old maternal grandmother – a Holocaust survivor – is a mentor and inspiration for everything she does. Meeting the "bubbies" from the show was an amazing experience for her, and she said, "It meant more to me than I think most people could ever understand. They're really exceptional, and they've become friends and 'bubbies' to me."

She added about the show, "Today it's a high-tech society, and the personal touch of meeting people – the in-person connection these days – it's going away. We're kind of going old school with this show in more ways than one. It's refreshing; it's really amazing to see how powerful it is just to have people meeting again in person, and off their phones and engaging with other generations."

Davis works full-time as a dating coach and private "wingwoman" (someone who goes into a social situation with the purpose of helping people meet) for her clients. She started matchmaking as a hobby and seven years ago began a non-profit called Shabbatness, which organized Shabbat dinners and events for Jewish young professionals to meet. In 2014, she branched out and created an individual consultation service called Erin Davis Wingwoman.

Davis takes her clients out to events that fit their personality and interests, and she does "in-person strategic introductions" for them so they meet new people. "That's the wingwoman part of the business," she said.

During the day, she meets with clients for five to six hours to help them with everything from analyzing their text messages, which she said is her No. 1 service, to helping them navigate dating apps. She tries teaching her clients that online dating services and dating apps should supplement other efforts in meeting people.

When asked about her take on dating apps, she mentioned that "if it's done in moderation, I think it

◆ Savor the wedding night: Avoid the after party. Allow yourselves to bask in your first hours alone together. You'll never have this night again.

Still feeling nervous? "In the United States alone, over 2.5 million guys every year manage to plan and execute one of these celebrations," says San Juan. "Remember, you really are not alone."

can be a helpful thing. But most of the time, it's taking over people's lives and being the only thing they're doing these days."

She said some of the biggest mistakes singles are doing is walking into dates with negative energy, communicating the wrong way, losing the excitement and momentum early on in the dating process, and having an overall negative view on dating. "People are treating dating kind of like a chore, where it's not fun anymore, or they're going straight from work," she explained. "I try to encourage everyone to give themselves transition time between work and a date, and to get really pumped up and excited about it because it's a chance for a new adventure, a new friend [or] a new business contact, not just your *bashert*."

Davis wants the show to inspire singles who are struggling in the dating world, but she also hopes that viewers will be encouraged to call their grandmothers more often or just appreciate the wisdom that the older generation has. "I'll be the first to admit that my 95-year-old Holocaust survivor grandmother, who is sharp as a tack, even though she is a bit kooky [and] old-school Polish... up until I was like 30, I just dismissed everything she told me," related David. "And as I've gotten older, I really cherish every second with her. That woman has lived on this earth 95 years, and I cherish everything she says. I hope that people pick up the phone, and call their grandparents and just say hello. Realize what they have to offer us, and hopefully, just get reinvigorated to get out there and meet people and just stick to the basics."

"Our show is only 30 minutes an episode, and that's all it really takes to just go out and try to make connections with each other," she added. "It doesn't take days and hours and weeks and months, and what should be like a chore. We can really go out there and connect – connect our friends and connect our families – and I'm hoping people will feel inspired to."

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Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Prom night safety tips: advice for parents and teens

Teachers' Insurance Plan

Prom night is probably the most anticipated night of the year for teens and the most dreaded for their parents. Most teens heading off to their prom will tell their parents that they know everything about drinking and driving – and their parents' other concerns. However, according to safety experts, it will take more than talk to ensure a safe evening.



"No matter how strong the family relationship, many parents are still unaware of the choices that teens face every day," said Ray Palermo, director of public information for national car insurer Teachers' Insurance Plan. "For parents to successfully reach their kids, they'll have to approach safety issues in new, often more direct, ways."

Palermo offers several tips that go beyond "don't drink and drive."

For parents:

- ◆ Get involved in planning your teen's prom night.

Talk to your teen in advance about how important it is not to ruin a great evening. Despite what they may say, teens want parents involved in their safety. Talk about what they should say or do in certain high-risk situations. Consider having a "contract" for the night, laying out the rules everyone agrees on.

- ◆ Set out rules regarding post-prom parties or other activities – with whom they will be, where, for how long and what they will be doing.
- ◆ Get a complete itinerary for the evening, including the names of other prom-goers they will be with and the phone numbers of their parents.
- ◆ Set a curfew based on past behavior, but be reasonable. This is a special night. Have your teen call if there is a delay.
- ◆ Send your teen a text message during the night telling them to have fun, but reminding them not to ruin a great time.
- ◆ Limit the number of passengers – at most one other couple in the car.
- ◆ Be on call for a ride home or other emergency.

- ◆ Have a "no questions asked" (at least not that night) policy on getting home safely.
- ◆ Join with other parents and rent a limo for them.
- ◆ Be the chauffeur for the night, but don't meddle. Rent a vintage car to make it more special.

For teens:

- ◆ Make an agreement with parents to not drink and drive, and not to ride with anyone else who is drinking.
- ◆ Resist high-risk activities of all types.
- ◆ To avoid tampering, do not leave your beverage unattended.
- ◆ As a surprise, check in with your parents during the night. It will reassure them about how you are doing.
- ◆ Always buckle up.
- ◆ In short, follow your parent's rules.

Teachers' Insurance Plan regularly provides to the public news and information regarding driver safety, car insurance and education issues. Additional information is available at www.teachers.com. Teachers' Insurance Plan is underwritten by members of the Response Insurance Group of Companies.

A guide to reducing the prom price tag

(StatePoint) – Prom is a time-honored tradition and a rite of passage for teens. Originally inspired by graduation celebrations and debutante balls, prom today is now an often extravagant, defining moment in a teen's life, bearing little resemblance to promenades of the past – especially when it comes to cost.

All of this indulgence unfortunately comes with a price tag and prom expenses can put a large dent in your wallet. Teens are spending nearly \$640 on prom hair and makeup, outfits, tickets and rides, according to Yahoo Style's "2017 Prom Across America" survey – and that doesn't take into consideration any pre-prom expenses, such as the promposal, which, according to Visa's annual prom spending survey, adds another \$324.

In recent years, teens have upped the ante, finding elaborate – and often public – ways to ask someone

to prom. What are some popular promposal tactics? Spelling "prom" with pastries, creating giant duct tape posters, decorating lockers and bedrooms, and popping the question on the jumbotron at a sporting event.

When proms first became common, teens were encouraged to wear their "Sunday best" – implying a nice dress or suit they already owned. Not so anymore. For girls, prom is all about the dress and finding the perfect one at the right price is no easy task. Seventeen Magazine reported that girls spend \$231 on average for a dress, \$45 on shoes, \$23 on a handbag, \$32 on jewelry and \$118 on hair, nails and makeup.

While guys typically spend less on prom clothing and accessories, they're still shelling out for a tuxedo, corsage and other accessories.

The prom price tag is leading some teens to look at alternatives, such as ditching typical outfits and

making their own, including Duck Tape formal wear. Over the last 17 years, the Duck brand Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest has attracted more than 7,000 entrants and awarded more than half a million dollars in college scholarships to teens who crafted Duck Tape prom attire. Now in its 18th year, the contest seeks to help teens save on prom by awarding creative makers for their promwear designs. For more information, visit stuckatprom.com.

Other ways to cut the prom price tag? Hair, makeup and other accessories can cost more than \$200, so skip the salon and opt for online tutorials for hair and makeup inspiration. Also, DIYing accessories, such as jewelry, a clutch or homemade artificial flowers, can add a personal touch and keep money in your wallet.

Setting a budget and looking for opportunities to save money can help ensure prom is an amazing night that doesn't break the bank.

Pre-wedding beauty tips for the bride

(NewsUSA) – You want everything to be picture perfect for your wedding, including your smile. But like everything else about your big day, that perfect smile could require some work ahead of time. In fact, experts suggest starting your entire beauty regimen six months before the wedding.

Here's a pre-wedding beauty checklist.

- ◆ Lips: Get soft, kissable lips by brushing away flakes of dry skin with an infant toothbrush soaked in baking soda and water. Apply healing ointment, and in no time, your lips will be ready for that "kiss the bride" kiss.
- ◆ Teeth: A cosmetic dentist can often correct an imperfect smile with veneers. But if spending painful hours in the dentist's chair getting your teeth ground down sounds like it would put a damper on all the joyful planning, here's good news: Lumineers are now used by thousands of dentists nationwide, can be applied in two short appointments and don't require removal of sensitive tooth structure.
- ◆ Makeup: Women with warm skin tones look best in makeup with pink, coral, peach, amber, brown and red with yellow undertones. If you have a cool skin tone, choose pink, berry, lilac, mauve or red with blue undertones.
- ◆ Skin: Make your face glow with a good cleansing program. Use a cleanser that's appropriate for your skin type in the morning, makeup remover and cleanser at night and a daily moisturizer. Use a gentle facial scrub once a week.
- ◆ Hair: If you're planning to change your hairstyle or color, experiment several months before the wedding so you have time to correct any mistakes.
- ◆ Nails: If you're a nail-biter, get weekly manicures

to keep your nails healthy. Plan your last manicure a couple of days before the big day. Choose a pretty pale pink or splurge on a French manicure, not just because it looks great, but because the chips won't show as much and are easy to fix. You'll have beautiful hands for the rehearsal dinner and any other festivities.

Don't forget, practice makes perfect. Schedule a trial run with your hair and makeup artists several days before your wedding, so there are no surprises the day of the ceremony.

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Wedding, Prom & Party Guide

Jewish wedding gift do's and don'ts

By Jacob Kamaras
JNS.org

Not another challah board! That's the collective cry heard 'round the Jewish world when newlyweds receive a Judaica gift they already possess. Don't be that friend – follow my simple do's and don'ts for Jewish wedding gifts. Do:

- ◆ **Be creative:** There are inventive spins on Judaica items that are sure to leave a more lasting impression than their traditional counterparts. *Kiddush* cup? How about a *Kiddush* cup fountain instead? It includes a center cup as well as 8-12 matching small cups, and when the reciter of *Kiddush* pours the wine from the center cup into the base of the fountain, the wine trickles down into the small cups. This avoids the clumsiness of pouring *Kiddush* wine for each person at a large Shabbat meal and, perhaps more importantly, the streamlined process routinely elicits "oohs" and "aahs" from guests. Challah board? How about a challah board breadbasket? This challah board transforms itself into a basket for distributing challah to guests after it is cut, keeping the Shabbat table uncluttered.

- ◆ **Think practically:** Mull over this question: What Judaica does the couple really need around the house? More specifically, what does the couple need more than one of? A *mezuzah* (with a decorative case) immediately comes to mind, given the multiple doorposts in Jewish homes calling for one. Even more practical – and more memorable – is providing the glass cup that the groom will break with his foot under the chuppah, along with a broken wedding glass *mezuzah*, whose case includes room for those

sentimental shards.

- ◆ **Give cash:** Are you thinking that cash isn't sentimental enough and that the couple won't "remember you" if you don't give a unique gift? Don't talk yourself into that myth. You'll be remembered quite fondly for your cash gift, with which the newlyweds can buy anything they desire.

Don't:

- ◆ **Be a copycat:** The couple will likely get multiple challah boards, challah covers, menorahs, seder plates and the like. Don't join the fray. Be original. Now, I admit, it would be quite unfortunate if everyone followed my advice and the couple ended up with none of these hallowed Judaica fixtures.

- ◆ **Compete with close relatives:** The couple's parents or other close relatives may purchase them silver Shabbat candlesticks or a *Kiddush* cup, or the bride and groom may have had these items passed down in their family over time. Don't even think for a second that you can compete with *bubbe* and *zaidy*!

- ◆ **Duplicate the registry:** This goes for non-Judaica items and was a major pet peeve for me when I got married in 2013. "Duplicating" the couple's registry – for instance, getting dishes or silverware not listed on the registry – ensures three infuriating outcomes: 1) You're getting the couple something they don't

need, because someone more compliant than you will (wisely) buy the dishes requested on the registry. 2) The couple won't be able to exchange your redundant gift for something they do need because it came from a store unbeknownst to them. 3) Your gift will enter the notorious "re-gift closet." This creates a vicious cycle. By re-gifting your gift, the couple repeats your error of gifting an unregistered standard household item. The gift proceeds to be re-gifted for perpetuity.

Here's a dirty little secret: For couples, the point of making a registry is not just to get all the household items they need, but also to create the potential to exchange a string of registry items for more expensive items that you wouldn't have the gall to put on the registry... like a couch. Why should your unwanted gift that cannot be returned spoil the couple's efforts to implement this wonderful strategy?

Honestly, these are all just pointers. Any gift is deeply appreciated and it's the thought that counts. At the end of the day, it isn't the presents, but your presence – at the wedding, if you can be there, or through your continued friendship – that matters.

With reporting by my wife.

Love and money: tips for couples to improve their finances

(StatePoint) – When love and romance are in the air, talking about finances may be the last thing on one's mind. However, experts say that regular conversations about money are essential for healthy finances and healthy relationships.

Unfortunately, 47 percent of Americans say their spending equals or exceeds their income, and 45 percent do not have enough savings to cover at least three months' worth of living expenses, according to a 2018 study by the Center for Financial Services Innovation. To help you and your partner get the conversation started and get your finances on track, the professionals at Wells Fargo are offering eight tips:

1. **Pay yourself first:** With each paycheck, set aside some income for savings – about 5 to 10 percent is a good target. Whether it's for a rainy-day fund or the downpayment of a house, you and your partner can discuss how to prioritize savings for the greatest impact. This may also be a good time to discuss whether it makes more sense to have a joint account or retain individual savings accounts.

2. **Track your spending:** Do you know where your money is going each month? Online tools and apps make tracking easier than ever before, helping you gain insights into your individual and combined spending habits so you can adjust where necessary.

3. **Create a safety net:** Do you have emergency savings that would cover three to six months' worth of expenses? This is a basic measure of financial security that you and your partner can work on building together.

4. **Pay down your high-interest debt:** Honest conversations about debt can be especially hard for

many couples. But transparency is not only ethical, it can serve as the first step to confronting the issue head-on. To tackle debt proactively and save money in the long run, it helps to be strategic, starting with the highest-interest debt that's costing you the most first.

5. **Pay on time, every time:** If you're like many couples, you have dreams for your future. Paying bills on time will improve and maintain your credit score, which will open the door for greater financial opportunities down the line and help you make these dreams a reality.

6. **Know where your credit stands:** Check your free credit report annually and spot trends.

7. **Review your insurance annually:** Protect what counts, by checking your coverage annually and making updates to your policies as your circumstances change (i.e. you get married, buy a home, have children, etc.).

8. **Save for a better retirement:** Save at least 10 percent of your income each year for a more comfortable retirement. More tips and financial resources can be found by visiting www.wellsfargo.com and by talking to your financial advisor.

Bottom line: while it's not always easy to address financial matters, doing so can save your relationship headache and heartache down the line.

Photos Cont. from page 3A

and friends together (for better or worse), and pictures of this memorable party are one way to inject your own sense of style. Be it a backyard barbecue, a tail gate at your favorite stadium, or a formal dinner, pictures of the event are a must-have.

5. **Decide on your ride.** Some people prefer to be whisked away by horse and carriage as if they were Cinderella herself. Others prefer luxury limos and cars as their modern equivalent. For the unique free-spirits of the world, maybe a motorcycle is more your thing. Either way, a great photo opp awaits as you leave your wedding.

Wedding list

(Names provided by area synagogues.)

- Tammie Brown and Andrew Mark
- Samantha Demera and Ian Jump
- Cassandra Ducharme and Samuel Van Kuren
- Sara Garner and Sean Corriel
- Caryn Gusefski and Junior Bernal
- Hollie Levine and Brendan Byrnes
- Esther Oakley and Richard Churak
- Miranda Rieman and Zachary Krigstein
- Julie Rosenberg and Robert Steber
- Rebecca Shapiro and Jeremy Eggleston
- Stacey Shaunler and Elie Silber
- Alexandra Shevach and Dr. Ajay Premkumar
- Sarah Strano and Joshua Young

Engaged list

(Names provided by area synagogues.)

- Jamie Benson and Philip Hurwitz
- Carly Cooper and Aaron Wolff
- Samantha Freedman and Isaac Jensen
- Mirit Hadar and Brian Bessire
- Brooke Osterhout and Shaimeek Dametrius Little
- Jenny Sue Ross and Marshall Pennak
- Michelle Turbitz and Jay Green



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THE REPORTER

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Beth David volunteers baked hamantashen



Above: Under the guidance of Lori Tuberman, the Beth David Synagogue volunteer hamantashen bakers included (l-r) front row: Gina Santiago, Judy Silber and Lori Tuberman. Second row: Harold Kohn, Cathy Velenchik and Susan Hubal. In back: Ilana Segal.

At right: Hamantashen volunteer bakers at Beth David (clockwise from top right): Judy Silber, Gina Santiago, Cathy Velenchik, Marilyn Bell and Harold Kohn.



TC Religious School parents baked hamantashen



Parents in Temple Concord's Religious School (and a couple of younger helpers) baked nearly 600 hamantashen this year. The cookies go to college students in care packages and were available for orders in advance. This year the proceeds (about \$230) will be donated to Helping Hands, which helps to support the synagogue's CHOW pantry and other social action projects.

At right: Sophie Coker helped Theo Lyons roll out dough while his father, Colin Lyons, folded hamantashen.



Donna Corbin got a batch of cookies ready to go into the oven.



Lauren Epstein counted cookies for special orders and college care packages.

Celebrating Purim

Hamantashen: sweet vs. savory

By Rabbi Rachel Esserman

When I was growing up, there were two kinds of hamantashen fillings: prune or poppy. I don't remember being fond of poppy, so my preference was for prune. Since I love fruit, it was great when the cookies began being filled with other fruit flavors in addition to prune. Although cherry and blueberry ones are my favorites (and not easy to find), I don't mind the other fruit fillings. Raspberry and apricot seem to rule the hamantashen world, although chocolate ones also seem popular. Well, popular with everyone except me. Chocolate and hamantashen just don't go together.

Then again, I'm the one who grumbles when my synagogue has chocolate-chip challah, rather than raisin. It's not that I don't like chocolate: I really do. It just feels out of place in these foods.

Nowadays, nothing seems out of place when it comes to hamantashen. I'm speaking of the trend toward savory hamantashen that has become popular over the past few years. For some reason, chefs seem eager to turn sweet things into savory and savory things into sweet. There is no reason that cookie dough can't be used for savory items, but that doesn't make them hamantashen, which are cookies. Cookies, by nature, are sweet. The only reason these savory items have been called hamantashen is that they resemble the original cookie's three-corner shape. However, if someone wants to invite me to a meal featuring savory hamantashen with sweet ones for dessert, I won't complain. Trying new recipes – as long as someone else is doing the cooking – is always fun.

For those seeking new sweet flavors to shake things up or who want to try a savory hamantashen for an interesting twist to their holiday meal, below are some websites with recipes to try. These are only a few among the hundreds of sites and recipes featured online, so feel free to search for even more treats for the holiday.

◆ Worried about making perfect hamantashen dough? There's a two minute video at My Jewish Learning that should help: www.myjewishlearning.com/the-nosher/how-to-make-the-perfect-hamantaschen-with-videos/.

◆ If you're looking to try exotic flavors, check out <https://whatjewishwannaeat.com/>. Among the sweet flavors are bananas foster, lemon lavender, strawberry champagne rainbow, chocolate bourbon and mint chocolate. The website contains a few savory recipes, including Shakshuka, caramelized onion, and pita and hummus hamantaschens.

◆ Duff Goldman fans can find his basic recipe at the Food Network site, www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/duff-goldman/hamantaschen-recipe-2042308. He suggests using raspberry or apricot preserves, although he also includes the recipe for a

poppy seed filling. There is one big difference between his recipe and others: his dough includes brandy.

◆ Have dietary restrictions? Find a recipe for dairy-free hamantashen at <https://toriavey.com/toris-kitchen/dairy-free-hamantaschen/>. A sugar free one is available at <https://thesugarfreeidiva.com/sugar-free-hamantaschen/>. There are several sites that offer gluten free hamantashen: <https://littleferrarokitchen.com/gluten-free-hamantaschen-for-purim/> and <https://elanaspantry.com/gluten-free-raspberry-hamantaschen-are-just-two>. Those who



need to avoid both sugar and gluten can try out the recipe at www.myjewishlearning.com/the-nosher/gluten-free-sugar-free-hamantaschen-recipe.

◆ The Chabad website offers 13 hamantashen recipes, including sweet and savory ones, at www.chabad.org/recipes/recipe_cdo/aid/2742168/jewish/13-Unique-Hamantaschen-Recipes-for-Purim.htm. The site tells if recipes are meat, dairy or pareve, and give health and allergy warnings. Those looking to avoid milk should try the meat or pareve ones.

◆ Everything from pizza to guacamole hamantashen can be found at www.myjewishlearning.com/the-nosher/how-to-make-savory-hamantaschen-six-ways/.

◆ The BonAppetite website offers hamantashen with fillings from different parts of the world, including Spain, Russia, India, Mexico and the Middle East. Find out more at www.bonappetit.com/recipes/article/5-savory-hamantaschen-recipes-with-culinary-inspiration-from-spain-russia-india-mexico-and-the-middle-east.

◆ Hadassah magazine has featured hamantashen recipes over the years. You can find some sweet and savory ones at www.hadassahmagazine.org/tag/hamantaschen/.

◆ Parents looking for easy recipes to make hamantashen with their children can check out the links at <https://pjlibrary.org/beyond-books/pjblog/february-2017/super-easy-hamantaschen-recipes-to-make-with-kids>. The page features three potential recipes, along with a link to another site that shows the correct way to fold hamantashen.

◆ Really want variety? Check out the 36 hamantashen recipes at Buzzfeed. (Visit www.buzzfeed.com and search for "36 Mouthwatering Hamantaschen To Make This Purim.") The links with each photo will take you to the recipe on other sites. However, it's fun just to scroll down and look at the different ones offered. Among my potential favorites on the savory side are the egg roll and taco hamantashen. On the sweet side, I don't think I would turn down a baklava hamantashen. The oddest one is a sushi hamantashen, but it doesn't qualify as a cookie, so it really doesn't deserve to be called a hamantashen.

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Vayikra, Leviticus 1:1-5:26

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RABBI GEOFFREY BROWN, TEMPLE ISRAEL, VESTAL

After creation stories, intimacies with God and the alphabet soup of matriarchs and patriarchs, good years of plenty, famines, slavery, redemption and revelation, our Torah rolls on to Book 3 of 5: Vayikra.

Vayikra is all about sacrifices. The beginning word of this introduces not only this week's *parasha* and its name sake, but also the name of an entire book of the Torah. Embedded in this one word, Vayikra is a beautiful commentary by the 14th century Spanish scholar, Ba'al Haturim.

Moses and God were on speaking terms. Many passages of the Torah begin, "Vayomer Hashem el Moshe Lamor," "And God spoke to Moses, saying." Vayikra begins, "Vayikra el Moshe Vayidaber Hashem Elav Mai-ohel Mo-ed,"

"He called to Moses, and Hashem spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting."

God did not simply command Moses regarding the details of the sacrifices, God first summoned Moses to meet him in the *Mishkan*-Tabernacle. Vayikra means "and He called to Moses," a more affectionate way to begin a God-Moses dialogue. Vayikra, the word when viewed from the hand-scribed-quilled-inked perspective, is written with the last letter, the aleph, half-sized. According to the commentary, this is how Moses wrote it. When God instructed Moses in God's dictation to Moses to write *Vayikrah el Moshe* (He called to Moses), Moses, the most humble man on earth preferred to write, *Vayikar el Moshe* (He happened

upon Moses). This interpretation sounds as though God had met Moses by chance. The Ba'al Turim comments that God was not happy with Moses' edit. When God saw that Moses had left off the last letter – the aleph – God commanded Moses to add the aleph back. Moses obeyed God but wrote the last aleph smaller.

What was the purpose of God commanding the Children of Israel to conduct sacrifices? Rabbis throughout the ages agree to disagree that their main purpose is to focus our attention on God and not on idol worship. The intense detail and specificity related to each form of sacrifice would have an entire people thinking, doing, acting out sacrifices

See "Sacrifices" on page 7

Congregational Notes

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, March 16, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Leviticus 1:1-5:26. The haftarah will be I Samuel 15:2-34. Larry and Kathy Hurwitz will sponsor the kiddush following services.

Tammy Kunsman will be on vacation from March 11-19.

On Monday, March 18, at 7:30 pm, there will be a Ritual Committee meeting.

On Tuesday, March 19, at 7 pm, there will be a Board of Trustees meeting.

On Wednesday, March 20, at Temple Concord, there will be a TI/TC Purim Party. Dinner will be at 6 pm, followed by services, the Purim shpiel and dessert. Reservations are needed for the dinner. To RSVP call Temple Concord.

On Thursday, March 28, at 1:30 pm, there will be a Caring Community meeting.

Rohr Chabad Center

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

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.

Temple Brith Sholom

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

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, March 16 9 am
 Mincha after the kiddush
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., March 17 8:30 am
 Mon.-Wed., March 18-20 7 am
 Thurs., March 21 6:50 am
 Megillah 7:15 am
 Fri., March 22 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., March 17 7 pm
 Mon.-Tues., March 18-19 7 pm
 Wed., March 20 6:45 pm
 Megillah 7:55 pm
 Thurs., March 21 Megillah 5:30 pm
 Mincha 6:15 pm
 Seudah 6:30 pm
 Maariv following Seudah
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Molly Karp
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820
 Phone: 607-432-5522
 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. Rabbi Karp conducts services and holds classes in Torah, beginning Hebrew and Maimonides.
 For the schedule of services, classes and events, see the website.

Penn-York Jewish Community

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

Kol Haverim

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

Friday, March 15, light candles 6:51 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, March 16 7:53 pm
 Friday, March 22, light candles 6:59 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, March 23 8:01 pm

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: 723-7355n Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.

On Friday, March 15, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services led by Rabbi Rachel Esserman.

On Saturday, March 16, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; at 9:30 am, there will be Tot Shabbat; and at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services.

On Tuesday, March 19, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be Hebrew school.

On Wednesday, March 20, at 6 pm, there will be a Purim dinner (reservations were required); at 6:45 pm, there will be a prayer service in the spirit of Purim; and at 7:15 pm, there will be a Purim shpiel and megillah reading.

On Thursday, March 21, at 4:15 and 5:15 pm, there will be a Hebrew school Purim celebration; and from 5-7 pm, the CHOW pantry will be open.

On Friday, March 22, at 6:30 pm, there will be a BYO Shabbat picnic dinner; and, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat evening services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.

On Saturday, March 23, at 9 am, there will be religious school; at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study; and at 10:35 am, there will be Shabbat family services with birthday blessings.

Congregation Tikun 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.tikunvor.org
 E-mail: info@tikunvor.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 Ithaca

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

On Thursday, March 21, from 3:30-5:30 pm, PJ Library families will celebrate Purim in the Borg Warner Room of the Tompkins County Public Library. Admission is three non-perishable food items for ACT's Kitchen Cupboard.

Jewish Community Center

JCC yard sale accepting community donations, sale to support JCC Fitness Center

By Paige Bartholomew

The Jewish Community Center will host an indoor yard sale on Sunday, April 7, from 11 am-3 pm, at the Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. Community donations of goods will be sold, along with snacks and beverages, to benefit the JCC's Fitness Department and programming. The entire community

is welcome to attend the sale. There is no charge to attend.

The JCC's Fitness Department is accepting donations of new or gently used items such as clothing, shoes, toys, games and small to medium household items through the end of March. Donations can be brought to the Fitness Center during normal operating hours. The JCC will not

accept donations of encyclopedias, televisions, computers or other electronics. All items that are not sold by the end of the yard sale will be donated.

For more information about the yard sale, donating to the yard sale, fitness programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.

JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club did not have a meeting on March 6. Instead, we made packages for *shalach manot*. They will be delivered to Jewish residents in nursing facilities and those who are home bound. Sylvia Diamond purchased all the supplies prior to the preparation of the packages. Thanks to Roz Antoun, who put out the word, other members of the community came to help fill the bags and deliver them. A great big thanks to those who came and helped. They are Roz Antoun, Ann Brilliant, Ben and Susan Kasper, Lani Dunthorn, Sandy and Dennis Foreman, Phyllis Kellenberger, Bruce Orden and Judy Simon. We could not have done it without everyone pitching in.

There will not be a meeting on Wednesday, March 20. However, those who want to can join the members of Temple Concord for a dinner and Purim spiel that evening.

I hope the weather will not prevent us from attending these programs. I will keep my fingers crossed and also wish everyone a Happy Purim.

Sylvia Diamond
President

At right: Members of the JCC Friendship Club created shalach manot baskets for those who are homebound or in nursing homes. L-r: Lani Dunthorn; Roz Antoun, director of Jewish Family Service; Phyllis Kellenberger; Bruce Orden; Sylvia Diamond and Ann Brilliant.



Sacrifices

Continued from page 6

throughout a calendarized sacrifice routine keeping the process and concept front and center.

A *midrash* (Yayikra Rabba 22:8), in the form of an allegory helps explain this biblical mandate. "Israel can be compared to an unruly and indelicate prince who was in the habit of eating forbidden food. Said his father, the king: Let him eat always at my table and he will learn to control himself of his own accord. Thus, Israel had been addicted to idol worship and sacrificed unlawfully to other gods. At all times let them bring their sacrifices in My sight in the

March

Continued from page 3

officer who describes the condition of the survivors. "My first glance at these individuals was one of extreme shock – not ever believing that a human being can be degraded, can be starved, can be so skinny and even live under such circumstances," he recollected. "I was surprised and shocked when I asked one of these girls how old she was and she said 17, when to me she appeared to be no less than 50."

Accompanied by some of the survivors, the Americans retraced the steps of the women as far as was possible to gather bodies of those who had died along the way. They buried 95 victims in a cemetery that the residents of Volary have tended to this day.

For more information, visit Yad Vashem's website, www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/exhibitions/volary_death_march/index.asp.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Graham to urge Trump to recognize Golan Heights, support resolutions

As part of a trip to Israel, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) toured the Golan Heights in northern Israel near the border with Lebanon on March 11. The day before, he had witnessed attack tunnels that Hamas has built in the south. "I come here as an American. I come here to try to figure out what's best for America. What's best for America is a safe, secure and prosperous Israel," said Graham, alongside U.S. ambassador to Israel David Friedman and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during a tour of the Golan Heights. The senator added that he would ask Trump about recognizing the area, which many say provides a strategic and security barrier for Israel against attacks from Hezbollah and others in the north. "I will go back the U.S. Senate, working with Senator [Ted] Cruz; I will start an effort to recognize the Golan as part of the state of Israel, now and forever," said Graham. "Because to give this territory up would be a strategic nightmare for the state of Israel. And who would you give it to?" Companion resolutions calling on the United States to follow through with this recognition were introduced in February by Cruz, Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) and Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI). Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ) sent a letter to Trump in January, also calling for recognition of the Golan.

Tent of Meeting and they will be delivered from idolatry."

The sacrifice is not only a means of preventing unlawful acts; it also allows us to draw closer to God. The King has invited his son to always eat at His regal table. Almighty God, the King of Kings similarly commanded Israel to offer up all their sacrifices in a designated space, the *Mishkan*-Tabernacle, at God's choosing, where Israel will sit at the Divine table, and there, under close watch, forego and reject idol worship.

The great 12th century Maimonides, the Rambam, wrote in his complex "Guide for the Perplexed" that worshipping God whether in the biblical framework or in a modern context cannot be productive if it is by thought alone. It must also have a practice. Sacrifice served this purpose. It was a significant act wherein an individual took a he-goat from his tribe's pen, tethered the animal and led it to the *Mishkan*, gave it to the Kohen where the ritual of the offering was enacted. (*Oleh*, burnt offering, was for general atonement of sin and expression of devotion to God; *minchah*, meal offering, represented the devotion of the fruits of man's work to God, because it was not a natural product, but something created through man's effort; *zevach sh'lamim*, peace offering, is an offering expressing thanks or gratitude to God for His bounties and mercies; *chatat*, sin offering, is sometimes seen as an offering of atonement for unintentional sin; and *asham*, guilt offering, is an offering to atone for sins of stealing things from the altar, for when you are not sure whether you have committed a sin or what sin you have committed, or for breach of trust.)

As a modern person living in the 21st century I am grateful that my personal form of worship doesn't require animal sacrifice.

We have come a long way, or have we? Today, our world offers many divergent opportunities for idol worship. Money, material goods, relationships all have the potential for luring us away from our original process of getting close to God. The word *korbonot*, offerings, literally means to get close. If prayer is our today substitute for the *korbonot*, which would be consistent with the Rambam's conclusion that thought-words-prayer is not enough, then what are the practices we are to undertake that will take the place of the physical acts of *korbonot*? Acts of loving kindness, *gimilut chasidim*? Repairing the broken world? Giving *tzedakah*? Learning Torah?

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For more information, please contact Stacy Robitaille at 607.724.2417 ext. 421 or StacyR@binghamtonjcc.org

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www.binghamtonjcc.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Gunman who killed four at Brussels Jewish museum in 2014 found guilty

French *jihadi* Mehdi Nemmouche was convicted in Belgium on March 7 of murdering four people at the Jewish Museum of Belgium in Brussels nearly five years ago. A gunman opened fire at the museum on May 24, 2014, killing four people. Three died at the scene; a fourth was taken to the hospital and died on June 6. Nemmouche, a French national of Algerian descent, was arrested on May 30, 2014, in Marseille in connection with the shooting. He is believed to have spent more than a year in Syria and had links with radical Islamists. Nemmouche, 33, showed no reaction as the verdict was read on March 7, noting the “terrorist murders.” He faces life behind bars. Sentencing was on March 12.

Israeli firm to supply robots to Italian military police

Israeli robotics company Robo-Team Ltd., also known as Roboteam, announced on March 6 that it has been awarded a \$10 million contract to provide 40 robots to Italy’s military police, the Arma dei Carabinieri. The firm manufactures ground robotic systems, also known as the Transportable Interoperable Ground Robot (or TIGR), for military and law-enforcement utilization, such as handling of suspicious and dangerous items, in addition to collecting intelligence. Roboteam was founded in 2009 in Israel by Yossi Wolf and CEO Elad Levy, who were officers in the Israeli Air Force. It is headquartered in Maryland with other offices in Tel Aviv and a factory in Pennsylvania. The firm has supplied military and government divisions from the United States, Israel, Canada, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, South Korea, Japan and Thailand. The business has raised \$62 million from investors such as Chinese investment firm FengHe Fund Management. “We are proud that the Italian government has chosen the TIGR’s advanced robotic system that we have developed in recent years,” said Levy, according to the Israeli business news site Globes. “Winning the tender demonstrates that this new and innovative system enables the user – in the most efficient and effective manner – advanced operational capabilities that saves lives under the challenges and threats facing the forces all over the world.”

Gallup: U.S. support for Israel down, sympathy for Palestinians up

Most Americans stand with Israel in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict – with 59 percent of them sympathizing more with the Jewish state (representing a historic low since 2009), whereas 21 percent sympathize more with the Palestinians (a historic high), according to a Gallup poll released on March 6. This development comes as anti-Israel sentiment has affected the 116th Congress with members such as Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) making remarks and issuing tweets that have expressed anti-Israel bias and antisemitic tropes. The poll was conducted Feb. 1-10, 2019, prior to Omar’s latest remarks, accusing her “Jewish colleagues” for attacking her and Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) for labeling their criticisms as anti-Israel because of the Muslim faith of the two congresswomen, in addition to slamming her critics regarding “the political influence in this country that says it is okay to push for allegiance to a foreign country.” This evoked condemnation from both parties and from outside groups, including many in the pro-Israel community. Democratic House leadership is preparing to schedule a vote on a resolution condemning antisemitism that reportedly could come as early as March 7. The resolution is not expected to call out Omar by name. Democratic members, including the Congressional Black Caucus, have objected to the measure. Nonetheless, the same poll has 76 percent of Republicans sympathizing more with Israel, a decrease from 87 percent last year, while 43 percent of Democrats say the same, a decrease from 49 percent in 2018. The views of political independents remain unchanged at 60 percent.

Israeli spacecraft “Beresheet” sends first selfie from space

The Israeli lunar spacecraft “Beresheet,” the Jewish state’s first, sent a photo of itself at a distance of 23,364 miles from Earth as it is heading to the moon, it was announced on March 5. The photo’s background shows the continent of Australia. A plaque displays Israel’s flag with the inscriptions, “Am Israel Chai” (“the Jewish people lives”) and, in English, “Small Country Big Dreams.” The unmanned spacecraft is scheduled to land on the moon in April.



A photo taken by the “Beresheet” spacecraft, in which an Israeli flag can be seen on a plaque with the inscription “Am Israel Chai,” or “the Jewish people lives,” and in English, “Small country, big dreams,” taken 37,600 kilometers from Earth. (Photo by SpaceIL/IAI)

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