

## YouTube channel “Unpacked” aims to teach younger generations about Israel and Judaism

By Eliana Rudee

(JNS) – According to the most recent Pew Research Study on American Jewish life, American Millennial Jews (ages 18-34) are increasingly disconnecting from traditional Jewish institutions. Additionally, as age decreases, so does identification with Judaism. While 32 percent of Millennials identify as “Jews of no religion” (compared to 26 percent among Generation X, 19 percent among Baby Boomers, 14 percent among Silents and just 7 percent among the Greatest Generation), around 83 percent of them are proud to be Jewish.

To some, these statistics illustrate that Jewish identity is not as relevant for younger generations as it was for older ones. Others don’t see this as a given, and instead see a gap in supply and demand that can be corrected, if properly addressed.

Kids and teens spend an average of six hours daily online, and the nonprofit Jerusalem U says that the Jewish educational community is years behind in reaching them there and urgently needs to catch up. According to Jerusalem U’s newly named CEO, Dina Rabhan, “For decades, the Jewish community has struggled to reach and teach the growing number of Jews that do not have access or choose not to access traditional Jewish learning opportunities. YouTube, the world’s largest global classroom and the No. 2 search engine, can change that.”

This is why, she told JNS, Jerusalem U has launched a new YouTube channel called “Unpacked,” featuring bite-sized

videos that also tell “complex, nuanced” stories about Israel and Judaism in what Rabhan calls “non-prescriptive education.” It aims to bring “compelling content” to social media and digital channels that reach younger Jews (primarily those ages 13 to 34) where they live, starting on YouTube – a landscape that Jerusalem U believes the organized Jewish community has largely left unexplored.

“People are curious about Judaism and Israel, but are not ready to commit to walking into a Hillel house or synagogue, or going to a Jewish event. But ‘Googling’ or learning about something from their dorm room is something they will do,” explained Rabhan, who posited that YouTube is more often than not their preferred platform.

“YouTube has billions of hours of educational videos being uploaded and viewed every month, and it’s where kids are choosing to do most of their learning outside of traditional institutions. It’s where they socialize, connect and understand the world around them,” said Rabhan, who has worked as an educational consultant supporting more than 200 Jewish day schools worldwide.

Some 50 percent of YouTube viewers say they use it to learn or discover new things, using it as a search engine when they are curious about something, noted Rabhan. People are already searching for



Jerusalem U’s newly named CEO Dina Rabhan. (Photo courtesy of Jerusalem U.)

content related to Judaism and Israel on YouTube, curious after returning from a Birthright trip or hoping to learn about their Jewish roots. “Whatever the reason, when someone searches for content, there is something there to find, and we want to be there,” said Rabhan, who maintained that as YouTube is the primary learning environment, the Jewish community has a “responsibility to leverage this incredible opportunity and make sure there is quality Jewish learning accessible and available

to anyone searching or interested.”

Rabhan expressed her belief that media has the power to change the face of the Jewish world, stressing that “we need to be in this space.”

She continued, “It’s time for the Jewish community to recognize that this is the future. If we care about a diverse, committed and Jewish future, we have an obligation and the opportunity to let people know and care. For the first time in Jewish history, we have the ability to reach and teach every Jew.”

To propel the “Unpacked” launch, Jerusalem U is encouraging everyone to “take 10” in a campaign that offers to send those See “YouTube” on page 11

## 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.

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 kill-

ing 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).

### Spotlight

## Renewal at an ancient site: Caesarea reaches out to the world

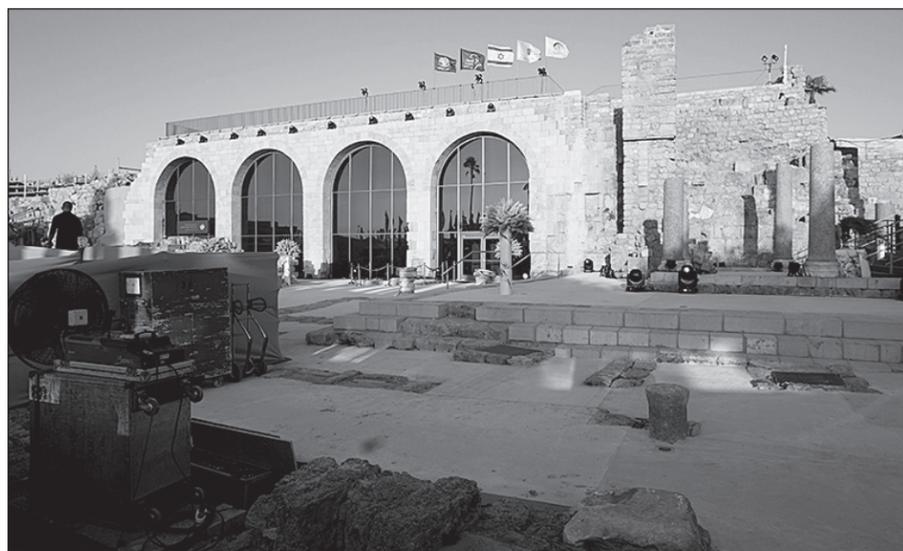
By Judy Lash Balint

(JNS) – Jerusalem and Caesarea are 85 miles apart – one inland and one on the coast – but both cities bear the unmistakable imprint of Herod, the master builder of ancient times. In Jerusalem, Herod refurbished the Second Temple, and in Caesarea he conceived and planned a massive port city replete with a harbor, palace, temple, amphitheater and hippodrome.

Today, both cities receive masses of visitors from all over the world. Caesarea, however, has recently undergone an extensive preservation and restoration project in an effort to boost the number of tourists to rival the millions who visit Jerusalem every year.

Caesarea Development Corporation CEO Michael Karsenti says with the completion of the restorations and excavations, the National Park site should reach one million visitors per year within the next five years. “Our goal is to bring the whole world here and to show them the beautiful face of Israel,” he adds.

In a low-key ceremony in Caesarea on May 30, President Reuven Rivlin and Baroness Ariane de Rothschild inaugu-



The new Visitor Center in Caesarea combines artifacts with other displays, including a 10-minute film telling the story of Herod and the building of Caesarea projected vertically onto one of the vault walls. (Photo by Judy Lash Balint)

rated the renewal project that includes a state-of-the-art Visitor Center housed in the restored harbor vaults that formed the

base for Herod’s temple, which was the main public building of ancient Caesarea. The vaults, which look out over the harbor,

are adjacent to a monumental staircase still being restored that led those arriving from the harbor to the temple itself.

The Visitor Center combines artifacts representing the many cultures in Caesarea’s long history with innovative displays, as well as a 10-minute film telling the story of Herod and the building of Caesarea projected vertically onto one of the vault walls.

Karsenti explains that the renewal project took more than five years of “intensive, collaborative” work by archaeologists, engineers and preservation architects, and the cooperation of the Israel Antiquities Authority, the Israel Nature and Parks Authority and the Edmond de Rothschild Foundation, which provided 150 million NIS (\$41.2 million) in funding.

Baroness Ariane de Rothschild represented the foundation at the opening, noting that “Caesarea is an inspiration for our call to co-create the future.” Alluding to the Muslims, Christians and Jews who had been sovereign in Caesarea during different periods in her history, she added: “We go beyond just acknowledging human See “Caesarea” on page 8

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Nurses on the front line**  
A new IDF pilot program puts nurses on the front line to improve battlefield medicine.  
..... Page 5

**Exhibit in New York**  
A new exhibit on Auschwitz details Jewish life in pre-war Europe, the camps, liberation and more.  
..... Page 6

**News in brief...**  
Egypt to pay fine for breaking gas deal with Israel; Israeli fencer wins gold; and more.  
..... Page 12

**Special Sections**  
Legal Notices..... 4  
Safe Driving..... 6-8  
Dine Out..... 9  
Classifieds..... 12

## Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

Hello, it's Sima – *yasher koach*, Roz

SIMA AUERBACH

I met Roz when I first moved here in 2007. I was at the Binghamton Zoo wearing a Black and White Cookie t-shirt and Roz walked over and said, "I know who you are." Her mother was close friends with my *machetanista's* mother who told her I was coming to Binghamton. Roz welcomed me warmly. Who knew then that in six months we would be working together and for almost a dozen years. Invariably, I would walk into the office over the years and tell Roz I had just met this lovely person and Roz would reply that he or she had been one of her customers when she ran a beauty shop. Roz was ahead of her time then in having a shop for both men and women, and has continued that trend with her ideas, programs and innovative solutions to problems.

Roz and I have worked together for close to 12 years. She has been indispensable. She has been an incredibly caring and wise decision maker for Jewish Family Service, creating procedures that eased the process for the beneficiary and protected JFS.

When I first walked into the office there was Roz and an assistant who I really couldn't figure out what she actually did. She left soon after we did figure out what she did. And then Roz and I worked through a revolving door of assistants.

In addition to all her amazing work as the director of JFS, Roz became my partner. I knew very few people and Roz was my guide to this community. We began creating events in my early years here – lunch and learns, a women's evening of discussion about sex from the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform view, an African drumming group, mah jongg lessons etc., etc. My goal was to get to know people and Roz was my indispensable guide.

We had an opportunity to bring programs from the 92<sup>nd</sup> St. YMHA in Manhattan to Binghamton if we could raise \$3,000 to put a transmitter on the roof of the JCC. Roz wrote the grant and shortly we were seeing and hearing programs live from New York City, listening to Madeleine Albright, Shirley MacLaine, Joel Grey, Brian Williams, Anna Quindlen, Joy Behar and so much more. At each

broadcast, the emcee would announce all the viewers from afar and we would applaud when The Jewish Federation of Broome County was announced. After a few times hearing that, we wondered if anyone knew where Broome County was and hence the Federation changed its name to the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton (in case you have been curious about the name change).

When the 92<sup>nd</sup> Y programs stopped we began looking for an intellectual, entertaining alternative and the idea of a Jewish Film Festival came up. We had gotten an e-mail from the JCC in New York City inviting us to a four-day

convention about Jewish Film Festivals and off we went. Roz was first to join, then Susan Hubal and Ben Kasper. Roz has been an intelligent, caring and wise viewer. She watches the movies from the point of view of this community and has made her choices based on that.

Roz had always been my confidant, guide and teacher. It hasn't been the same in the office without her.

We seem to have made the decision to retire at the same time and Roz beat me to it. She was always a step ahead.

P.S. And Roz, if I forgot to mention something, it is why I am retiring!

## A salute to Roz and JFS

By Rita Bleier

After 18 wonderful and productive years as director of Jewish Family Service, Roz Antoun has retired to spend more time with family and pursue other endeavors. She leaves a legacy of caring, compassion and concern for those in need, and she is well respected in the community at large. Mention Roz's name to any community agency with whom she interacted and the response is always, "we love Roz!"

During some of the Jewish holidays, Roz collected funds to be distributed to needy families to help them enjoy the holidays and to let them know that they were not forgotten. Throughout the year, Roz received requests from individuals, families and agencies, and had to assess each request. She carefully considered each application while being mindful of the fact that the funding, through the Jewish Federation allocation process, was coming from the pockets of kind and generous donors. This evaluation process was a daunting task, at times requiring the wisdom of Solomon, and Roz successfully and gracefully tended to each aspect.

Lest you think that Roz's only role was to provide

financial assistance, there were numerous other, equally important areas in which her assistance was offered. The human service network can be very complex and Roz assisted people in navigating the various aspects. She often received calls from out of town relatives concerned about their loved ones and she provided information, referrals and, more importantly, emotional support. She worked with all age ranges, from youngsters to adolescents to adults and seniors.

Roz was involved in various aspects of programming both at the JCC and in the community at large. She arranged dessert and game days, luncheons, was an integral part of the Film Festival, and arranged several community education programs among other things. She served on many community agency boards, networked with others and participated in the grant program for FEMA funds.

One very special project with which Roz became involved was Social Connections for Senior Women. The directors of various agencies were asked to facilitate a group of several women at the agency's location. Roz met with a group of 12 women at the JCC and, unless impaired by

See "Roz" on page 3

## In My Own Words

## Subpoenas and the balance of power

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

*"A subpoena is a request for the production of documents, or a request to appear in court or other legal proceeding. It is a court-ordered command that essentially requires you to do something, such as testify or present information that may help support the facts that are at issue in a pending case. The term 'subpoena' literally means 'under penalty.' A person who receives a subpoena but does not comply with its terms may be subject to civil or criminal penalties, such as fines, jail time, or both."* – <https://litigation.findlaw.com/going-to-court/what-is-a-subpoena.html>

*"The system of checks and balances in [the U.S.] government was developed to ensure that no one branch of government would become too powerful. The framers of the U.S. Constitution built a system that divides power between the three branches of the U.S. government – legislative, executive and judicial – and includes various limits and controls on the powers of each branch."* – [www.history.com/topics/us-government/checks-and-balances](http://www.history.com/topics/us-government/checks-and-balances).

You may wonder why I started this column with some basic information that any United States citizen should know. Unfortunately, it seems too many people in the U.S. government are unaware or unfamiliar with these terms and the ideas behind them. For example, some members of the Trump administration are refusing to appear before Congress, even though they have been subpoenaed. They are unwilling to testify about events and actions that occurred under their watch – particularly events and actions that may be against the law.

Is answering a subpoena optional? It's not and there

are people sitting in jail for refusing to testify. Now, being subpoenaed does not necessarily mean that a person has done something wrong. Witnesses to crimes often receive a subpoena to testify in court. Congress can subpoena people to learn about subjects or actions they need to know more about in order to do their jobs (make legislation), or to make certain they and the American people understand what government officials are doing and why.

Congress is not only allowed to do this, but it wouldn't be doing its job if it didn't learn everything it can about an issue before writing legislation. Its investigations are not limited to the White House staff: Congress has listened to information about everything from banking regulations to climate change to the legalization of marijuana. Expert testimony offers ideas from a wide range of views, which allows members to learn about the issues and ask questions. A Congress that passes laws without considering a variety of possibilities is not looking out for the common good of our country.

Members of the executive branch (the president and those who work for him) have regularly tried to keep information from Congress, but the current administration's attempts go far beyond others – particularly when it comes to investigations of possible illegal behavior. Members of the Nixon administration testified before Congress, even though it led to the president's resignation before he could be impeached. Yet, members of the Trump administration have refused to testify. Perhaps the most disturbing is the refusal by Attorney General William Barr to speak before

the Judiciary Committee. This is the *attorney general* – a person who has sworn to uphold the law and tell the truth – who is ignoring the rule of law.

Perhaps this shouldn't be a surprise considering the administration that appointed him. As of this writing, President Donald Trump has declared he will not fire Kellyanne Conway, even though she violated the Hatch Act – which says federal employees cannot engage in political activity in their official duties – more than once. That means she broke the law on more than one occasion and our president doesn't think it matters. Consider this in light of his asking for people to be fired from the FBI because they made remarks supporting Hillary Clinton. But, as usual with this administration, there is a double standard.

There is a reason that the U.S. has a system of checks and balances. The president is *not* a dictator allowed to do whatever he wishes. The same is true for Congress: the president can veto laws because he thinks they aren't good for our country. The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional because those laws violate the basic tenets found in our Constitution. This prevents politicians from doing anything they want, no matter if it harms the rest of us. That is *not* the American way: the American way is to protect *all* citizens – citizens of *all* races and creeds and political affiliations no matter how much money they have in their bank accounts. Our country often fails to do so, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't keep trying. To paraphrase our ancient rabbis: it's not our job to finish the task, but neither can we refuse to continue the effort.



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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.thereporter.org](http://www.thereporter.org)

# Beth David held indoor picnic

Beth David Synagogue held an indoor picnic on June 16, which was open to all. Charlie Manasse organized and spearheaded the event which drew a "significant number" of people. Food was prepared under Manasse's supervision.



Judy Silber helped with the food preparation.



Toby Kohn de-boned chicken for chicken tacos for the Beth David picnic.



Friends and members of Beth David Synagogue shared food and conversation at the picnic.



Charlie Manasse prepared food for the Beth David picnic.



Marilyn Bell washed dishes in preparation for Beth David's picnic.

## Roz . . . . . Continued from page 2

illness or out of town plans, each woman faithfully attended. The group became a cohesive body under Roz's direction and continued to meet long after similar groups at other agencies had dissolved. Eventually the group was able to maintain its own existence with periodic visits from Roz. Twelve senior women, who would otherwise have been isolated, found a meaningful and lasting connection under Roz's guidance.

Roz is truly a "people person," presenting herself as a human being on par with others. On many occasions, she spoke of her father, also involved in human service work who, although blind, taught her the importance of not succumbing to adversity, but instead using it to strengthen your situation. It was this theme of empowerment that was evident in her work with clients.

For her commitment to the community and to individuals in need, Roz was selected a couple of years ago to receive the distinguished Esther W. Couper Memorial Award established by The Family and Children's Society to recognize an individual for outstanding service and dedication to children and families. It is as if the award was established with Roz in mind, as she certainly epitomized

its description. 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

### ...and what about the children?

Rabbi Geoffrey Brown will deliver a lecture entitled, "and what about the children," Monday, July 8 from 7-9pm at Vestal Public Library (320 Vestal Pkwy E, Vestal, NY) on the Holocaust depicting case studies and statistics that describe the tragic and often brutal treatment of children by the Nazis during WWII.

### Seeking a Director for Jewish Family Service

- Deliver essential human services to individuals and families.
- Assess requests from individuals, families, Rabbis and community agencies and provide supportive, emotional and when appropriate, financial assistance.
- Provide information, referrals and advocacy to assist people in navigating the complex safety net system.
- Collect money and items for distribution to needy families during the Jewish holidays.
- Maintain records of expenditures and help with the preparation of the annual budget to be presented as part of the Federation's allocation process.
- If needed, maintain a group of volunteers to assist with the various tasks.
- Provide periodic information through articles to keep the community apprised of JFS's activities.
- Supervision provided.

Job is part-time with flexible schedule - approximately 15 hours weekly. Bachelor's Degree or Human Services Experience are the minimum requirements. Jewish Family Service is an agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

Interested candidates please send resume and cover letter to [jfjob@gmail.com](mailto:jfjob@gmail.com).



**Jewish Family Service**

A Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

## Early deadline for The Reporter

The July 12 issue of *The Reporter* will have an early deadline of Monday, July 1. No exceptions will be made.

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Off the Shelf

# Nowhere was home

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

Is there a difference between a memoir and a series of autobiographical essays? For me, a memoir has a cohesive feel because it usually explores one aspect of a person's life, even if the events occur over decades. Essays speak about a person's life experiences, but focus on different



## Mailbox Shorts

### YIDSTOCK: The Festival of New Yiddish Music

The Yiddish Book Center has announced the line-up for its 2019 YIDSTOCK: The Festival of New Yiddish Music, which will be held Thursday-Sunday, July 11-14. It will include performances by Berlin's Yiddish folk-rockers Daniel Kahn and the Painted Bird, Israeli vocalist Vira Lozinsky and the Aviva Chernick Ensemble from Toronto, alongside stalwarts of the American scene, including the Grammy Award-winning Klezmatics, vocalist Eleanor Reiss, and pioneering klezmer revivalist Hankus Netsky. This year's festival will also include concerts by Nigunim Trio and Frank London's Klezmer Brass Allstars with special guests, and vocalist Sarah Mina Gordon in a duet program with Daniel Kahn. In addition, there will be talks and instrumental workshops, including several led by musicians-in-residence for the festival.

The complete festival line-up of concerts, talks, workshops, and events, as well as links to purchase tickets and concert passes, can be found at [www.yiddishbookcenter.org/yidstock](http://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/yidstock).

### Visit Anne Frank's secret annex

A virtual reality tour of the secret annex of the Anne Frank House is now available. The virtual reality tour allows visitors to travel back to World War II and walk through the rooms of the secret annex, where Anne Frank, her family and four other Jews hid from Nazi persecution. The VR download is available in several formats. To learn more, visit <http://annefrankhousevr.com/>.

events without necessarily offering a coherent picture of the person. The reason for this question is the subtitle of Ayelet Tsabari's "The Art of Leaving: A Memoir" (Random House), which felt misleading. Tsabari's book does not read like a traditional memoir, but rather a series of essays, each of which could stand on its own. That's not a complaint about the writing. In addition to being well written and absorbing, the essays offer a glimpse into a world with which I was not familiar and several adventures I would never want to experience. That also makes them intriguing, even when the author's behavior is off putting.

Tsabari's life is greatly influenced by two things: the death of her father when she was 9 and growing up as a Mizrahi Jew in Israel. Tsabari's father was a success story, something usual for a Jew of Yemenite descent at that time: he became a lawyer and the family owned a decent size house. Although he died because he was unable to recover from a heart attack, the author notes that she was already familiar with death. Writing in the voice of her 9-year-old self, she says, "I know about death because in the news they keep reading names of soldiers who die in Lebanon, and every Remembrance Day we grieve the heroes who gave their lives for our country, and every Holocaust Day we mourn the six million Jews who perished in the camps. Our country is haunted by its dead, weighed down by loss and remembrance."

That acquaintance with the specter of death doesn't make things easier for Tsabari. Her mother, overwhelmed by the death of her husband, cared for her children, even though she was lost in grief. However, Tsabari soon became the wild child – almost getting expelled from school twice and nearly being jailed during her army service. Afterward, Tsabari traveled like many Israelis, but with a difference: she had no desire to settle in one place. Although the author wanted to be a writer since she was young, she originally gave up on her dream – working as a waitress in Israel until she had enough money for yet another trip, during which she spent a great deal of her time doing drugs, drinking and moving in and out of relationships. The minute someone got too close, Tsabari was ready to move on. Writing about this long after the events, she acknowledges that, at times, her behavior left something to be desired. She comes to realize that her need to leave first was because she feared being left again – just like when her father died. The author

notes that, during that time period, nowhere felt like home: "Home was transient, constantly shifting. Home, essentially, was the act of leaving – not a physical place, but the pattern of walking away." Fortunately, Tsabari came to terms with this legacy – settling down and writing a successful book of short stories and these essays.

Tsabari also began to examine and accept her Yemenite heritage. My favorite essays are those that focus on her family. For example, while "Yemeni Soup and Other Recipes" does not contain any recipes, the stories she tells about food and her family are wonderful. Learning how to cook Yemenite foods also shows how the author began to accept and love her Mizrahi heritage. That's important because Israel has not always been accepting of those who came from Arab countries: "In a country riddled with cultural prejudice, the stereotypes associated with Yemenis over the years have ranged from romanticizing to fetishizing to patronizing. When they first arrived in Israel, Yemeni immigrants were considered savage and primitive." Even as Tsabari rebelled against this image, she also internalized it. It wasn't until she was in her 30s that she began to explore her family history and come to truly appreciate her heritage.

Another wonderful essay, "Unravel the Tangle," speaks about Tsabari's father. It is a beautiful tribute to a man who was greatly admired by many. She notes that her "father had built himself up from nothing, made a life for himself out of pure determination and willpower, with no help from anyone." Tsabari also studied his poetry, even though when he wrote no publishers were interested in Mizrahi writing. The poems help her to see her father as an imperfect, but very real, human being – a father whom she no longer had to keep on a pedestal. Rather, she notes, "He became someone I could identify with, someone I could understand."

Tsabari slowly reveals herself over the course of "The Art of Leaving" in all her goodness and with all her warts. How readers feel about individual essays will depend on whether they can relate to the author's personal experiences. Tsabari's work – her memoir and her book of short stories – shows how Mizrahi Jews are reclaiming and/or refusing to deny their heritage. The author's greatest achievement, though, is her portrayal of her family and the fierce love they feel for each other.

# LEGAL NOTICE

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

- The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is River Terrace 32 LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 13, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.
- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 98 Scotts Landing Road, Southampton, NY 11968.
- The character or purpose of the business of the LLC is any purpose allowed by law.

WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS CONTRACTORS LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 5/3/2019. Office in Cortland Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 4004 West Chenango Rd., Truxton, NY 13158, which is also the principal business location. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Faughnan Business, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was May 9, 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: Sharon Faughnan, 1 Williams Place, Binghamton, NY 13903. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

Notice of Formation of Grace Valentine Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/09/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Ralph W.V. Sedore, 136 N. Jensen Rd., Vestal, NY 13850. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Notice of Formation of Binghamton Blonde LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/08/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 145 Kay Rd., Endicott, NY 13760. Purpose: any lawful activities.

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.

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- The name of the limited liability company ("LLC") is KW Fitness Vestal, LLC.
- The date of filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State is May 22, 2019.
- The County within the State of New York in which the principal office of the LLC is located is Broome.

- The Secretary of State of the State of New York is hereby designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her is: 3032 Vestal Road, Vestal, NY 13850.
- 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.

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Notice of Formation of Bloom Tax Partners LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/17/19. Office location: Broome County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 31 Lewis St., Ste. 401, Binghamton, NY 13901. Purpose: any lawful activities.

Lumina EC, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with SSNY 5/20/19. Office location: Broome Cty. SSNY desig. agent for process & shall mail to 115 Henry St #3305. Binghamton, NY 13902. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LG HOSPITALITY LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/10/2019. Office Location: Broome Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom service of process against it may be served. SSNY shall

mail process to: Palmer J. Pelella, Esq., P.O. Box 309, Owego, NY 13827. Purpose: any lawful activities.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY: The name of the limited liability company is: Melissa Anne Hackford, LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was June 5, 2019. The county in which the principal place of business of the Company shall be located is Broome County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the Company, to Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP, Attn: Ronald L. Greene, 80 Exchange Street, 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: Parlor City Resources LLC (the "Company"). The date of filing of the Articles of Organization of the Company with the Secretary of State was February 6, 2013. 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 c/o Robert W. Carey, Esq., 122 State Street, Suite 220, Binghamton, NY 13901. The purpose of the business of the Company is any lawful business purpose.

HNLT Innovations LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 5/6/2019. Cty: Broome. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 557 Park Ave., Binghamton, NY 13903. General Purpose.

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THE REPORTER



# Nurses on the front line, IDF's new pilot program aimed at improving battlefield medicine

By Yaakov Lappin

(JNS)—The Israel Defense Forces' Medical Corps is in the midst of a pilot program that places nurses and male nurses in combat battalions, as part a series of changes designed to improve the military's medical services. IDF head nurse Lt. Col. Oshrat Gozlan told JNS in an interview that some 200 nurses and male nurses serve in the military today, but that unlike in the past, a growing number of them are in the field together with combat soldiers.

"In the past, you saw them mainly away from the front, in first aid clinics or in the unit that accompanies hospitalized soldiers. Now, there is a trend involving growing numbers of nurses who are strengthening the medical chain in the field," said Gozlan.

The pilot program began a year-and-a-half ago, she said, based on the goal of making them accessible to combat soldiers where they are needed. "In the IDF, we had doctors and medics, but where is the nurse component? Now, they are serving alongside doctors, much like in the civilian medical systems all over the world. In the past, we got used to having doctors and medics in the military, but nurses have very broad medical knowledge."

In addition to their know-how, nurses bring with them the "essential quality of empathy, a desire to listen, a willingness to address the distress of patients" — qualities that make their presence a medical-force multiplier in combat units.

"We wanted to bring this heart to the battalions," said Gozlan. "In the IDF, the nurses also have greater authority to provide treatments than their civilian counterparts."

The end result, she said, is a "very significant improvement in the medical service within the battalion framework, which did not previously exist."

In the coming years, all IDF field battalions will have their own attached nurses and male nurses.

Soldiers feeling unwell will find nurses waiting at their battalion air stations, even if doctors are away dealing with other incidents. The nurse will be able to conduct initial assessments, classify the soldiers' condition and "raise a [warning] flag if they need urgent intervention. This is a



Israel Defense Forces head nurse, Lt. Col. Oshrat Gozlan. (Photo courtesy of IDF Spokesperson Unit)

response that is much more appropriate to the needs of the soldier," stated Gozlan.

In addition to the dramatic change in the IDF's battalions, this year the Medical Corps also began increasing the number of soldier-students who qualify as nurses before joining the military.

Unlike the civilian world, where the large majority of nurses are female, student IDF nurses include 40 percent male recruits, reported Gozlan. "They want field experience and to feel the military, but they're also looking for an opportunity to treat others. For those who want roles away from the field, we can cater to their wishes, too."

After three years of study, the students receive a bachelor's degree in nursing before serving for four-and-a-half years in the military. Most student soldiers serve six years of professional service after completing the studies — a year-and-a-half more than the IDF's nurses.

"This is an attractive path. The IDF pays for their academic studies and their university residences. It tells them to do their mandatory service in their profession, but shortens their service by a year-and-a-half. They gain the operational experience, and then they head to the civilian medical system with knowledge and experience," explained Gozlan. "They're coming from a very strong position, from which it is easy for them to find employment in the civilian medical system."

In light of the nationwide shortage of nurses in the civilian system, this path will also prove vital for the civilian medical world, said Gozlan. "Many of the student soldiers will emerge every year with their experience, thereby benefitting the country, too. We shortened their service so they can help the national health system," she added.

Since October 2018, the number of IDF nurses has been increasing substantially. This year, 56 military nurses entered service, compared to the 25 that were in service in previous years. In October 2019, the Medical Corps plans to increase the number to more than 70. "That is three times what we began with in 2012," noted Gozlan.



Israel Defense Forces nurses attached to combat battalions. (Photo courtesy of IDF Spokesperson Unit)

This way, she added, the IDF will help make up for the shortage in the civilian world.

Gozlan, who took up her role as head IDF nurse two years ago, has been in the IDF's ranks for the past 20 years. She has held a range of medical, command and administrative roles.

She said one of her most moving moments occurred during an awards ceremony, held at the start of May by the Israel National Nurses' Association Ethics Bureau, which honored IDF nurses for their work tending to the wounded in Syria's civil war.

"Beyond our routine role, nurses and male nurses also have a role to play in emergencies," she said. "In the military, they know they must be available and that at any time, they can get a phone call and head out on a mission with an unknown duration. They could be deployed in Israel or abroad, like on a humanitarian rescue mission for earthquakes."

"The nurses leave their families behind; they leave their See "Nurses" on page 9

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# A must-see exhibit for all ages: "Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away."

By Shiryn Ghermezian

(JNS) – A new exhibit at New York City’s Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust is filled with artifacts outlining the transformation of Auschwitz from a Polish town known as Oswiecim to the largest documented mass-murder site in human history, where one million people were killed.

By the end of May, nearly 20,000 people have already seen “Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away.,” which has been called the most comprehensive exhibition about Auschwitz ever shown in North America. Seventy-four years after the liberation of Auschwitz, this is the first traveling exhibition in the United States dedicated to the camp’s historical significance. The exhibition opened on May 8, the anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, when the Allies celebrated Nazi Germany’s surrender of its armed forces and the end of World War II in Europe.

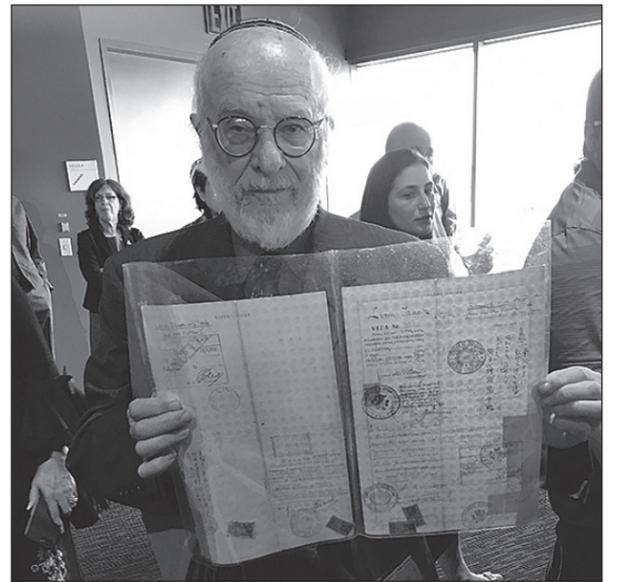
Visitors are given a glimpse into the exhibit even before stepping foot inside the museum itself. Outside is stationed an original German-made Model 2 freight-train car used for the deportation of Jews to ghettos and extermination camps in occupied Poland. Inside, the exhibit’s 20 galleries are filled with more than 700 original objects and 400 photographs, mainly from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.



A man inspected a restored World War II-era German freight car as part of the Museum of Jewish Heritage’s exhibit “Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.” (Photo courtesy of the Museum of Jewish Heritage via Facebook)

“Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.” details Jewish life and culture in pre-war Europe all the way through the rise of Nazism and the Third Reich, the construction of the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, deportations, life in the concentration camp, liberation and the ultimate creation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum. The artifacts on display are on loan from more than 20 institutions and private collections around the world. In addition to the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, participating institutions include Yad Vashem in Jerusalem; the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam; the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC; Auschwitz Jewish Center in Oswiecim; the Memorial and Museum Sachsenhausen in Oranienburg; and the Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide in London. The exhibit was conceived by the international exhibition firm Musealia and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland, and curated by an international panel of experts in collaboration with historians and curators at the Research Center at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

Among the items in display are mug shots of concentration-camp prisoners, family pictures found in the labor camp and hundreds of personal items, such as suitcases, shoes and children’s belongings, that deportees brought into Auschwitz. Other artifacts include a prisoner-made chess set and storage box made out of a sardine tin, engraved with “Auschwitz 1943”; a shower head from one of the Auschwitz crematoriums; concrete posts that were part of the fence of the Auschwitz camp; a bunk bed from the prisoner barrack at Auschwitz; a desk and other belongings of the first and the longest-serving Auschwitz commandant, Rudolf Höss; a gas mask used by the SS in Auschwitz; a sales poster for the book “Mein Kampf” from 1930; an SS helmet owned and used by Nazi official Heinrich Himmler and his annotated copy of Hitler’s “Mein Kampf”; dreidels and bullets found in mass graves; the trumpet that Dutch musician Louis Bannet played in Auschwitz; visas issued by Japanese Vice Consul in Lithuania Chiune Sugihara, often referred to as “Japan’s Oskar Schindler”; prisoner registration forms and identification cards; and a rescued Torah scroll from the Bornplatz Synagogue in Hamburg, which had its interior destroyed during Kristallnacht in



Nathan Lewin, 83, held the original transit visas issued to him and his parents by Chiune Sugihara. (Photo by Shiryn Ghermezian)

1938 and was then demolished the following year.

The exhibition arrived in New York City after a run at Madrid’s Arte Canal Exhibition Centre, where it was extended two times, drew more than 600,000 visitors and turned out last year to be one of the most visited exhibitions in Europe.

Many visitors were visibly moved, and some teary-eyed, upon leaving the comprehensive exhibit in New York City, which takes about two hours to complete. Jessica Joseph, 66, whose mother survived the Auschwitz concentration camp, called the exhibit “very powerful.” She told JNS, “To me, the most striking thing is that it’s in New York because I think, mentally, when it’s elsewhere and you see an exhibit like this – whether it’s at Yad Vashem or the [Holocaust] museum in Berlin – it’s there, and you’re here and you’re safe and you’re not exposed. And seeing it in the heart of Manhattan... to me, it’s frightening.” See “Exhibit” on page 7

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### Don't discount safe driving this summer

(NewsUSA) – Summertime brings longer days and ideal driving conditions to much of the United States. However, summer weather can also lull drivers into a false sense of security, according to data from a survey conducted by Michelin.

Approximately two-thirds of the drivers surveyed (67 percent) reported feeling safer while driving



during the summer; their top reasons were better weather (81 percent) and better road conditions (83 percent). However, more car accidents occur during the summer months than at any other time of year, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The Michelin survey found that 81 percent of drivers said they drove less cautiously in the summer, while 72 percent said they were less likely to pay attention to fellow drivers. Also, drivers were nearly three times less likely to check their tires during summer months.

“Drivers tend to think about their tires in the winter, when slippery, icy roads require maximum traction. But heat is the enemy of tires,” Sarah Robinson, driving safety expert at Michelin, says in a statement. “Some of the most severe tire-related incidents are due to under-inflated tires in summer months.”

To combat potential hazards, MichelinMan.com offers several tips for safe summer driving:

1. Give your car a tuneup. Before a summer road trip, check your car’s oil and fluids, battery, windshield wipers and tires.
2. Check your tires. Use the penny test to ensure your

See “Safe” on page 7

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# Exhibit.....Continued from page 6

“It can happen again,” added her husband, Leon Kroll, 79, who started tearing up at the end of the exhibit.

Joseph continued, saying, “There’s a reality to it that when you go somewhere else and you see an exhibit, and then you take a plane and then you come to the safety of America, which is what all these people did, and seeing it here – it caught me off-balance. It’s extremely powerful to see tangible artifacts as opposed to stories.”

When asked if she thinks others need to see the exhibit, Joseph replied, “Yes,” and explained, “It’s important for people who don’t know about it. It’s important for the younger generation. I was just thinking that all our children work; it’s very hard for them to find time to go to museums. And I was thinking, I’m gonna volunteer to babysit for all the children at different times, so that each one of them can go and spend freely time here because they need to see it. And non-Jews need to see it – especially now, at the times that we’re living in. There are many things that resonated politically with what’s going on today that’s terrifying.”

The museum’s president, Jack Kliger, told JNS that when the exhibit was in Madrid, almost 50 percent of the attendees were under the age of 40. He wants to attract the same young crowd at the New York presentation. He added, “I hope that people will learn and realize that it was not so long ago, and really this is what hate can do. Not only what hate did, but what hate can do. We particularly want younger people – many of whom don’t even know what Auschwitz means – to learn the lessons to never forget and teach their children.

“Frankly, survivors don’t need to learn the lessons,” he said. “It’s everybody [else] who needs to understand and not accept that this cannot happen again. We want younger people, all people to realize that hate, which can



A visitor of the exhibit looked at mug shots of Auschwitz prisoners on display at “Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away.” (Photo by Shiryn Ghermezian)

manifest itself like this, is something you must constantly be opposed to.”

In connection with the exhibit, the Museum of Jewish Heritage hosted an event with Nobuki Sugihara, son of the late Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat serving in Lithuania who risked himself and his family to issue transit visas to Jews trying to flee Nazi-occupied Europe. He helped rescue 6,000 Jews. Nobuki spoke of his father’s heroic acts and met nearly 170 “Sugihara visa” survivors and their descendants, who thanked him for his father’s efforts. Some even brought their original transit visas with Chiune’s handwriting on them, including Nathan Lewin, 83, who was 4 when Chiune issued travel visas for him and his parents to go from Eastern Europe to Kobe, Japan.

Rachel Rappaport’s late father was given a transit visa by Chiune and traveled to Shanghai, where he joined the Mir Yeshiva, which was founded in Lithuania and was the only religious school in the region that had most of its students, as many as 300, survive the Holocaust. The students relocated

to Shanghai, taught religious classes and remained there until eventually moving to Jerusalem or Brooklyn, NY, where they reopened branches of their school.

Rappaport’s father moved to Israel from Shanghai, had 13 children and now boasts more than 100 grandchildren, all because of Chiune’s travel visa. “Thank you so much really for giving us this life,” she told Nobuki. “Without him, we would not be here today.”

During his talk at the museum with journalist Ann Curry, Nobuki debunked stories told about his father – for example, one regarding Chiune throwing out signed visas from the window of the train he was taking to Germany after being forced to leave his post in Lithuania. Another story that Nobuki said never happened was about his father giving his consular seals to refugees so they could continue making visas on their own after he was forced to leave.

Nobuki encouraged people to educate themselves about the Holocaust and preserve the stories correctly with only facts, not exaggerations. He told the crowd to focus on the truth about what took place in Nazi-occupied Europe.

“Make it known and documented so future generations can learn about what happened during the Holocaust,” he said. “In Japan, Europe, America, Israel – we all have to keep the records of the history [and] written documents, we have to keep them and we have to share... It’s for the next generation. Fifty years, 100 or 200 years [from now]. It’s our task to keep the history correctly.”

“Auschwitz: Not long ago. Not far away.” runs through January 3 at the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in Lower Manhattan. The exhibition is intended to tour other cities around the world; destinations will be announced by Musealia and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.



# Safe.....Continued from page 6

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4. Watch your distance. Always keep a safe following distance to maneuver in case of emergency, even on dry roads.

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# Caesarea . . . . . Continued from page 1

diversity. We engage in building a society that is strengthened by all its members, beliefs and traditions.”

Before cutting the ribbon together with the baroness, Rivlin told guests that “history is not about dry facts or statistics. It is about the lives people lived, the places they loved and their stories. The Caesarea Vaults restoration project ensures that the story of this place and of its connection to the Jewish people will be told for many, many years to come. And I believe that one day soon,

Caesarea will take its rightful place as one of the world’s most impressive windows to the ancient past.”

As part of the restoration project, Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologists uncovered three “significant finds” from different eras near the vaults. The first was a mosaic floor from the Roman period (second or early third century C.E.) discovered in a bathhouse next to the temple podium – a replica is on display in the entrance area to the Visitor Center.

A cache of some 500 bronze coins from the Byzantine period (sixth to fourth centuries C.E.) was also unearthed when one of the vaults was exposed. Israel Antiquities Authority experts found them under the floor of a Byzantine church that was built on top of the temple podium and its vaults. During the excavation, archaeologists confirmed that Herod’s original vaults had collapsed and were reconstructed in the Byzantine period.

The third recent discovery was a mosaic from the fifth century C.E. bearing a Greek inscription: “He who knows all is Hosea and he is blessed.” The inscription was deciphered by Leah Di Segni of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

The National Park site between Haifa and Tel Aviv spans more than 120 acres, and most visitors spend a couple of hours traversing the different areas via several routes to take in the various sites. Park officials estimate that it would take almost six hours to see all the major sites at the park, which includes the oldest theater found in Israel; the remnants of Roman and Byzantine streets; a fortified medieval city; the amphitheater; the aqueduct; the harbor; a bathhouse complex; and the Roman wall.

At present, public transportation is very limited, so most people arrive in groups on tour buses for abbreviated visits on their way somewhere else. Shaul Goldstein, head of the Israel National Parks Authority,



Israeli President Reuven Rivlin (center; left) and Baroness Ariane de Rothschild at a ribbon-cutting ceremony opening the new Visitor Center at Caesarea on May 30. (Photo by Judy Lash Balint)



The interior of the brand-new Visitor Center in Caesarea. (Photo courtesy of the Visitors Center)

promises that plans are afoot for improved public transportation to serve Caesarea, as well as the many other national parks that are in out of the way locations.

The hundreds of cruise ships that dock in nearby Haifa are considered a prime source of tourists that Caesarea hopes to attract with its updated facilities, says Goldstein.

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### Don't make these mistakes after a collision

(NewsUSA) - In the U.S. alone, there are 10 million car accidents every year, and the tense moments following a car accident, even a minor one, can be scary and stressful for everyone involved. Drivers and passengers can feel confused and unsure of what to do. Even the most experienced and seasoned drivers can make basic mistakes after they have been involved in a traumatic event.

Simple, avoidable mistakes could cost you time and money, or lead to personal, medical and legal issues. Here are some of the most common mistakes to avoid after a

collision, according to [www.goldclass.com](http://www.goldclass.com):

- ◆ **Fleeing the scene:** Leaving the scene of an accident could land you in serious legal trouble. You may be in shock, but the most important thing to do is stay where you are. Check on your passengers, and once you exit your vehicle, check with the other driver involved in the accident. Try to remain calm and wait for law enforcement to arrive on the scene. If it is safe to do so, use your cell phone to take photos of your vehicle to document the damage that resulted from the accident while you wait for police.
- ◆ **Not reporting the accident:** Even if it's just a minor collision, always report the accident to the police. Never let someone convince you to avoid calling the police. If you decide to make a claim with your insurance company later on, or if you decide to pursue a legal claim, not reporting the accident could hurt your case.
- ◆ **Exchanging too much information:** Do not share your driver's license or who was at fault with the other driver; however, share this information with the police along with your current insurance.

Always exchange contact information with the other driver, get contact info from any witnesses, and obtain full insurance details from other drivers involved in the accident. Make sure accurate information is included in the police report, and ask for a copy of the report to edit any incorrect information.

◆ **Failing to get medical advice:** You may think that you were lucky enough to escape injury, but you should always get a medical checkup after a car accident, especially if you hit your head. Remember, only a medical professional can rule out possible head trauma and other serious injuries.

◆ **Having your vehicle repaired at just any shop:** You might have to make a decision on-the-spot as to where to have your vehicle repaired. Don't make a panicked decision when it comes to your safety.

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# Lodz, Poland, hosts its first-ever Jewish festival

By JNS staff

(JNS) – The Polish city of Lodz hosted its first-ever Jewish celebratory event, “The Festival of Tranquility,” over the Jewish holiday of Shavuot.

Organized by the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland, in collaboration with Shavei Israel emissary to Lodz Rabbi David Szychowski, it was called a singular event connecting art and spirituality. The festival featured films, Torah study, workshops in calligraphy and cooking, a concert and more.

“In order to listen to yourself and reflect on the reality around us, you need time and space,” said Szychowski. “The residents of Lodz joined us to take pause, open up to one another and learn about the contemporary life of the Polish Jewish community.”

“The Festival of Tranquility” began on June 8 with a night of Torah study in honor of Shavuot, when Jews traditionally gather to learn. The following day featured a tour of Lodz and its historical landmarks.

“The Festival of Jewish Culture” in Warsaw has taken place annually since 2004, and includes Jewish (both Hebrew and Yiddish) theater, music, films, exhibits and expositions, even kosher food. Its purpose is to recall Jewish

culture in Poland, which was decimated by the Holocaust.

On September 8, 1939, German forces entered Lodz and immediately began targeting Jews, who constituted 34 percent, or 223,000 people, of the city’s pre-war population of 665,000. In early 1940, the Nazis forced more than 164,000 Jews to live within the confines of the Lodz ghetto, which was surrounded by barbed-wire and a fence, and had no running water or electricity. It was the second-largest ghetto after Warsaw’s, established by the Germans during the Holocaust. Residents of the ghetto came primarily from Lodz and surrounding areas, but also from as far as Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany and Luxembourg. In January 1942, the Germans began deporting Jews from the Lodz ghetto to Nazi concentration camps. The Nazis liquidated the ghetto between August 9-28, 1944, in the process deporting more than 60,000 residents, mostly Jews, to Auschwitz and Birkenau. By the war’s end, only about 900 of the Jews of the Lodz ghetto had survived.

“Despite the fact that thousands of young Poles have parents, grandparents or even great-grandparents who had to hide their Jewish identity for decades, Judaism has witnessed a revival in Poland since the downfall of com-



Residents of Lodz, Poland, took a tour of the area’s historical landmarks in early June. (Photo by Natalia Soral)

munism, and we are happy that we can celebrate it,” said Michael Freund, Shavei Israel’s founder and chairman.

Prior to World War II, Poland was home to more than three million Jews. Today, approximately 4,000 Jews are officially registered as living in Poland, but according to experts, there are tens of thousands of people throughout the country whose forbears chose to hide their Jewish identity due to the persecution they suffered under Nazism and communism.

In recent years, a growing number of such people, popularly known as the “Hidden Jews of Poland,” have begun to explore their connections to Judaism and the Jewish people, with many returning to Judaism, supported by Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich.



Rabbi David Szychowski gave a press conference during “The Festival of Tranquility” in early June. (Photo by Natalia Soral)

## Nurses. . . . Continued from page 5

children behind; they pack a bag and head out. They don’t always know where they are going. In my eyes, this is a very significant and deep commitment in terms of values. The value of saving lives is deeply rooted in our ethics,” she added. “This is what happened with the patients from Syria. In the past five years, as the Syrian war raged, war wounded came to the border with Israel, bleeding. And the state of Israel took the decision to save lives, regardless of whether they come from an enemy state.”

In line with that decision, the IDF set up a field hospital near the Syrian border, and wounded Syrian civilians began arriving in large numbers. “I don’t know how they arrived at the border. On pickup trucks, on the backs of people who carried them – they made it. They received medical treatment. Otherwise, they would have bled to death on their own soil in Syria. Intensive-care-unit nurses received them and treated them in operating rooms in a dangerous area that sometimes came under fire,” recalled Gozlan.

For this work, the Ethics Bureau awarded IDF nurses with a citation. “I was very moved. To see the audience – many of them senior nurses and male nurses in the national civilian medical system – cheering and applauding us was very moving. They were proud to see professionals in their sectors undertake such ethical, professional work,” she said.

Gozlan also commented on what she described as a new phenomenon of Jews from the Diaspora who are opting to join the IDF as nurses in rising numbers. “This is not something I saw in the past,” she said. “In the last two years, a growing number of Jews who moved to Israel or came for military service are enlisting as nurses. Jews abroad who are in this profession and wish to contribute to Israel have an opportunity to serve as nurses and male nurses,” she said. “This is also a way to serve the state.”

“It doesn’t matter what situation we are in,” she said. “Whether on the battlefield, a stretcher, or bedside, we are there.”

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## Weekly Parasha

Shelach Lecha, Numbers 13:1-15:41

# Shelach: agents of the exile

RABBI BARUCH BINYAMIN HAKOHEN MELMAN, TEMPLE ISRAEL OF THE POCONOS

Exile can be a state of mind. But it can also be very real. The Nation of Israel was on track to be united with the Land of Israel, when the sin of the spies caused a deep rupture, thus delaying the reunion until the passing of the generation that was accustomed to a negative slave mind set. Thus the exile of the mind led to an exile of the body. Our thoughts determine who we are to become, what our destiny will be.

The Torah identifies two agents of the exile. One agent leading us to sin was the organ of vision, viz. the eyes. Whereas in Eden man saw himself as larger than God, and thus his eyes caused him to disobey, leading to the first exile, the exile from Eden, this new exile similarly was caused by the eyes. This time the sin was that man saw himself as being too small, just the opposite of Eden! "... We were *in our eyes* like tiny grasshoppers, that's all

that we were *in their eyes* (*vanhi v'eyneynu kachagavim v'chen hayinu b'eyneyhem* – Numbers 13:33).

This smallness of vision was a universal pathology. The fixing or corrective for the sin of Eden was not that man should think of himself as being small, God forbid, but rather that he should see his own greatness and become a partner with God to fix the world. Obeying God is essentially forming a partnership with the Divine.

The sin of anger is the other root cause of our exile, in fact of all forms of exile – physical, spiritual, national and moral.

The corrective for the sin of anger and angry action are the phylacteries that are worn during morning prayers. As they are tied as a sign upon the hand, they have the power to lift us up so that we engage in behaviors that sanctify the world and bring humanity closer to its Divine Source. There is anger, but there is also the acting out of the anger. They are

not the same, not identical. God became angry at times with Israel, but Moshe was able to assuage that anger. The *tefillin* on the arm in a sense symbolize that binding, that sense of restraint, that can save us from irrevocable action we may later regret. The *yad* is the hand, but it also symbolizes the 10 spies who spoke negatively about the Land. By gazing at the *yad* we can recall and fix through our speech that which had impacted us so negatively. We can put out our hand and say *dai*, enough, by just switching the letters, and be conscious of how our words can impact others.

At the end of our *parasha*, Shelach (Numbers 13:38), we have the mitzvah of wearing fringes on the corners of our garments – *veasu lahem tzitzit al kanfei bigdeyhem ledorotam*, "have them make tassels on the corners of their garments for all their generations."

See "Exile" on page 12

## 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, June 29 ..... 9 am  
 ..... Mincha after kiddush  
 Weekday Services:  
 Mornings:  
 Sun., June 30 ..... 8:30 am  
 Mon.-Tues., July 1-2 ..... 7 am  
 Wed., July 3 ..... 6:50 am  
 Thurs., July 4 ..... 8:30 am  
 Fri., July 5 ..... 7 am  
 Evenings:  
 Sun.-Thurs., June 30-July 4 ..... 8:30 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 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.twcabc.com  
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org  
 Service Schedule: Tuesday, 5:30 pm; Friday, 5:30 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am

On Saturday, June 29, at 9:30 am, Shabbat services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. The Torah portion will be Numbers 13:1-15:41. The haftarah will be Joshua 2:1-24. The Green family will sponsor the kiddush.

On Saturday, June 29, at 9:30 am, there will be the bar mitzvah of Ari Green.

On Sunday, June 30, at 4 pm, there will be a Mussar class with Rabbi Geoffrey Brown.

On Thursday and Friday, July 4 and 5, the office will be closed.

On Friday, July 12, at 6:30 pm, there will be Shabbat on the Road at Brookdale Senior Living (Elderwood).

On Monday, July 15, at 7:30 pm, there will be a Ritual Committee meeting.

### Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive  
 Rabbi: David Regenspan  
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815  
 Contact: Guilina 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 Tikkun v'Or

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

### 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, June 28, light candles before ..... 8:25 pm  
 Saturday, June 29, Shabbat ends ..... 9:26 pm  
 Friday, July 5, light candles before ..... 8:24 pm  
 Saturday, July 6, Shabbat ends ..... 9:24 pm

### Temple Concord

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism  
 Rabbi: Barbara Goldman-Wartell  
 Address: 9 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905  
 Office hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 am-2 pm  
 Phone: 723-7355  
 Fax: 723-0785

Office e-mail: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com  
 Website: www.templeconcord.com  
 Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.

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

On Friday, June 28, at 6:30 pm, there will be a BYO picnic dinner in the garden; at 7:30 pm, there will be Shabbat in the Garden services led by Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Shari Neuberger.

On Saturday, June 29, at 9:15 am, there will be Torah study.

On Tuesday, July 2, at 10:30 am, the Tuesday Morning Book Club will meet at Temple Concord.

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.

### 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, June 29, 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."

### 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.



# Jewish Community Center

## JCC annual meeting awardees recognized



JCC President Carrie Wenban (right) presented the President's Award to Carol Hawley.



L-r: JCC Assistant Director Marcia Monforte presented the Chai Award to Rachel Greenblott.

The Jewish Community Center has announced the recipients of various awards given out at the JCC's annual meeting on June 13.

### President's Awards

Carol Hawley and Sylvia Diamond  
**Special Recognition for helping the JCC obtain a \$50,000 grant through the State and Municipal Facilities Program**

Senator Fred Akshar  
**Chai Award for 18 years of service to the JCC**

Rachel Greenblott  
**Harvey R. Singer Scholar/Athlete Memorial Award**

Raeli Foster and Samantha Tuberman  
**Special recognition for 12 years of dedicated service to the community**

Sima Auerbach  
**Outgoing president's honors**  
Carrie Wenban



L-r: JCC President Carrie Wenban presented the President's Award to Sylvia Diamond.



L-r: Jamie VanAbs, Brenda VanAbs, Marley Vavra, Nichole McMillen and Tom McMillen attended the JCC's annual meeting.



L-r: Sandy Paston, Sylvia Diamond, Barbara Gilbert, Steve Gilbert, Bonnie Brown, Josh Hubal and Shelley Hubal schmoozed at the JCC's annual meeting.



L-r: Sidney VanTuyl, Amy VanTuyl (standing), Lori Tuberman, Brian Tuberman, Melanie Tuberman, Marvin Kaplan, Maxine Kaplan and Samantha Tuberman attended the JCC's annual meeting.



JCC Executive Director Sheryl Brumer presented a gift to Sima Auerbach to thank her for her 12 years as executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.

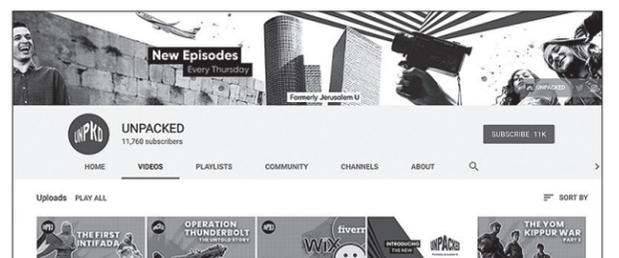
## YouTube..... Continued from page 1

who sign up a free weekly video. The campaign says that by spending 10 minutes a week watching the videos, users will get up to speed on modern Israeli history. The first video series includes "The History of Israel Explained," with 55 episodes, each eight to 10 minutes long. More series are in the production pipeline for 2019 and 2020.

According to Rahban, Jerusalem U's "strategic shift," which integrates "Unpacked" with documentary films and a website for educators with curricular material, will help

the organization "respond to the changing needs of our world and target markets," and achieve its vision of providing content for curious teens and young adults looking to engage with their heritage and history.

At right: A screenshot of Jerusalem U's "Unpacked" YouTube channel. (Screenshot courtesy of Jerusalem U.)



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**NEWS IN BRIEF**

From JNS.org

**Anne Frank: The Collected Works” to be published in U.S.**

“Anne Frank: The Collected Works,” which consists of three versions of her diary and several letters she wrote to her paternal grandmother before the 15-year-old perished in the Holocaust, will be published in the United States on June 25. June 12 marked what would have been her 90th birthday. The letters to Frank’s paternal grandmother, Alice Frank-Stern, “paint a portrait of a young girl on the cusp of adolescence, concerned with quotidian complaints such as the ‘very unpleasant’ experience of having braces while at the same time becoming increasingly conscious of the dangers faced by Europe’s Jewish population,” per the Smithsonian’s publication. “Otto Frank understood already in 1955 that the diary had to go on stage to reach family audiences,” said Anne Frank Fund board member Yves Kugelman. “We are now looking to appeal to millennials in other ways.” The collection “includes the original diary as well as a version she edited and an amalgamation of the two, which is commonly taught in American schools. That classroom version, which was edited by the German novelist and translator Mirjam Pressler, was published in 1991. It includes all the original material, such as passages that allude to Anne’s emerging sexuality, her conflicted relationship with her mother, Edith, and some criticism of those with whom they shared the ‘secret annex’ in Amsterdam,” reported *The Wall Street Journal*. Frank died at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany in 1945, less than a year after she and her family were discovered by the Nazis in their hiding place in Amsterdam.

**Carr calls for armed guards at shuls, other Jewish institutions**

U.S. Special Envoy for Monitoring and Combating Anti-Semitism Elan Carr said on June 19 that Jewish institutions, including synagogues, should have armed security. “We live in a time of danger,” Carr told *Jerusalem Post* Editor-in-Chief Yaakov Katz in an interview at the Global Coalition 4 Israel Conference. “Any synagogue, every JCC should have guards. God willing, may they never be needed, but they should be there.” Carr, 50, emphasized U.S. President Donald Trump’s commitment to fighting antisemitism. “The rhetoric of the president couldn’t be clearer. Every time the president speaks on this issue, he calls it [antisemitism] a vile poison that must be rooted out,” said Carr. He also remarked that the president has clearly said that “if you go after the Jews, we’re coming after you.” However, the special envoy said that the fight against Jew-hatred must be “a joint bipartisan fight. ...All decent people – Jewish and not Jewish – need to do it together,” he said. “I don’t care what ideological clothing it wears, Jew-hatred is Jew-hatred; we need to fight it and oppose it, and that’s got to be the message.” Also on June 19, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee approved bipartisan legislation to allocate \$75 million annually between 2020 and 2024 for the Department of Homeland Security’s Nonprofit Security Grant Program, which provides grants to nonprofits and faith-based organizations to help secure their facilities against a potential terrorist attack. Of the \$75 million total, \$50 million will be available for nonprofits located within high-risk urban areas, and the remaining \$25 million will be available for organizations that fall outside of those areas.

**International Atomic Energy Agency recognizes “Palestine”**

The International Atomic Energy Agency signed an agreement recognizing “Palestine” as a country, as it joined the nuclear watchdog on June 18 as an observer. Although it isn’t a member, it is allowed to attend meetings, said an IAEA spokesperson. “The agreement, which was signed by the agency’s director general Yukiya Amano and the Palestinian Ambassador in Vienna Salah Abdul Shafi, gives the IAEA inspectors the ability to check the safety of radioactive materials and fissile nuclear materials, such as uranium,” reported *The Jerusalem Post*. Although the Palestinian Authority has no nuclear reactors, “it does have physics departments in hospitals and universities, which have medical equipment containing components of nuclear materials,” according to the *Post*. Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Emmanuel Nahshon labeled the agreement as a “violation of international conventions.” He said “Israel does not recognize the attempts of the P.A. to join such organizations and such institutions as a state, and Israel views this as a violation of international agreements.”

**Egypt to pay \$500 million fine for breaking gas deal with Israel**

Egypt reached a settlement with Israel on Sunday to pay the Israel Electric Corporation \$500 million over the next eight-and-a-half years after breaking an agreement to deliver natural gas to the Jewish state in 2012. The gas supply deal was announced under Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in 2005, and the opening of the pipeline between the countries took place in 2008, but was unpopular with the Egyptian public. Moreover, the gas line became a target for terrorists, being blown up three times in 2011 – the same year of the Arab Spring and the year that Mubarak was deposed. The delivery process subsequently broke down. According to Egypt’s Petroleum Ministry, the \$500 million fine is down from an original \$1.7 billion. In return, the Israeli corporation will drop its other claims from a 2015 arbitration decision by the International Chamber of Commerce. Last year, U.S.-Israeli gas consortium Noble Energy, together with its Israeli partner Delek and Egyptian East Gas Company, announced a \$15 billion deal in which Israel will export natural gas it discovered off its coast in the Tamar and Leviathan deep-water reservoirs to Egypt. This marks the first time Egypt has imported gas from Israel.

**Israeli fencer makes history, wins European championship**

Israeli fencer Yuval Freilich, 24, took the gold medal in the European Fencing Championships in Dusseldorf, Germany on June 18. Yuval Freilich, ranked 40<sup>th</sup> in the world, beat out Italy’s Andrea Santarelli, rank 13, to take first place at the elite competition. “It’s the most incredible feeling,” the 24-year-old said in an interview posted to Facebook by the European Fencing Confederation. A son of Australian Jewish immigrants to Israel, Freilich grew up in Neve Daniel and has been fencing since he was 5 years old. In 2014 and 2015, Freilich won gold medals in teen championships, and a silver medal in the under-23 category in 2016.

**Exile..... Continued from page 10**

This is already a sign of our healing. The reference to future generations speaks to Israel’s eternal mission. *Tzitz*, the singular, is the diadem of gold that the high priest wore on his forehead (Leviticus 8:9). *Tzitzit* is the plural and yet, it lacks the letter *yud*, which indicates the plural form. It is spelled *tzadi*, *yud*, *tzadi*, *tav*. The missing letter *yud* (numerical value of 10) reminds us of the 10 spies who caused Israel to sin. More importantly, it reminds us that just as the *kohen gadol*, the high priest, had the words *Kodesh Lashem*, Holy to God, engraved on his *tzitz*, his golden diadem, so too is *all* of Israel, as represented by the *yud*, the community of 10, enjoined to strive to be Holy before God, for all their generations. Phylacteries are essentially that, a spiritual prophylactic to prevent and ward off the potential for spiritual exile that inheres within each of us, both as individuals and as a nation.

“*Ve lo taturu acharei levavchem ve’acharei eynechem...*” – “and so that you not go through the world as tourists, without responsibility or sense of consequences – following after your heart and your eyes...”

Being that this passage follows the narrative of the spies and actually uses the same word root (*latur*), it is clear that the *tallit* is therefore a fixing for the sin of our forefathers when their eyes and their hearts led them astray. *Levavchem* (your hearts) is in the plural. Just as we have two eyes, we also have two hearts.

The *tallit* envelops us, ensconces us, serving as a reminder of God’s own generous eye and expansive heart. The thread of blue in the *tallit* reminds us of heaven. It gives us hope. The Kabbalah teaches that *tikva*, or hope, is connected to the word *yikavu*, as in *yikavu hamayim*, from Genesis. There is an opening created, a channel, allowing the light to pour in. As Leonard Cohen, the late poet/singer, has said, “there is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.”

Hashem made the first holy crack to let in the holy rays of light. This supernal ray connects us to creation, and in wearing the *tallit* we connect with the primordial hope instilled within the cosmos at the dawn of creation. Our morning prayers, when we don all three – the *tallit* and the two *batei tefillin*, the two phylacteries – are to bring us closer to the realization of the dream to end our collective soul exile and thus restore Eden’s vision of harmony in our lives. May it come quickly and soon in our day.

The *tefillin shel rosh*, the head *tefillin*, which rest above and between the eyes, serve as the symbolic spiritual prophylactic for the nation – in the realm of thought and vision, while the *tefillin shel yad*, the arm *tefillin*, serve as a spiritual prophylactic for their actions in the realm of deed. The *tzitzit*, the fringed garment, points to a unity between the people and its spiritual leadership, in that one day all of Israel will come to take on its destined priestly role to serve God and to serve the nations, bringing them closer to recognizing the One God. The *tzitzit* are a fixing for the sin of the spies.

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