



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

NISAN - IYAR 5778

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

APRIL 2018



SPOTLIGHT ON...

Each month, The Journal focuses a spotlight on a member of our San Antonio Jewish Community. Who's in the limelight this month?

PAGE 6

BECOME A PEARL

Calling all Jewish women in their 20s - 40s. Come join this diverse group for fun, education and philanthropy.

PAGE 3



ON THE MOVE

What's been happening in YOUR San Antonio Jewish Community.

PAGES 13 - 17

Tricentennial *Shindig* street fair to feature Jewish musicians

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio, along with a multitude of Jewish agencies, will present the Tricentennial *Shindig*, on Sunday, April 15 from noon to 6 p.m. in the parking lots of Temple Beth-El, 211 Belknap Place. The letter Shin (in Hebrew) represents 300 in Gematria (Hebrew letter to number



SHINDIG PERFORMERS

- **Shweiki band** featuring Gal & Israel Shweiki
- **Merchants of Jazz**, featuring Mark Greenwald
- **Mazel Tov Trio**, featuring native San Antonians who will share Israeli and Klezmer music

- **Cooper Greenberg**
- **The Ramblecats**, featuring Kenny Kaufman
- **Heritage Band**, featuring Vicki Adelstein
- **Three-Volts Dime**, featuring Dan Garvin

equivalents).

The event will feature Kosher food and craft vendors, as well as a robust children's area that will pay tribute to

Israel, as we celebrate 70 years of statehood. Among the attractions at the Tricentennial event will be a wide array of musical artists from the San

Antonio Jewish community, coordinated by Rikko Ollervidez of Rikkos Joint. The festivities are free and open to the public.

April celebrations mark major milestones

We will celebrate two very special anniversaries during the month of April for our San Antonio Jewish community.



Letter from our CEO

RONIT SHERWIN

On April 15, the Jewish Federation of San Antonio is thrilled to be hosting *Shin-Dig SA*, the Jewish community's Tricentennial event (300th anniversary of the city), to be held in partnership with every

Jewish agency in our community. That week, Jews around the

See **CEO**, page 26

Spending bill includes big boost for Jewish groups

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- An omnibus spending bill approved by Congress more than doubles spending for security grants that have been overwhelmingly tapped by Jewish institutions.

The \$1.3 trillion bill approved March 22 includes \$60 million for the security grants, up from \$25 million last year.

More than 90 percent of the grants have been used to harden security at Jewish institutions since the nonprofit security grant program was launched in 2005.

“By doubling funding levels to \$5 million, the program now will be able to provide immediate support to ensure that Holocaust survivors are able to live in dignity and comfort for the remainder of their lives.”

Nathan Diament, the Washington director of the Orthodox Union, one of the lead advocates for the grants, said a spike in threats on Jewish institutions over the last year drove the increase.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. in 2017 increased by

43 percent over 2016, not including a spate of bomb threats carried out against Jewish institutions by a Jewish man in Israel.

“We didn't have to educate members of Congress that the past year has seen an increased set of threats

See **SPENDING BILL**, page 27

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



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OF SAN ANTONIO

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OF SAN ANTONIO

is a proud member of the Jewish Federations of North America.

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the May 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is April 10, 2018 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 Leslie Komet Ausburn at advertising@jfsatx.org.

Ad deadlines for May 2018 ISSUE:

- Ad space reservations due no later than April 10, 2018 by noon
- Press ready ads due by April 16, 2018.

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.

CANDLE LIGHTING

THURSDAY, APRIL 5
EVE OF SEVENTH DAY PASSOVER
Light Holiday Candles at: 7:37 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6
Eve of Eighth day Passover
Light Shabbat / Holiday Candles
at: 7:38 p.m.

SHABBAT, APRIL 7
Shabbat / Holiday Ends: 8:32 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13
Light Candles at: 7:42 p.m.
SHABBAT, APRIL 14
Shabbat Ends: 8:37 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20
Light Candles at: 7:46 p.m.
SHABBAT, APRIL 21
Shabbat Ends: 8:42 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27
Light Candles at: 7:50 p.m.
SHABBAT, APRIL 28
Shabbat Ends: 8:47 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 4
Light Candles at: 7:55 p.m.
SHABBAT, MAY 5
Shabbat Ends: 8:52 p.m.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Frank Lipper Dover
Eugene Gordon
Sue Holland
Shirley Levine

Rahmy Levit
Eric David Most
John Muñoz
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May 6 | 3-5pm | RSVP on Facebook/JNet SA

The Impact Guild | 708 W Summit Ave

Pearl Society welcomes young Jewish women

In 2015, three young Jewish women from Hartford, Connecticut got together because they shared a goal to engage more women in Jewish philanthropy.

Together, they embraced the basic teaching that all Jews are responsible for one another and the world in which we live, and they founded the National Pearl Society for women who make an annual gift of \$360 - \$1,799 to Jewish Federations' Annual Campaign.

Here in San Antonio, Amy Lerman and Darcy Hoberman founded our city's Pearl Society in the fall of 2016. Since then, a committed group of young

women in their 20s - 40s have met for social and volunteer activities to connect with one another and serve the community.

This year, the Pearls, led by co-chairs Darcy Hoberman, Samantha Mazuz, and Tracy Morris, have a variety of events planned.

Some, like a recent brunch in February, are primarily social, a time when busy young women can share a meal or drinks and connect. Other events focus on giving back, both to our Jewish community and to other important causes in San Antonio.

"The Pearls play a huge role in Jewish philanthropy in San Antonio because we

are young women excited about our Jewish identities, who want to give, and who are getting involved early in life," Darcy Hoberman, co-chair of the society says. "I wanted to be a leader in this new society because I felt it was a way I could make a difference. My mom and grandmother were extremely philanthropic throughout my life, and I want to carry on that legacy."

"We have planned these events on different days and at different times to best meet the needs of this active and diverse group of women. The Pearls are in their 20s, 30s, and 40s, and are in different life stages. That's one great reason to get the

group together throughout the year so we can learn from one another and broaden our community of support," says Eva Laporte, Director of Women's Philanthropy and the Young Adult Division. "Some young women are in school or busy with work on the weekdays, others can't get out in the evenings for events, so we are planning Sunday activities, weekday lunches, and a few evening opportunities as well to meet a variety of schedules."

The next Pearl Society volunteer lunch hour, is open to all Pearls and any young woman interested in learning more about the society. On Monday, April

30, women will meet at Morgan's Wonderland to tour the campus, learn about accessibility and inclusion at The Academy on site, and bring much-needed school supplies to the students. The event is \$18 per person and includes a kosher lunch.

To RSVP, visit www.jfsatx.org by Friday, April 27 or learn more on Facebook at *Women's Philanthropy of San Antonio*.

For more information about the Pearl Society and about the upcoming mini-mission to Morgan's Wonderland, contact Eva Laporte, Director of Women's Philanthropy and the Young Adult Division at laportee@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6965.

Yom Hashoah

Kindertransport 80th Anniversary



Wednesday, April 11 at 7:30 pm

Congregation Rodfei Sholom | 3003 Sholom Dr.

Guest of Honor: Henri Roanne Rosenblatt
Kindertransport Survivor from Belgium

You are invited to an evening of history, music, poetry, stories, honor and remembrance.

Guest Historian, Dr. Jason Johnson, co-founder and coordinator of Trinity University's Jewish Studies Program.

HMMSA'S 2018 FOR HOPE FOR HUMANITY



Peggy Walker, Sol Schwartz, Laura Ehrenberg-Chesler, Millie Ehrenberg, and Joanie Schwartz, enjoy the cocktail reception

Guest speaker
Jennifer Teege and
HMMSA Director, Ellen
Ollervidez



Honorary
Chairs Phil
and Linda
Hardberger and
Marty and Rene
Wender



Chris Busbee, Abigail Lydon, Dina Mitchell, Paul Mitchell, Jazmine Mitchell, Trevor Mitchell, and Amy Lydon



Rachel Gurwitz, Jonathan Gurwitz, Federation Board Chair, Richard Planto, and Sara Planto



Jennifer Teege
greeted Survivors
Anna Rado and
Susanne Jalnos at
the Docent Meet
and Greet and
book signing lunch



Maxine Cohen and Hope for
Humanity Award winner, Lisa Barry

STORY: Next Page

Continued on next page

LIBERATION OF DACHAU: THE TRUE STORY OF ONE HERO

April 22, 2018

3pm Jack Sacco Presentation

Holzman Auditorium

4:30pm Book Signing

Holocaust Memorial Museum

Cost: \$5

Speaking on his **PULITZER PRIZE-NOMINATED** book, *Where the Birds Never Sing*, Jack Sacco recounts his father Joe's journey from Alabama farm boy to heroic soldier at the historic liberation of Dachau concentration camp.

RSVP/More Info: sajss.com/JackSacco or (210) 616-4811

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HMMSA'S 2018 FOR HOPE FOR HUMANITY

Continued from previous page

Nazi Past, discuss her personal journey. The evening also included Holocaust Study Seminar student, Trevor Mitchell, who highlighted the contributions of the museum to his understandings of Holocaust history and his emphatic belief of its importance in education. In addition, the inaugural Maxine Cohen Hope for Humanity Award was presented to distinguished educator, Lisa Barry of Woodridge Elementary School.



Lynn Stahl, Jeff Selig, Rabbi Sam Stahl, and Jill Vexler



Liz Glazier and son learn about Federation and Holocaust Museum history in an exhibit prepared for the benefit

Inaugural *Maxine Cohen Hope for Humanity Educator Award* recipient selected

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio is proud to announce Lisa Barry, a teacher at Woodridge Elementary School, as the first ever recipient of the *Maxine Cohen Hope for Humanity Educator Award*. This award was established to recognize educators that use their position to not only reject hate, but also spread a message of love and support for humanity within their classrooms and the community. Barry was honored publicly on Wednesday, March 7, during the *For Hope For Humanity Holocaust Memorial Museum Benefit* held at the Witte Museum.



Barry teaches 5th grade language arts and social studies at Woodridge elementary school and was selected based on her innovative teaching methods and particular attention to instilling acceptance in her students. Having crafted an entire literature unit revolving around tolerance, she encourages students to take their readings and apply them to social justice and action. Throughout this unit, she uses Holocaust history and survivor stories to help students identify and understand prejudice and how to take action against it.



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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

Dr. Amy Benedikt



This month, we spotlight JFSA Women's Philanthropy Board Chair Dr. Amy Benedikt who recently traveled to Israel on the Heart to Heart mission with 88 participants, representing 25 different communities. Amy was one of 17 National Women's Philanthropy Board Members on the mission, who were true ambassadors for Women's Philanthropy and the Jewish Federations of North America. Amy traveled with her daughter, Elana Benedikt, mother Sandy Castelbaum, and friend Tina Blumenthal, and represented 2 of 11 multigenerational pairs on the mission.

During this five day mission, the women experienced the inspiring work Federation makes possible in Israel. The Birthright State of Mind Center highlighted the power of Israel as a start-up nation. Female entrepreneurs shared their experiences working in technology. Israeli Lions of Judah joined them for lunch and showcased the global impact of Women's Philanthropy. The women celebrated 70 years of Israel at the Israel Museum with a private evening tour and dinner in the museum, and met Ethiopian students who are thriving in school thanks to the incredible ENP Space Program.

Amy spent one morning with programs from JDC and The Jewish Agency, visiting Ultra-Orthodox Women in the High-Tech World/Trailblazers program. The Haredi sector is one of the most impoverished in the country and these women are the major breadwinners in their family since their husbands are studying Torah. The program is designed so they can be successful and comfortable in the workplace, while providing a good income for their families.

The mission ended with a beautiful ceremony where 14 women who had never had a Bat Mitzvah, were called to the Torah as B'not Mitzvah. Following the

ceremony, women had the opportunity to reflect on the mission and shared their thoughts on how impactful and empowering this mission was. The participants left Israel with much more than they came with; new friends, wonderful stories, a deeper connection to the land of Israel and a strong desire to become more involved in their Jewish communities and Federations. Heart to Heart, now in its ninth year, is an amazing trip to take with women from all over North America.

Let's learn more about Dr. Amy Benedikt.

What brought you to San Antonio?

In 1992, my husband,

Richard, was a Radiologist in the Army and he was assigned to work at BAMC for two years.

What is your strongest Jewish memory?

I have so many happy Jewish memories. I grew up in NJ with my parents and three siblings, surrounded by my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and many cousins. The Jewish holiday gatherings are most memorable for me. My family was also very active in our Reform Synagogue, which I really enjoyed.

What volunteer activities do you find the most rewarding and why?

I am fortunate to have

many volunteer positions that I truly enjoy. My involvement with the Jewish Federation on a local and national level has been inspiring as I feel my time and dollars are making a difference in the lives of Jews all over the world. I also treasure my involvement at Temple Beth-El, where I have had the pleasure of working with so many wonderful people, and at the Children's Bereavement Center, where the lives of children are being made better every day.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday?

Passover. I love sharing the Passover table with Richard and our children Elana, Robert, and Drew, and extended family and friends. It gives us an opportunity to discuss the symbolism, our history, and how these lessons apply to us today. I also truly enjoy cooking for family and friends.

What is a hope or aspiration you have for the San Antonio Jewish community?

One of my favorite aspects

Continued on next page

Steven H. Butler, C.P.A.



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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



Continued from previous page

of this Jewish community has always been its cohesiveness. I hope to see that continue to grow stronger. I also truly appreciate how Jews are embraced in the greater San Antonio community.

I just returned from a women's Federation Mission to Israel. I was so fortunate to travel on "Heart to Heart"

with my mother, Sandy Castelbaum, my daughter, Elana Benedikt, and my friend, Tina Blumenthal. We have lasting memories that we will treasure from an incredibly well run trip that highlighted Jewish historical sites, technology, Federation sponsored programs, and delicious food.

Liberation of Dachau: The true story of one hero

Joe Sacco was one of 250 soldiers who liberated the Dachau concentration camp on April 29, 1945.

On April 22, his son, Jack Sacco, will speak at the Holzman Auditorium about his father's journey from Alabama farm boy to heroic soldier at the historic liberation, as detailed in his Pulitzer-Prize nominated book, *Where the Birds Never Sing*.

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services has partnered with the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio (HMMSA) for this event, which takes place a week before the 73rd anniversary of the liberation of Dachau.

In addition to hosting Sacco's book signing after the presentation, the HMMSA will extend its hours until 5pm, allowing visitors to explore the Museum, including a temporary exhibit with items donated from the children of liberators.

The event on April 22 features Jack Sacco's presentation at 3 p.m. in the Holzman Auditorium, followed by a book signing at 4:30 p.m. at the HMMSA (both located at The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community). Tickets are \$5. To RSVP or for more information, visit sajss.com/JackSacco or call (210) 616-4811.

Reagan High School selects Holocaust Museum for film festival



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Media Production Team students from Ronald Reagan High School will premiere their three minute film about the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio at the Bexar County High School Film Festival at the Tobin Center on April 23.

The festival encourages San Antonio-area students to learn more about communications and their community by telling the stories that change lives.

For more information or to purchase tickets to see this and many other student/non-profit partner films, visit bchsf.org.

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

PJ LIBRARY SPRING BREAK PASTA PLAY DATE

PJ Library kids enjoyed story time with mystery reader Rachel Gurwitz during PJ Library San Antonio's Spring Break Pasta Play date on March 13. Be sure to follow PJ Library San Antonio on Facebook to stay up to date on the group's many fun activities throughout the year.



Young adults celebrate Purim Bash

The Young Adult Division (YAD) of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio partnered with the young adult groups of Chabad's YJSA, Congregation Agudas Achim, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Temple Beth-El, and Temple Chai, to organize the 2nd Annual Purim Bash on Wednesday, Feb. 28. Purim party-goers enjoyed a costume contest judged by local celebrity Ashley Lachterman, @EatsInTown, with prizes provided by the Barshop JCC, YAD Board Chair Jacob Kluger, and Jason Miller- Goodman.

Over 60 people joined in the Purim fun throughout the night at Stone Street Pub, enjoying kosher Hamantaschen, Purim trivia, and the reading of the Megillah by Rabbi Levi Teldon. YAD looks forward to planning this community-wide event again next year. To learn more about monthly YAD events, contact Eva Laporte, Director of Women's Philanthropy and the Young Adult Division at laportee@jfsatx.org or 210.302.6965. Follow YAD on Instagram at @YADSanAntonio and on Facebook Young Adult Division of San Antonio.



Jessica Peden (left) wins the Best Villain Costume in the contest judged by Ashley Lachterman (right)



Rabbi Levi Teldon (dressed as "MordeChachi") reads the Megillah



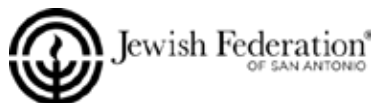
The Jewish Health Services Arena: *Funding Threats and Reform Opportunities*

Wednesday, April 25 at 7:30pm

12500 NW Military Hwy, Holzman Auditorium

Event will feature Jonathan S. Westin, Senior Director of Health Initiatives with the Jewish Federations of North America.

This lecture is free and open to the community.



RSVP to BenedictA@jfsatx.org | 210.302.6960 or visit JFSATX.ORG to register online.

The Myron Zinn Memorial Lecture is part of the legacy of Dr. Myron Zinn whose career spanned over 40 years, including service in the United States Air Force and in numerous leadership roles. He was known as a philosopher, expounding on the basic traditions in medicine: the Hippocratic Oath, describing the social role of a doctor and the paramount importance of high skills and ethical conduct; and the Maimonides Prayer, seeing the physician as serving a higher purpose. He lived these principles in his care, skill, and grace as a physician, husband, father, grandfather, friend, and mentor to younger physicians.

Pirke Avot Adult Education at Temple Chai

Temple Chai will offer a seven-week adult education course on Pirke Avot. Joshua Lustig will present an overview of rabbinic literature and its context in Jewish history, followed by an in-depth look at each chapter of the Mishna's tractate Pirke Avot.

For more than 1,800 years these texts have provided guidance and inspiration to generations of Jews. A collection of aphorisms and teachings from generations of rabbis, Pirke Avot is a treasured piece of our history.

The course will meet Tuesdays

from 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. for seven weeks beginning April 17, at Temple Chai, 2121 Lockhill Selma. All texts will be presented in English, and all are welcome to participate.

Visit www.templechaisa.org/pirkeavot to register.

Agudas Achim Celebrates Lag B'Omer with evening of fun

Congregation Agudas Achim will host an Erev Lag B'Omer event on Wednesday, May 3 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the community.

The evening will feature outdoor games, a bouncy house, a DJ, hamburgers, hot dogs, and more. A main attraction of the event will be a Dunk Tank where Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham along with other Agudas employees will sit ready to be dunked. There will be a charge to participate in dunking Rabbi Abraham and others.

"I'm excited to see who will be motivated enough to get me wet as part of our Lag B'Omer fun," Rabbi Abraham said. "Lag B'Omer is the one day between Passover



Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham will once again be ready for the dunk tank at Agudas Achim's Lag B'Omer celebration.

and Shavuot where we are supposed to relax and have a good time."

For more information, call (210) 479-0307 or email info@agudas-achim.org.

JFS to host Evening of Inspiration – April 29

In 1973, Jewish Family Service of San Antonio (JFS) was founded to address the needs of the growing Jewish population and the broader community of San Antonio. Forty-five years later, JFS continues that mission, attending to the needs of our aging community members and offering counseling for individuals, children, and families.

On Sunday, April 29, JFS will host an *Evening of Inspiration*, which will pay tribute to the rich history of JFS and the programs that it has created in San Antonio. The program will celebrate JFS's past presidents, directors, and board members, with special tributes to longtime board member Buddy Gardner, and former JFS president Mitchell Kaliff and Bruce Smiley-Kaliff.

The seated dinner will be held at the Campus of the Jewish Community Center, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sponsorships, advertising opportunities, and childcare are available.

To make reservations or learn more, visit jfs-sa.org. For sponsorship and advertisement opportunities, contact Marie Angelicchio at (210) 302-6954 or angelicchiom@jfs-sa.org.

Kolman to be honored by Temple Beth-El Sisterhood

Janie Kolman will receive Temple Beth-El Sisterhood's most distinguished honor, the Or Tamid Award, during a luncheon on Sunday, June 3 at 11 a.m. at Maggiano's Little Italy, 17603 IH -10 West.



Kolman has been an active Temple Sisterhood member for many years

stuffing, folding, recruiting, participating and leading. As a Vice-president she organized a very successful Hanukkah Gift Show.

Her first assignment was scheduling candle blessing honors and *oneg* sponsors. She says her favorite activities are planning with friends for the membership dinners and being part of the honey packing team. She previously was presented with a Special Service award for her many efforts supporting membership.

Kolman is well-known for her singing voice and musical talents. She has produced musical performances and has served as Sisterhood Choir chair.

From scheduling *Artastic!* volunteers to being a friendly face at many activities, Kolman demonstrates the continuous and consistent quality of service that is the criteria for selection as an Or Tamid.

To make luncheon reservations or to honor Kolman with a Uniongram, visit <http://tinyurl.com/ortamid>, or contact Dollie at Temple Beth-El, (210) 733-9135, ext. 126.

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Rodfei Sholom Scholar in Residence

Congregation Rodfei Sholom will celebrate a special Shabbaton with Scholar in Residence, Rabbi Chaim Eisen the weekend of April 28-29. Eisen is the founder and Dean of Yeshivath Sharashim in Jerusalem.



A graduate of the Yeshivat Hakotel Theological Seminary in Jerusalem (*yeshivah* and rabbinical *kolel* programs), Eisen holds a degree in biophysics from Columbia and has been teaching, editing, and publishing Judaica professionally for thirty-four years.

On Saturday, after Shabbat services and Kiddush lunch, Eisen will give a special

Shiur (Class) on *Future Redemption and Messianic Days*. He will explore texts from the Prophets, including Daniel and Yehezkel. The lecture will also focus on the events of the last 100 years.

Eisen will speak on a number of other topics during the weekend:

- Shabbat evening, 6:30 p.m. (before Mincha services) - *A Contrast Between Jewish and Christian Views on the End of Days*

- Sunday breakfast, 9:30 a.m. - *Jewish perspectives on Dying and Beyond the Death*

- Sunday, 7 p.m. - *Holocaust and Rebirth of Israel: The Fulfillment of Proph*

The Shabbaton is co-sponsored by Congregation Rodfei Sholom and the Israel

Public Action Committee through a grant from Dr. Michael and Pat Ozer, and also by the Chevre Kadisha.

Reservations are required for the Sunday breakfast. Babysitting will be available. For more information, call (210) 493-3557 or email rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Temple Beth-El hosts Lunch Time Learning Series

Rabbi Mara Nathan will discuss *The Challenging Place of Women in Israeli Society* during Temple Beth-El's Lunch Time Learning Series.

The community is welcome - Bring your lunch; drinks will be provided.

The series will be held Wednesdays, April 4, 11, and 18 at 12:15 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, 211 Belknap Place. For more information, call (210) 733-9135.

WE'RE GOING GREEN!

Jewish Federation is excited to offer our readers a new way to receive *The Jewish Journal*.

Beginning in October 2018, you, your family members, and friends will now be able to receive *The Journal* via email. This allows for more timely communications, and saves two valuable resources: Trees and Federation dollars.

Don't Miss out! Please take a moment to ensure we have the correct email addresses on file for you and your family members. We've included a handy form below for your to fill out and mail or feel free to email Alexis Benedict at BenedictA@jfsatx.org with your email information. This information will only be used by the *Jewish Journal*, unless you say otherwise.

If you'd prefer to continue receiving a printed copy of The Journal, please let us know! You will need to notify us to continue receiving it by mail.

For questions, please contact our editor, Leslie Komet Ausburn, at jewish@jfsatx.org.

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April Lunch and Learns at Temple Chai

The community is welcome to join Rabbi David Komerofsky for two informal lunch and learn sessions on Tuesdays, April 17 and 24 at 12 noon at Temple Chai. The April conversations will focus on the modern observances of Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut. We will explore the origins and customs associated with the commemorations in Israel and the Diaspora.

Bring your lunch and your ideas for an hour of inspiration. RSVP at www.templechaisa.org. For more information, call (210) 340-2090 or email info@templechaisa.org.



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Addiction and Recovery: An Educational Series

Do you have a spouse, child or friend struggling with alcoholism or substance abuse? Do you share your concern with someone or keep it to yourself? If you do share, who do you seek out for support? Is there a difference between periodic substance use and abuse?

These common questions are rarely discussed, because addiction is painful and embarrassing. Not only does the addict often hide or deny the problem, but his or her family members do as well.

The Recovery Chavurah at Temple Beth-El has created a solution-based educational series, mixing personal experiences and professional

advice. Each program will be on a Wednesday night, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Temple Beth-El.

Upcoming programming includes:

April 18: *Youth Addiction and Recovery* (Josh Green, RISE Recovery)

Rise Recovery is a non-profit helping teens and families overcome the effects of addiction, offering support services at no charge. Josh Green, a 23 year old Support Specialist in long-term recovery, helps clients via support groups, structured sober activities, employment, housing, education and transportation assistance.

May 2: *Enabling vs. Empowering Family Members*

with Addiction (Sharon Gilreath)

Sharon Gilreath's son is in recovery from Substance Use Disorder for more than four years. She is the Administrator for Magnolia Addiction Support, an online support group and active in the local recovery community.

May 16: *Twelve Steps to Recovery: Myths and Facts about Anonymous Fellowships* (Jim Barshop)

Jim Barshop is a Recovery Coach and very active in the 12-step community with more than 8 years of sobriety.

For more information, contact Temple Beth-El at (210) 733-9135.



Women's Philanthropy Volunteer Event

Pearl Society
LUNCH & TOUR

**Monday
April 30**

11:30am- 1pm

**RSVP by
Friday, April 27**

Visit Morgan's Wonderland & Monarch Academy

Visit students at the Monarch Academy and learn about accessibility and inclusion.

Bring much needed supplies from "Morgan's Wishlist" to help San Antonio students with intellectual disabilities succeed at school.

RSVP: Facebook— Women's Philanthropy of JFSA

To learn more, contact Eva Laporte
laportee@jfsatx.org | 210.302.6965

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

Upcoming Post Meeting:
Sunday April 22, 9 a.m.,
Room 277, Jewish Campus

Looking for adventure? Action? Comradeship? San Antonio Post 753 of the Jewish War Veterans may be what you're looking for. The post sponsors projects with Hebrew Free Loan and San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. Members also support Audie Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio, the VA Hospital in Kerrville, plus Tejas State Home in Floresville, as well as the JROTC units at San Antonio Independent School District.

To learn more and find out how to get involved, contact Post Commander Herschel Sheiness at (210) 468-5598.

IN THE COMMUNITY

NCJW educates public about trafficked teens

Now in its third year, an innovative NCJW program is educating teens and adults about the warning signs of teen trafficking. NCJW members make presentations on trafficked teens to synagogue and church youth groups and adult organizations.

"Trafficking is a huge problem in Texas and we are helping to shine a light on it," said Marcia Waldgeir, co-chair of the program for NCJW. "Our goal is to educate people about the issue and make them aware of the behavioral and physical 'red flags' that someone is being trafficked."

During the NCJW's eighth annual *Can't Beat Love* film contest, the topic was Teen Trafficking. Local high school students created short film and PSAs and student filmmakers received awards and cash prizes at awards night on February 28.

"We asked students to examine the different ways someone could be lured into trafficking and how they would act if they suspected a friend was becoming a victim," Marcia said. "Each student presented a slightly different perspective, and we were thrilled with the students' efforts in making

films on this difficult topic."

If you would like to view these films, visit www.cantbeatlovesa.org. For more information on Trafficked Teens or to arrange for a presentation to your organization, please contact Marcia Waldgeir at mawaldgeirff@satx.rr.com, or (210) 479-0624.

The San Antonio Section of the National Council of Jewish Women has been improving the lives of women, children and families for more than a century through its commitment of taking progressive ideals and putting them into action.

Congregation Agudas Achim April Social Club events

Congregation Agudas Achim is hosting several events in April for each of its monthly social clubs. The clubs are meant as a way for Agudas Achim members as well as others in the Jewish community to connect socially with others in a similar age range and common interests. Events include:

- Club Agudas Achim for those 40+ is having a Backyard Kosher BBQ at the home of Charlie and Rhonda Gurinsky on Sunday, April 8 at 5 p.m.
- Young Couples Club of Agudas is having a no-host dinner at Aldaco's Mexican Cuisine in Stone Oak on Tuesday night, April 17 at 7:30 p.m.
- Simcha Social Club for those 65+ is having a Yom Ha'Atzmaut Israel Independence Day Celebration on Thursday, April 19 at 11:30 a.m.
- Moonlight Supper Club for those 60+ is heading to Rosario's for a Mexican Fiesta on Thursday, April 19th at 7 p.m..

To RSVP for any of these Club events or for more information about Agudas Achim, contact the Agudas Achim office at (210) 479-0307 or RSVP@agudas-achim.org.

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IN THE COMMUNITY / WHAT'S HAPPENING

Temple Chai Shabbat services available online

Temple Chai, San Antonio's small Reform congregation, streams Shabbat evening services on Facebook. All are welcome to view and enjoy the services, music and sermons on Fridays at 6:45 p.m. Central Time. Using technology that is widely available and free to use, the congregation is able to reach homebound members and friends and family who live outside of San Antonio.

"I've had members tell me that they've been able to enjoy the service while traveling, even in airport lounges, thanks to our streaming," said Rabbi David Komerofsky. "We've experimented with different platforms and have found that the Mevo camera is the easiest and most reliable. We are now streaming on Facebook, but can expand to other websites as user interests change."

To access the livestream, visit www.templechaisa.org/shabbat and follow the links.



TEMPLE ON THE TOWN

This spring's *Temple on the Town* event for Temple Beth-El was a congregational night to watch the Spurs play – and win – against the Grizzlies.



AGUDAS AT AIPAC

Members from Congregation Agudas Achim attended the annual American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Policy Conference in Washington D.C. in March to learn from important leaders and politicians, advocating for bi-partisan support toward the U.S.-Israel relationship. They had private meetings with Congressmen Joaquin Castro and Will Hurd as part of their three day experience.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



TASA MAKES PURIM LEARNING FUN

TASA students and teachers gathered in costume to hear the Megillah Reading on Purim.

AGUDAS ACHIM HOSTS HOLLYWOOD-THEMED PURIM BALL

Congregation Agudas Achim hosted its third annual Purim Ball on Saturday, March 3. This year's Oscar-themed event was attended by hundreds of people, and included a Red Carpet and Oscar replicas to set the scene. The event included dinner, a live band, and a silent auction.



PURIM AT THE J

The Barshop JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children celebrated Purim by participating in the four mitzvot which are associated with the celebration of Purim: reading the Megillah, feasting, giving gifts of food to friends (mishloah manot), and giving food to the poor. The children watched faculty retell the Purim Story in their own version of a Megillah reading, feasted on Hamantaschen made by the children, gave mishloah manot baskets to different departments and agencies around the Campus, and collected canned food to donate to the San Antonio Food Bank. Additionally, children dressed up in costumes and participated in age-appropriate carnival activities on each of the three playgrounds.



RODFEI SHOLOM HONORS DOLINERS AT ANNUAL GALA

Congregation Rodfei Sholom honored synagogue members and community supporters Yuda and Ofira Doliner at the congregation's 2018 Annual Gala. Among the honored guests who attended the fundraiser were Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Congressman Will Hurd.



JCC WELCOMES COMEDIAN – SARGE

Comedian/Author Sarge signs books and visits with attendees at his appearance as part of the JCC Author & Lecture Series on Thursday, March 1. With 140 people in attendance, Sarge spoke about his book *Black Boychik*, played piano, performed stand-up comedy, took questions from the audience, and participated in a book signing meet-and-greet.

RODEO ROUNDUP AT HEINTZ PRESCHOOL

Heintz Preschool hosted its annual Rodeo Day on February 23. This was a Yad B'Yad Intergenerational Event supported through a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. The next Yad B'Yad event at the Heintz Preschool will be held on Friday, April 20 beginning at 9:15 a.m.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



WOMEN UNITED AT TEMPLE BETH-EL'S WOMEN'S SEDER

Temple Beth-El's annual Women's Seder, led by Rabbis Mara Nathan and Marina Yergin and Cantor Julie Berlin, is held each year before Passover, and gives women a chance to celebrate together. This year, it was held on International Women's Day, March 8.



TEMPLE BETH-EL LAUNCHES KIDDIE ACTIVITIES AT ANNUAL PURIM CARNIVAL

This year for the first time, Temple Beth-El's Purim Carnival included a separate space for Carnival Jr. created especially for children under five, with age-appropriate games, crafts, and snacks.



RODFEI CELEBRATES PURIM HARRY POTTER STYLE

It was a magical Purim at Rodfei Sholom as the congregation hosted nearly 300 people for its Purim at Hogwarts on March 1. The festivities included a traditional Megillah reading, visits to the wand store, The Owlery, the potion studio and treats at Honeydukes candy store.

TEENS GATHER IN SAN ANTONIO FOR NCSY SHABBATON



More than 150 Jewish teenagers from all over the southwest got together for a Regional Shabbaton on March 2-4 at Congregation Rodfei Sholom. The teens participated in Shabbat services, group learning, and social activities, and enjoyed home hospitality throughout the Rodfei community. For more information on upcoming NCSY events and programs in San Antonio and throughout the Southwest Region, contact Rabbi Ashi Gluck at Congregation Rodfei Sholom, (210) 493-3558.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



AGUDAS ACHIM'S PURIM PALOOZA AND MEGILLAH MADNESS

Congregation Agudas Achim hosted a night of Purim fun on February 28. The evening began with Purim Palooza, a carnival-like atmosphere for kids of all ages. It continued with the Megillah reading led by Agudas Achim teenagers in addition to special jingles written to modern songs to introduce each chapter of the Megillah, led by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham.



Over 200 people enjoyed a Tricentennial Purim Fiesta Celebration at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, celebrating our beautiful city's 300 years.



(l to r) Rabbi Yossi Marrus, Dr. Drew and Faryl Greller, Chaya Marrus and Mendel Toron.

A NIGHT OF ARTS IN SUPPORT OF TASA

On March 10, Dr. Drew and Faryl Greller hosted an event in celebration of Jewish Art, and in support of Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA). The event featured live music by Grammy award winning percussionist Nina Rodriguez, pop-up art exhibits, a raffle, and a silent art auction. Featured artists included Louis Trevino, Carla Veliz, Pamela Ortiz Swart, Chaya Marrus, and Michal Barker, who each contributed pieces of their work to this event, and donated a percentage of their proceeds to TASA.



SUNSHINERS TAKE WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Mark Greenwald returned by popular demand to perform at the monthly Sunshine Club luncheon at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning on March 6. Seniors enjoyed listening to oldies from the 1950s-1960s as Greenwald took participants down memory lane of his childhood in Brooklyn. The Sunshine Club is a grant recipient of San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. For information or to RSVP to the next Sunshine Club luncheon, contact Nancy at Chabad, (210) 764-0300 or email info@chabadsa.com. For complimentary transportation, call Lety at SAJSS at (210) 616-4811.

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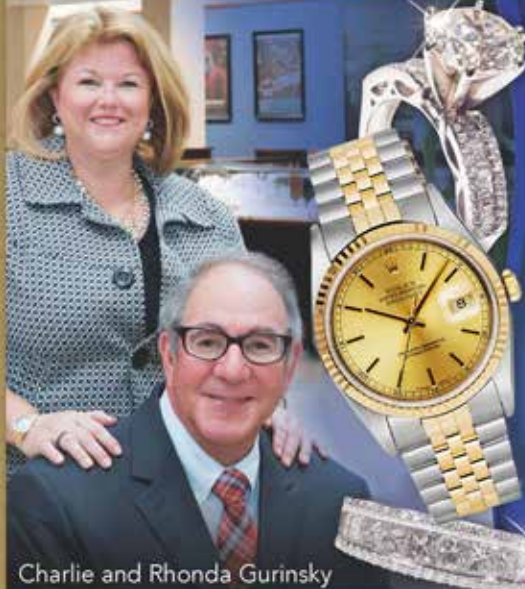
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WHAT'S HAPPENING / SENIORS



AREA CTEENS ATTEND INTERNATIONAL SHABBATON

A delegation of 10 teens led by Rabbi Levi Grossbaum from Chabad's CTeen San Antonio Chapter traveled to New York City for 5 days in late February to attend the 10th annual International CTeen Shabbaton. More than 2,500 teenagers from 436 cities around the world celebrated their Jewish identity at a Havdalah ceremony and concert in Times Square.



PRESCHOOL PURIM AT GAN GANI

Students at Gan Gani Preschool enjoyed a humorous Purim Shpiel performed by their teachers. For more information on programming throughout the year, or to set up an appointment to visit the school, call Rivkie Block at (210) 492-1085 or email director@gangani.org.



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Rodfei Sholom L'Chayim Club - San Antonio seniors welcome

The next L'Chayim Club luncheon will be held at Congregation Rodfei Sholom on Wednesday, April 11, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Guest speaker Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt, a kindertransport survivor from Belgium, with talk about *Living Under Nazi Occupation of Belgium*. There will be a D'Var Torah given by Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg, followed by a home-cooked meal. Seniors are invited to attend at no charge, thanks to a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services and co-sponsorship of Rodfei Sholom. The cost for all others is \$5 per person. If attending, please RSVP by Monday, April 9 to the synagogue office at (210) 493-3557 or rodfeisa@gmail.com.

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Author treats children to story time

February 25th found San Antonio children's author Madeline Bradley proudly introducing two new books from her collection to eager youngsters in the Beldon Library. Surrounded by toddlers, school-age kids, parents and grandparents, Bradley provided stories guaranteed to bring out their smiles. Reading aloud first from *Please Don't Sneeze*

on my *CHEESE!!!*, a story of humorous rhyming vignettes and colorful illustrations for preschoolers, Bradley then told the true tale *Please Take Us Home!* about a cross-country move from her pets' perspective. Accompanied by her map wielding husband, Bradley read the book which includes geography, humor, and an understanding of



Children's book author Madeline Bradley will return to the Beldon Library for story time this summer.

change for young ones. Books were available to purchase, and personally signed by the author.

Bradley is a retired teacher whose focus is on ensuring the learning process for children will be lots of fun. An

encore appearance will take place this summer. Watch the *Jewish Journal* for details. For questions, call Beldon Librarian Lynn Waghalter at (210) 302-6805, Mondays and Wednesdays, between 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Agudas Achim youth to lead Shabbat services

Congregation Agudas Achim's Inda Posner Religious School students will be leading different Shabbat services during the next month. On Friday, April 6, 4th and 5th grade students will be leading Agudas' regular Friday Night with Friends Musical Shabbat service. Then on Friday, April 20, 3rd grade students will be leading the regular musical service. And finally, on Saturday, May 5, 6th grade students will be leading Shabbat morning services in addition to Torah readings and the Haftarah.

"Allowing our students the opportunity to lead our congregation on Shabbat is a pillar of our school and synagogue community," Director of Congregational Learning Samantha Mazuz said.

Students have been hard at work with their teachers as well as Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham.

"It has been a pleasure to work with our students in each grade to watch them grow in learning our prayers," Rabbi Abraham said. "Helping the students to be

more comfortable in front of the congregation each year in addition to learning the prayers we want them to master is a great way to ensure the students are even better prepared by the time they reach the age of Bar or Bat Mitzvah."

Registration is now open for the 2018-2019 school year. If you would like to learn more about the growing Inda Posner Religious School at Agudas Achim, contact Director of Congregational Learning Samantha Mazuz at (210) 479-0429 or s.mazuz@agudas-achim.org.

TASA 4th Annual Casino Night Celebration

On May 6, 2018 at 6:00 PM, the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA) will host its 4th annual Casino Night celebration.



Dr. Jason & Simone Kboudi to be honored at TASA's 4th annual Casino Night celebration on May 6th

The school will honor Dr. Jason and Simone Kboudi for their tireless efforts on behalf of Torah Academy and Jewish Education for the entire community.

As the school celebrates its 5th successful year, after having doubled in size since its inception, TASA invites the Jewish community of San Antonio to join in a night of great fun featuring a full dinner by renowned Chef Dan, a live and silent auction with amazing prizes, raffle, and of course casino games.

To purchase tickets or sponsorships for the event and find out more about TASA, please visit www.torahacademysa.com.



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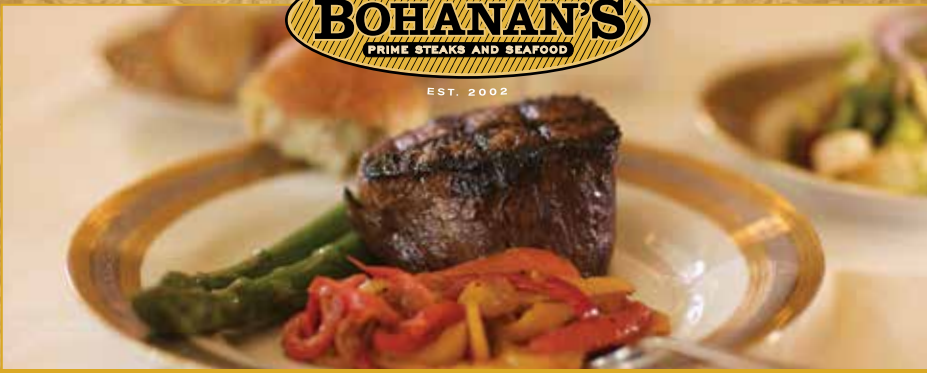
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Agudas Achim to host two summer camps

Congregation Agudas Achim will host two camps this summer: Summer Literacy Camp and Mad Science Camp.

Heintz Preschool's popular **Summer Literacy Camp** is for newborns through 8 years old, and begins on June 4. There are spots available for Counselors-in-Training (CITs) as well up through 18 years old.

Weekly themes center on beloved children's books. The campers will enjoy water activities every day, a petting zoo, special guests like firemen and policemen, and more. Additionally, campers will learn about dinosaurs, reptiles, transportation, furry friends and nature. Each week is full of stimulating activities, lessons and play.

The **Mad Science Camp**, which will run throughout the summer, is designed for 6-12 year and will offer a daily combination of in-class discovery and exploration, outdoor games and physical activities, and hands-on applications of the scientific principles presented. Children will be able to touch, see, hear, smell and taste

what science is really all about. Mad Science uses simple, real world science techniques that allow all campers to enjoy the learning environment.

Full and half day options are available for both camps. For more information, contact Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-0429 or t.bretado@agudas-achim.org.



JCC Fore! the Kids Golf Classic this May

The Barshop Jewish Community Center's annual *Fore! the Kids Golf Classic*, which benefits youth and inclusion programs at the Barshop Jewish Community Center, will be held Friday, May 4 at the Quarry Golf Club. The Golf Classic provides meaningful, essential programming for the JCC's early childhood, youth, inclusion, and senior services.

There are several opportunities to get involved in this event:

- Sign up to play. Individual golf opportunities and sponsorships are available. A golfer registration includes a goody bag, lunch, dinner, contests on the course, and a day of golf.
- Become a Hole Sponsor. Hole sponsors receive signage on the golf course, as well as recognition in the event program and the JCC's June *Center Peace*.
- Contribute to the silent auction. In addition to a day of golf, the Golf Classic includes a silent auction



that also benefits youth and inclusion programs.

To learn more about the *Fore! the Kids Golf Classic*, or any of these opportunities, call Amy Goldstein at (210) 302-6866, or visit www.jccsanantonio.org/forethekids.

Camp Rodfei gears up for summer

Camp Rodfei will kick off as soon as school gets out for the summer. From June 11 through July 6, campers will enjoy swimming and diving at the Oak Meadow swimming pool. The camp's spirited SEED Counselors will lead an program designed to be fun and infuse campers with joy for Judaism.

Activities will vary according to age group, but will include weekly trips,

overnights, arts and crafts, cooking and baking, sports and a camp favorite – daily slurpees from the famed Rodfei Sholom Slurpee Machine.

For more information on Camp Rodfei visit www.rodfeisholom.com or call the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.

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Pianist Enger presents multi-media project, *Mischlinge Exposé*, at the JCC

As a musician with German-Jewish origins, New York pianist Carolyn Enger is deeply interested in exploring the history of assimilation and conversion of the Mischlinge (a derogatory Nazi term for those neither fully Jewish nor fully Aryan. Enger's *Mischlinge Exposé* weaves a multimedia tapestry around this little-known aspect of the Holocaust, and brings to life the stories of people like her father and godmother with music, art, literature, and film.

Interweaving video and audio testimony from her godmother and her father (both labeled Mischlinge, Grade A by the Nazis), with the music of composers from the salon period who converted to Christianity in the decades before the war, and works reacting to questions of identity after the war, the program vividly illustrates what it was like to be between worlds in Germany in the first half of the 20th century.

Mischlinge Exposé will be presented at the JCC, located on the Jewish campus, 12500 N.W. Military Highway, on Monday, May 7 at 7 p.m. The event is being presented in collaboration with the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio. The museum will be open from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. before the event. Tickets are \$12 (\$10 for current JCC members), and are available by calling (210) 302-6820 or online at www.jccsanantonio.org/artandmusic.

Beldon Library News

The Beldon Library has books for all age groups. Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The next Music Appreciation class with the Charlie Pearl Senior Adults will take place on April 16. This monthly class takes place on the third Monday of each month from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. in the Senior Activity Room at the Jewish Campus.

Fluent in Hebrew? The Beldon Library has a shelf of adult fiction in Hebrew. These books are available for check-out.

The Library is currently accepting donated books, CDs, DVDs, and other media for the annual Used Book Sale. The Sale will take place at the Library in August. Please note, **prayer books and bibles** will **not** be accepted.

Choirs of Temple Beth-El and St. Marks Episcopal Church present *A Joyful Noise*

The Youth Orchestra of San Antonio (YOSA) Philharmonic will join in San Antonio's Tricentennial Celebration with two special performances: A free concert on April 29, at 7 p.m. at Temple Beth-El and a performance on May 6, at 8 p.m. At The Tobin Center for the Performing Arts (order tickets online or at the Tobin Box Office).

The performances will feature the combined choirs of Temple Beth-El and St. Mark's Episcopal Church singing

Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, with conductor Troy Peters and for the Tobin performance, countertenor Ryland Angel.

The concert will also include Falla's Spanish Dance No. 1 from *La Vida Breve*; Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5.

No tickets are necessary for the free concert at Temple Beth-El. Single tickets for the May 6 performance at The Tobin are on-sale now at <https://www.tobincenter.org/box-office/2018-05/joyful-noise>.

Experience the *Joys of Jewish Preserving with Emily Paster*

Preserved foods play a large role in Jewish history and culture. Cookbook author Emily Paster delves into this history in her book, *The Joys of Jewish Preserving*. She will be at the Barshop Jewish Community Center on Thursday, Apr. 26 at 7:00 p.m. as part of the Author & Speaker Series. Emily's book includes recipes for fruit jams, preserves (like Queen Esther's Apricot Poppyseed Jam), pickles, and other marinated vegetables (such as Facto-Fermented Kosher Dills), as well as pages dedicated to using these preserves in traditional Jewish cooking.



The evening will include a hands-on demonstration, and all participants can expect to leave with a treat. There will also be an opportunity for a Q & A with Emily, book sale,

and book signing.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission, or \$35 for admission plus a copy of *The Joys of Jewish Preserving*, and are available by calling (210) 302-6820 or online at www.jccsanantonio.org/authorspeakerseries.



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at jewishj@jfsatx.org.

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Phone: (210) 302-6820 Executive Director: Saul F. Levenshus Email: jcc@jcc-sa.org
Board Chair: Danna Half Website: www.jccsanantonio.org

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America
Website: www.hadassah.org www.facebook.com/hadassah
Phone: (212) 355-7900 (National) or (210) 394-7405 (Local)
Contact: Roberta Abelman. rabelmanesatx.rr.com

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community
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Phone: (210) 302-6801 President: Steve Butler Website: www.thecampustx.org

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Executive Director: Laura Zausmer Richardson President: Tim Grossman

Hillel San Antonio
Website: www.sahillel.org Phone: (210) 201-Jews (5397)
Contact: Natalie Steiner Email: natalie@hillelsa.org

Jewish Family Service
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Phone: (210) 302-6920 Interim Executive Director: Tim Plant President: Steve Marks

National Council Of Jewish Women (NCJW)
Website: www.ncjwsa.org For Membership Information: Cathy Pottorf - catpot52@gmail.com

Ohr Lanu Foundation
14439 N.W. Military Hwy, San Antonio TX 78231
Phone: (210) 973-7172 Website: ohrlanu.org Executive Director: Margaret Gofman-Klein

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services
13409 N.W. Military Hwy. Suite 210, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 616-4811 Website: www.sajss.com
Executive Director: Stacey Kline Schwartz President: Suzanne Huber

Judaics After School (JAS @ The J)
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Heintz Preschool
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JCC Block & Dreeben School for Young Children
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Shmuel Bass Torah Academy
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At Issue: Guns and Genocide

It is hard to tell which is more repugnant – denying the Holocaust, or exploiting the extermination of six million for partisan political purposes.

Yet another mass shooting – at a Parkland, Florida high school in which, incidentally, five of 17 victims were Jewish – elicited the usual “thoughts and prayers,” as well as talk about preventing future gun violence. Some pointed to

Australia, which, following a mass shooting in 1996, enacted strict controls on private ownership of guns; Australia has not suffered a mass shooting since.

However, others invoked a more sinister precedent. Asked in public about gun safety, Congressman Don Young (R-AK) responded with a rhetorical question: “How many Jews were put into the ovens because



Perspective:

STEVEN G. KELLMAN

they were unarmed?” The courageous fighters of the Warsaw Ghetto were armed, but did not stand a chance against two Waffen-SS battalions bent on annihilation.

In 2015, during his unsuccessful campaign for president, Ben Carson, who is now secretary of Housing and Urban Development, wrote that: “Through a combination of removing guns and disseminating deceitful propaganda, the Nazis were able to carry out their evil intentions with relatively little resistance.”

Carson’s insinuation that gun laws made the Holocaust possible left Jonathan Greenblatt, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, incredulous. “It is mind-bending,” Greenblatt wrote, “to suggest that personal firearms in the hands of the

small number of Germany’s Jews (about 214,000 remaining in Germany in 1938) could have stopped the totalitarian onslaught of Nazi Germany when the armies of Poland, France, Belgium and numerous other countries were overwhelmed by the Third Reich.”

Furthermore, as Alan E. Steinweis, a specialist in Holocaust history at the University of Vermont, noted: “The Jews of Germany constituted less than 1 percent of the country’s population. It is preposterous to argue that the possession of firearms would have enabled them to mount resistance against a systematic program of persecution implemented by a modern bureaucracy, enforced by a well-armed police state, and either supported or tolerated by the majority of the German population. Mr. Carson’s suggestion that ordinary Germans, had they had guns, would have risked their lives in

armed resistance against the regime simply does not comport with the regrettable historical reality of a regime that was quite popular at home.”

Hoplophilia (obsession with weapons) is a rare disorder among Jews, but it is an affliction shared by members of Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership, a small organization based in Bellevue, Washington. Founded in 1989 by Aaron Zelman, an arms dealer, JFPO seeks to arm Jews not for hunting or target-shooting but to prevent another Holocaust.

Yet it is likely that the prophet Isaiah, who urged us to beat swords into ploughshares, could think of better uses for an AR-15 than slaughter. Jews of course have enemies, but individual ownership of lethal weapons will not defeat them. There is no bullet – magic or mundane – that can cure the scourge of anti-Semitism.

Steven G. Kellman is a professor of comparative literature at UTSA.



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Hundreds march with Nazi SS veterans in Latvia

RIGA, Latvia (JTA) — Police arrested a man for displaying a poster of soldiers killing Jews at the annual march by local veterans of two SS divisions that made up the Latvian Legion during World War II.

The man was arrested March 15 on the margins of the annual march of the Remembrance Day of the Latvian Legionnaires — soldiers from the 15th Waffen Grenadier Division of the SS and the 19th Waffen Grenadier Division of the SS (the 1st and 2nd Latvian, respectively). A handful of veterans, flanked by hundreds of supporters waving Latvian flags, gathered around Freedom Monument for the march under heavy police guard.

The march in Latvia, a member of the NATO alliance and the European Union, is currently the only public event in Europe and beyond honoring those who



A view of the annual march on the Remembrance Day of the Latvian Legionnaires in Riga, March 16, 2018. (LTA Zinu dienests/Twitter)

fought under the banner of SS, Nazi Germany's elite security force. Occurring amid rising tensions with Russia, it is part of numerous expressions across Eastern Europe

of admiration for those, including Holocaust perpetrators, who collaborated with Germany against the Soviet Union.

Several protesters from the

Latvia Without Fascism group demonstrated against the event by carrying signs reading "They fought for Hitler" and "If they looked like Nazis, and acted like Nazis — they were Nazi."

Advocates of the veterans and their supporters claim that Latvian Legion soldiers were not involved in atrocities against Jews, despite evidence to the contrary. According to the Latvian government, the Latvian Legion was not really an SS unit and the legionnaires who were not forcefully conscripted merely sought independence for Latvia when they joined Hitler's army.

German Nazis and collaborators led to the near annihilation of 70,000 Jews who had lived in Latvia before the Holocaust. On March 14, the parliament voted down a bill proposing to make March 16 a national Latvian Legion Day.

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2 Israeli soldiers killed, 2 injured in West Bank terror attack

(JTA) — Two Israeli soldiers were killed and two were seriously injured in a car-ramping attack by a Palestinian driver outside a West Bank settlement.

The Israel Defense Forces has confirmed that the man deliberately drove into the four soldiers, all in their 20s, on March 15 in Mevo Dotan. The driver, 26, fled but was later arrested.

The incident came on a day that Palestinian groups, including Hamas, had designated as a Day of Rage to protest 100 days since President Donald Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital. A coalition of



Palestinian groups called for confrontations with soldiers and settlers after prayers on March 15, according to The Times of Israel.

Fashion guru Iris Apfel, 96, immortalized as Barbie doll

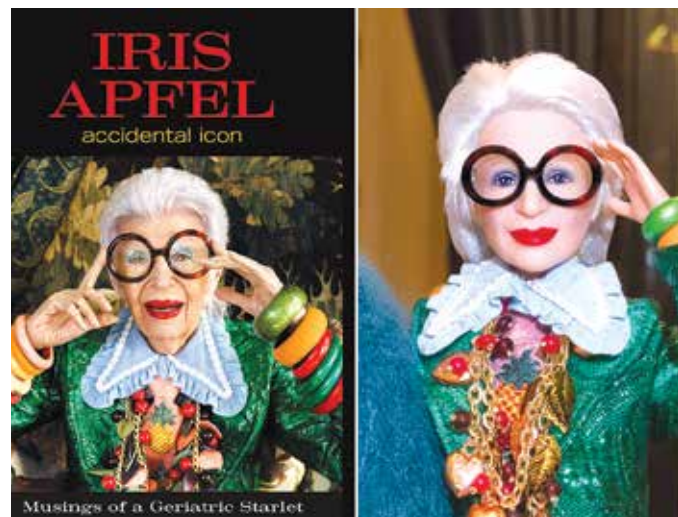
(JTA) — The American toy company that created the Barbie doll announced a new doll honoring Iris Apfel, the 96-year-old Jewish fashion guru.

The Apfel doll wears the same green Gucci suit and jewels that the real-life Apfel wears on the cover of her latest book, *Accidental Icon*, the New York Post reported.

“Her long-spanning career makes her the perfect subject of a one-of-a-kind doll, the highest honor Barbie bestows,” a Mattel representative told the Post in a statement. The new Apfel Barbie will not be available for sale.

Apfel, a New York-born fashion journalist and illustrator turned designer, won the Women Together Special Award in 2016. In 2005, the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York premiered an exhibition about Apfel's style titled “Rara Avis.”

Since 2014, she has been the subject of two internationally distributed documentaries: “Iris” by Albert Maysles and “If You're Not In the Obit, Eat Breakfast.”



Real-life Iris Apfel and her Barbie clone. Composite: Harper Design, Mattel

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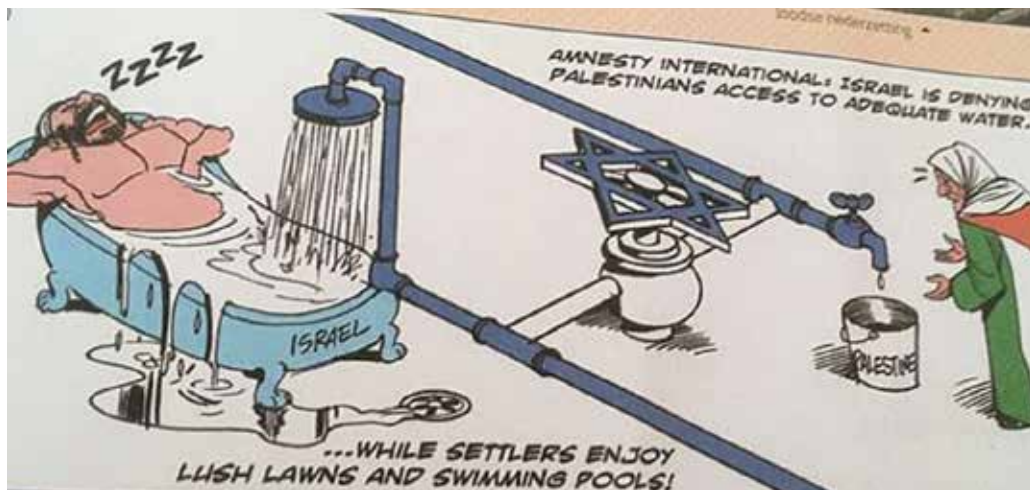
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world will also be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel, with *Yom Ha'atzmaut* beginning on the evening of Wednesday, April 18.

We should feel great pride in being part of both a community of Jews in San Antonio and also being part of a global Jewry that has sustained Israel, the Jewish homeland. The first city directory of San Antonio, prepared in 1876, reported that the Hebrew Benevolent Association was holding regular meetings in the "Jewish temple." We know that Jews settled in San Antonio earlier in the 1800's and that the "Temple" referred to in the city directory was located near Travis Park. Founding families such as Halff, Moritz, Mayer and others were not only leaders in the Jewish community, but also in the larger city of San Antonio. Jews were instrumental as merchants, ranchers, bankers, retailers and in other industries.

The Jewish community of San Antonio can also take pride in its many efforts to support the State of Israel. Our community has been actively involved in the work of the Jewish Federation, Israel Bonds, AIPAC, and other organizations in its support, both financially and otherwise in enabling the State of Israel to grow and thrive. For more than seventy years, members of the San Antonio Jewish community have travelled to Israel on missions, bar mitzvah celebrations and even as lone soldiers contributing to the security of the State.

Please join us in celebrating both of these historic anniversaries. The April 15 celebration will include exhibits that highlight the history of our San Antonio Jewish community, as well as the milestone of seventy years of the State of Israel. The day will also include music, food, merchants and activities for children. Don't miss the fun and celebration. Show your pride and be present.



Rights group calls cartoon depicting greedy Israelis 'misleading'

(JTA) — Amnesty International distanced itself from a caricature in a Belgian schoolbook ostensibly meant to illustrate its allegations that Israel is denying Palestinians fair access to water.

The illustration in the 2016 geography textbook "Polaris GO!3" for Flemish-speaking high school students depicts a beefy Orthodox Jewish settler lolling in an overflowing bathtub, while a Palestinian woman can barely fill her bucket.

A spokesperson for the human rights group told the Joods Actueel monthly in Belgium that the cartoon is "misleading."

The book is used in several high schools in Belgium's Flemish Region, one of three autonomous entities that make

up the federal kingdom. It was written as an aid for the Flemish government's GO! Educational program, which the government says on its website "takes extreme care to fulfill its fundamental mission, which is to offer 'neutral' education."

Raymonda Verdyck, who heads the Flemish government's GO! Pedagogical program, condemned the inclusion of the cartoon in the book. She called it "stereotypical and incompatible with our pedagogical values."

The cartoon is by the Brazilian artist Latuff, who often compares Israel to Nazi Germany in his works.

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FINKEL, PHILLIP
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FRIEDLANDER, DOROTHY
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GOLDBERG, SYDNEY
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SPENDING BILL

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and activity,” Diamant said in an interview.

Of the \$60 million, \$10 million for the first time will go to areas outside major metropolitan areas. Diamant said that will allow Jewish institutions outside such designated areas to apply for the funds.

He named Monsey, in upstate New York, as an example of an area with a high Jewish concentration that until now has not been able to access the existing program.

Also advocating for the security grants over the years were the Jewish Federations of North America and Agudath Israel of North America. The bill also includes \$175 million over the next 10 years to improve security at schools, a provision that was accelerated after the recent deadly school shooting in Parkland, Florida.

The bill will fund training in violence prevention, police-school coordination and crisis intervention, and will be extended to private and parochial schools as well as public schools.

JFNA praised the inclusion in the omnibus bill of \$5 million for the Holocaust Survivor Assistance Program, double the amount of previous years.

The program partners with Jewish institutions to deliver assistance to elderly Holocaust survivors.

“There are approximately 100,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States today, with an estimated 30,000 living in poverty,” said William Daroff, the Washington director of JFNA, in a

statement. “By doubling funding levels to \$5 million, the program now will be able to provide immediate support to ensure that Holocaust survivors are able to live in dignity and comfort for the remainder of their lives.”

Also wrapped into the omnibus is the Taylor Force Act, which slashes funding to the Palestinians until the Palestinian Authority stops payments to Palestinians killed or arrested during attacks on Israelis.

Taylor Force was an American who was murdered by a Palestinian terrorist in a stabbing attack in Tel Aviv in 2016.

Palestinian officials say that only a small portion of the targeted money goes to violent attackers, and that much of the money serves as a welfare program for Palestinians who are imprisoned by Israel, many without charges.

U.S. funding for the Palestinians currently stands at about \$260 million a year. None of the money targeted goes directly to the Palestinian Authority, instead funding programs run by NGOs that assist Palestinians.

The bill also provides the U.S. State Department's Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism with at least \$1 million for programs to combat anti-Semitism abroad and funding for the U.S. State Department's Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues.

After threatening to veto the bill over immigration policies such as DACA and funding for the border wall, President Donald Trump announced he would sign the bill into law.

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