



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

AV - ELUL, 5777

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

AUGUST 2017



HOW DID THE HOLOCAUST HAPPEN?

San Antonio teens take a journey through Europe on a quest for answers.

PAGE 14-15



TIKKUN FOR TROOPS

Community members of all ages packed bags for U.S. military troops during JFSA's Tikkun for the Troops event.

PAGE 5



SUMMER FUN-DAYS!

See what's been happening this summer in your Jewish community.

PAGES 10-18

Mazal Tov to 2017 JFSA Annual Award winners

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio celebrated its 95th Annual Meeting on June 6, 2017. Jonathan Gurwitz, Chair of the Board of Directors, presided over the meeting, which included guest speaker Ambassador Eitan Levon, Consul General of Israel to the Southwest, who spoke on the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War.

Award recipients included: Rachel

See additional pictures on **PAGE 26.**

Walsh, Joel A. Toubin Community Relations Council Award; Elisa Reinsmith, Sylvia F. and Harry Sugerman Young Leadership Award;

See **AWARD**, page 26



(l to r) Jonathan and Rachel Gurwitz, Ambassador Eitan Levon and Ronit Sherwin.

Israel's controversial conversion bill would give the Orthodox rabbinate even more power

By Ben Sales

(JTA) — Israeli politicians and Jewish leaders are fighting again over an age-old question: Who counts as a Jew? And who gets to decide?

In June, Israel's government inflamed simmering tensions over Jewish conversion when a Cabinet committee advanced a bill that would further empower the country's haredi Orthodox Chief Rabbinate. The measure declares that the rabbinate is the only body authorized by the government to perform conversions in Israel.

Defenders of the bill say it



consolidates the conversion system in Israel and safeguards its integrity. But the bill has enraged non-Orthodox Israelis and American Jews who see it as a betrayal of Jewish pluralism.

While the bill does not apply

Jewish Agency Chairman Natan Sharansky, center, in brown cap, and Knesset member Dov Lipman, in jacket and tie at right, at a protest held by American and Israeli Orthodox and Conservative Jews outside the Chief Rabbinate offices in Jerusalem, in July of 2016.

to conversions performed outside of Israel, Jewish leaders fear it will impugn the validity of Reform and Conservative Judaism worldwide.

Here's what you need to know about the controversial legislation.

The bill gives the Chief Rabbinate authority over all official conversions in Israel.

The aim of the bill is to "establish that conversion performed in Israel will be recognized by law only if it is done through the state conversion system," which is run by the Chief Rabbinate.

In other words, for those who convert to Judaism in Israel, the state will recognize them as Jewish only if they convert through the rabbinate. Any other Jewish conversion performed within Israel, even under private Orthodox

See **BILL**, page 25

12500 N. W.
Military
Highway, #200
San Antonio,
TX 78231

Change
Service
Requested

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

SAN ANTONIO,
TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 17

Requested Home-
Delivery By
August 5, 2017

WHAT'S INSIDE

CANDLE LIGHTING **2**

MAZAL TOV **27**

IN THE COMMUNITY **8**

WHAT'S HAPPENING **10**

ARTS & CULTURE **22**

YOUTH **22**

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



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

PUBLISHED BY

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio
12500 N. W. Military Highway, #200
San Antonio, TX 78231

(210)302-6960

www.jfsatx.org

SUPPORTED BY

Grants from the Helen Arrange Fund, the Eilenberg Family Memorial Endowment Fund, the Charles Atkin Memorial Trust Fund, the Freeman Education Fund and the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.

RONIT SHERWIN, CEO

JONATHAN GURWITZ, Board Chair

LESLIE KOMET AUSBURN, Editor/Director of Marketing & Communication

ADVERTISING SALES

Sandy Leigh

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Lauren Sandoval

PROOFREADERS

Idelle Abramson

Barbara Argo

Eleanor Komet

Debbie Linck

Renee Sabel

Susan Whipple



Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO

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

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the September 2017 issue of the Jewish Journal is August 10, 2017 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 September 2017 ISSUE:

- Ad space reservations due no later than August 10, 2017 by noon
- Press ready ads due by August 16, 2017.

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.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Marian Block Oppenheimer

Malcom Steinberg

Natan Bar Yadin

Elliot Marks

Jack Charles

Patti Kaminsky

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday, Aug 4, 2017

Light Candles at: 8:06 p.m.

Shabbat, Aug 5, 2017

Shabbat Ends: 9:01 p.m.

Friday, Aug 18, 2017

Light Candles at: 7:53 p.m.

Shabbat, Aug 19, 2017

Shabbat Ends: 8:47 p.m.

Friday, Sep 1, 2017

Light Candles at: 7:38 p.m.

Shabbat, Sep 2, 2017

Shabbat Ends: 8:31 p.m.

Friday, Aug 11, 2017

Light Candles at: 8:00 p.m.

Shabbat, Aug 12, 2017

Shabbat Ends: 8:55 p.m.

Friday, Aug 25, 2017

Light Candles at: 7:46 p.m.

Shabbat, Aug 26, 2017

Shabbat Ends: 8:39 p.m.

UPCOMING JEWISH HOLIDAYS

Rosh Hashanah

Begins sunset of Wednesday, Sept. 20

Ends nightfall of Friday, Sept. 22

Sukkot

Begins sunset of Wednesday, Oct. 4

Ends nightfall of Wednesday, Oct. 11

Yom Kippur

Begins sunset of Friday, Sept. 29

Ends nightfall of Saturday, Sept. 30

Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah

Begins sunset of Wednesday, Oct. 11

Ends nightfall of Friday, Oct. 13

HELP US REMEMBER



Holocaust Survivors. Second Generation. Soldiers. Liberators.

The Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio is seeking individuals related to the Holocaust that we have not yet met.

Your experiences and artifacts, such as photographs, and letters that are related to this period, are important to the preservation of Holocaust history.

Please contact us if you have an interest in sharing and participating in this project to preserve and connect San Antonio residents to this pivotal chapter of history.

Call 210-302-6962 or email at Info@hmmsa.org.

Continued support of Israel through JFSA vital to sustain essential programs

Jewish history is replete with examples of debates and disagreements within the community of Jews. There may be no subject about which more chapters of this contentious history have been written than the subject of Israel.

From the deliberations of the early Zionists in the 19th century to controversies over



Letter from our CEO & Board Chair

RONIT SHERWIN & JONATHAN GURWITZ

Israeli government policies today, no subject stirs more emotion and passion in the Jewish community than Israel – a reflection of the critical importance of Israel

to modern Jewry.

As Americans, we love the United States and the principles upon which it is established, even though we may disagree with certain

laws or the policies of some administrations. Similarly, as Jews, our love and support for the state of Israel and its people transcend disputes over government policies.

As Israel approaches its 70th anniversary, the Jewish community can take pride in Israel's accomplishments and its existence as a beacon of tolerance and democracy in a very intolerant and undemocratic neighborhood. Those accomplishments are all the more dramatic given the existential threats Israel continues to face.

Israel today is different from the state envisioned at the First Zionist Congress in 1897, different from the state created by the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. Israel continues to evolve – under extraordinarily difficult circumstances.

As Jews, we share the aspiration expressed in the Declaration that Israel shall be a nation “based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel” and one that ensures “complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex.”

The Talmud teaches that all

Israel, all Jews are responsible for each other – “*Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh.*” We fulfill that responsibility through our continued engagement with communities of the Diaspora and as Israel's partner in achieving its prophetic vision.

In that spirit, we urge your continued support of Israel through the Jewish Federation of San Antonio and its Israel and Overseas commitments. Your dollars assist imperiled Jewish communities around the world, and sustain essential programs for the people of Israel.

Jonathan Gurwitz
Board Chair
Jewish Federation
of San Antonio

Ronit Sherwin
Chief Executive Officer
Jewish Federation
of San Antonio

YOUR MISSION:

SAVE THE DATE!

Shaken, not Stirred Gala



LICENSE TO PARTY!

- High Roller Food & Drinks
- Live Music - Auctions
- Games of Chance - Prizes

Sponsorship Opportunities
210.736.4352

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER

0045 7:30pm

at



Dress to Kill!



Lewis
Greenberg

NEVER AGAIN FIREARMS INSTRUCTION
NRA Certified Pistol Instructor
Texas LTC Instructor
281-460-0952 Doctorlxl@gmail.com

"CREATING THE RESPONSIBLY ARMED CITIZEN"



PARTNERSHIP
2GETHER

PARTNERSHIP CORNER

Jessica Diric represents San Antonio at the Western Galilee Israel Teacher's Seminar

By Lauren Abraham

How do Jewish children in the United States turn Israel from a conceptual idea into a meaningful, vibrant place with life long, personal connections? The answer is the Global Twinning School Network through the Partnership2Gether community.

This summer, Jessica Diric, the Lead Teacher at the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA), made her first trip to Israel representing both TASA and San Antonio, as the delegate to the Partnership2Gether (P2G) Western Galilee's Education Delegation. She, along with ten other educators from the United States and Hungary, joined the P2G Educator's Delegation, which is an ongoing reciprocal program for the Partnership. P2G delegates travel to each other's communities and schools, which strengthens the bonds



Diric is photographed with a class of students at Noam.

between Israel and other Jewish communities through educational twinning school connections.

Jessica participated in educational workshops, engaged with new technological tools to unite and create successful

partnerships, learned to teach about Israel through folk dance, received an educational overview about children's Holocaust history and survival, and visited extraordinary historical and cultural sites.

Aside from creating both

personal and professional connections in Israel, Jessica's primary goal was to establish a relationship with TASA's new Partnership Twinning school, Noam, in Akko. At Noam, she had the opportunity to collaborate with the

teachers, as well as teach a few reading lessons to 4th graders.

She is already planning an introduction between TASA and Noam 5-8th grade students, as well as combined holiday San Antonio-Akko celebrations.

Experienced.
Responsive.
Honest.
Working
for YOU!

YOUR REAL ESTATE
TEAM FOR ALL
GENERATIONS.

KWLEGACY
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY



KERRI MORGAN SMITH 210-445-0320

JANIS MORGAN 210-413-5032

www.KJPropertiesTX.com



WE DO KOSHER

Catering to the Jewish Community For Over 20 Years



TRUE
FLAVORS

trueflavors.com 210.226.3670

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Community rallies for *Tikkun for Troops* mitzvah event



(Back row) Maya Siler, Michelle Vizurraga, Bayla Stern, Chaplain Mendy Stern, Devin Billstein, Tina Alvarado with our young volunteers.

"How can we help?" This is what was heard from over 120 community members that came out on Sunday morning, July 9, to "Do a Mitzvah" at the inaugural Tikkun for Troops event. The Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio sponsored the event in partnership with PJ Library, Operation Gratitude and Hebrew Free Loan. The event was chaired by Michelle Vizurraga and Devin Billstein.

Community members of ALL ages sorted the donated personal hygiene items, wrote personal

notes, and filled bags for the troops. The children enjoyed activities at various stations including: making Travel Prayer tags, beading patriotic bracelets and keychains, making and eating patriotic snacks, and making dog tags. The children also wrote notes to the troops and decorated the bags that were being filled.

Vicki Adelstein set the tone for the morning as she performed a moving and beautiful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner and other patriotic songs. Rabbi/Chaplain/Captain Mordechai



L to R: Co-Chair, Michelle Vizurraga, Chaplain Mendy Stern, Co-Chair, Devin Billstein

Mendy Stern, chaplain at Fort Sam, spoke to the guests about his life in the military and his work as a chaplain. He shared the challenges and

See **TROOPS**, page 7

SAVE THE DATE:
SUPER SUNDAY 2017
SEPTEMBER 17th
9:30am to 4pm

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community

EVERYONE COUNTS
CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER www.jfsatx.org or 210.302.6960

We are Jewish San Antonio...We are STRONGER TOGETHER.

EVENT CHAIRS: Willie & Aliza Cantu and Michelle & David Vizurraga
Lauren Stanley, Vice Chair Development | Jonathan Gurwitz, Board Chair



Jewish Federation®
OF SAN ANTONIO

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



Beldon Librarian attends AJL Conference

Beldon librarian, Lynn Waghalter, attended the 52nd annual AJL (Association of Jewish Libraries) Conference held in New York City at Hebrew Union College on June 19th -21st.

Lynn reported, "I was honored to have participated in a presentation, *The Mitzvah Project*, on the Beldon's efforts to assist with the replenishing of Jewish books to the Vilnius Jewish

Public Library in Lithuania. I participated with Olga Potap, Boston University librarian and Zilvinas Beliauskas, Head of the Vilnius Jewish Public Library."

She adds, "The Vilnius Jewish Public Library was rebuilt from the ashes of World War II. We have many more books to send them." Monetary donations are appreciated to aid in shipping expenses.

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

Kevin Epstein



Kevin Epstein and his wife Lisa, love San Antonio and its Jewish community.

They remember the welcome they felt when transferring from California, for Kevin to practice bankruptcy law for the Department of Justice's Office of the United States Trustee.

Since arriving, they and their 3 children, Sabrina, Jocelyn, and Shane, have become actively involved in

many organizations.

Although Kevin grew up in Dallas, the youngest of four children, he has roots in San Antonio as his parents were graduates of Thomas Jefferson High School.

He fondly remembers spending Passover holiday in San Antonio and enjoying his mom's homemade gefilte fish and singing the songs sung at the end of the Haggadah. "Because

Judaism plays a central role in the lives of my family", he feels he is always making new Jewish memories, but his favorite holiday is Rosh Hashanah.

In addition to the festive meal and enjoying family and friends, it's the one holiday where he feels he can add to the meaning that others get from the holiday, as he is the current Shofar

See **SPOTLIGHT**, page 7

You are cordially invited to a walk through history.

Holocaust Study Seminar Open House & Reception

Sunday, August 20, 2017 | 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Each student has created a visual exhibit and presentation based on their experience.

The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community, Holzman Auditorium

Now that
you
know...
WHAT
will you
do?

The Holocaust Study Seminar is an intensive experience designed for high school sophomores and juniors. Fifteen educational sessions in San Antonio and a twelve-day trip to Eastern Europe in June 2017 empower these young people to understand the atrocities of the Holocaust in ways that will help them transmit the lessons of history to their peers.

Please RSVP to events@hmmsa.org by Wednesday, August 16, 2017. Light refreshments will be provided.



YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

PJ Library celebrates summer with some “cool” fun

By Lauren Abraham,
PJ Library Coordinator

The Summer got off to a sweet start for PJ Library kids. Menchie's Frozen Yogurt “served” as host for the PJ Library 2017 Summer Scoops Series, with a special guest appearance from the real “Menchie the Mench.” The PJ readers celebrated an early fourth of July with a patriotic story read by owner Cindy Ward.

On July 16, PJ Popsicles in the Pool followed with a Sunday afternoon treat and swim time at the Barshop JCC.

PJ kids were happy to see each other and reunite during the busy summer of travels and various camps. The pool was the perfect place to escape the almost 100 degree temperatures.

July also brought together PJ Moms for a special Moms' Night Out to “snack and relax” and learn about healthy cooking tips from nutritionist Tirza Nestel. This event was hosted at the home of PJ committee member, Laurel Gandler.



PJ Library readers beat the heat by enjoying popsicles in the pool at the JCC.



PJ Library readers enjoyed meeting Menchie the Mench and learning about all of the characters that connect with the nation-wide Kosher ice cream chain.

TROOPS

continued from page 6

the successes he has had including preparing Passover seders in Afghanistan, Shabbat dinners on the various posts, providing support for Jewish troops in the army as well as other divisions. Rabbi Stern, his wife and three children recently arrived in San Antonio.

“It was very moving to see so many community members come together to participate in this special mitzvah. We packed 200 bags. Some of the bags will be distributed in our local base and the others will go overseas. I am honored that I could be a part of this very special event. We hope to have this become an annual event and look forward to growing participation and most importantly our support for the troops,” said chair Michelle Vizurraga.

For more information about this event or to get involved, contact Susan Kariv at the Federation, (210) 302-6968.

Victor's Service Center, Inc.

specializing in

JAGUARS
And Mercedes Benz
SINCE 1986



- ◆ Repairs for all years and models
- ◆ Upgrades of components for modern technology/performance
- ◆ Extended Warranty Services for most providers

413 West Olmos Dr. San Antonio, Texas
(210) 737-1778 vicjag@aol.com

SPOTLIGHT

continued from page 6

blower at Agudas Achim.

In addition, Kevin has generously dedicated his time and energy as Treasurer of the EKA and Agudas Achim, as well as the VP of Finance and Administration at Agudas Achim. Currently, he serves

as the Chair of the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. In recalling the warmth he and his family experienced when moving to San Antonio, he hopes that his commitment to the community, will help to provide a sense of belonging to all Jewish families and individuals.



Temple Chai

San Antonio's Small Reform Congregation
A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

Looking for Something?

**Community • Enrichment • Connection
Inspiration • Learning • Friendship
A Way to Make a Difference**

Let's seek together.

www.templechaisa.org

DOUGH
PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA
AUTHENTIC
NEAPOLITAN
PIZZA
6989 Blanco Road
San Antonio, Texas 78216
ph. (210) 979-6565
fx. (210) 979-9393
doughpizzeria.com

JCC fall classes begin early September

The Barshop JCC's Fall/Winter Program Guide, containing a variety of recreational, educational, and enrichment classes and services for people of all ages is now available at the JCC or at www.jccsanantonio.org/publications. The guide provides Members and the Community a snapshot of JCC happenings from August to December.

While participants can continue to expect favorites like the youth Soccer Academy, tennis classes for adults and youth, theatre, parenting workshops, Senior Chefs, and more, the JCC will also offer a handful of new classes.

Preschoolers can learn

about science and math through classic storybooks, while youth can engage through the Adventures in Reading Book Club. For adults, the JCC is offering new small group personal training opportunities that can help individuals find healthier versions of themselves.

Most programs are available to the Community with JCC Members receiving a reduced rate. Visit www.jccsanantonio.org/register to register online or download a registration form. Paper registration forms may be turned in at the JCC or faxed to (210) 408-2341.

For more information, call (210) 302-6820.

Temple Chai to offer Introduction to Yiddish

Temple Chai will offer a six-week adult education course, *Introduction to Yiddish*, on Tuesday evenings beginning Sept. 5 at 7 p.m. at its Northwest side facility (2121 Lockhill Selma). Joshua Lustig, a San Antonio native and member of the congregation, will teach the course. Joshua has an extensive background in languages and classical Jewish literature, and was a yeshiva student in New York. He will share the joy and excitement of the Yiddish language with the students in the course.

All are welcome to participate. There is no charge, but advance registration is required. Visit www.templechaisa.org/

yiddish or call (210) 340-2090 to sign up.

Young adults connect through Beth-El's @TBE20s30s

Temple Beth-El's 20s30s group, @TBE20s30s, invites young adults in the community to network and socialize with their growing group. Members have gathered for lay-led Torah on Tap discussions at local restaurants and non-profits with the themes such as People of the Book: Judaism and Education, Jews and Tattoos, and Bein' Green: Jewish Commitment to the Earth.

@TBE20s30s also regularly gathers for After Hours dinners following Shabbat services and hosts events connected to Jewish holidays such as Yom Kippur Break Fast, Hanukkah party at Bowlero, Lag B'Omer Bonfire, and Passover Seder.

The group has also participated in projects like baking Hamentaschen to help SAFTY, Temple Beth-El's youth group, raise money; baking for onegs; and working with the SA



Youth Literacy Project to help sort books. Many events have been social, like Trivia Night, McNay Night at the Museum, Havdalah painting night at Whimsy Art Studio, and attending a Missions Baseball Game. The group also takes

Shabbat morning hikes on a monthly basis all over the city.

For more information on getting involved or learning more, email TBE20s30sSA@gmail.com or stay up to date with the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/>



Chicago Bagel & Deli



We have Hebrew National Salami, Corned Beef, Pastrami

Wurzbach & Vance Jackson 691-2245
Monday-Friday 6am-3pm • Saturday 7am-3pm • Sunday 7am-2pm
Like us on Facebook!

HADASSAH



**Who will say Kaddish?
Hadassah will.
Every year. Forever.**

For more information, visit www.hadassah.org/yahrzeit, call 877.212.3321 or email yahrzeit@hadassah.org.



Harbour Hospice
The only Jewish certified Hospice

Anna Gorchow, RN
CEO/Administrator



Phone: (210) 403-9911
Fax: (210) 403-9926
Toll Free: (877) 403-9911



Kosher
EatatGreen.com

\$5 Off

Not Valid with any other offer. One coupon per table. No Cash Value. Valid at all Green Vegetarian Cuisine Locations. Expires December 31.

Pearl Brewery
200 E. Grayson
San Antonio TX 78215
210.320.5865

Alon Town Centre
10003 NW Military Dr.
San Antonio TX 78230
210.233.1249

IN THE COMMUNITY

JWRP trip for men all set for Israel

From August 7-13, nine San Antonio men will be in Israel as part of Rodfei Sholom's JWRP Men's Mission to Israel.

It is geared as a follow up mission for husbands of area women who went on the Jewish Federation and Rodfei Sholom partnered trip last year.

"We weren't planning

on being part of the trip this year, but so many husbands approached me and said that we must go on the trip already. They saw how the trip affected their wives and wanted that same inspiration in their lives," said Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg.

The trip is seven days of intense learning and travel.



JENNIFER PERLOFF
ALHS, CNE, GRI, REALTOR®
(210) 325-4955

jperloff@phyllisbrowning.com

www.RealLuxurySA.com

Proudly providing luxury real estate services at any price range.



PHYLLIS BROWNING CO.
THE VERY BEST™

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

NCJW: changing lives in SA since 1907

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) offers opportunities for community service, advocacy and fun activities, with a goal of improving the lives of women, children and families.

The San Antonio section began just eight years after NCJW was founded in 1893, developing such progressive programs as Lighthouse for the Blind, the first free kindergarten and CASA (Child Advocates San Antonio).

Today, NCJW members participate in programs that address a range of issues. *Trafficked Teens* expands awareness of the dangers of trafficking among vulnerable young people. The

MEMBERSHIP

For membership information, visit ncjwsa.org/join, or contact Linda Levy at llevy@satx.rr.com.

Transitions program partners with local agencies to provide youth aging out of foster care with educational, social and cultural experiences. Members involved in *Book Buddies* promote literacy and a love for reading at a Pre-K for SA site. *Can't Beat Love* engages high school students to create films that highlight bullying and other problems affecting today's teens. The *Trashy Book Club* is an opportunity to learn about upcoming activities and discuss books – both

high-brow and low – over a potluck dinner.

Other events include the Esther Vexler Social Justice Award, presented this year to Shari Pulman and fun social activities.

"NCJW is committed to taking progressive ideals and putting them into action. We invite you to join us in making a difference while enjoying the friendship of other like-minded women," said San Antonio section president Ruthie Wurzburg. "You don't have to be Jewish and you don't have to be a woman to join."

For membership information, visit ncjwsa.org/join, or contact Linda Levy at llevy@satx.rr.com.

LUIS A. HERNANDEZ, C.P.A.

Tax Return Preparation

Bookkeeping – Financial Services

(210) 521-1113 • Fax (210) 521-2626

5805 Callaghan Rd., Ste. 116 • San Antonio, TX 78228

B'NAI B'RITH CORNER

B'nai B'rith in San Antonio is alive and striving. Instead of meetings, the lodge hosts monthly activities, which includes discussions about current items regarding B'nai B'rith both locally and national. Items of interest are sent to lodge members on a regular basis. By being a member, lodge members have the opportunity to attend conferences and activities which the national organization provides.

The lodge monthly activity usually takes place the second Sunday of each month starting at 10:30 am at the JCC room 227. The next activity will take place on September 10. For further information contact lodge president Irwin Barath at (210) 341-4502.

SILo
elevated cuisine & bar

Sunday at Silo

Present this Special Invitation to Receive A
COMPLIMENTARY ENTRÉE

Buy one entrée and receive the second, of equal or lesser value, complimentary. Parties of 10 or less. Sunday evenings 5-9pm. Reservation required. Dine-in only. Excludes Prix Fixe. Must present this offer at time of service.

visit siloelevatedcuisine.com

1133 Austin Hwy - 824.8686 / 434 N. Loop 1604 West - 483.8989

WHAT'S HAPPENING



ISRAELI SCOUTS VISIT SAN ANTONIO

The Tzofim Friendship Caravan Israeli Scouts stopped by the JCC Wednesday, July 12, pictured with Jacqueline and Aimee Shweiki and Anat (second from left), one of J-Camp's two Schlichim (Israeli emissaries). The group consists of five boys and five girls from Israel who are entering their senior year of high school. The Caravan travels throughout North America as emissaries, sharing their lives in Israel through song, dance, and story.



JCC SUMMER CAMP WRAPS UP

The JCC welcomed more than 400 youth to participate in Summer 2017 J-Camp, with the theme Peace, Love, & J-Camp. Three weeks of post-camp will begin August 7. Visit www.jcccampsanantonio.org or call (210) 302-6859 to check for availability.



HEINTZ PRESCHOOL LITERACY SUMMER CAMP

For the second consecutive summer, Heintz Preschool involved all of its children in academic learning at its Heintz Preschool Literacy Summer Camp.

A woman with short blonde hair is looking thoughtfully at something off-camera. She has her hand resting on her chin.

The door opened. The details taken care of. The courtesy done automatically. The word spoken softly and with sincerity. A hand placed just so to steady another's step. They don't really define caring, but they're clues of its presence – pervasive and constant. And unobtrusive.

IT'S WHAT
YOU
DON'T
SEE.

Because the focus of any memorial, any funeral, isn't the service being provided. It's the memory of the life being honored. It's a lesson Porter Loring learned in his first years in the mortuary profession, and a legacy we've remembered and maintained for almost a century.

PORTER LORING
MORTUARIES

1101 McCullough 210.227.8221 | 2102 North Loop 1604 East 210.495.8221 | porterloring.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING



YOUNG COUPLES NIGHT OUT

Young Couples from Congregation Rodfei Sholom enjoyed a night out at Bowl & Barrel on June 28.



AGUDAS ACHIM YOUTH GROUP NAMED CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Congregation Agudas Achim's teenage youth group, United Synagogue Youth (USY), had successful Regional Convention in June. The USY group took home seven awards including Chapter of the Year and Advisor of the Year for Eric Steitz.

SAVE THE DATE ISRAEL BONDS SAN ANTONIO

Invites You to an
Evening Reception



Honoring
Howie Nestel

Featuring Guest Speaker
Dr. Bernd Wollschlaeger, MD

Sunday, November 5, 2017 7:00pm

CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM
16550 Huebner Rd · San Antonio, TX

Dr. Michael Ozer
San Antonio Israel Bonds Chair

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steve Landis, Registered Representative
steve.landis@israelbonds.com · 713.360.3530



Development Corporation for Israel/Israel Bonds. This is not an offering, which can be made only by prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before investing to fully evaluate the risks associated with investing in Israel bonds. Member FINRA

INVEST IN ISRAEL BONDS
ISRAELBONDS.COM



LIST YOUR HOUSE

MAIN STREET PROPERTIES

MICHAEL LITOFKY • MELODY YANCELSON • MARTIN LITOFKY

(210) 344-2200

WHAT'S HAPPENING



BETH-EL CONGREGANTS JOIN IN FEAST FOR RAMADAN

Chelsea Cataldi, Jill Marks, Steve Marks, and Daniel Vela were among the many grateful Temple Beth-El congregants and staff who were guests of the Raindrop Turkish House for a Shared Ramadan *Iftar* Dinner.



CELEBRATING ROSH CHODESH

Women's League of Chabad enjoyed a Rosh Chodesh dinner and celebration in honor of the month of Tammuz at the home of Rivkie Block. For upcoming dinners please email rivkieblock@chabadsa.com or call (210) 492-1085.



KAVY YOUTH CENTER BREAKS GROUND

Congregation Agudas Achim broke ground on the Kavy Youth Center, July 9, in memory of Cary Kavy, and Mike's Clubhouse in memory of Mike and Leanore Kavy. The Youth Center will include a building for teenagers to socialize, a half basketball court, and a soccer field.



"We'll Bend Over Backwards For You"

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES
(210) 656-9027 (830) 606-2697



HEATING
Lic# TACL-A009950-C



COOLING



PLUMBING
Lic# M-17158

**24 HOUR
EMERGENCY SERVICE
AVAILABLE**

**\$25.00
Service Call
WITH A REPAIR**

Schedule Service Online @ www.beyerboys.com

1964

The Tribute



ON SALE NOW

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

MAJESTIC THEATRE

MAJESTICEMPIRE.COM

1964 THE TRIBUTE IS NOT ENDORSED BY OR AFFILIATED WITH APPLE CORPS, LTD.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



SUMMER OF SHALOM AT BETH-EL

Temple Beth-El's Summer of Shalom (summer programming for youth) paid a visit to the Magik Theatre for a wonderful production of Junie B. Jones: The Musical.



CAMP RODFEI 2017

Camp Rodfei included all kinds of fun including a field trip to Incredible Pizza

SUMMER CAMP FUN AT CAMP GAN ISRAEL



More than 90 children enjoyed Camp Gan Israel, in its 29th year, at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. Activities included a recent field-trip to the DoSeum. (photo by Joe Hernandez)

“EXQUISITE. AN EMOTIONAL POWERHOUSE” -Chicago Tribune

FUN HOME

A TRUE STORY BECOMES A TONY®-WINNING BEST MUSICAL

THE TOBIN CENTER | AUGUST 9TH & 10TH | WWW.TOBINCENTER.ORG | 210-223-8624

MESSENGERS OF HISTORY

SA teens journey to Europe to explore the history of the Holocaust

By Ellen Ollervidez,
Holocaust Memorial Museum of SA Director

Our studies began in January 2017 and early this summer, eight area high school students set out on an extraordinary journey to Central and Eastern Europe, prepared with six months of intensive learning and on a quest to discover “How did the Holocaust happen?” On June 13, families said goodbye and sent their children, with educators from the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio and Yad Vashem, to visit and study on sites in Berlin, Krakow, and Budapest.

On August 20, from 3-5 pm, in the Holzman Auditorium at the Jewish Campus of San Antonio, students will display, share, and discuss their experiences. All are invited to learn from these messengers of history.

The Holocaust Study Seminar was made possible by a grant from the Sue and Richard Carter Charitable Trust.



Standing on a crest high above the Danube River, students learn about Hungary and the long history of Jews in this country.



San Antonio and Polish students pay their respects at the Jewish Cemetery in Dambrowa.



Originally the site of a Jewish cemetery, the Plaszow concentration camp was established in 1942 and under the authority of the SS and police leaders in Krakow, was initially a forced-labor camp for Jews. As the Soviet army approached in the summer of 1944, Germans prepared to dismantle Plaszow by transferring prisoners to other concentration camps or extermination camps, and attempting to destroy all evidence of the crimes committed there. In the background; a Soviet Memorial to the victims of Nazism in occupied Poland.



Students learn of and experience the resurgence of Jewish life by visiting one of many synagogues in Budapest.

MESSENGERS OF HISTORY



Starting on October 18, 1941, Track 17 was one of the major sites of deportation for Berlin Jews. Trains left mainly for the ghettos, and from 1942 directly for the Auschwitz and Theresienstadt concentration camps.



Seminar students experienced all three countries with the help and guidance of Yad Vashem scholar, Shalmi Balmore.



The new synagogue in Berlin was consecrated on Rosh Hashanah in 1866, was the largest synagogue in Europe, with 3,200 seats. The synagogue was desecrated and set on fire on Kristallnacht, but avoided major damage until the allied bombings in 1943. The synagogue, now serves mainly as a museum, contains various displays and documents that gave students an impression of Jewish life in Berlin.



Polish students meet and greet Seminar students in the town of Dambrowa Tarnowska. Jews settled in this town at the end of the 16th Century. By 1900, 80 percent of the town's population of 2600, were Jews. Today, not a single Jew lives in this town of 12,000. Students in this town, however, study Jewish and Holocaust history and participate and perform in Yom Hashoah memorials each year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



INTERFAITH BLESSING

Temple Beth-El's Rabbi Mara Nathan participated in the Traditional Interfaith Blessing of newly-elected San Antonio Mayor, Ron Nirenberg.

GRADUATION AT GAN GANI



Gan Gani Preschool's Perichah class, and their teachers Dalia Rosenberg and Shayna Block celebrated the children's graduation ceremony at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning on May 24. For more information about Gan Gani please call (210) 764-0300, email director@gangani.org or visit www.GanGani.org.



SUNDAY FUNDAY & RODFEI BLOOD DRIVE

Sisters Estella and Eden Ghitis join sisters Lexi and Julie Lasky at Rodfei's Sunday Funday on July 2.



Seeking Volunteers to Teach in the Museum

Are you or someone you know interested in the Holocaust Memorial Museum's collections and exhibits?

Do you enjoy learning and working with the public?

Are you seeking a rewarding volunteer experience?

Consider becoming a docent at the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio. A history background is not required... just an interest in learning and a high level of enthusiasm. A new partnership with Yad Vashem has allowed us to create an ongoing docent training program through an online digital portal. Training will continue with our Museum staff and experienced docents.

If you are interested, please contact Juana Rubalcava, Director of Education at 210-302-6812 or docents@hmmsa.org



WHAT'S HAPPENING



JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE

More than 60 students participated in the six-session JLI Spring 2017 course *Survival of a Nation: Exploring Israel Through the Lens of the Six-Day War*. It was offered three days a week and presented by the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. For upcoming courses please visit www.myJLI.com.



WATERMELON WEDNESDAYS: COOLING OFF FOR SUMMER

For the fourth consecutive summer, young children and families enjoyed Watermelon Wednesday Summer Storytime at Congregation Agudas Achim led by Rabbi and Lauren Abraham with stories, games, songs, and, of course, watermelon every Wednesday. The community is welcome to attend the summer's final Watermelon Wednesday Pizza Party on Wednesday, Aug. 15 from 5-7 p.m. For more information, contact the synagogue office.

Nothing says Home like Family

As a mother and daughter team with a combined 80 years of experience, we are dedicated, determined, and understand the importance and impact that purchasing a new home has on a family. We are known for our strong communication and for being there 100% from the beginning to end and beyond.

JOYCE KLEIN

cell: (210) 863-1444
joyceklein@earthlink.net

KAREN KLEIN

cell: (210) 422-2250
karenklein@sprintmail.com



18226 GIRASOLE

San Antonio, TX
78258
\$499,000
MLS No: 1253094
3 Bd / 3 Ba
2,776 sq ft

18106 KNOB HILL

San Antonio, TX
78258
\$585,000
MLS # 1249055
5 Bd / 4 Full Ba, 1 half Ba
4,132 Sq. Ft.



4416 Ramsgate Suite 102
San Antonio, Texas 78230

(210) 691-2200

www.joycekleinrealtors.com



**JOYCE
KLEIN**
sells the city

WHAT'S HAPPENING



MOCK WEDDING HIGHLIGHTS JEWISH CUSTOMS

During J-Camp, campers learned about different Jewish celebrations. To cap the week off, camp staff presented a mock wedding, complete with a makeshift Chuppah made with pool noodles and a sheet, and a Ketubah, signed by the mock bride and groom, two witnesses, and Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham from Congregation Agudas Achim.



RODFEI TEENS IN ACTION

Rodfei Seed girls make pizza with teens on June 29

NCSY TEENS: LATTE AND LEARNING

NCSY teens stay connected throughout the summer with Latte and Learning on June 4. The next event will take place on August 20 at 8:30 p.m.



Agudas Achim clubs: August events

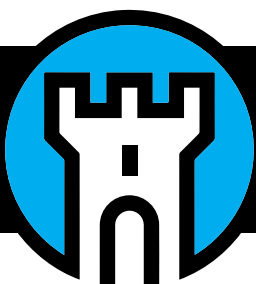
- Club Agudas Achim (CAA) (for those 45+) will two-step the night away on August 10 at 6:45 p.m. for a private country and western dance class at the Aston Ballroom, followed by a no host dinner at Naples Pizza. No partner is needed for the dance class.

- The Simcha Social Club (for those 65+) will be teaming up with Heintz Preschool on August 10 at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and a healthy cooking class with Nutritionist Tirza Nestel. The class will focus with both preschoolers and the seniors on staying hydrated during the summer months. The Simcha Social Club is made possible thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services.

- Moonlight Supper Club (for those 60+) will have their monthly dinner out at Ding How on August 17 at 7 a.m.

- The Young Couples Club of Agudas (YCCA) (for those with one spouse 25-45) will host a delectable Rosh Hashanah cooking class at the home of Michelle and David Vizurraga on August 31 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the office at (210) 479-0307, e-mail info@agudas-achim.org, go to www.agudas-achim.org, or visit the Agudas Achim Facebook Page.



NOW OPEN!
Accepting
new patients!

(210) 348-8788 castlehillseye.com

2191 NW Military Hwy. San Antonio, TX 78213

(at the corner of West Ave. & NW Military Hwy.)

Castle Hills Eye Specialists PA offers a full array of ophthalmology services to help you maintain healthy vision. We specialize in cataract, retina and glaucoma care.

All professionals in our practice maintain the highest levels of accreditation and pursue ongoing education to stay abreast of the latest trends in the medical field.

CALL US TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT!



M. Coleman Driver Jr., MD

John J. Nicolau MD

A Great Day at the Garden event

Jewish families, couples and singles from all congregations are invited to come together and enjoy an afternoon full of nature, activities, and learning on Sunday, September 10 at the San Antonio Botanical Garden from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

This community outing, *A Great Day at the Garden*, is an inter-generational and inter-congregational event presented by area congregations and organizations. The event is free for everyone to attend

and will be held in the new Discovery Complex at the Garden.

A Great Day at the Garden is sponsored by Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) in conjunction with Congregation Agudas Achim, Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Temple Beth-El, Congregation Beth Am, and PJ Library.

At check-in, each guest will receive Kosher, allergy friendly snacks and a *Great Day at the Garden* activity

map. There will be scheduled entertainment such as a PJ Library book read by a special guest, a guitar Sing-a-long, and at least four activity stations for guests to visit. Heintz Preschool and PJ Library are hosting these harvest-themed stations that include making a bird feeder, garden pot decorating, a taste & smell activity, and an inter-generational mural.

The event requires an online reservation by visiting <https://gardengreatday.paperform.co/>.



Agudas Achim announces Selichot Program – Sept. 16

Congregation Agudas Achim will host a special Selichot program and service on Saturday, September 16 beginning at 8:15 p.m. In partnership with AIPAC, Agudas Achim will welcome guest speaker Daniel Frankenstein, who is the Co-Founder and Managing Partner at JANVEST Capital Partners. JANVEST Capital Partners is a US based venture firm aimed at premium early stage innovation within Israel's emerging technology market. The firm's focus and desire is to partner with and provide real value to entrepreneurs who are at the point where concept meets commercialization.

"We are extremely excited to be bringing in an engaging, high-level, and well-known

speaker in Mr. Frankenstein for our Selichot program this year," said Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham.

The Selichot Service and program will begin with Havdalah at 8:15 p.m., followed by the guest speaker. He will be followed by Torah Scroll Mantle Change and Procession and a special spiritual musical Selichot Service lead by Rabbi Abraham and Hazzan Jeremy Lipton. The evening will end with Agudas Achim's annual Tacos and Tequila event, which is free and open to the entire Jewish community.

For more information contact the office at (210) 479-0307, e-mail info@agudas-achim.org, go to www.agudas-achim.org, or the Agudas Achim Facebook Page.

PJ Library presents...

OUR SECOND ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL CONCERT

Featuring acclaimed PJ artist of the CD, "The Mitzvah Bus"

MR. G

August 20th @ 3PM



For more details check out JFSATX.ORG or Facebook @PJ Library San Antonio

Gary S. Gossen, M.D., F.A.C.G.

Diplomate of the Board of Internal Medicine

Diplomate of the Board of Gastroenterology

Fellow of The American College of Gastroenterology

Gastroenterology Clinic of San Antonio, P.A.

8550 Datapoint Dr. Suite 200

San Antonio, TX 78229

210-615-8308

Fax: 210-615-8313

Practice limited to Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Please visit our website at drgossen.com

Hebrew Free Loan Association provides support to area Jews

Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio has announced the launch of its 2017-2018 membership drive. HFLA-SA Sustaining Memberships play an important role in the association's new, all-inclusive Circle of Friends.

HFLA-SA, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, provides both need and opportunity-based interest-free loans to Jewish people in San Antonio and surrounding areas, always in an effort to strengthen individuals, their families and ultimately, the community at-large."

HFLA-SA has relied on – and been able to depend on – community support, through memberships and additional fundraising efforts. With borrowers and cosigners vetted and committed to loan repayment, funds ultimately recycle.

As HFLA-SA Board



President, Tim Grossman said, "With escalating costs and renewed community awareness, demand for HFLA-SA's 0% interest loans has also continued to rise. In 2016, HFLA-SA put a record-breaking \$200,000 back into the community, directly into the hands of those needing assistance."

These interest-free loans helped people mired in interest-laden debt, as well as those incurring expenses related to higher education, healthcare, job loss, career

retooling, accessibility modifications, relocation, major repairs, caring for sick or special needs relatives, and other situations.

"The HFLA-SA Sustaining Membership is a family program, designed to make it easy for members of the San Antonio Jewish community to fulfil the *mitzvah* of interest-free lending by setting up recurring contributions in affordable increments beginning as low as \$18 per month," Said Jim Barshop, Vice President of Membership. "This ongoing base of support will allow HFLA-SA to grow in-line with the expanding demand for financial assistance."

For more information on interest-free loans, HFLA-SA memberships or additional ways to join the Circle, visit www.hfla-sa.org, or call (210) 736-4352.



New loan fund created for Jewish seniors through HFLA-SA

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services has donated to Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio to create the GMJSS—Goldsmith Family—HFLA-SA Fund for interest-free loans to eligible Jewish seniors in San Antonio.

The fund was established with \$20,000, largely made possible by Marion and Clyde Goldsmith's generous donation to GMJSS. HFLA-SA will be solely responsible for administration of this fund. Applicants must be age 60+ and meet HFLA-SA's other eligibility requirements.

For more information, visit www.HFLA-SA.org, or contact Laura Richardson, Hebrew Free Loan of San Antonio's Executive Director, at HFLA-SA, (210) 736-43523.

Temple Chai installs new board and officers

Temple Chai installed its 2017-2018 board of trustees and officers at the congregation's annual meeting on June 11. Jimmy Toubin was re-elected president for a second year, Susan Ghertner and Paul Hamilton as vice presidents, David Blinderman as treasurer, and LTC Felix Gonzles as secretary. Newly-elected board members are Freda Levinson, Lee

Markman, Steve Samet, and Lori Williamson.

The annual meeting included a review of the past year, which saw a second consecutive increase in membership. Temple Chai's membership currently stands at eighty family units including 160 people. The leadership in the new year will consider how to address the needs of the growing congregation in its limited

space. High Holy Day plans are under consideration now that the membership cannot be accommodated in the present facility.

For more information about membership with Temple Chai, visit www.templechaisa.org or call (210) 340-2090 to speak directly with Rabbi David Komerofsky.



**"When your feet feel good
Your whole body feels good"**

www.newbalancesanantonio.com

Strand Shopping Center
11255 Huebner Rd.
210-699-0808

Forum Shopping Center
8211 Agora Parkway
210-655-4929

Quarry Village
270 E. Basse Rd.
210-804-0808

Rob & Emily Kaufman

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

Normally summer months are a time to relax and take it easy; not for JWV Post 753, for it has been a time of rapid action.

- On May 30, post members placed American flags on the grave sites of Jewish veterans buried in the various cemeteries in the San Antonio area.

- June was a month which saw members of the post attend the Voluntary Services quarterly meetings at Audie Murphy and Kerrville VA Hospitals. The post has undertaken the task of supporting not only the Audie Murphy VA Hospital in San Antonio, but the VA Hospital in Kerrville, as well.

- The end of June saw post members traveling to Austin to attend the three-day meeting of the Department of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. Floyd Williams past SA Post Commander was elected Junior Vice Commander of the Department.

- On, July 4, post members walked the wards of Audie Murphy distributing ice cream and cookies to patients and staff on duty.

- On July 30, Margaret Gofman Klein spoke on Ohr Lanu Foundation.

- From August 28 through September 1, the San Antonio chapter hosted the International Jewish War Veterans U.S.A., with a rousing convention attended by a host of Veterans from all over the U.S.

Upcoming JWV events:

Thursday Sept. 7—Quarterly meeting of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) at Audie Murphy VA Hospital. Also in Sept there will be quarterly meeting of the VAVS unit at Kerrville VA Hospital.

Sunday, Sept. 24—regular post meeting at 9 am JCC.

Want to join the festivities? Call Herschel at (210) 468-5598

Gerald W. Crouch, DDS
Jason V. Kboudi, DDS
and associates

ADVANCED SMILE CARE

Sedation • Cosmetic • General Dentistry

3829 Lockhill Selma Road
San Antonio, Texas 78230
(210) 585-2468
www.AdvancedSmileCare.com

IN THE COMMUNITY

Free Diabetes Self-Management class

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services will host a free 6-week class series focused on Diabetes Self-Management this August.

The weekly 2.5-hour class will meet Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays beginning August 1 through September 5 at the GMJSS office, 13409 NW Military Hwy., Suite 210.

The Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) is designed to help people with diabetes/pre-diabetes manage their health.

Workshops will be facilitated by two trained leaders, one or both of whom have diabetes or another chronic health condition.

Participants will learn how to deal with symptoms, frustrations and how to design their own self-management program. Topics covered will also include monitoring blood sugar, food choices and meal planning, managing or preventing complications, exercise tips and ideas, appropriate use of medication; and working more effectively with health care providers.

Participants benefit from group discussions, information sharing and easy to understand resource materials to assist in making choices that will have a positive impact on our daily lives.

This free series is offered to the community through a partnership with the Alamo Area Council of Governments.

Seating is limited, so RSVPs are required. For more information or to reserve your seat for the class, please call GMJSS at (210) 616-4811.

IN THE COMMUNITY: TEENS

Rodfei Sholom hosting Yeshiva students

For 2 weeks, starting August 4, five young men studying in Yeshiva will be at Congregation Rodfei Sholom. Last year, students visited in the summer and to celebrate Simchat Torah, and the congregation is looking forward to their return.

“Whenever they are at Rodfei, they bring an unbelievable Ruach with them,” says

Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg. They will be available to the whole community every day for a unique opportunity to study any Jewish topic one-on-one. They will also be running day programs for teen boys in the community.

Contact the synagogue office at rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557 for more information.

NORTH PARK
LEXUS
OF SAN ANTONIO

2017 RX 350

NorthParkLexus.com
210-308-8900

John S. Troy
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

MEMBER A.S.L.A.
222-1355
www.johnstroylandarch.com

New play group at Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El has a new family play group on Sundays, which is open to those with children under age 5. Starting September 10, at 11 a.m., young families are invited to hang out and get to know each other. There will be toys and activities for the kids and coffee for the parents. The play group offers families, whether or not they

have older children in the Temple's Religious School, the opportunity to spend time bonding with their children and other young families during Religious School hours.

For further information, please contact Tory Richmond at tory@beth-elsa.org or (210) 733-9135, ext. 158.



Heintz Preschool opening room for infants

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim has announced the opening of a new infant room for infants six weeks to 18 months. Enrollment is now underway for the new school year which begins August 21. Interested families can visit the new infant space during the month of August. Tours will also be available during an open house on Sunday, Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Heintz Preschool prides itself on its innovative academics with its motto of 'Creating Creative Curiosity' in its students. The new infant classroom will expose young children to art, drama, Hebrew, Spanish, music, cooking classes, and more. Infants who are mobile will crawl or walk to their extracurricular activities, while those who are not mobile yet will be escorted by their teachers.

Heintz Preschool offers small class sizes with a curriculum geared towards kindergarten readiness.

The school day at Heintz runs from 9 a.m. to 3 a.m. with extended care available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m..

For more information, contact Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-0429 or t.bretado@agudas-achim.org.



Temple Beth-El offers youth groups for variety of ages

It is a common occurrence. A child comes home from Jewish Summer Camp talking about the songs they sang at Shabbat and the newest Israeli dance and all the friends they made. The feeling of connectivity and inclusion that comes from camp is incredible, but the struggle for both kids and parents is how to continue to foster these feelings throughout the rest of the year. Temple Beth-El recognizes the value that a year-round, age-and grade-based Jewish social group has, not only for the children, but for the entire community. Temple Beth-El offers four different youth groups to the Jewish community:

- Club Rishon is for Kindergarten through 2nd grade students

- Chaverim is for 3rd-5th graders

- Jr SAFTY is for 6th and 7th graders

- SAFTY is for 8th-12th grade students

The programs provide an opportunity for kids of all ages to connect with their peers in a uniquely Jewish setting that allows them to see that singing, dancing, and having fun with other Jewish kids does not only have to happen only at camp. The active Jewish youth of today will be the active Jewish adults of tomorrow, ensuring a strong community for generations to come.

Contact Joel Swedlove, Director of Youth Programs and Informal Education, at (210) 733-9135, ext. 151, or joel@beth-elsa.org for further information.

Congregation Agudas Achim welcomes new Director of Congregational Learning

Congregation Agudas Achim has hired Samantha Mazuz as the new Director of Congregational Learning. Mazuz comes to Agudas as an active professional in the Jewish community serving in different capacities at the Jewish Federation of San Antonio and Barshop Jewish Community Center for the past three years.

Mazuz says one of her goals as a Jewish professional has been to make a difference in her Jewish Community and pass on her love for her homeland of Israel.

Mazuz spent time living in Israel and loves to convey her experience back to those she works with. Mazuz is looking forward to "bringing a piece of our holy land to Agudas so that all generations feel a connection to Israel."

"It is exciting to become part of a growing community at Agudas Achim," Mazuz said. "Our goal is to bring Judaism alive for families of all ages through both our Religious School, family programming, and adult education. We want everyone at Agudas to find a love for Judaism and everything our religion has to offer."

Mazuz extends a community invitation to an Open House at the Inda Posner Religious School at Congregation Agudas Achim on Sunday, Aug. 20 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon. The school runs on Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. to Noon for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and on Wednesday afternoons from 4:15 to 6:00 PM for 3rd through 7th Grade.

For more information, call (210) 479-0429 or email s.mazuz@agudas-achim.org.

Hungry Girl, NY Times bestselling cookbook author, coming to SA

Spend an evening with Hungry Girl on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at Temple Beth-El. Lisa Lillien (a.k.a. Hungry Girl) will be giving tips for healthy and delicious cooking. Recipes from her new hot-off-the-presses Hungry Girl cook book *Clean & Hungry Obsessed!* will be featured at a dessert reception following the program. The cookbook includes main dishes as well as desserts and all servings are less than 375 calories.

Lisa is a *New York Times* best-selling author and founder of www.hungry-girl.com. Lisa is a self-proclaimed “mad scientist in the kitchen” who “dishes out guilt-free recipes (easy and delicious ones!), tips & tricks, supermarket finds, and survival guides for real-world eating situations.

Six of her 11 cookbooks debuted at number one on the *New York Times* Best Sellers list.

She has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *The View*, and *The Dr. Oz Show*; writes a weekly column on People.com; and writes for *Redbook* magazine.



Lisa's newest book is being released in September and is included in the reservation

fee. The community is invited. Reservations are required. Temple Beth-El Sisterhood members paid-up for the 2017-2018 year have a discounted reservation fee and an opportunity to attend a meet-and-greet reception before the program. The reservation fee is \$36 (Sisterhood members \$25). Proceeds from this double chai event enable Sisterhood to continue substantial contributions to youth programming, youth scholarships, and community projects of Temple Beth-El.

For additional information, contact Carole Kerman at miggie101@gmail.com.

2nd Annual Mega Challah Bake Set for September 7

On Thursday, Sept. 7, women from throughout the San Antonio Jewish community will gather for the 2nd annual San Antonio Mega Challah Bake. The program will be held at the Norris Conference Center, 618 NW Loop 410 #207. “Joining together with over 300 women to bake Challah and celebrate our Jewish femininity was incredibly inspiring and uplifting,” said Debby Zucker, committee member. “I look forward to an even larger turnout this year,” she said.

Registration and a Ben Yehudah Bazaar, featuring specialty, boutique and craft booths will begin at 6 p.m. The program will include a dessert buffet and beverages, and a social hour to allow for women of all ages to connect while their dough rises.

“This event promises to be more

than simply a culinary endeavor,” commented Rivkie Block, one of the coordinators of the Challah Bake. “The fun and creativity will most certainly be there, but the goal is to experience challah-making as a delicious but also spiritual pursuit. It is a deeply meaningful act that binds us to our history and fulfills our responsibility and right as Jewish women to express ourselves in this uniquely feminine mitzvah.”

The Challah Bake is a joint project of San Antonio's Jewish congregations and organizations.

Please call Nancy Gold at (210) 764-0300 or Sherri Samuels at (210) 492-1085 to reserve your seat now for a fun and memorable evening. You may also reserve online at www.megachallah.com. All guests will leave with their handmade challah, and other mementos.

Rodfei Movie Series – August 13

Congregation Rodfei Sholom will host a view of *A Tale of Love and Darkness* on Sunday, Aug. 13, at 7:30 p.m. The movie is a 2015 drama film directed

by Natalie Portman, based on the autobiographical novel of the same name by Israeli author Amos Oz. It takes place in Jerusalem in the last years of Mandatory Palestine and the first years of independent Israel. The film stars Amir Tessler as Oz, and Gilad Kahana and Portman as his parents.

The screening is open to the community. RSVP by Thursday, August 10 by calling (210) 493-3557. Admission is only \$5 per person, thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services.

Steven H. Butler, C.P.A. Darilek Butler & Associates PLLC



- Taxes
- Small Business Consulting
- Personal Financial Planning

DARILEKBUTLER
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

2702 N. Loop 1604 E., Suite 202, San Antonio, TX 78232
(210) 979-0055 / FAX (210) 979-0058
sbutler@darilekbutler.com

Make Time To Celebrate.

Call us for your next catering event or special occasion.
A neighborhood tradition for over 30 years.

13421 San Pedro (281 at Bitters)
210 494 5084 • eljarro.com

Beldon Library News

The dates for the Annual Beldon Used Book Sale have been changed. The event will take place in the Beldon Library on Sunday, August 6th and Monday, Aug. 7, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. “There are books and other media for children and adults. We have fiction, nonfiction, cookbooks, self-help, Jewish interest, travel,” said Beldon Librarian, Lynn Waghalter. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the library.

The Mitzvah Project that the Beldon Library has with the Vilna/Vilnius Jewish Public Library in Lithuania is ongoing. They are in the process of building up their children’s section. Donations of new or gently used children’s books with Jewish content are being accepted. Contact Beldon librarian, Lynn Waghalter, at waghalterl@jfsatx.org for more information on this humanitarian project.

Beldon Library hours are: Mondays, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, 10a.m. – 12:45 p.m.; and Wednesdays, 2 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

New hours for the library will begin on August 21. The new hours for the Beldon Library will be: Mondays, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Sheldon Vexler Theatre presents *Don't Dress for Dinner*

The Sheldon Vexler Theatre’s 19th season opens with Marc Camoletti’s farce *Don't Dress for Dinner*, on stage August 17 through September 10. The show is a sequel of sorts to *Boeing-Boeing*, previously produced at The Vex in 2015.

Bernard is planning a romantic weekend with his Parisian mistress in his charming converted French farmhouse, whilst his wife, Jacqueline, is away. He has arranged for a Cordon



Bleu cook to prepare gourmet delights, and has invited his best friend, Robert, along to provide the alibi. It’s foolproof; what could possibly go wrong? Well, suppose Robert turns up not realizing

quite why he has been invited. Suppose Robert and Jacqueline are secret lovers, and consequently determined that Jacqueline will NOT leave for the weekend. Suppose the cook has to pretend to be the

mistress and the mistress is unable to cook. Suppose everyone’s alibi gets confused with everyone else’s. An evening of hilarious confusion ensues as Bernard and Robert improvise at breakneck speed. The show contains adult content.

Tickets are \$23 (general admission), \$20 (seniors, military), \$19 (JCC members), and \$15 (students with ID), and may be purchased by calling The Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835. Visit www.vexler.org/dontdress for more information.

JCC & JBNO collaborate over brews and books

The Barshop Jewish Community Center and Jew Boys Night Out (JBNO) will present an evening of Brews, Books, & Sports Tuesday, Aug. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at The Well, located at 5539 UTSA Blvd.

Sports writer and author, Gary Belsky, will speak to the crowd about his career with *ESPN The Magazine*, where he was Editor, as well as talk about his two books. *It the Origins of Sports* and *Up Your*



Gary Belsky



Jim Lefko

Game. San Antonio Express-News Sports Editor, Jim Lefko, will also

be on hand to talk about the San Antonio sports scene and his book *Spurs Nation*. Both authors will field questions from the audience and sign their books, available for purchase at the event.

Admission to the event is free; food and beverages will be available for purchase. RSVP online at www.jccsanantonio.org/authorspeakerseries or by calling (210) 302-6867.



MICHAEL PIESMAN, M.D.
SPECIALIZED IN COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM:

- ✓ Colon Cancer Screening
- ✓ Heartburn / Acid Reflux
- ✓ Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- ✓ Liver Disease
- ✓ Interventional Endoscopy

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

GASTROENTEROLOGY CONSULTANTS of San Antonio

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!
www.gastroconsa.com | 210.614.1234



*Emerge Yourself
In Elegance
at the
Éilan Hotel & Spa*

**18603 La Cantera Terrace
San Antonio, Texas 78256**

**210-598-2900
www.eilanhotel.com**

FROM THE COVER

BILL continued from page 1

auspices, would not be valid in the eyes of the state. But the bill clarifies that private conversions of any denomination would not be outlawed — just unrecognized.

The rabbinate already determines who is Jewish for the purposes of marriage and divorce within Israel. Under the bill, if a non-Jewish resident of Israel wanted to convert to Judaism and gain citizenship under the Law of Return, the rabbinate would also control that process.

The goal is to consolidate Israel's conversion system under an authority that everyone considers valid.

"Conversion in Israel will be a state-run, uniform conversion, according to Torah law, that will be recognized by all of the Jewish people," the bill states.

The bill would prevent Israel from recognizing non-Orthodox conversions.

Until last year, the rabbinate controlled all official conversion in Israel. But in March 2016, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that the state must recognize conversions performed by private Orthodox courts outside the rabbinate's purview.

Religious pluralism advocates celebrated the ruling as a victory because it broke the monopoly of the Chief Rabbinate. Liberal Jewish leaders argued that the next step would be for the court to force recognition of private non-Orthodox conversions in Israel, and a petition before the court asks it to do just that.

The proposed legislation would turn back the clock more than 15 months, taking away recognition from the private Orthodox courts, and also block any possibility

of the state recognizing non-Orthodox conversions performed within Israel.

"They understand that the Supreme Court will grant us what we justly deserve," said Yizhar Hess, CEO of the Israeli Conservative movement. "This law aims to block the Supreme Court. This strengthens the haredi Chief Rabbinate and will anchor it in a way it isn't anchored today."

Some government officials have said the bill would prevent African asylum seekers in Israel from getting a Reform conversion and subsequently obtaining citizenship. But there is no discernible movement among asylum seekers to pursue Jewish conversion.

The bill would not affect conversions performed outside of Israel ...

Backers of the bill appear to understand that they cannot risk invalidating Reform and Conservative conversions performed abroad. The measure stresses multiple times that it only applies to conversions performed in Israel, not to any performed outside its borders.

So even if the bill passes, Diaspora Jews who converted through the Reform and Conservative movements can still gain automatic Israeli citizenship under the Law of Return.

"American Reform and Conservative Jews, including Reform and Conservative converts, are considered Jews under the Law of Return," a senior Israeli official told JTA. "The proposed conversion law

will not change that in any way."

... but Jewish leaders are still raising hell over it.

If American Jewish leaders are angry about the crisis over the Western Wall, they are apoplectic about this bill. They acknowledge that it does not affect Diaspora conversions. But Jerry Silverman, CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America, warned of a domino effect that could lead the rabbinate one day to extend its reach across the ocean.

"The biggest challenge for the North American Jewish community is codifying the rabbinate as the sole owners of conversion in Israel," Silverman told JTA in June. "We think that it will be a domino effect, and it opens the door to give them more decision capability well beyond Israel."

Silverman has been lobbying Knesset members against the bill, and some local American Jewish leaders have made threats in the wake of Sunday's committee vote. Steven Nasatir, president of Chicago's federation, told The Times of Israel that any lawmaker who votes for the bill "will not be welcome in our community."

"This would set back the current reality and make all matters of conversion subject to the furthest right of the ultra-Orthodox world," Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, told JTA. "It would begin the slow erosion of the Law of Return and affect the validity of conversion throughout the Jewish world."

This is the latest battle in a decades-long war.

American Jews and haredi Orthodox Israeli politicians have been fighting over this issue for at least three decades; this is just the latest round.

In 1987, a Reform Jewish convert sought citizenship under the Law of Return, and the Israeli Supreme Court allowed it despite haredi protest. Ten years later, a government commission was appointed to come up with a solution to the conversion debate, which had been exacerbated by the mass arrival of Soviet immigrants who had Jewish ancestry but were not necessarily Jewish. The commission recommended a pluralist conversion school that would lead to an actual conversion ceremony performed by the rabbinate.

In 2010, a bill was introduced that would allow a range of local Orthodox rabbis in Israel to perform conversions, but would make the rabbinate the sole authority over all conversions performed in Israel. Amid a massive outcry from Diaspora Jewish leaders, the bill was shelved.

In 2014, the government voted in a Cabinet decision to let those local Orthodox rabbis perform state-recognized conversions — but not under the authority of the rabbinate. After joining the governing coalition the following year, haredi parties succeeded in getting the decision repealed.

Then, a year later, the Supreme Court issued its ruling on private Orthodox conversions. And here we are.

SCUBA SMILES
for kids
Children's Dentistry & Orthodontics

3829 Lockhill Selma Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78230
(210) 899-1099
www.ScubaSmiles.com



The sign of getting the best



D'ANN HARPER
REALTORS®

Your awesome real estate experience starts here.
210-379-5417 • 210-379-2537

SteveandCourtneySilver.com

JFSA ANNUAL MEETING 2017

AWARD

continued from page 1

Jeff Cohen, Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education; Michael Swanson, Chair's Award.

Judy Palans, outgoing Vice President of Campaign and Development, was also recognized for her many years of leadership on the Federation, as was Kelly Klein, as outgoing chair of the Young Adult Division. In addition, 16 individuals were recognized as graduates of the 2016-2017 Emerging Leadership Course.



(l to r) Jonathan Gurwitz, Elisa Reinsmith and Michelle Vizurraga



(l to r) Ambassador Eitan Levon, Rabbi Mara Nathan



(l to r) Jimmy Tobin, Ambassador Eitan Levon, Jeff Cohen, Jonathan Gurwitz



(Back row l to r) Bregger Garrison, Ambassador Eitan Levon, (Front Row l to r) Jeremy Rosen, Sam Budin, Riley Greenberg

Direct Diamond Importers
STRAIGHT FROM TEL AVIV, ISRAEL!
Best Prices Guaranteed!

Gurinsky's
jewelers
Locally owned and operated since 1976

NORTH STAR MALL
Near Dillard's

210-308-7118 • gurinskys.com

Pre-Owned
ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Trade
Not affiliated with ROLEX USA

Charlie and Rhonda Gurinsky

8 to 8
same great rate
\$29⁰⁰ service fee (with repair)
210.798.8000
www.RosenbergAir.com

Rosenberg
Air Conditioning
210-798-8000

4335 Vance Jackson
San Antonio, TX 78230
TACLA022493C



(l to r) Shari with her mom, Reesa Pullen and Susan Susser.

Pulman receives Vexler Award from NCJW

The San Antonio section of the National Council of Jewish Women honored community volunteer Shari Pulman with the Esther Vexler Social Justice award at a Chai Heel cocktail party on June 4 at the Omni Colonnade Hotel.



(l to r) Shari Pulman, Varda Ratner and Debby Zucker

Lety P. Vargas: 20 years (and counting) of dedication to Jewish seniors

When someone from the San Antonio Jewish community calls Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) in need of information or to schedule transportation, they are greeted and helped by a familiar, friendly voice.

Not all of these callers have been able to meet the person who owns this voice face-to-face, yet many know that it belongs to Lety Vargas.

Many people who are affiliated with GMJSS will tease Lety from time to time about being “famous” in the Jewish community because if someone knows about GMJSS, chances are, they know of Vargas.

She has earned a reputation as being extremely helpful and accountable — a true asset to the organization.

On July 9, 2017, Lety began her 21st year of employment with Golden Manor.

Her journey started in 1997, when she was hired as a receptionist and quickly proved herself. She then took on the role of Executive Assistant, carrying out a multitude of tasks and duties for as many as six different directors. Vargas played an important role in Golden Manor’s transition from running a Jewish Home for the Aged to an organization that serves as a valued senior services resource for Jewish seniors across the community.

“Seeing the smiles on the seniors’ faces is so rewarding. Experiencing the results of all the work done behind the scenes means so



Lety Vargas, (back right) with former volunteers of the Golden Manor Home for the Aged. (l to r) Riselle Bloom, Roselle Lebo, Betty Lifshutz and Sylvia Wilk (back row) are now all residents of Madison Estates, and able to still be touched by Golden Manor (now Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services) through a weekly Jewish Living program held at their retirement community.

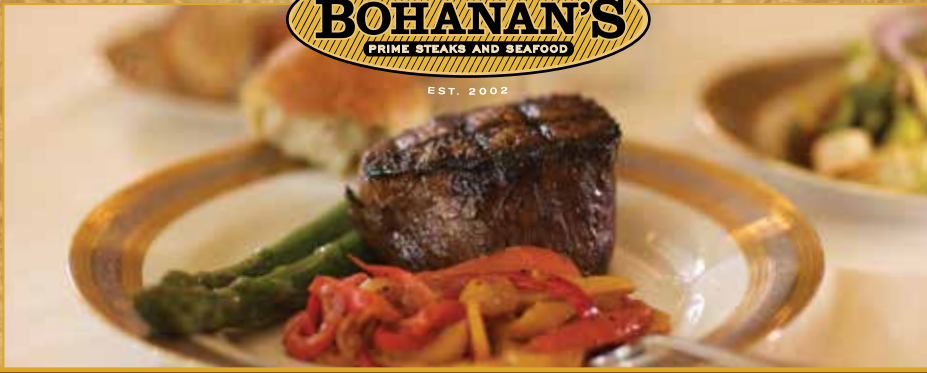
much,” said Vargas, who is now the Executive Assistant / Program Coordinator for GMJSS.

Through the many major changes GMJSS has experienced and continues to visualize, Vargas remains a valuable, familiar figure with the Golden Manor organization.

“Where GMJSS is heading, it gives us an opportunity to be out (in the community) even more. We can reach more people and connect with them, face-to-face. It’s so exciting,” Vargas said.



BOHANAN'S
PRIME STEAKS AND SEAFOOD
EST. 2002



TEXANS KNOW STEAK.
AND THEY NAMED US THE
Nº 2 STEAKHOUSE IN THE WHOLE STEAK-LOVING STATE.

Bohanan's fame is founded on sublimely tender prime beef grilled over fragrant mesquite wood. Enjoy extraordinary Akaushi beef, Chef/Owner Mark Bohanan's large custom cuts of aged corn-fed beef,

and succulent seafood flown in daily. We're located downtown, just a block from the River Walk. Imbibe a classic cocktail at the first-floor Bar at Bohanan's, then join us upstairs for the best steak you've ever had.

BAR MITZVAH TRADITION

Penner's

Has the largest selection of boy's suits in the southwest



Andrew Bailey found the perfect suit at Penner's.

It's worth the trip from The Valley, Corpus, Austin and even Houston for the best selection of suits!

Penner's 226-2487
311 West Commerce (free parking in rear)

BAR MITZVAH TRADITION



**HERE AT HOME AND
AROUND THE WORLD,
FEDERATION WORKS TO
SUPPORT, SUSTAIN AND
REVITALIZE JEWISH LIFE.**

But we can't do it without you; our valued Jewish community in San Antonio. Together, your contributions enable us to repair the world; *Tikkun Olam*. Through *YOU*, through us, through the Jewish Federation, we can make a difference, at home and abroad.



**{ EVERYONE COUNTS.
CAN WE COUNT ON YOU? }**

We are Jewish San Antonio...
We are STRONGER TOGETHER.

Lauren Stanley, Vice Chair, Development | Jonathan Gurwitz, Board Chair

JewishFederation@jfsatx.org | 210.302.6960 | JFSATX.ORG