

with carols and stories told by John Stansfield. Info: 481-2953.

- **Black Rose Acoustic Society Christmas Concert And Holiday Pot Luck, Fri., Dec. 14**, potluck starts at 6 p.m., concert at 7 p.m., Black Forest Chapel, 14190 Black Forest Rd. (less than 2 miles north of the Black Forest Rd. and Shoup intersection.) Bring your own favorite food to share, beverages and other necessities provided. Music by Adam Guardino, Phil Volan and Joleen Bell, and The Sister Brothers (Dick Carlson, Charlie Hall, and Marianne Danahey). Cost: \$7 general, \$4 BRAS members, \$5 nonmember students. Info: Joe Maio, 528-6119, or email jrmtn@comcast.net, or visit www.blackroseacoustic.org.
- **Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCA) Resident Artists Opening Reception, Fri., Dec. 14**, 6-8 p.m., 304 Hwy. 105, Palmer Lake. Celebrate the opening of this year's resident artists' exhibition which runs **Dec. 11 to Jan. 5**, noon-4 p.m. Info: 481-0475 or info@trilakesarts.org.
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance Free Duo-Piano Concert, Sun., Dec. 16**, 7 p.m., Sunrise United Methodist Church, 2655 Briargate Blvd., Colorado Springs. The program includes the seldom-heard rendition for two pianos of the Nutcracker Suite by Tchaikovsky and the Second Suite for two pianos by Rachmaninoff. Dror Biran and Zahari Metchkov will play piano, with special appearance by the Ballet Society of Colorado Springs. Tickets are free but must be reserved. RSVP & Info: Pam Brunson, 646-2791, PianoByPam@gmail.com, or www.rmmaonline.org.
- **Any color in the rainbow and then some, Sat., Dec. 21**, Covered Treasures Bookstore, 105 2nd Street, Monument. Join local children's book author/illustrator and graphic designer Kris Abel-Helwig as she reads her four books at 9:30 a.m. and signs from 10 a.m. to noon (while books last). Great gifts for all ages! For a sneak peak visit: kahcreative.com/kidsbooks. Info: 481-2665.
- **A Christmas Celebration: Tri-Lakes Music Association (TLMA) Annual Free Christmas Concert, Fri.-Sat., Dec. 21-22**, 7 p.m., plus 2 p.m. matinee Sat., Palmer Ridge High School Auditorium, 19255 Monument Hill Rd., Monument. More than 200 volunteer musicians will perform, including the Dickens Carolers, Monument String Blazers, The TLMA orchestra, choir, and more! A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to Tri-Lakes Cares and will also fund two \$500 scholarships for D-38 seniors in music programs. Doors open 30 minutes prior to concert. Info: Robert Manning, 232-4114 or email rwmanning@comcast.net, or visit www.trilakesmusic.org.
- **Wescott Fire Department Santa Patrol, Sat., Dec. 22**, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Santa has traded his sleigh for a fire truck and will ride out to meet and greet the community. For routes and times Santa will visit your area visit www.wescottfire.org. Info: Margo Humes, 488-8680 or mhumes@wescottfire.org.
- **Christmas in the Pines, Sat., Dec. 22**, 6-8 p.m., The Church at Woodmoor, 18195 Furrow Rd., Monument. Bluegrass music by One More River, carol sing-along, mulled cider and hot chocolate, cookies, crafts. Info: 488-3200 or www.thechurchatwoodmoor.com.
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): Mine That Cookie Mining! Thu., Dec. 27**, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Become part owner of an imaginary mining company in a simulation that introduces the dynamics of teambuilding with decisions on

resource quality, job responsibilities, tool purchases, budgetary expenditures, environmental issues, and more. Participants race other teams to mine chocolate chips from cookies. Included with paid admission. Reservations required. Cost: \$8 adults, \$7 military/AAA, \$6 seniors & students, \$4 children 3-12, free to children under 3 & museum members. WMMI is located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A) in Colorado Springs. RSVP & info: 488-0880, rsvp@wmmi.org, or www.wmmi.org.

- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry (WMMI): Winter Break with the Burros, Fri., Dec. 28**, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Meet Oro and Nugget, the museum's mascots, and enjoy a break from the holidays. Then, come inside to warm up with free coffee or hot chocolate and learn what games pioneer children played (marbles, jacks, pickup sticks, tag, and more). Included with paid admission: \$8 adults, \$7 military/AAA, \$6 seniors & students, \$4 children 3-12, free to children under 3 & museum members. WMMI is located at 225 North Gate Blvd. (I-25 Exit 156 A) in Colorado Springs. Info: 488-0880, rsvp@wmmi.org, or www.wmmi.org.
- **Western Museum of Mining & Industry Steam Power & Progress, through Dec.** This new exhibit on the historic development of the steam engine features the museum's seldom-seen collection of unique scale models. Regular museum admissions apply (\$8 Adults, \$7 AAA/Military, \$6 Seniors/Students, \$4 Children 3-12). The museum is located at 225 North Gate Blvd at I-25 Exit 156A. Info: visit www.wmmi.org, email info@wmmi.org, or call 488-0880.
- **A Monumental New Year's Eve, Mon., Dec. 31**, 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Dr., Monument. Celebrate the New Year with the Chamber of Commerce and Pikes Peak Brewing Company. Cost: \$45, includes unlimited hors d'oeuvres, two drink tickets, midnight champagne toast, starter Casino Cash. Tickets & Info: call the Chamber, 481-3282, or go to www.pikespeakbrewing.com.
- **Rocky Mountain Music Alliance Free Concert, Sat., Jan. 12**, 7 p.m., Sunrise United Methodist Church, 2655 Briargate Blvd., Colorado Springs. Priscila Navarro, the sensational 18-year-old Peruvian pianist, will return this season following her debut at Carnegie Hall. Tickets are free but must be reserved. Tickets & Info: Pam Brunson, 646-2791, PianoByPam@gmail.com, or www.rmmaonline.org.

Our community calendar carries listings on a space-available basis for Tri-Lakes events that are sponsored by local governmental entities and not-for-profit organizations. We include events that are open to the general public and are not religious or self-promotional in nature. If space is available, complimentary calendar listings are included, when requested, for events advertised in the current issue. To have your event listed at no charge in Our Community Calendar, please call 488-3455, or send the information to calendar@ocn.me or P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132.

Letters to Our Community

Our Community News welcomes letters to the editor on topics of general interest. The OCN editorial board has established a policy that we do not knowingly print letters that have appeared in substantially the same form elsewhere. Please identify your submission as a letter to the editor and include your full name, home address, and day and evening phone numbers. A limit of 300 words is recommended. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and accuracy. Send your letter to editor@ocn.me or mail to Our Community News, P.O. Box 1742, Monument, Colorado 80132-1742. In response to problems receiving e-mail, if you send your letter by e-mail, we will send an e-mail acknowledgement. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, please call Susan Hindman at 481-8511 to confirm that we have received your letter.

Look for our next issue Saturday, Jan. 5
Ad Reservations: Fri., Dec. 21
Finished ads in electronic format are due by Fri., Dec. 28
Letter Due Date: Fri., Dec. 28
 Visit our website to read, download, and search all the back issues at **WWW.OCN.ME**

Our Community News is printed by Signature Offset in Colorado Springs using post consumer waste recycled paper and soy bean-based water-soluble inks.
 For more information, visit www.definingsustainableprinting.com.



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The Rabbi's Corner Why?

By Oswald Garagorry

It can be stated without any reservation that in Christian circles there are sincere dedicated servants of the Most High who appreciate the importance of the scriptures and whose heart's desire is to honor and serve God in their daily lives.

Yet, for our meditation, I would like to ask why? Yes, why will this same person embrace customs and celebrations that have no source anywhere in the Bible. To the contrary, customs/celebrations are embraced that have their origins in paganism or are of human fabrication. Worse yet is that many of these unbiblical views are presented to God's people as if they are found in the holy writings. For example, let's look at the dates from the Gregorian calendar. In the Torah, God clearly states the date for the New Year and it is not January 1st. The same is true for the celebration of Christmas. It is taught, that December 25th, year 1, is the birthday of the Messiah. This date has no source in the Bible and is historically incorrect. On this point, even the present Pope agrees in his brand new book, just published last month: *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narrative*.

In the article last month on Halloween, I mentioned the Druids who introduced Britain to the worship of Baal and Astarte. Easter is not found in the Bible nor is it of Christian origin. Easter is just a variation of the title for Astarte, which is a name used for Beltis, the Queen of Heaven, and it was this same Beltis who was worshipped by the people of Ninveh at the time of Jonah. Somehow, Astarte has been associated with the resurrection of Messiah on a Sunday morning. But where in the New Testament does it state that Messiah's resurrection occurred on a Sunday morning? None of the four gospels state this. It is written that when the visitors arrived on the first day of week, he was not there, he had already resurrected. We believe he resurrected on the Sabbath and in doing so he is the lord of the Sabbath. Even if the resurrection occurred on a Sunday morning, how can there be any association between the King of the Universe and the pagan Queen of Heaven?

If my first sentence of this article is a description of you, I ask your permission to inquire of you: *Why do you continue to keep spurious teachings that are not found in the Book given to humanity?* Please find an answer that will satisfy yourself and that one day in the future you will be able to give this answer to God also.

Shalom to you.

Dr. Garagorry is the Rabbi of Aliyah Congregation that meets on Saturdays at 10 a.m. at 19925 Monument Hill Road. www.aliyahcongregation.com • (719) 330-2382
 Visitors are welcome!



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