

Find a complete listing of area High Holiday Services, **Pages 26-31**



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

ELUL 5774 - TISHREI 5775

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

SEPTEMBER 2014



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FLAMENO SEPHARDIT:

A fusion of Jewish Ladino music with pure flamenco from Spain coming to San Antonio,

PAGE 32



OUR RABBIS' VOICES

Area rabbis share their thoughts for the upcoming High Holidays.

PAGE 20-23

Help make 5775 a Shanah Tovah

Jonathan Gurwitz

2014 JFSA Campaign Chair

“L'Shanah tovah tikatevu.” For 100 generations, Jews have greeted one another at the New Year with this expression of hope and blessing: “May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year.”

Yet, we know the history. Many of those years were not good ones. Jewish communities, often isolated

and weak, were subject to the vicissitudes of their times.

As we approach 5775, what kind of year will it be? A year that fulfills our hopes for the future, or one that confirms our fears from the past?

The headlines are grim. Israel, under attack from homicidal fanatics committed to its destruction, is denounced by the international community for having the audacity to defend itself. The deliberate

targeting of Arab or Muslim civilians in Syria, Iraq, Sudan or Pakistan – and in numbers that dwarf the entire Arab-Israeli conflict – passes without notice. Yet Israel's response to a Hamas strategy that seeks to maximize civilian casualties on both sides earns condemnation.

In Europe, synagogues and cemeteries are desecrated. Groups from the far left and the far right march together in the streets and chant, “Death

to the Jews.” Jews have taken down mezuzahs from their doorposts or hide their kipot and other religious garb in public for legitimate fear of being targeted.

Perhaps most worrisome, an intellectual blind spot or, worse, a tolerance for naked hatred, has emerged among people who should know better. On college campuses, in the media and,

See **5775**, page 7

Israel lowering interest rate again as economy struggles amid Gaza op

JERUSALEM (JTA)

— Israel's central bank is reducing its interest rate to an all-time low to counteract a foundering economy due in part to the Gaza military operation.

The Bank of Israel announced late last month that it was dropping the rate to 0.25 for September. It marks the second straight month that the rate has been lowered.

Along with the Gaza operation, Bank of Israel Governor Karnit Flug cited the global economic slowdown for the problems in Israel's economy.

“Our intention in reducing the interest rate is in effect to help the economy strengthen its capability to recover from a weakness it finds itself in both due to the global slowdown and the fighting,” Flug told

Israel Radio on Monday.

The Gaza operation has affected nearly all economic sectors of Israel, including tourism, agriculture and manufacturing.

Israel's Manufacturers Association estimated the total economic impact of the operation on Israeli manufacturers so far to be

See **RATES**, page 38



Governor of the Bank of Israel Karnit Flug during a meeting of the finance committee in the Knesset in Jerusalem in January, 2014.

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Also read the Journal online at: www.jfsatx.org



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EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the OCTOBER 2014 issue of the Jewish Journal is SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 at noon.
All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

How to submit: Email submissions to jewishj@jfsatx.org

- Articles & Announcements - Email as word documents. Articles submitted for consideration are subject to editing.
- Photos - Email high resolution images (300 dpi) in jpg attachments only.

ADVERTISING:

To place an advertisement or request ad rates, contact Sandy Leigh at (240) 498-8999 or advertising@jfsatx.org.

Ad deadlines for OCTOBER 2014 ISSUE:

- Ad space reservations due no later than September 12, 2014 by noon;
- Press ready ads due by September 12, 2014.

Please include a contact name and phone number with all submissions.

The Jewish Journal is a free publication of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, and is published in print and online 11 times a year as a public service to the community. Donations to offset production and mailing costs are always welcome.

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SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES		
September 5 7:32 p.m. Candle lighting	September 20 Parashat Nitzavim-Vayeilech Leil Selichot 8:44 p.m. Havdalah	September 27 Parashat Ha'Azinu Shabbat Shuva 8:35 p.m. Havdalah
September 6 Parashat Ki Teitzei 9:01p.m. Havdalah	September 24 Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:09 p.m. Candle lighting	October 3 Erev Yom Kippur 6:58 p.m. Candle lighting
September 12 7:24 p.m. Candle lighting	September 25 Rosh Hashanah 5775	October 4 Yom Kippur 8:27 p.m. Havdalah
September 13 Parashat Ki Tavo 8:53 p.m. Havdalah	September 26 Rosh Hashanah II 7:06 p.m. Candle lighting	
September 19 7:15 p.m. Candle lighting		

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Preparing for the Days of Awe

The weeks leading up to the Jewish Days of Awe, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, are filled with complex anticipation. We are eager to begin a new year of hope and promise, while also anxious with fear of judgment for a year of unfulfilled promises and unaccomplished goals. It is a time that mirrors the deep tension we harbor as a Jewish people, our hubris as being human beings with infinite potential who are also just pebbles of sand in a vast universe. The Jewish New Year is a time of intense introspection and reflection on what matters in our lives.

The brilliance of the Jewish calendar shines as it provides the entire month



**Letter from
our CEO**

**RONIT
SHERWIN**

of Elul for preparations for the New Year. Jewish tradition refers to this month as time in which “the King (God) is in the field.” At all other times, the King sits in the castle, far from the field and inaccessible to the people. But it is during this time that God is near to us, most able to hear us and understand our thoughts and our prayers.

We are now in this time of closeness to the Divine, a time in which we are perhaps more conscious of who we are and how we

behave. Whether it is our relationship with God or our relationships with others, the month of Elul is a time to reflect and to commit to doing better. We are given another year and another chance to improve ourselves and our world.

It is with the fullness of aspiration and hope that I wish each of you in our San Antonio Jewish community a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. I hope that we all aspire to better ourselves and do more for our community. L’shanah tova u’metukah - to a good and sweet New Year for us all!

Ronit Sherwin
JFSA CEO
sherwinr@jfsatx.org

Letter to the Editor

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank The Jewish Federation of San Antonio for your substantial donation to The Torah Academy of San Antonio (T.A.S.A.). Your generosity will touch the lives of each and every family that T.A.S.A. has the honor to serve in offering a creating a cutting-edge Torah and secular education, and our efforts in the classroom have been graciously supported by your mitzvah! The furniture you donated is greatly appreciated, and will continue to be cherished for as long as Hashem blesses T.A.S.A.’s doors to be open. We will be dedicating a day of instruction at The Torah Academy of San Antonio to The Jewish Federation of San Antonio in your honor.

Sincerely,

Michael David Tamaren, M.Ed.

“Establishing the T.A.S.A. Way!”

L'Shana Tova

Wishing you a happy, healthy,
and peaceful New Year 5775

from the

Officers, Board of Directors,
and Staff

of the

Jewish Federation of San Antonio

The STRENGTH of a People
The POWER of Our Community



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IN TRIBUTE

Celebrate, Honor, Dedicate.

Dear friends,
The Jewish Journal of San Antonio, Federation's free monthly Jewish newspaper, is now offering readers the opportunity to honor or memorialize friends and loved ones with tribute donations to JFSA. Tribute donations may be made in honor of a bar/bat mitzvah, the birth of a baby, a graduation or a wedding; in memory of loved ones; or as thoughtful way to say "thank you." Donations of \$36 or more will be acknowledged with a two line tribute in the Jewish Journal unless the donor requests otherwise. To request a High Holiday greeting or tribute ad, contact Sandy Leigh at advertising@jewishj.org. The deadline for the October issue is September 12.
 Thank you!

Congratulations to Jay Peters, MD, Chief of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, for winning a 2014 University of Texas System Regents Outstanding Teacher Award
 -Dr. Elliot and Marcia Goren Weser

Wishing a speedy recovery to my daughter, Sally Scharff
 - Shirley Tudzin

Mazel Tov to Ronit Sherwin and David Komerofsky on their recent marriage
 - Leslie Komet Ausburn & Sandy Leigh

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Peyton Elizabeth Ausburn
 - Leslie and Adam Ausburn

Congratulations to Ethan Ausburn and Madeleine Ausburn on their respective films being selected and screened for the San Antonio Film Festival
 - Leslie and Adam Ausburn

Wishing the San Antonio community a happy and healthy New Year, 5775
 - Ronit Sherwin and David Komerofsky

Thank you, Miranda, for being the most fabulous, wonderful wife a husband can have
 - Joshua Sutin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Sept. 2014

SEPTEMBER 1

- All Campus Offices Closed

SEPTEMBER 3

- JNetSA 1st Wednesday Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Il Sogno
- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Sip & Schmooze, 5 p.m.
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Book Club, 7:30 p.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 4

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 7:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 5

- Temple Beth-El Machar After Hours, 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 6

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 8 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 7

- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Toys for Yeladim Family Sunday Funday, 10 a.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 2:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater
- PJ Library Family Story Time, 3 p.m., Parman Branch of Stone Oak Library
- Leah Goot Hadassah Speaker Event, 3 p.m., Adante Senior Living

SEPTEMBER 9

- Barshop JCC Early Childhood Family Gathering, 6 p.m., at The Campus
- Jewish Federation Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m., Room 277 at The Campus

SEPTEMBER 10

- Congregation Rodfei Sholom L'Chayim Club The Message of the Shofar, 11:30 a.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom
- NCJW Opening Meeting, 7 p.m., Home of Judy & Mike Kelne

SEPTEMBER 11

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the

Cuckoo's Nest, 7:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

- Temple Beth-El Machar Torah on Tap, 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 13

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 8 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 14

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 2:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom A Taste of the Holidays, 6:30 p.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 15

- Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Room 277 at The Campus

SEPTEMBER 16

- Congregation Agudas Achim Sisterhood Torah

See **CALENDAR**, page 7

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- you have an Israel Public Action Committee advocating for a secure Israel
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WE WISH YOU ALL A
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WAKE UP TO A SOUND THAT CAN CHANGE LIVES.

This New Year, let us bring hope to people in despair. Nurture and sustain our Jewish community locally, in Israel, and around the world. Your gift to the Federation's 2014 Annual Campaign makes it possible, all year long. Donate at www.jfsatx.org.



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CALENDAR

continued from page 4

Fund Luncheon, 11 a.m.,
Congregation Agudas Achim

SEPTEMBER 17

- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Book Club, 10 a.m.
- Jewish Federation Demi Dinner, 6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 7:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 19

- Temple Beth-El Machar After Hours, 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 20

- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, 8 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 24

- Jewish Federation Offices Closing 3 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 25

- All Campus Offices Closed

- Temple Beth-El Machar Appletini Luncheon, 12 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 26

- Jewish Federation Offices Closed
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Rosh Hashanah Lunch, following morning services, Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 29

- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Tashlich Service, 6 p.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 30

- Congregation Agudas Achim Sisterhood Board Meeting, 9:45 a.m., Congregation Agudas Achim

OCTOBER 1

- JNetSA 1st Wednesday Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Il Sogno
- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Sip & Schmooze, 5 p.m.
- Barshop JCC Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., at The Campus

OCTOBER 3

- Jewish Federation Offices Closing 3 p.m.

Off the Shelf at Beldon Library

Lynn Waghatler, Beldon Library

L'Shana Tova! Happy and Healthy 5775! The Beldon Library is starting the New Year off with new titles for adults and children.

The library is open:

Monday, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Wednesday, 1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Stop by, get a library card, and enjoy our great selection of books for all ages!

A used book sale is being planned for Spring, 2015. Donations of gently used books, CD's, and DVD's for adults and children are accepted. Please do not donate any prayer books to our library. For more information, call (210) 302-6805 or email waghalterl@jfsatx.org.

Calendar of Jewish holidays for parents

The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio has sent copies of the *Calendar of Jewish Holidays 2014-2015* to local public schools and universities. The calendar includes a description

of each holiday and also includes an extension into 2016 for longer range planning. The Community Relations Council encourages Jewish parents to share important holiday dates with their schools and teachers. Any

Jewish parent who would like copies of the calendar to provide to their child's teacher is invited to call the Community Relations office at (210) 302-6960 for copies. Copies are also available online at www.jfsatx.org.

5775

continued from page 1

sadly, from the assemblies of some mainline churches, expressions of sympathy for the people of Gaza comingle uncomfortably with those of malevolence for Zionists, Israel or "the Jews."

As the French intellectual Bernard-Henri Levy recently wrote in the Wall Street Journal: "I would urge them to think twice before letting themselves be manipulated by those whose motive is not solidarity but hate, and whose true agenda is not peace in Palestine but death to Israel – and, as often as not, alas, death to Jews."

Still, there is cause for hope. The fragment of the Jewish people who are blessed to live in the United States, Canada and a select few other countries enjoy freedom, security and prosperity that generations of our mothers and fathers could only have dreamed about – that Jews in some parts of the world

still dream about. Israel, despite the fanaticism of its enemies, is stronger economically and militarily than ever.

What should be the relationship of one to the other, of those of us who are privileged to live in comfort and those who must shutter their windows or rush to the sound of air raid sirens?

The answer comes from our heritage: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I?"

We have an obligation to build up our communal institutions and to create a vibrant and enduring Jewish life here in San Antonio. Yet we also have an obligation to our brothers and sisters in Europe, or trapped in Iran and elsewhere, and in Eretz Yisrael.

The primary commitments of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio are to klal Yisrael – the responsibility of each Jew for another; to tzedakah – justice, charity and righteousness; and to

tikkun olam – the process of repairing the world. These commitments can only be fulfilled through the funds raised by the Federation's annual campaign.

What kind of year will the coming year be? For the Jewish community of San Antonio, the answer is largely in our hands. By strengthening our community and supporting Jewish communities abroad, we can ensure that to the best of our abilities all of us are inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year.

A theme of our Federation campaign comes from the Pirkei Avot: "It is not your obligation to complete the task, but neither are you at liberty to desist from it entirely."

None of us alone can fulfill the obligation. Together, as the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, we can do our parts. Please generously support Federation's annual campaign and help make 5775 a Shanah Tovah.

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IN THE COMMUNITY

JFS offers *Emotional Communications* group for couples

It's been said, "Deal with your emotions or your emotions will deal with you."

That's good advice, but most of us have no clue how to deal with them. People often suffer from one of two emotional extremes. Some are out of control emotionally; living in a constant state of turmoil. Their emotions rule their lives. On the other extreme are those who deny their emotionality; they think the

key to emotional health is to be non-emotional. Both extremes are unhealthy. Balance is the key.

Jewish Family Service (JFS) is launching a 12 week *Emotional Communications* group to help participants discover healthy emotional expression, self-awareness and how to manage their emotions. Led by Gene Krenzer, LMFT, the program also teaches how to think, feel, and talk about hurts, fear, anger, guilt, shame,

and condemnation. When participants become comfortable with this level of emotional communications, intimacy builds, and they experience peaceful and fulfilling relationships.

The program, designed for couples desiring an improved relationship with better communication, will be held Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. beginning October 7 in the JFS office, 12500 N.W. Military Highway, Suite 250.

Sessions are \$30 per couple per session and there is a \$12 workbook to purchase per person. Contact Gene at (210) 302-6932 or krenzere@jfs-sa.org for more information or to register.

Jewish Family Service, supported in part by funding from the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, is a community service agency serving all regardless of religious, ethnic, or economic background.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

Sunday Sept. 28

Post meeting at the JCC Room 277, starting at 9:30 am with light breakfast, followed by business meeting

Tuesday Sept. 30

Bingo/Social at Audie Murphy VA Hospital CTC from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 26

Post meeting at the JCC, starting at 9:30 am with a light breakfast, followed by business meeting

Sunday Nov. 2

Post fundraiser at Walmart on Bandera Rd, more details Forthcoming

Thursday Nov. 13

Post members to serve supper at the Wounded Warriors Building

Thursday, Dec. 25

Post to walk the wards at Audie Murphy VA Hospital, distributing ice cream cups and bars, cookies to patients and staff on duty

The Department's January 2015 meeting will be hosted by the New Orleans post, instead of the San Antonio post. Want to help with any of the JWV activities? Call Ken Ashworth at (210) 647-0330

May your year ahead be filled with the blessings of health, happiness, and peace.

L'shana Tova לשנה טובה



Not a member yet? Not a problem. No charge for non-member attendance at High Holy Day late evening services and children's services. Prior registration required and donations welcome. Contact Geri at (210) 733-9135 ext. 120 or geri@beth-elsa.org to register or for more information.



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Rob & Emily Kaufman

Free parenting program offered at Barshop JCC

Precious Minds, New Connections, a free parenting program at the Barshop Jewish Community Center, will begin its 13th program year this month, offering classes and workshops for all caregivers of children, birth through three years.

Those who take advantage of the ten-week classes are not only the parents of young children; they are also caregivers that come in all varieties, including childcare providers, foster and adoptive parents, and various family members, including many grandparents.

"It is always an added bonus when we have a grandparent in class because they have the wonderful gift of hindsight," says Program Director and educator Cindy Berman.

Amy Sugarman, program educator, knows the importance of quality parenting education. "It is our hope that all caregivers take the time to learn about their children and find the most effective ways to support them as they grow and change," explained Sugarman.

Classes are free to all parents and caregivers of children under four years of

age, thanks to a generous grant funded by Kronkosky Charitable Foundation.

The first session begins on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at either 9:15 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. Sessions are two hours; participants can expect qualified childcare, a light snack during morning classes or a meal during evening classes, a children's book or other incentive, and course material. Additional dates for this school year are December 1, January 5 (evening class only), and March 3.

Please call (210) 302-6846 to sign up or for additional information.

Hadassah prepares for the New Year

With the High Holidays approaching, both local Hadassah groups have activities planned. The Leah Goot Group will hear the executive director of the San Antonio Holocaust Memorial Museum, Francesca Garrett, discuss *Following in the Footsteps of Survivor*, on Sunday, Sept. 7, at 3 p.m. in the museum, on the second floor of the Jewish campus, 12500 NW Military Hwy. As seating is limited, reservations are required. RSVP to Marge Present at (210) 492-5153.

A musical program and kosher Mexican luncheon will be offered by the Rose Treiman Group at the home of Jean Schlesinger on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 11:30 a.m. Couvert is \$15. For information and to make reservations, call Micki Harris, (210) 824-4178, or Ruth Toback, (210) 694-7552.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, both local Hadassah groups will gather to raise funds to complete and furnish the new

Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower at Hadassah Hospital. Hadassah members will contact other members on that day by telephone. Those who would like to volunteer to help with the phone-a-thon are asked to call Micheline Rotblut, (210) 823-8603, or Kathy O'Neill, (210) 823-8603.

As the holidays approach with visits to cemeteries and recitations of Yizkor, the memorial prayer, Hadassah encourages those who would like to remember their closest relatives to invest in a Perpetual Yahrzeit at the Hadassah Hospital in Ein Karem. Every year, on the Hebrew anniversary of your loved one's passing, the appropriate prayers will be said in his or her memory at the Abbell Synagogue, home of the famed Chagall windows. Each year you will also receive a notice of your upcoming Yahrzeit.

To find out more about this memorial program, call Kathy O'Neill at (210) 823-8603.

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Volunteer at the San Antonio Food Bank

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) welcomes community members to spend a day with them at the San Antonio Food Bank for learning, lunching, and serving on October 28 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. In Bexar County one in four children and one in five adults experience food insecurity (not knowing where or when they will get their next meal.) Each week the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) assists 58,000 individuals

through their network of agencies and a variety of programs with food needs. "Volunteering for the SAFB, is a wonderful opportunity for us to actualize our mission," says Ruthie Wurzburg, San Antonio NCJW Presidium Chair.

Carpooling will be available for individuals meeting at the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community at 12500 NW Military Hwy at noon. A tour of the SAFB located at 5200 Old Hwy 90 will begin at 12:30 p.m., followed by a box luncheon (\$8 per person.)

For more information, contact Gayle Alterman at gaylealterman@gmail.com.

Rabbi Lazer Gurkow to be the Scholar in Residence at Chabad

The community is invited for a Shabbat Weekend with author Rabbi Lazer Gurkow September 12 -13 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

On Friday, September 12 services will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by a Shabbat dinner and lecture at 8:30 p.m. Rabbi Gurkow will speak on the topic of *Planting Seeds of Happiness in the Fertile Soil of Life*. A children's program during the lecture will be provided. Cost for Friday night dinner is \$25 adults, \$12 children under 12.

Saturday morning services will begin at 9:30 a.m., Torah reading at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Kiddush luncheon at 12:15 p.m. During lunch Rabbi Gurkow will address the topic *Seeking an Anchor in a World of Shifting Values: Finding the G-d in Good*. Kiddush lunch is free and open to the entire community.

A prolific writer, Rabbi Gurkow is the author of two books and more than six



hundred articles that appear regularly in both online and print publications. He has written extensively on many Jewish topics including Shabbat, Kashrut, Jewish Holidays and family purity and has lectured to audiences

throughout Israel, Australia and North America. Gifted with the ability to present the complicated in easily understood language, he is a long-standing Scholar in Residence with Askmoses.com and is the founder of www.innerstream.org. Rabbi Gurkow is the rabbi of Congregation Beth Tefilah in London Ontario, Canada and resides there with his wife and six children.

For more information and reservations, call Chabad at (210) 764-0300.

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Human trafficking: Happening in our own backyard

Many people want to think of human trafficking as something that occurs in other countries. It is something that occurs in the brothels of Nepal where girls and boys, women and men, are forced to sell their bodies or work all day in the quarries of India breaking stones. However, the belief that human trafficking is a problem beyond America's borders is very far from reality. There are traffickers in San Antonio who are selling area children. The truth is wherever there is a willing buyer there is a trafficker



Crystal Chandler

San Antonio, will discuss the issues related to Human Trafficking in the San Antonio area at the National Council of Jewish Woman's (NCJW) opening event on Wednesday September 10 at 7 p.m. at

willing to sell.

Crystal Chandler, a Bexar County Assistant Criminal District Attorney in

the home of Mike and Judy Kelne.

In 2007, Chandler helped found and then served as a board member of Chapter 61 Ministries, a non-profit organization engaged in the fight against human trafficking. In 2009, Chapter 61 started a nationwide campaign, *Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT)* to combat human trafficking by mobilizing the trucking industry. The TAT initiative was so successful that it evolved into a separate national non-profit entity and was recently named to the United

Nation's list of 100 Best anti-Human Trafficking Practices in the world. Chandler has spoken throughout the state educating and raising awareness of human trafficking.

This is a community event, open to everyone. RSVP by September 8 to Mindi Silver-Weiss at mindisw@gmail.com or (210) 497-2333 to ensure adequate seating is available.

Donations of gently used luggage for NCJW's Transitions program, for children transitioning out of foster care, will be accepted at the event.



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IN THE COMMUNITY: TEEN NEWS

Teen Tuesdays at the J

Jewish teens in grades 8-12 are invited to hang out on Tuesday evenings in the JCC Youth Lounge from 7-8:30 p.m. Each Tuesday, teens will have a chance to participate in an open discussion on topics ranging from Jewish identity, Israel, holidays, current events, and other Jewish related topics. Teen Tuesdays will begin September 9. There is no cost to participate.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Dylan Ashworth either by phone at (210) 302-6869, or email ashworthd@jcc-sa.org, or Samantha Mazuz by phone at (210) 302-6867, or by email at mazuza@jcc-sa.org.

L' Shana Tova
to my family
and friends
and especially
to my Mother,
Alda Epstein
— Sandy Leigh

IN THE COMMUNITY

Chabad to host Pre-High Holiday Torah Study Workshops – September 14

The community is invited for a Day of Torah Study with Rabbi Chaim Block, Rabbi Yossi Marrus and author Rabbi Lazer Gurkow on Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

Morning services will begin at 8 a.m. followed by a continental breakfast and registration at 9:00 a.m. The first session of workshops will begin at 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. Topics will include *'The Call of the Shofar: A Biblical, Historical and Mystical Overview'*, *'Perspectives on High Holiday Prayer: The*

Machzor's Liturgy & History', *'Terrorists and Human Shields: Must We Die to Protect the Shield? What If the Shield Was Your Brother?'* and a Rosh Hashana Challah Baking Workshop. The second session, from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. will provide participants the opportunity to attend an additional workshop. A delicious buffet lunch will follow.

Cost for the breakfast, workshops and lunch is \$18. For a full program schedule and reservations, please call Chabad at (210) 764-0300.

IN THE COMMUNITY: COLLEGE NEWS

Hillel reaching out to Jewish students for the 2014-15 school year

San Antonio Hillel provides programming, learning opportunities, and social events for Jewish college-aged students at a variety of San Antonio campuses including UTSA, Trinity, and UTHSC. On-campus lunches, Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations, and learning opportunities are just some of the many exciting things Hillel has planned for the coming school year.

Hillel will also facilitate Birthright Israel trips for San Antonio students. More than 400,000 young Jewish people from over sixty countries have received the gift of a free trip to Israel.

Birthright Israel provides this free ten-day trip for young Jewish adults to learn about Israeli history and culture, to connect to their Jewish roots, and to explore their Jewish identity.

"Traveling to Israel during

college is such an amazing experience. It's this special once in a lifetime gift that opens young adults' eyes to what Israel really is, how important Israel is to our people, and how important it is that we continue passing on our traditions throughout future generations," said Samantha Mazuz, San Antonio Hillel Director. Birthright registration opens on September 9.

Community members who know of a Jewish college student attending a local campus are encouraged to refer them to Hillel San Antonio.

For more information about Hillel or to refer a student, contact Samantha Mazuz at Samantha@sahillel.org or at (210) 201-JEWS (5397) or visit www.sahillel.org or www.facebook.com/SAHillel.

NCJW wishes everyone
a Peaceful and Sweet
New Year



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IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUTH NEWS

Special to Federation: TASA prepares for 2nd year of classes

By Aaron Sarfati,
President of TASA

It's that time of year again. The summer vacations are over, the High Holidays are looming around the corner, and TASA is back in session. It is amazing to think back and realize that just one short year ago we opened our doors based on a hope and a determination to provide high

quality academics in a Jewish environment. We can now confidently proclaim that our first year was a resounding success and with one year under our belt, year two is set to be even better.

I am a proponent of using data to help drive evaluations and continuous improvement, so I would like to share a few interesting insights from our end-of-year testing data,

courtesy of the Education Records Bureau's CTP4 exam. One impressive statistic was found in our First Graders: they mastered 95% of the expected math concepts compared with 75% mastery by other private school first graders across the country. Additionally, our first graders exceeded the national average mastery by 12% across all categories tested. When looking across all grades and across all subjects tested, our students on average were on par with the expected mastery of other private schools and were slightly ahead of public schools administering this exam. Also, across all grade levels, our students outperformed other leading private schools by 9% in mathematics.

We are very pleased with the results of our first year and will use these results to set and meet an even higher bar. To meet these goals, our entire staff worked diligently throughout the summer to enhance the rigor and balance of our curriculum and offerings. Our team, led by Mr. Michael Tamaren, M.Ed. and Rabbi Yossi Marrus, are challenging our students to ensure that this year we not only meet national standards, but far exceed them.

We would like to thank the Jewish Federation of San Antonio for its generous allocation to support us in preparing our next generation of Jewish leaders. The Board of Directors and Staff of TASA would also like to wish everyone a *Shana Tovah U'Metukah*.

To find out more about our school, please visit our website at www.TorahAcademySA.com or call (210) 607-7261.

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Hummingbirds! Grown-Up and Me program at Heintz Preschool

With all the older children attending school, little ones and care givers are invited to join in the school spirit with Heintz Preschool's Hummingbird class.

Parents or caregivers of children under 24 months are invited to meet new friends, celebrate Shabbat, enjoy sensory exploration, and learn through play in Heintz Preschool's class. The class introduces young children to a lively Kaballat Shabbat experience led by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton, and "Ms. Aliza" Cantu. After the service, Hummingbirds are treated to challah and snacks

in their classroom with their new Hummingbird friends.

"Hummingbirds class is structured for young children and allows for abundant sensory exploration, age-appropriate hands-on activities, and lots of play time," said Aliza Cantu, HPS Director and Hummingbird teacher. "Children are invited to sing, dance, and create in this joyful Jewish experience."

Hummingbirds meets every Friday at 9:15 a.m. during the school year. To register, or for more information, please contact Aliza Cantu at (210) 479-0429 or a.cantu@agudas-achim.org.

Familiar faces return in a new capacity to the JCC preschool

The Block and Dreeben School for Young Children has welcomed two new Judaics Specialists, Mary Levy and Bobi Stern.

Mary Levy and her family became involved at the JCC when it was located on Rampart where all three of their children were enrolled in the JCC School for Young Children and where Mary joined the faculty teaching pre-kindergarten through 2000.

Mary was involved in the National Association for the Education of Young Children teaching workshops to early childhood teachers

at both the local and national levels. She also taught classes at Temple Beth-El and became the volunteer adult advisor for SAFTY, Temple's high school youth group. Mary rejoins the JCC staff as an Early Childhood Judaics Specialist where she will help young children and their families experience the joy of Judaism and Jewish life through music, movement, and hands-on activities.

Bobi Stern has taught children in San Antonio for over 33 years at Temple Beth-El and Congregation Agudas Achim's Heintz

Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School. Previously, she was a nurse in New York, and after her children were born, she worked as an RN for ICU patients at NYU Medical Center.

Bobi states that Jewish education has been "one of the best pieces" of her life. She will be a Judaics Specialist for the JCC's *An Ethical Start*® program. The curriculum provides a unique method for learning universal values through a Jewish lens providing children and their families with *value*-able tools for their everyday lives.



SAVE THE DATE

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Pomegranate Demi Dinner

A Taste of Israel

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Wednesday Evening, October 1, 2014

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A Honey of a Year with Yad B'Yad

The Yad B'Yad Intergenerational Program at Heintz Preschool will have a Honey Fest to celebrate the High Holy Days on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 10:15 - noon. All grandparents and grandpals are invited to work "hand-in-hand" with the preschool students while enjoying a snack of foods with honey, visit with a local bee keeper, and sing along with Ms. Mindy during a music session.

People often ask, "Who can be included in this intergenerational program?" Any adult who qualifies for "senior discounts" is invited to share in the fun with the preschool children. There are always preschoolers looking for grandpals to pair up with during the program days. Yad B'Yad allows children to invite their own grandparents to and to meet "stand-in grandparents," known as grandpals, while enjoying time at the preschool. Yad B'Yad can also fill a void for a



The Yad B'Yad, a monthly program of the Heintz Preschool, brings grandparents and grandpals together for fun activities with the school's preschoolers.

grandparent whose own grandchildren are older or live far away.

This is the fourth year that the Yad B'Yad Intergenerational Program is a grant recipient of Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services. It is held the

third Wednesday of each month (except Grandparents' Shabbat on Friday November 21).

Contact the Heintz Preschool office (210) 479-0429 or email yadbyad.heintz@gmail.com for more information.

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March of the Living: Defiance and Hope

Each spring, thousands of people from around the world join together for the March of the Living, an educational program which includes the history of the Holocaust and the examination of the roots of prejudice, intolerance and hate. The March of the Living itself, a silent walk from Auschwitz Birkenau, is a tribute to all victims of the Holocaust. This year, San Antonio teen Jacob Schwartz participated in the March. The essay below is the second of a two part series about his experience.

One of the recurring themes of the March was defiance and hope. Although it was immensely difficult to hear the stories that the survivors shared, we also had strong sense of pride because everything we stood for, everything we represented as Jews, Hitler had tried to destroy, and through it all, we are still here. The Jewish people are alive and thriving. Standing in Birkenau, a place dedicated to destroying every trace of the Jewish people, and finishing a Sefer Torah is just remarkable. Being able to pray outside of a gas chamber where so many Jews died just because they were Jews, like us. Carrying an Israeli flag through the camps and hearing from people who

actually survived was so symbolic of the hope that we saw in the survivors' eyes throughout the trip. Even as we stood in the very gas chambers where their families were murdered, the survivors smiled, because they were filled with hope.

Hope is the very principle that the State of Israel was founded upon, seen in the very anthem of the country, Hatikvah, the Hope. Going from the lowest point in our people's history to the highest high, the greatest triumph bears emotions that cannot be described. Being able to walk down a street and see all kinds of Jews: Chareidim and secular Jews, Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, young and old Jews, altogether in one country. Being able to pull over at a random park to wrap Tefillin and read the Torah. Being able to practice Judaism, knowing that you are free to do so because the land you are in is protected for that very reason is something very special, something many of us take for granted.

Israel knows how to commemorate their fallen soldiers. In America, Memorial Day has become a day to shop, have a barbeque or buy new mattresses because the sacrifice that our troops have made feels very far from home. In Israel,

every single person knows someone who has fallen in a war because not a generation has passed without a serious strike against the sovereignty of the nation. When the siren goes off on Yom Hazikaron, Israel's memorial day, everything stops. We were driving down a highway when it happened, and we pulled into a gas station.

Looking around, I saw a lot full of other Jews who were standing still, paying tribute. We were all united in the somber moment.

As sad as Yom Hazikaron is, Yom Ha'atzmaut is that much more joyous. We spent that evening at a kibbutz, celebrating with the people who lived there. There were mats and sleeping bags

laid out for the children, who were running around, wrestling and dancing with each other, while the adults danced through the night. For Independence Day, we marched again, but this time full of joy, through Jerusalem. The stark contrast of the two weeks was embodied in the

See **MARCH**, page 17

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Max, a holocaust survivor from Dallas and 9-time marcher, exiting Birkenau.

MARCH

continued from page 16

two marches: marching in a place of sorrow and death to one of joy and happiness. Dancing at the Wall with so many other Jews, carrying the Torah scroll that had been completed the week before in Birkenau; reduced me to tears, but they were tears of joy. I was so overcome with pride, because during those two marches, I was unfathomably proud to be a Jew. Never have the words "Am Yisroel Chai" sounded

so true! The people of Israel live on!

This final story really represents the emotions of the whole trip. As we gathered around the ovens of death, we were told a story: When the camps were liberated, soldiers were told "give all of your rations to the Jews! They are starving!" but this was not a sound idea. Many died from overeating as a result, so they were told to put the Jews back in the camps and doctors were sent to slowly add more

food to their diets. One day, a soldier (who's grandson was a friend of one of the Rabbis on the trip with us) saw a little boy lying in line, too tired to stand. He went over to the boy, planning to pick him up and wait with him until he received his food, but when he bent down to embrace him, he was overcome by emotions. He began to weep, clutching the boy to his chest in a gentle embrace. He hugged the boy for a few minutes before releasing him. When he opened his eyes, what he saw astonished him: all of the children in line for food had left that line and formed one in front of him, waiting for their chance to be hugged. These children had lost their parents and had no one to care for them, to feed them, to hold them, or to love them. Never again would they feel the gentle embrace of their parents, never again would they know the faces of their grandparents, never again play tag with their brothers or sisters. No child should ever experience this, but millions did because of the baseless hate and the decision of so many to stand still and remain silent. So I ask of you: don't be a bystander; stand up for what's right. Finally, please, I beg you, go hug your children, wife, husband, parents, siblings- anyone; because we are all each other and should never take one another for granted.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

PROJECT CHALLA L'CHAYAL



(L-R) Mia Meishar, Aviva Bass, Jennifer Cohen, and Esther Feinberg

Rodfei Sholom volunteers, led by Aviva Bass, bake Challahs to benefit The Project Challah L'Chayal. All the challahs were sold and more than \$1,200 was raised, which will be donated to the Lone Soldier organization in memory of Nissim Sean Carmeli.

PALETA PARTY



Adante residents enjoy paletas on July 31.

In celebration of National Ice Cream Month, Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services took Paletas, Mexican popsicle treats, to area senior centers. Throughout the month, GMJSS visited Adante Senior Living, Golden Estates Rehabilitation Center, Wedgwood Senior Apartments and Madison Estates.

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THE
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November
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Jewish Federation
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

INTER-CONGREGATIONAL EVENT FEATURES ODE TO SUMMER'S END



More than 200 guests attended the *Ode to Summer's End* concert event held at Temple Beth-El on Sunday, Aug. 17. The program was a collaborative effort presented and sponsored by Temple Beth-El, Congregation Agudas Achim, Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, Congregation Rodfei Sholom and Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, with support from Temple Chai and Jewish Federation of San Antonio. The program began with a kosher reception and was followed by the performance.

2014 FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN NOW UNDERWAY

With your help, the Jewish Federation of San Antonio Annual Campaign provides immediate relief for people in need. We also create a positive impact on the lives of youth, individuals, and families at home and abroad. Please join us in making our world a better place.

How can you participate? Donate to Federation's Annual Campaign

- Online at www.jfsatx.org
- By mail by sending a check to: Jewish Federation of San Antonio
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Volunteer for our annual phone-a-thon

- Super Sunday - Sunday, Nov. 2
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To sign up, please call (210) 302-6960

Get involved

Jewish Federation of San Antonio welcomes you to join us in our many activities and events throughout the year. Help us build a stronger, more connected Jewish community.

To learn more about JFSA, please visit www.jfsatx.org or give us a call at (210) 302-6960. We welcome everyone to play a part in making a difference in our world.

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The Rabbis' Voices for the High Holidays

The true meaning of *Shana Tova*

SHANAH TOVAH! We will say these two words hundreds of times over the course of our High Holy Day season. And yet this simple phrase has far more significance for us than the traditional greeting we share as we encounter a new year once again.

Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins explains: "When we wish each other a *shanah tovah*, a good year, we think of the Hebrew word *shanah* or year, and extend greetings for a good year. But the Hebrew root shin, nun heh has another meaning as well. It is the core of the verb *le-shanot*, to change. Further, the same root, shin nun heh also denotes repetition, as in the name of the great book of codified Torah law compiled by Moses Maimonides, Mishneh Torah; the repetition of the Torah. In other words, a shanah tovah, a good year, is a year of shanot, of change, of doing things differently and better. And it also denotes a year of repetition, of relearning all the old lessons that our tradition of truth and wisdom has been teaching us for many centuries.

Shanah is a unique word, just as this is a unique moment in our San Antonio Jewish community. With several new rabbis and



The Rabbi's Voice

MARA NATHAN

institutional leaders this will certainly be a year of shanot. There will be much learning about long standing traditions, family connections and community concerns. Historic relationships will be strengthened and new opportunities for collaboration and community will be fostered. It will also most certainly be a time of experimentation, innovation and transformation for us all.

As we prepare ourselves

for the Days of Awe as a community and as individuals, may we take the time to reflect on how we would like this year to be a Shanah Tovah; a time of personal reflection and growth, a time when we re-commit ourselves to a life of kindness, generosity and intentional living, a year when we honor the past just as we pledge to change for the better.

With wishes of goodness and sweetness in the year ahead!

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Pause and reflection during the Ten Days

Some days are more special than others. The ten days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are known as the Ten Days of Repentance or *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah*. The first section of the *Schulchan Aruch*, (Code of Jewish Law), speaks of the intensification of our religious practices during these days. For example, it notes one should become more scrupulous about eating bread made by Jews, even if one is generally lax in this regard. In our community, this concept and ones like it are not the norm. Whatever the level of our observance, we can and should make a concerted effort to raise ours a notch.

Rabbi Moshe Isserles (1520-1572) notes that



The Rabbi's Voice

JEFFREY ABRAHAM

the Ten Days are a time to scrupulously examine one's deeds, adding that we should work even harder on examining deeds which were *only possibly* wrong. After all, when one is certain that he or she has misbehaved, regret comes effortlessly. In the Temple our ancestors brought a *chattat* (a kid or lamb) sin offering for certain sins but brought a more expensive *asham* (a ram) offering for *possible* guilt. This means that thinking about sinning is more expensive than actually sinning. What is

going on here?

It seems to me that the *halakhah*, Jewish Law, is instructing us to be especially attentive to the grey areas of decision-making. Stealing is wrong. Most of us would be appalled to find ourselves in possession of something taken without permission from its owner. In fact, for such clear-cut questions, it does not even require significant effort to do the right thing. Should we discover that we have truly stolen, we must confess, apologize, return the item, and pay any damages.

Ambiguity is much more elusive. Many of our decisions are defensible without being right. Do we stick with our rationalizations, or do

we do the hard work of reconsidering our deeds?

Questioning our ambiguous errors is no fun, and we often don't have the wherewithal.

When we think back on the past year, it may be relatively simple to identify a few big mistakes we made, regret, and have resolved to repair. The more difficult task, however, is to discern those moments of carelessness, haste, and inattentiveness when we caused damage without awareness. Rabbi Isserles is directing us to focus on these morally ambiguous behaviors during the Ten Days and to try to make all of our deeds more intentional and more constructive.

By pacing ourselves through the Ten Days of Repentance

we can accomplish a great deal, remembering and repairing not only the intentional damage that we have wrought but also rethinking the sketchy or questionable moments when we could have and should have done better.

As we look to our New Year, I look forward to many more days of *Torah*, *tefillah* (prayer), *mitzvot*, and *maasim tovim* (good deeds) in 5775. May your prayers be sweet in your mouth, and may they be accepted with favor by the Holy Blessed One.

Shanah Tovah U'Mitukah (To a Happy, Healthy, and Sweet New Year)!

Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham
Congregation Agudas Achim

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Becoming stronger Jews to make the world a better place

We often think of Rosh Hashanah as the most “Jewish” of our holy days. After all, at what other time of the year do Jews congregate together in such numbers. Yet, in fact, Rosh Hashanah is a holiday whose major themes are not particularly Jewish, but rather are universal in nature. *Hayom harat olam*--Today, we celebrate the birthday of the world. *Hayom yaamid bamishpat kol yetzuray kedem*. This day, all the creatures of the universe stand in judgment before G-d. This day, we pray, G-d, reign over all the universe in Thy glory. Shine forth in the majesty of Thy triumphant power over all the inhabitants of Thy world. This is a holy day which has implications, significance, and relevance to all mankind.

Terrorism, which is the scourge of mankind today, is part of a global religious war against Western civilization and its great religions. The world's ills today are not a result of democracy; they are not a result of Western civilization but are a result of a triumphal, militant, extreme intolerant ideology. Only with the strength of our conviction and the values of liberty and freedom and concern for the individual, for compassion and for justice, will we prevail and will the world become more secure and closer to redemption.



The Rabbi's Voice

ARYEH SCHEINBERG

In the last 7 weeks since the murder of the three Israeli teenagers, we have seen Israel assaulted with at least 4,000 missiles aimed at her population centers. In response to that, Israel attacked Hamas and their missile launchers that were embedded in densely populated neighborhoods, mosques, schools, and hospitals. In Israel's defense of its people, Israel tried to neutralize the launching pads of those missiles. Hamas encouraged its own women and children to remain as human shields to be able to extract from the world a sympathy for themselves and antipathy for Israel.

While the world has forgotten the difference between intentional attacks against innocent people and accidental killings of the human shields that Hamas has placed next to the launchers, we should never be blindsided by any argument of moral equivalency. Let there be no confusion in our minds; between the perpetrators of evil and those who defend their populations against missile attacks. That kind of moral equivalency is, in fact, immoral equivalency.

We live in a world that has gone haywire and forgotten what justice is, what compassion is, what brotherhood is, what inner peace and international peace are, and what love is. Let us become stronger Jews, more educated, more exposed to the joy and wisdom of Judaism. Let us remain steadfast to the millennial truths of our Torah, which will provide the strength, courage, and fortitude to be a light unto the nations. We can be a blessing to a world that needs the faith and heritage of Israel to survive. May this new year bring blessing and strength to our families, communities, and to the world.

Aryeh Scheinberg
Congregation Rodfei Sholom

Rosh Hashanah Symonim: Foods for thought and hope

Dr. Rosalind Horowitz
Professor and Director,
Jewish Society at UTSA

The foods we eat are not only for nutrition and good health, but they are also symbols for the way we orchestrate our lives. This is evident at the distinctive Rosh Hashanah Table. Our Rosh Hashanah Table carries not only attributes of holiness associated with the Altar; in addition, this table signifies ways we should experience life. The Symonim (translated “symbols” or “signs”) are placed on the Rosh Hashanah Table to guide our thinking, as a precursor to the meal and our new

year. They remind us of values to emulate and deeds to enact in the New Year 5775. Most, even young children, are familiar with the apples and honey; yes, they signify that the year should be a sweet one. But it is also noted by the Rabbis that the Gematria (numerical value) of honey conveys our faith in a ‘Merciful Father’.

Less known and practiced is that there should be a fish head on the table. This is to remind us we should be, first and foremost, Leaders, not

See **FOOD**, page 25

LA SHANA TOVA!



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Let us not forget the struggles of our generations past

We modern Jews have it too easy. We are free to disassociate ourselves from Jews and Judaism, so we forget that that's only a fairly recent option. Today the only forces keeping Jewish people involved with Judaism come from within. And since no one has been successful in perpetrating genocide against us for about seventy years, we are quick to forget that this moment in history is not



The Rabbi's Voice

DAVID KOMEROFSKY

normal.

The last sixty-six years have been the exception to Jewish life, not the rule. That's why I'm a Zionist, because I know that as much as the State of Israel is a modern miracle, it's some-

thing created by a people whose millennia of yearning and struggle reached its tipping point when faced with annihilation. When there is nowhere else to turn, people head for home.

My rabbinate has been spent primarily with people born after 1948 and 1967, as I am. I was an academic administrator or Hillel director for fifteen years and am used to being among the

oldest people in the room on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year it will be different in my work with Temple Chai. I will stand before people much wiser and more experienced, keenly aware of my pisher status. This year more than others I recognize that my younger peers and I have a skewed view of the universe because we don't know first-hand a world without the State of Israel. We have no eyewitness memory of Jews on death marches. We may know people who have those memories, but they are the stuff of history to us. History, not memory.

It is through this prism that we experience the realities of Israel's ongoing struggle for acceptance and international recognition, and the rising tide of anti-Semitism around the globe. Those sworn to destroy the Jewish state make clear that they prefer not just no Jewish state in the Levant, but no Jewish people anywhere.

We have it too easy because we don't know

anything different. But what will our children and grandchildren know? I try not to be alarmist, but it's hard to be optimistic about a thriving Jewish future when so many appear eager to erase the Jewish gains of the second half of the twentieth century. At the same time, too few are willing to stand up for a people that is roughly one quarter of one percent of the world's population. Demography and history are not on our side.

Today, after thousands of years of wandering and suffering, we're finally at home again and relatively safe. But for how long, nobody knows. We Jewish people can't take a single moment for granted, and each new year is a fresh opportunity to do more to fulfill our eternal mission to make the world better for all humanity. Perhaps this is the year that we will at last find peace wherever we live. It's that hope that propels us always forward.

David Komerofsky
Temple Chai

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Temple Beth-El ushers in new traditions for High Holidays

As Temple Beth-El marks its 140th anniversary this year, it will build upon its rich tradition while welcoming new innovations and people during the upcoming High Holy Days.

Most notably, Rabbi Mara Nathan will lead her first High Holy Day services as the congregation’s new senior rabbi. Since she started in her position in July, the Temple has enjoyed significant congregational participation and spiritual and social energy.

As has been the practice in previous years, the Temple will have an early and late service on both holiday eves, and will have two concurrent services for each morning’s worship. The Temple also holds a children’s service each holiday morning and offers complimentary babysitting during the main services.

As has been done for many years, four congregants will share personal perspectives on what Judaism means to them during a Yom Kippur symposium prior to the congregation’s afternoon service. The Temple will also debut a pilot version of a new Reform High Holy Day Prayer Book, *Mishkan HaNefesh*, during Yom Kippur afternoon, Yizkor (memorial), and

Neilah (concluding) services. Members of the community are welcome

at Temple Beth-El during the High Holy Days and throughout the year. Service details and guest

pass information are available in the High Holiday section in this issue of the Jewish Journal,

online at www.beth-elsa.org or by calling the Temple office at (210) 733-9135.

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High Holiday notes from Congregation Rodfei Sholom

The Rodfei Sisterhood is kicking off their 2014-2015 year with *A Taste of the Holidays* cooking demonstration. This special event featuring renowned Dallas caterer Lowell Michelson will be held at Rodfei Sholom on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Lowell will share recipes appropriate for holiday dinners and Break-Fast meals. Everyone in attendance will get a taste of a variety of appetizers, main dish, side dishes (including a vegetarian dish), desserts, and drinks.

This is a new membership event for women interested in joining the Rodfei Sisterhood for the upcoming year. Dues are \$25. As a member, you will have the privilege of attending events throughout the year at no additional charge. Upcoming activities an art event, a

gardening class, a lecture with a medical expert, a community service day, and more.

On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Friday, Sept. 26, Congregation Rodfei Sholom will host a traditional lunch following services. RSVP by Friday, Sept. 19 by contacting the synagogue at rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Rodfei Sholom's Tashlich observance will take place near the Synagogue on Monday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. Tashlich, which means "you will cast," takes place between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We symbolically cast away our sins into a natural body of water (i.e. lake), and resolve to improve our lives. Congregants will leave promptly from Rodfei at 6 p.m. and will return for pizza. Adults are \$5; children are free. RSVP by Monday, Sept. 22 if planning to attend.

Temple Chai spotlights music for High Holy Days

Sopranos Lauren Langbaum and Caitlin Smith will join Rabbi David Komerofsky for the special music of the 2014 High Holy Days at Temple Chai. Both young women sang in Temple Beth-El's choir in the past, and have continued their love of music in college and beyond. "Both are outstanding examples of Jewish education and leadership in our community," said Mark Meyers, Temple Chai President.

Cantorial soloist for Rosh Hashanah services, Caitlin Smith, has been Song Leader and T'fillah Coordinator at the Union of Reform Judaism's Greene Family Camp since 2006. She served as leader of the Reform minyan and on the

Hillel board at the University of Texas, Austin, and is currently a pre K-5 Life Skills teacher at Del Valle ISD. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Applied Child Development/Special Education.

Lauren Langbaum is cantorial soloist for Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services. She earned a degree in Vocal Performance at the Boston Conservatory of Music. A graduate of Clark High School, she is now pursuing a Master of Music in Musical Theatre at New York University.

Principal piano accompanist is Manahara Virasinha, a native of Sri Lanka who attended the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. Elizabeth Vargas, violinist, will render

Bruch's Kol Nidre.

Temple Chai's emphasis on music extends to its Contemplative Music Service on Yom Kippur afternoon, an opportunity for the congregation to "...get out of its mind and into its soul." No words are spoken; in silence, all are encouraged to meditate and reflect upon this sacred time, while musical presentations are offered by Dr. Michael Stern and Manahara Virasinha, piano; Madge Cady, violin and viola; and Elizabeth Vargas, violin.

The community is welcome to attend. For more information, please call the Temple Chai office at (210) 340-2090, or Mark Meyers, (210) 241-3860, or visit www.templechaisa.org.

FOOD

continued from page 22

Followers, likened to the head—and not the tail—of the fish. And so we are Leaders—individually and collectively in many walks of life.

But there are still additional Symonim, even less known, used in Sephardic and Ashkenazic circles, that are worthy of our focused attention, which we will discuss at a Rosh Hashanah dinner for UTSA students, faculty, staff, and friends.

These other less known symbols signify perspectives taken in life. There is a blessing associated with each of these foods to express gratitude for the food and to also give us direction and hope during hard times.

At our dinner, on the first night of Rosh Hashanah, we will recognize dates and discuss their power to bring blessing of protection and survival; the dates are said to signify that we should see our adversaries, our enemies who seek to obstruct or destroy us, eradicated!

The pomegranate, on the table, with its multiple, juicy, red seeds, suggests we should perform a multitude of good acts in this world.

The carrots, which appear in a variety of forms, depending on one's cultural practices, known as a tzimmes, a compote with honey, sometimes pineapple, prunes, or other fruits and sweet potatoes — convey that the year to come should bring a sweet, luscious existence, and that our merits and sweetness should grow and be multiplied.

Rashi conveys that these

foods have been singled out because they have specific consequences—either possessing quick growth cycles or a sweet taste.

College students, faculty, staff, and friends of UTSA are invited to join in on the elaboration of these Symonim and dinner at the home of Professor Rosalind Horowitz, the first night of Rosh Hashanah, Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. We will examine how Rosh Hashanah provides us not only with food for physical health, but also food for thought and action including "higher levels of reasoning" beyond the foods of the typical daily life.

Who would imagine that food would have such symbolic significance? As Talmudic references and commentators describe, we are to 'gaze' at these foods (some elevate them at the table) but the gazing, looking on at the beauty of these foods and taking in their symbolic meanings is vital for a transition.

We can, then, offer a blessing for each possibility they convey about life and, eventually, enjoy eating them, taking them into our body.

RSVP by Sunday, September 21 by calling (210) 493-8368 or e-mail ComposerRh@aol.com. There is no charge. All college students are welcome.

L'Shanah Tovah 5775! May it be a year of sweetness, where the symbols identified above, usher intellectual, psychological, moral, and spiritual fulfillment, peace and love for Israel, respect for our Soldiers, and hope for humanity throughout the world.



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HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

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Selichot Services

Saturday, Sept. 20
1 a.m. (Sunday a.m.)

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24
Shachrit - 6:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 7:10 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day One

Thursday, Sept. 25
Shachrit - 9 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 11 p.m.
Shofar Service - 12 p.m.
Mussaf - 12:45 p.m.
Minchah - 5:45 p.m.
Tashlich @ Edgewater - 6:45 p.m.
Maariv - 8 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day Two

Friday, Sept. 26
Shachrit - 9 p.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 11 p.m.
Shofar Service - 12 p.m.
Mussaf - 12:45 p.m.
Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat/
Maariv - 7 p.m.

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, Sept. 27
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 7 p.m.

Fast of Gedalya

Sunday, Sept. 28
Shachrit - 8 p.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Friday, Oct. 3
Shachrit - 6:30 a.m.
Minchah - 3 p.m.
Kol Nidrei - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 12 p.m.
Yizkor - 1 p.m.
Minchah - 5:45 p.m.
Neilah - 6:45 p.m.
End of Fast - 7:51 p.m.

Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Shachrit - 6:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.
Annual Sukkot Dinner - 7:45 p.m.
RSVP (210) 764-0300

Sukkot Day One

Thursday, Oct. 9
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.

Sukkot Day Two

Friday, Oct. 10
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Minchah & (Kabbalat Shabbat)Maariv
6:45 p.m.

Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot

Saturday, Oct. 11
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:30 p.m.

Chol Hamoed Sukkot

Sunday-Tuesday, Oct. 12-14
Shachrit - 6:30 a.m. (Sun. 8 am)
Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.

Hoshanah Rabbah/Shemini Atzeret Eve

Wednesday, Oct. 15
Shachrit - 6:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv (Hakkafot) - 6:45 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Eve

Thursday, Oct. 16
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Yizkor - 11:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.
Children's Program - 7 p.m.
Simchat Torah Dancing-Hakkafot -
7:45 p.m.
Kiddush & Refreshments - 7:45 p.m.

Simchat Torah

Friday, Oct. 17
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading, Aliyot Honors/
Hakkafot - 11 p.m.
Minchah & Maariv (Kabbalat
Shabbat) - 6:45 p.m.

Shabbat Bereishit

Saturday, Oct. 18
Shachrit - 9:30 a.m.
Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
Minchah & Maariv - 6:30 p.m.

HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

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Officiating: Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 20 - 8:16 p.m.

Havdalah and Viewing of "20 Million Minutes," a documentary of the effort in 2012 to petition the International Olympic Committee for a moment of silence in memory of the Munich 11 of 1972

Torah Scroll Mantle Change and Procession

Selichot Service followed by Margaritas and Munchies

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 8 p.m.

First Day Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 25

Morning Services - 8 a.m.

Youth Services (birth - high school) - 11 a.m.

Second Day Rosh Hashanah

Friday, Sept. 26

Morning Services - 8 a.m.

Youth Services (birth - 8th grade) - 11 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon following services

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, Sept. 26 - 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, Sept. 27 - 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon following service

Kever Avot/Memorial Services

Sunday, Sept. 28

Memorial Gardens - 9 a.m.

Palmetto Street - 10:30 a.m.

Tashlich Service

Sunday, Sept. 28 - 5 p.m.

Riverwalk at original Agudas Achim site @ 102 Aubrey St., San Antonio, Texas 78204

Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 - 6:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4

Morning Services - 9 a.m.

Youth Services (birth - high school) - 11 a.m.

Musaf - 11:15 a.m.

Yizkor - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Recess - 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Avodah - 4 p.m.

Martyrology - 4:30 p.m.

Mincha - 5 p.m.

Neilah - 6:15 p.m.

Children's Processional - Final

Shofar - Family Havdalah - 7:59 p.m.

Break the Fast in Memory of Ruth

Reif and Steven Gossen

Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, Oct. 8 - 6:15 p.m.

Oneg in the sukkah

Sukkot First Day

Thursday, Oct. 9 - 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah

Sukkot Second Day

Friday, Oct. 10 - 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, Oct. 10

"One Friday Night With Friends"

- 6:15 p.m.

Family Dinner - Reservation required - 7 p.m.

Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon following service

Teen Camp Out in the Sukkah

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 7 p.m.

Havdalah - 7:51 p.m.

Reservation required

Hoshanah Rabbah

Wednesday, Oct. 15 - 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast in the Sukkah

Erev Sh'mini Atzeret

Wednesday, Oct. 15 - 6:15 p.m.

Sh'mini Atzeret (Yizkor)

Thursday, Oct. 16 - 9 a.m.

Yizkor - 11 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah

Erev Simchat Torah - Thursday, Oct. 16

Family Dinner - 6 p.m.

Reservation required

Service - 7 p.m.

Dancing with Sifrei Torah

Simchat Torah

Friday, Oct. 17

Service & Dancing with Sifrei Torah

- 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon following

Kabbalat Shabbat -

Friday, Oct. 17 - 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Bereshit -

Saturday, Oct. 18 - 9 a.m.

Kiddush luncheon following

Babysitting provided during services.

HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

CONGREGATION BETH AM

7150 IH-10 West, at the intersection of IH-10 and Loop 410 (westbound access road) San Antonio, Texas, 78213 / (210) 492-2173 / www.bethamsatx.org / Reconstructionist / All services will be held in the Fellowship Hall at First Unitarian Universalist Church /
Officiating: Rabbi Barry Krieger

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 20 - 10 a.m.

Part of Shabbat morning services

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7:15 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day 1

Thursday, Sept. 25

Morning service - 9:30 a.m.

Children's service - 10:30 a.m.

Tashlich - 3 p.m.

*At Joske Pavilion,
Brackenridge Park*

Rosh Hashanah Day 2

Friday, Sept. 26

Morning service - 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, Sept. 27 - 10 a.m.

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, Sept. 27- 10 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur- Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4

Yom Kippur Morning Service - 9:30 a.m.

Children's service - 10:30 a.m.

Yom Kippur Yizkor - Noon

Forum with Rabbi Krieger - 4 p.m.

Yom Kippur Mincha & Ne'ilah - 5 p.m.

*Havdalah followed by Break-the-Fast -
8 p.m.*

*Congregation Beth Am requires no
reservations or tickets, except for the break-
the-fast on Saturday, Oct. 4. For details or to
RSVP, call (210) 492-2173. Babysitting will
be provided at no charge on the first day of
Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur.*

CONGREGATION ISRAEL OF SAN ANTONIO

210) 387-2436 / <http://www.congregationisraelsatx.org> / Conservative

All High Holiday services to be held at Patriot Heights All Faiths' Chapel, 5000 Fawn Meadow, San Antonio, Texas 78240.

Officiating: Hazzan David Silverstein, JD, Ritual Leadership, Rev. David Miron, accompanist and Professional Chorale

Selichot penitential services

Saturday, Sept. 20 - Midnight

Erev Rosh Hashanah service

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7:15 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah morning service

Thursday, Sept. 25 - 9 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah – 2nd morning service

Friday, Sept. 26 - 9 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.

Eve of Atonement

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4

Shacharit and Torah service - 9 a.m.

Yizkor and Musaph - 11:30 a.m. –

2:30 p.m.

Mincha and Neilah - 6 p.m.

*Shofar and Havdalah; Break the Fast
- 7:52 p.m.*

HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

CONGREGATION RODFEI SHOLOM

3003 Sholom Drive San Antonio, TX 78230 / rodfeisa@gmail.com / (210) 493-3557 / Fax (210) 492-0629 / www.rodfeisholom.org / Orthodox

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24
Evening Services - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:11 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 25
Morning Services - 8 a.m.
Shofar Service - 11 a.m.
Evening Services - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 8:10 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah – Day 2

Friday, Sept. 26
Morning Services - 8 a.m.
Shofar Service - 11 a.m.

Shabbos Shuva-Shabbat of Repentance

Friday, Sept. 26
Kabbalat Shabbat - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:08 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 27

Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 7 p.m.

Tashlich

Monday, Sept. 29 - 5 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Friday, Oct. 3
Mincha - 3 p.m.
Kol Nidre - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Yizkor Memorial Service - 12:30 p.m.
Mincha - 5 p.m.
Followed by Ne'ilah
Sounding of Shofar - 8 p.m.

Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, Oct. 8
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:55 p.m.

Sukkot

Thursday, Oct. 9
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:54 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 10
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:52 p.m.

Chol Ha-Moed Sukkot

Saturday, Oct. 11
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:45 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 12

Morning Services - 8 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:30 p.m.

Intermediate weekdays

Monday & Tuesday, Oct. 13 & 14
Morning Services - 6:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:30 p.m.

Hoshana Rabba

Wednesday, Oct. 15
Morning Services - 6:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:30 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:47 p.m.

Yizkor/Shemini Atzeret

Thursday, Oct. 16
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Yizkor Services - 10:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv - 6:30 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:46 p.m.
Hakafot-Simchat Torah - 8 p.m.

Simchat Torah

Friday, Oct. 17
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:45 p.m.

FORT SAM HOUSTON JEWISH CONGREGATION

All services will be held at the Fort Sam Houston Main Post Chapel, Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234

Eve of Rosh Hashanah, First Day

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 1915 Hrs. (7:15 p.m.)

Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

Friday, Sept. 26 - 0900 Hrs. (9 a.m.)

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4 - 0900 Hrs. (9 a.m.)

Rosh Hashanah, First Day

Thursday, Sept. 25 - 0900 Hrs. (9 a.m.)

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, Sept. 26 - 1930 Hrs. (7:30 p.m.)

Yom Kippur and Shabbat end at 1952 Hrs. (7:52 p.m.)

Eve of Rosh Hashanah, Second Day

Thursday, Sept. 25 - 2000 Hrs. (8 p.m.)

Eve of Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 - 1900 Hrs. (7 p.m.)

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THE HILL COUNTRY

All services will be held at Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country, 960 Barnett Street, Kerrville, Texas 78028 / Officiating: Rachel Walsh

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur- Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.

JCHC doesn't require tickets. For more information, please call (830) 367-2000.

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 25 - 10 a.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4 - 10 a.m.

HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

TEMPLE BETH-EL

211 Belknap Place; San Antonio, TX 78212 / (210) 733-9135 / www.beth-elsa.org / Reform
Officiating: Rabbi Mara Nathan, Rabbi Elisa Koppel, Cantor Julie Berlin

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 20

Selichot Discussion and Dessert
8 p.m.
Candlelight Selichot Service in the
Wulfe Sanctuary
9:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24

Early Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.
Late Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary
8:45 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 25

Children's Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
9 a.m.
Morning Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
10:30 a.m.
Morning Service in the Barshop
Auditorium
10:30 a.m.
Apples and Honey
12:30 p.m.
Served in the Jacobson Garden and
Stahl Gallery

Appletini Lunch
12:30 p.m.

For those in their 20's, 30s, and
40s-ish in the Dreeben Family
Pavilion

Tashlich and Picnic

Sunday, Sept. 28

12:30 p.m.

To be held at the site of the former River Walk
Inn, 329 Old Guilbeau Rd.

Bring your own picnic lunch. The service will
begin at approximately 1p.m.

Kever Avot

Sunday, Sept. 28

(Cemetery Memorial Service)

Temple Beth-El Cemetery
(Palmetto St.)
3 p.m.
Beth-El Memorial Park (Austin
Highway)
4 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Friday, Oct. 3

Early Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.
Late Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary
8:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4

Children's Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
9 a.m.
Meditation and self-study with music
for adults
9-10:30 a.m.
~In the Oppenheimer Chapel
Morning Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
10:30 a.m.
Morning Service in the Barshop
Auditorium
10:30 a.m.
Yom Kippur Symposium in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
1 p.m.
Afternoon Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
2:30 p.m.
Yizkor-Memorial Service in the Wulfe
Sanctuary
4:30 p.m.
Program for school-aged children
only — no parents
4:30 p.m.
Neilah-Concluding Service in the
Wulfe Sanctuary
5:30 p.m.

Following services, Break-the-Fast in the
Barshop Auditorium, hosted by Temple Beth-
El Sisterhood.

Sukkot Eve

Wednesday, Oct. 8

Sukkot Eve Service in the Jacobson
Garden Sukkah
6 p.m.
Sukkot Eve Potluck Dinner in the
Courtland Sukkah
7 p.m.

Sukkot -First Day

Thursday, Oct. 9

Sukkot Morning Festival Worship
in the Oppenheimer Chapel
10:30 a.m.

Sukkot – Second Day

Friday, Oct. 10

Shabbat Sukkot Family Service in the
Wulfe Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.
Shabbat Sukkot Family Dinner
7:45 p.m.
In the Brotherhood Sukkah, prepared
by Temple Brotherhood. Advanced
RSVPs and payment required.

Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve Service
and Consecration
6:30 p.m.
In the Wulfe Sanctuary

Atzeret-Simchat Torah

Thursday, Oct. 16

Atzeret-Simchat Morning Festival
Worship Service with Yizkor
10:30 a.m.
In the Oppenheimer Chapel

Babysitting is provided for all services at
Temple Beth-El. Rosh Hashanah and Yom
Kippur guest cards for Temple Beth-El
services will be issued to adults under 26,
military personnel, out of town guests of
members and individuals exploring Judaism.
Each is valid for all services on the respective
High Holy Day.

To obtain a guest pass, please call the Temple
office by Friday, Sept. 19, at (210) 733-9135,
ext. 126, or email dollie@beth-elsa.org or
register online at http://bit.ly/tbe_hhdguest.
Registration is required and donations are
welcome for each guest pass. Guest cards will
not be mailed after September 15. Children
under the age of 18 may attend services with
any adult cardholder.

HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

TEMPLE CHAI

All services held in the Holzman Auditorium (unless otherwise noted), Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community 12500 N.W. Military Hwy. (at Wurzbach) San Antonio, TX 78231

Temple Chai Office 7410 Blanco Rd., Suite 340 San Antonio, TX 78216 / Phone: (210) 340-2090 / Website: www.templechaisa.org / Reform

Officiating: Rabbi David Komerofsky / Cantorial Soloists: Caitlin Smith, Lauren Langbaum accompanied by Manahara Virasinha

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 20 9 p.m.
Reception/Havdalah

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24 8 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 25 10 a.m.

*Apples and Honey Reception
followed by Tashlich ceremony*

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, Sept. 26 6:45 p.m.

Kol Nidre

Friday, Oct. 3 8 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 4

Morning Service - 10 am

Text Study with Rabbi Komerofsky

1:30 pm

Contemplative Music Service

3:15 pm

Yizkor Service

4:15 pm

Neilah Service

5:15 pm

Break-the-Fast follows Neilah

Sukkot in the Sukkah

Saturday, Oct. 11 10 a.m.

Simchat Torah

Friday, Oct. 17 6:45 p.m.

Complimentary admission is extended to all military and students with ID. Reciprocity for members of other Jewish congregations is also granted for admission to any of our services.

A \$180 contribution is requested of non-member families. This includes admission for adults and all children under the age of 18 to all High Holy Day services and events. This High Holy Day contribution will be applied to the Annual Membership Commitment for those joining Temple Chai this year.

For information or High Holy Day tickets, please call the Temple Chai office, (210) 340-2090 or our President, Mark Meyers, (210) 241-3860.

GOLDEN ESTATES REHABILITATION CENTER

130 Spencer Ln, San Antonio, TX 78201

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services will provide High Holiday Services for the residents at Golden Estates.

Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 24 10:30 a.m.

Yom Kippur

Friday, Oct. 3 2 p.m.

Sukkot Luncheon

Wednesday, Oct. 8 Noon

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ARTS & CULTURE

Concert highlights music of Spanish Jews

Flamenco Sephardit, a concert featuring a unique fusion of pure flamenco with Jewish Ladino music and classical elements will be performed at the Arneson River Theatre on Friday, Sept. 19 at 8 p.m.

The concert, designed to bring cultures together and promote peace, will feature flamenco singers, dancers, guitarists from Spain, alongside a Spanish classical guitarist, violinist and cellist, and two opera singers.

Jeffrey Eckstein, an orchestral conductor and executive producer for this concert, said the concert features an amazing group of performers and that the combination of both Flamenco and Ladino is a very unique one.

"There are so many similarities in the origins of Flamenco and Ladino music. It is amazing when you hear a piece from one and it reminds you of the other," Eckstein

noted."The rhythms, melodies and harmonies communicating both suffering and happiness are so incredible."

Eckstein added, "Much of this music was originally transmitted orally, especially for the Jews for whom it was forbidden to practice their religion in Spain during times of the Inquisition."

"After the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492, this ancient Ladino language was carried by Spanish Jews

to so many places of their dispersion as did Flamenco music," he added. "It is these traditions of communicating music between generations that have made it possible for us to enjoy the vast amount of this repertoire today and bring these two cultures back together in this concert."

For more information on the concert or obtaining tickets, visit www.flamencosephardit.com.



Adon Olam: Deepening our spiritual connection

"I know you. I was written nearly 2500 years ago just for you. They call me *Adon Olam*. I was written as a prayer to light a path for our people through every kind of darkness. No matter where you have come from and no matter what you have gone through, my words hold a secret message especially for you."

These are the opening words of a new book, *Adon Olam, A Search for Meaning*, by Rabbi Zalman Weiss.

Last night twenty-five of us were treated to an amazing talk by this Orthodox rabbi from Jerusalem who happens to be the brother of one of the members of the Chavurah my husband and I belong to.

As he told us of his work in Israel with people wanting to convert to Judaism, he admitted that they often asked him difficult questions that he could not answer.

As he searched for answers for his students, he discovered a wealth of Jewish wisdom that had been hidden for centuries in the words of the



Mishugas:

LINDA KAUFMAN & BOBBI STERN

verses beginning with *Adon Olam*. He spent four years researching the topic, and then another five years writing and rewriting this volume that just had its first printing.

As we are all getting ready for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the spiritual highpoint in our Jewish year, we learned it doesn't have to be at the same level of understanding and spiritual connection as in previous years. It can escalate.

Rabbi Weiss implored us to learn about the meaning hidden in the words of this song we mindlessly sing during our worship services, words that were written 2500 years ago by the last prophets of Israel. In doing so, we will grow in our understanding of the divine relationship we all have with our God.

According to Rabbi Weiss, these revered men knew

that the age of prophecy was coming to an end, and there wouldn't be any direct communication with the Master of the Universe until the coming of the Messiah. Thus, they hid the wisdom that led to the truth about God in the words of *Adon Olam*.

Before leaving the Chavurah, I bought two books, one for me and one for Bobi. As we are writing this column, neither of us has completed the reading of this book, but we both know that this is our kind of subject matter.

Bobi adds: As Linda has said, she bought me this wonderful book that emphasizes *Adon Olam*, which is a search for meaning in one's life. Without a search for meaning, we cannot develop Jewish wisdom that must include the desire to learn more about God.

Who wouldn't agree with Rabbi Weiss that every piece of ourselves and the world in which we live is truly a gift of God? As long as we are alive, we have to continually

be searching and be ready to recognize the importance

See **MISHUGAS**, page 33



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Vex Season Passes and *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* tickets on sale

The Sheldon Vexler Theatre's 16th Season began in August with Dale Wasserman's drama *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*. The play, directed by Dylan Brainard and featuring Vex Artistic Director Ken Frazier as R.P. McMurphy – the role Jack Nicholson portrayed in the film – continues this month with performances through September 20.

Based on Ken Kesey's novel of the same name, *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* follows a rebel, McMurphy, who feigns insanity in order to finish out a prison sentence



in a mental ward instead of on a work farm. There, he discovers the patients of the asylum make a lot more sense than the restrictive and conformist establishment. Note: this production contains adult themes and language.

Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Individual ticket prices are \$15-21, depending on ticket type, and Vex Season Passes (\$60-68) are available for purchase through September 20, which includes one admission to each of this season's four productions. Visit www.vexler.org for more information about the 2014-15 season. To purchase tickets and season passes, or tickets to *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*, call The Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835.

MISHUGAS

continued from page 32

of the true meaning of life and how we are all really “searching souls.”

Linda reminded me, as I was not at this lecture, that one of the greatest pieces of wisdom that this particular rabbi shared was that we are all miracles and we choose the manner in which we lead our lives. As Jews, we are mandated to choose goodness and gracious behavior even on our worst days.

Feeling the presence of God within us is a gift that God has given to everyone. The choice is up to each of us to make life a good place. (I love when one of my students mentions in class that God spelled backwards is dog because it is a great discussion to have after we acknowledge that on the

sixth day God made both animals and human beings.)

There is a chapter in the rabbi's book called *Why Are You Here?* He states, “It's the link that connects these wide-ranging meanings that defines our reason for being.” Once again, it is up to us with God's help to be able to answer that very piercing question for ourselves. For sure, one of the reasons we are here, according to Rabbi Weiss, is to be a part of the perfection of God. We can do this as we pursue being like God.

Let's all together make it happen and make the world a sacred place in which *Numero Uno* is not us but God.

As Eleanor Roosevelt said, “Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift: that's why they call it the present.”

ב"ה

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The Call of the Shofar

A Biblical, Historical & Mystical Overview
Presenter: Rabbi Chaim Block

Perspectives on High Holiday Prayer

The Machzor's Liturgy & History
Presenter: Rabbi Yossi Marrus

Terrorists and Human Shields

Must We Die to Protect the Shield?
Presenter: Rabbi Lazer Gurkow

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Sunday Funday *Toys for Yeladim*

Rodfei Sholom monthly Sunday Fundays are generally focus on fun, educational activities for our children, but an upcoming program open to the community this month is "other-oriented" and highlights doing a mitzvah.

The special project, called *Toys for Yeladim*, takes place on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event is being generously supported by Reuben Lopez, owner of The Toy Zone located at 10003 N.W.

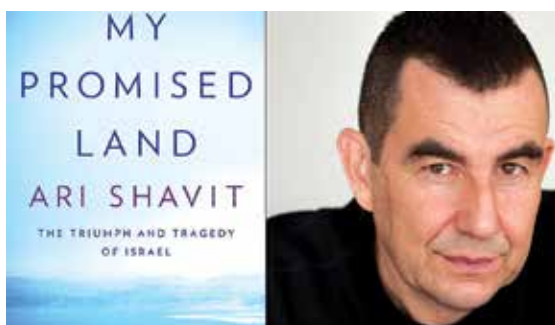
Military Highway and the new location at 22211 IH-10 West. All those purchasing items for this event will receive a 20% discount. When checking out, be sure to mention the toys are for children in Israel.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a new toy, game, craft project, or art supplies to be used in the shelters in Israel. Due to the current situation and constant activity in the summer, the shelters need to be resupplied. From September 2 through 7, there

will be bins in the lobby at Rodfei Sholom, and everyone is encouraged to bring toys, etc. during office hours (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). On Sunday Funday, children will have materials to make cards and pictures to send with the collected items. A light continental breakfast will be available at \$5 for adults. Children are free, but are encouraged to bring an item to donate. For more information, contact rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557.



Rodfei's toy drive is aimed at providing some joy for Israeli children forced into shelters due to the current conflict



Rodfei Sholom Book Club

Members of the Rodfei Sholom Book Club will gather at the Synagogue on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the book, *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit (with facilitator Dr. Nissim Elbaz).

Ari Shavit, a long-time columnist for the liberal newspaper, *Ha'aretz*, examines his country's history, its glories, and its most painful chapters. This narrative is more than the sum of its parts--both personal and national, deeply human and of profound historical dimension. As it examines the complexities and contradictions, the author uses the defining events of the past to shed light on the present. For more information, contact Rodfei Sholom.

L'Chayim Club on Sept. 10

The Rodfei Sholom L'Chayim Club for seniors will have their monthly event on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Rodfei Sholom synagogue. *The Message of the Shofar* presented by Rabbi A. Scheinberg will give insight and meaning into the upcoming holidays.

This will be followed by a lunch and an opportunity to exchange ideas and socialize with friends. The program is open to everyone. Seniors are free, thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor.

Other participants are \$8 each. For more information and to RSVP by Friday, Sept.

5, contact rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3558.



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Featuring



Avi Issacharoff is The Times of Israel's Middle East analyst. Born in Jerusalem, he graduated from Ben Gurion University with a B.A. in Middle Eastern studies and then earned his M.A. from Tel Aviv University on the same subject.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Avi was the Middle East Affairs reporter for Israeli Public Radio covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the war in Iraq and the Arab countries between the years 2003-2006.

In 2002 he won the "best reporter" award for his coverage of the second intifada. In 2004, together with Amos Harel, he wrote "The Seventh War - How we won and why we lost the war with the Palestinians." A year later, the book won an award from the Institute for Strategic Studies for containing the best research on security affairs in Israel. In 2008, Issacharoff and Harel published their second book, entitled "34 Days - The Story of the Second Lebanon War," which won the same prize.

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

7:30 PM

Dessert Reception to Follow

Congregation Agudas Achim

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Registration is required; please visit

www.aipac.org/SATXAgudasAchim

For more information, please contact:

Kacie Penn

832-380-7709

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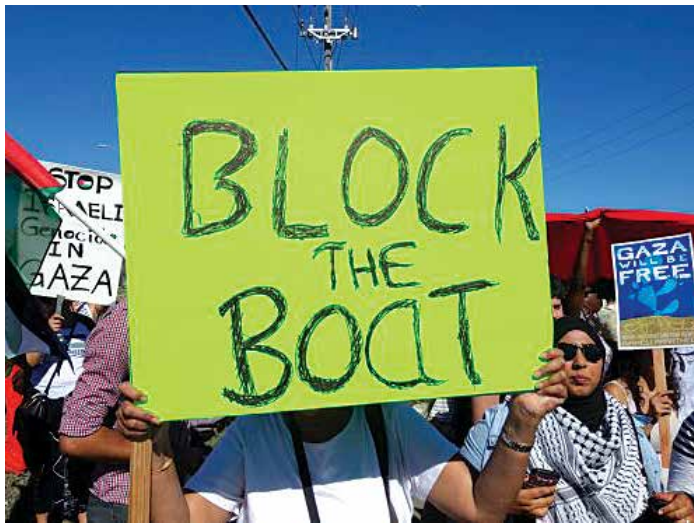
U.S. & WORLD NEWS

Blocked Israeli cargo ship circumvents California protests

OAKLAND, Calif. -- An Israeli-operated cargo ship blocked from unloading its goods for four days in Oakland by anti-Israel protesters feigned a return to sea before doubling back secretly to port.

The standoff began last month when the Piraeus, operated by Zim Integrated Shipping Services, Israel's largest shipping company, was scheduled to dock at Oakland Port.

Hundreds of protesters organized by the Arab Resource and Organizing Center in San Francisco blocked the entrance to the port to prevent longshoremen from



A woman marches with protestors to the Port of Oakland, August 16, 2014.

entering, ostensibly to draw attention to Israel's operation in Gaza.

The ship remained at sea for a day, then docked for three days, when it left with

its cargo intact, seemingly headed for Southern California. Instead it quickly turned around and docked at another terminal, where two dozen longshoremen worked overnight to unload the cargo.

AROC's Block the Boat campaign had earlier declared victory, claiming in one statement that "workers honored our picket," suggesting that union members sympathized with the protesters.

But a news release from the International Longshore and Warehouse Union said the union takes no position on the Middle East conflict and was concerned

only with protecting its workers from the "volatility associated with a large demonstration and significant police presence."

Anti-Israel protesters had some success stopping Zim ships from unloading in Oakland twice before, in 2010 and 2012.

Demonstrators attempted to block a Zim vessel in Long Beach on Aug. 13 but failed to stop workers from unloading the cargo.

Block the Boat has called for protests in Tacoma, Wash., and Vancouver, B.C., with the aim of shutting down Israeli shipping to the West Coast.

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Calls to UK anti-Semitism hotline soar since start of Gaza conflict

(JTA) -- The number of calls to an anti-Semitism hotline in the United Kingdom have jumped nearly fivefold since the beginning of Israel's conflict with Gaza, according to a British Jewish organization.

In July, the hotline of the Community Security Trust, British Jewry's watchdog

on anti-Semitism, received 240 calls, according to the Independent, a British publication. The hotline averaged 50 calls a month during the first half of 2014.

The volume was the highest since the hotline was launched except for January 2009, when Israel conducted its last ground invasion of

Gaza. Many of the calls concerned verbal attacks that compared Jews to Nazis or accused them of being child killers.

Britain has seen a spate of protests against Israel since the conflict began in early July. In August, a branch of the British supermarket chain Sainsbury's removed kosher

food from its shelves during an anti-Israel protest.

"The actual data is bad enough but cannot convey the mood of the Jewish community, with many people telling us that they have never felt so bad, have been under such pressure, nor worried so much about what the

future may hold," said the Community Security Trust's communications director, Mark Gardner, according to the Independent. "British Jews, like those elsewhere, will continue to suffer local anti-Semitic impacts from overseas events and global ideological trends."

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Hamas targets Israeli offshore gas rig with rockets

(JNS.org)

Hamas said it fired two rockets at an Israeli offshore gas rig, in the first such attempt by the Gaza terrorist group since Operation Protective Edge began.

The offshore gas platform called Noa is located approximately 19 miles off the Gaza coast and is owned by the U.S.-based gas company Noble Energy and the Israeli gas firm Delek.

While the Noa platform is within range of Hamas rockets, the rockets largely lack any guidance systems and are highly inaccurate. The Israeli military said no rockets have struck the platforms.

"The gas is flowing, business as usual," a spokeswoman for Noble Energy said, Reuters reported.



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For the latest national and international news, including the situation in the Middle East, log on to www.jfsatx.org.

Hollywood elite sign statement condemning Hamas

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Nearly 200 Hollywood elite from actors to directors to studio heads have signed a statement condemning Hamas, as its conflict with Israel continues.

“Hamas cannot be allowed to rain rockets on Israeli cities, nor can it be allowed to hold its own people hostage. Hospitals are for healing, not for

hiding weapons. Schools are for learning, not for launching missiles. Children are our hope, not our human shields,” read the statement signed by members of the Creative Community for Peace and posted on its website on August 23. (www.creativecommunityforpeace.com/justice/)

The statement will appear as an ad in Hol-

lywood publications including Billboard, The Hollywood Reporter and Variety.

The statement also said that the signatories “are saddened by the devastating loss of life endured by Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza. We are pained by the suffering on both sides of the conflict and hope for a solution that brings peace to the region.”

Among those signing the document are: Aaron Sorkin, Sylvester Stallone, Roseanne Barr, Sherry Lansing, Seth Rogen and Kathy Ireland.

The statement follows several comments, including ones on Twitter and Facebook, by Hollywood figures, in support of Gaza and the Palestinians.

RATES

continued from page 1

about \$336 million. Israel’s tourism industry has lost at least \$566 million after tourism dropped by 26 percent over last year for the month of July.

In addition, employees of businesses located up to 25 miles from the Gaza border can be paid for days they miss work, due to the Gaza situation, with government money given to the businesses.

The central bank said in a statement earlier this month that economic activity in Israel began experiencing “a sort of contraction” even before the Gaza operation.

Meanwhile, the Al-Monitor news website reported Friday that sales of Israeli goods in the West Bank are down 50 percent due to a boycott of Israeli products.

The head of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics,

Oula Awad, told Al-Monitor that more than 70 percent of Palestinian imports come from Israel or through it, and that the Palestinian market is the most important for Israel. Awad said imports from Israel are worth \$4 billion to \$4.5

billion while exports do not exceed half a billion dollars.

Israel’s Channel 10 reported earlier this month that sales of Israeli products in the West Bank dropped by 50 percent due to the Gaza operation.

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Welcome baby Casell

Faye and Jason Casell and big sister Ellery celebrated the birth of Sascha George on June 3 in Houston. He weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19.25 in. long. Grandparents are Jane and Steve Bankler, and Susan and Jay Casell, all of San Antonio. Great-grandparents are Luise and Morris Bankler, also of San Antonio.

Jason is an attorney at Reed Smith in Houston, and Faye works in early childhood education.



Zucker-Franklin engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zucker are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie, to Ari Franklin, of Chicago, Illinois.

The couple met in Austin, Texas at a holiday party in November. Their many mutual friends wondered when the pair would eventually meet.

Ari is the son of Jonathan and Linda Franklin of Oak Park, Illinois.

Julie runs Outreach and Engagement programs at the Dell Jewish Community Center in Austin, Texas.

Ari is an entrepreneur and currently the Director of Experience at Uberpong, based out of Austin.

The couple will wed in Austin in January 2015.



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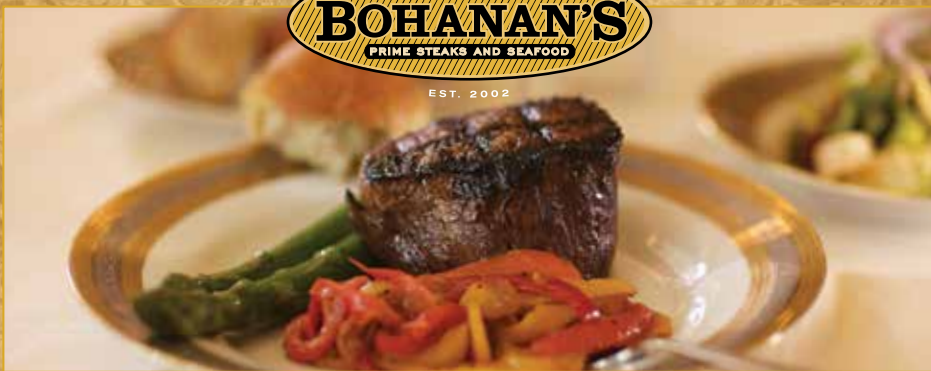
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