On Sunday, May 16, from noon-1 pm. The event will take place in the Temple Israel parking lot. Those attending are asked to use the Clubhouse Road entrance to access the lot. The event will include free ice cream, music and food drive. Anyone who wishes to help should contact Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Federation, at director@jfgb.org. The Federation is also hoping for teens to be among the volunteers. The event will take place before the actual holiday, which begins that evening at sunset.

Rabbis Geoffrey Brown and Barbara Goldman-Wartell will offer a prayer or a reading focusing on the spirit of Shavuot. A number of musicians will be performing. There will also be a food drive; those attending are asked to bring nonperishable food items, which will be taken to the Temple Concord mikvah.

**Federation wants you**

**By Suzanne Holwitt**

Do you want to be more involved with your Jewish community? Well, have we got a great opportunity for you: We need you, we need your ideas and your talents as working members of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton. Being on the board of the Federation will give you the opportunity to support others, to share your leadership skills, to make a difference in the community and to develop bonds with other Jewish leaders. The JFGB has been at the center of Jewish life in our community for many decades. We are committed to strengthening our local Jewish organizations and supporting community members. Being involved as a member of the board of Federation has been very rewarding; I’ve developed friendships with members of our community that I hadn’t known well, I’ve enjoyed being involved in our programs and, as president, I’ve been able to further develop and share my leadership skills with others.

Through our annual campaign, we support the Jewish Community Center, Hillel Academy of Broome County, Hillel at Binghamton, The Reporter, Jewish Family Service, the Sullivan at Beth David and the PJ Library. We also offer grants to other Jewish organizations as requested. We appreciate your financial support, without which we wouldn’t survive. However, we are now asking if you’ll step up and get more involved by becoming a member of our board. Please let us know if you’re interested by contacting our executive director, Shelley Hubal, at director@jfgb.org.

Suzanne Holwitt is the president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton.
Our actions can be easily influenced by family and friends. Sometimes, when we resist their attempts to change/ change sway us, while other times it’s easier to follow their lead, even if we’re not thrilled with the course our life is taking. Two rows of shelves, where “The Man Who Loved His Wife” by Jennifer Anne Moses (Mayapple Press) and “Sarahland” by Sam Cohen (Grand Central Publishing) – feature characters struggling to find their place in the world with the help and/or hindrance of others.

S Judaism plays an active role in many of Moses’ stories. “The Uncivilized,” featuring Felix Felder, a survivor who survived the Holocaust because his parents were radicals and hadn’t converted them. They and his sister, Esther, died in the gas chambers. When, years later, he gives his dog as a pet, Felder believes it is the reincarnation of his sister. That finally gives him a chance to learn what happened to her and think about how lucky he’s been in his own life. However, his daughter would now like to change more than one, he resists.

A family lives on a secular kibbutz in Israel, talking about racing and duty in “The Holy Messiah.” When his son becomes religious after his stint in the army, the family must come to cope with this major change – one that goes against their active dislike of Orthodox practice. Mixed feelings play a large role in “Next of Kins” where Annie, who has been sick with cancer for the past three years, wishes her 95-year-old mother would die. Annie is weary from her own illness and dealing with Ruth – who suffers from dementia and other health problems – is just too much. Perhaps life would be easier if Annie got support from her husband, Paul, but, since retirement and her illness, he’s retreated into his own world.

A mixed marriage plays a role in “The Man Who Loved His Wife” when Julia Jewish Glass marries Martin, a non-practicing Christian. Neither have expressed interest in any religion, Western or Eastern, until Julia becomes ill. Then one day, she unexpectedly tells Martin that Jesus appeared before her and she wants a Christian funeral, something that does not sit well with her parents. Yet, something similar happens to Martin that creates an odd, but interesting, end to this story.

Several stories focus on parents and children. “The Story of My Socks” shows the effect on a young child of matters beyond his clear understanding, in this case, his mother’s illness and society’s potential for antisemitism. The fact that his parents have very different reactions to his suffering does not help. Sol is faced with a different dilemma in “Sol’s Visit,” when his mother becomes ill enough to need a nursing home. The home, though, is not accepting of her mother’s capacity for love, something of which she was unaware. What Moses does in this story, and all the stories in her book, is create interesting characters who face difficult events with wit, pathos and deep feelings.

Although there is no central theme in “The Man Who Loved His Wife,” the stories in “Sarahland” are connected by a literary device: all include characters named Sarah and most of those Sarahs are Jewish. Fortunately, this quirk – which could have been irritating – is easy to overlook.

The best story, “The First Sarah,” is a clever reworking of the biblical story of Sarah and Hagar, in addition to being a subversive look at the struggle between God and Mother Nature to rule the world. More disturbing, though, is “Sarahland,” which takes place in a college dormitory. The main Sarah in question (the story features several) finds herself part of a clique, surrounded by people she’s not sure she likes, while doing activities with the group that are not only unsatisfying, but painful. Some readers will find parts of this story upsetting.

See “Connections” on page 7
May 7-20, 2021

TC to take part in Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Temple Concord will observe Shavuot this year with 14 other Reform congregations through the Small Congregations Tikkun Leil Shavuot. Clergy from 35 congregations will be offering programs every hour starting at 7 pm on Sunday, May 16, through noon on Monday, May 17. “I am excited to offer so many options for our congregation and community for Shavuot,” said Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wantell, spiritual leader of Temple Concord. “One Shavuot tradition is to stay up all night studying and engaging with others. We are able to offer this opportunity for you to do this from your own home this year with others from across the country.”

Goldman-Wantell will teach “Renewing our Personal and Collective Covenant with God” at 8 pm on Sunday. She will explore the idea of standing again at Sinai and renewing the Jewish covenant with writing from Abraham Joshua Heschel, Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and David Brooks. She will also conduct the Shavuot service with Rabbi Erica Asch at 11 am on Monday. Other online study sessions include music, TV shows and a celebration of Torah for all ages.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Temple Concord at templeconcordbinghamton@gmail.com or 723-3755 for a link to the programs.

Hillel Academy celebrated Israel Independence Day

Students from Hillel Academy of Broome County celebrated Yom Ha’atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, on April 19. Students marched with Israeli flags.

Intersisterhood held program

More than 30 participants joined to create a Kiddush cup coaster during the 2021 Intersisterhood event. Maxine Rosenberg provided the step-by-step instructions. Hosted by Temple Israel, the event was coordinated by Ani Loew of Temple Concord, Dora Polachek of Beth David Synagogue and Barbara Zeltzer of Temple Israel. Participants Zoomed in locally, as well as from the Bahamas, Florida and California. The event was called “a great success, and a fun and productive way to connect safely.”

Children . . . Continued from page 1 works, “but we’re always looking for interesting stories that reflect our dynamic community.”

The pandemic has made it more difficult to publicize the books. Their original plan was to visit synagogues and Jewish centers in person, but that hasn’t happened. Rosenstrech hopes they’ll be able to have in-person events soon. She is also looking forward to publishing even more books. “We’d like to continue to offer books that speak to the variety of Jewish practice and people within the community,” she said. “We’re also looking for ways to individualize and amplify the reading experience. When a child can more thoroughly immerse themselves in the culture, it naturally becomes internalized and a seamless part of their lives. With our books we currently offer games and activities that allow readers to extend their participation. We hope to expand on this with added crafts, games, and personalized books.”

Anyone interested in submitting a manuscript can do so through the press’ website, KalanioBooks.com, or by e-mailing Submissions@KalanioBooks.com. “We apologize in advance,” Rosenstrech said. “Sometimes it can take us a month to respond because of the number of submissions we receive. Nudges are welcomed. Please note that our list is very small. This means that we often pass on many wonderful manuscripts because we simply don’t have space in our program.”

To learn more about the press and its books, visit KalanioBooks.com.

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On Israel Independence Day, Hillel Academy students marched outside with Israeli flags.

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Looking for this issue’s “Jewish Resources to occupy your family during social distancing”? Visit www.thereportergroup.org, click on Features and then Miscellaneous Feature to find out what’s happening online.

Hillel Academy seeks new administrative assistant

Hillel is looking for a new administrative assistant beginning full time in the Fall. We will train the individual in May & June. Candidates should email Joy Tarkan at joyyarkoni@gmail.com

Job Description: Corresponding and interfacing with state and district offices, on behalf of the school. Knowledge of CDF PP funding, private school grants, scholarships, and the ability to research & apply for relevant applications for private school funding, and understand state and federal regulations. Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and Google Suite, including Onedrive and Google Drive.

Preparring financial reports for the board and CPA. Maintaining files of current and prospective students – contact information, academic files, and health records. Ordering office supplies for teachers. Opening and distributing mail. Supervising students during recess and at other times, as needed. Walking students over to the JCC for UPK and Kids Connection. Taking and distributing email and phone messages to teachers, parents, and students. Assisting Journal committee with all aspects of the Annual Journal Fundraiser. Drafting and sending correspondence about school events, schedule, and other matters to parents. Troubleshooting office equipment. Answering and directing phone calls.

Skills: Written and verbal communication. Bookkeeping (Quickbooks Desktop and/or Online). Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and Google Suite, including OneDrive and Google Drive.

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Visit us on the web at www.thereportergroup.org

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Skills: Written and verbal communication. Bookkeeping (Quickbooks Desktop and/or Online). Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and Google Suite, including OneDrive and Google Drive.
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Fax: 607.724.1337
E-mail: parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com
Website: www.parsonsfuneral.com
Hours: 24/7/365

The Ernest H. Parsons Funeral Home, located at 71 Main St., Binghamton, has been a landmark since 1928 and is located in the J. Stewart Wells Mansion, built by renowned architect Isaac Perry, who completed construction in 1867.

Ernest H. Parsons owned and operated the funeral home from 1928 until his death in 1976. Charles Mills purchased the funeral home after Ernest’s death and continued the tradition until his retirement in 2012. The current owners – J. Fritsch, R. Fynew, S. Pilkotcherry and K. Vukan – stand to uphold the original motto of the founder: “Let Us Serve You with Understanding.” Parsons Funeral Home offers distinctive service with respectful attentiveness to the cremation sites and to the families’ desires to accord a last tribute of affection and esteem to their departed loved ones.

Hopler & Eschbach Funeral Home

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Hours: 24-hour service, 365 days a year

With our facilities in the heart of the city, one Hopler & Eschbach Funeral Home invites you to turn to its caring staff to help guide you through the funeral process. Deeply experienced and knowledgeable in the performance of Jewish burial customs, Kurt and his staff are the most qualified professionals in the community to help plan and carry out your funeral or memorial services. They provide services at your synagogue, the funeral home or cemetery, and also provide cremation services and funeral pre-planning. The funeral home and parking areas are newly renovated and spacious. Staff work diligently to provide the highest quality service at a cost that is 10-30% lower than other funeral homes. With their quality service, fair pricing and newly renovated facilities, Kurt and his staff believe you will make Hopler & Eschbach Funeral Home your new family tradition.

To advertise or for more information, e-mail Charlie Pritchett at advertising@thereportergroup.org

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Adam J. Underwood, Ph.D., D.D.S.
Michael D. Carman, D.D.S.
723-8377
18 Leroy Street, Binghamton, NY

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723-8377
18 Leroy Street, Binghamton, NY
It’s dangerous to look up food related items on the web. I wanted to write something for Shavuot that didn’t talk about the random old dairy foods again. (Of course, if someone wants to make me blintzes or cheesequake for the holiday, I would gratefully accept their gift.) Our main news source has not been getting us holiday articles in a timely manner and no public relations person has approached me with a sample of a new food for Shavuot, so I decided to search the Internet for inspiration. One listing tempted me to click through for a closer look.

What did https://jamiegeller.com offer that was different from the other listings? Themed Shavuot meals! Yes, it has menus for a Mexican Shavuot meal and an Indian Shavuot one. What an interesting idea, or, at least, an idea I never before considered. For Mexican, think cheese quesadillas or chips, salsa, vegetarian refried beans with cheese melted over the top. (There are some good non-dairy cheese products available to eat with these.) For Indian, think curry or vegetable dishes. And, of course, there must be a variety of salads with cheese would work. Cookbook author Jamie Geller also has an elegant menu for the holiday for those who want something fancier. I’m not going to make those foods this year (or at least, not the full menus), but I left me thinking about next year when I hope we’ll be able to gather for the holiday. My synagogue holds potlucks after Shavuot morning services. What if we had a themed meal? Yes, one year could be Mexican and the next year Indian. I can see a Greek meal. (I love Greek salads with feta cheese and dairy free, sponges of spanokopita would be great – although we might have to find a frozen one because I’m not sure anyone would want to make that from scratch.) Oh, and what about an Italian meal? Think caprese salad! Different types of salads with cheese would also be wonderful. Once you start thinking, there are so many possibilities. The potlucks feel important because many single people (whether newly single, married, divorced or widowed) come to services. It makes the day feel more festive if, instead of each of us returning to our homes for a solitary meal, we stay and eat together. I haven’t been dining on my own during much of the pandemic. (My natural introverted nature has had a chance to shine.) But I have missed shared meals. There is a reason we feast on holidays and invite people to eat with us, or gather at our synagogues for a meal. Breaking bread brings us closer. We feel connected to people with whom we share food in a way we don’t feel with others.

This year it’s unlikely any of our organizations will be holding a shared meal, but I think we can still appreciate Shavuot from a food point of view, and I don’t just mean eating dairy. Whether you celebrate the holiday with blin- tzes, cheesequake, ice cream or a fancy Geller-style dish, remember that our food customs connect us, even when we are physically apart.

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

From DNS.org
Orthodox synagogue appoints Israel’s first solo female spiritual leader
Rabbanit Shira Marili Mirvis made history the week of May 3 by becoming the first woman in Israel to serve as an Orthodox synagogue’s sole spiritual leader. The Shirat Tamar Synagogue in Efrat has appointed Mirvis as its spiritual leader and authority on Jewish law. While in the past Orthodox women have been appointed as spiritual leaders in Orthodox synagogues, they have always served alongside a male rabbi, according to The Jerusalem Post. The synagogue’s board of management called Mirvis’s appointment “clear recognition of her remarkable accomplishments as a teacher and communal leader…. We are confident that she will continue to serve as a true role model.” Mirvis will be graduating in June from a five-year course at the Susi Bradford Women’s Institute of Halakhic Leadership (WIHL) at Ohur Torah Stone’s Midreshet Lindenbaum. Graduates of the course are certified as “spiritual leaders” and morot ha’arah, which translates in English to women who are authorized to provide guidance in issues pertaining to Jewish law. The Efrat resident teaches a weekly Talmud blog and is an adjudicator of matters related to Jewish law for people around the world, reported The Jerusalem Post.

Israeli medical cannabis inhaler receives approval to sell in Canada
The Israeli Pharma-technology company Syqe Medical has received approval from Canadian health officials to sell its metered-dose medical cannabis inhaler in Canada, the company announced on April 28. The Syqe Inhaler – the first pharmaceutical-grade medical-cannabis delivery device – releases a controlled amount of Cannabis buds through inhalation, ensuring that medical marijuana patients receive the proper dose. The technology used in the portable, handheld device went through 10 years of research and development, including testing in a number of research trials, said Michael Milloy, general manager of Syqe Medical in Canada. The inhaler will be available to patients in Canada with medical authorization through Syqe Medical Canada, in partnership with a Canadian licensed producer.

Howard Hanna – Suzanne (Sue) Krause
Krause
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Name: Sue Krause is a licensed associate real estate broker with Howard Hanna in Vestal, NY. After working in real estate in California and Massachutes, Sue returned to real estate in the Greater Binghamton area in 2007, after spending many years as a successful healthcare consultant. She is a consistent multi-million dollar producer and President’s Council member, and would love to help you with any of your real estate needs!

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E-mail: susan@tcfdpc.com
Website: www.tcfdpc.com
Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. 7 am-6 pm; Fri. 7 am-2:30 pm
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\" That they could also be taught feel at ease, they were so kind and took care of her.\"

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

NEWS IN BRIEF

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The first part of the double Torah portion for Shabbat Behar-Behukotai, dated for the sabbatical year known as shemita. The shemita year falls every seven years. We will be entering a shemita year on Rosh Hashana this year, which means that we will observe only four sabbaths for the land, a year for letting it rest and a year for forgiving debts between people. The shemita here deals with the land; in contrast, the second part of the double portion, Behukotai, focuses on the shemita and debts is discussed as well. We learned last year that, when people in many places around the world were confined to their homes, and the food supplies grew scarce, they were freer to roam. People who do not own the land, or have control of the environment, plants and animals for our own benefit and enjoyment. We have an obligation to care for the earth, for the vegetation and for the animals. Having the land in the hands of the people, not the owners of the earth. This may run counter to laws in countries about purchasing and owning real estate, a situation that helps make it a paradise for all who live in it. People in the world, part of a long chain of people to live in these spaces. Hazon and Limmud offered a one-day learning day on Saturday, May 8, to help us imagine the future. We can prepare for and make the most of the upcoming Shemita on page 4.
In June 1948, Dolph Schayes graduated from New York University with a degree in aeronautical engineering. Although pro-

fessional basketball still lacked prestige, Schayes’ love of the game led him to sign with the Syracuse Nationals of the National Basketball League for $7,500. He reasoned that he would give the pro game a try and that after a year or two he would be young enough to begin a full-time career off the court.

Thus, the 32-year-old Schayes, who had never traveled further from his native New York City than the Catskills, joined the Syr-

acute Nationals. After each of his first two seasons in the pros, Schayes returned to his Jewish neighborhood in the Bronx to live with his parents. In 1949, Syracuse joined the new National Basketball Association. Schayes remained with Syracuse until 1963 when the team, along with Dolph, moved to Philadelphia, changing its name to the 76ers. After Philadelphia’s 1963-64 season, he retired as an active player.

In college, Dolph had played center; Syracuse moved him to forward. At 6’8”, he was perhaps the first big pro to play with the agility of a small man and certainly the first modern forward. Of his own play, Dolph said, “I looked at myself as a driving, slashing-type player.”

In Schayes’ early years as a pro, teams traveled by bus and train; few players made more than $1,000 a year, and meal money was five dollars per day. Of the amenities received as a starter in the NBA’s first all-star game, played in Boston on March 2, 1951, Dolph recalls, “We were bused into one of the worst hotels in the history of the world.” Since NBA games were not yet nationally televised, star players were usually recognized only by fans in cities with franchises.

Initially, Schayes was only one of many Jewish basketball players in the pros. In contrast to the vituperative antisemitism baseball’s Hank Greenberg experienced during the Great Depression, Dolph, a pro during the more tolerant postwar era and not the first great Jewish player in his sport, experienced little intolerance. During his era, Schayes asserted that the NBA gener-

ally played a 24-second shot clock that slowed their pace. On August 10, 1954, Nationals President Danny Biasone, who served on the NBA’s consulting committee, gathered other owners in the gymnasium at Syracuse’s Blodgett Elementary School to try “out for the first time a 24-second shot clock, which would limit how long a team could freeze the ball before it shot a shot.” Schayes par-

ticipated in that experimental scrimmage, recalling that initial awkwardness with the clock yielded up to tempo play.

By the time Schayes left the playing ranks, the NBA, its style of play energized with jet; continental expansion and network television made star players national cele-

brities. Jewish players were a rarity; and Black athletes had emerged as the game’s dominant group. After Schayes retired, the reserve clause died, allowing even mediocre players to become multimillionaires.

Dolphins by its best years as an NBA superb, hits a 3-point shot from 17,000 feet. Moreover, when the NBA pension plan was created, it did not, for many years, include athletes when they retired. In relative terms, Syracuse was a small, slow-paced metropolitan area. Certainly, Schayes thought, the NBA’s recognition in a larger media-oriented city.

The movement of players was much less than today and Syracuse ownership tried to keep the nucleus of the team together through the year. In 1951, after Schayes married Naomi Gross, a strong and attract-

ive Jewish woman, he, like most of his teammates, established full-time residence in the Syracuse area.

Together, Dolph and Naomi raised four children: Debra, a math teacher; Carrie, achi-

ropactor; David, a social worker; and Dan, a basketball player. During the off-season, Schayes worked as an engineer for General Electric and became a partner in a summer camp for children, Camp Walden. Later, he

owned a construction field, building and managing some apartment houses.

Dolph played for only three coaches in Syracuse: Al Cervi, Paul Seymour and Alex Hannum. Cervi transformed the mild mannered Schayes into a “don’t give up,” scratch and claw, aggressive player. But it was Hannum who noted, “Dolph was always one of the first on the court for practice, but most often, he was the last off...his self-discipline in practice is what has made Dolph so great.”

A broken right wrist in 1952, necessi-

tating a hand cast, only enhanced Schayes’ game, forcing him to shoot proficiently from the left. Season after season, he ranked among the NBA’s leaders in scoring and rebounds. In addition to his prowess as a shooter and rebounder, Dolph, an excellent all-around player, possessed outstanding passing and defensive skills. When Schayes hung his sneakers up, he ranked among the greatest professionals who had ever played the game. Named an NBA All-Star (first or second team) 12 times, he led Syracuse to 15 NBA playoffs, including a champi-

onzhip in 1954-55. Schayes was the Nats’ leading scorer for 12 consecutive seasons (1949-50 through 1960-61), averaging more than 20 points a game during each of the last six of those campaigns.

Dolphins Schayes, part II: Jewry’s pre-eminent NBA star BILL SIMONS

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International Federation imposes four-year jade ban on Iran over discrimination

The International Judo Federation suspended Iran on April 29 for attempting to prevent its athletes from participating in international competitions. The ban was imposed after the team’s actions during a match against Israel were deemed “unsportsmanlike” by the federation’s code of conduct. Iran has 21 days to appeal the decision. This is the third time Iran has been suspended by the IJF since 2019.

Schayes could lick you more ways than Knicks coach Vince Boryla contended, per game over a 16-season career. Former

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Antisemitic incidents in Canada rose for the fifth consecutive year in 2020, marking an 18.3 percent jump in the number of offenses in 2019, according to B’nai Brith Canada’s Annual Report: Antisemitic Incidents. A record 2,610 acts were recorded in 2020 for an average of 7.1 incidents per day. Antisemitic acts nearly doubled in 2020 compared to 2019.

Joint call. Seven of the winning projects are supported by Google. The grant winners, a team of U.S. envoys is being dispatched to calm the fears of regional allies because efforts of the Biden administration to revive the Iran nuclear deal. Their plans may include visiting Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, and Jordan.

The Jerusalem Post

The European Union Parliament passed a resolution on April 28 that targeted the E.U.'s annual budgetary procedure, which scrutinizes how European taxpayer funds to provide oxygen, filtered masks and other medical supplies through SEWA, and telemedicine support for IUC doctors and nurses to consult with their peers in the United States and Israel. JDC responds to surge of coronavirus cases in India

EU Parliament passes resolution censuring UNRWA for teaching hate in schools

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, in coordination with the Israeli Jewish community and its local partner WEAR Cooperative Federation, is responding to the surge of coronavirus cases in India by deploying ventilators to hospitals in Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Manufacturing in Israel, the ventilators are in high demand by the country’s increasingly overwhelmed medical services.

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