

Federation announces Chesed Challenge matching grant

By Reporter staff

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton announced that the launch of The Chesed Challenge will take place at a brunch on Sunday, March 29, at 11 am. The Chesed Challenge is a matching gift campaign that will take place from March 29-April 30. An anonymous donor has pledged to double any new gift, up to \$10,000 total, given to the Federation through the end of April.



Rebekka Goldsmith

The brunch will feature singer Rebekka Goldsmith of The Rising Song Institute, who will lead an interactive event for all ages. The mission of The Rising Song Institute is to enrich Jewish spiritual life through song. (For more information about the brunch, see future issues of *The Reporter*. For more information on The Rising Song Institute, visit www.risingsong.org.)

“This is a great way to double the gift that

you give to the Federation. If you haven’t yet pledged to the 2020 Campaign, this is a great time to do it,” said Shelley Hubal. “We’re also planning a wonderful event for the whole family. Come join us for a

great time and the start of our challenge.”

To learn more about Hubal’s thoughts about the Campaign and the brunch, see the “From the desk of the Federation executive director” column on page 2 of this issue.

JCC Purim Carnival to be held on March 8

The Jewish Community Center will host its annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 8, from 1-3:30 pm. The cost is \$5 per child and \$1 per adult, with a \$20 maximum per family. The entire community is welcome and encouraged to attend. All proceeds will go to benefit youth programming at the JCC.

Everyone, young and old, is encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Purim character or in any costume of their choice. The JCC Kids Connection staff, who run

the event, create different themed costumes each year.

The carnival is geared toward children and will include games, inflatables, arts and crafts, and face painting. All games earn children points that can be traded in for prizes. Traditional Purim food, such as hamantashen, knishes and bagels, will be available for purchase during the event.

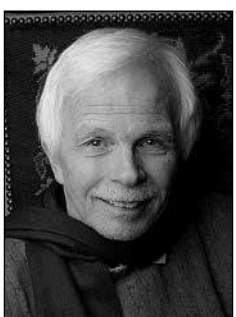
For more information about the Purim Carnival, JCC Youth Programming, or the JCC, contact the JCC office at 724-2417.



Part of the crowd at last year’s JCC Purim Carnival.

Englund to speak at March 14 BD luncheon

Was Napoleon good or bad for the Jews? This will be the topic addressed by Professor Steven Englund on Saturday, March 14, at Beth David Synagogue’s Luncheon Speaker series. The title of the talk is “Napoleon and the ‘Jewish Question’: A Study in Ambiguity.” The luncheon is free and open to the community.



Professor Steven Englund

American Historical Association awarded the book the prize for The Best Book in French History. The French edition won Le Grand Prix de la Fondation Napoléon. Englund’s work in the field of French history has led to his being named chevalier des arts et des lettres, one of the highest honors given by the French government.

“The case of Napoleon’s Jewish policy has been much debated,” says Englund. “On the one hand,

he continued Jewish emancipation and established the first central Jewish consistory system, and mandated that regional consistories be established, thus giving the Jewish population a governing body to represent them in affairs of state. But what about his See “Englund” on page 8

Englund is an award-winning historian recognized both in the United States and France for his research on Napoleon and French history. His 2004 “Napoleon, a Political Life,” was published by Simon and Schuster. The French translation, “Napoléon,” was published in Paris the following year by Editions de Fallois. It was the first English-language life of Napoleon to be translated into French. In 2005, the

“A Questionable Night: Trivia, Food and Music”

The Reporter to hold trivia fund-raiser featuring Jeff Kahn on March 19

By Reporter staff

The Reporter will hold a trivia fund-raiser featuring Jeff Kahn on Thursday, March 19, from 6-8 pm, at the Jewish Community Center, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal. “A Questionable Night: Trivia, Food and Music” will include trivia, music and refreshments for sale. There will be a cash first prize of \$200 donated by Audio Classics.



Jeff Kahn

Additional prizes will be given out over the evening. The cost will be \$10/person in advance and \$12/person at the door. Tickets may be purchased at The Reporter office, located at the JCC. Online tickets will be available soon.

Kahn is known for his trivia nights at the former Cyber Café. He currently holds Trivia evenings at Galaxy Brewing on Tuesdays evenings. The evening will feature four rounds of trivia. During the

breaks, music will be performed by singer/songwriter Bess Greenberg.

“I have been writing and hosting trivia for most every week for over 16 years,” Kahn said. “I am pretty good at it by now and I think this should be a fun evening. Even if it’s not that fun, it’s all for a good cause. Plus, the amazing Bess Greenberg is performing between each round of trivia, so you can’t lose even if you do lose.”

Previously of The Falconers and Milkweed, Greenberg debuted as a solo performer in the summer of 2016 and formed the full band KidBess and The Magic Ring in winter of 2017. Critics have commented on her “passionate performances, textured vocals and open hearted lyrics.”

“I’m not biased, of course,” said Rebecca Kahn, chairwoman of the event and a mem-

ber of The Reporter’s Editorial Committee, “but I’d just like to say how lucky I am to be married to the world’s best trivia host!”

Seriously, though, Jeff is really entertaining and I promise you’ll have a fun night.”

See “Trivia” on page 3

Film Fest committee met



The International Jewish Film Fest Committee met on February 24 to discuss the films to be shown at this year’s Film Fest. For information about the films and dates, see future issues of The Reporter.

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Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

With gratitude

SHELLEY HUBAL

A bagel, a cup of coffee and the opportunity to build community through song and fund-raising. These are just some of the elements of a special day the Federation is planning. We are pleased to announce that on Sunday, March 29, we will be hosting Rebekka Goldsmith of The Rising Song Institute. The mission of The Rising Song Institute is to enrich Jewish spiritual life through song. This interactive event is for all ages. Ms. Goldsmith is a song-leader and ritualist. She is preparing a program for our community filled with song, prayer and spirit. If you are looking for an opportunity to feel uplifted and to celebrate Judaism in

a special way, this is the occasion for you.

The Federation has decided to use this musical brunch as a kickoff to a matching gift campaign we are calling The Chesed Challenge. An anonymous donor has pledged to double any new gift, up to \$10,000 total, given to the Federation from March 29 through April 30. *Chesed* translates to loving-kindness. In Jewish tradition, acts of *chesed* are those that truly connect and uplift one another. Sharing God's love through acts of kindness is one of the most meaningful things one can do.

It is my belief that both music and *tzedakah* provide

a first-hand opportunity to experience *chesed*. We would love for you to join us for this joyous experience. We also hope that you will contribute to The Chesed Challenge. Every dollar donated will be doubled and that feels good too! Simply put, the Federation uses its funds to build and sustain our Jewish community. Your dollars make a difference and the matching gift challenge is an exceptional opportunity to lend your support.

By the way, if you have not heard of The Rising Song Institute, you can check it out on the web at www.risingsong.org.

Judaism in space: part 2

By Dora and Solomon Polachek
The Torah in space

By now, you may be thinking, "OK, I get the dreidel and *mezuzah*, but a Torah in space? You must have heard wrong!" In fact, astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman's congregational rabbi in Houston had been encouraging him since early on to take a Torah scroll into space. How is that even possible, Hoffman had responded, given the size of a Torah? The rabbi proceeded to search for a miniaturized Torah that was 100 percent kosher and legible.

When he located one and, when the original rabbi who owned it was convinced that this was truly the special occasion he had been waiting for before parting with the Torah, the congregation's membership succeeded in purchasing it, thus enabling Hoffman to take it into space. On his last mission in 1996, when the shuttle was over Jerusalem on Saturday, March 2, Hoffman proceeded to use a silver *yad* (pointer) to read in Hebrew the Torah scroll's first verse from *Bereshit* (Genesis). "I didn't want to make a big deal out of it," Hoffman said. "It was something that I did privately for me and for our congregation." A fellow astronaut on the flight watched the ceremony, videoed it and said, "Jeff, I don't really know what you were doing, but it certainly was impressive!"

The Living Space Torah

Much to Hoffman's satisfaction, the Torah he took into space is not a museum piece; it is an integral part of Houston's Or Ami congregation. Hoffman and his wife attended



Astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman read from *Bereshit* (Genesis) on March 2, 1996, while the space shuttle was above Jerusalem. (Photo courtesy of Jeffrey Hoffman)

its February 13, 2016, Space Torah Gala to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his 1996 reading of the Torah scroll in space. After the rabbi scraped off a tiny portion of a letter on the parchment, each member of the congregation had the opportunity to partake in the mitzvah of repairing the Torah, as their hand was guided to fill in the missing part of the letter with the special ink required.

In addition, a congregant had crafted two sterling silver finials in the shape of space shuttles, which continue to

adorn the top of the rollers. All the while acknowledging the significance of bringing a Torah into space, Hoffman said, "You can't really make a Torah more special, but a Torah does make space special because it basically humanizes space... we're not robots and we bring our cultures and heritage with us. Judaism is certainly part of my heritage."

As he reflected upon the Space Torah's being in Or Ami's ark, along with the congregation's other Torahs, he noted that "it's truly a living Torah, and it should be used. The kids love it, and choose it for their bar and bat mitzvahs."

He smiled as he added, "Also, because of its size, now everyone can have the honor of *hagbah* and *gelilah* [which involves the raising of the Torah]!"

The Space Torah Project

Hoffman has spoken in a number of Jewish settings and, when asked to share a key theme that he wants to transmit to young Jewish audiences, his answer was immediate: "It's that Jews can do anything they want to."

Rachel Raz, an educator at the Shoolman Graduate School of Hebrew Education at Hebrew College in Newton, MA, realized the inspirational nature of Hoffman's story when he spoke there in 2016. Wanting to make this story known to a larger audience, she became the executive producer of the Space Torah Project. (Details can be found on the website spacetorahproject.com.) The project plans to release a documentary later this year focusing on Hoffman's space missions and the unique contribution he See "Space" on page 8

In My Own Words

The misuse of the law of return

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The establishment of the state of Israel created a safe haven for Jews across the world. Now, if Jews were expelled from a country where they and their ancestors had lived for centuries, there was a home to welcome them. No longer were we subject to the whims of other nations for a place to settle. No longer did we have to worry about being treated like second class citizens or having equal rights under the law. Those fleeing unjust and irrational accusations of ritual murder and other anti-Jewish attacks could find a place of safety.

Not every Jew has been accepted, though. One example is the gangster Meyer Lansky, who moved to Israel and tried to receive citizenship under the law of return. The government refused to give him citizenship because of his criminal past. Lansky sued the Israeli government and lost.

Correction

The photo of Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu on page 1 of the February 21 issue of *The Reporter* should have been credited to Nancy Basmann. *The Reporter* apologizes for the omission.

According to a *New York Times* article published in 1972, "The Supreme Court in Jerusalem... upheld a ruling by the Minister of the Interior, Yosef Burg, who had invoked a clause in the law empowering him to exclude, as liable to endanger public order, Jews with criminal pasts." In this case, Lansky was not extradited to the United States, where he had been incited for various crimes, but he was not allowed to stay in Israel.

Unfortunately, it seems that, in contemporary times, some accused of crimes are abusing the right of return to escape justice. A report by CBS News has found that Americans accused of abusing children have fled to Israel in order not to be tried for their crimes. The Jewish Community Watch, an American group that started tracking accused pedophiles in 2014, has identified more than 60 accused pedophiles living in Israel. According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the JCW "told CBS that most of its cases originate from Modern Orthodox to *haredi* Orthodox communities in the U.S., but that it happens across the wider Jewish community as well."

It does seem there is blame on both sides of the ocean for what is occurring. The Jewish community in the U.S. seems unwilling to push for extradition because a trial

would highlight abuse in the community, and that's bad publicity. That makes the U.S. government less interested in pursuing justice. It's also been reported the Israeli police do not put a high priority on finding these men.

The law of return was meant to prevent Jews from being persecuted because of their religion. It is not meant to help people escape justice. That's not to say that all these men are guilty, but they should have to face trial. The Jewish community, like other religious communities, has tended in the past to protect the rabbi, teacher or upstanding member of the community, rather than the innocent on whom they prey – acting as if those making accusations are either liars or provoked the abuse.

The government of Israel should also take a second look at some of those they are admitting. In the Lansky case, the refusal to offer him citizenship was done to protect the country. The same should be said of those accused of abusing children. While not all may be guilty, it's difficult to believe that that large a number have been falsely accused. As anyone who has read about pedophile behavior knows, the abuse is rarely limited to just one incident or child. That means the communities hiding these men are placing their own children at risk.

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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.

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Chabad Center to dedicate remodeled sanctuary on March 15

The Chabad Center invites the community to attend the dedication of the newly remodeled sanctuary, which has been renamed the Camren Vilinsky Shul, on Sunday, March 15, at 11:30 am.

"Camren Vilinsky '19 was a beloved member of the Binghamton University Jewish community and a respected student leader," said organizers of the event. "He passed in September '19 after a prolonged and valiant battle with cancer. Camren was a *gabbai* of the Chabad *shul* and loved to *daven* and learn in that space."

Camren's parents, Dalya and Edward Vilinsky, of Long Island, NY, have sponsored the refurbishing of the Chabad *shul* as a living testament to the life and spirit of their son.

"Camren was an extraordinarily wonderful human being possessed of intellect, love for his fellow people, good cheer and a desire to live in order to help others live," said Rabbi Aaron Slonim. "He never allowed his illness to define him, although it was with him throughout his college career. His focus was always helping others, on enriching the community, on serving Hashem; he squeezed

the most zest out of life. Each Friday night, he would walk around the main dining room during Shabbat dinner and engage his peers, asking them how their week had gone and making them feel cherished. His passing has left a void in our community, but his memory lives on and continues to inspire his many friends. The Camren Vilinsky Shul will always be filled with his presence and signature love."

A celebratory lunch will be held after the program. Those wishing to attend are asked to make reservations at www.Jewishbu.com/camren'sShul.

Rick Recht family concert on March 8 in Ithaca

Rick Recht, who has been called "the most celebrated Jewish artist of our time," will perform a children's concert on Sunday, March 8, at 3 pm, at the Community School of Music and Arts, Hamblin Hall, 3rd floor, 330 E. State St., Ithaca. The interactive concert will feature on-stage participation by local children. Admission at the door is \$5 for folks ages 12 and over. Children may attend at no cost.



Rick Recht

Recht, who is the PJ Library national celebrity spokesman, will perform songs from his hit children's albums "Look at Me!" and "Free to Be the Jew in Me." He will also focus

on the holiday of Purim, which will take place on Tuesday, March 10. The holiday celebrates freedom of religion, and children and adults dress up in costumes. Costumes are welcome at the concert.

PJ Library is a free Jewish family engagement program for children ages 6 months through 8 years that distributes Jewish children's literature and music to families in hundreds of communities across the U.S. and internationally. Information about subscribing to the program will be available at the concert.

"I believe PJ Library is one of the most extraordinary

and effective Jewish family and community engagement opportunities of our time," said Recht. "I feel incredibly blessed that, for years, my family has experienced the profound impact of reading and listening to the inspirational and incredibly high-quality PJ Library children's books and music. On the road, many of the families we meet feel equally blessed to receive PJ Library, providing their families with such fantastic resources and experiences."

"We are excited to welcome a national entertainer to Ithaca to help us celebrate and share Jewish traditions with the community as a whole," says organizer Marjorie Hoffman.

Recht has been called the top-touring Jewish artist today, performing more than 125 concerts each year across the country. "Recht's powerful performances have earned him a strong, loyal national fan base," said event organizers. "Recht has become an icon for Jewish youth, elevating the medium of Jewish music as a powerful and effective tool for developing Jewish pride and identity."

Recht is also the founder and executive director of Jewish Rock Radio, the first 24/7, Jewish rock Internet radio station found at www.jewishrockradio.com. He is the executive director of the Songleader Boot Camp (www.songleaderbootcamp.com), which holds Jewish leadership training programs and conferences for Jewish educators, clergy, and veteran and new songleaders.

The concert is sponsored by Ithaca Area United Jewish Community (www.iauyc.org), with participation by Congregation Tikkun v'Or and Temple Beth-El.

For additional press resources, visit rickrecht.com/press. For more information about the program, call Hoffman at 257-9924.

Music from around the world at TBE Oneonta on March 8

A concert of music from around the world will be presented at Temple Beth El of Oneonta on Sunday, March 8, at 2 pm.

"With selections from South America, Africa and Eastern Europe, the event is intended as a celebration of our shared humanity," said organizers of the concert.

Performers will include clarinetist Robin Seletsky,

flutist Ana Laura Gonzalez, pianist Michael Bauer and the *a capella* vocal ensemble Eight is Eneuf. Additionally, TBE's newly installed rabbi, George Hirschfeld, will sing a selection of Ladino and Ashkenazic folk songs.

The family-friendly, community event is free of charge, with donations accepted. Temple Beth El is located at 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta. For more information, call 286-9085.

TC Sisterhood program to feature Frugal Fani on March 22

Temple Concord Sisterhood will hold a free program featuring Frugal Fani (aka Ani Loew) on Sunday, March 22, at 1 pm, at Temple Concord, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

"Frugal Fani is one of the hottest YouTube stars of today," said organizers of the event. "Come hear about her YouTube career, including how she got started and why saving the

world is important to her. According to Frugal Fani, "It is about progress, not perfection."

Loew teaches law and government and education at Broome-Tioga BOCES New Visions Career Academy to college-bound high school seniors who want to challenge themselves during their senior year. She is also an active member of Temple Concord Sisterhood.

Reservations should be made to Phyllis Kellenberger at pweinste@stny.rr.com or 723-2193 or 727-8305 by Thursday, March 19.



Frugal Fani (aka Ani Loew)

Trivia.Continued from page 1

"This is *The Reporter's* first funding-raising event," said Rabbi Rachel Esserman, the paper's executive editor. "A trivia event seems a perfect match for us. Come and enjoy the camaraderie, and challenge yourself to see if you have the answers. If you can't make the event, sponsorships are available and offer a great way to support your local Jewish newspaper."

The following sponsorships opportunities are available:

- ◆ Reader \$25
- ◆ Typesetter \$50
- ◆ Correspondent: \$75
- ◆ Reporter \$100
- ◆ Editor: \$125
- ◆ Publisher: \$150

Those interested in sponsoring the event can send a check to *The Reporter*, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal 13850, with "trivia sponsor" on the subject line or visit *The Reporter* office during business hours to pay by credit card. More information about the evening will appear in future issues of the paper.

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The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to Harriet Horowitz on the death of her son and Rochelle Goldberg on the death of her brother,

Alan Robinson



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Off the Shelf

History through letters

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

With the advent of the Internet, many people now stay in contact with family and friends through electronic means. Some discourage printing the letters and/or documents due to ecological concerns. Yet, it is physical documents that can help historians uncover what occurred in past decades and centuries. Take, for example, "Family Papers: A Sephardic Journey Through the Twentieth Century" by Sarah Abrevaya Stein (Farrar, Straus and Giroux). Through the use of letters and other documents saved by family members, the author, a professor of history in Sephardic studies at UCLA, was able to write a multi-generational history of a family whose origins began in Ottoman Salonica and whose descendants moved to other parts of Europe, the Americas, India and Israel.

Stein notes that the family documents and photographs she used in writing her work had been stored in at least nine countries on three continents as the family migrated over the course of the 20th century. These included "travel documents; naturalization papers; birth, death, and medical records; letters exchanged by relatives, lovers, and friends;

business papers, even a baptismal certificate." However, it's not the separate documents that are of interest so much as the history they allow Stein to capture: "The Levy family papers catalogue the lives and losses of multiple generations, contain papers written in eight languages, and reflect correspondence among members of a single family spanning the globe. This is a Jewish story, an Ottoman story, a European story, Mediterranean story, and a diasporic story, a story of how women, men and children experienced wars, genocide and migration, the collapse of old regimes and the rise of new nations. The Levy papers also reveal how this family loved and quarreled, struggled and succeeded, clung to one another and watched the ties that once bound them slip from their grasp."

The family history opens with Sa'adi Besalel Ashkenazi a-Levi, who lived in Ottoman Salonica during the late 19th century. At that time, Salonica had a large Jewish population with some claiming that 50 percent of people living in the city were Jewish. This community consisted of Jews who had been expelled from Spain centuries before; they brought their own language with them, a combination of Spanish and Hebrew, which is now called Ladino. At that point in time, there were more than 50 synagogues in the multi-cultural city that was also home to Muslims and Christians. According to Stein, "a Jewish industrial class, working class, and middle-class force fueled Salonica's economy. Jews were prominent among both the stevedores who manned the port and the women, men, girls and boys who dried tobacco and shaped bricks in the city's factories. Jews owned many of the shops, cafés, and bars that lined Salonica's streets, and were teachers in the schools." Additional occupations included newspaper production and writing, of which members of the a-Levi family took part.

Life changed when the city became part of Greece after the Balkan Wars. The military occupation during World War I created even more problems, causing some members of the family to emigrate. Even worse was the fire that destroyed whole sections of the city in August 1917. This greatly affected the a-Levi family fortune. Even more left their home and moved to other countries, but most stayed in touch through letters – sometimes sending money to help the family and, at other times, requesting funds be sent to them. They emigrated to other parts of Europe or traveled across the ocean to Brazil. Unfortunately, whole branches of the family disappeared during World War II.

Stein tells this history by focusing on different members of the family, for example, using them as a way to portray what occurred to a particular individual, while also noting how this affected other members of the family. These

vary in interest depending on the individual. One of the most interesting was the chapter about Sa'adi's daughter Rachel (1862-1948), who traveled to different European countries as a teacher for the Alliance Israélite Universelle. After attending the Alliance's school in Salonica, she was sent to Paris for teacher's training, even though she was only 15 years old at the time. Her time with the Alliance was not always easy, as some schools had little funding and the pay was low. Rachel married another teacher and the two were required to write to the Alliance in Paris to explain matters relating to their school, but these letters also included a great deal of personal information.

The career of Rachel's brother, Shemuel Sa'adi/Sam (1870-1959), was also of interest, especially his involvement with radical newspapers of the time. During this period, different sections of the community debated about how best to secure the Jewish future: "Would Jews' security and future best be served by socialism, Zionism, the bourgeois and reform-minded goals of the Alliance Israélite Universelle, or regional nationalism of one form or another?" The newspaper that published Sam's articles was a voice of progress, and Sam thought that Ottoman Jews should modernize and embrace Western culture. He also leaned toward socialism, at first supporting the rights of the working class before abandoning this position and defending the rights of employers.

Stein writes about too many members of the family to discuss in a short review. The chapter on the German collaborator in the family was striking, as was reading about what happened in Greece and France during World War II. Each chapter contains black-and-white photos of many family members, which will also help readers picture their surroundings. The book does include a hand-written family tree, although this was hard to follow. A clearer version of that would have made it easier to understand the family connections, as would have additional smaller family trees when portraying children and grandchildren. However, these are minor quibbles with a book that shows a clear picture of the Jewish Diaspora in the 20th century through the eyes of one family.

At the end of "Family Papers," Stein makes a poetic plea for writing on paper and keeping copies of those letters and documents. She believes that "letters are an inheritance. Their value and, the meaning we derive from them, are limitless. The longer we save them, the richer they become. The longer we save them, the better we understand one another, and ourselves." In this age of instant communication, one doubts whether her plea will make a difference. Histories written about the 21st century may be the poorer due to the information that disappeared into cyberspace.



Mailbox Shorts

Pardes podcasts

Elmad, an online learning library, offers podcasts from the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies at <https://elmad.pardes.org/podcasts/>. There is no charge to view the podcasts and more than 1,000 podcasts are available. Those interested can sign up to receive a weekly e-mail about the most recent podcasts. The podcasts can also be downloaded automatically through podcast apps.

Kosher cooking for kids

Kosher.com is offering a new program, Nosh & Nibble, the first and only online kosher cooking show for kids, by kids and about kids. The series was co-created with PJ Library, a program that offers free Jewish-themed books to young readers. Nosh & Nibble seeks to put kids at the helm and invites young viewers into the kitchen to create their own recipes and crafts. The series centers around a rotating cast of tweens and showcases these hosts as they serve up kid-friendly recipes, demos, kitchen hacks and crafty activities.

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Notice of Formation of Incubate Media, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/17/2020. 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: Roger L. Brooks, 120 Hawley Street, Suite 118, Binghamton, New York 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of 775 Myrtle, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on January 15, 2020, effective on the date of filing. Office Location: Broome County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 116 Murray Street, Binghamton, NY 13905, which shall be the principal business location. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the NYS Limited Liability Company Law.

Babushka Eats LLC, Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/14/19. Off. loc.: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served & shall mail: 274 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13901. Purp.: any lawful.

Cerroni Services LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/29/19. Office:

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

Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, PO Box 357, Endicott, NY 13761. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Articles of Organization of 266 Hud, LLC ("LLC") filed with the Secretary of State of New York ("SSNY") on February 4, 2020, effective on the date of filing. Office Location: Broome County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 116 Murray Street, Binghamton, NY 13905, which shall be the principal business location. The purpose for which the LLC is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the NYS Limited Liability Company Law.

Notice of Formation of 59 LESTER EMPIRE LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/15/2017. Office Location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom service of process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Alan J. Anzaroot, 98 Main Street, Binghamton, New York 13905. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Wheeland Consulting LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of

State is February 11, 2020.

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: 654 Hance Road, Binghamton, NY 13903.

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

Notice of Formation of 7 STUYVESANT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 2-6-2020. Office located in Broome County. SSNY is designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to PO Box 231 Vestal NY 13851. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of VIIA 2 LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/13/2020. 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: Vulf Kovnat, 16 Camden Street, Johnson City, New York. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is JJ'S GRILL AND CATERING @ EN-JOIE, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 13, 2020.

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: 1120 A Farm to Market Road, Endwell, NY 13760.

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

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY:

The name of the limited liability company is: Front Street Residences LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 14, 2020. 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 Front Street Residences LLC, 237 W. Lincoln Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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

1. The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is Wesley's Corner Store, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is February 18, 2020.
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: 345 Conklin Ave, 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:

The name of the limited liability company is: STAN Property Holdings, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 7, 2020. 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 Steve W. Pancoast, 154 Clifton Blvd., Vestal, NY 13850. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Anna Warfield Art, LLC, Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/6/20. Off. loc.: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served & shall mail: 151 Chapin St., Binghamton, NY 13905. Purp.: any lawful purp.

Zalvis Properties LLC, Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/22/20. Off. loc.: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served & shall mail: 424 Clayton Ave., Vestal, NY 13850. Purp.: any lawful purp.

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THE REPORTER
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Chabad Purim Feast to be held on March 10

Last minute reservations are still being accepted for the annual Chabad Purim Feast to be held on Purim day, Tuesday, March 10, at 6 pm, at the Chabad Center in Vestal. Dinner will be preceded by a “last chance” megillah reading at 5:20 pm for those who did not hear the megillah read earlier.

The program will include a meal catered by Dougie’s BBQ and Grill in New Jersey (vegetarian options and a kiddie menu are available), *l’chayim*, desserts, music and dancing. The cost for the program is \$18 per person; \$14 for students with online, advance reservation and seniors (over 65); and \$9 for children under 12 (children aged 2 and

under are free). Participants are urged to come in costume and will automatically be entered into a raffle. A parade of children in costume will be enjoyed by all.

To make a reservation, call the Chabad Center office at 797-0015 or reserve online at www.Jewishbu.com/PurimFeast.

BD Sisterhood Shushan Purim program

Beth David Sisterhood invites the community to a Shushan Purim program with Rivka Kellman, who will discuss “Shushan Purim, what’s the real story?” The event will take place on Wednesday,

March 11, at 7 pm, at the synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton.

Purim treats will be served. Those attending are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for CHOW.

No need to make Purim a whole megillah!

By Ethel G. Hofman

(JNS) – Purim is quite a holiday. During the chanting of the megillah, the noise level can be deafening. Young and old shout aloud, hissing, pounding tables, stamping feet, whirling groggers and boo-ing when Haman is mentioned – behavior never permitted in synagogue on any other day. The riotous celebration marks the triumph of Persian Jews over their nefarious enemy, who was planning to exterminate the Jewish population.

On this holiday, which begins at sundown on Monday, March 9, and lasts through the evening of Tuesday, March 10, almost anything goes. The atmosphere is carnival-like. Kids and adults dress up and parade as the dedicated and loyal Queen Esther and Mordecai, or King Ahaseurus and even the despicable Haman. Of course, any costume will do. And it’s OK to play good-natured tricks, jokes and just be plain silly. Young and old love it.

Purim is the only Jewish festival where it is traditionally encouraged to get so drunk that you can’t tell the difference between the names of Haman and Mordecai. Note: If you’re going to indulge, don’t drive! In Eastern Europe, there was



“Esther and Mordechai,” oil on canvas, 1675. Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires. (Photo by Wikimedia Commons)

no such problem. Everyone lived within walking distance of the synagogue and could stagger home well into the early hours of the morning.

Of course, the holiday doesn’t come without its obligations.

Purim is associated with four main mitzvahs: the reading and/or listening of the megillah, or Scroll of Esther; eating a festive meal (*seudat Purim*); sending gifts of food (*shalach manot*); and giving to the poor (*matanot l’evyonim*).

As far as food goes, there are dozens of culinary customs connected to Purim. Hamantashen, the triangular poppy-seed filled pastries, resemble Haman’s tri-cornered hat or his pockets. Though hamantashen may be filled with fruit preserves, dried fruits and sometimes halvah, poppy seeds were the traditional filling since it’s said that Queen Esther chose a vegetarian diet, rather than eat nonkosher food in the king’s palace. The custom of exchanging *shalach manot* (gifts of food for friends and neighbors) comes from the *megillah*, which says that “Purim is a day of feasting and of sending portions to one another, and gifts to the poor.” Home-baked pastries, cookies and sweets are arranged attractively on platters for the children to give out. Many *shuls* have lists of congregants that receive treats, as do Jewish day schools and Hebrew schools. Some Jews in Denmark and Norway will bake gingerbread men using raisins to make Haman’s ugly face. Moroccan Jews inserted entire hard-boiled eggs in their Purim challah to resemble Haman’s eyes.

Instead of high-calorie tidbits, try these six suggestions (plus a bonus cake for a little sweetness) for petite savory treats. Serve at home or fill *shalach manot* platters. Even for the essential hamantashen, veggies such as carrots dappled with za’atar spice, instead of sweet prune filling or preserves, may be substituted. All symbolize the story of Purim, from an intent to exterminate to joyous victory.

Hasty Hamantashen (Dairy)

Makes 7-8

Cook’s Tips:

- ◆ Buy grated carrots for a savory version.
- ◆ Lekvar, poppy-seed and/or fruit fillings are available in jars.
- ◆ For more texture, sprinkle with sesame seeds.
- ◆ Recipe may be doubled. Pie crusts come two per package. 1½ Tbsp. prepared prune or poppy-seed filling (lekvar) or filling of your choice
- 1 tsp. grated lemon peel
- Pinch cinnamon
- 1 9-inch pie crust
- Confectioners’ sugar or poppy seeds to sprinkle
- Preheat the oven to 400°F.

Lightly spray a cookie sheet with nonstick cooking spray. Set aside.

In a small bowl, mix the prune filling with the lemon peel and cinnamon.

Turn pie crust onto a board. Press lightly to flatten. Use a 3-inch cookie cutter to cut out 7 to 8 rounds from pie crust. Place scant ¼ teaspoon filling in center of each round.

Dampen the edges with water. Fold the dough up over the filling to form a flat three-sided pyramid. Place on a prepared cookie sheet.

Bake in a preheated oven for 5 to 7 minutes or until pastry is firm. Hamantashen will be pale. Do not overbake. Dust with confectioners’ sugar or sprinkle poppy seeds over top.

Variation: In a small bowl, drizzle ¾ cup grated carrots

with 1 teaspoon olive oil. Zap in microwave for 15 seconds. Sprinkle lightly with za’atar seasoning. Prepare as above.

Salmon-Dill Tartlets (Pareve)

Makes 12

Cook’s Tips:

- ◆ Substitute any other cooked or canned fish for salmon.
- ◆ For milder flavor, substitute bottled sandwich spread or mayonnaise for horseradish sauce.
- ◆ Use phyllo shells in supermarket freezer section or dry cups found boxed in some markets.
- ◆ For a gourmet touch, garnish with a teaspoon of red caviar. Buy red caviar, which is much less expensive than black from sturgeon.

See “Purim” on page 9

On the Jewish food scene The good cookie

By Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Confession time: I can live without hamantashen. Yes, I tend to scarf down as many of them on Purim as anyone else, but they are far from my favorite cookie. One problem is that there is usually too much dough and too little filling for my taste. I do prefer those with fruit fillings, rather than the traditional poppy one. By the way, chocolate hamantashen is *not* hamantashen; it is some other sort of chocolate cookie. (While I’m on the subject of foods that have the wrong name, that goes for chocolate-chip challah, too. It’s a type of bread, but not challah. And to be really controversial, while I like blueberry bread, there is *no* such thing as a blueberry bagel; a bagel by definition is savory.) Sorry for that digression, but some things just need to be said. I think the problem with hamentashen is that they aren’t sweet enough – even with lots of filling – to feel like a real cookie and, if I’m going to have the calories and sugar of a cookie, I want it to taste like a real cookie.

So, you might imagine my surprise at how popular hamantashen is in my chaplaincy work. We used to have Jewish holiday parties at Broome Developmental Center and the co-worker (and friend) who helped me organize the parties said that she kept getting phone calls asking if this was the holiday with “the good cookie.” In subsequent years, she featured a picture of a hamentashen on the poster and e-mail about the celebration so that everyone would know that, yes, this is the one with “the good cookie.” That meant there was rarely a problem getting people – Jewish and non-Jewish – to attend.

Now that the Center is closed to residents, we no longer have the holiday parties. Instead, I bring hamantashen to the day treatments and the houses I visit. The cookies are

so popular with one staff member that he asks me about them all year long. It’s gotten to be such a joke that when I saw him once in the grocery store, I couldn’t resist teasing him, saying, “Sorry, no cookies.” I’ve seen people letting their friends know when the hamantashen are available so they eat one before they disappear. By the way, I do *not* make the cookies. For most of the years we held parties, the kitchen was able to acquire them. When that changed, I did try my hand at them one year, but that was a complete fiasco. I quickly turned to a local baker who made them instead. Then the next year, the parents of the Temple Concord Religious School began selling hamentashen as a fund-raiser and I’ve been distributing their cookies ever since. (By the way, I think when they first thought about the fund-raiser, they were envisioning people asking for a couple of dozen cookies at the most. Then came my order – each year, I usually request 10 or 12 dozen.)

Writing this column did have its own reward. While working on a draft, I was reminded of the one time when I really appreciated hamantashen. That’s because they were made specially for me. This took place at Temple Beth El of Endicott, so it must be either the late 1970s or sometime during the 1980s. I was on one of my strict diets and couldn’t eat anything made with white flour, only food that used pure whole wheat. That meant I never ate any of the cookies or sweets offered during *onegs* or holiday gatherings. One year, my mother motioned me to come into the synagogue kitchen. There she had a plate of homemade, whole-wheat hamantashen. The filling was fruit-juice sweetened jam. Those were my favorite hamantashen ever because they contained an additional ingredient: love.

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Hillel Academy students celebrated Tu B'Shevat



On February 10, Hillel Academy students and teachers went on a field trip to Schaefer's Gardens, in celebration of Tu B'Shevat. Students, teachers and parents enjoyed a Tu B'Shevat seder, indoors, at the gardens.



Students held up signs, urging the protection and preservation of the Amazon rain forest.



Students, teachers and parents enjoyed a Tu B'Shevat seder indoors, at Schaefer's Gardens.



At right: The Tu B'Shevat seder plate consisted of fruits associated with the land of Israel (i.e. figs, pomegranates, dates, etc.), sweets, and more common fruits such as oranges and apples. (Photo by Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu)



Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu and students prepared a presentation tying Tu B'Shevat with a message about the preservation of the Amazon rain forest. (Photo by Alex Kaminsky)



Hillel Academy students were given a tour of Schaefer's Gardens. (Photo by Alex Kaminsky)



Students, teachers and parents enjoyed a seder while delivering a message about the protection and preservation of the Amazon rain forest. (Photo by Alex Kaminsky)

Tax & Financial Planning

Let work incentives work for you

(NAPSI)—If you receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work, Social Security Work Incentives can allow you to keep your healthcare (Medicare and Medicaid) and,

in some cases, cash benefits as you begin working. These Work Incentives are designed to encourage and support beneficiaries who want to return to the workforce or work for the first time.


year time frame. During their TWP, they receive full SSDI benefits no matter how much they earn as long as their work activity is reported and they have a disabling impairment.

There are more than 20 Work Incentives. Eligibility varies based on the type of disability benefit an individual receives – Social Security Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income. Here are just a few examples:

- ◆ Medicaid While Working – Section 1619(b) (SSI recipients only). If they meet certain qualifications, beneficiaries can continue to receive Medicaid after they start working, even if their earnings (alone or in combination with other income) become too high for an SSI cash payment.

- ◆ Trial Work Period (SSDI recipients only). Individuals can test their ability to work for at least 9 months in a rolling five-

- ◆ Continuation of Medicare Coverage (SSDI recipients). See "Work" on page 7



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Quick Reference Guide to Planned Giving

Use this planned giving quick reference guide to help determine the best strategy for achieving your philanthropic and financial goals.

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Dr. Elissa Sampson to speak about the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire at BU on March 26

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire occurred more than 100 years ago, on March 25, 1911, but is said to have left a permanent trace on the collective memory of American Jews. The “tragic and horrific” fire resulted in the deaths of 145 women, mostly Jewish and Italian women. The result of lax safety regulations and enforcement, the fire exposed the mistreatment of immigrant garment workers and eventually helped bring about needed reforms. To mark the fire’s 109th anniversary, Professor Elissa Sampson of Cornell University will discuss “The Resurgence of Memory: The Triangle Fire Today” at Binghamton University on Thursday, March 26, at 6 pm, in the Admission Center, room 189, on the Binghamton University campus. The talk is open to the general public.

According to Sampson, “The memory of the Triangle Fire continues to grow; an inextinguishable story is not being allowed to die.” Sampson will discuss the many mechanisms of memorialization that have taken place, not just in New York City, the site of the tragedy, but all over the country. “Commemoration takes place also in Los Angeles with union organizers who are Mexican and Asian driving much of it, as well as in Bangladesh mostly due to the Rana Plaza tragedy,” she said. “All of this circulates and reinforces remembrance as well as activism in a wide variety of communities.”



Dr. Elissa Sampson

Sampson’s recent publications touch upon Jewish life in the Lower East Side, contemporary Yiddish theater, Triangle Fire commemorations and the academic use of the term “ghetto” in relation to Jews in the United States. Her 2015 dissertation documents

how the acquisition of a building shaped the Lower East Side Tenement Museum’s stories of immigrant history. She has given numerous academic and public tours, and lectures on the Lower East Side’s historic and contemporary migrant/immigrant communities, labor history and built environment. Sampson was a featured consultant for the 2016 documentary “Streit’s and the American Dream” and on the Triangle Fire for the 2019 PBS mini-series “The Future of America’s Past.”

The talk is sponsored by the Margolis Family Lecture Fund. Directions on location and parking can be found online at www.binghamton.edu/admissions/visit/plan.html. For more information, contact Maja Dragojlovic in the Binghamton Judaic Studies Department at mdragojl@binghamton.edu.

Israel’s Lapid reprimands Belgian ambassador over antisemitic carnival in Aalst

By JNS staff

(JNS) – Blue and White Party No. 2 MK Yair Lapid said on March 1 that he had reprimanded Belgian Ambassador to Israel Olivier Belle regarding an antisemitic parade in Belgium held on February 23.

“I had a long and very angry conversation” with the Belgian ambassador, Lapid told i24 News and *Israel Hayom* in an interview. “I told him that if there was a possibility of pressing charges in Belgium I will do it myself, as an Israeli politician but not only – also as the son of a Holocaust survivor.”

The carnival, in the Belgian city of Aalst, was removed from the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (or UNESCO) heritage list after antisemitic symbols were used in last year’s parade, but in this year’s event Jews were targeted once again.

“Even though Aalst Carnival is much more than that, these facts detract from our values and reputation of our country,” Belgian Prime Minister Sophie Wilmès said in a statement, according to the AP. “Belgium is a state of law. It is for the Justice Department and concerned authorities



At left: A view of a parade float at the Carnival of Aalst in March 2019, featuring two Orthodox Jewish caricatures that were widely condemned as antisemitic. (Photo by Gili Yaari/Flash90)

to see if the events during Carnival are in contravention of the law.”

During this year’s parade, one group dressed up like insects and donned the fur hats worn by some Jewish sects. They had a display called “complain ant,” a phrase

that in Dutch resembles the word for the Western Wall, and wore on their lapels stickers that said “obey.” Another group donned suits resembling those worn by ultra-Orthodox Jews and plastic hooked noses, and waved a sign of “regulations,”

including one that said: “Do not tell the truth about Jews.”

B’nai B’rith International strongly criticized the February 23 parade and urged local officials overhaul the celebration. “Mocking religious Jews identifies them as targets for ridicule, abuse and hate. Surely, there are ways to celebrate the ignorance of the Middle Ages other than portraying Jews as vermin. B’nai B’rith is deeply concerned about the messages this carnival sends to current and future generations,” the group said in a statement.

Aalst Mayor Christoph D’Haese denied any racist element to the carnival, saying all he saw was “free speech.” “I did not see an antisemitic or racist parade. To the contrary, I saw a high mass of free speech and creativity,” said D’Haese.

Chief Rabbi of Moscow Pinchas Goldschmidt, who is also president of the Conference of European Rabbis, said that “the satirical procession with antisemitic tropes in Aalst, Belgium, are extremely offensive and abuse the power of free speech which is such an essential ingredient in any liberal democracy,” according to the report.

Tax & Financial Planning

Work..... Continued from page 6

Medicare coverage for SSDI beneficiaries continues while they are working and receiving SSDI benefits. When SSDI cash benefits stop because of work, beneficiaries can keep their Medicare coverage for at least 93 consecutive months (seven years and nine months) after the end of their TWP.

For more information about Work Incentives, see Social Security’s free pamphlets, “Working While Disabled – How We Can Help” (No. 05-10095) or the “Red Book” (No. 64-030), the guides to employment support programs. Find them online at www.ssa.gov/pubs and www.ssa.gov/redbook.

You can also learn more about Work Incentives while receiving free services and

supports through Social Security’s Ticket to Work program. The program supports career development for people ages 18-64 who receive Social Security disability benefits and want to work. In addition to benefits counseling, through the program, beneficiaries can find help writing their resumes, finding job opportunities and transitioning to the workplace.

Ready to get started? Call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY) Monday through Friday, 8 am-8 pm ET. A representative can answer some of your questions and send you a list of service providers. Or search for providers online at <https://choosework.ssa.gov/findhelp>.

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Deciphering the past Ancient harbors, sunken ships: Supporting marine archaeology off Israel's coast

By University of Haifa staff

(JNS) – The University of California San Diego has announced a gift of more than \$1.3 million from the Koret Foundation to support joint research on marine archaeology between UC San Diego's Scripps Center for Marine Archaeology and the University of Haifa's Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies in Israel.

The three-year award will facilitate scientific exploration of coastal environments in Israel, which offer sensitive deep-time records for how humans have adapted to climate and environmental change over the past 11,000 years. The relatively new field of marine archaeology offers new ways of investigating these issues through the ages. Through this collaboration, UC San Diego and the University of Haifa will deepen a long-term research and teaching collaboration along Israel's Carmel Coast.

"The world's oceans and seas are the last great frontier of archaeological exploration, and the Mediterranean Sea holds the oldest and most densely traversed maritime network in the world," explained Professor Thomas Levy, distinguished professor in the Department of Anthropology at UC San Diego and co-director of SCMA. "This new California-Israel collaboration will provide students and faculty from both the U.S. and Israel with unique opportunities for original research concerning climate, environmental and culture change."

Anita Friedman, president of the Koret Foundation, said, "This partnership will further strengthen the bonds between the U.S. and Israel, reinforcing the close ties between our two countries to respond to some of today's most pressing environmental issues."

The Koret Foundation's U.S.-Israel bridge-building Initiative aims to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship in diverse ways by supporting organizational collabora-



Near shore excavation with a newly developed barge system at the biblical port of Tel Dor, Israel, by researchers at the University of Haifa and the University of California San Diego's Scripps Center for Marine Archaeology. (Photo by Anthony Tamberino/SCMA)

tions, educational and humanitarian programs, as well as opportunities for cooperation and exchange. In addition to its support of this project, Koret has supported other high-level collaborations among Stanford University, UC Berkeley and Tel Aviv University, and the Rambam Medical Center. These academic collaborations both advance critical scientific research, while simultaneously creating opportunity for "deep relationships" to develop between leading scholars from Israel and the United States.

The collaboration between Recanati and SCMA, co-led by SCMA, has the potential to advance the study of climate and environmental science by utilizing the archeology of the eastern Mediterranean. Israel's Carmel Coast provides

an "exceptional" case study for investigating these problems because of its "rich, submerged cultural" heritage.

Over the past century, Scripps Oceanography has developed cutting-edge research tools to study environmental change involving marine geology and geophysics, coastal processes, paleomagnetism, paleobiology and climate science. SCMA researchers will utilize these tools and work in tandem with the University of Haifa to create a state-of-the-art research facility in Akko, Israel, where qualified scientific diver students will come on annual field-school seminars.

"The Koret Foundation's gift enables SCMA to marshal the excellence in marine and environmental science at Scripps Institution of Oceanography with more than 50 years of underwater archaeology expertise from the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies," said John Hildebrand, distinguished professor of oceanography at Scripps and co-director of SCMA. "We see this as a unique opportunity to build up SCMA's international presence, as well as to bring the tool-kit we develop home to San Diego and apply it off the beach here in La Jolla."

Assaf Yasur-Landau, director of the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies at the University of Haifa, noted that "along the coast of Israel, submerged settlements, ancient harbors and sunken ships tell a unique story of 11,000 years of human resilience and adaptation. The exploration of this frontier can only be done with cutting-edge technologies and innovative training programs for archaeologists."

Levy and Hildebrand anticipate that this joint project in Israel will have "significant public and scientific impact," bringing to light new discoveries, including ancient shipwrecks and submerged villages, ports and cities from the past 10,000 years in the Mediterranean region.

Archaeologists unearth crate of historic Judaica items under synagogue in Poland

By JNS staff

(JNS) – A wooden crate filled with Judaica items was discovered during an archaeological excavation in a synagogue in Malopolska, Poland, reported *The Jewish Chronicle*.

Archaeologists were digging a small test hole at the Old Synagogue in Wieliczka when they reportedly found a fragment of decaying wood. After removing layers of earth, they found a wooden crate in the ground.

Inside were 350 objects, including artifacts from the World War I; a silver Torah crown and a yad (pointer); a silver cup; five candlesticks; *rimonim*, used to decorate the top of Torah roller handles; and 18 cap badges with the initials of Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Joseph, who ruled from 1848 until his death in 1916.

Beverly Nenck, curator of medieval collections and

Judaica at the British Museum, said the artifacts will be examined for any legible inscriptions that may provide information about dates and individuals in the community since certain Judaica items using in synagogues are often inscribed with names of their donors.

At right: The Old Synagogue in Wieliczka, Poland. (Photo by Google Maps)



Michal Wojenka from the Institute of Archaeology of Jagiellonian University, who was supervising the excavation, said, "This is a very preliminary work in the Wieliczka synagogue, and there [are] still a lot of things that need to be done, including the conservation of building and the analysis of finds. The most problematic issue is to answer the question under what circumstances the chest was buried."

According to the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the synagogue was built around 1750. Wieliczka's Jewish presence stems back to the late medieval period, according to *The Jewish Chronicle*. Anti-Jewish riots were reported in Wieliczka in 1889 and 1906; by 1921, there were 1,135 Jews living in the town. A few Jews who survived the Holocaust returned after World War II.

Space. Continued from page 2

made to bring a greater awareness of Judaism's traditions while in the process of making space mission history.

In 2007, Hoffman was inducted into the United States Astronaut Hall of Fame. In 2017, he was inducted into the Jewish American Hall of Fame at the Jewish Heritage Center in New England. November 2019 marked the printing and release by the Israeli government of 200 numbered, limited edition sheets of commemorative Space Torah

stamps, picturing both the Torah and Hoffman, as well as the Israeli flag. Besides commemorating this historic event, the stamps serve as a fund-raising endeavor to cover the cost of making the documentary, as well as for taking the project to the next step. Each sheet can be purchased through the Space Torah Project website, unsigned for \$100 or signed by Hoffman for \$360.

As Raz explains, relatively few people know the story of the Space Torah. The documentary will be widely disseminated and accompanied later by instructional workbooks and activities to educate an audience of Jewish students both here and abroad about the significance of Hoffman's missions, which carried Judaism into space. In this way, his example can serve to inspire them and others to see how one's personal heritage can be an integral part of one's life's work. Hoffman's own trajectory illustrates how for those who put their minds to it, the possibilities to make a difference are limitless.



The Space Torah commemorative stamp issued in November 2019.

Englund. Continued from page 1

forceful removal of Alsatian Jews from money lending? We know Napoleon, the man, had a low opinion of Jews, but on the other hand, later in the 19th century, the French antisemites claimed Napoleon had been a Jewish 'creature' because he preserved Jewish emancipation and organized the community. It is interesting to play with the concept of ambiguity and not rush to judgment, one way or the other. Doing so is not always satisfying, but it may be closer to the truth."

Englund graduated magna cum laude from Colgate University. He was a Marshall Scholar at Cambridge University in England, and received his Ph.D. in history from Princeton University. He has been a faculty member at the American University in Paris and a visiting professor at numerous institutions. He was a Guggenheim fellow and, from 2015-16, a visiting fellow at the Center for the Study of Antisemitism at Berlin Technical University.

"He is unequivocally one of the most accomplished people I know, and what I would call a man for all seasons," said organizers. "Educator, writer, historian, journalist, Steve is all of these and more.

"Professor Englund is unequivocally one of the most accomplished and engaging speakers we've ever met," organizers added. "His nuanced take on Napoleon's relationship with the Jews is sure to lead to a spirited discussion!"

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



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Send us your e-mail address to stay up-to-date on the latest news and weekly features! Please send it to thebingreporter@gmail.com with "e-mail blast" in the subject line.

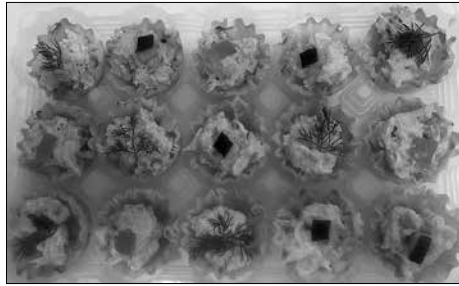
We promise not to share it with anyone and won't send you junk, just good stuff!

THE REPORTER

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Purim Continued from page 5

- ◆ Sprinkle dry breadcrumbs or panko in bottom of each shell to keep crisp.
 - 1 cup canned salmon, drained and dark skin removed
 - 2 Tbsp. bottled horseradish sauce
 - 1 box (1.9 oz.) phyllo shells
 - Dill sprigs/tomato, cucumber to garnish
- In a small bowl, blend the salmon and horseradish sauce.
- Fill phyllo shells with salmon mixture. Garnish with dill sprigs or kosher caviar.



Salman-Dill Tartlets (Photo by Ethel G. Hofman)

Dizengoff Eggs (Pareve)

At a Dizengoff sidewalk café, I discovered this lively variation of deviled eggs. Include pita bread cut into triangles.

Makes 12 pieces

Cook's Tips:

- ◆ Cut a very thin slice from bottom of each egg-white half so that they stand firmly on a platter. Chop the slices finely and add to filling mixture.

- ◆ Chopped black olives are available in a small can.

- 6 hard-cooked eggs, peeled
- 3 Tbsp. mayonnaise
- 2 Tbsp. hummus

- 1 to 2 Tbsp. finely chopped celery
- 1 rounded Tbsp. chopped black olives
- ½ tsp. cumin

Salt and pepper to taste

Paprika to sprinkle

Cut eggs lengthwise in half. Slip the yolks out into a bowl. Mash with a fork.

Stir in the mayonnaise, hummus, celery, olives and cumin. Mix well. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Fill the egg whites with the mixture, heaping lightly. Sprinkle with paprika.

Refrigerate before arranging on platters.

Deliver as soon as possible. Do not allow to remain at room temperature longer than about 30 minutes.

Spiced Crunchy Chickpeas (Pareve)

Makes 1½ cups

Cook's Tips:

- ◆ Use canned chickpeas. Dump in a colander to drain well.

- ◆ To loosen chickpea skins, roll in kitchen towel to dry thoroughly, then in double layer of paper towels.

- ◆ Get kids involved. They can pull off chickpea skins and discard.

- ◆ Za'atar seasoning is now available in supermarkets.

- 1 can (approx. 15 oz.) chickpeas
- 1½ Tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tsp. za'atar seasoning
- 1½ tsp. freshly ground pepper

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425°F.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Rinse chickpeas under cold running water, drain well. Roll in kitchen towel and then paper towels to dry thoroughly.

Remove skins. Transfer to prepared baking sheet. Sprinkle with olive oil, za'atar and pepper. With your hands, toss chickpeas in olive oil and spices to cover completely. Spread out in one layer on the baking sheet.

Bake in a preheated oven for 35 minutes or until nicely browned. Using a spatula, turn after 20 minutes. Cool.

Dish up in paper cups.

Parmesan Broccoli Bites (Dairy)

Makes 3 cups

Cook's Tips:

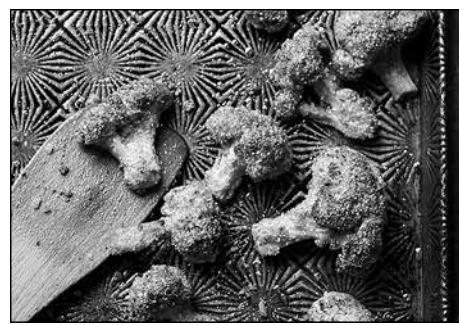
- ◆ Buy prepackaged fresh broccoli or cauliflower florets.

- ◆ To make your own panko, whirl crumbled white or brown bread in food processor. Leave on counter overnight to crisp.

- ◆ Substitute 1 tsp. curry powder and ¾ tsp. freshly ground pepper, or 1 tsp. 21-spice seasoning for Old Bay Seasoning.

- 3 cups broccoli florets
- ⅓ cup all-purpose flour
- 2 Tbsp. hummus

- ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese



Parmesan Broccoli Bites (Photo courtesy of Eating Well magazine)

- 1½ tsp. Old Bay Seasoning

Preheat oven to 425°F.

Line a baking sheet with parchment.

Spray with nonstick baking spray. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine the flour with hummus, Parmesan cheese and seasoning. Add the broccoli and dredge with the flour mixture.

Arrange in one layer on prepared baking sheet.

Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes or until nicely browned.

Nova Enchiladas (Dairy)

Makes 12 pieces

Cook's Tips:

- ◆ Substitute thinly sliced cooked soy sausage for smoked salmon.

- ◆ Use thinly spread Dijon mustard instead of cream cheese when using soy sausage.

- ◆ No tomatoes? Add 1 Tbsp. drained pickle relish to cream cheese.

- 3 (6-inch) tortillas

- 3 rounded Tbsp. cream cheese, softened

- 3-4 ounces of smoked salmon (or one large package)

- 2 medium tomatoes, thinly sliced and seeded

- 1 small sweet onion, thinly sliced

- Juice of 1 small lime

- Paprika for dusting

Lay tortillas on a board. Spread each with 1 rounded tablespoon cream cheese. Top with evenly divided smoked salmon, tomatoes and onion.

Drizzle a little bit of lime juice over top. Roll up.

With a serrated knife, cut each tortilla into 4 pieces. Dust with paprika.

Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until needed.



Nova Enchiladas (Photo by Ethel G. Hofman)



Cranberries grown and harvested in Massachusetts. (Photo by Wikimedia Commons)

Loaded Chocolate-Cranberry Loaf (Dairy)

Make ahead of time and freeze. Serves 8-10.

Cook's Tips:

- ◆ Sour milk: Pour 1 tsp. vinegar into milk. Let stand 5 to 10 minutes without stirring.

- ◆ May substitute buttermilk.

- ◆ Substitute any nuts for walnuts.

- ◆ To soften butter: Leave in covered container overnight at room temperature.

- ◆ The night before, measure and mix dry ingredients, flour, baking powder, baking soda and cinnamon. Cover with clean cloth and leave on counter. Then loaf is mixed and ready to bake in minutes.

- 1 stick (4 ounces) butter, softened

- 1 tsp. instant coffee

- 2 eggs

- 3 Tbsp. sour milk

- ¾ cup sugar

- 2-3 overripe bananas, peeled and thickly sliced

- 2 cups all-purpose flour

- 1½ tsp. baking powder

- ½ tsp. baking soda

- 1 tsp. cinnamon

- 1 cup chocolate chips

- 1 cup dried cranberries

- ⅓ cup coarsely chopped walnuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Spray a loaf pan (approx. 8x4x2 inches) with nonstick cooking spray. Line bottom with wax paper.

In blender or food processor, place the butter, coffee, eggs, sour milk and sugar. Process until smooth. Add the bananas. Process to blend smoothly.

Transfer to a bowl and stir in the flour mixture, ½ cup at a time.

Add the chocolate chips, cranberries and walnuts, stirring to mix. Spoon into prepared loaf pan. Bake in preheated oven 45 to 50 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Some melted chocolate may stick to the toothpick; that's OK. Do not overbake.

Cool 10 minutes. Loosen sides with a round bladed knife. Turn onto a wire tray to cool completely.

Wrap in wax paper to store in refrigerator up to 4 to 5 days or wrap in foil, label and freeze.

Ethel G. Hofman is a syndicated American Jewish food and travel columnist, author and culinary consultant.

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Holocaust film "Persian Lessons" to be released in U.S. after Berlin premiere

The distribution and production company Cohen Media Group has acquired North American rights to the Holocaust-era drama "Persian Lessons" and plans to release the film in late 2020, Variety reported on Feb. 25. Set in 1942, the film is about a Belgian Jew in a German concentration camp who claims to be Persian to avoid being executed. The prisoner tries to save himself by agreeing to teach Farsi, a language he does not know and subsequently makes up, to a Nazi officer who hopes to open a restaurant in Iran after the war. "Persian Lessons" had its world premiere at the Berlin Film Festival on Feb. 22. The film, based on the story *Erfindung Einer Sprache* by Wolfgang Kohlhaase, was first written in Russian, then translated into English and eventually into German. Ukrainian-born American director Vadim Perelman helped invent the fake Farsi spoken in the film. He said that his Jewish heritage drew him to the project, along with his goal of showing that the Holocaust transcends any one political or historical moment. "It can happen in any country, at any time," he said. The film's lead actor, Lars Eidinger, said, "It's very important that it's someone from the outside telling this story; they can do it better than a German." The actor was alluding to the idea that Germany is still afraid to confront a lot of its Holocaust past.

Congressman sends letter to DeVos about Mideast studies at University of Arizona

Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ) has called for the U.S. Department of Education to investigate whether the Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Arizona has misused federal dollars. In a Feb. 24 letter to U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, Gosar wrote that CMES has used federal funding under Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to "support biased, anti-American, pro-BDS faculty and research." As an example, the letter cites CMES associate professor Maha Nassar, who "wrote a defense of the antisemitic 'Students for Justice in Palestine' in the antisemitic publication *Mondoweiss*," in which she wrote that "conflating anti-Zionism with antisemitism is a well-worn tactic of pro-Israel advocacy groups." Another example of pro-BDS faculty that the letter cites is history professor Linda Darling, "who signed a 2014 petition calling on Middle East scholars and librarians to boycott Israeli academic institutions." "While it is the university's right under the First Amendment to engage in any kind of scholarship, it is not free to engage in antisemitic activities or discrimination, especially using federal grants in ways that do not comply with the stated intent of the grant program," wrote Gosar. "Specifically, programs that are in violation of federal laws and undermine our country's interests at home and abroad should not be offered at a publicly funded university. Federal funds, earmarked for specific purposes, should not be used to support such ideologically driven programs that promote racism, hatred and genocide," he added. "It is incumbent upon the Department of Education to ensure that federal laws and regulations are adhered to and that taxpayer dollars are not misused to endanger America's national security, the security of our allies, or to encourage biased, politicized scholarship." The letter mentioned that, according to a September 2019 report by the Clarion Project, CMES has received more than \$7 million from Qatar and Saudi Arabia, and that the university works with the Qatar Foundation.

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Attention to details

RABBI BARBARA GOLDMAN-WARTELL, TEMPLE CONCORD OF BINGHAMTON

The Torah portion Tetzaveh is one of the middle portions relating to the building of the *Mishkan* and the preparation for the ordination of the priests for their roles with the *Mishkan*, including sacrifices and other offerings to God. I am struck each year with the details in these portions about what needs to be done to prepare for building the *Mishkan* and preparing the priests, the detailed instructions about how to do it, the descriptions of how it is done and then afterward describing what was done.

While an overview from a distance, it is instructive to view the care and details that were attended to in the descriptions and the work that was done. We can learn from the attention to detail that the *Mishkan* and roles of the priests there were highly valued by the Israelites. Tetzaveh

focuses on the priests: their garments and vestments, and the installation rites that will be part of the consecration ceremony at the end of Exodus in *parashat* Pekudai.

Aaron, the high priest, and his sons were to be dressed a certain way to both remind them of their service to God and of their being part of the Israelites, being human beings. A lot was expected of them. Their attire was to set them apart and was reserved for those involved in the sacrificial cult. All the instructions and special ceremonies did not stop them from being human and making some very human mistakes in later Torah portions. Aaron helped the people build the golden calf, and two of his sons offered "strange fire" on the altar and are killed by God in Leviticus.

We have our public appearance and some of us have

uniforms when we do certain jobs. We are Israelites and can choose how to dress and prepare for prayer. We can dress for prayer, covering our heads and wearing *tallitot* and *tefillin* for prayer services. What matters is what is within each of us: how we conduct ourselves, our focus, *kavannah*, intentionality in our prayers and how we live our lives.

In Pirke Avot 1:12, we can learn more about Aaron's inner qualities, as the text states, "Be a student of Aaron, loving and pursuing peace, loving people and drawing them near to the Torah." We can learn from this text that Aaron possessed these important traits and passed them on to his disciples. They are part of what we can strive to incorporate into our own lives and let come out to others.

Congregational Notes

Beth David Synagogue

Affiliation: Orthodox Union
 Rabbi: Zev Silber
 Address: 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905
 Phone: 722-1793
 Rabbi's Office: 722-7514
 Fax: 722-7121
 Office hours: Mon. closed; Tues. 10 am-1 pm; Wed. closed; Thurs. 9 am-1 pm; Fri. 10 am-1 pm
 Beth David e-mail address: bethdavid@stny.rr.com
 Rabbi's e-mail: rabbisilber@stny.rr.com
 Website: www.bethdavid.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/bethdavidbinghamton
 Shabbat Services:
 Shabbat, March 7 9 am
 Mincha after kiddush
 Weekday Services:
 Mornings:
 Sun., March 8 8:30 am
 Mon., March 9 7 am
 Tues., March 10 6:50 am
 Wed.-Fri., March 11-13 7 am
 Evenings:
 Sun., March 8 6:40 pm
 Mon.-Tues., March 9-10 6:50 pm
 Wed.-Thurs., March 11-12 6:50 pm
 Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

Rohr Chabad Center

Affiliation: Chabad-Lubavitch
 Rabbi Aaron and Rivkah Slonim, Directors
 E-mail: aslonim@binghamton.edu, rslonim@chabadofbinghamton.com
 Address: 420 Murray Hill Rd., Vestal, NY 13850
 Phone: 797-0015, Fax: 797-0095
 Website: www.Chabadofbinghamton.com
 Rabbi Zalman and Rochel Chein, Education
 E-mail: zchein@Jewishbu.com, rchein@Jewishbu.com
 Rabbi Levi and Hadasa Slonim, Downtown and Development
 Chabad Downtown Center: 60 Henry St., Binghamton
 E-mail: lslonim@Jewishbu.com, hslonim@Jewishbu.com
 Rabbi Yisroel and Goldie Ohana, Programming
 E-mail: yohana@Jewishbu.com, gohana@Jewishbu.com
 Regular service times: Daily 7:30 am, Friday evening 6 pm, Shabbat morning 9:30 am, Maariv and Havdalah one hour after candle-lighting time, Sundays 9:30 am.
 To join the mailing list, for up-to-date information on adult education offerings or to arrange for a private tutorial, for details concerning the Judaica shop and resource center, or for assistance through the Piaker Free Loan Society or Raff Maasim Tovim Foundation, call Chabad's office at 797-0015.

Penn-York Jewish Community

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

Kol Haverim

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

Temple 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 7, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Exodus 27:20-30:10. The haftarah will be I Samuel 15:2-34. The kiddush will be sponsored by Arthur and Suzanne Siegel.

On Sunday, March 8, beginning at 10 am, the Hebrew school will be helping with, and attending, the JCC Purim Party.

There will be no Hebrew school on Sunday, March 15. A Ritual Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 16, at 7:30 pm.

A Board of Trustees meeting will be held Tuesday, March 17, at 7 pm.

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 Beth-El of Ithaca

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

On Sunday, March 8, at 3 pm, a Purim community concert featuring Rick Recht will be presented at the Community School of Music and Arts, Hamblin Hall, 330 East State St., Ithaca, by the Ithaca Area United Jewish Community, Temple Beth-El and Congregation Tikkun v'Or. Children are free, adults (ages 12 and up) are \$5. For more information, call Marjorie Hoffman at 607-257-9924.

Purim services will be held on Monday, March 9, at 7 pm, and Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 am. All are urged to come in costume.

The TBE Sisterhood invites those 21 and older to its sixth kosher wine tasting on Sunday, March 15, at 3 pm. Wine-friendly snacks will be served. The cost is \$18 per person. RSVPs are required by Tuesday, March 10, via the temple website with a credit card, or the temple office with a check or exact cash.



Friday, March 6, light candles before 5:42 pm
 Saturday, March 7, Shabbat ends 6:44 pm
 Friday, March 13, light candles before 6:50 pm
 Saturday, March 14, Shabbat ends 7:52 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: 723-7355
 Fax: 723-0785
 Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com
 Website: www.templeconcord.com
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.

On Friday, March 6, Shabbat evening services will be held at 8 pm.

On Saturday, March 7, religious school will meet at 9 am; Torah study will be held at 9:15 am; Tot Shabbat will meet from 9:30-10:30 am; and a Shabbat family service will be held at 10:35 am.

On Monday, March 9, the Purim dinner will take place at 5:30 pm, with the Purim celebration and spiel at 6:20 pm.

On Friday, March 13, Shabbat evening services will be held at 8 pm.

On Saturday, March 14, Torah study will be held at 9:15 am; there will be no religious school and no Shabbat services.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

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

Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
 Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY
 Phone: 607-256-1471
 Website: www.tikkunvor.org
 E-mail: info@tikkunvor.org
 Presidents: Lauren Korfine and Shira Reisman
 Rabbi: Brian Walt
 Religious School Director/Admin. Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky
 Services: Fridays at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. Intergenerational Shabbat, music services, and other special services. Call for the weekly schedule.
 Religious School: Preschool through seventh-grade classes meet on Sunday mornings.
 Sixth-grade Hebrew and seventh-grade b'nai mitzvah classes meet on Wednesday afternoons.
 Adult Ed: Mini courses throughout the year. Adult Hebrew offered regularly. Call the office for details.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181
 President: Bruce Fein, 607-423-3346
 Service leaders: Lay leadership
 Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.
 Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis.
 Temple Brith Sholom is a small equalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is "Likrat Shabbat," while the Saturday morning siddur is "Gates of Prayer." The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

Tourism fair showcases Israel's prominence in travel tech

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS) – In the company of senior representatives from more than 50 countries in the global tourism industry, Israel's Ministry of Tourism presented its developments and innovations for 2020 at the recent International Mediterranean Tourism Market conference in Tel Aviv. The fair not only represents the flagship event of the Israeli tourism industry, but also the largest tourism fair in the greater Middle East.

During the two-day fair from February 11-12 in Tel Aviv, Israel's Ministry of Tourism held a series of lectures and panels that presented several of the reforms and marketing-policy initiatives spearheaded that have led to record-breaking incoming tourism figures. Topics included, among many, accessibility in tourism and the development of the Negev as a tourism brand and leading tourism destination in Israel.

The 26th conference took place after a record-breaking year for incoming tourism with more than 4.5 million tourists in 2019 – a 55 percent increase in just three years.

"Today, it is clear that tourism is a very significant economic growth engine for the state of Israel," said Tourism Minister Yariv Levin. "We recently ended 2019 with an injection of more than NIS 22 billion (nearly \$6.5 billion) into the Israeli economy from tourism. I am optimistic for 2020, and believe that the reforms and innovative steps we are spearheading will bear fruit this year as well, despite the budgetary challenges we are expecting to face."

IMTM 2020's opening event, held in Jerusalem, featured an exhibition of booths, food and 11 travel technology startups. Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion attended the gala,



Yaturu, an augmented-reality/virtual-reality company that produces walking tours of ancient Israel for tourists, was one of the featured startups at the International Mediterranean Tourism Market in Tel Aviv. (Photo by Eliana Rudee)

as did ministers and ambassadors from Nepal, the Republic of Srpska (Serb Republic), Greece, Honduras, Equatorial Guinea, Slovak Republic, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Georgia.

In his address, Lion referred to the IMTM event as a "fulfillment of the words of Micah, who prophesized that all the nations of the world will come to Jerusalem." He said it correctly portrays Jerusalem as a city thousands of years old, which birthed the world's oldest faith, and yet, it is "a modern capital city and center of commerce" with flourishing technology.

Nofar Nistani, director of Jerusalem Entrepreneurs Tourism Hub for the Jerusalem Development Authority, expressed her pride in exposing guests from around the world to Israeli innovation and the future of tourism. "Israel has much to show, and we want to do it with technology and startups," she told JNS.

Yaturu, an augmented-reality/virtual-reality company that produces walking tours of ancient Israel for tourists, was one of the featured startups, co-founded by Jonathan Dyne, an immigrant to Jerusalem from Sydney, Australia. "Our goal is that when a person puts on our glasses and [virtually] stands in the Temple of King David, we can recreate it to better understand what it was like and have a sense of the history, so when they take off the glasses, they'll have a better appreciation for the place," Dyne told JNS.

Dyne says Yaturu's virtual augmented tours, which are based in biblical Jerusalem, have the power to connect the Diaspora to its roots. "The story we tell is about Jewish roots in Jerusalem – it is based in the *Kotel* [Western Wall], the City of David and the dramas of King Solomon, King Hezekiah and Prophet Jeremiah – the essence of Jewish history in Jerusalem and Israel as a whole," he said.

Dyne's company has benefited from the growth of tourism in Jerusalem, he maintained, allowing further development of educational tours in the United States, Singapore and Costa Rica.

Ella Stahl, vice president of sales for Jerusalem-based



The International Mediterranean Tourism Market conference in Tel Aviv, presented by Israel's Ministry of Tourism, featured representatives from more than 50 countries in the global tourism industry. (Photo by Chen Galili)

trip-planning startup Gamitee, similarly referred to how the growth of tourism in Israel positively impacts her company and vice versa – how her company aims to positively impact Israel in return.

"As an Israeli travel startup, we are strongly and positively affected by the rise of tourism to Israel. Over the past few years, there have been many initiatives aimed at increasing tourism to Israel, and we are proud to take part in some of them," she told JNS.

Gamitee, she explained, offers consumers planning their vacations a more streamlined process. Like a "WhatsApp group plus a wish list," individuals can invite their travel companions to the website, cutting down the time it takes to plan a vacation. In return, clients are more likely to consume travel products and services on their trip, thereby contributing to the receiving economy.

"We offer our clients a more convenient way to book their vacations," said Stahl, "and are hoping to see our tool put to use by the many more tourists who are now visiting Israel."



Ariel Karen, an Israeli actor and the emcee at the International Mediterranean Tourism Market conference in Tel Aviv, which was presented by Israel's Ministry of Tourism. (Photo by Eliana Rudee)

Study reveals widespread European antisemitic and anti-Israel prejudices

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS) – Antisemitic and anti-Israel prejudices are widespread throughout Europe, with almost one in four Europeans equating Israelis to Nazis and one in five believing Jews exploit the Holocaust for their own benefit, according to a recent survey.

The survey collected 500,000 data points from 14,000 people in 16 E.U. countries from December 2019 to January 2020. The findings were presented on February 24 at the European Jewish Association's annual conference in Paris.

Among the findings were that 24 percent of Europeans "strongly disagree" and "tend to disagree" that it is good for a country if many Jews live there, while 15 percent of Europeans believe Jews are more inclined than most to use shady practices to achieve their goals. The same percentage of respondents said that "Jews have too much influence" in their country.

Eighteen percent said they "strongly agree" and "tend to agree" that it's always better to be a little cautious with Jews, and 20 percent expressed their belief that "there is a secret Jewish network that influences political and economic affairs in the world."

More than one in five (21 percent) said that "Jews still talk too much about the Holocaust," and 20 percent said that Jews exploit Holocaust victimhood for their own purposes. More than a third (34 percent) said that people in their nation suffered as much as the Jews during World War II.

Regarding opinions about Israel, 25 percent "strongly disagreed" and "tended to disagree" that Israel is engaged in legitimate self-defense against its enemies, and the same number said that when they think of Israel's politics, they understand why some people hate Jews. Twenty-four percent equate Israelis to Nazis in their behavior toward the



Action and Protection League of Europe Chairman Rabbi Shlomó Köves spoke at the European Jewish Association's annual policy conference in Paris on February 24. (Photo by Yoni Rykner)

Palestinians, and the same percentage said that this treatment justifies an international boycott of Israel.

The results of the survey, which will be fully released in June, were presented by Action and Protection League of Europe Chairman Rabbi Shlomó Köves at a press briefing at the European Centre of Judaism in Paris. The APL was founded in 2018 in Budapest with funding from the Hungarian government to fight antisemitism and anti-Zionism throughout the European Union.

Köves told JNS that this is the first time that "such a large-scale representative survey was done, especially focusing on antisemitic

attitudes in societies." In addition to the general results of the survey, said Köves, the data showed that "Holocaust denial and stereotypical anti-Jewish conspiracies are more typical in Eastern Europe and Greece, while anti-Israel bias is more representative in the western part of the continent."

Learning about antisemitic sentiment in Europe in general and in various countries in particular, he maintained, "can really help us understand the mindset of each of these countries and that definitely helps us when we prepare ourselves for the fight against antisemitism."

Community Calendar

The Community Calendar can be found on the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton's website, www.jfgb.org, by clicking on "calendar." Updates or additions of events for the calendar can be made by contacting the Federation through its website (click on "calendar" and then "click here to request a change to the calendar") or by calling 724-2332.

Moving any time soon? Or just leaving town for a few months?



Whether you're moving across town or across the country, please let *The Reporter* know so you can stay up to date on community news and quickly receive the paper at your new (or temporary) address! E-mail treporter@aol.com with "Reporter Address change" in the subject line, or call 607-724-2360, ext. 254, to let *The Reporter* know about your new address.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israeli marathon runner smashes Tokyo course record

(Israel Hayom via JNS) – Israeli long-distance runner Lonah Chemtai-Salpetier became one of the fastest women in the world on March 1, when she won the Tokyo Marathon with a time of 2:17:45, smashing both the course record for the prestigious marathon and the previous Israeli women's marathon record of 2:19:46, which Chemtai-Salpetier herself set at the Prague Marathon in 2019. Her Tokyo time makes her the sixth-fastest female marathoner of all time. Following the race, the champion said she was "very pleased" with the results. "My preparation allowed me to improve my personal best. I feel that today's result is a return for all the hard work of the last few months. Unfortunately, in my last two marathons, I wasn't able to express myself on the day of the race, but today the conditions here in Tokyo were perfect," she said. In September 2019, Chemtai-Salpetier set a new European women's record for the 10 kilometer distance, running the Tilburg Ten Miles race in 30:04, 17 seconds faster than the previous record, which British runner Paula Radcliffe set in 2003. The 30:04 time also became a new Israeli women's record for the distance.

Vatican opens archives of Pope Pius XII, who was silent during the Holocaust

For the first time ever, the Vatican granted researchers on March 2 access to its archives on Pope Pius XII, the controversial pontiff who stayed silent during the Nazi extermination of Jews in the Holocaust. More than 200 researchers have applied for permission to study the millions of letters and documents of the pontiff's papacy, which are held in the Vatican Apostolic Archives. Pius XII, who headed the Catholic Church from 1939 until his death in 1958, was the subject of much debate and

questions as to why he never spoke out about the slaughter of six million Jews in Nazi concentration camps, though the Roman Catholic Church has continuously insisted that he did all he could to save Jewish lives. "The Church is not afraid of history," Pope Francis said last year when he announced his decision to open the archives. Four decades ago, the Vatican published an 11-volume work that covered the Holocaust; however, some crucial information was missing, such as the pope's replies to notes and letters, including details about the Nazi atrocities, according to AFP. "For millions of people, Catholic and Jewish, these archives are of enormous humanitarian interest," Suzanne Brown-Fleming, international programs director at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, told AFP. World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder said in a statement, "In inviting historians and scholars in to publicly access the Vatican's World War II archives, Pope Francis is demonstrating a commitment to learning and airing the truth, as well as to the significance of Holocaust memory."

Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia files Chapter 11

The Museum of American Jewish History, which operates the Philadelphia-based National Museum of American Jewish History, filed a legal action in Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania over the March 1 weekend seeking Chapter 11 protection, according to the Philadelphia Jewish Link. In its court filings, the museum noted that it has \$10 million to \$50 million in assets and liabilities. The museum, which was established in 1976 and is located on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, presents educational and public programs that preserve, explore and celebrate the history of Jews in America. A Smithsonian affiliate, the museum has displayed more than 100 exhibitions since its inception and is the repository of the largest collection of Jewish Americana in the world,

with more than 30,000 objects. In a filing, Paul Waimberg, the museum's chief financial officer, informed the court that the museum's prepetition capital structure includes \$16.3 million owed under a series 2015 A bond and \$13.8 million owed under series 2015 B bonds, both of which were issued by the Philadelphia Authority for Industrial Development to underwrite the museum. According to its CFO, the museum plans to restructure "so that its debt service is reduced to a level that will allow the museum to sustain its operations for the long term."

Israeli high court overturns surrogacy law excluding single men, gay couples

Israel's High Court of Justice unanimously ruled on Feb. 27 against a law that excludes single men and gay couples from using surrogacy to have children. Current law allows only heterosexual couples or single women who are unable to have children to use surrogates, but the court ruled that the law "disproportionately violate the right to equality and the right to parenthood of these groups, and are illegal." Supreme Court President Esther Hayut, and Justices Hanan Melcer and Neal Hendel, wrote: "The sweeping exclusion of homosexual men from the use of surrogacy is viewed as 'suspicious' discrimination, suggesting that this part of the population is inferior." The Knesset now has until March 1, 2021, to change the law. The court said that it would step in and shut down the surrogacy limitations only if the Knesset fails to do so itself. The ruling was for a petition filed by the Association of Israeli Gay Fathers. The group Avot Ge'im, also called "Proud Fathers" – one of the petitioners in the case – called it a "dramatic and exciting day in which Israel at long last strides toward the family of the world's most advanced nations when it comes to LGBT rights. ... We're delighted that after 10 years [of legal petitions], the High Court made the courageous and correct decision, which delivered economic and social justice for tens of thousands of LGBT couples," said Avot Ge'im. "There is still a long way to go to complete equality, but as of today, we can all establish beautiful families, just like everyone else."

Azerbaijan minister makes history by attending AIPAC, praises ties with Israel

Azerbaijan made history on March 1 by becoming the first country with a Shi'ite majority to have a cabinet-level minister give a speech at the annual AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, DC. Samir Sharifov, Azerbaijan's finance minister, told the crowd: "Cooperation with Israel is not limited to oil supply; we are interested in widening cooperation in defense and the transfer of technology." He added that Israel is one of the few "states that supported Azerbaijan in need with armaments." Sharifov also read remarks from Mehriban Aliyeva, the first vice president of Azerbaijan, who said, "It is gratifying that our former compatriots of Jewish origin, living nowadays in the United States and Israel, have maintained close ties with Azerbaijan and contribute to the strengthening of our relations with these countries. We are much grateful to them." Recorded history shows that Jews have lived in Azerbaijan for 2,600 years, with an estimated 30,000 Jews currently living in a country of 10 million, according to Sharifov. In her remarks, Aliyeva discussed the nation's Jewish history, noting that, "Azerbaijan had also embraced thousands of Jews who tried to escape Nazi oppression during World War II and became a second home for them." She added that "at the time of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic of 1918-1920 – the first parliamentary democracy in the Muslim world – the Jewish community actively contributed to the development of the country."

Creator of "Hunters" defends show from Auschwitz Memorial criticism

David Weil, creator and executive producer of the new Amazon Prime series "Hunters," defended the show on Feb. 23 following criticism by the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum and Memorial over its untrue depictions of the Holocaust. The drama, starring Al Pacino as a Holocaust survivor, follows a group of Nazi hunters living in 1977 who track down high-ranking Nazi officials living in the United States who are conspiring to create a Fourth Reich in America. The museum said that the show presents a "dangerous" fictional version of the Holocaust, specifically criticizing a scene in the opening credits where a chess game features humans as pieces killed after each is taken by the opponent. It also suggested "invent an [sic] non-existing camp and Nazi atrocities perpetrated there. If you however use a real place, respect it's [sic] history and suffering of its victims ... One should not create fake reality if the details about this reality are so well documented." Weil, whose grandmother was a Holocaust survivor, said the show "takes the point of view that symbolic representations provide individuals access to an emotional and symbolic reality that allows us to better understand the experiences of the Shoah and provide it with meaning that can address our urgent present." He added that it was important for him to tell a story about the Holocaust "without borrowing from a real person's specific life or experience." That's the reason, he said, that he gave the Holocaust prisoners and survivors in the show tattoos greater than 202,499, the highest-recorded number ever given to an Auschwitz prisoner. Addressing the chess scene, Weil said it was intended "to most powerfully counteract the revisionist narrative that whitewashes Nazi perpetration, by showcasing the most extreme – and representationally truthful – sadism and violence that the Nazis perpetrated against the Jews and other victims."

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