The Temple Israel/Temple Concord Adult Education Group will present another in a series of “Select Jewish Shorts” on Sunday, April 25 at 10:30 am. The program will be dramatic readings of selected Jewish short stories.

Ben Kasper, professor emeritus at SUNY Broome, who serves on the Executive Board of Temple Israel and is co-chairman of the Adult Education Committee, will read two stories. Kasper’s selections were written by Solomon Simon (1895-1970), who arrived in New York in 1913 and was active in the Sholem Aleichem Folk Institute.

Steve Gilbert, professor emeritus of psychology at SUNY Oneonta, is past president of Temple Israel and co-chairman of the Adult Education Committee. Gilbert will read excerpts from “Meshech ‘The Thief’,” a "lost" novel by Sholem Aleichem, which was originally written in 1903 and serialized in a Warsaw Yiddish newspaper.

Andy Horowitz is a graduate of Binghamton University, has an M.B.A. from Syracuse University and is the artistic director of Gulampha Dance Company. He is on the faculty of Binghamton University, lectures on entrepreneurship and offers choreographic workshops at schools and conservatories. Horowitz played the leading role in the play “My Name is Asher Lev,” which was performed at Temple Israel in June 2018. He will be reading another Sholem Aleichem story, “The Town of Little People.”

Liz Rosenberg, has written more than 30 books, teaches English at Binghamton University and is a recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Rosenberg will read an original short story, “The Rabbi Who Wouldn't Leave,” written by her late husband, David Bossnik.

Members of the community will be sent the Zoom link prior to the program. Anyone who does not regularly receive synagogue communications, and to deal with the many 

The Federation of Jewish Organizations of Greater Binghamton held their annual Shavuot drive-in on May 16. It will be the first Shavuot event held in the region since the pandemic began. The event will include free ice cream, music and a food drive. Registration is not required to attend, but the Federation would appreciate RSVPs to have enough ice cream on hand. To RSVP, visit https://www.jfgb.org/ or call Chabad at 797-0015 and ask for counseling at St Michael’s College. Shavuot includes dairy products, ice cream

The event will include free ice cream, music and a food drive. Registration is not required to attend, but the Federation would appreciate RSVPs to have enough ice cream on hand. To RSVP, visit https://www.jfgb.org/ or call Chabad at 797-0015 and ask for counseling at St Michael’s College. Shavuot includes dairy products, ice cream

Jews in sports
Columnist Bill Simons discusses the basketball careers of Dolph and Dan Schayes.

Sisterhood events
Intersisterhood will feature a craft project; TC Sisterhood to hold a musical program for donor event.

News in brief...
Disabled veterans protest for better aid in Israel; Israel unveils plan to combat air pollution; more.

Special Sections
Book Reviews ................. Page 4
Spring Home Improvement........... 4-5
Congregational Notes .............. 6
Classifieds .......................... 8

The subtitle of “This Can Happen,” “A credible case for feeling good about the future,” is indicative of an approach to the topic. “Recent events have put so many on the edge, and the longer matters drag on, the louder the voice of helplessness becomes,” explained Rabbi Naftali Silberberg of JLI’s Brooklyn, NY, headquarters. “If we can make – as stated in our title – a ‘credible case’ to be optimistic about times ahead, that is remarkably edifying.”

As with all of JLI’s programs, “This Can Happen” is designed to appeal to people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public and attendees need not be affiliated with a synagogue, temple or other house of worship.
Looking for this issue’s “Jewish Resources to occupy your family during social distancing”? Visit www.theporterorggroup.org, click on Features and then Miscellaneous Feature to find out what’s happening online.

In My Own Words

The first months

I suddenly realized that I hadn’t written anything about President Joe Biden since he’d taken office. That’s not because I agree with everything he’s done. I’m reserving judgment on some of his policies, particularly as they reference Israel and the Middle East. I do like the fact that he took his responsibilities and duties, and the dignity of the office, seriously.

But I think the main reason that I haven’t written about Biden is something else: what might be called “the quiet emanating from the White House. What do I mean by that? No one is calling people names; no one is saying nasty things about individuals, states, companies or political opponents with whom they disagree; no one is denying science nor advocating that we ignore common sense. It feels so strange to have a president who works on policies and laws without demanding either constant daily approval (by likes on Twitter, for example) or the attention given by the press after saying outrageous things deliberately meant to insult or provoke. It’s refreshing.

By the way, my thoughts have nothing to do with the party that is occupying the White House. I cannot imagine Presidents George H. W. Bush or George W. Bush calling people names in public or deriding their opponents with nasty names or advocating violence against them. The same is true of President Ronald Reagan. I didn’t think of them as either of the Bushes or for Reagan, but they were dignified in public and took their office seriously enough to act presidentially. I knew they were before Twitter and Facebook, but they did have press conferences and other opportunities to insult and degrade people, and they did not act on them. Why did they do as if they were worthy of sitting in the presidential chair in the Oval Office, and that is enough to make me respect them. While I might have disagreed with their policies, they didn’t throw public temper tantrums like a 2-year-old if they didn’t get their way or be disgusted about the results of an election, and they did not engage in racism or xenophobia.

I’ve no doubt I’ll be writing more about Biden – good and bad. No president is perfect and people who put politicians on a pedestal are very dangerous than cynics who think politicians always make things worse. Hero worship – as shown with our last president – is exceedingly dangerous and can lead to violence, including, for example, threats by his followers to hang Mike Pence, the Republican vice president. We need to remember that the man who is there is not the one who is ruling, but the one who has the power to do great harm to others, and that is why we are praying for true leaders to do their job.

I know that Biden has his flaws and will call him on them. But I also will enjoy “the quiet,” the lack of attacks on opponents – Democrats and Republicans – who disagree with him and have of being president who respect the responsibilities and duties, and the dignity of the office, seriously.
Temple Israel will host the 2021 Inter- 
sisterhood program on Zoom on Tues- 
day, April 27, at 7 p.m. Once a year, the 
Sisterhoods of Temple Israel, Beth David 
Synagogue and Temple Concord share a 
program. This year, artist and educator 
Maxine Rosenzegel will teach an English 
paper piecing project. Participants will 
be able to prepare a Kiddish cup coaster 
for Shabbat.

“This paper piecing technique was very 
popular in the U.S. in the early part of 
the 20th century, Rosenzegel said. “At that time, 
quilts were often made with small scraps of 
fabric. Their affordability increased their 
popularity and sustainability during the Great 
Depression. Our project will use diamond 
shapes to form the Star of David and will 
include a contrasting colored background."

Materials needed for the project will 
be assembled by the Inter-sisterhood pro- 
gram organizer, and will be available for 
signed-up participants ahead of the event. 
“Signing up for the event is essential so 
that there is enough time to assemble 
the individual packets of necessary materials,” 
said organizer of the event. Reservations 
are needed by Thursday, April 22. Out 
of town participants need to respond by 
Friday, April 16 in order to receive their 
packets by mail on time. The Inter-sisterhood 
event is free for the members of each of the 
three synagogues. Others who attend will need 
to pay $5 to cover part of the cost of the 
materials, as well as mailing costs if the 
materials need to mailed to them.

TC Sisterhood held elections

Temple Concord Sisterhood elected 
its Board of Directors on April 7 during 
a Zoom meeting. The position of president 
is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stadt, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.

Chairwoman, with Barbara Dickman and 
Deb Daniels, President; Sandy Gutman is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stad, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.

Chairwoman, with Barbara Dickman and 
Deb Daniels, President; Sandy Gutman is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stad, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.

Chairwoman, with Barbara Dickman and 
Deb Daniels, President; Sandy Gutman is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stad, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.

Chairwoman, with Barbara Dickman and 
Deb Daniels, President; Sandy Gutman is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stad, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.

Chairwoman, with Barbara Dickman and 
Deb Daniels, President; Sandy Gutman is now being called meeting chairwoman and 
will be passed from one leader to another 
for each meeting. Also, there are no vice 
president or treasurer for this year.
The executive board includes Lani 
Dunthorn, past president; Nancy Dorfman, 
treasurer; Janet Hayman, financial secretary 
and corresponding secretary; Marty Eisen- 
stad, recording secretary; and Marsha Laks, 
Barbara Thomas, Barbara Putzel-Bischoff and 
Kellenberger and Roz Antoun.
Parents and children: that can be a volatile mix, whether it’s due to differing politics or different views on the correct way to live. For example, in David Laskin’s “What Sammy Knew” (Penguin Books), the political clash between Sam Stein and his father causes a rift that echoes through the lives of many. Yaara Shehori’s “Aquarium” (Farrar, Straus and Giroux) shows how sisters Lili and Dori Ackerman’s lives are forever affected by one parental choice.

“What Sammy Knew” takes place in the early 1970s when the generations clashed about the Vietnam War, civil rights, drugs, sex and music. Sam figures the second part of his senior year of high school should be an easy time. Although he’s sheltered in the Long Island Jewish community in which he lives, Sam is aware of politics and the civil rights movement, but rarely thinks about how that affects his beloved Tutu, his great-grandfather and Pan American air line steward whom he feels really raised him. But life changes after he meets Kim, a beautiful, fiery young woman who takes politics personally and fought with her own parents about the Black power movement and their treatment of the African American maid who works for them. But when Sam’s father gives him an ultimatum – accept our rules or leave – Sam does just that: he leaves and moves to New York City where they stay with an older friend whose life focuses on drugs, fame and looking cool.

While Sam’s life is not that different – he still attends school and plans for a future as a writer – Kim becomes more involved in racial politics. This is a time of increased violence and she is looking to make her mark, particularly with the Black Panther Movement. However, Sam disavows violence, saying it’s not their way and judging them just as guilty as the people they are fighting against. He does want to better understand Tutu’s life outside his former home, especially her adult grandson, Leon, whom he never knew existed. But Sam’s inability to understand Kim’s desires may have disastrous results not only for herself, but Sam, Leon and Tutu.

Sam is an interesting character, partly because of his inability to truly understand the forces affecting those around him. His self-absorption is typical of many teenagers and the inability to truly understand the world in which his grandparents lived. In sociological discussion Lomnitz offers so that readers can know not only the problems Jewish communities faced but also their achievements. This makes the book’s power not do justice to the sheer amount of historical and sociological discussion Lomnitz offers so that readers can understand the world in which his grandparents lived. In order to appreciate their actions and decisions, it’s necessary to know not only the problems Jewish communities faced in Europe and South America, but the political realities of life in Peru and Colombia.

Misha Adler was born in Romania in the early years of the 20th century, and Lomnitz places Jewish and secular life of that time period in context as it relates to his grandfather’s life. Most people spoke more than one language: Lomnitz notes that in addition to Yiddish and Hebrew, Misha would have known Russian and German, plus the Romanian spoken by the local Christian population. (Lomnitz mentions that both his grandparents ultimately spoke eight languages.) Although Misha’s family was well off, signs were clear that Jews were not welcome in Romania. Jews were allowed to obtain Romanian citizenship. (The politics behind this is too complex to explain in a short review, but Lomnitz does an excellent job making clear why this was so.) However, the Romanian government was more than happy to offer its Jews passports so they could emigrate to other countries. Lomnitz sees this as a form of “ethnic cleansing,” as a way for the country to rid itself of its Jewish population.

One of the few countries that welcomed those Jews was Peru. The reason for their acceptance was not a humanitarian one. Lomnitz notes that Peru “was looking for European workers as a eugenics-inspired counter-balance to the large number of Chinese immigrants that it had previously received.” Jews were seen as vaguely European, meaning not Chinese and not members of the eastern European, meaning not Chinese and not members of the eastern

“Neustra América: My Family in the Vertigo of Translocation” by Claudio Lomnitz (Other Press) could be called a memoir about his maternal grandparents’ various emigrations; he writes about how they arrived from Eastern Europe to Peru, then Colombia and then Paris before returning to Colombia until making aliya to Israel, only to once again return to Colombia. Although the book does not do justice to the amount of historical and sociological discussion Lomnitz offers so that readers can understand the world in which his grandparents lived. In order to appreciate their actions and decisions, it’s necessary to know not only the problems Jewish communities faced in Europe and South America, but the political realities of life in Peru and Colombia.

Misha Adler was born in Romania in the early years of the 20th century, and Lomnitz places Jewish and secular life of that time period in context as it relates to his grandfather’s life. Most people spoke more than one language: Lomnitz notes that in addition to Yiddish and Hebrew, Misha would have known Russian and German, plus the Romanian spoken by the local Christian population. (Lomnitz mentions that both his grandparents ultimately spoke eight languages.) Although Misha’s family was well off, signs were clear that Jews were not welcome in Romania. Few Jews were allowed to obtain Romanian citizenship. (The politics behind this is too complex to explain in a short review, but Lomnitz does an excellent job making clear why this was so.) However, the Romanian government was more than happy to offer its Jews passports so they could emigrate to other countries. Lomnitz sees this as a form of “ethnic cleansing,” as a way for the country to rid itself of its Jewish population.

One of the few countries that welcomed those Jews was Peru. The reason for their acceptance was not a humanitarian one. Lomnitz notes that Peru “was looking for European workers as a eugenics-inspired counter-balance to the large number of Chinese immigrants that it had previously received.” Jews were seen as vaguely European, meaning not Chinese and not members of the eastern European, meaning not Chinese and not members of the eastern

Even in the densest house, the indoor air system can recirculate dust, dirt, and particles from renovation and re- construction projects. LEED’s (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standard for homes’ cooling systems is the lungs of your home. The system pulls air from your rooms, filters, heats or cools it, and sends it back out again. Unfortunately, many buildings suffer from “sick building syndrome,” a mix of stuff that can lead not only to unhealthy air – a particular problem for children, seniors and those with respiratory or autoimmune conditions – but higher energy bills as well.

Fortunately, it can be easy to have clean ducts when you turn to a reputable, certified HVAC professional. Making it simple to find one is NADCA (National Air Duct Cleaners Association). Its members comply with a code of ethics and meet the organization’s standards. For a list of certified, near your location, visit www.nadca.com.
TC Sisterhood’s virtual donor program on May 2

Temple Concord Sisterhood’s annual donor program will be held virtually on Sunday, May 2, at 2 pm. Jesse and Kurtis Parker will entertain with selections of violin music.

“Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, Beth David Synagogue, Temple Concord and Temple Israel. Its mission is to provide opportunities for quality adult Jewish education in Broome County. The CJS Committee strives to bring the Binghamton area. He has performed classes for all ages. She has performed with several professional orchestras, including the Binghamton Philharmonic, the Lima Symphony Orchestra, the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of Northern New York. Not limited to classical music, he plays electric violin with a local band, The Letter 5, and also plays roots and blues with local musician Jay Floyd. He teaches grades six-12 orchestra in the Maine-Endwell School District.

Federation commemorated Yom Hashoah

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton commemorated Yom Hashoah on April 8. More than 65 households took part in the Zoom program.

Five tips to help you on the road to a new home

(NAPS) - Whenever you rent a truck to move yourself from one home to another, keep these five facts from www.PenskeTruckRental.com in mind can help you and your furniture all arrive in good order and good time.

1. Let time be on your side. When planning your trip, take into account the time of day you intend to travel and likely traffic patterns. Always leave lots of extra time and be aware of potential roadblocks along the way.
2. Read the agreement. Most truck rental agreements say something like the language from the U.S. Department of Transportation that prohibits the “carrying or hauling of explosives and other dangerous articles.” That means you can’t pack paint, chemicals and deodorant materials, flammable solvents, propane, gasoline and the like. Check with your rental agent if you’re not sure about a particular item.
3. Don’t be blinded. Trucks have big blind spots, what the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration calls the “No-Zone.” You should know where these areas are, especially when changing lanes or coming to a stop.
4. Know what you’re driving. Make sure you can find and operate the truck’s switches and gauges. Adjust the seat and side mirrors so they match your height and comfort zone. Also, remember, trucks are taller, wider and may weigh up to 10 times more than the average car. Explain the experts on truck rental at Penske, so you have to be extra vigilant.
5. Be sure to insure. Most insurance and credit card companies won’t cover truck rentals under existing policies. If your insurance company is among them, consider signing up for additional coverage options to protect yourself and your belongings. You may feel more confident knowing there is a company that offers free 24/7 emergency roadside assistance.

TC Sisterhood’s virtual donor program on May 2

Those who have reservations a few days before the program. Jesse Parker is a musician and music teacher based in the Binghamton area. She is the owner and director of Parker Studio in Binghamton, where she offers private music lessons and music classes for all ages. She has performed with several professional orchestras, including the Binghamton Philharmonic, the Lima Symphony Orchestra, the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of Northern New York. Not limited to classical music, he plays electric violin with a local band, The Letter 5, and also plays roots and blues with local musician Jay Floyd. He teaches grades six-12 orchestra in the Maine-Endwell School District.

Federation commemorated Yom Hashoah

During the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton’s Yom Hashoah commemoration program. Holocaust survivor Rachel Malmed Epstein spoke about her experiences as a hidden child.
These two portions contain a large number of mitzvot, and certainly most rabbinic authorities would agree that the most well known is the statement: ‘V’ahavta l’reiacha in nature. Of all the mitzvot, our relationship with God and those that are interpersonal are a major principle of the Torah. It is so important and so vital that we need to pay extra attention to its fulfillment. How do we perform this mitzvah? Is it really possible to do it? Is it even possible to love the other as much as I love my wife or husband, or my children, let alone others? As we consider this objectively, we may see “Love” on page 7

---

**Rabbi Zev Silver, Beth David Synagogue**

**Temple Concord**

Affiliation: Union for Reform Judaism

Rabbi: Barbara Goldberg-Wartell and Jason Flatt

Address: 104 East Main Street, Oneonta, NY 13820

Website: www.templeconcord.com

 тоже: TempleConcordbinghamton@gmail.com

Regular service times: Friday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10 am, unless otherwise announced.

On Fridays and Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown via Zoom. There will be Havdalah services via Zoom. Both will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown via Zoom.

On Sunday, May 2, there will be Torah study at 10:30 am on Zoom led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown. There will be an online Board meeting Tuesday, May 4, at 7 pm on Zoom.
the Native American tribes who were poisoned.

While Misha came to Peru on his own, his future wife, Noemi Miletstein arrived with her parents and most of her Jewish relatives. The family’s escape from Ukraine was not a complete success: With pogroms occurring all over Eastern Europe, they planned to illegally cross the border. Unfortunately, the youngest child began to suffer from a serious illness with her mother. The family lost contact with her until after World War II. Noemi’s family settled in Peru and then Colombia, and both countries, her father managed to run successful businesses.

Misha flourished at first in Peru. He not only took part in the political and literary movements in the country, but published several books, including a political journal, which included writings by Jews and non-Jews from Peru and other countries. Misha was a close friend of José Carlos Maríaítegui, a major figure in Peru’s literature, whose socialist and Marx- ist principles aligned with his political thought.

Marriott called Maríaítegui’s life “dazzlingly brilliant, like a bolt of light- ning.” This, however, may be seen as a chapter focusing on Misha’s life and ideas. The family’s escape from Ukraine was not a complete success: With pogroms occurring all over Eastern Europe, they planned to illegally cross the border. Unfortunately, it was no longer as easy to leave the country.

**Love**

conclude that it is truly impossible.

For example, the Ramban explains that this is not only referring to the emotion of love. Rather, it is a different type of love, a word we use differently in various situations.

For example, when I say that I love my child, it means a close attachment and willingness to do anything for him or her. When I say that I love sushi, I believe we mean something else entirely. Even when I said that I love a song, or a movie, I mean that I enjoy it, or that I am entertained by it, but I do not want to do anything for it.

If one does not look at the misdeeds that a fellow Jew has committed, but rather at the behavior of all Jews, then positive deeds are enough to require us to consider him our brother and place the Torah’s demand on us to love our fellow Jew.

One of my beloved teachers at Yeshiva University, Rav David Lifshutz, used to say that the greatest mistake people make is to distance ourselves from the misdeeds of others and not emulate those behaviors, while finding all the wonderful good things that they do and emulate those behaviors within ourselves.

It is wrong to treat the native American tribes who were poisoned. Even during this difficult time, the Federation strives to support community programming like the Hanukkah Drive up event! Even during this difficult time, the Federation strives to support community programming like the Hanukkah Drive up event!

**Journey**

concluded that it is truly impossible.

For example, the Ramban explains that this is not only referring to the emotion of love. Rather, it is a different type of love, a word we use differently in various situations.

For example, when I say that I love my child, it means a close attachment and willingness to do anything for him or her. When I say that I love sushi, I believe we mean something else entirely. Even when I said that I love a song, or a movie, I mean that I enjoy it, or that I am entertained by it, but I do not want to do anything for it.

If one does not look at the misdeeds that a fellow Jew has committed, but rather at the behavior of all Jews, then positive deeds are enough to require us to consider him our brother and place the Torah’s demand on us to love our fellow Jew.

One of my beloved teachers at Yeshiva University, Rav David Lifshutz, used to say that the greatest mistake people make is to distance ourselves from the misdeeds of others and not emulate those behaviors, while finding all the wonderful good things that they do and emulate those behaviors within ourselves.

It is wrong to treat the native American tribes who were poisoned. Even during this difficult time, the Federation strives to support community programming like the Hanukkah Drive up event!
Three resign from Auschwitz museum council after politician appointed

Three members of an advisory council for Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland have resigned in protest over President Andrzej Duda's declaration in his inauguration speech of his intention to expand the Jewish presence in the country, according to a report. The council members, who were appointed by the then president, have said that Duda's comments were an unacceptable affront to the memory of the millions who died in the Holocaust. The council members also said that they would not continue to work with the museum until a new president was appointed who was committed to upholding the museum's mission.

Three resign from Auschwitz museum council after politician appointed

Three members of an advisory council for Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Poland have resigned in protest over President Andrzej Duda's declaration in his inauguration speech of his intention to expand the Jewish presence in the country, according to a report. The council members, who were appointed by the then president, have said that Duda's comments were an unacceptable affront to the memory of the millions who died in the Holocaust. The council members also said that they would not continue to work with the museum until a new president was appointed who was committed to upholding the museum's mission.