

THE REPORTER

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Reporter matching grant matched

By Reporter staff

When Rabbi Rachel Esserman, executive editor of *The Reporter*, learned an anonymous donor had agreed to match up to \$10,000 for donations, she thought the paper might not be able to raise that much money in the month of June. To her surprise, the campaign hit the \$10,000 mark before its ending date.

"This is awesome," Esserman said. "People tell me they like the paper, but this is really putting their money where their mouths are."

Esserman also thanked the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton for arranging for the matching gift and the donor for agreeing to the donation. "Sima Auerbach, the former executive director

of the Federation, and Shelley Hubal, the current executive director, are so supportive of the paper," she added. "Their door is always open. I'd also like to thank the donor, whose name I don't know. It is supporters like that person who make our community great."

Even though the matching gift has ended, the paper is still accepting donations.

"Every penny helps our small staff put out a paper that is the one-stop place to learn what's going on in our Jewish community," Esserman noted.

To make a tax deductible donation, send a check made out to *The Reporter* to 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850, or stop by *The Reporter* office. For more information, call 724-2360, ext. 254.

Temple Beth-El Arts Committee continues Summer Jewish Film Festival July 18 and Aug. 22

The Arts Committee of Temple Beth El continues its annual Jewish film festival with "Yoo Hoo Mrs. Goldberg" on Thursday, July 18, and "The Last Suit" on Thursday, August 22. Doors open at 6:30 pm for free refreshments and socializing. The films begin at 7 pm. Tickets are \$8 at the door (check or cash only). All films are appropriate for children ages 10 and above. Teens are encouraged to attend.

"Yoo Hoo Mrs. Goldberg" (USA 2009) is a documentary on television pioneer Gertrude Berg. She was the creator, principal writer and star of "The Goldbergs," a popular radio show for 17 years, which became television's very first character-driven domestic sitcom in 1949. Berg received the first Best Actress Emmy in history, and paved the way for women in the entertainment industry.

"The Last Suit" (Spain, Argentina 2018) depicts a Polish-born Holocaust survivor who decides to travel from Buenos Aires to Lodz to fulfill a promise he made nearly 70 years earlier. This late-life road movie boasts plenty of "poignant and humorous" moments as the protagonist meets a variety of "helpful characters" along his journey. The film has English subtitles.

The film festival is brought to Ithaca through Israeli Films, National Center for Jewish Film and Outsider Pictures. For further information, call 257-9924.



At right: YooHoo Molly in a window.

TC to hold Lights for Liberty event on July 12

Temple Concord will hold a "Lights for Liberty Binghamton: A Nationwide Vigil to End Human Detention Camps" event on Friday, July 12, at 8:45 pm, at the synagogue, 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton. The Binghamton event is part of a nationwide effort to end American human detention camps. The entire community is invited to attend.

The event will take place following the 8 pm Shabbat services. "We will gather on

the lawn in front of Temple Concord for some words and song prior to the 9 pm silent candlelight vigil to protest the inhumane conditions faced by refugees," said organizers of the event. "This is a humanitarian crisis and a moral issue for all."

Lights for Liberty is a coalition of grassroots activists with support from immigrants' rights and other organizations. For more information, visit www.lightsforliberty.org.

Rabbi Brown to speak at Vestal library on July 8

On Monday, July 8, from 7-9 pm, Rabbi Geoffrey Brown, spiritual leader of Temple Israel in Vestal, will deliver a lecture titled "And What about the Children?" at the Vestal Public Library. The talk will focus

on the Holocaust, depicting case studies and statistics that describe the tragic and often brutal treatment of children by the Nazis during World War II.

See "Brown" on page 3

Counselors prepared for Camp JCC



Camp JCC counselors held their orientation during the week of June 25. Camp JCC is a day camp that runs from July 1 through August 5, and is for ages 5-15. Extended day camp options are available. For more information and to view the Camp JCC registration forms and fee schedule, visit www.binghamtonjcc.org.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Jewelry exhibit

A Museum for Islamic Art exhibit, in Jerusalem, features Jewish jewelers from the Arab world.

..... Page 5

Camp shlichim

A Jewish Agency program trains Israeli emissaries to work as camp counselors in the U.S.

..... Page 9

News in brief...

Israeli FM in Abu Dhabi; German and Iran trade collapses; Jewish play first pick in NHL draft; more.

..... Pages 11-12

Special Sections

Legal Notices..... 4

Book Review..... 4

Family Focus and Pets 6-9

Classifieds 12

Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

With gratitude, Shelley

SHELLEY HUBAL

Bittersweet. A little awkward. Grateful. Some words to describe my first few weeks as executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

Shortly after my father passed away at the end of April, I began my new position here at the JFed. The welcoming energy of the office was a needed distraction after watching my dad succumb to the late stages of Alzheimer's. I found myself greeted by countless community members, all with the same awkward words: "I'm so sorry for your loss and congrats on your new job." I appreciated each and every

sentiment. They have helped me to heal and given me strength.

As I move forward, I am so very grateful for the support I have received. The staff at *The Reporter* and Jewish Community Center have gone above and beyond to make me feel welcomed and up to speed. Much respect to all of them for the hard work they do everyday. The amazing duo of Sima Auerbach and Jennifer Kakusian has gently guided me and given me the confidence I need to begin this journey. Thank you. Sima's dedication and wisdom are boundless. My prayer is that I can hold the shining torch

as high as she has for so many years.

To the wonderful people of the Binghamton community, I have seen your heart and compassion these last few months and I am so grateful to know you. Your kindness and caring have lifted me up and carried me through a challenging time. I want you all to know, I am here to return the favor. The Federation doors are always open.

P.S. Please allow me to say thank you to my husband Mark for always saying yes and for holding my hand through it all.

Forget about the "Jewish home-run record"

By Jonathan S. Tobin

(JNS) – The story is designed to appeal to baseball fans, as well as that curious subset of people who obsess about the role of Jews in America's national pastime. In June 7, Milwaukee Brewers outfielder Ryan Braun hit the 332nd home run of his career. That three-run blast temporarily moved him into the 108th spot on the list of Major League Baseball's all-time home-run hitters, one ahead of Hall of Famer Henry ("Hank") Greenberg.

According to those who keep track of these things, it made Braun the all-time Jewish home-run champion. Or did it?

The question of "who is a Jew" has roiled Israel for decades as questions of ancestry and religious law interact with the realities of a modern world in which the identities of individuals often don't conform to rules that strictly differentiate Jew from non-Jew. That's also true for those who obsessively seek to tally the members of the tribe who make it to the big leagues.

Braun grew up in Los Angeles, the son of an Israeli Jewish father and a Catholic mother. That makes him a non-Jew according to traditional *halachic* definitions of Jewish law, but a Jew for those who accept patrilineal descent.

Braun was not raised as a Jew, but has said that he's proud of his Jewish lineage and was willing to be thought

of as a role model for Jewish youngsters. He was featured in the set of Jewish Major League Baseball Cards produced by the American Jewish Historical Society, and so as far as most fans are concerned, he deserves the title of the all-time Jewish home-run king.

But if he isn't cheered in the same manner that previous generations lionized Greenberg or fellow Hall of Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax, there are two good reasons why.

One concerns the character of the men. The other is whether we really need Jewish heroes now the way we did when Greenberg played.

Part of the problem with Braun is that there will always be an asterisk on his baseball records. His Major League career began in glorious fashion by winning the National League Rookie of the Year Award in 2007 and then followed it with five consecutive All Star Game appearances. In 2011, he was named the National League's Most Valuable Player as he led his team to the playoffs.

But a shadow was cast over his achievements when he tested positive for illegal performance-enhancing drugs at the end of his fabulous 2011 season, and he was subsequently linked to the Biogenesis Company's ring of drug cheats the following year. Yet Braun's disgrace was greater than just being one of many who hadn't played fair. He disputed the positive drug test and accused the low-level

league functionary tasked with transporting his test results of falsifying them. Initially, his bogus claim succeeded in avoiding a mandatory suspension. But he was eventually forced to confess and served a lengthy suspension in 2013. The spectacle of an entitled millionaire ballplayer seeking to victimize a low-wage baseball employee as Braun had done went beyond mere cheating and called into question his character.

Even worse, Braun's career headed south after he was caught and, presumably, stopped taking steroids. Since 2013, Braun has been an above-average ballplayer, but nothing like the star he had been. While the exact impact of PEDs is a matter of speculation, the implication is that his greatest achievements were as much the product of advanced chemistry as skill and athleticism.

Still, his home runs count in the record books. But the man whose mark he surpassed will never be eclipsed as a hero to Jewish fans.

The son of Romanian Jewish immigrants, Greenberg grew up in New York and was a superstar during baseball's golden age of great sluggers in the 1930s and 1940s, while leading the Detroit Tigers to four American League pennants and two World Series. In 1938, he challenged Babe Ruth's seemingly insurmountable single-season home-run record. See "Record" on page 5

In My Own Words

What if you can't...

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

What if you can't trust your doctor? Or your lawyer? Or your accountant? What if they disapprove of, or dislike, you based on your religion, race or sexuality? How do you live in a world where you might have to work with someone who is hostile to your best interests? How do you know where you are safe and when you are in danger?

At a recent Shabbat evening celebrating Pride Month, the speaker at my synagogue talked about the difficulty of finding a gynecologist that she and her partner could trust – one for whom their sexuality would not be an issue. Her simple statement flicked a switch in my brain because that never occurred to me. The way I could relate to her words was to think about what it was like in the past for someone who was Jewish – when people more publicly discriminated against Jews. Yet, today, I almost never

think about whether anyone would have a problem with my being Jewish or a rabbi – even though I experienced antisemitism in Broome County when I was in high school in the 1970s. I know there are still people who are prejudiced against Jews, which is why some Jews prefer to go a doctor, lawyer or accountant who is Jewish. But it's not something I regularly consider, while members of the LGBTQ community have to think about that issue when choosing whom to trust.

In case you think the LGBTQ community no longer suffers from discrimination, think about the Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission court case that came before the U.S. Supreme Court in 2018. The bakers in question said creating a wedding cake for a gay couple was against their religious beliefs and the court ruled in the bakers' favor. As much as I support freedom of religion, this is a slippery slope. Think: What if someone says mixed race marriage is against their religious beliefs. Does that mean someone can refuse to make a cake for mixed race couples? (Yes, there are still people who oppose interracial marriages.) What about interfaith marriages? Could someone refuse to make a cake for a Catholic marrying someone who is Jewish, Muslim or even Protestant? While right now it's illegal to discriminate against African Americans or Jews, that discrimination could happen if the idea of religious freedom is taken to this extreme. In fact, after the Supreme Court ruling, a politician from the Midwest suggested that the bakers shouldn't have to

bake cakes for African Americans if they choose not to. Fortunately, a large number of people reminded him that type of discrimination was no longer acceptable or legal, although I'm sure it still happens.

Some people still see a difference between racial and religious prejudice, and prejudice against the LGBTQ community. However, it was only a short while ago that people of color (and that included Jews) were seen as an inferior race because people were told so by their priests and ministers. Unfortunately, some people still feel that way. And, yes, there were (and still are) claims the world needs to be protected against Jews, as if we were an evil horde looking to destroy humanity. All we Jews want is to be able to live our lives in peace. The same is true for those who are members of the LGBTQ community.

The Constitution allows for religious freedom. However, it doesn't say that we can discriminate against someone of a different race, religion or sexuality. If you still don't agree with me, then just substitute the words "Jewish community" whenever you read tirades against the LGBTQ community. Think about it for a moment: Your right to hold a job, to find a place to live and to marry would depend on the whims of others. And, if you know anything about Jewish history, you know Jews were denied those rights in many places across the world. Not only should we never forget our own history, our past should inspire to us make certain no one else is ever denied those rights.

Correction

In the "A salute to Roz" article on pages 2 and 3 of the June 28 issue of *The Reporter*, the last sentence was cut off. The paragraph should have read, "Both the Jewish community and the Greater Binghamton community have benefitted from Roz's activities and JFS was truly blessed to have had her at its helm for 18 years. Although Roz no longer occupies an office at the JCC, her presence is felt everywhere in the community through the people whose lives she has touched." *The Reporter* apologizes for the error.



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OPINIONS

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

LETTERS

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

ADS

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

DEADLINE

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www.thereportergroup.org

TC Sisterhood puzzle fund-raiser on July 14

Temple Concord Sisterhood is holding a fund-raiser through selling puzzles on Sunday, July 14, from 11 am-3 pm, during "Much Ado In The Garden" at Cutler Garden, 840 Upper Front St., Binghamton. Puzzles will sell for \$21.95 and Sisterhood will get \$8 per puzzle sold with "TC Sisterhood" written in the check memo line. Included in the puzzle is a 7x10 inch print of the artwork suitable for framing. Each puzzle is approximately 13x19 inches.

The eight different puzzles, from Art & Fable Puzzle Company, will be available to view. Each is designed by a working artist and has European-style piece shapes, which means one can sort the 500 pieces by shape as well as color. "The unique printing process produces richly colored puzzle pieces with a soft, velvety feel and no distracting puzzle glare," said organizers of the sale.

In addition to Sisterhood receiving \$8 per sold puzzle,

a portion of the total puzzle price will be given to a charity selected by the artist. The name of the charity for each puzzle will be available at Cutler Garden or may be seen on the puzzleforgood Instagram page.

"As you work on the puzzle, you will know you are helping Temple Concord and another charity," said organizers of the sale. In addition to supporting this fund-raiser, Cutler Garden's "Much Ado In The Garden" will feature Shakespearean costumes and the gardens.

TI held service in honor of Jewish women

On June 14, Temple Israel's Sisterhood hosted a dessert buffet reception followed by a peer-led Kabbalat Shabbat service in honor of all Jewish women. The event was the final Sisterhood program for the current year, and welcomed members and non-members alike. All photos were taken by Steve Gilbert, prior to the arrival of Shabbat.

At right: While noshing on refreshments, people had a chance to converse and socialize, prior to the erev Shabbat services.



Several participants, representing the multiple generations among the membership, took their places to get ready for the approaching Shabbat candle-lighting ceremony that was performed a few minutes after this photo was taken. L-r: Barbara Gilbert, Hadassah Mativetsky, Rae Hubal, Shelley Hubal, Florence Balin and Nellie Roth.



L-r: Prior to the arrival of Shabbat, Eileen Miller and Rochelle Goldberg entertained the crowd during the dessert buffet hour.



Attendees tasted the assortment of desserts that preceded the Temple Israel Sisterhood's erev Shabbat service. L-r: Joan Jacobson, Barbara Wolfson, and Marcy Cohen (front table), Harriet Horowitz and Irwin Simon (rear table).



A dessert buffet reception preceded the Kabbalat Shabbat service.



L-r: Betty Warner, Shelley Hubal and Howard Warner took the opportunity to kibbitz.

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to **Maria Kutz** on the death of her brother,
Frank Farugia

The Jewish Community wishes to express its sympathy to **George H. Siegal** on the death of his wife and **Arthur Siegal** on the death of his mother,
Lenore Dorothy Siegal



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Brown Continued from page 1

Of the 1.5 million children murdered by Hitler's Nazi regime, approximately one million were Jewish children. Because of their vulnerability, the Nazis advocated killing children of "unwanted" or "dangerous" groups either as part of the "racial struggle" or as a measure of preventive security. The Germans and their collaborators killed children for these ideological reasons and in retaliation for real or alleged partisan attacks.

Organizers said, "Please join the Vestal Library for this challenging, yet compelling session to learn about the fate and demise of children during the Holocaust."

The Vestal Public Library is located at 320 Vestal Pkwy. E., Vestal (near the Vestal High School and the Vestal Museum).

Obituaries are accepted in *The Reporter*

Regular rates apply.
To place an obituary, call Bonnie at 607-724-2360 x244 or email bonnie@thereportergroup.org.

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.

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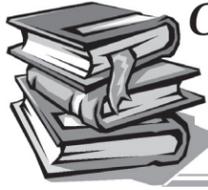
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Off the Shelf

Dragons, a golem, the Wandering Jew and an angel

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

One reason that I sometimes dislike book website recommendations is that they're often based on the last novel I read. The problem is that, after I read a mystery, I'm usually more in the mood for a serious novel or something from the fantasy/sci-fi genre than I am for another mystery. The one time I enjoy reading similar works is when I'm reviewing books for this column. Then it's fun to compare and contrast different novels. Take, for example, the four being reviewed here: all contain elements of fantasy, but they couldn't be more different. It's not just that two of them are for younger readers, but that they didn't feel like variations on a theme. Rather, their authors offered distinct visions of how the supernatural interacts with reality.

"The Last Tsar's Dragons"

Jews and dragons: what could be a better combination? However, young readers who love talking dragons or dragons who mind-meld with their riders will need to put those thoughts aside when reading "The Last Tsar's

Dragons" by Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple (Tachyon). The dragons in this work are old-fashioned, non-speaking, fire-breathing animals who are sent by the tsar of Russia to wreak havoc on the Jewish community.

What is unusual about this novel is that, except for the dragons, it's a realistic look at the end of the Russian monarchy and the beginning of the Bolshevik Revolution. Many of the characters are based on real-life people, including the tsar and his family, Rasputin and leading Bolsheviks (including Jewish characters whose real identities are slowly revealed over the course of the novel). In fact, it's tempting to suggest that the dragons are metaphors, except that I can't quite decide what they represent. For those of us who love dragons, though, it's fun to spend some time in their company – even if they don't talk.

So "The Last Tsar's Dragons" is a hybrid work: part fantasy with a large dose of history. In their end notes about the book, Yolen and Stemple relate how they came to write the story and mention which parts are real and which are fantasy. Of course, some readers may be more willing to accept what the narrator of the opening and closing sections suggests: that revolutions are bloody messes and that dragons are not a myth.

"Sweep"

I'm a big fan of books about golems. The first of my *Reporter* reviews to win an award compared two adult novels about the original golem, who came to life in 16th century Prague. Those two books told the same story in almost completely different ways. (Unfortunately, that review appeared before *The Reporter* had a website, but I'm sure I can find a hard copy for anyone interested.) Jonathan Auxier's "Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster" (Amulet Books), which is for younger readers, takes place in late 19th century England and focuses on Nan Sparrow, a young orphan, who works as a chimney sweep. Since chimneys have very narrow openings, only the young and small can do that dirty and dangerous job.

Nan has been forced to work for the unscrupulous Wilkie Crudd since her mentor, known only as the Sweep, disappeared. When one job goes awry, Nan fears for her life. Fortunately, something helps her survive – a monster made of soot and ash, whom she later learns is a golem. Nan hides from Crudd, although finding a place to live and work is difficult. She receives help from several sources, including a few Jewish characters (whose names I won't reveal because that would ruin part of the surprise.)

While Nan is wonderful and feisty, my favorite character was the golem. Watching him develop a personality was great fun, as were his interesting thoughts on how the world works. His character development is the reason "Sweep" is my favorite novel of the four. Readers also learn why the Sweep disappeared, and how Nan and her friends work to change the dangers they face daily. In his historical note,

Auxier writes about the real lives of the sweeps, and when and how their lives changed for the better.

"Melmoth"

What is the difference between myth and fantasy? That question came to mind when reading "Melmoth" by Sarah Perry (Custom House), which focuses on the legend of the Wandering Jew. For those unfamiliar with this story, the Wandering Jew was a man who taunted Jesus before the crucifixion and was therefore condemned to wander the world until the second coming. Perry uses this legend, but changes the wanderer's sex to female and never mentions her character's religion.

The plot centers around British Helen Franklin, who has exiled herself to Prague for reasons that are not immediately revealed. Her life changes when Karel, one of the few friends she's made in the city, is suddenly haunted by the legend of Melmoth the Witness, who represents the Wandering Jew. In his research, he's discovered others haunted by this mysterious, lonely person who seeks to keep company with those obsessed with the sins they've committed. As Helen reads what Karel's learned about others obsessed with Melmoth – including a child in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia – she begins to see a figure in dark shadows and wonders if she, too, is being stalked.

Perry's writing is dense and oblique; she approaches the story from odd angles, which fits her unusual plot. Although the novel qualifies as fantasy, it is also a very literary work – meaning that readers themselves must sometimes decide what is reality and what is illusion.

"Naamah"

The question of myth and legend also came to mind in Sarah Blake's "Naamah" (Riverhead Books). Although, at first, it seems a straight-forward story about Noah's wife, Naamah, and her time on the ark, the plot takes enough strange twists and turns for it to qualify as fantasy. Not only is there an angel, but talking animals and visions of the future – from biblical to contemporary times. The novel also tells how Naamah's family handled the never-ending chore of caring for the animals on the ark and their fears the water would never recede.

My favorite parts were those that focused on the more realistic aspects of the novel: what it was like to live on the ark. Of particular interest were Naamah's speculations about whether she would have been saved were she not Noah's wife. The fantasy sections also address the question of worthiness and humans' connection to God, along with how that differs from God's relationship to humans.

I rarely question author's choices, but did wonder about the very explicit descriptions of sex, along with the choice of sexual partners for Naamah. Those will not please more traditional Jewish readers. There is a dream-like quality to this work, one that forces readers to decide when legend becomes fantasy and when fantasy offers a version of the truth we otherwise could not see.



Mailbox Shorts

Klau Library manuscripts online

The manuscript holdings of the Klau Library are now available online, expanding access to scholars and the general public at mss.huc.edu. The holdings contain some 2,500 manuscripts, broadsides, codices, fanfolds and scrolls covering a wide scope of Jewish life and knowledge. From illuminated medieval Bibles to decorated calendars, from liturgies of the Comtat Venaisin to wedding poems from Venice, Jewish civilization is recorded and preserved.

Digitized images include Meir Jaffe's illuminations of the First Cincinnati Haggadah, dating from the end of the 15th century; the 17th-century Yizkor Book of the Chinese Jewish community of Kaifeng; the Ibn Musa Bible of 1475, bound in one of only six known medieval Hebrew box bindings; and the Hebrew translation of the Epistle to the Hebrews made by Richard Bruarne, second regius professor of Hebrew at Oxford, and presented as a gift to Henry VIII.

Learn about new books

MyJewishBooks.com, www.myjewishbooks.com, offers monthly looks at Jewish books of interest. In addition, the site contains pages featuring the upcoming books for the next season. This section is updated four times a year. Also available are links to other sites of Jewish interest.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of PWC Estate, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/13/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 450 Plaza Dr., Vestal, NY 13850. 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 KW Fitness Vestal, LLC.
2. The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 22, 2019.
3. The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
4. The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 3032 Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850.
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: Binghamton Northside Development Group, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was May 24, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Attn: Robert J. Pornbeck, 132 Prospect Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: 252 Chenango Street Management, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was May 24, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Attn: Robert J. Pornbeck, 132 Prospect Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

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Exhibit at Museum for Islamic Art features Jewish jewelers from the Arab world

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS) – The Museum for Islamic Art in Jerusalem, with a mission of promoting interfaith dialogue, has opened a “past and present” jewelry exhibit featuring a section that highlights the Jewish amuletic jewelry in the communities of the Islamic world.

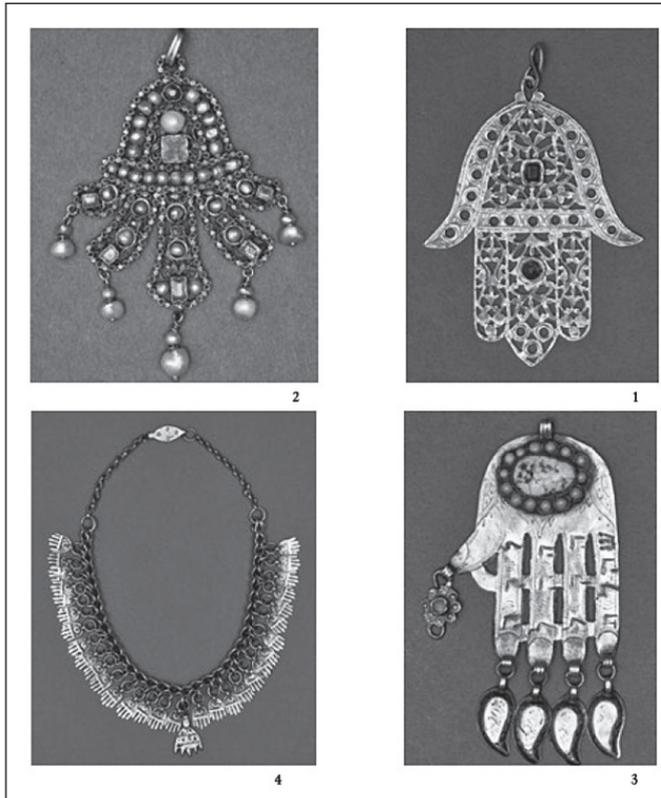
According to its director, Idit Sharon, the museum serves as a multicultural bridge between the different streams of Israeli society, Arabs and Jews, while furthering dialogue based on tolerance, mutual respect and equality. “In Jerusalem, there is a lot of conflict and high levels of tension, so our mission is to represent dialogue between the religions in Jerusalem,” she told JNS. “Our mission in the museum is to create the opportunity to foster relations between the societies in Israel and dialogue between old and new. We hope to use art as a tool for enjoyment, change and open-mindedness.”

The newly opened exhibition is an example of this, presenting amulets made by Jewish designers living in the Arab world. Along with the amuletic jewelry, the exhibit includes European Jewish ceremonial objects, like a Sabbath lamp, a wine goblet and spice boxes.

The objects, together with the faith they represent of the people who believed in their efficacy, are a gateway into the origins of the Mizrahi populations of Israel and their cultural relationship to their Muslim neighbors.

Judaica collector William Gross, who collaborated with the museum on the exhibit, offered his take on the pieces, noting that Jewish amuletic jewelry has forms and styles “often closely related to similar objects in the surrounding Muslim culture.” For example, he described, the *hamsah*, an element against the evil eye, originated in jewelry in the 12th century among both Muslims and Jews, and continued to be used by both groups.

Gross noted that in their form and craftsmanship, “the folk art of Jews and Muslims was strikingly similar.” However, he said, “the magical power of Jewish amulets in Islamic lands lay in the names and formulas inscribed in



Hamsa'ot on display at the Museum for Islamic Art. (Photo courtesy of the Museum for Islamic Art)

them which were taken from practical Kabbalah (mystical Judaism). Sometimes the same object, without text, appears in both cultures, as in Morocco. In other cases, while the form is the same, inscriptions in Hebrew or Arabic differentiate the users.”

For example, a Tunisian hair ornament worn at Jewish celebrations, which is on display in the museum, has two Hebrew letters inscribed, meaning “a good sign.” From Iran is a large pendant with engraved protective “names” – around the perimeter is the 42-letter “name” formed from the initial letters of the 42 words of the prayer “Ana Be-koach.” Several other inscribed amuletic formulas appear, such as the names of the three angels, the 22-letter name and several others formed from abbreviated sections of biblical text for general protection. Lifting the front cover reveals a mirror to reflect the evil eye back onto anyone directing it toward the bride.

A Tunisian necklace on display, made from gilded silver, includes four filigree *hamsahs* placed along the length of the necklace to convey protection from the evil eye. Hung at the bottom center is a fish symbol for fertility. The filigree elements are attached to chains of flattened

rings called *recannah*, a trademark of skilled Jewish goldsmiths in Tunisia.

A fertility amulet from the Caucasus, executed in the form of a fish with niello metal work, has an inscribed Tetragrammaton with the letters on the dangling round elements forming the word *argaman*, a name made up of the initial letters of five angels: Uriel, Raphael, Gabriel, Michael and Nuriel.

Explaining how these pieces reflect Jewish life in the Arab world, Sharon said, “Jewish gold and silversmiths made jewelry for all parts of society from the 17th to 19th centuries in Morocco, Iran, Algeria, Iraq, Tunisia, Yemen, Ethiopia and India. During this time, most jewelers in the Arab world were Jewish, and the time was characterized by good economic relations between Jews and their Arab neighbors. Through the jewelry, one can witness the relationship between Jewish and Arab artists’ dialogue in art.”

According to Sharon, the fact that Jews and Muslims used shared symbols in their work exists until today. “Jewelry-making is a language that is universal and brings people together,” she said.

For this exhibition, the museum commissioned local artists and jewelers to select a piece from the museum’s collection and create their own contemporary interpretation of these historic pieces for the exhibition. Doing so offered a new lens of modern Israeli interpretations with which to view the collection. The modern pieces are presented alongside historic Jewish, Islamic and Christian jewelry from throughout the ages. Also on exhibit are pieces of Israeli singer Ofra Haza’s jewelry and Bedouin jewelry from artists in the St. Catherine’s Monastery Region of the Sinai.

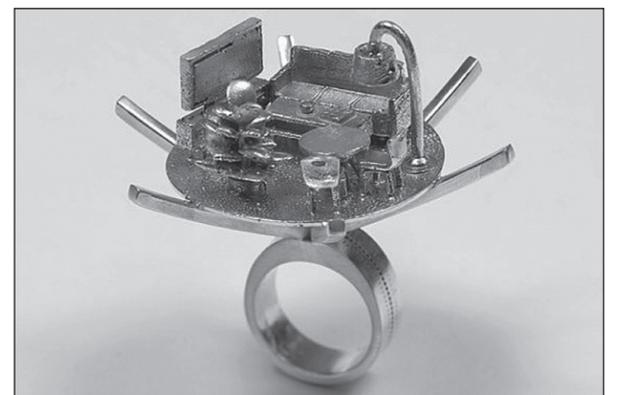
Inbar Shahak, who made one of the contemporary pieces on display, was interested in a ring from southern Morocco, topped by the form of a house with a pointed roof. Using a 3D printer, she created a similar ring that she says “raises questions about the contemporary home.”

“Our home is supposed to protect us, so I wanted to take the protection of our home out during the day. In contemporary times, when we go outside of our home, we talk about it. We should be proud of the home we carry, as we carry our culture with us,” she told JNS.

“Everything I do today is because my grandmother taught me to sew,” said Shahak, whose grandparents, originally from Turkey and Bulgaria, immigrated to Israel.

Other modern pieces in the exhibit include commentary on the #MeToo movement, silencing of women and the transformation of a man in the Arab world.

“Contemporary works create dialogue,” said Sharon. “Jewelry from the dawn of man is something that has interested people and, in addition, it reflects society.”



A piece of jewelry by Inbar-Shahak. (Photo courtesy of the Museum for Islamic Art)



An exhibit featured Jewish jewelry from the Islamic world. (Photo courtesy of the Museum for Islamic Art)

Record..... Continued from page 2

falling just two short of the magic number of 60. Though some fans felt he was cheated of the chance to break the record by pitchers who refused to pitch to him because they didn’t want a Jew to surpass the beloved Babe, Greenberg always modestly dismissed those claims.

Braun’s ability to catch him on the leaderboard was only due to the fact that Greenberg lost four-and-a-half seasons of his career due to World War II. Greenberg was the first Major Leaguer to be drafted more than a year before the United States entered the war. But after doing a year in uniform, he volunteered to go back after the attack on Pearl Harbor, serving as an officer in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the China/Burma/India Theater of operations before returning home to resume his career.

Greenberg was important to Jews in a way that Braun could never be now because his was an era of rampant antisemitism in which Jewish kids truly needed a hero. His willingness to stand up and identify publicly as a Jew despite the antisemitic smears constantly thrown in his direction by fans and rival players alike demonstrated his courage. The same was true when he refused to play in a big game on Yom Kippur and instead went to synagogue. That made him an inspiration to Jews, whether or not they cared about baseball. The same is true of Koufax a generation

later, who, like Greenberg, wasn’t particularly religious, but chose not to pitch in the first game of the 1965 World Series because it fell on the Day of Atonement.

By contrast, Braun always plays on Jewish holidays. Just as Greenberg symbolizes the “greatest generation” that fought in World War II, Braun is a typical assimilated American Jew of the 21st century whose ties to tradition are tenuous, with their Jewish heritage having no impact on the choices they make in their personal lives.

When Greenberg played ball, Jews struggled for acceptance in every sector of American society. Today, despite the continued virulence of the antisemitic virus, Jews are accepted everywhere in America. Braun is nobody’s idea of a hero, but, if we prefer to think about other, more exemplary Jewish players, such as the Houston Astros’ Alex Bregman, we don’t really need them anymore in the way we once did. The symbolism of Greenberg’s achievement, coupled with his dignity and his courage, couldn’t be matched by anything a ballplayer may do in our own time.

Until someone else eventually breaks it, the Jewish home-run record is Braun’s. Yet in a real sense, it will always belong to Greenberg.

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

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FAMILY LIVING

Babies bounce into community families



Abraham Auerbach



Zelda Nina Decker-Johnson



Micah Preston Garbo



Solomon Ross Haas



Sivan Adali Levine

Information was supplied by area synagogues:

Abraham Auerbach
Born: December 6, 2018
Parents: Nicki and Josh Auerbach
Grandparents: Sima and Neil Auerbach, and Sandy and Steve Paufve

Talia Ella Brann
Parents: Leah Prandi-Abrams and Allon Brann
Gila Butler
Parents: Beth Daskin and Daniel Butler

Colette Ruby Colbert
Parents: Julie Kestenman and Ryan Colbert
Grandparents: Thomas Colbert and Loren Klausner Colbert

Ella Garner Corriel
Parents: Sara Garner and Sean Corriel
Grandparents: Susan Lustick and Lowell Garner

Ezra John Dallas
Born: December 30, 2018
Parents: Alyssa and Matthew Dallas
Grandparents: Victoria and Elliot Niman

Ava Kibbe Darfler
Parents: Ben and Caitlin Darfler
Grandparents: Marlaine and Richard Darfler

Madeleine Jaye Davis
Parents: Andrew and Allison Davis
Grandparents: Beth and Jerrold Davis

Zelda Nina Decker-Johnson
Born: December 11, 2018
Parents: Dr. Jarred M. Johnson and Dr. Francesca I. Decker
Grandparent: Carol A. Rosen, Ruben Rogers, and John and Noriko Decker

Great-grandparents: Peggy Johnson and Glen Decker
Micah Preston Garbo
Born: September 5, 2018
Parent: Rebecca Garbo

Grandparents: Linda and Charles Garbo
Solomon Ross Haas
Born: January 10, 2019
Parents: Jarred and Jacklyn Haas
Grandparents: Robin and Don Haas

Cole Jeffrey Hartman
Parents: Dr. Kerri Aronson and Dr. Christopher Hartman
Grandparents: Naomi and Hayes Aronson

Quinn Chen Janis
Grandparents: Rhoda and Ralph Janis

Cooper Lake
Parents: Samantha and Kyle Lake
Grandparents: Marci and David Goodwin
Great-grandparent: Fern Sternberg

Cole Lavine
Parents: Jaclyn and Sander Lavine



Sivan Adali Levine
Born: May 17, 2019
Parents: Shantel Waldvogel and Paul Levine
Grandparents: Wendy Fisher, Shane Waldvogel and Renee Levine

Great-grandparents: Rick and Linda Waldvogel
Gideon Allan Lewenstein
Parents: Joel Lewenstein and Nicole Allan
Grandparents: Claudia Voss and Bruce Lewenstein

Micah Mellander
Parents: Karl Mellander and Lauren McKown Mellander

Cameron King Ofria
Parent: Courtney and Jonathan Ofria
Grandparents: Lynne Donalson and Charles Brummer
Great-grandmother: Ada Brummer

Alexander Daniel Pollack
Parents: Adam and Annie Pollack
Grandparents: Rachele and Brad Pollack

Ari Benjamin Preus
Born: July 6, 2018
Parents: Anna Binstock and Alexander Preus
Grandparents: Tony Preus and Merri Pell-Preus, and Stuart Binstock and Debbie Berlyn

Great-grandmother: Shirley Berger
Raphael Grant Radin
Born: March 6, 2019
Parents: Dr. Matthew Grant and Dr. Joanna Radin
Grandparents: Dr. Ron and Lesley Grant, and Ted and Laura Radin

Great-grandmother: Inge Verstandig
Addison Lynn Rattmann
Born: April 28, 2019
Parents: Jay and Kristy Rattmann
Grandparents: Jeff and Marilyn Strosberg

Oscar Benny Rosenberg
Born: August 4, 2018
Parents: Eric and Barrie Rosenberg
Grandparents: Louis and Maxine Rosenberg, and Michael and Ann Rosen

Jacob Emmett Rosman
Parents: Stacey and Scott Rosman

Austin Charlie Schnitzer
Born: January 8, 2019
Parents: Lindsay Shaw and Ari Schnitzer
Grandparents: Annette and Barry Shaw

Ya'ari Noam Szamet
Parents: Nadine and Gideon Szamet
Grandparents: Linda Aigen and David Weiner

George Quintus Szekely
Parents: Lauren and Ben Szekely
Grandparents: Yoram and Beatrice Szekely

Eleanor Jane Vavalle
Parents: Heather and Nicholas Vavalle
Grandparents: Sandy and Anthony Vavalle

Stella Bea Walley
Born: May 15, 2019
Parents: Jonathan and Rebecca Walley
Grandparents: Jeff and Marilyn Strosberg

Asher Isaac Weiner
Parents: Melissa and Walter Weiner

Skylar Lily Weiner
Parents: Melissa and Walter Weiner

Nathaniel Aaron Young
December 13, 2017
Parents: Sarah Strano and Joshua Young
Grandparents: Joseph Strano and Debbie Greenberg-Strano



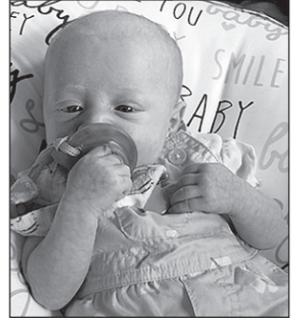
Cameron King Ofria



Ari Benjamin Preus



Raphael Grant Radin



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FAMILY LIVING

Help your kid say no to underage drinking

(NAPSI) - How do you prepare your child with the knowledge, skills and confidence to say no to alcohol? The task can seem challenging, but you as a parent or caregiver do not have to feel powerless. You can take action to help your child make healthy decisions that prevent underage drinking.

While the rates are declining, alcohol is the most widely misused substance among America's youth and underage drinking remains a serious concern in the U.S. The 2016 Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking finds that youth start drinking at an early age. Although the peak years of underage drinking happen from seventh to 11th grade, 10 percent of 9- to 10-year-olds have already started drinking and nearly one-fifth of underage drinkers begin before age 13.

The report also finds that any alcohol use can have serious consequences for young people. It contributes to risky sexual behavior, and increases the risk of suicide and using other drugs. It can negatively impact brain development, which can have lifelong effects. It can increase the risk for heavy drinking later in life. And underage drinking can result in arrest or, worse yet, death from drunk driving or alcohol poisoning.

So what's behind this issue? There are many reasons young people are tempted to drink, including peer pressure. Underage drinking typically happens in a group, and for adolescents the desire to fit in is powerful. Other risk factors include having a history of social and emotional problems, such as depression, and a family history of substance abuse. Trying to cope with difficult life transitions, such as divorce in the family or moving from middle to high school, can also trigger underage drinking.

The first-ever Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health shows how parents are a leading influence in a child's decision about whether to drink.

How Parents Can Help

1. Be a positive role model. Children learn from observing and that starts at home. Don't let your child see you misuse alcohol or drugs, and get help if you think you have a substance use problem. Even if you have misused drugs or alcohol in the past, you can still have an open conversation about their dangers and the reasons to stay away from them. In addition, keep temptation away by safeguarding alcohol and medications at home so they are not accessible to your child.

2. Strengthen family bonds. Be involved in your child's life and spend more time together. Show interest in your child's activities and plan ones you can do together based on their interests, such as attending sports games or having family movie or game nights. Know your child's daily routine in and out. Get to know your child's friends and friends' parents, so you can share your rules about not allowing any form of alcohol or substance use.

3. Encourage your child to get involved in extracurricular activities. In the same way, support your child's involvement in school clubs, such as debate or yearbook, team sports or other outside interests. Doing so will help build your child's confidence, respect, leadership, sportsmanship and ability to work with others. Also, keeping your child engaged in positive activities helps avoid the chance that idle time is filled with potentially dangerous behavior.

4. Balance your child's independence with safe boundaries. Provide daily encouragement to your child to boost self-esteem and confidence. Find ways for your child to have more responsibility in family life, such as doing chores or caring for a younger sibling. Set clear expectations, including about alcohol and drug use. Create a pledge between you and your child that commits your child to not drink or use drugs.

5. Talk to your children regularly about alcohol. Young people are more likely to listen when they know you're on

their side. Try to reinforce why you don't want your child to drink - not just because you say so but because you want them to be happy and safe. The conversation will go a lot better if you're working with, and not against, your child. Keep it low key. Don't worry about getting everything across in one talk. Many small talks are better.

Help for Parents

If you are worried your child may be involved with alcohol or drugs, it's important to seek professional guidance. Your pediatrician can be a first-stop resource.

There are also many online resources to help you better understand the issue of underage drinking and talk to and encourage your kid to stay away from alcohol. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has underage drinking prevention resources specifically for parents and caregivers at www.samhsa.gov/underage-drinking. This includes access to SAMHSA's free app for parents called "Talk. They Hear You" to help prepare you to talk to your kid about underage drinking through practice drills.

By being proactive and following the suggestions described here, you can help strengthen your child's resistance to alcohol. Take the first step by making the commitment to talk together today.



Austin Charlie Schnitzer



Stella Bea Walley



Nathaniel Aaron Young

Choosing the right caregiver for your parents

(NAPSI) - According to Pew Research, every day, 10,000 Americans turn 65 years old. And that will continue for the next 12 years, reaching 18 percent of the population by 2030. Americans 85 and older will triple in population by 2050.

With a rapidly aging population living longer than past generations, caregivers are in high demand. A cost of care study by Genworth forecasts that there will be a shortage of more than three million home care aides in the next decade. To meet this demand, over the years there has been an explosion of home care franchises and independent home care agencies across the country. Yet, as many families discover, finding the right caregiver to meet your family's specific needs can be a challenge.

One firm looking to solve the caregiver gap is a San Francisco-based company focused on modernizing and improving home care for older adults. Through its Honor Care Network, the company partners with home care agencies in multiple states, making quality care more accessible to more families. The firm suggests five things that families should consider when hiring a caregiver to ensure a safe and optimal care experience for their parents or loved ones:

1. *How do you screen your caregivers for safety?* A responsible, credible home care agency in California, for example, conducts a thorough screening and background check of its caregivers before sending them into a client's home. In addition to Home Care Aide mandated certification and Department of Justice fingerprinting and background checks, the best home care agencies go further by screening for DMV driving records, drug testing and abiding by strict minimum-age requirements.

2. *How do you train your caregivers and verify their skills?* Caregivers should have a solid foundation of training, such as how to use mechanical lifting equipment, basic

knowledge of how to support clients living with Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease, and how to assist with daily living activities such as bathing, grooming and hygiene. Also ask if the caregivers are tested on scenario-based skills and if

any personality tests are conducted to check for temperament under stress or condition-related situations, such as "sundowning."

3. *What is your performance record for on-time arrivals and no-shows? How promptly do you communicate schedule changes to your clients?* Ask the agency how it manages late arrivals and last-minute cancellations by caregivers. Does it

guarantee a replacement? How does it communicate with clients and how often? What is its policy if there's an ongoing tardiness issue?

See "Parents" on page 9



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FAMILY LIVING

Jewish parenting sites/blogs

By Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Even though I don't have any children, I find articles about child development fascinating. This may be partly because I love spending time with my friends' children. I'm the visitor who will read them as many books as they want (at least, while I still have a voice). When visiting friends on vacation, we normally followed their regular schedule: I've gone to parks, karate classes, music lessons and anything else normally planned for that time. Last year's visit to one friend was the first since she and her husband have become empty nesters. It took a minute to adjust to the idea that we could do whatever we wanted.

For those who still have young ones in the house, below are some Jewish parenting websites/blogs that may be of interest. Even if you don't learn something from them, you'll find folks who can sympathize with your parenting dilemmas and kvell with you about parenting joys.

◆ The best known Jewish parenting site may be Kvell, www.kvell.com. The site is for anyone raising Jewish children, whether Orthodox or secular, Jewish or non-Jewish. As the site notes, "Kvell is here to give you ideas you can run with - ideas for first-time parents, interfaith parents, queer parents, adoptive parents, and everything in between - with the hopes that you can find information and inspiration that is right for your family." Topic headings include "Jewish Culture," "Motherhood," "News," "Self,

"Pregnancy" and "Baby Names." Don't have time to check the site regularly? It will send you a newsletter with links to articles of interest.

◆ Jewish MOM (yes, she spells that in all caps), <http://jewishmom.com/blog/>, has a traditional slant. The author of the blog is Chana Jenny Weisberg, who is described as "a stay-home mother of eight children living in Jerusalem with her husband Rabbi Joshua Weisberg." Some of her recent essays include "That Summer I Became Frum," "The Mother Who Doesn't Nurse Her Baby" and "The Chabadnik at the LGBTQ Pride Parade."

◆ Two sites feature mothers who are also rabbis: Ima on and off the *Bima*, <http://imabima.blogspot.com/>, and Rabbi Mom, <http://rabbimom.com/blog/>. Although neither writer has posted often in 2019, older essays may still be of interest. The first site is written by Rabbi Phyllis A. Sommer, who says, "I try to write about my family and our real-life Jewish living." The second site is written by Rabbi Danielle Eskow, who is also the co-founder and CEO of Online Jewish Learning, <https://onlinejewishlearning.com/>. She views her site as "a place to talk about parenting through a Jewish lens."

◆ www.interfaithfamily.com contains information for "interfaith families who are exploring Jewish life." In addition to general information, parent resources can be found at www.interfaithfamily.com/relationships/parenting/.

Their suggestions may also be helpful for families with two Jewish parents.

◆ Need a creative outlet when parenting your children? Creative Jewish Mom, www.creativejewishmom.com/, features information about kid's crafts, recycling crafts, crochet, DIY costumes, Jewish crafts and life in Israel. There is little information about the author of the blog, Sara Rivka, but she notes that the blog is her way "of sharing with you all the ways I cultivate joy" through her family and creative work.

◆ Although not really a parenting site, this one's name alone makes it deserve mention: Crazy Jewish Mom, www.crazy-jewishmom.com. The blog is written by two women who are described as "Kate Siegel, *New York Times* bestselling author, and spawn of the most neurotic mother on the planet, Kim Friedman, started posting hilarious screenshots of texts with her crazy (but lovable) mother on Instagram in November of 2014." Their "Ask Mom and Spawn" essays answer a wide variety of questions (and not just about parenting).

In the ever developing and changing world of the Internet, these are just a few of the sites that people can visit. Some sites that were recommended last year in newspaper articles are already defunct and others are probably beginning even as I type this. If anyone has other parenting sites they love, write to *The Reporter* at treporter@aol.com with "parenting sites" in the subject line so I can do an update.

Make no mistake – play is crucial, experts say

(NAPSI) – While most kids score an "A" in play, many parents need to understand just how crucial play is for their children's development. That's the consensus experts share in "The American State of Play" report published by The Genius of Play™, a national movement to raise awareness of play's vital benefits.

"The latest research shows that children are spending less time playing than ever before and it's a problem," says Dana Points, a parenting expert and one of the report's contributors. "Play is one of the most essential elements of learning, helping kids develop social, emotional and cognitive skills. Yet overly structured schedules, increased screen time and diminishing recesses in schools are getting in the way."

To help your child learn, explore, create and evolve through play, check out these tips from TheGeniusofPlay.org:

- ◆ Engage in All Types of Play – Kids learn through all play, but not all play must be structured and not all play is the same. Kids may take part in active, cooperative, creative, even solitary play in a single afternoon, with and without actual toys.



- ◆ Use Play as a Learning Tool – Enrolling children in a program to learn a skill is not the same as just letting kids play. The pressure parents feel to make sure their kids are getting the best training can be counterproductive to the positive emotional, social and skill-based learning they get through play.

- ◆ Recognize the Power of Recess – Recess helps kids learn. Research shows that children are more attentive after recess.

- ◆ Trust Your Kids, Within Boundaries – Teach kids problem-solving skills to help them make better decisions and then set certain parameters in terms of knowing where they are,

giving them space and trusting their judgment. That's how kids learn independence, competence and confidence they need for success in life.

- ◆ Guide Children's Tech Use – Give kids time to explore virtual worlds and tech-based play, but set limits, just as you do with everything else. Parents can be role models in how to use technology in a responsible way.

- ◆ Let Kids Lead the Way – Parents learn much more from children when they interact and play with them on their terms. Just being present can play a significant role.



Helping your pet survive an emergency

(NAPSI) – If you're like many pet parents, it's probably crossed your mind lately about what would happen to your animal if a natural disaster strikes. The experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer this advice: Make a plan and prepare a disaster kit for your pet. This can help make things safer for you, your pet and any first responders.

Make a Plan

1. Find out what shelters and assistance are available to accommodate pets.
2. Microchip your pets and register the microchip with the manufacturer.
3. Get a pet carrier for each of your pets and put his or her name, your name and contact information on it.
4. If you'll be sheltering at home with your pet, find an interior room with few or no windows and make sure it's pet friendly.

Make a Kit

The experts on animal care at Henry Schein Animal Health have these suggestions to help you create an emergency first aid kit for your pet. Kits should include a book on animal first-aid; your pet's medical records; contact information for your veterinarian and a friend or family member familiar with your pet; a spare leash and collar; food and water for at least two weeks; food and water bowls, and a manual can opener; prescribed medication; dog waste bag, paper towels, antibacterial soap, cat litter box and litter; a blanket; flashlight; and pet toys and bed (familiar items can help pets feel more comfortable).

Kits should also include the following medical supplies: gauze rolls and pads, adhesive tape, scissors, antiseptics, cotton balls, instant ice pack, saline solution, milk of magnesia, activated charcoal, anti-diarrheal pills, flea and tick medicine, sedatives, artificial tear solution, anti-itch cream, water-based sterile lubricant, animal bug spray, styptic pencil, rubbing alcohol, Epsom salts, thermometer, tick remover, tweezers, nail clippers, needle-nose pliers, a syringe and eyedroppers.

You should also include a current photo of your pet, as well as a description of your pet, including age, sex, neuter status, colors and approximate weight.

Remember, injured pets may be scared, in pain or confused, and even the most gentle pet may bite or scratch. Try to stay calm, move slowly and handle your pet carefully. If possible, secure him or her in a carrier during transport.

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Summer camp serves as a bridge between young Israelis and Diaspora Jewry

By Rachel Moore

(JNS) – Kibbutz Shfayim is simply gorgeous. With palm trees and Hebrew signs everywhere, it doesn't have the feel of an American summer camp.

Yet somehow, with enough American camp staff, small bunk-like guest houses and goofy ice-breaker games being conducted in circles all over the lawn, it's actually quite easy to feel transported. Throw in a performance by Rick Recht teaching American-accented Hebrew words in song on a stage, and it really feels like you have been beamed over to any one of the 206 American camps that bring in Israelis to work as camp counselors through the "Camp Shlichim" program.

The Camp Shlichim program, run by the Jewish Agency for Israel, facilitates a mutually beneficial cultural exchange between Israeli and Diaspora Jews. *shlichim* ("emissaries") are Israeli young adults who travel to North America to work in Jewish summer camps. They take part in camp life, sharing Jewish traditions, teaching about Israeli and Jewish culture, and serving as role models for Jewish campers. American staff work together with their Israeli counterparts.

The Jewish Agency hosts and facilitates several such training events throughout March and April for the 1,400 young adults who will leave in June for the United States. Each four-day-long training seminar consists of ice-breakers, simulation of the "American camp experience," introductions to the national staff, hearing from JAFI leadership and camp directors, learning about how to identify educational opportunities, how to work with children, and how to bring one's personal story and Israel's national story to the camp experience.



Jewish Agency Israeli Emissaries in training at Kibbutz Shfayim. The Jewish Agency for Israel hosts and facilitates several training events annually throughout March and April for the 1,400 young adults who left in June for the United States to work in Jewish summer camps as part of the Camp Shlichim cultural exchange program. (Photo by Talia Garber)

The seminar is also full of opportunities for participants to get to know each other and get excited about the summer. It is a project that demonstrates inter-organizational cooperation in the Jewish world at its best, bringing together the Jewish Agency for Israel, Young Judaea, the Union for Reform Judaism, the Ramah Camping Movement, Habonim Dror North America, the Association of Independent Jewish Camps and the JCC Association of North America.

The dedication of North American Jewish camp professionals to the *shlichim* program is demonstrated by the large number of American camp staff who fly to Israel

specifically for these training days. American camp professionals who attended were emphatic about the tremendously positive impact of including Israelis on their staff.

Tomer Moked, Israeli assistant director of Tamarack Camp Maas in Michigan, said, "Israelis bring a spice and a passion and an energy to camp. They have a strong work ethic, and camp benefits from their skills and maturity post-army."

The Foundation for Jewish Camp has long been an advocate for the J-1 Camp Counselor and Summer Work Travel program, which enable the *shlichim* cultural exchange to take place. Over the past two years, the status of the J-1 Visa has been in question in the United States, and FJC has worked closely with the American Camp Association to lobby for the protection of the program.

Jeremy J. Fingerman, CEO of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, said, "International staff, and particularly the Israeli *shlichim*, promote global Jewish peoplehood. These team members make an impact on our campers and counselors alike – broadening horizons, sharing cultures and adding new energy, languages and perspectives to our community. In particular, the presence of Israeli *shlichim* is essential to the mission of American Jewish camps in having a profound impact on young Jewish people by nurturing a strong personal connection to Israel in the next generation of Jewish leaders."

The participants mostly come to the program via word of mouth from alumni all over the country. They come primarily to "have fun and meet people."

In a room of Israelis from all parts of the country and exhibiting a wide range of ages, who were jumping up and down and clapping hands to a very American version

See "Camp" on page 11

FAMILY LIVING

Did you know?

◆ (NAPS) – The Hero Care App highlights the array of services the Red Cross offers members of the military, veterans and their families. To download it, search for American Red Cross in your app store, text GETHEROCARE to 90999 or go to www.redcross.org/apps.

◆ (NAPSA) – According to a recent survey conducted by The Harris Poll and commissioned by The Genius of Play™,

30 percent of parents with children under 18 aren't looking forward to school breaks because they find it difficult to keep their kids entertained. Get play ideas at TheGeniusofPlay.org.

◆ (NAPSA) – "KnowBullying," a free mobile app from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, offers tips for how to deal with bullies, work with schools on the issue and get mental health services. Learn more at www.samhsa.gov.

Parents Continued from page 7

4. *How do you manage caregiver performance?* Ask how the agency motivates caregivers to provide the best care and client experience. Does it value and know its caregivers' track record, and does it continually train caregivers to ensure it has the best talent? Assessing personality and chemistry with clients is also important.

5. *How do your caregivers communicate with each other about a client's condition during shift changes?* Your parent will likely have more than one caregiver to staff weekly schedules. Ask the agency how each caregiver is notified of a client's daily condition, how that information is communicated to other assigned caregivers to ensure seamless care, and how families are notified, how often and when.

Finding the right caregiver can be less stressful if you know the right questions to ask. Initiating a conversation at the start about what's most important to you in finding the right caregiver can make all the difference.

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Weekly Parasha

Korach, Numbers 16:1-18:32

How attuned listening could have saved Korach

RABBI SUZANNE BRODY, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING,
TEMPLE BETH-EL, ITHACA

Long summer Shabbats are a great opportunity to settle in the hammock or sit by the community pool with a book. My favorites are cozy mysteries and, occasionally, I find myself wishing I were as clever as the seemingly ordinary people (bakers, librarians, moms, seamstresses and others) who manage to solve complex crimes. Then I look up from the book and remember that I do, actually, spend a lot of my time as a detective. But, rather than solving murders and apprehending burglars, my detective work focuses on figuring out what is really bothering people and, occasionally, how I might help. Instead of using a magnifying glass and fingerprint powder, the biggest tool I have at my disposal is attuned listening.

The characters in this week's Torah drama would be a great set-up for one of the mysteries that I love so much, and my particular method of investigating might have drastically altered the story. Korach, Datan, Abiram and 250

chieftains "combined against Moses and Aaron and said to them, 'You have gone too far! For all the community are holy, all of them, and the Lord is in their midst. Why then do you raise yourselves above the Lord's congregation?'" (Numbers 16:3) In other words, an august body of powerful people challenge the leadership of the group. This verbal challenge then leads to a series of physical challenges and culminates in a dramatic and swift end for the challengers (the purported villains of the story).

At face value, it seems like a somewhat simple classic story. But, what was Korach's real complaint? The 16th century Italian rabbi, biblical commentator, philosopher and physician Sforno believed that Korach was very deliberately setting out to incite against Moses. He thought that Korach deliberately timed his confrontation so that it took place at a time when a number of Israelites had assembled in the vicinity of Moses waiting to have their

respective complaints adjudged. The 250 chieftains walked around as if minding their own business, but it was actually their intention to arouse the crowd in order to provide support for Korach's and his henchmen's insurrection as soon as the latter would show up and begin asking hostile questions of Moses and Aaron. They selected an hour of day when there was a sizable crowd in Moses' vicinity in order to reap the maximum benefit from that, and so that all those who were convinced of the validity of Korach's complaints would spread the word and bring reinforcements from the plain people in the camp. Sforno reads premeditation and planning into Korach's actions, which implies a long-standing animosity.

The medieval French commentator Rashi does not speculate on whether Korach has been holding a grudge against Moses for a long time or not, and is instead focused **See "Korach" on page 11**

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, July 6..... 9 am
..... Mincha after kiddush
Weekday Services:
Mornings:
Sun., July 7..... 8:30 am
Mon.-Fri., July 8-12..... 7 am
Evenings:
Sun.-Thurs., July 7-11..... 8:25 pm
Classes: Rabbi Zev Silber will hold his weekly Talmud class every Tuesday evening after services.

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.

Rohr Chabad Center

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

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
Phone: 607-756-7181
President: Louis Wilson, louiswilson1995@yahoo.com
Service leaders: Lay leadership
Shabbat services: Either Friday evening at 7:30 pm or Saturday at 10 am from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. Holiday services are also held. Check the weekly e-mail for upcoming services. Contact the president to get on the e-mail list.
Religious School: Students are educated on an individual basis.
Temple Brith Sholom is a small equalitarian congregation serving the greater Cortland community. Congregants span the gamut of observance and services are largely dependent on the service leader. The Friday night siddur is "Likrat Shabbat," while the Saturday morning siddur is "Gates of Prayer." The community extends a warm welcome to the Jewish student population of SUNY Cortland, as well as the residents of local adult residences.

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 5:15 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year unless otherwise noted.
On Friday, July 5, at 8 pm, there will be a Shabbat evening service in the library celebrating Independence Day led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell.
On Saturday, July 6, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.
On Friday, July 12, at 8 pm, there will be Shabbat services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and, at 8:45 pm, there will be Lights for Liberty: A Nationwide Vigil to End Human Detention Camps Gathering on the front lawn with a silent candlelight vigil at 9 pm. (See article on page 1.)
On Saturday, July 13, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.

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.

Congregation Tikun v'Or

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism
Address: PO Box 3981, Ithaca, NY 14852; 2550 Triphammer Rd. (corner of Triphammer and Burdick Hill), Lansing, NY
Phone: 607-256-1471
Website: www.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.

Kol Haverim

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

Friday, July 5, light candles before 8:24 pm
Saturday, July 6, Shabbat ends 9:24 pm
Friday, July 12, light candles before 8:21 pm
Saturday, July 13, Shabbat ends 9:21 pm

Temple Israel

Orientation: Conservative
Rabbi: Geoffrey Brown
Address: 4737 Deerfield Pl., Vestal, NY 13850
Phone: 723-7461 and 231-3746
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 am-4 pm; Fri. 8 am-3 pm
E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am
On Saturday, July 6, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Numbers 16:1-18:32. The haftarah will be I Samuel 11:14-12:22. Ben Kasper and Marcia Hofstein will sponsor the kiddush.
On Friday, July 12, at 6:30 pm, there will be Shabbat on the Road at Elderwood (formerly Brookdale Senior Living).
On Monday, July 15, at 7:30 pm, there will be a Ritual Committee meeting.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

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

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Rabbi: Scott L. Glass
Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
Phone: 273-5775
E-mail: rabbi@tbeithaca.org and secretary@tbeithaca.org
Website: www.tbeithaca.org
President: 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 Saturdays, July 13 and 27, and August 24 and 31, at 5 pm, Rabbi Scott Glass will continue to teach a Perek in the Pardes" class studying "Pirkei Avot, The Ethics of the Fathers."
On Thursday, July 18, at 6:30 pm, the TBE Arts Committee summer movie series will feature "Yoo Hoo Mrs. Goldberg" (USA 2009, 92 minutes). The movie is the life story of radio and television pioneer Gertrude Berg, the creator, star and writer of the hit sitcom "The Goldbergs." Her blend of comedy and social commentary—with Jewish characters at the center—was said to have endeared her to audiences and made her an American cultural icon. The public is invited to attend. Doors will open at 6:30 pm for refreshments and schmoozing, with the film starting at 7 pm. The cost is \$8 at the door (cash or check only). The movie will be shown at TBE through Israeli Films, National Center for Jewish Film and Outsider Pictures. (See article on page 1.)

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Israeli foreign minister visits Abu Dhabi

Israeli Foreign Minister Yisrael Katz visited Abu Dhabi the week of July 1 to participate in a U.N. climate conference, according to his office. However, Katz met with an unnamed "senior UAE official" to discuss "regional issues and relations between the countries," which currently do not have formal diplomatic relations. The meeting centered on "the need to deal with the Iranian threat related to the nuclear issue, missile development, Iran's support for terrorism in the region and the violence employed by Iran against the interests of the region," according to Katz's office. The visit came as the International Atomic Energy Agency announced on July 1 that Iran exceeded the uranium enrichment limit under the 2015 nuclear deal. The two officials also talked about improving economic ties, including in the sectors of energy, water, agriculture and high-tech - all part of Israel striving lately to expand relationships with regional players.

Ambassador Danon calls for sanctions worldwide on Iran

Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Danny Danon called for the international community to sanction Iran in response to the International Atomic Energy Agency announcing on Monday that the regime exceeded the uranium enrichment limit under the 2015 nuclear deal. Danon said that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "revealed last year that Iran never intended to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. Now, the regime just demonstrated it by enriching over [600 pounds] of uranium," referring to the maximum of low-enriched uranium allowed under the agreement. In April 2018, Netanyahu revealed that Israel had secretly obtained tens of thousands of pieces of documentation apparently demonstrating that "Iran is brazenly lying when it says it never had a nuclear-weapons program. The files prove that." Israel's Channel 13 reported on July 1 that Netanyahu said that Israel will reveal further evidence that Iran has lied about its nuclear initiative. While 660 pounds is not enough to produce a nuclear bomb, exceeding the limit is a sign of Iran appearing to disregard the 2015 accord, which the United States withdrew from in May 2018, in addition to reimposing sanctions lifted under it alongside enacting new penalties against Tehran. Moreover, "If any one of the European parties to the deal—Britain, France and Germany - believe Iran has violated the agreement, they can trigger a dispute resolution process that could, within as few as 65 days, end at the U.N. Security Council with a so-called snapback of U.N. sanctions on Iran," reported Reuters. "The world must join the U.S. in sanctioning Iran for this belligerent behavior," added Danon. "It can never be allowed to acquire nuclear capabilities."

Residents of Israel's south mull formal U.N. complaint against Hamas

Representatives of Israeli regional councils near the Gaza border are looking into the legal requirements for issuing an independent appeal to the United Nations against Hamas, after suffering some 100 fires in the last week of June sparked by incendiary balloons launched from the Gaza Strip. According to a report by Israel's Channel 12, residents of the region are outraged by the barrage of airborne incendiary devices, and discouraged by the lack of reaction and support on the part of the Israeli government. The residents asserted that no government officials have come to show support in the area or meet with regional council heads to provide aid or solutions. Israel has recently eased restrictions on Gaza, despite cessation of incendiary balloon launches being a condition of the cease-fire sealed between Israel and Hamas in May. In another truce renewal, on June 20, Israel extended the Gaza fishing zone to 15 nautical miles, agreed to return 60 confiscated boats and will resume fuel deliveries to the coastal enclave, with a reported shipment of four trucks bringing more than 150,000 liters of fuel into Gaza. Israel had stopped the fuel shipments on June 25 due to the arson attacks.

Jewish Community Center

JCC Friendship Club

The JCC Friendship Club met on June 26 and played Bingo. Sue Herzog brought in a Bingo set and prizes. She called out the numbers and Ann Brilliant was the winner of the first game. After a few others won games, we had a birthday party for Sylvia Diamond. Sue brought an ice cream cake and put a few birthday candles on it for Sylvia to make a wish and blow out the candles. The ice cream cake was delicious.

The meeting was called to order by Sylvia. After the Pledge of Allegiance Sue gave the treasurer's report. Sylvia brought in a paper of George Carlin's view on aging. To summarize it, he said, "You become 21, you turn 30, then you're pushing 40, reach 50 and make it to 60, you hit 70, you get into your 80s. In the 90s you go backwards. If you make it over 100, you become a kid again."

The week before, we went to the Senior Picnic at SUNY Broome. We ate lunch there. Then Sue, Ada and Sylvia went to listen to the music and watch people on the dance floor. Sylvia went to greet someone she knew and ended up dancing. We all had a good time.

The program on July 10 will be a discussion of an article. Come join us at 1:30 pm at the JCC.

Sylvia Diamond President



At right: Sylvia Diamond danced up a storm with Arslan Kachadmirian when the JCC Friendship Club attended the Office for Aging Senior Picnic at SUNY Broome.

Korach. Continued from page 10

more on Korach's actual complaint than on the set-up. He contended that Korach's complaint was that Moses set himself up as too powerful, too much better than everyone else. And since God told all of us that we are holy, Moses' claim to power was made with no real good reason. By this reading, Rashi's interpretation of events shows Korach in a much more compassionate light. His grievance against Moses seems reasonable in light of his (Korach's) understanding of God's pronouncement. Others have expanded upon Korach's words, adding: "If you have taken royal rank for yourself, you should at least not have chosen the priesthood for your brother - it is not you alone who have heard at Sinai: 'I am the Lord thy God,' all the congregation heard it!" (Midrash Tanchuma, Korach 4)

Clearly, no matter how one interprets these passages, Korach is upset with the current leadership. However, if Moses or Aaron, or even one of their supporters, had paused for a moment to be a bit of a detective and practice attuned listening, the rest of the story might have turned out quite differently. With attuned listening, Moses would not have heard Korach's words through his own emotional, reactive filter (the one that caused him to fall on his face in response

to Korach's challenge). Instead, he would have paused, recognized how Korach's words and actions were making him feel, then set that aside in order to be able to delve deeper into Korach's perspective and motivations. Moses (and his followers) would have reflected Korach's words back to him, and would have asked follow-up questions as needed to learn what he and his followers were thinking and feeling. Were they upset by something specific that Moses did? Were they looking for recognition of their own value? Were they feeling more hurt or more angry? Did they want a bigger leadership role? What would have helped them to be productive, positive members of the community? Perhaps if Moses had been able to engage with Korach in an open, receptive, non-threatened manner, he would not have risen from the ground and immediately started issuing a series of commands (Numbers 16:6) and parameters for the show-down that ended with Korach and his followers being swallowed up by the earth.

If we, unlike Moses, are able to practice attuned listening, we might find ourselves with a more compassionate, understanding of leadership, and some successful experience as detectives as a bonus.

Camp. Continued from page 9

of "Hinei Ma Tov," JAFI Chairman Isaac Herzog brought this point home: "You are going on this adventure to give American campers a taste of Israel, as ambassadors of Israel, to give them a sense of what Israel is like. But you are coming back as ambassadors to Israel. To bring some of the unique vibrancy of the American Jewish experience back to Israel."

In the wake of this year's General Assembly theme, "Let's Talk," there are many efforts to find ways to bridge the widening gap of culture and understanding between Israel and Diaspora Judaism. The shlichim program is one of those initiatives. By working directly with young adults, it catches Israeli and Americans at a time in their lives when they are often open to new ideas and cultures. It's an investment in the next generation of Israeli and Diaspora Jews in conversation together.

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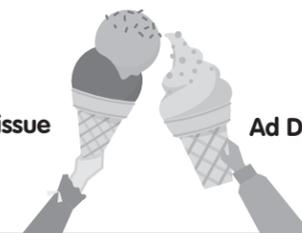
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NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Academics pen letter to U.S. Holocaust museum, seek retraction of condemnation of Ocasio-Cortez analogy

More than 140 academics wrote an open letter to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, calling for the retraction of its condemnation of U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) saying in an Instagram video that the United States is “running concentration camps on our southern border,” in reference to the Trump administration’s policies regarding illegal immigrants. “We are deeply concerned about the Museum’s recent ‘Statement Regarding the Museum’s Position on Holocaust Analogies,’” stated the letter sent on July 1 to museum Director Sara Bloomfield, which was published in The New York Review of Books. “We write this public letter to urge its retraction.” The USHMM posted on its website the week of June 28 that it “unequivocally rejects efforts to create analogies between the Holocaust and other events, whether historical or contemporary. That position has repeatedly and unambiguously been made clear in the Museum’s official statement on the matter – a statement that is reiterated and reaffirmed now. ...The Museum further reiterates that a statement ascribed to a Museum staff historian regarding recent attempts to analogize the situation on the United States southern border to concentration camps in Europe during the 1930s and 1940s does not reflect the position of the Museum,” it continued. “The Museum deeply regrets any offense to Holocaust survivors and others that may have been engendered by any statement ascribed to a Museum historian

in a personal capacity.” In response, the letter by academics stated that “scholars in the humanities and social sciences rely on careful and responsible analysis, contextualization, comparison and argumentation to answer questions about the past and the present. By ‘unequivocally rejecting efforts to create analogies between the Holocaust and other events, whether historical or contemporary,’ the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is taking a radical position that is far removed from mainstream scholarship on the Holocaust and genocide. And it makes learning from the past almost impossible.” The letter went on to warn that the museum could lose its credibility by releasing the statement it did. “The Museum’s decision to completely reject drawing any possible analogies to the Holocaust, or to the events leading up to it, is fundamentally ahistorical,” it stated. “It has the potential to inflict severe damage on the Museum’s ability to continue its role as a credible, leading global institution dedicated to Holocaust memory, Holocaust education, and research in the field of Holocaust and genocide studies. ...The very core of Holocaust education is to alert the public to dangerous developments that facilitate human-rights violations and pain and suffering; pointing to similarities across time and space is essential for this task.” The USMM did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Fatah members threaten to “hunt down” Bahrain conference participants

(MEMRI via JNS) – A video posted online during the “Peace to Prosperity” conference in Bahrain the week of June 26 features a statement by a group of armed and masked Fatah members from the town of Yamoun in the West Bank. The men warn against “interacting and cooperating with the leaders of the Zionist entity,” especially in its “economic enterprises.” They go on to say that they will strike with “an iron fist the necks of anyone” who sells out the Palestinian rights and anyone who participates in the Bahrain workshop. Those who attend the workshop, they say, have “opened the gates of Hell on themselves.” The Fatah members evoke the memory of the Black September organization and pledge that “Fatah’s gun is certainly capable of roaming the capitals of the world once again, in order to hunt down every single traitor and collaborator, and those engaged in normalization [of relations with Israel].” The Fatah members warn the “treacherous scoundrels among the Arab rulers” against cooperation with Israel as well.

Report: Trade between Iran and Germany collapses under U.S. sanctions

Trade between Iran and Germany has collapsed due to U.S. sanctions against Tehran, according to data published by Funke newspapers, Germany’s third largest newspaper and magazine publisher. “Data from the German Chamber of Commerce showed that trade volumes between Iran and Europe’s largest economy were down 49 percent over the first four months of the year compared to the same period in 2018, with volumes continually declining,” reported Reuters. The fall is valued at more than \$602.27 million. While Germany has sanctioned Iranian airline Mahan Air, it has taken favorable steps towards the Islamic Republic. It helped create the Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges, or Instex, a financial mechanism, to evade U.S. economic penalties on Tehran.

Jack Hughes becomes first Jewish player to be first overall pick in NHL draft

Jack Hughes became the first Jewish player to be the No. 1 overall pick in the National Hockey League draft. Hughes, 18, was selected on June 21 by the New Jersey Devils. He comes from a family of hockey players: His father, Jim, who is Catholic, was a defenseman at Providence College and a coach; his mother, Ellen, who is Jewish, played for Team USA at the IIHF World Women’s Ice-Hockey Championship in 1992, losing to Canada in the final. Hughes’s older brother, Quinn, was the No. 7 pick last year by the Vancouver Canucks. Their 15-year-old brother, Luke, 15, is apparently following in their steps and will be eligible for the 2021 draft. As for comments on their Jewish upbringing: “We did Passover when we were younger,” Hughes said on ESPN Radio on June 24.

HBO to screen series about events leading to 2014 summer war with Gaza

HBO will feature a 10-part series about the events leading to the 2014 war with Gaza called “Our Boys,” a reference to Jewish teenagers Gilad Shaar, 16; Eyal Yifrach, 19; and Naftali Frankel, 16, who were kidnapped June 12, 2014, on their way home and subsequently murdered. Their bodies were discovered after a massive manhunt weeks later, on June 30, in Hebron. It was later discovered that they had been captured by Hamas and shot dead shortly after the abduction. Israel launched the war, called “Operation Protective Edge” by the IDF, on July 8 in response to rockets being fired from Hamas-controlled Gaza. It lasted until Aug 26. On Sept. 23, after Israel killed two suspects, Marwan Qawasmeh and Amar Abu-Isa (aka Amer Abu Aysha) in a shootout, Israel Defense Forces’ Chief Lt. Gen. Benny Gantz announced that “Operation Brother’s Keeper” had come to an end. On Jan. 6, 2015, a third suspect, Hamas member Hussam Qawasmeh, was jailed and sentenced to three life terms in prison for the murders. The series also profiles the investigation of the revenge killing of 16-year-old Palestinian Muhammad Abu Khdeir by Jewish Israelis. He was kidnapped and murdered on July 2 – a day after the burial of three Jewish teens. “Our Boys” will premiere with two one-hour episodes on Aug. 12, followed by remaining single episodes each consecutive Monday.

Bahraini foreign minister: Jews have “a place amongst us”

In his first interview with an Israeli media outlet, Bahraini Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa said on June 26 that Israel is “part of the heritage of the Middle East” and that Jews have “a place amongst us.” “Israel is part of this heritage of this whole region, historically, so the Jewish people have a place amongst us,” Al-Khalifa told Israel’s Channel 13 on the sidelines during the June 25-26 “Peace to Prosperity Workshop” in the Bahraini capital of Manama, which jump-started the Trump administration’s Mideast peace plan. “That’s why it’s so important,” he said, “and we didn’t want to miss this opportunity, and I want to tell them we should talk.” In response to the Palestinian Authority skipping the summit, Khalifa said, “It’s always a mistake to miss an opportunity to achieve peace.” Israel has recently improved ties with Bahrain. Ahead of the workshop, the Trump administration released a 40-page document on Saturday detailing a \$50 billion, 10-year investment plan for the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Egypt and Lebanon.

Israel, U.S. and U.K. conduct first joint F-35 exercise

Israeli F-35 fighter jets participated the week of June 28 in an international exercise alongside F-35s from the United States and United Kingdom, the Israel Defense Forces announced on June 26. The exercise, the first of its kind, was dubbed “Tri-Lightning” (a reference to the aircraft’s official designation: Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II) and took place above the Mediterranean Sea. It involved F-35s from all three nations simulating combat against advanced aircraft and previous-generation fighters, in multiple scenarios, with the purpose of improving interoperability and coordination in air operations among the three countries. Most of the exercise played out situations in which the three nations were friendly, with other aircraft being used as “enemies,” according to U.S. Air Force press release. According to IAF Chief of Air Staff Brig. Gen. Amnon Ein-Dar, the exercise reflects “the close cooperation between the forces” of the three countries.

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