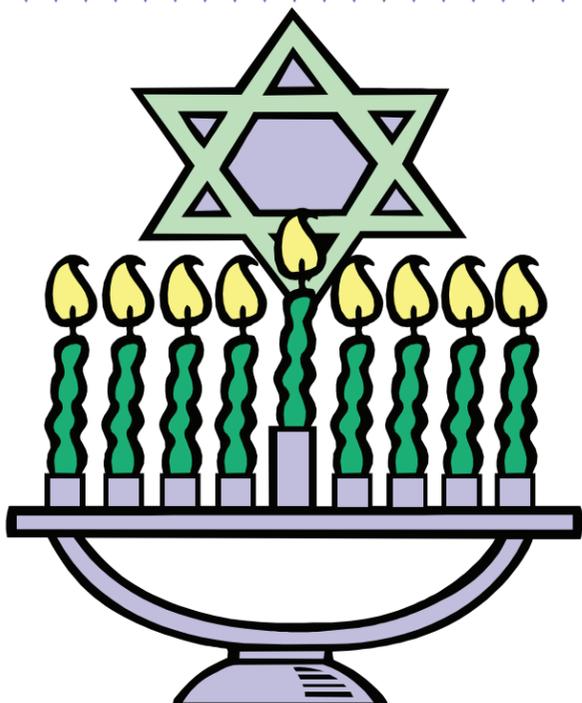


Happy Hanukkah 5783



Opinion

From the Desk of the Federation Executive Director

With gratitude

SHELLEY HUBAL

Cultivating patience takes practice. It is something that I try to work on every day, although some days are much easier than others. Long lines in the grocery store: a chance to stretch my back. Traffic on the parkway: a good opportunity to take a deep breath and get centered. Waiting for my kids to call or text: an opportunity to hold a loving space for them and remind myself they are independent adults. (This one is the hardest.)

Why is patience important? Rumi says, "If I sit in my own place of patience, what I need flows to me, and without

pain. From this I understand that what I want also wants me, is looking for me and attracting me."

What I realized recently is that it doesn't matter what I "want"; my job is to make the space for my soul to live the life it was meant to live. To attract a life filled with love and peace. My soul, your soul, the soul of every living creature has a role in this world that God created. Meditation and prayer are methods of cultivating your "own place of patience." When you meditate or pray, you are opening yourself to the flow of life. Meaningful prayer is

a way of saying to God "here is my heart, fill it with your light," and then it is your job to wait patiently, observe and move toward love.

The eight nights of Hanukkah give us eight reminders that God is always present. We are reminded that we are each filled with God's light and love, and that we must share that light with the world.

This Hanukkah I am wishing you all the fullness of God's love and light. May your soul's path always be illuminated.

Point/counterpoint

Jon Stewart is right about how to fight antisemitism – and should maybe be our "spokesjew"

By PJ Grisar
The Forward

This story originally appeared in the Forward. To get the Forward's free e-mail newsletters delivered to your inbox, go to forward.com/newsletter-signup.

November 15 on "The Late Show," Jon Stewart sat down with his old friend Stephen Colbert to talk Kyrie Irving, Kanye West and Dave Chappelle's "SNL" monologue. In jest, he referred to himself as our "spokesjew." His read of the situation has me thinking that such a role should exist – and maybe he should inaugurate it.

Starting with humor, Stewart defused the absurdity of antisemitic myths by steering right into them.

"I'm not on all the committees, and I don't know who ended Kanye's Adidas deal," Stewart said. "I'm on oil prices and bagel flavors." (Blueberry bagels were the

work of a "rogue committee.")

Later, he pivoted to a clear-eyed analysis of the best way to combat tropes of Jewish control: not by forcing an apology tour or silencing any murmurs of conspiracy, but by having frank and public discussions.

"Penalizing somebody for having a thought, I don't think it is the way to change their minds or gain understanding," Stewart said, addressing Kyrie Irving's suspension. "This is a grown-ass man. And the idea that you would say to him, 'We're gonna put you in a timeout. You have to sit in the corner and stare at the wall until you can no longer believe that the Jews control the international banking system.' Like, we have to get past this in the country."

Addressing his old friend Dave Chappelle's monologue, Stewart dismissed concerns from acquaintances who told him See "Right" on page 13

Jon Stewart is not our "spokesjew" – he normalized hate speech

By Elad Nehorai
The Forward

This story originally appeared in the Forward. To get the Forward's free e-mail newsletters delivered to your inbox, go to forward.com/newsletter-signup.

Jon Stewart gained praise and acclaim for his "empathetic" and "thoughtful" interview with Stephen Colbert on the "The Late Show" on November 15. He discussed recent antisemitic rhetoric from celebrities such as Kanye West and Kyrie Irving, as well as a monologue delivered by his close friend Dave Chappelle.

The "Saturday Night Live" monologue Chappelle delivered, responding to West and Irving's conspiracy theories, was quickly excoriated by ADL CEO Jonathan Greenblatt, who tweeted that he was disturbed to see the show "not just normalize but popularize" antisemitism.

Stewart's interview was meant to be a sort of salve from our "spokesjew" (Stewart's words), addressing what has not only been a painful and scary experience for Jews, but also one that has disproportionately affected the Black community – the focus of the discussion has largely been on three Black celebrities – and largely erased Black Jews.

But Stewart profoundly failed, and further normalized antisemitism and racism in the process. He did this through surprisingly facile, empty arguments largely based in conjecture rather than reality.

At the beginning of his interview, Stewart responded to the idea that Chappelle normalized antisemitism by pointing out that it has already become mainstream. "I don't know if you've been on comments sections on most news articles, it's pretty [bleeped] normal."

See "Hate" on page 13

In My Own Words

An ode to plumbers, electricians, etc.

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN, EXECUTIVE EDITOR

My first thought was that winter is definitely coming. That happened after seeing that the emergency message boards on Routes 17 and 81 had a new message. No, they weren't warning me about an upcoming storm. Instead, they were trying to entice workers to apply for a position with the New York State Department of Transportation plowing snow. I'm guessing they need workers to replace those who retired during the height of the pandemic or left for other positions.

Now, driving a snow plow might not sound exciting or thrilling (well, except if you're a fan of the Weather Channel show about trucks and cars being rescued during major snowstorms), but it's extremely important work. Just think about how essential those snow plows were after the recent storm in the Buffalo area. (For those who have short memories, the city received up to six feet of snow.) In fact, we have had a few doozies ourselves over the past few years, and it's vital to our area to get our roads plowed so emergency vehicles can respond when needed. Those who work in hospitals, nursing homes and residences for those with developmental disabilities can't leave until their replacements arrive. I know some who spent 36-48 hours working a few years ago until the roads

were cleared. Plus, workers who get paid by the hour can lose a large percentage of their income if they can't travel to their place of employment.

The Jewish community praises intellectual abilities, but hands-on jobs, as they are called, are what keep our communities working smoothly. This is *not*, by the way, to denigrate the intelligence of those who are plumbers, electricians, mechanics, construction workers and technicians of all kinds. It *takes* intelligence to do those jobs well. The people working in those positions are often not given enough credit not only for their ability to learn and understand their craft, but the creativity needed to do it well.

I thought about this recently in terms of plumbing. One of my sinks started to drip: that may not sound like a big deal, but 1) it was wasting a great deal of precious water and 2) could greatly increase my water bill. Now, I wish I knew how to handle some basic plumbing, but I'll blame that on my father, who was the son of a plumber and definitely did *not* want to follow in his father's footsteps. Although I don't know details, I do know that my father knew some basic plumbing, but never used it: in our house, my dad called a client when something

went wrong with the plumbing. He was definitely not a hands-on type of person. His talent was different. As an accountant, he could add large columns of numbers in his head because he began working in the field before adding machines were common (and this was decades before calculators).

There was a meme on Facebook recently talking about how not everyone needs an expensive college education; some people would do better at a vocational school that would give them actual skills, rather than a degree in a less practical field. (Years ago, I used to joke that my sociology degree and 25 cents would buy me a cup of coffee. Now I would have to say my degree and \$1.25 might buy me a really cheap cup of coffee.) Many plumbers, electricians, etc. make more an hour than those of us who work in non-profit organizations or in the retail market do and, if they work for the state, they get decent benefits and a pension.

Work – any type of work – should be honored if done well. The jobs many of us do not want to do are often the unpleasant, dangerous and important ones that keep our society functioning. As we approach the end of the year, we should take the time to appreciate those whose work we often take for granted.



Jewish Federation
of Greater Binghamton

Shelley Hubal, Executive Director

607-724-2332 ~ www.jfgeb.org

The Reporter Editorial Committee

Rebecca Goldstein Kahn, chairwoman

Rachel Coker, Ben Kasper,

Toby Kohn, Richard Lewis,

Robert Neuberger

HOW TO REACH THE REPORTER

Mail ~ The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Rd. Vestal, NY 13850

E-mail ~ TRreporter@aol.com

Phone ~ 607-724-2360 or 800-779-7896

Extension#/Department ~ 1. Advertising 2. Business Office

3. Art Department 4. Circulation 6. Editorial/News



BINGHAMTON, NY

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

Regular weekly deadline is noon, Wednesday, for the following week's newspaper.

Executive Editor Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Layout Editor Diana Sochor

Advertising Kathy Brown

Bookkeeper Kathy Brown

Production Associate Julie Weber



Proofreaders
Barbara Bank, Fran Ferentinos,
Rebecca Goldstein Kahn, Merri Pell-Preus,
Ilene Pinsker, Heidi Thirer

"The Reporter" (USPS 096-280) is published bi-weekly for \$40 per year by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734. Periodicals Postage Paid at Vestal, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY 13850-3734 or reach us by e-mail at TRREPORTER@AOL.COM.

www.thereporter.org

Community Hanukkah Celebration on Dec. 22 at JCC

The annual Community Hanukkah Celebration, which is being co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, will take place at the JCC, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, on Thursday, December 22, from 5:15-7 pm.

The evening will begin with the Hanukkah torch walk, during which children and teens from the community will lead a procession of lights from the entrance to Temple Israel's parking lot to the front of the JCC. There will be a brief ceremony with music and recitations. The event will then move into the JCC's auditorium and feature performances by the JCC Early Childhood Center and Hillel Academy, as well as a showing of the annual community Hanukkah video.

The torch walk will take place from 5:15-5:30 pm, followed by entertainment from 5:30-6 pm at which time



the food buffet will open. Food tickets will be sold for \$8 per person and \$6 for seniors and children with a family maximum of \$28, and will include traditional holiday refreshments.

There will be a guest appearance by Rowdy the Rumble Pony's mascot, who will partake in the games, face painting and arts and crafts with the children from 6-7 pm.

Reservations are greatly appreciated and can be made by calling the JCC office at 724-2417.

At left: Community teens held torches during the 2021 Community Hanukkah party sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton and the Jewish Community Center. L-r (back): Katie Sochor, Ari Green and Shayna Foreman. In front, l-r: Rebecca Martin and Colleen Godleski.

Film Fest to show "Greener Pastures" in January

By Reporter staff

The Binghamton Jewish Film Fest will hold a virtual showing of the Israeli comedy "Greener Pastures" in January. The film is in Hebrew with English subtitles. Registration is required prior to Thursday, January 12, which is when the link will be sent out. A discussion moderated by Neisen Luks will take place on Sunday, January 15, at 5 pm. Registration is free, but donations are welcome. To register, visit www.jfgeb.org/.

The film tells the story of 79-year-old Dov, whose family has forced him to move into a nursing home. Dov can't remain his home because he has no money due to having lost his pension savings. He dislikes the nursing home and dreams of finding a way to make money so he



Shlomo Bar-Aba, Doval'e Glickman, Gadi Yagil and Joy Rieger in Greener Pastures.

The Reporter matches matching grant for third year

By Reporter staff

For the third year, *The Reporter* announced that it matched its matching grant from the David and Virginia Eisenberg Fund. Unlike the past two years when the match was \$500, this year the fund offered a \$2,500 matching grant. *The Reporter* raised more than \$3,000.

"We are thrilled to receive a matching grant again this year and grateful that it was for a larger amount than last year," said Rabbi Rachel Esserman, executive editor of *The Reporter*. "We owe a special thank you to the David and Virginia Eisenberg Fund that was gracious enough to offer the grant. We are also grateful to readers of the paper who generously donated money."

Esserman noted that this support is even more important now than it was in the past. "Although we've been moving out from the pandemic, some businesses have not survived or suffered financial losses and can't advertise," she said. "That makes readers' and founda-

tions' donations even more important."

She also noted that difference between *The Reporter* and the local secular newspaper. "We offer a service to the Jewish community by giving them a one-stop place filled with news and features they won't find anywhere else," she said. "Those include Bill Simon's sports columns and our award-winning book reviews and editorials."

Esserman offered thanks to Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, for helping to arrange the grant and *The Reporter's* production

See "Grant" on page 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Hanukkah

Local Hanukkah celebrations are announced; online events; a look at latkes vs. sufganiyot; Hanukkah in America; holiday recipes.

Pages 3, 6, 7, 10-12, 14

Talks around town

Rabbi Benny Kellman will speak at the next BD luncheon; a Dead Sea Scrolls scholar to speak at BD Sisterhood meeting.

Page 5

News in brief...

Israel ranks fifth for tourist safety; and more.

Pages 16-17

Special Sections

- Book Reviews 4
- Healthcare Greetings..... 6, 7
- Personal Greetings 10-12
- Classifieds 15

DEADLINES

The following are deadlines for all articles and photos for upcoming *REPORTER* issues.

ISSUE	DEADLINE
Dec. 30-Jan. 12, 2023	December 21
January 13-26	January 4
January 27-February 9	January 18
February 10-23	February 1

All deadlines for the year can be found at www.thereportergroup.org/contact-us/faqs under "Q: What Are the Deadlines for the Paper?"

About the cover

This year's Chanukah cover was created by Julie Weber, production associate for *The Reporter*.

SAME SUE, SAME RESULTS... *Happy Chanukah from*

Laura Melville Team of Warren Real Estate

SUZANNE "SUE" KRAUSE
NYS Lic. Associate R.E. Broker

(C) 607-760-3366 | SUEKRAUSE@WARRENHOMES.COM
THELAURAMELVILLETEAM.WARRENHOMES.COM
33 FRONT STREET • BINGHAMTON, NY 13905

HAPPY CHANUKAH

ERNEST H. PARSONS FUNERAL HOME
Faithfully Serving Broome County Since 1928

PRE-ARRANGEMENTS AND PRE-FUNDING AVAILABLE
Joseph Fritsch
Managing Director

71 Main St., Binghamton, NY 13905
Phone 607-724-1336
Fax 800-948-5844
parsonsfuneral@yahoo.com
www.ParsonsFuneral.com
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

The Care You Need - in the Home You Love
Affordable, Professional Home Care You Deserve

Let At Home Help provide you or your loved ones independence and dignity by providing non-medical care services in the familiar surroundings of home, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Some of our many services:
Companionship • Alzheimer's & Dementia Care • Medication Reminders • Grocery Shopping • Laundry • Hospice Support • Overnight Care • Meal Preparation • House Cleaning
Plus other services tailored to your needs

607-238-1123 • Locally owned and operated • Free consultation
AtHomeHelpofBinghamton.com

Happy Chanukah!

MANASSE AUCTIONEERS
Since 1965

(607) 692-4540 • or • 1-800-MANASSE
Give Us A Call Today!

12 Henry St. (Rt. 26S), Whitney Point, N.Y.
Visit Our Website @ WWW.MANASSEAUCTIONS.COM

Wishing the Community a Happy Chanukah!

B BLANDING ELECTRIC, INC.

729-3545

Service Upgrades
Panel Change-outs
Heating Circuits
Indoor & Outdoor Lighting
Appliance Circuits & Outlets
Generator Installation
Data & Phone Cabling
Audio • Video • Security

FREE ESTIMATES GUARANTEED WORK EMERGENCY SERVICE

WINTER IS HERE!
Generator Installation
Roof De-Icer • Heat Circuits
Heat Tape • Outdoor Outlets

10% OFF
with this ad. Cannot be combined with other offers. Valid for Residential Service only. Expires 2/28/23

429 Commerce Road
Vestal, New York 13850
blanding-electric.com



Off the Shelf

Exploring history from two points of view

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

When researching a prominent family's history, what particular aspects of their lives should a historian explore? That depends, of course, on a researcher/writer's particular interest, although in the past that focus was often limited. For example, politics and warfare, rather than everyday life, were generally thought to be a historian's purview. This was particularly true when dealing with business dynasties. What made them interesting was how they obtained and held or lost their fortunes. In contemporary times, some historians, though, have focused on other aspects of the families' lives, for example, what we can learn from those members (usually meaning women) who were not involved in the business.

There is no one correct way to approach history: in fact, some historians blend both approaches in their works because there is often overlap. It can be difficult to understand a person's motivation without considering the funds available to them, just as it can be necessary to understand the personal considerations of someone making a business deal. Two recent books focus on different aspects of two wealthy Jewish families: "The Women of Rothschild: The Untold Story of the World's Most Famous Dynasty" by Natalie Livingstone (St. Martin's Press) explores the usually ignored female members of the family, while Joseph Sassoon's "The Sassoons: The Great Merchants and the Making of an Empire" (Pantheon Books) details the rise and fall of the Sassoons' business empire.

Livingstone begins by outlining how Mayer Amschel Rothschild's bank dynasty began in Frankfurt, Germany, in the mid-1880s and expanded by establishing banks in Paris, Vienna, Naples and London. When Mayer died, one part of his will focused on his daughters and daughters-in-law: female members of his family or the wives of male members were forbidden to work for, or take any part in, the business. Although it's clear that some men did talk to their wives about the decisions they made, the women of the family could not have any formal role in the industry that provided their income. Some of these women did forge their own paths outside the business, and there doesn't seem to be any open rebellion against the family's demands or the institutions founded by the family. In her work, Livingstone explores the lives of 15 Rothschild women, focusing mostly on those who belonged to the

British branch of the family.

The sheer amount of detail makes it difficult to generalize about the women. Those in England not only had to deal with the family's emphasis on its male members, they were Jewish in a Christian society. It's clear that, while there were no physical attacks, British society did not always welcome them. In the first few generations, those who married out were not welcome at family gatherings. Many marriages were made for financial reasons: marrying within the family helped not only to keep the money close, but created greater loyalty.

The stories of women in the 20th century were the most interesting, particularly that of Miriam Rothschild. Although Miriam had little formal education, she became one of Britain's major naturalists, publishing books on several subjects, including those on the fleas that are part of the Rothschild Collection at the British Museum. She also worked as a translator at Bletchley Park during World War II; even decades later, she generally refused to discuss her work there.

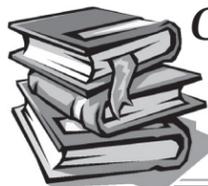
However, most of these women's stories offer something of interest, making "The Women of Rothschild" a wonderful source for writers of historical fiction looking for inspiration. There are times when it was difficult to remember the details of a particular woman, something not helped by the fact that many of them had the same or similar names. Fortunately, there is a family tree, although it's being spread over six pages makes it a bit cumbersome to use. However, these are quibbles: "The Women of Rothschild" is an important work of Jewish and women's history.

While Livingstone focuses more on Rothschild individuals than the family business, Sassoon (who is a member of a distant branch of the family) doesn't completely ignore some of the more interesting personalities in the Sassoon family. However, his main focus is on the business: he includes great details on the different aspects of the family's empire, including listings of the cost of the different products the company traded in. Although the family was originally located in Baghdad, Sheikh Sassoon ben Saleh

escaped due to political upheaval that targeted him and his family. The family settled in Bombay, India, but Sheikh Sassoon soon began sending his many sons to other countries to help facilitate trade. His son, David, continued this tradition with his many sons by two wives. Although the family generally worked together, one of David's sons, Elias, broke away to form his own business.

Both Sassoon businesses focused on trade, particularly that of opium and textiles. The author lists many specific business transactions to show how these products changed from the 18th to the 20th century. Also under discussion is the family's trade in opium, considered the most controversial part of their business, at least in contemporary times. However, the author makes it clear the opium was not illegal when the family and others traded in it, although these businessmen were partly responsible for its spread, particularly to China. Unfortunately, the family didn't respond to changes in the times, something that often left the business in inept hands. Even worse, younger members of the family were not interested in finance or trade, another reason the company finally died. That's particularly true of members of the family who lived in England and preferred a life of leisure. According to the author, what finally killed the company was Anglicization, meaning that the Sassoons wanted to act like other members of the British upper crust, rather than Jewish businessmen.

At first, there were marriages within the different branches of the family, in addition to those to outsiders that offered financial benefits. These included marriages to members of the Rothschild family. However, as time passed, intermarriages with the British allowed most of the Sassoons to divorce themselves from their Jewish origins. The book includes a two-page family tree, which was helpful, as were the smaller versions of that tree featured at the start of each chapter. This work will appeal to those most interested in the Sassoon business and who are willing to read about the many business transactions. Those looking for information about personalities will find some, but not as many as in Livingstone's book.



Off the Shelf

Two sides of the 1980s

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

The 1980s was a period of upheaval, particularly for women, because it seemed two distinct paths were open: one, the traditional path for women to marry and have children and, the second, a career, sometimes in fields that previously had rarely included women. Two recent novels focus on these choices: "Andrea Hoffman Goes All In" by Diane Cohen Schneider (She Writes Press) features a woman who chooses to work in a non-traditional field, while the main character in Corie Adjimi's "The Marriage Box" (She Writes Press) finds herself unexpectedly thinking about marriage, rather than college.

Two years after her graduation from college, Andrea Hoffman is working in a clothing store in Chicago. The choice was not deliberate: she simply had no idea what to do with her life. Her parents are encouraging her to attend

law school, something that does not interest her. However, when a robbery at the clothing store makes her realize she needs to move on, Andrea is still not sure what she actually wants to do. She takes a job in finance and discovers a fascinating and complex world that not only keeps her interest, but which offers great financial rewards. Although being Jewish and a woman are both strikes against her, Andrea becomes a success in her field.

Things are not perfect, though: the hours she works make it difficult to have a social life. It doesn't help that she's not completely over the college boyfriend who cheated on her. Other problems come with the lifestyle, including alcohol indulgence, cocaine, overspending and one-night affairs. But when something happens to a person she cares for, she is there. See "Sides" on page 6



Happy Chanukah!



Rose Shea

Director

Jewish Family Service



HAPPY CHANUKAH!

Savitch Agency Insurance

Providing the highest level of professional service for industry and the individual.

Security Mutual Building
PO Box 1923, Binghamton, NY 13902
772-1101
www.savitch.com




SHAUL'S APPLIANCE CENTER

Since 1935

SPECIALIZING IN NEW & USED APPLIANCES

<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.9em;">SALES - SERVICE - PARTS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">REPAIR & SERVICE ON MOST MAJOR BRANDS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">OPEN MON. through FRI. TIL 6:00, SAT. 9-2</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">FREE DELIVERY - FREE PARKING</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">72 MAIN ST. JOHNSON CITY</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">CALL 729-6356</p> <p style="font-size: 1.1em; font-weight: bold;">Happy Chanukah</p> 
---	---

Bishop Douglas J. Lucia and the People of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse Greet our Jewish Friends and Neighbors in Your Holy Season




May Our Friendship be a Blessing for All

May We Give Our Common Voice to the Ancient Promise of Shalom

BD December-January luncheon to feature Rabbi Benny Kellman

Beth David's Luncheon Speaker Series will continue in person on Saturday, January 14, with guest speaker Rabbi Benny Kellman. Kellman will speak on "Mobile Menschen: Mapping the Social Mobility of Jews in Binghamton, NY, 1890-1975."

"Where did Jews in Binghamton live in 1890, 1948 and 1975, and what can this tell us about the growth of the community?" said organizers of the event. "How does geographic mobility of Binghamton Jews fit into larger contexts with regard to 20th century American history? These questions will be addressed by Benny Kellman at Beth David's luncheon on January 14."

Kellman and his family moved to Binghamton from Monsey in 2015. He serves on the board of Beth David Synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton. He is the *mashgiach* of the Kosher Korner at Binghamton University. He is also a board member of the soon-to-be announced Southern Tier Museum of Jewish Life. He obtained his undergraduate degree with a major in history from SUNY-New Paltz, and is currently in his fourth year of a doctoral program in the Department of History at Binghamton University with Professor Jonathan Karp as his advisor.

His research on the Binghamton community is the first case study he is undertaking as part of his Ph.D. project, which will focus on small town Jewish communities and what can be learned about migration to and from these communities. "There are definite challenges," Kellman said, "In gathering addresses from the past, but with the help of BU's Professor Bradley Skopyk, my research is designed to be statistically quantifiable. I am using a sophisticated computer program whose tools store, analyze and interpret geographical data, and which

enable us to visualize the findings. I am looking forward to sharing my work in progress, and if anyone in the Jewish community has stories and artifacts they would like to share with me, they can reach me at bkellma2@binghamton.edu."

Beth David's Luncheon Speaker Series takes place the second Saturday of the month after Shabbat morning services, and is open to the community. People are encouraged to attend the morning service, which begins at 9:30 am. There is no charge for the luncheon. Since the monthly series' continuation depends



Rabbi Benny Kellman

on the generosity of contributors, Beth David welcomes and appreciates donations to the Luncheon Fund in order to keep the program going. Donations as well as sponsorships can be made in honor of or in memory of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Those wishing an acknowledgment to be sent to the person being honored or to the family of someone being remembered can indicate that along with the necessary information. Donations can be sent to Beth David Synagogue, 39 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905, Attention: Luncheon Fund.

BD Sisterhood Jan. meeting to feature Dead Sea Scrolls scholar

Beth David Sisterhood will host a Zoom meeting from Israel, featuring Dr. Miryam Brand, on Wednesday January 11, at 1 pm. She will discuss "Sin in the Second Temple Period," focusing on free will and determinism in the Dead Sea Scrolls. The meeting is open to all members and friends of Beth David Sisterhood. Anyone in the community with an interest in the topic is also welcome to attend.



Dr. Miryam Brand (Photo by Ronnie Sugarman)

Brand holds a Ph.D. in Bible and Second Temple literature from New York University. She has written a book on the portrayal of sin in the Second Temple period called "Evil Within and Without: The Source of Sin and Its Nature as Portrayed in Second Temple Literature," which was published in 2013. Her other publications include a

commentary on the Book of Enoch, which was published as part of "Outside the Bible."

Brand has taught at Brown University, New York University and Stern College. She has spoken at the Hebrew University, Cambridge University and the University of Kiel. She is currently an associate fellow at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research.

Information on how to obtain the Zoom link will be provided in the next edition of *The Reporter* and will also be available by contacting the Beth David Synagogue office at 722-1793 or bethdavid@stny.rr.com.

"Please encourage your friends and family to join us for what should be a very special event," organizers said.

Bar/Bat photos needed

Can we have your mug? Kids mugging for the camera and formal photos, that is. For *The Reporter's* annual Bar/Bat Mitzvah issue (coming January 27), we need photos of all teens who became bar/bat mitzvah during the calendar year of 2022. We are looking for one of the teen by him/herself, as well as a photo of the celebration with family and friends.

Please e-mail these photos with identification, including name, date and place of the bar/bat mitzvah ceremony. Please send them by Tuesday, January 17. Photos can be e-mailed, in TIF or JPG format, to TReporter@aol.com; please note in the subject line that a bar/bat photo for *The Reporter* is attached and include the necessary information in the message.

JFS seeks Dec. 25 volunteers

Jewish Family Service is looking for volunteers to help with meal delivery for the Annual Bandera Family Christmas Dinner, which will be held on Sunday, December 25. The Bandera Family and Community Alliance hosts this annual free Christmas dinner.

"It is best for volunteers to register online for this wonderful community service," said Rose Shea, director of JFS. "The website address for Binghamton/Endicott volunteers is www.banderachristmas.com/volunteer-binghamton/. It's easy to list one's name and contact info for return e-mail contact. They can also be reached at 231-0706, but it may take awhile for a return contact."

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

For information on advertising, please contact Kathy Brown at 724-2360, ext. 244 or advertising@thereporter.org

HAPPY CHANUKAH



Piaker & Lyons
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Tax Planning & Preparation
Accounting & Auditing
Business Valuations
Estate Planning

92 Hawley Street • P.O. Box 1330
Binghamton, NY 13902-1330

www.pnlcpa.com

Chanukah Greetings

Call us for all of your glass needs
Binghamton Plate Glass Co.

430 State Street 723-8293
Binghamton, NY

THE LASKY FAMILY

Happy Chanukah

from
ASSEMBLYWOMAN

Donna Lupardo

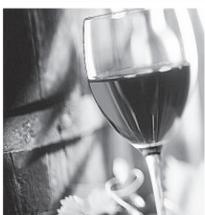
State Office Building, 17th Floor
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, New York 13901
723-9047 Phone • 723-9313 Fax
e-mail: lupardod@nyassembly.gov



LEROY PACKAGE STORE

The area's largest selection of Wines and Spirits!

We Carry over 50 different Kosher Wines:



- Case Discounts on Wine
- Special Orders Welcome
- Knowledgeable & Courteous Staff
- Organic & Low Sulfite Wines Available
- Over 700 Imported Wines From: France, Italy, Spain, & South America
- Over 250 New York State Wines

Our Wishes for a **HAPPY CHANUKAH**
64 Leroy Street, Binghamton, NY
724-2935
Mon. - Sat. 9:30am - 10:00pm



Happy Chanukah

from

The Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Shelley Hubal, Executive Director

Suzanne Holwitt, President

Jennifer Kakusian, Office Manager



On the Jewish food scene

Latkes vs. sufganiyot

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN

When I was a child, there was only one food option for Hanukkah: latkes. They were the only fried food we ate during the holiday. It wasn't until I was a teenager (or maybe even later) that I first heard of sufganiyot. What exactly are sufganiyot? Most of the ones I've eaten seem a cross between a jelly doughnut and a jelly-filled doughnut hole, although I've had some without a filling. (By the way, to show just how old I am, when I first heard of sufganiyot, there were no such things as doughnut holes. Yep, I grew up during in the ice ages.)

Some of you may have heard of the Latke-Hamantash Debate, a humorous symposium that began at the University of Chicago when professors and students semi-seriously debated whether the fried potatoes or the cookie was the better food. I even reviewed a book, "The Great Latke-Hamantash Debate" edited by Ruth Fredman Cernea and Ted Cohen, that featured essays from both sides of the issue.

Personally, the choice was easy: latkes win hands down. I mean, warm, comforting fried potatoes versus a dry cookie with never enough filing? I didn't even need to think about it. But this season, I started to wonder if the debate has the wrong focus. After all, it's more difficult to choose between two different fried foods: latkes vs. sufganiyot (especially those warm from the frying pan or

frier). Since I'm don't have the time or energy to organize a communitywide debate, I thought I would explore some options in this column.

First, savory vs. sweet: Although latkes vs. sufganiyot are both fried, the former is savory while the latter is sweet. Of course, you could make this a debate between sweet potato latkes (which I think of as a dessert) vs. sufganiyot, which would pit a semi-sweet (no sugar added) food against a really sweet one (especially if you put powdered sugar on top). Even though I love sweets, I would have to go with savory in this instance.

Hot from the oven vs. cold: No one (OK, no one with any real sense) eats latkes cold. They definitely need to be warm. While some people eat sufganiyot straight from the frier, most people wait until they've cooled. However, sweets don't need to be eaten warm and, if I had to choose between them as cold foods, I'd have to take the sufganiyot. However, if I could warm up my latkes, I would definitely go with the savory choice again.

Ashkenazic vs. Mizrahi: Tradition! (I'd break into the song of that name from "Fiddler on the Roof," but almost no one wants to hear me sing.) Why wouldn't you eat the same food your ancestors ate at Mount Sinai? (OK, to be

clear, Hanukkah is not mentioned in the Jewish Bible. The events that led to the holiday took place many, many centuries later and potatoes weren't introduced to Europe until after the European discovery of the Americas. So, relatively speaking, latkes are new. But when it comes to ritual, we do tend to think that whatever we do has been done forever.) Let me give you an example of what I mean about tradition: when it comes to Passover and charoset, I don't care how many different versions you have on your table. If the apple, walnuts, cinnamon and wine/grape juice one is not on the table, there is *no* charoset on the table. So, I do understand the psychological need to experience the holiday—and that includes food—the way you always have.

What's my final choice? Well, if I can only have one, I'll take latkes. But why do we have to choose? There are eight days of Hanukkah and that gives us plenty of time to try different fried foods and still have whatever is traditional in your family. In fact, I would suggest we try a different fried food every night, but I'm not sure our doctors would approve, at least for us old folks. Sigh, it might not be good for our cholesterol levels. Then again, Hanukkah only comes once a year.

CHANUKAH GREETINGS

Happy Chanukah

The Wolff Family
Michael & Wendy
Aaron & Carly & Maya
Emily & Melissa



From our families
to yours,
Happy Chanukah!

Ronald Sacks &
Ilene Pinsker



Happy Chanukah
May the lights of Chanukah burn
brightly in your lives.



Steven & Sandra Malkin and family

Wishing the
community
a Happy
Chanukah

The
Philips
Family




Adam Sandler talks about "The Chanukah Song" and a new film

By Alan Zeitlin

(JNS) – Adam Sandler recounted a funny remark from a celebrity mentioned in his famous "The Chanukah Song" when he spoke to a crowd at the 92nd Street Y (now called 92NY) in Manhattan on a recent Tuesday night.

Following a screening of his new film "Hustle," Sandler said he showed his daughters the spot on 56th and Broadway where he stood in front of a diner and had the idea for the tune. "I am so proud of that song, I love it," Sandler said, explaining that he excitedly wrote the song at the NBC studios of "Saturday Night Live." He didn't have Google back in 1994, and he went by what he thought was correct. The lyrics include: "Harrison Ford's a quarter Jewish..." and Sandler later found out he was off by 25 percentage points.

"I remember when I met Harrison Ford, he goes: 'Half!'" Sandler recounted as the crowd erupted in laughter.

In "Hustle," which can be seen on Netflix, Sandler plays Stanley Sugarman, a scout for the Philadelphia 76ers who



Adam Sandler at a press conference for "Click" in 2005. (Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons)

spots a Spanish phenom he thinks can be great in the NBA. Sandler said the character has the same name as his father, who passed away 20 years ago. Stanley Sandler, like the character, had a beard and taught his children sports. Sandler said when his father got mad, Sandler would do impressions of him.

He also said family events were fodder for comedy. "All my family's Jewish, everybody kind of has a funny way about them," Sandler said. "I definitely, after every family get-together, couldn't believe what I saw sometimes."

Sandler said his brother told him he should be a comedian like Eddie Murphy and even reserved a spot for him to perform at a club. "My brother is the reason I got into this whole

thing," he said.

Sandler recounted that he began doing stand-up comedy at the age of 17. It didn't click at first. "I would bomb every night," he said.

Of course, Sandler landed a gig as a cast member of "Saturday Night Live" and was known for being "Opera Man," along with other characters. He went on to an illustrious film career in which he played Israeli secret agent Zohan in 2008's "You Don't Mess with the Zohan." He also made a string of comedies and dramatic films such as 2002's "Punch-Drunk Love."

Interviewed by MTV reporter Josh Horowitz, Sandler was asked whether he had a temper in real life, given that many of his characters suffer from tendencies toward overwhelming rage. "I've had it for a long time," he said. "I would snap, but it would go away very quickly." He said he was scared backstage to hear that somehow Horowitz had not had a bar mitzvah.

See "Sandler" on page 13

Grant Continued from page 3

associate, Julie Weber, for creating the ad that appeared in the paper and on *The Reporter's* website.

Although the matching grant is over, Esserman noted that the paper is still accepting donations. "Every penny is appreciated to help keep our paper going," she said. Donations can still be made online through The Reporter Group's website, www.thereportergroup.org, or by mailing donations to The Reporter, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

Sides Continued from page 4

about deeply, Andrea realizes she needs to find a way to keep working in the field she loves, while finding more balance in her life.

Andrea is an engaging character and, while readers may not understand exactly what she does, the author manages to convey the excitement she and her co-workers feel after making a successful deal. The novel also portrays the ambivalence women felt at the time about whether it was possible to be successful in business and have a personal life. But what is clear is that, just like men, women can thrive on the adrenaline caused by the rise and fall of stocks.

While "Andrea Hoffman Goes All In" begins after its main character has finished with college, "The Marriage Box" offers a look at Casey Cohen, whose life radically changes when she is 16-years-old. After getting into trouble in New Orleans, Casey's parents move her and her brother to Brooklyn to live in the Orthodox Syrian community in which her father grew up. No longer does Casey attend a school whose aim is partly to help her seek higher education; she now attends a yeshiva whose goal is to prepare her for marriage and children. The marriage box of the title is a pool deck where young girls show off their bodies in bikinis: while they learn about modesty at the yeshiva, that doesn't apply when it comes to landing a husband. Consumer culture forms a major part of this world: the young women and their mothers buy expensive garments

and household furnishings, competing to see who has the most and the best taste.

Although at first Casey resists the social pressure to conform, she finds herself attracted to the Syrian lifestyle, if only to stop being lonely and feel as if she belongs somewhere. When she meets Michael, their relationship feels perfect and their marriage one made in heaven. (Since the marriage is announced in the opening pages of the novel, this doesn't spoil any surprises.) But Casey soon realizes she wants more than to be a wife and longs for college. Michael, on the other hand, expects her to be satisfied with her traditional role and begin to have children, even though she's still a teenager. The question becomes whether Casey will give up her dreams of higher education. The survival of her marriage may depend on that.

Although the novel is generally well done, readers may have a few quibbles, for example, expecting to learn more about what happened in New Orleans, although it becomes clear there is nothing more to reveal. For those who lived through the 1970s and '80s, and read other books about young women forced to make the same decisions Casey does, the book may feel a bit like a repeat of those previous works. However, the look at the Syrian Jewish community, which may not be familiar, was excellent and intriguing. Those sections helped make "The Marriage Box" worth reading, especially for younger readers who are unfamiliar with the choices women made during that time period.

History Revisited

The American Hanukkah

BILL SIMONS

Hanukkah lacks the centrality and solemnity of the High Holidays. It remains a rather minor holiday in the traditional Jewish calendar – except in the United States. The dominant Hanukkah experience for most Jewish Americans is robust, exuberant and external, rather than reflective, sacred and introspective. Some of the same could be said for Purim, but the Book of Esther lacks historical plausibility. The quest for Americanization, the contours of the host culture and the chronological context made the United States fertile ground for the evolution of the freedom-fighter Hanukkah.

“The holiday is the story of a victory and a miracle, which captures the imagination of young children. As young postwar children who were well aware of the Holocaust, we needed a narrative of triumphant Jews. A story of Jewish victory was a badge that we wanted to wear.” Phyllis Sherman, interim president of Oneonta’s Temple Beth El, wrote those observant words. The genesis of the American Hanukkah goes back two centuries, but the quintessential attributes of the holiday’s observance in the U.S. solidified in the generation following World War II. The Jewish component of America’s Greatest Generation contributed to President Franklin Roosevelt’s wars against the Great Depression and Nazi tyranny, and its members sought an identity as victors, not victims.

The post-war Americanization of Hanukkah was part of the same trajectory that celebrated the crowning of the Jewish Bess Myerson as Miss America, a muscular Jewish actor (Izzy Demsky/Kirk Douglas) embodying the cinematic Spartacus, the melding of Sandy Koufax’s pitching dominance with Yom Kippur observance and Israel’s stunning victory in the Six-Day War.

In the generation following World War II, Jewish veterans and their families joined the exodus from urban

ethnic enclaves to the new Levittown suburbs. Prosperity, consumerism, neo-Victorianism and the Baby Boom – facilitated by the generous benefits of the GI Bill of Rights – shaped life in middle-class suburbs, largely populated by diverse groups of white ethnics, but racially segregated. The new suburbs encouraged conformity of housing, dress, behavior and thought. Cold War anti-Communism and the emergence of a new mass media, television, reinforced the postwar consensus. New to the suburbs, new to the middle class, Jews wanted to fit in.

In the high noon of the American Century, antisemitism had not disappeared, but revulsion at Hitler’s atrocities drove it to the fringes. Sociologist Will Herberg’s Protestant-Catholic-Jew (1955) depicted a tolerant religious milieu epitomized by President Dwight Eisenhower’s assertion that sectarian differences did not really matter as long as Americans, unlike atheistic Communists, had some sort of religious belief. For Jews, however, inclusion still meant coming to terms with Christmas.

In the mid-20th century, assimilated American Jews recast and elevated Hanukkah as an expression of their religious identity in a manner consistent with national norms. Public expressions of Christmas in the 1950s grew increasingly commercialized and secularized, making it possible for Jews to shape a Hanukkah compatible with the outward practices of their fellow citizens. The new American Hanukkah allowed Jews to lessen the distance between themselves and their Christian neighbors.

The calendar provided seasonal commonality between Hanukkah and Christmas. An upswing in cards, gifts, bountiful food and family gatherings brought good cheer and a heightened prominence to Hanukkah. Menorah candles punctuated the cold darkness of winter in comfortable, optimistic Jewish homes. Noting parallels to Christmas,

satirists noted that some Jews even displayed Hannukah bushes and outdoor lights.

It took time for American Jews to fully come to terms with the Holocaust, a reckoning perhaps not concluded until the 1960 Israeli capture of Adolf Eichmann, chief architect of Hitler’s gas chambers and crematoriums. Eichmann’s trial and execution followed. In the aftermath of World War II, the evolving American Hanukkah emphasized military victory – courageous and righteous – and liberation from genocidal tyrants.

Circa 1945 the typical young Jewish American man was a veteran of the U.S. military. Context is important. The robust American Hanukkah chronologically coincides with the Nuremberg trials of Nazi leaders and the Israel War of Independence, a triumph over multiple adversaries that reestablished the Jewish homeland after 1,900 years. In the war for a Jewish homeland, an American Jew and West Point graduate, Mickey Marcus, became the first Israeli general since Judah Maccabee. In the midst of the Israel War of Independence, another American Jew, Howard Fast, published an historical novel, “My Glorious Brothers” (1948), that is the definitive vision of the American Hanukkah.

A work of historical imagination, “My Glorious Brothers” narrates the long, hard, bloody – and ultimately successful – revolt against King Antiochus’s Seleucid Greek subjugation of the Jews. The uprising is launched by the priest of Modin, Mattathias, in 167 B.C.E. and subsequently continued by his sons, John, Simon, Eleazar, Jonathan and Judah. Although Mattathias slays an obsequious Jew offering sacrifice at the altar of a pagan deity, resistance to a cruel, foreign conqueror – not civil war between traditional and assimilationist Jews – provides Fast’s focus. Protection See “American” on page 11



CHANUKAH GREETINGS FROM THESE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS



Chanukah Greetings from



HOWARD J. WARNER, D.D.S., F.A.G.D.
Family Dentistry

44 FRANCIS STREET
FIVE MILE POINT
KIRKWOOD, NEW YORK 13795

Telephone (607)775-3334

Office Hours By Appointment

Now accepting new patients



Happy Chanukah from

ASTHMA & ALLERGY ASSOCIATES P.C.

1550 Vestal Parkway East, Suite 4, Vestal



Elliot Rubinstein, M.D.



Mariah M. Pieretti, M.D.



Rizwan Khan, M.D.



Joseph Flanagan, M.D.



Stella M. Castro, M.D.



Julie McNairn, M.D.

Pediatric & Adult Allergists

- Hay Fever • Asthma • Sinus • Food
- Coughing • Sneezing • Wheezing
- Ears Popping • Red, Watery Eyes
- Drippy, Stuffy Nose • Itching/Insects

For more information and appointment 1-800-88-ASTHMA or allergistdocs.com

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

www.triplecitiesfamilydental.com



TRIPLE CITIES FAMILY DENTAL, P.C.

Happy Chanukah!

David Salomons, D.D.S.

Adam J. Underwood, Ph.D., D.D.S.

Kevin Tran, D.D.S.

New Patients Welcome

- Crowns & Bridges
- Cosmetic Bonding & Bleaching
- Invisible Braces

723-8377

18 Leroy Street, Binghamton, NY

Happy Hanukkah



SAMBURSKY EYE AND ESTHETICS

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
CALL 607.729.5016

DANIEL SAMBURSKY, MD
GEREMIE PALOMBARO, D.O.
STEVEN GOLDENBERG, O.D.
GARY PISANCHYN, O.D.

530 COLUMBIA DRIVE, JOHNSON CITY
EyeDoctorsOfSoutherTier.com

Hillel Academy hosted *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Hillel Academy of Broome County hosted a *Kabbalat* on November 18. Students sang and read prayers. The event included a Hebrew reading with musical accompaniment and singing by Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu, head of Jewish studies at Hillel, and Rabbi Ben Menorah.

“The children read and sang the pieces of poetry in fluent Hebrew perfectly and happily,” Shmaryahu said. “Hillel Academy does everything in order to expose,

instill, teach and show the beauty and taste of the Jewish tradition that is so rich. Thanks to all the Hillel Academy staff who worked hard and helped to hold this wonderful event.”

Parents who work for Chabad Center provided a hot lunch and guests from the community attended. Parent Joy Yarkoni said, “It was a beautiful celebration in a time of rising antisemitism and constant threats to our religious buildings and people.”



Students recited parts of the *Kabbalat Shabbat* service. (Names of students held on request.)



A student helped Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu (on right) recite a blessing. (The name of the student held on request.)



Students recited parts of the *Kabbalat Shabbat* service. (Names of students held on request.)



Students from Hillel Academy of Broome County sang songs from the *Kabbalat Shabbat* service. They were led by Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu (standing), head of Jewish studies at the school, and Rabbi Ben Menorah (seated). (Names of the students held by request.)

Researchers use geomagnetic data to support biblical accounts

By JNS staff

(JNS)—An Israeli scientific breakthrough has enabled researchers to verify biblical accounts of wars between ancient Jewish kingdoms and their enemies, according to a statement released by Tel Aviv University.

The scientists examined archaeological findings containing magnetic minerals which, when heated or burned, record the local magnetic field. These magnetic records can thus be used to date the fires, matching them to reported military campaigns, in a manner reminiscent of radiocarbon dating.

Using such records, a joint study by TAU and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, employing some 20 researchers from a variety of countries and disciplines, was able to accurately date destruction layers at 17 archeological sites throughout Israel, according to the statement. The researchers were able to reconstruct the direction and intensity of the Earth’s magnetic field in burnt remnants at various battle sites, enabling them to match the dates of the fires to biblical accounts of battles between Israel and Judah, the two ancient Hebrew kingdoms that formed after the division of the united Israelite monarchy, and armies from ancient Egypt, Aram, Assyria and Babylon.

“Findings indicate, for example, that the army of Hazael, King of Aram-Damascus,



A researchers took measurements at an archaeological site in Israel. (Photo by Tel Aviv University)

was responsible for the destruction of several cities – Tel Rehov, Tel Zayit, and Horvat Tevet,” according to the statement. Hazael’s campaign also resulted in the destruction of the Philistine city of Gath, an event recorded in the Bible.

“At the same time, the study refutes the prevailing theory that Hazael was the conqueror who destroyed Tel Beth-Shean. Other geomagnetic findings reveal that the cities in the Negev were destroyed by the Edomites, who took advantage of the destruction of Jerusalem and the Kingdom of Judah by the Babylonians,” the researchers said.

Annual Campaign 2023

TOGETHER WE CREATE COMMUNITY. MAKE YOUR PLEDGE EARLY!

We hope we can count on your generosity again in the year to come.

You can make your pledge 3 ways:

- 1) Visit the Federation website at www.jfjb.org and click on “make a pledge.”
- 2) E-mail Federation Executive Director Shelley Hubal at director@jfjb.org with “pledge” in the subject line.
- 3) Fill out the form in this ad and mail it to the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton, 500 Clubhouse Rd., Vestal, NY 13850.

Mail this form to:

Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton,
500 Clubhouse Rd.,
Vestal, NY 13850

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State/ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount Pledge: _____



We Create Community



Community Hanukkah Celebration

Thursday, December 22nd, 2022
5:15 to 7:00pm

HOMEMADE LATKES

5:15pm
OUTDOOR CANDLE LIGHTING

5:30pm
ENTERTAINMENT
JCC Preschool
Hillel Academy
Community Hanukkah Video!

Special appearance by
Rowdy the Rumble Pony

6:00pm
DINNER
Latkes, Applesauce, Tuna Rolls & Dessert

6:00 - 7:00pm
ACTIVITIES
Dreidels, Gelt, games & crafts

Admission is Free

FOOD FOR PURCHASE
\$8 Adults/\$6 Children
\$28 max per family
Reservations appreciated
(607) 724-2417

Co-sponsored by
the JCC & the Jewish Federation



wishes you a



Happy Chanukah!



Promised Land Chanukah Candles 44 ct

4 for \$5



U **CR** Kosher Boneless & Skinless Chicken Breast Fillet 1lb

6⁹⁹



U **CR** Fresh Koster Whole or Cut Up Fresh Chickens 1b

3⁹⁹



Kedem Sparkling Juice 25.4 oz LIMIT 2 OFFERS

2 for \$6

WHEN YOU BUY 2 lesser quantities \$3.49



Savion Fruit Slices 6 oz

2 for \$5



Bosco Chocolate Syrup 22 oz

3⁹⁹



Kedem Concord Grape Juice 64 oz LIMIT 2 OFFERS

2 for \$6

WHEN YOU BUY 2 lesser quantities \$3.49



Kedem Tea Biscuits 4.2 oz

79¢



Manischewitz Potato Pancake Mix 6 oz

2⁹⁹



Manischewitz Matzo Ball Mix or Egg Noodles 4.5 - 12 oz

2 for \$4



Tabatchnick Chicken Broth 32 oz

2 for \$5



Gunter's Clover Honey Bear 12 oz

4⁹⁹



Manischewitz Candy Coins 0.53 oz

4 for \$1



Lipton Onion Soup Mix 1.9 oz

2 for \$4



Challah Bread ea

4⁹⁹

We also carry many of your favorite Kosher deli, dairy, frozen and grocery products.

Prices effective through December 29th, 2022

Tapas-oriented Hanukkah: Latkes, wings and doughnuts

By Paula Shoyer

(JNS)—Paula Shoyer's "Instant Pot Kosher Cookbook" was a near-instant success when it was published in March 2021. It offers 46 kosher-for-Passover recipes that can be used for other holidays, as well, from soups and salads to appetizers, sides to main courses and desserts—a number of which are vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free—this is the time to pull out that Instant Pot you received as a gift and were afraid to use.

A pastry chef who trained in France, Shoyer is the author of "The Kosher Baker," "The Holiday Kosher Baker," "The Healthy Jewish Kitchen" and "The New Passover Menu."

The latke recipe is just right for Hanukkah, with the applesauce offering that last wisp of fall. The wings are a warm accompaniment, topped off by more fall flavor with the pumpkin doughnuts, a nod to oil-reminiscent foods for the holiday. Both come from Shoyer's prior collections. Put them together, with a favorite salad on the side, to create a tapas-oriented lighter meal.

Potato and Scallion Latkes With Pickled Applesauce (pareve)

Everyone loves potato latkes but no one likes the mess of frying them or the guilt associated with eating them. These latkes are baked in the oven and easily won over my kids. You do need to watch them so they do not burn; they were done at different times in different ovens.

The Pickled Applesauce is a tangy accompaniment.

Latkes

- 2 Tbsp. sunflower or safflower oil, or more if needed
 - ½ medium onion, quartered
 - 3 scallions, ends trimmed, cut into thin slices or chopped into small pieces
 - 3 medium potatoes (about 1½ pounds), scrubbed clean and unpeeled
 - 2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
 - 2 large eggs
 - ½ tsp. baking powder
 - 2 Tbsp. potato starch
 - ½ tsp. salt
 - ¼ tsp. black pepper
- Pickled Applesauce**
- 1 tsp. sunflower or safflower oil

- ⅓ cup red onions, chopped into ¼-inch pieces
 - 2 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar
 - 2 Tbsp. light-brown sugar
 - 2 apples, peeled and cut into ½-inch cubes
 - ¼ tsp. ground coriander
 - ¼ tsp. ground ginger
 - 1 cinnamon stick
 - ¼ tsp. salt
 - Pinch black pepper
- Preheat oven to 450°F.

When the oven is hot, pour 2 tablespoons of oil onto 2 jelly-roll pans and turn them in every direction so that the oil coats the pans. Heat the pans in the oven for 5 minutes.

Place the onions and scallions in the bowl of a food processor and chop them into small pieces. Place them in a medium bowl.

Shred the potatoes by hand on the large holes of a box grater or in a food processor with the shredding blade and place in the bowl. Add the lemon juice, eggs, baking powder, potato starch, salt and pepper; mix well.

Very carefully (I mean, really carefully; move very slowly) remove one of the pans and use your hands or a spoon to scoop up and drop clumps of the potato mixture, a little less than ¼ cup, onto the pan. I use my hands. Press the mixture down to flatten it a little.

Place the pan in the oven for 10-12 minutes, and immediately remove the second oiled pan.

Repeat the same process with the remaining potato mixture and bake the second pan of latkes for 10-12 minutes. Bake them until the edges are well browned, and then with a slotted spatula turn them over and cook the latkes for another 8-10 minutes, or until the bottoms are browned.

May be made two days in advance and reheated in the oven.

To make the applesauce: Heat the oil in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add the onions and cook them for 3 minutes, until they soften. Add the vinegar and brown sugar, and cook for another 3 minutes. Add the apples, coriander, ginger, cinnamon stick, salt and pepper, and cook, covered, on low heat for 15 minutes, or until the apples are soft. Let the mixture cool for 10 minutes and then purée it, using an immersion blender or a food processor. May be made

4 days in advance, and served warm or cold.

Serves 6.

Everything Bagel BBQ Chicken Wings (Meat)

Years ago, I tested recipes for two of Susie Fishbein's cookbooks and learned that the best way to make chicken wings was to boil them first and then bake them. The instant pot recipe makes the process faster.

Time to pressure: 15 to 17 minutes

Cooking time: 5 minutes, plus broil for 10 minutes

Button to use: Pressure Cook

Release type: Quick Release

Advance prep: May be made two days in advance

- 1 cup water
 - 3 to 4 lbs. chicken wings
 - 1 cup barbecue sauce of choice
 - ½ tsp. black pepper
 - 3 to 3½ Tbsp. Everything Bagel spice, divided
- Place the water into the inner pot and add the steam rack. Pile the wings on top.

Secure the lid, ensuring that the steam release handle is in the Sealing position. Press the Pressure Cook button and set the cooking time for 5 minutes.

When the cooking time is complete, turn the steam release handle to the Venting position to quickly release the pressure. Preheat the oven to broil. Press Cancel and open the lid.

Remove the wings to a baking pan. Pour the barbecue sauce and pepper on top and toss to coat. Sprinkle half of the Everything Bagel spice on top.

Place the pan into the oven on a rack in the top third of the oven, but not on the oven rack closest to the heat. Broil for 5 minutes.

Turn the wings over, and add the remaining Everything Bagel spice and broil for another 5 minutes, or longer until desired browning.

Serves 6.

©Paula Shoyer, reprinted with permission from "The Holiday Kosher Baker" (Sterling 2013).

Pumpkin Doughnuts (pareve)

- ¼ oz. (1 envelope) dry yeast
- ¼ cup warm water
- ¼ cup plus 1 tsp. sugar, divided
- 2 Tbsp. light brown sugar
- ⅓ cup soy milk
- 2 Tbsp. margarine, at room temperature for at least 15 minutes

1 large egg

½ cup pumpkin purée (not pumpkin-pie filling)

½ tsp. salt

½ tsp. cinnamon

¼ tsp. nutmeg

½ tsp. pure vanilla extract

3 to 3¼ cups all-purpose flour, plus extra for dusting

Canola oil for frying

¼ cup confectioners' sugar for dusting

In a large bowl, place the yeast, warm water, and one teaspoon of sugar and stir. Let the mixture sit for 10 minutes, or until thick.

Add the remaining sugar, brown sugar, soy milk, margarine, egg, pumpkin purée, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla and 2 cups of flour to the bowl, and mix on low speed with either a dough hook in a stand mixer or a wooden spoon.

Add another cup of flour and mix well.

Add more flour, a tablespoon at a time, and mix it in until the dough becomes smooth, but not sticky, scraping down the sides of the bowl each time before you add more flour.

Cover the dough with a clean dishtowel and let it rise for one hour in a warm place. I use a warming drawer on a low setting, or you can turn your oven on to its lowest setting, place the bowl in the oven and then turn off the oven.

Punch down the dough by folding it over a few times and reshaping it into a ball. Then recover the dough and let it rise for 10 minutes.

Dust a cookie sheet with some flour. Sprinkle some flour on your counter or a piece of parchment paper and roll the dough out until it's about ½-inch thick. Use a 2½-inch round cookie-cutter or drinking glass to cut out circles and place them on the prepared cookie sheet. Reroll any scraps. Cover the doughnuts with the towel. Place the cookie sheet back in the oven (warm but turned off) or warming drawer. Let the doughnuts rise for 45 minutes.

Heat 1½ inches of oil in a medium saucepan for a few minutes and use a candy thermometer to see when the temperature stays between 365°F and 375°F; adjust the flame until the oil stays in that temperature range.

Cover a cookie sheet with foil. Place a wire rack on top of it and set it near your stovetop.

Gently slide the doughnuts, no more than 4 to 5 at a time, top-side down, into the oil and fry for 1½ minutes. Turn the doughnuts over and cook another 1½ minutes. Remove them with a slotted spoon, letting any excess oil drip off, and place on the wire rack to cool.

Repeat for the remaining doughnuts. Dust with the confectioners' sugar and serve.

Store covered at room temperature for up to one day and reheat to serve.

Makes 15.

©Paula Shoyer, reprinted with permission from "The Holiday Kosher Baker" (Sterling 2013).

Chanukah Greetings



Wishing the
community a
Happy Chanukah!
Rabbi
Rachel Esserman



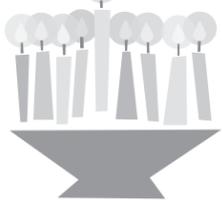
Wishing The
Entire Community A
Happy Chanukah
Rebecca Kahn

Wishing you a Happy Chanukah
light • peace • love



Rhona and Richard Esserman

Warm Chanukah wishes to
you and your family!



The Coker Family

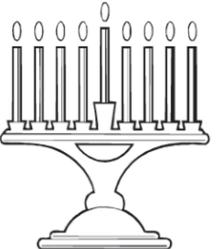


Shari
& Rob Neuberger

Maria & Bob Kutz
wish all their
friends a
Happy Chanukah



איחולים לבניי לחג האורים
Our Best Wishes
for a Bright
Festival of Lights
Susan & Ben Kasper




CELEBRATE
CHANUKAH
Olwen and Rick
Searles



Happy
Chanukah!
Ann C. Brilliant

How did Hanukkah – a holiday about war – get so schlocky?

By Mira Fox

This story originally appeared in the Forward. To get the Forward's free e-mail newsletters delivered to your inbox, go to forward.com/newsletter-signup.

Stores do not have a great record with Hanukkah. Every year, earlier and earlier, it seems like red and green takes over everything; the other day, I walked past a store that sells bones, taxidermy and fossils, and even it was dominated by a Christmas display. Hanukkah, meanwhile, is usually relegated to a few blue and white Stars of David in a corner and an endcap of candles and matzah. (Why is there always matzah?)

And then there's the Hanukkah merchandise. The wrong number of branches on the menorah. Dreidels with incorrect letters, or letters printed upside down. Kitschy T-shirts with groan-worthy puns. ("Oy to the world.") Pillows featuring Passover slogans embroidered next to menorahs. Even Hanukkah trees, wreaths, stockings and, yes, Santa Claus figurines because anything blue and white is Jewish – right?

This year, it seems like the trend of terrible Hanukkah merch is finally changing; finally, some retailers are getting it right. Target has Hanukkah pajamas that are actually kind of cute. The menorahs (well, mostly) have nine branches. But a lot of the options still feel, well, off.

Sure, there are fewer overt mistakes. But most options still seem pretty divorced from the holiday. Brand Rae Dunn – famous for causing Midwestern moms to fight over mugs at Home Goods – is selling mugs with kitschy slogans like "Love you a latke." There's a gnome holding a "live, laugh, latke" sign.

Even the less punny, more serious designs strive to be inspirational with sayings about spreading light to the world. "May your holiday be as bright as a fully-lit menorah," says a piece of decorative wall art at Bed Bath & Beyond. A



mug at Target features an illustration of sufganiyot labeled "filled with love."

Do they know that Hanukkah is about war, not peace? In the real Hanukkah story, a small group of zealous Jews revolt against the Seleucid empire, as well as their fellow assimilated or Hellenized Jews.

Now that stores (except Walmart) seem to have finally learned how many candles there are on a menorah, I wondered if we might go even further. Perhaps we're ready for a movement to get away from the Christmas-lite kitsch that defines the holiday. So I talked to one of the only people offering Hanukkah merch that embraces the holiday's true spirit.

Rachel Kenneth is well positioned to observe the trends in Hanukkah merch; last year, she launched an Instagram account, @hanukkahfails, to track the worst – and, occasionally, the best – of the available products.

After collecting all the worst Hanukkah merch, including cringey puns and misnumbered menorahs, on her Instagram account, Kenneth jokingly made a mockup of some shirts that felt more legitimately in the Hanukkah spirit, such

as a T-shirt that said "Revolt and Rejoice" and a baby onesie reading "guerilla warfare" to reference the Maccabees' fighting spirit.

The whole thing started out as a "lark," she said. But to her surprise, there seemed to be actual demand. So this year, she launched a line of merch featuring slogans like "less assimilation, more celebration" and "death, destruction & dreidels" on T-shirts, sweatshirts and hats.

Her designs, which feature cheery graphics of Stars of David and dreidels, are a clear spoof of the usual Hanukkah options, which are so focused on being inspirational that they miss the real story of the holiday.

"The live-laugh-love-ification of Hanukkah is everywhere," she said. "Hanukkah is really not about love, it's really not. It's not anywhere in the story. We do all gather, so I guess implicit in that is coming together as family or friends, and there's an element of love there. But it has nothing to do with Hanukkah. And peace – I suppose after the temple was destroyed and rededicated, there was peace?"

"Last year I wanted the Hanukkah gnomes to go away, and this year I want the 'live laugh love' to go away," she said, laughing. "I'm a little bit, for lack of a better word, grinchy, this time of year."

Kenneth, who lives in New York, emphasized that she's glad for any representation of Hanukkah. She grew up in North Florida – which, she made sure to note, is not the part of Florida with the Jewish retirees – and there was little understanding of Judaism outside of her immediate community. She's glad that people have the opportunity to celebrate Hanukkah in whatever way they want.

"People from more rural areas are happy just to have anything. So it's kind of a luxury to be picky about it," she said.

But she still wishes there were more options, especially at a time of rising antisemitism. Kenneth pointed out that the real story of Hanukkah, with its complex themes about persecution and assimilation, feels more relevant than ever.

"I hate to be so serious," she said. "There's so much intelligent discourse we could be having this time of year. And instead we're just making more dreidel puns."

FilmContinued from page 3

can buy back his old house. After noticing his fellow residents smoking legal medical cannabis, he decides that if he sells the weed, rather than smoking it, he may be able to raise enough money to move back home.

"Greener Pastures" was nominated for 12 awards in 2020 by the Israeli Film Academy. Alan Ng, <https://filmthreat.com>, called the film "a touching and, in a way, cathartic tale about family and loss." In Moment magazine, Dina Gold wrote, "This is a gentle and amusing movie, wholly suitable for family viewing."

Luks, who will moderate the discussion, has been an active member of the Jewish community since arriving in town in June, 1966. He is a past president of Temple Concord and the Jewish Federation of Broome County (now known as the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton). "I've agreed to be the moderator of this film since it is a 'light' comedy and relatable to a person of my age," he said. "Additionally, it appears to be fairly benign, thus not requiring any in-depth analysis or profound movie expertise."

"A comedy is the perfect film for a dark winter night," said Shelley Hubal, executive director of the Federation. "I'm looking forward to viewing the film and participating in the discussion."

AmericanContinued from page 7

of Jewish religious tradition is central to Fast's telling of the Hanukkah genesis story, but allusion to the miraculous burning of scant oil for eight days in the rededicated Temple is the sole manifestation of divine intervention. "My Glorious Brothers" links resistance to tyranny, martial valor, and the assertion of religious freedom.

Judah, Fast's protagonist, is the Maccabee. In time, Maccabee is also applied to Judah's brothers and more generally to his followers. Brilliance as a military tactician, selfless devotion to the Jewish people, personal courage, fighting prowess and charisma render a reluctant Judah the rebellion's leader. When Judah fell in battle, leadership passed to his brothers.

Fast's Judah speaks as a proto democrat: "Once we had kings, and they brought suffering . . . The Maccabee . . . comes out of the people, and what he does, he does because the people desire it . . . when there is no more need for him, he is no different from any other man."

Celebrate the eight days of the American Hanukkah surrounded by family. Spin the dreidel. Enjoy the gelt and gifts. Make potato latkes. Recite the blessing as the shamash lights menorah candles. And tell the story of the Maccabees.

Bill Simons is a professor emeritus at SUNY Oneonta where he continues to teach courses in American history. He is also the co-director of The Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture, and served as a speaker for the New York Council on the Humanities.

Chanukah Greetings

Warm Chanukah wishes to you and your family!

From Suzanne Holwitt and Family

HAPPY HANUKKAH!

HOWARD FISHER AND CAREN FISHER, OF BLESSED MEMORY

Wishing the Community a Happy Chanukah

Merri & Tony Linka Alexander, Anna, Maya, Dora, Ari & Max Preus

Happy Chanukah

Arieh Ullmann and Rhonda Levine

We wish everyone a happy Chanukah!

Harold & Toby Kohn and Family

Happy Chanukah from Linda & Dennis Robi and Family

Happy Chanukah!

Francine Stein & Family

Like the Maccabees, we need to light our candle and our world, looking toward the future when this pandemic will be a story we will tell.

Neil and Sima Auerbach

Warm Chanukah wishes to you and your family!

Shelley, Mark, Josh & Rae Hubal

Jewish online resources

By Reporter staff

A variety of Jewish groups are offering educational and recreational online resources. Below is a sampling of those. *The Reporter* will publish additional listings as they become available.

◆ Biblical Archaeology Society Scholars Series will hold a virtual program “Holy City Hotspot: Exploring Jerusalem’s Acropolis” with Andrew Lawler, journalist and author, on Sunday, March 5, from 3-4 pm. The cost to attend is \$10. For more information or to register, visit www.biblicalarchaeology.org/travel-study/bas-scholars-series-with-andrew-lawler/.

◆ Maven will hold the virtual program “Tour Global Jewish Life: Hasidic Brooklyn” on Tuesday, January 10, from 3-4 pm. The cost to attend is \$21. The program will look at the culture and history Chasidic Brooklyn with former Satmar community member Frieda Vizel. For more information or to register, visit <https://maven.aju.edu/events-classes/program/tour-global-jewish-life-hasidic-brooklyn>.

◆ Siegal Lifelong Learning will hold several virtual classes: “Jewish Child Partisans in the Holocaust” on Tuesday, January 24, from noon-1:30 pm; “Black Power, Jewish Politics: book talk” on Sunday, January 29, from 7-8:30 pm; “Animal Affinities: Word and Image in Medieval Hebrew Books” on Sunday, February 12, from 2-3:30 pm; “American Jews, Abortion, and the First Amendment” on Thursday, March 9, from 7-8:30 pm; and “Braided Memories: Diaspora, Memorialization, and Identity” on Wednesday, March 22, from 7-8:30 pm. There is no cost for members; there is a \$5 charge for nonmembers. For more information or to register for these and other lectures, visit <https://case.edu/lifelonglearning/lectures>.

◆ The 11th Annual Adrienne Cooper Dreaming in Yiddish Concert and Award will be a hybrid event taking place on Wednesday, December 28, from 7-10 pm. The cost to attend is \$22.85. This year’s event is called “Naye kveytn af an altn boym” (“New Buds on an Old Tree”) and the recipient of the award is journalist and playwright Rokhl Kafirissen. Among those performing at the event will be Joanne Borts, Avi Fox-Rosen, Sarah Mina Gordon, Sam Harmet, Marilyn Lerner, Frank London, Zhenya Lopatnik, Ira Temple and Michael Winograd. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-11th-annual-adrienne-cooper-dreaming-in-yiddish-concert-award-tickets-469369786667>.

◆ The Museum of Jewish Heritage will hold the virtual program “The History of Antisemitism: ‘Gentleman’s Agreement’ with Cecilia Peck and Claudine Stevens”

on Tuesday, December 20, from 7-8 pm. In their presentation “Gentleman’s Agreement: Hollywood’s Stand Against Anti-Semitism,” documentary director Cecilia Peck and film historian Claudine Stevens “will bring to life the struggles and achievements in creating the groundbreaking Oscar-winning film *Gentleman’s Agreement* that 75 years ago bravely crossed a line to become a critically acclaimed, top-grossing film that exposed antisemitism in New York and Connecticut.” For more information or to register, visit https://898a.blackbaudhosting.com/898a/tickets?tab=2&txobjid=82fb741c-8b15-4d58-9ea2-69521be96eed&_ga=2.222586136.2061018217.1669644159-2047842403.1667495158.

◆ The Jewish Art Collective will hold two virtual Studio Israel events: Gil Yefman in conversation with Shayna Weiss on Thursday, February 9, at noon (<https://jartsboston.secure.force.com/ticket/#/instances/a0F8Z00000iK9Y-fUAK>); and Zoya Cherkassky in conversation with Gannit Ankori, Henry and Lois Foster director and chief curator of the Rose Art Museum on Thursday, March 30, at noon (<https://jartsboston.secure.force.com/ticket/#/instances/a0F8Z00000iKArPUAW>).

◆ Kung Pao Kosher Comedy will hold its “Jewish Comedy on Christmas in a (Pop-up) Chinese Restaurant” virtually and in person over the Christmas weekend. The cost to watch the event on YouTube Live is \$30-\$75 (“pay what you want”). For information on dates and show times and to register, visit <https://www.cityboxoffice.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=2862>.

◆ Hadassah Magazine will hold the virtual “Magazine Discussion: Live With Book Maven Zibby Owens,” who wrote “Bookends: A Memoir of Love, Loss, and Literature,” on Thursday, January 19, at 7 pm. Owens’ media company owns a publishing house and a number of podcasts, including the award-winning daily show “Moms Don’t Have Time to Read Books.” The event is free and open to all. Closed captioning will be available. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.hadassahmagazine.org/2022/11/04/magazine-discussion-live-with-book-maven-zibby-owens/>.

◆ The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research will hold two virtual events in January: “Good Goy, Bad Goy: The Portrayal of Gentiles in Sketches from the London Yiddish Press” on Tuesday, January 24, at 1 pm (<https://yivo.org/Good-Goy-Bad-Goy>); and “700 Years of Vilnius, A City of Translation” on Wednesday, January 25, at 7 pm (<https://yivo.org/Vilnius700>).

◆ My Jewish Learning will hold two virtual Hanukkah-related programs: “Hanukkah Joy Through Dance” with Ruth Goodman teaching an interactive dance class on Monday, December 19, at 1 pm (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdBiP8GXYdO_abdhZVNPEmB_UVD-201BytHGN5pe0Knlw0LrLw/viewform); and “Hanukkah Piyutim Workshop with Laura Elkeslassy” on Tuesday, December 20, at 8 pm (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfYB2MJhrZnFJpnp6pFUQzeqw2ncns_dctbfn-Fzxz1SDMHgw/viewform).

◆ The Jewish Grandparent Network will hold the virtual program “How to Talk with your Preteen and Teen Grandchildren about Antisemitism” on Tuesday, January 10, at 7 pm, with Mark Oppenheimer, host of the podcast *Unorthodox*, former *New York Times* columnist, and author of “Squirrel Hill: The Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood.” The program will also be recorded and can be sent to those who can’t attend at that time. For more information or to register, visit <https://jewishgrandparentsnetwork.org/event/how-to-talk-to-your-teen-and-teen-grandchildren-about-antisemitism/>.

◆ The CCAR Press will hold a virtual book launch “‘Longing: Poems of a Life’ by Merle Feld” on Wednesday, January 18, at 7:30 pm. Feld will share her poetry in conversation with Rabbi Hara Person, chief executive of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. For more information or to register, visit https://ccar.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kR5YVL-NQ-GfqiHplkgWxw.

◆ The YIVO-Bard Winter Program on “Ashkenazi Civilization” will take place virtually from January 10-27. The classes will “explore connections between Jewish life and the national, political, philosophical and artistic identities Jews have historically inhabited, illuminating the fact that Jews have always been influenced by, and influencers of, the cultures in which they’ve made temporary or permanent homes.” There are morning, afternoon and evening classes. The classes may be taken for credit through Bard College. The deadline to apply is Friday, December 30. For more information, including a complete listing of courses available, or to apply, visit <https://yivo.org/winter-program>.

◆ The Museum of Jewish Heritage will hold the hybrid program “Zisl Slepovitch Ensemble/Sasha Lurje: Cry, My Heart, Cry! Songs from Testimonies” on Sunday January 8, from 3-4:30 pm. The songs in the program will “provide a series of insights into the Holocaust survivors’ experiences both during World War II and in the pre- and inter-war years as they were growing up in Eastern, Southern and Central Europe.” For more information or to register, visit <https://mjhny.org/events/zisl-slepovitch-ensemble-sasha-lurje-cry-my-heart-cry-songs-from-testimonies-in-the-fortunoff-video-archive-at-yale-university/>.

◆ The Nosh offers the free ebook “8 Global Fried Food Recipes For Hanukkah” by The Nosh with Jamie Geller. To download a copy of the book, visit <https://app.monster-campaigns.com/c/ouu6wkbkawnazp8tj7s/>.

◆ Qesher will hold the following virtual tours in January: “Jewish Bulgaria: A Virtual Sephardic Journey” on Sunday, January 8, at 3 pm; “Jewish Lisbon and Portugal: a community reconnecting with its past” on Thursday, January 12, at 3 pm; and “Jews of Argentina: ‘They sowed seeds and harvested doctors’” on Thursday, January 19, at 3 pm. All tours are around 90 minutes. For information on these tours and others, or to register, visit www.qesher.com/upcoming-events/.

◆ The Yiddish Book Center has published its 2022 Pakn Treger Digital Translation Issue, “Cribside and Other Stories,” which features 14 newly translated poems, short stories and memoirs, all highlighting the complexities of women’s experiences. The free digital edition is available at yiddishbookcenter.org. It can also be purchased as an e-book.

◆ ChaiFlicks is holding its second annual Hanukkah Film and TV Festival, which will be available digitally and free of charge for North American audiences through the online streaming platform through December 28. The festival will include free access to dozens of titles, including Israeli TV series. For more information, visit <https://welcome.chaiflicks.com/hanukkah-film-fest-2022/>.

◆ Maven will hold the virtual program “Tour Global Jewish Life: Hasidic Brooklyn” on Tuesday, January 10, from 3-4 pm. The cost to attend is \$21. The program will look at Hasidic Brooklyn with former Satmar community member, Frieda Vizel.

◆ The Lower East Side Jewish Conservancy will offer a virtual talk about the current exhibit at the Morgan Library called “She Who Wrote: Enheduanna and Women of Mesopotamia, ca. 3400-2000 B.C.” on Thursday, January 5, from 7-8:15 pm. The exhibit offers artwork that captures expressions of women’s lives in ancient Mesopotamia during the third millennium B.C.E, highlighting that of Enheduanna. For more information or to register, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/the-lower-east-side-jewish-conservancy-at-a-museum-the-morgan-library-tickets-482023223437.

For additional resources, see previous issues of *The Reporter* on its website, www.thereporter.org/streams/miscellaneous-features/miscellaneous-features/tag/80309?

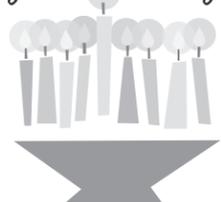
Chanukah Greetings

Warm Chanukah wishes to you and your family!



Rabbi Barry and Jill Baron

Warm Chanukah wishes to you and your family!



Kathy Brown, Advertising Representative

spread the light!



From Rabbi Geoffrey Brown and Elissa Brown

HAPPY CHANUKAH

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH



Marilyn Bell & Family

spread the light!



Jeff, Debbie, Josh, Amy, Mac, Diggs

Hate Continued from page 2

This was a painfully fallacious argument: Antisemitism spread by a celebrity to millions doesn't matter, because the world already hates us.

But celebrity speech fuels even more of the behavior that puts Jews and other minorities in danger. When leaders of any kind engage in hate speech, hateful acts become normalized. A recent study, for example, found that when an "elite" engaged in prejudiced speech, this emboldened the prejudice in their followers. When other elites stayed silent, the followers saw that as an indication of a new norm.

Hate speech leads to hate violence, and staying silent when influential figures like Chappelle or Irving spread antisemitic rhetoric is not a viable response.

Referring specifically to Kyrie Irving's recent suspension from the Brooklyn Nets, Stewart said, "Penalizing someone for having a thought... I don't think that's a way to change their minds or gain understanding."

When asked by Colbert later in the interview to explain what his solution was, Stewart said, "The only way to heal a wound is to open it up and cleanse it."

This is the classic "marketplace of ideas" point made by many liberal-minded free speech absolutists. For years, they have argued that hate speech and other forms of dangerous language should not be "censored," but countered with "better speech."

But racist views and hateful beliefs are not solved by having an open discussion. Making these ideas unpalatable requires having societal consequences for those who hold

them. We do not want to have a discussion with pedophiles as to whether child pornography should be legalized. We want to make the idea taboo.

And lest you think the example is extreme: On social media sites that do not regulate discussion, even child pornography can become normalized. As has been proven time and again, when hate speech flows on social media, violence follows. The issue is not that we are being too heavy-handed in dealing with hate speech. It is that our culture and institutions, including social media companies, are not consistent in dealing with it.

Stewart told Colbert that the people who have been recently getting attention on the national stage for their antisemitic remarks have been Black men: West, Irving and Chappelle.

This has been a sensitive subject for many, myself included, in the Jewish community who are trying to find a balance in their approach to calling out antisemitism, regardless of the race of the person involved. Too often, the Jewish community has focused on antisemitism from Black figures like West while ignoring the antisemitism of white, conservative commentators like Tucker Carlson.

Jon Stewart's approach to this difficulty was to minimize it and to quote, of all people, Kanye West: "Hurt people hurt people."

He went on to say, "Look at it from a Black perspective. It's a culture that feels its wealth has been extracted by different groups. Whites. Jews. Things. Whether it's true or not isn't the issue. That's the feeling in the community."

Right Continued from page 2

it "normalized antisemitism."

"I don't know if you've been on comment sections on most news articles, but it's pretty f—g normal," Stewart said.

Predictably, Stewart and Colbert agreed that censoring comedians was not the way to go, with Stewart further elaborating that reflexively labeling a belief or comment "antisemitic" isn't helpful. What was instructive was something West said after his "death con 3" tweet.

"He said, 'hurt people hurt people,'" Stewart said of West. "And if the point of all this is then to heal people, the only way to heal the wound is to open it up and cleanse it and that stings, that hurts, but you have to expose it to air."

This means not only grappling with the antisemitic belief, but why it may have taken root.

"Look at it from a Black perspective," Stewart said. "It's a culture that feels that its wealth has been extracted by different groups... Whether it's true or not, isn't the issue. That's the feeling in that community. And if you don't understand where that's coming from, then you can't deal with it and you can't sit down with them and explain that being in an industry isn't the same as having a nefarious, controlling interest in that industry and intention."

(Obviously that "feeling" of extracted wealth is a historical fact for Black people, but I get Stewart's point.)

Stewart believes that shutting down the discourse, failing to sufficiently explain why certain tropes are harmful or finding the legitimate reasons why they may convince

some people, creates the perfect conditions for these beliefs to thrive.

"If we all just shut it down, then we retreat to our little corners of misinformation, and it metastasizes and the whole point of all this is to not let it metastasize," Stewart said.

He's right. While an antisemite may not be convinced that the Christian monopoly on the presidency debunks the myth of Jewish control (the whole idea is that we're sort of behind the scenes installing candidates who won't raise suspicion), the premise that more candid discussion is the way out of this feels right. It's not perfect, but the current way of doing things (invitations to meet with rabbis, the ADL or visit a Holocaust Museum) isn't exactly working, and may even backfire in some cases.

I think that Stewart, who effectively lobbied Congress on behalf of 9/11 first responders and who is one of the only people to effectively flabbergast Tucker Carlson on air (albeit way back in 2004), could be an effective "spokes-jew" for the movement of frank discussion going forward. (Though maybe he should clear the air with Wyatt Cenac a bit more before he assumes the post, and definitely involve Jews of color in his work.)

A comedian taking on a leadership role will almost certainly reinforce stereotypes – but Jews being funny is a pretty benign one.

PJ Grisar is a Forward culture reporter. He can be reached at Grisar@Forward.com and @pjgrisar on Twitter.

Sandler Continued from page 6

In "Hustle," to prove he is a scout, Sandler's character calls former NBA great Dirk Nowitzki. He asked the 92NY audience what celebrity he could call and a person shouted out that he should call his mother. He said she would always answer even if he called at 3 am, and would pretend it was normal. "She's never admitted to sleeping," Sandler said. "She's always 'resting.'"

One of Sandler's best roles is Howard Ratner, a Jewish diamond dealer and sports gambler in the 2019 crime thriller "Uncut Gems," directed by Jewish brothers Benny and Josh Safdie, and co-written by the brothers and Ronald Bronstein. Sandler said that, in a scene in which he is choked in the backseat of a car, the actors were actually choking him.

Sandler said he is working on a new film with the Safdies that is slated to shoot in April. Horowitz asked if the film feels like a heart attack, given that "Uncut Gems" is a nerve-wracking film with an unpredictable twist. "It feels like one of their movies for sure," Sandler said, adding

that there is a romantic element. "They just don't want to do anything you've seen before."

Sandler added that he would get nervous when interviewed on TV by David Letterman and a song he performs on tour about the late Chris Farley, his former colleague on "SNL," made him tear up the first few times he played it. He recounted that Daniel Day-Lewis texts him funny things, but would not reveal them. He also said that he is always uncomfortable in suits, and performed better on "SNL"'s "Weekend Update" segment when he was allowed to ditch the fancy clothes in favor of casual attire.

Asked if he was a genius or lucky to have signed a deal with Netflix in 2014, he said he barely knew what Netflix was, but the streaming giant's CEO Ted Sarandos kept trying to get him to make movies for the service. Sandler stated that while he was shooting a film in Toronto, two teenage boys on a porch said they were watching Netflix, which convinced him to give it a shot.

What sounds like an attempt at empathy is actually its own form of racism: the belief that Black people as a whole are, and have a good reason to be, antisemitic. As Soraya McDonald, senior culture critic for Andscape, a Black-led media platform put it, "He basically advanced the false and ahistorical idea that Black people are generally antisemitic."

Stewart's mischaracterization of Black people was problematic in another way. It erased Black Jews. As Shawn C. Harris, author and a vocal commentator on Black Jewish issues told me, "He effectively perpetuated the notion of Black and Jewish being separate communities and identities."

When influential people like Stewart speak over Black Jews as if they don't exist, it means they are left with, in Harris' words, "the burden of pushing back against antisemitism disguised as being pro-Black and antiblackness disguised as fighting antisemitism." Stewart's comments only further effaced Black Jewish identity.

Stewart's interview, then, largely just spread further misinformation. He equated celebrities with massive platforms and cultural influence with stray internet trolls. He advocated that hate speech go unaddressed under the banner of free speech. And he further perpetuated racism and erasure of Black Jews.

The result was normalization of both antisemitism and racism – a shonda.

To contact the author, e-mail editorial@forward.com.

Elad Nehorai is the co-founder of Hevria and one of the leaders of Torah Trumps Hate. His writing can be found in the Daily Beast, Huffington Post, the Guardian and other outlets. A formerly Orthodox Jew, he is an outspoken activist on extremism both within and outside of the Jewish community.

The views and opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Forward.

Happy Chanukah!

Susan G. Stephens
 NYS Lic. Associate Real Estate Broker
 ABR®, SRES®, GRI®



3456 Vestal Parkway East,
 Vestal, New York 13850

SueStephens@WarrenHomes.com
 C: 607-725-8258
 O: 607-422-3108 F: 607-238-7334

Hanukkah House Judaic Shop



Menorahs, Dreidels, Candles
 many fine gift items,
 and Gelt, gelt, gelt

▼ TEMPLE
 CONCORD
 SISTERHOOD

9 Riverside Drive • Binghamton, NY 13905
 607-723-7355

Happy Chanukah

**BOB KUTZ ADVERTISING AND
 AUTO DETAILING SUPPLIES**

1080 Chenango St., Binghamton, NY 13903
 222-0041



**Coughlin &
 Gerhart LLP**
 ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

**Wishing everyone
 a Happy Hanukkah!**

**From Gary Kline, Nancy Kline, Scot Miller,
 Lori Schapiro, & Joy Blumkin**



99 Corporate Drive
 Binghamton, NY 13904
 607-723-9511
 Toll Free:
 1-877-COUGHLIN
 www.cglawoffices.com

"Building Relationships On Results"

BINGHAMTON - ITHACA - OWEGO - BAINBRIDGE
 CORTLAND - HANCOCK - MONTROSE - WALTON

Attorney Advertising

Happy Chanukah from
 The Southern Tier's Most
 Talented & Trusted Family Owned Memorialist



**BINGHAMTON
 JOHNSON CITY**
 MONUMENT COMPANY
 Studio & Display

103 Burbank Ave., Johnson City
 Conveniently Located Between Riverside Dr. & Floral Ave.



607-797-2922



www.BinghamtonMemorials.com

חנוכה שמחה!



**Wishing the community a
 happy Chanukah.**

Rabbi Geoffrey Brown,
 Executive Board & Trustees,
 and the entire congregation of Temple Israel



Weekly Parasha

Vayeshev, Genesis 37:1-40:23

Compassion and empathy for others

RABBI BARBARA GOLDMAN-WARTELL, TEMPLE CONCORD

The story of Joseph and his brothers, which begins in this week's Torah portion, is the bridge from the end of the patriarchal and matriarchal family history of Genesis to the beginning of our history as a people leading us into the book of Exodus. This saga takes us through four Torah portions to the beginning of January. Joseph is a complex person. If we look closely at him as a child, we wouldn't like him much. He boasts, gloats over his brothers, is a tattletale and shares his dreams with all whether it would hurt them or not.

We learn in Jewish tradition about *shalom bayit* – peace in the home. There are times when we should not say or do

certain things for the sake of peace in the family. At this time of family gatherings, it is a good principle to keep in mind. There are times to hold our tongues. Joseph could have benefitted from this lesson. Telling his father and brothers that he dreamed a dream where sheaves of wheat would bow down to one sheave with the interpretation clearly being that they would all be subservient to him would have been the kind of dream better kept to himself.

Joseph was haughty. He flaunted the special gift he received from his father – the coat of many colors. While we could do an extensive study of parenting problems with our patriarchs and matriarchs, including Jacob and

his wives, it would have been more thoughtful of Joseph to have been discreet, to show at least a little compassion about his brothers' feelings when he received the special gift.

Joseph would not be our choice for a brother, yet he is one of our patriarchs. Why? Because, thankfully, Joseph grows and matures. He is a changed, transformed person after his enslavement and prison time. His circumstances change so drastically, giving him a lot of time to think and reflect. Later in his life in Egypt, Joseph proves to be a mensch. He cares not only for the Egyptians who are suffering from a severe drought, but for strangers. **See "Empathy" on page 15**

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

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-3:30 pm; Fri., 8 am-3 pm
 E-mail: titammy@stny.twcbc.com
 Website: www.templeisraelvestal.org
 Service schedule: Tues., 5:30 pm; Fri., 5:30 pm; Sat., 9:30 am

On Fridays and Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, services will be led by Rabbi Geoffrey Brown via Zoom and in-person (masks are required).

On Saturday, December 17, Shacharit services will be held at 9:30 am via Zoom and in-person (masks are required). The Torah portion is Genesis 37:4-36:43 and the haftarah is Amos 2:6-3:8. At 5:45 pm, there will be Havdalah services via Zoom.

The Hebrew School Chanukah Party will be held on Sunday, December 18, from 10 am-12:30 pm.

There will be a Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, December 20, at 7 pm.

On Wednesday, December 21, Torah study will be held from 4-5 pm on Zoom.

The temple office will be closed Friday, December 23, and Monday, December 26.

On Saturday, December 24, at 9:30 am, Shacharit services will be held via Zoom and in-person (masks are required). The Torah portion is Genesis 41:1-44:17 and the haftarah is Zechariah 2:14-4:7. At 6 pm, there will be Havdalah services via Zoom.

On Wednesday, December 28, Torah study will be held from 4-5 pm on Zoom.

The temple office will be closed Friday, December 30, and Monday, January 2.

Temple Beth-El of Ithaca

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Rachel Safman
 Rabbi Emeritus: Scott L. Glass
 Address: 402 North Tioga St. (the corner of Court and Tioga streets), Ithaca, NY 14850-4292
 Phone: 273-5775
 E-mail: rabbi-safman@tbeithaca.org, secretary@tbeithaca.org
 Website: www.tbeithaca.org

Presidents: David Weiner and Linda Aigen
 Sisterhood President: Gail Zussman
 Director of Education: Rabbi Suzanne Brody
 Services: Fri. 8 pm; Sat. 10 am, unless otherwise announced.
 Weekday morning minyan 7:30 am (9 am on Sun. and legal holidays).
 Religious School/Education: September-May: Classes meet on Sunday, 9 am-12:30 pm and Wednesday, 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.

For upcoming services and events on Zoom, visit www.tinyurl.com/HappeningAtTBE.

Temple Beth El of Oneonta

Affiliation: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
 Rabbi: Amelia F. Wolf
 Address: 83 Chestnut St., Oneonta, NY 13820
 Mailing address: P.O. Box 383, Oneonta, NY 13820
 Phone: 607-432-5522
 E-mail: TBEOneonta@gmail.com
 Regular service times: Contact the temple for days of services and times.

Religious School/Education: Religious School, for grades kindergarten through bar/bat mitzvah, meets Sunday mornings. For the schedule of services, classes and events, contact the temple.

Synagogues limit face-to-face gatherings

For specific information regarding services (including online services), meetings and classes at any of the area synagogues, contact them by phone or e-mail.

Rohr Chabad Center

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

Chabad will be holding pre-Shabbat virtual programs. For more information, visit www.JewishBU.com/S2020Partnership.

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: Nomi Talmi and Shawn Murphy
 Rabbi: Shifrah Tobacman, rabbishifrah@tikkunvor.org
 Education Director/Administrative Coordinator: Naomi Wilensky
 Bnai Mitzvah Coordinator: Michael Margolin
 Services: All services currently on Zoom. E-mail info@tikkunvor.org for the times and links. Contemplative morning services every Tuesday from 8:30-9:30 am. Saturday mornings, Gan Shabbat and other special services at least once a month. Call for the weekly schedule.

Jewish Learning Experiences (JLE) for second through seventh grade classes meet on Sunday mornings. Sixth and seventh grades also meet on Wednesday afternoons. Family programs for kindergarten and first grade held monthly.
 Adult Education: Offered regularly throughout the year. Check the website for details.

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.

Norwich Jewish Center

Orientation: Inclusive
 Rabbi: David Regenspan
 Address: 72 South Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815
 Phone: 334-2691
 E-mail: fertigj@roadrunner.com
 Contact: Guilia Greenberg, 373-5087

Purpose: To maintain a Jewish identity and meet the needs of the Jewish community in the area.
 Adult Ed.: Shabbat study sessions are held on designated Saturday mornings at 10 am. Call ahead, text or e-mail to confirm dates.

Friday, December 16, light candles before..... 4:14 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, December 17 5:15 pm
 Friday, December 23, light candles before..... 4:18 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, December 24 5:19 pm
 Friday, December 30, light candles before..... 4:22 pm
 Shabbat ends Saturday, December 31 5:24 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: Fri., 7:30 pm; Sat., 10:35 am, when religious school is in session.
 Hebrew school: Hebrew school meets at 4:15 pm and 5:15 pm on Tues. and Thurs. during the school year unless otherwise noted.

Some services and programs are online only.
 Friday, December 16: At 7:30 pm, Shabbat service with Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell. Masks are optional for those attending in person. Join via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3hRmW2Y>, meeting ID 869 9699 8146 and passcode 826330, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/templeconcord/.

Saturday, December 17: From 9-10:30 am, religious school's pre-Hanukkah celebration and Shabbat service; and 9:30 am Tot Shabbat. Consecration of new students will take place during the Shabbat service. There is no Torah study.

Sunday, December 18: From 11 am-3 pm, the Judaica Shop will be open for business in the Temple Concord library. Everything is 25 percent off the lowest price for this day only.

Sunday, December 18: The congregational Hanukkah Celebration will held. Activities will begin at 3 pm, including making latkes for dinner, decorating the social hall and other creative endeavors. There will be an outdoor Hanukkah menorah lighting at 4:30 pm, followed by songs. At 5 pm, candles will be lit in person inside and then a potluck dinner (dairy or vegetarian) will be held. Attendees are asked to bring their Hanukkah menorahs and two candles to light. Those interested in attending are asked to contact the synagogue office to make a reservation by Friday, December 16.

Tuesday, December 20: At 5 pm, outdoor Hanukkah menorah lighting with Hebrew school.

Friday, December 23: At 7:30 pm, Shabbat service, join via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3hRmW2Y>, meeting ID 869 9699 8146 and passcode 826330, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/templeconcord/. Attendees are asked to bring their Hanukkah menorahs and 7 candles to light at the beginning of the service.

Saturday, December 24: There will be no religious school, Torah study or family service.

Temple Brith Sholom

Affiliation: Unaffiliated
 Address: P.O. Box 572, 117 Madison St., Cortland, NY 13045
 Phone: 607-756-7181

President: Carol Levine, 315-696-5744
 Cemetery Committee: 315-696-5744
 Website: templebrithsholomcortland.org
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Brith-Sholom-114006981962930/>

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 Facebook page or 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.

Services and programs are held by Zoom on the first and second Fridays of the month.



NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Netanyahu: This will be a “liberal-nationalist” gov’t

Israeli Prime Minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu on Dec. 13 rejected criticism that his coalition will pursue a right-wing extremist agenda. During a Knesset plenum, Netanyahu said, “Everyone will live in accordance with their own faith. This will not become a nation of religious law. It will be a country in which we tend to all citizens of Israel, without exception.” “We were elected to lead in our way, the way of the nationalist-right and the way of the liberal-right, and that’s what we’ll do,” he added. Netanyahu’s coalition, which includes ultra-Orthodox religious parties, came under fire when a list of demands by United Torah Judaism came to light on Dec. 12. They urged enforcing government restrictions on the Sabbath, including halting electricity production. Lod Mayor Yair Revivo defended the idea. “I’ll give you the scoop: There isn’t enough electricity in the country, especially on the Sabbath and religious holidays,” he said. “It’s a shame that those people who usually champion ‘green’ causes are instead fighting the haredim on this one.” UTJ also asked for more gender-segregated beaches and other concessions that would largely benefit the ultra-Orthodox population. Outgoing Prime Minister Yair Lapid, leader of the Yesh Atid Party, asked Likud voters from the Knesset podium, “Is this what you voted for? ... That with your vote the most extreme government in the country’s history will be established? ... Netanyahu is a junior partner in the government that Smotrich and Deri will control,” he said, referring to Bezalel Smotrich, leader of the Religious Zionism Party, and Aryeh Deri, chairman of the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party. Dismissing Lapid’s criticisms, Netanyahu said, “I want to reassure you: there is and will be electricity on the Sabbath. There will be beaches for everyone. We will maintain the status quo.”

UAE Jewish community opens first kosher supermarket

More than 100 people gathered in Dubai on Dec. 12 as the United Arab Emirates’ Jewish community opened the first-ever kosher supermarket in the Gulf. The supermarket, named “Rimon,” will meet growing demand for kosher products due to the significant increase in the number of Jews traveling and relocating to the UAE in the wake of the 2020 Abraham Accords. The agreements, brokered by the Trump administration, normalized relations between Israel and several Arab countries, including the UAE. “Our wonderful community, which keeps growing and prospering here in the UAE, most gratefully continues to benefit from the extraordinary embrace we have received from the Emirates government and local authorities, for over a decade now,” said UAE-based Rabbi Levi Duchman. “In order to enable residents and visitors full Jewish life here, we have established Jewish institutions and communities, openly celebrate Shabbat, holidays and *simchas* [religious celebrations] – and enjoy quality kosher food, any day and everywhere, across the Emirates,” he continued. “The unique Jewish supermarket, spanning over 130 square meters in the center of Dubai, offers quality kosher produce imported especially from Israel, Europe and the United States, including quality meat and chicken products under the highest Jewish quality standard with Kosher Mehudar certification.” The store will also feature a Jewish food market every weekend, for those looking for hot kosher meals for Shabbat. Rimon is located just minutes away by car from the Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest tower.

Biden administration to create inter-agency group to combat antisemitism, Islamophobia

The White House announced on Dec. 12 the establishment of an inter-agency group to coordinate U.S. government efforts “to counter antisemitism, Islamophobia, and

related forms of bias and discrimination.” “As President [Joe] Biden has made clear: antisemitism has no place in America. All Americans should forcefully reject antisemitism – including Holocaust denial – wherever it exists,” White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement announcing the move. The statement made no additional references to Islamophobia or related forms of bias and discrimination other than noting that the inter-agency group, which will be led by staff from the Domestic Policy Council and National Security Council, would address them. As its first order of business, though, the group will be tasked with developing a national strategy for combating Jew-hatred. “This strategy will raise understanding about antisemitism and the threat it poses to the Jewish community and all Americans, address antisemitic harassment and abuse both online and offline, seek to prevent antisemitic attacks and incidents, and encourage whole-of-society efforts to counter antisemitism and build a more inclusive nation,” said the statement. “We look forward to working with advocates, civil rights leaders, civil society, and members of Congress on both sides of the aisle to continue countering the scourge of antisemitism.” The decision follows the Dec. 7 White House roundtable on antisemitism, during which Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff, who chaired a discussion with Jewish leaders at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, said that the United States was facing an “epidemic of hate.” The White House roundtable came on the backdrop of a surge of anti-Jewish harassment and physical attacks. According to data published by the Anti-Defamation League, 2021 saw the highest number of documented reports of harassment and violence toward Jews of any year since 1979, when ADL started tracking such cases. Antisemitic rhetoric has become increasingly volatile in recent months. In a letter to Biden on Dec. 6, a bipartisan slate of U.S. lawmakers from both chambers had demanded the creation of an interagency task force to pursue a “whole of government” approach to combat antisemitism at home and abroad.

Al Quds: “Iran cut financial support for Palestinian groups”

Palestinian terror groups are in financial crisis after Iran cut off their funding several months ago, Palestinian daily *Al Quds* reported on Dec. 11. The reasons for the move are unknown, though it may be related to the internal upheaval in Iran, according to the news outlet. The Iranian funds paid terrorist salaries and covered the costs of various operational activities, and some institutions affiliated with the terror groups may be forced to shut down due to inability to pay electricity bills. Several Palestinian factions have been affected, especially in the Gaza Strip. Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the Popular Resistance Committees and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine are all considered to be fully dependent on Iranian patronage.

Israel ranked fifth-safest country for tourists

Israel is the fifth-safest country in the world for tourists to visit, according to data on the 50 most popular destinations. According to data reviewed by The Swiftest analytics startup for its Travel Safety Index, published earlier in December, the top-ranked country was Singapore, followed by Denmark, Netherlands and Switzerland. Israel came next, followed by Sweden, Austria, Ireland, Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Japan, France, the Czech Republic, Belgium, Australia and Croatia. The deadliest travel destination was South Africa, followed by India, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Brazil, Cambodia, the Philippines and Saudi Arabia. The index is based on seven risk factors: death rates from homicide, road traffic accidents, poisoning and poor hygiene conditions; life years lost from communicable diseases and injuries; and a natural disaster index.

Empathy.....Continued from page 14

foreigners who are also in need. He forgives his brothers, is reconciled with them and cares for them. He even moves aside from being one of the tribes, forfeiting the position for his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh.

Joseph has compassion and empathy for others, something we hope to have as well. I believe we have matured as a people as well. We have started to face the harsh realities of war and centuries of oppression on other people and strive to honor the spark of God in each person. In seeing that spark in every human being, we, like Joseph, need to reach out beyond ourselves to help others. We were strangers in a strange land, so we need to extend a hand to others who are strangers, new to our country or community. Joseph was wrongly imprisoned, so perhaps we can donate paperback books to the local jail so inmates awaiting trial have something to read to fill their time. Our hearts have been torn with the ongoing suffering on those in Ukraine and elsewhere caught

in the middle of wars. There are ways to help those in Ukraine and those displaced. The Progressive Jewish community in Poland is involved in important relief work, including establishing day care centers for the children, something which was lacking in the country until now.

The other area for compassion and caring is for the dynamics between family members. We need to care for our relationships and be sure there are resources to support families and help work through conflicts. We can learn many important lessons from Joseph and his life with his family and in Egypt. In the long run, Joseph not only talked the talk, he walked the walk, bringing his family through the famine, reconciling with his brothers and planting the seeds for the family to flourish. His talked the talk and walked the walk of being a mensch.

Our tradition emphasizes our actions, what we do speaks louder than words. May we live up to Joseph’s example over his life in ours as well.

Moving any time soon?

Whether you’re moving across town or across the country, please let *The Reporter* know so you can stay up to date on community news! E-mail treporter@aol.com with “Reporter Address Change” in the subject line to let *The Reporter* know about your new address.

Happy Chanukah from
HOPLER & ESCHBACH FUNERAL HOME
“A new family tradition”

Personal Service
Professionalism
Experience You Can Trust

COMPARE OUR PRICES
We charge far less than other area funeral homes

Kurt M. Eschbach, Funeral Director
483 Chenango Street Binghamton
607-722-4023
www.HEfuneralhome.com

Eye-Catching
Classifieds

GARY RILEY
I’ll drive you or
I’ll deliver your vehicle near or far,
pets welcome!
REFERENCES AVAILABLE
607-760-0530
GRILES45@GMAIL.COM

YOUR HEATING & PLUMBING SPECIALISTS
BAKER’S PLUMBING & HEATING
We Also Do Natural Gas Conversions & All Plumbing Work
Free Estimates • Fully Insured • Residential & Commercial
We Install, Service & Repair...
Furnaces • Air Conditioners
Water Heaters • Gas Fireplaces
SERVING BROOME & TIOGA COUNTIES
754-6376
pbaker927@yahoo.com

The Care You Need - in the Home You Love
Affordable, Professional Home Care You Deserve

Let At Home Help provide you or your loved ones independence and dignity by providing non-medical care services in the familiar surroundings of home, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Some of our many services:
Companionship • Alzheimer’s & Dementia Care • Medication Reminders • Grocery Shopping • Laundry • Hospice Support
• Overnight Care • Meal Preparation • House Cleaning
Plus other services tailored to your needs

607-238-1123 • Locally owned and operated • Free consultation
AtHomeHelpofBinghamton.com

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...
YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!
For information, please contact Charlie Pritchett at
724-2360, ext. 244; cell 725-4110; or
advertising@thereportergroup.org

Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton
THE REPORTER

NEWS IN BRIEF

From JNS.org

Discovery of 2,200-year-old coins first evidence in Judean desert of Maccabean revolt

Israeli archaeologists have discovered a small hoard of silver coins in the Judean Desert dating to the reign of Antioch IV, the ruler of the Seleucid Empire at the time of the rebellion of the Maccabees. The coins, 15 in all, were in a wooden container hidden some 2,200 years ago and uncovered during excavations at the Darageh Stream Nature Reserve overlooking the Dead Sea last May. The unique, lathe-turned wooden jar was discovered in a crack in the cave. When the lid was removed, packed earth and small stones were found in the upper part of the box. Below this layer, a large piece of purple woolen cloth was found, covering 15 silver coins arranged with pieces of sheep's wool. The hoard comprised a homogeneous group of silver tetradrachms coins minted by Ptolemy VI, King of Egypt. Ptolemy VI reigned over Egypt at the same time as his uncle Antiochus IV Epiphanes (a title meaning "God Manifest" or "the Glorious/Illustrious") reigned over the Seleucid Kingdom, including Judea. The three earliest coins in the hoard were minted in 176/5 B.C.E., while the latest coin dates to 171/0 B.C.E. – the year the Maccabean Revolt began. The name "Shalmal," in Aramaic script, was found secondarily incised on one of the coins. "It is interesting to try to visualize the person who fled to the cave and hid his personal property here intending to return to collect it," said Eitan Klein of the Israel Antiquities Authority, one of those who studied the coins. "The person was probably killed in the battles and did not return to collect his possessions, which awaited

almost 2,200 years until we retrieved it." Klein recently described the find as "absolutely unique" and the "first clear archaeological evidence" that the Judean Desert caves played an active role in the activities of the Jewish rebels in the early days of the Maccabean Revolt.

Yeshiva U. Museum to display rare hand-drawn menorah from Maimonides manuscript

The Yeshiva University Museum has announced that its upcoming exhibition will feature a hand-drawn illustration of the Temple menorah from a manuscript that contains notes by the Jewish sage Maimonides (Rambam). The exhibition, "The Golden Path: Maimonides Across Eight Centuries," will run from May 9-Dec. 31, 2023, at the museum in New York City. It will also feature a copy of the Rambam's Mishneh Torah that was reportedly

personally signed by Maimonides. The Temple menorah drawing is found in a 12th-century copy of the Rambam's "Commentary on the Mishnah," with his handwritten notes in the margins. The drawing of the Temple menorah shows seven straight, rather than curved, branches. This unique image of the holy gold candelabra may have been drawn by Maimonides himself, according to a press release from the museum. Other items to be featured include rare pieces on loan from the Bodleian Library in Oxford, the British Library, the Royal Danish Library, the Mantua State Archive of the Italian Ministry of Culture and the National Library of Israel. "The partnerships with international collections are unprecedented, and the exhibition stands to be one of the most impressive collections of Maimonides artifacts ever to be displayed together," said Gabriel Goldstein, director and chief curator of the Yeshiva University Museum.

Gold coins dating to Muslim conquest of Jerusalem found in northern Israel

By JNS staff

(JNS) – A hidden cache of 44 gold coins dating from the Muslim conquest of Jerusalem was recently found during an archaeological excavation at the site of the ancient city of Banias, the Israel Antiquities Authority revealed recently.

Several of the coins were dated to the reigns of Emperor Phocas (602-610) and Emperor Heraclius (610-641), the latter of which overlapped with the Muslim conquest of Byzantine Palestine in 635.

"The coin hoard, weighing about 170 grams ... reflects a specific moment in time, when we can imagine the owner concealing his fortune in the threat of war, hoping to return one day to retrieve his property. In retrospect, we know that he was less fortunate," said Yoav Lerer, who directed the excavation on behalf of the IAA.

Banias, which is located within the Hermon River nature reserve, was first established by Canaanites and reached its peak in the Early Roman period, when Herod the Great and his son Philip II entirely rebuilt the city and named it Caesarea Philippi, in honor of Roman Emperor Augustus.

Eli Escusido, director of the Israel Antiquities Authority, said of the discovery: "The coin hoard is an extremely



The cache of 1,400-year-old gold coins found concealed in a wall at the Banias archeological site. (Photo by Israel Antiquities Authority)

significant archaeological find as it dates to an important transitional period in the history of the city of Banias and the entire region of the Levant. The Israel Antiquities Authority, together with the National Parks Authority, will work together to exhibit the treasure to the public."

Chanukah Greetings
from
The Staff and Editorial Committee of
THE REPORTER
Published by the Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton

Help us keep these flames lit!

JCC Security Hillel Academy PJ Library Jewish Federation of Greater Binghamton The Reporter JFS Film Fest Holocaust Remembrance

To make a donation, please e-mail the Federation at director@jfgb.org or visit www.jfgb.org.