

SHANA TOVA – WISHING YOU A SWEET 5779!



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

ELUL 5778 – TISHREI 5779

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

SEPTEMBER 2018

The Jewish Journal is going digital starting next month

This will be the last printed issue of *The Jewish Journal of San Antonio* for most of our readers.

Beginning next month, *The Jewish Journal* is going digital, and will be emailed 11 times a year in an easy to read and navigate flipbook format.

The new web-based publication will allow us to reach wider audiences and satisfy requests from

PLEASE NOTE:
We will need your email addresses by September 15 if you don't want to miss out on the October issue.

a growing number of readers who prefer getting their news online.

Going green is also environmentally friendly and fiscally responsible for the Jewish Federation,

which produces and distributes the *Jewish Journal* at no cost to the community.

What do you need to do now to ensure you don't miss an issue?

For Digital Issue Readers:

To start receiving the new digital version of *The Jewish Journal*, its important that you make sure

See **DIGITAL**, page 6

HEALTH, SAFETY TIPS FOR SENIORS AT SILVER SOLUTIONS RESOURCE FAIR

If you're a San Antonio Jewish senior, this a must do FREE event on September 20.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

See what your San Antonio Jewish community has been up to.

PAGES 13-15



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses Jewish leaders in the Choral Synagogue in Vilnius, Lithuania on Aug. 26, 2018.

Netanyahu meets leaders of Lithuanian Jewish community at Choral Synagogue

(JTA) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told leaders of the Lithuanian Jewish community that many are still attempting to destroy the

Jewish people.

Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, on August 26 visited the Choral Synagogue in Vilnius,

See **LITHUANIA**, page 27

Season of change at Jewish Federation

"To everything (turn, turn, turn) . . . There is a season (turn, turn, turn) . . . And a time to every purpose, under heaven." These lyrics were written by Pete Seeger and popularized by the Byrds in the 1950's. The origins of this song are literally biblical, in that they were inspired by the book of Ecclesiastes. Ecclesiastes reads, "For everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven (3:1)." We will read the book of Ecclesiastes during the holiday of Sukkot, invoking the freshness of a new year following Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

We are in the season of change and new beginnings. For some of us, like me, it is bittersweet. I love watching the kids begin a new school year, and I also lament the maturity gained over the summer. Oh, how I would love to "stop the clock" and keep my children



Letter from our CEO

RONIT SHERWIN

young and innocent forever! That is not possible, and the truth is that I would not want that either. We all must grow and hopefully evolve into better versions of ourselves as we do.

So too at the Jewish Federation – change is always happening. The "big change" we are planning for presently is that of *The Jewish Journal*. The Jewish Federation of San Antonio is very proud to be able to produce a Jewish community newspaper that is a gift to individuals in the community. Our *Jewish Journal* is a free publication to our readers, and we

See **CEO**, page 4

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



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

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Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO

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

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the October 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is September 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 jewishj@jfsatx.org.

Ad deadlines for October 2018 ISSUE:

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

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Light Candles at: 7:31 p.m.

SHABBAT, SEPT. 8

Shabbat Ends: 8:23 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

Eve of First day Rosh Hashanah,

Light Holiday Candles at: 7:29 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

Eve of Second day Rosh Hashanah,

Light Holiday Candles after 8:21 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Holiday Ends: 8:20 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Light Candles at: 7:22 p.m.

SHABBAT, SEPT. 15

Shabbat Ends: 8:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Eve of Yom Kippur,

Light Holiday Candles at: 7:17 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Yom Kippur,

Holiday Ends: 8:10 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Light Candles at: 7:14 p.m.

SHABBAT, SEPT. 22

Shabbat Ends: 8:06 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Eve of First day Sukkot,

Light Holiday Candles at: 7:11 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Eve of Second day Sukkot,

Light Holiday Candles after: 8:03 p.m.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25

Holiday Ends: 8:02 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Light Shabbat Candles at: 7:05 p.m.

SHABBAT, SEPT. 29

Shabbat Ends: 7:57 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Eve of Shemini Atzeret,

Light Holiday Candles at: 7:03 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT 1

Eve of Simchat Torah,

Light Holiday Candles after: 7:55 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT 2

Holiday Ends: 7:54 p.m.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Luise Bankler

Svetlana Lubashevskaya

Ed Schieber

Mimon Gabay

Ruth Rutstein Posner

Marsha Surad

Sanford Grossman

Dr. Lewis Richmond

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Wednesday, November 7 at Noon
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* Dietary Laws Observed

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with Jewish comedian Joel Chasnoff as we
celebrate 50 years of serving Jewish seniors.

WE LOVE OUR ADVERTISERS

Thank you for your continued support

Please take a moment to thank – and visit! - the many wonderful advertisers who support the monthly *Jewish Journal* and enable us to provide this resource as a public service to the Jewish community. Our September advertisers include:

Adante Senior Living
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Interested in advertising in the Jewish Journal? Please call Federation at (210) 302-6960 or email JewishJ@jfsatx.org for rates.

SHANA TOVA!

Wishing you a
sweet New Year!

FROM HARRY H. LEVY, BOARD CHAIR,
RONIT SHERWIN, CEO & ALL OF YOUR
FRIENDS & FAMILY AT THE JEWISH
FEDERATION OF SAN ANTONIO

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

CEO

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want to keep it that way!

At the same time, we are faced with increasing costs for print and mailing, which does not allow us to grow and shift in other ways. We decided more than six months ago that we would be moving to an online version of The Jewish Journal, beginning in October 2018. It will look exactly like The Jewish Journal issue, only it will be in an online flipbook, which you will receive a link to each month via email. For those of you who would rather continue receiving Jewish community news in print and by mail, we are happy to mail you a copy of the new Jewish Journal Digest, but you must let us know. If we have not heard from you about your preference, please contact us. (See the accompanying Going Green article for this information.)

Additionally, the *Jewish Journal* will continue to evolve as we get into the 2019 year. We will begin working on the creation of a website dedicated to the Jewish Journal which will allow us to continually update and adjust news stories, as well as archive other stories and photos. A year from now, August 2019, we will launch yet another “new and improved” Jewish Journal via the internet and transition the print copy to a digest version which will look very different from what we have now.

“Turn, turn, turn . . .” Change is in the air, and we recognize that it can be challenging. We appreciate your cooperation and support of our efforts to improve this important source of information and communication in the Jewish community. For now, “turn” the pages and enjoy what we have in store for you this month!

Young Adults Division monthly L’Chaim social

The Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio hosted their monthly L’Chaim social at Paramour Bar on Thursday, August 2nd. Paramour owner Martin Phipps generously provided the space and YAD brought guest speakers from the Southwest Regional Anti-Defamation League for an engaging discussion on social justice topics.

YAD Chair Jacob Kluger welcomed the crowd to Paramour and Zac Levin, YAD board and Community Relations Council (CRC) member, introduced the evenings topics. Brette and Jeff Wurzburg then introduced the work of the Anti-Defamation League.

Guests enjoyed drinks while rotating through four interactive roundtable conversations led by ADL representatives: Regional Director Dayan Gross spoke about Israel, BDS, and international affairs; Bailey Player spoke about Immigration; Bethany Boucher spoke about interfaith relations; and



Gail Glasser and JFSA Community Engagement Director Eva Laporte facilitated a conversation about taking action on issues here in San Antonio.

The Young Adult Division will host their next social on Monday, Oct. 8th at Max & Louie’s NY Diner. For more information about YAD, please contact Eva Laporte, Director of Community Engagement, at laportee@jfsatx.org.



USED BOOK SALE

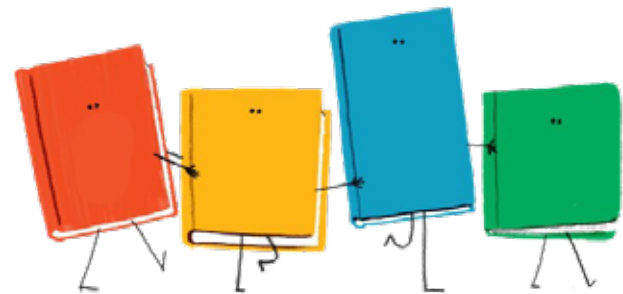
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Jewish Federation
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For more information call the
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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston leads 24-hour hands-on mission to San Antonio

By Ellen Ollervidez,
CRC Director

On August 2, Twenty-nine people from Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP), Greater Boston's Jewish Federation, embarked on a 24-hour crisis response mission to San Antonio, where community members, along with the Interfaith Welcome Coalition (IWC), packed and distribute essential supplies to 400 migrants and their families.

Participants learned firsthand about the migrant crisis in America from lawyers with the Young Center and engage in interfaith text study led by CJP and IWC staff members. The group also joined the Jewish Federation of San Antonio to hear from Tino Gallegos, Immigration

Liaison, Office of the City Manager, and a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient who is a member San Antonio Stands.

"CJP is proud to lead this important mission," said Sarah Abramson, Vice President of Caring, Community Impact, and Strategic Partnerships for CJP. "We are incredibly heartened by the outpouring of community support, with many people eager to put our values – most especially the central Jewish tenant of welcoming the stranger – into action. We care deeply about our own local community and Jews all over the world. We are proud to continue our legacy of supporting the

See **CJP**, page 15



PJ Library Back to School Pool Party makes a huge splash

By Lauren Abraham,
PJ Library Coordinator

On Sunday Aug. 19, 32 PJ Library families came together to enjoy the afternoon at the Barshop JCC Pool. Amidst popsicles, oreo cookies, and lots of splashes, the children gathered to hear the Shofar and learned about Rosh Hashanah the New Year. Joel Swedlove and Leah Apothaker from Temple Beth-El sang songs and read PJ Library books to the kids as they swam up and clapped and enjoyed the pool together. This back to school swim party marked the end of the summer and gave families an opportunity to be together and share the summer heat one last time. To learn more about PJ Library and the upcoming programs for the year, go to PJ Library Facebook, or the Jewish Federation of San Antonio website at www.jfsatx.org.



Holocaust Study Seminar Open House & Reception Sunday, September 16th | 3–5pm

12500 NW Military Hwy, Holzman Auditoriums

Twelve students went on a journey from Southwest Texas to Central & Eastern Europe. Their exploration of the twentieth century will inspire them to deliver the best of the twenty-first. *Join us on a walk through history. Each student has created a visual exhibit & presentation based on their experience.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP CONTACT GARCIAA@JFSATX.ORG BY SEPT. 12



Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO



YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

DIGITAL

continued from page 1

we have the correct email addresses for you, your spouse, teenage and college age children, friends and others who want to stay up to date on what's happening in our Jewish community. If you're not sure what information we have on file, please give us a quick call.

For questions, or to add new information to our digital *Jewish Journal* email list, please contact Federation at (210) 302-6960 or email Yolanda Vargas at Vargasy@jfsatx.org.

Note: We will need your email addresses by September 15 if you don't want to miss out on the October issue.

We will email readers as soon as the latest Journal flipbook is "hot off the press" and ready to read online. There is no limit to the number of people in a household who can access the flipbook Journal, and we encourage each individual in your home (14 and older) to be signed up.

Your privacy is key. Your emails will NOT be shared or used for any other purpose unless you specifically request that we add you to our community email list to receive other Federation communications and updates. You may opt out of the monthly Journal notifications at any time.

For Readers without a computer or who still prefer to receive local Jewish news by mail:

We understand that some of our readers still prefer to receive their *Jewish Journal* news in printed format.

Beginning in October, we will introduce a new *Jewish*

Journal Monthly Digest print publication, which will be mailed to anyone who requests it.

This is a smaller print publication that will include select articles from the digital version of the *Jewish Journal*.

Please Note: You must let Jewish Federation know if you would like to continue receiving a printed publication. If we don't receive a request, you will NOT receive the Jewish Journal Digest by mail.

You can request that we put your name on the "print" list by calling Federation today at (210) 302-6960 or by emailing Yolanda Vargas at Vargasy@jfsatx.org. Please confirm we have your correct mailing address.

You may also send a letter with your request to: Jewish Federation of San Antonio, 12500 NW Military Hwy # 200, San Antonio, TX 78231. Please mark "Print Journal please" on the outside of the envelope.



HMMMSA honors volunteers

On Sunday, July 29, the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio hosted a luncheon for museum volunteers and their friends and family.

The Museum honored outgoing Scholar in Residence, Dr. Edward Westermann, docent Len King, and volunteer Lynnsey McReynolds.

The event was a success with volunteers and their friends and family enjoying lunch and remarks from our honorees, former intern Jeanette Lopez, and Reagan



High School student Jake Brookover, who shared his school's Bexar County High

School Film Festival entry about the Museum.



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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Evening for Pearl Society and PJ Library parents



Docent Fred Zedeck and Holocaust Memorial Museum Staff led guests around the Museum and helped parents gain new knowledge about Eastern European History.



Event attendees enjoyed a look in the back room of the Holocaust Memorial Museum to see the stories and photos of San Antonio survivors and their families.

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The Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio hosted a special evening with survivor Anna Rado on August 22nd for members of the Pearl Society and PJ Library parents. The Pearls, a philanthropic group for young Jewish women united by a collective responsibility for the Jewish people, PJ

Library, and the HMMSA are all programs of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

PJ Library Co-Chairs Debbie Denker and Karly Penner welcomed guests to the museum. Kristin Hernandez, HMMSA Collections and Programs Manager, and Amber Garcia, Program Coordinator, then

shared the unique history of the museum and the range of education programs and archives available in San Antonio.

Jordana Pazin, Pearl Society Co-Chair, introduced the special guest speaker Anna Rado. Anna was born in Rajka, Hungary the youngest of three siblings, all of whom would survive the Holocaust. Anna was 13 years old when the Nazis invaded Hungary in 1944 and she was sent to Auschwitz just one year before the end of the war.

After hearing Anna's incredible story, guests had the chance to speak with her and tour the museum with docents.

To learn more about or to schedule a tour with the HMMSA, visit www.hmmsa.org. For more information on upcoming events with the Pearl Society and PJ Library, visit www.jfsatx.org.

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Wrestling with Faith, new JLI course offered by Chabad

This fall, the Chabad Center will offer *Wrestling with Faith*, a new six-session course by the acclaimed Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI), that openly addresses common challenges people have in their relationship with G-d.

The course explores questions such as: Doesn't the concept of "Jewish chosen-ness" seem racist? Why do I need G-d if I can live perfectly well without Him? How can we relate to a loving and caring G-d amid the experience of

tragedy and suffering? How do we reconcile compelling evidence for evolution and the age of the universe with a Bible that tells a different story? Does G-d really care about the nuances of Jewish practice?

"We recognize that almost everyone has some degree of skepticism when it comes to religion," said Rabbi Levi Teldon. "We've created this course for participants to think critically about these challenges—to approach them

with an array of insightful perspectives—so we can articulate our beliefs to ourselves and to the next generation with clarity and conviction, and not just play defense."

The course will be offered at two different times: six Tuesday afternoons with Rabbi Chaim Block, beginning Oct 23, 12:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m. at Jackson Walker law offices (Weston Centre), 112 E. Pecan Suite #2400; and six Wednesday evenings with Rabbi Levi Teldon, beginning

Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd.

Interested students may call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.myJLI.com.



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Adult Education classes at Congregation Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim is offering several new adult education classes this fall including:

- A six-part class *Ten Paths to God* based on the new curriculum from former Chief Rabbi of Great Britain Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. The class will meet on Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. from October 8 - November 12. Cost is \$18 for members and \$36 for non-members.

- A four-part parenting series on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. from October 7 - October 28. Cost is \$18 for all four sessions.

- A three-part tallit making class taught by renowned artist Nishima Kaplan from 12 p.m.-2 p.m. from October 7 - October 21. Cost is \$50 per person, with most materials provided.

- Midrash Up Close* will be taught by Assistant Rabbi Ben Richards every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$18 for members and \$54 for non-members.

- Israel and the Jewish People* will be taught by Rabbi Abraham on Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. -1:30 p.m. beginning October 4 through the end of January. Cost is \$18 for members and \$54 for non-members.

- Assistant Rabbi Ben Richards will be teaching a four-part class *Wives of Valor, Mothers of Nations, and*

Prophetesses: The Stories of Epic Israelite Women. The class will meet on Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. from November 26 - December 17. Cost is \$18 for members and \$36 for non-members.

- Hebrew 1 & 2 classes, and an Intro to Judaism course will also be held this fall. For more information, contact Agudas Achim at (210) 479-0307.

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IN THE COMMUNITY

JWV meeting date moved due to High Holidays

Jewish War Veterans Post 753 will host its September monthly meeting on Sunday, Sept 16, instead of September 22 due to the Jewish Holiday. Breakfast to be served from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., with the post's business meeting to follow in room 227 at the Jewish Campus. JWV is there for veterans who are seeking comradeship, action on veteran affairs, support from the Jewish, information on Veteran affairs and various programs for veterans and their families.

JWV offers no interest loans and transportation for seniors in need

San Antonio's JWV post, in cooperation with Hebrew Free Loan, is sponsoring no interest loans for veterans in need. The post, in cooperation with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services

(SAJSS), supports free taxi service for veterans who need assistance getting to medical and dental appointments. For loan information, contact Hebrew Free Loan at (210) 736-4352. For transportation assistance contact SAJSS at (210) 622-2300.

Join JWV in support of hospitalized veterans

Audie Murphy VA Hospital was in need of a bingo board and equipment, the San Antonio JWV Post in cooperation with another Veterans organization stepped in and provided a new board. Members will host a bingo/social event at the CTC at Audie Murphy on October 30, from 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

The SA Post is now offering to programming and support to veterans and their families at the Kerrville VA Hospital as well. as the Audie Murphy VA.

Interested in getting involved? Contact Irwin Barath at irv@instant.net.

Not just your kids' JCC

The 2018 Fall/Winter edition of the Barshop JCC's bi-annual Many know the Barshop JCC to have a large variety of enrichment, recreation, and social programs for youth, but sometimes forget that the J offers the same for adults as well.

The JCC's Fall/Winter Program Guide, available at www.jccsanantonio.org/publications, includes a plethora of information about classes, programs, services, and events all designed to engage adults of all ages and stages.

New enrichment class offerings including *What is Your Story*, *Beginning Line Dance*, and *Beading* in addition to longstanding favorites such as *Israeli Dance*, *I Call Mah Jongg*, and *Acrylic Painting*.

Recreational programs abound with Tennis, Group Ex options, Adult Basketball, Swimming, and more.

From the events perspective, the calendar is chock full with author events, parenting workshops, film screenings, The Sheldon Vexler Theatre productions, and a variety of social opportunities for adults to engage with each other.

Detailed information with registration links are available at www.jccsanantonio.org, by calling (210) 302-6820, or by visiting any of the courtesy desks at the JCC.

Remembering deceased Jewish military veterans

Jewish War Veterans of America Post 753 asks you to remember these Jewish military veterans whose yahrzeit (anniversary of the individual's death) occurs in the month of September who are buried in a local cemetery. (If you know of a name that is missing please contact Herschel at (210) 468-5598.)

Alter, Sylvan	Gorelick, Jack	Novy, Harry	Siegal, Herbert
Alyn, Robert	Gossen, Sam	Nussbaum, Henry	Siegal, Sylvan
Arronge, George	Greenstein, Marcus	Pullen, Abe	Silber, Gerald
Barasch, Morris	Harris, Abner	Rappaport, Bernard	Smith, Philip
Bramel, Joseph	Kamin, Peter	Ratner, Jake	Standley, Arthur
Belasco, Philip	Katelansky, Perry	Renya, Alexander	Stapp, Tommie
Brown, Jerome	Katz, Boris	Rice, Floyd	Stern, Leonard
Burleigh, Curtis	Kunody, Leonard	Riklin, Sam	Strum, Albert
Citron, Joel	Levit, Abe	Rosen, Sheldon	Studavent, Gregory
Cohn, Sanford	Levy, Ernest	Rosenberg, Dell	Taubman, Samuel
Colon, Edwin	Levy, Ruben	Rosenthal, Edward	Tenebaum, Joe
Dawson, Jerome	Mayo, Arthur	Rublee, Charles	Urias, Albert
Eisenberg, Joe	Meyer, Fred	Safir, Nathan	Wachter, Daniel
Eisenbruch, Alfred	Meyerson, Kenneth	Sanders, Irving	Weidermann, Sidney
Friedman, Stephen	Miller, A.	Schanzer, Stephan	Welch, Darrell
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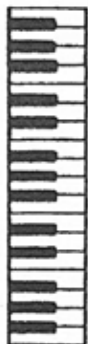
Temple Beth-El and the Landsman Family Relief Fund help those in need

Temple Beth-El recently made a large donation through the Landsman Family Relief Fund to ATZUM, which is involved with a variety of social justice work in Israel, and is working with a consortium of Israeli organizations to alleviate the humanitarian crisis involving asylum seekers from Eritrea and other African nations. In a grassroots effort, people in Israel have been organizing collections of diapers and baby formula and other family necessities, as well as lobbying for a change in laws, which currently call for the deportation of these asylum seekers. There is currently an initiative underway to resettle asylum seekers in Kibbutzim.

In addition, Temple Beth-El, through the Landsman

Family Relief Fund, has given a large donation to Catholic Charities to help with another humanitarian crisis here in the United States, particularly in Texas where undocumented immigrant children have been separated from their families. According to reports, some people are being dropped off, sometimes in the middle of the night at the San Antonio bus station on their way to other places around the country with ankle bracelets but no money, food, water or clean clothing.

Temple Beth-El's Landsman Family Relief Fund was established in 1996 in order to help individuals and families who are victimized by human and natural disasters throughout the world.



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TASA launches intergenerational *Dor l'Dor* program



Torah Academy students visit with local seniors.

The Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio is launching a new community engagement program this year. The objective of the *Dor l'Dor* (generation to generation) program is to develop relationships between TASA students and area senior citizens. TASA students will visit local senior centers,

sharing programming and activities planned around the Jewish holiday cycle. Another element of the program will bring local seniors into the school to help develop meaningful relationships between the seniors and students. Overarching goals of the program include instilling within the students

the values of “*v’Hadarta pnei Zakain*” (honoring our elders), developing a sense of community, and the importance of giving back to one’s community. This intergenerational program is possible due to a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.

Drop in to *Hands on Sukkot* at the JCC

Families and children of all ages are invited to celebrate the Festival of Booths at the Barshop Jewish Community Center’s annual Hands on Sukkot event Wednesday, Sept. 26, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

This free family event will include crafts, activities, and snacks to further enjoy the festive holiday of Sukkot. PJ Library will also be on hand with activities and storytelling. This year, the event will feature Israeli musician, Sagit Zilberman, who plays twenty different instruments from around the world. The

concert will take place from 4:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; all are welcome to attend.

While the event is free and open to the community, RSVPs are highly encouraged by visiting www.jccsanantonio.org/seasons. Contact Amy Goldstein at goldsteina@jcc-sa.org for more information or with any questions.

As the holidays approach in September and October, JCC hours of operation will vary. Visit www.jccsanantonio.org/hours and click on the “Holiday Hours Schedule” link for a listing of operational hours and closures during this time.

TASA re-launches PTO

The Shmuel Bass Torah Academy, now in its 6th year of operation, is re-launching its Parent Teacher organization (PTO) for the 2018-2019 school year.

The program is being organized by Malkie Marrus, PTO President, and Brach Gluck, PTO Vice President. Committees have been formed to organize and plan a multitude of programs for the TASA students.



TASA’s new Parent Teacher Organization leadership, President Malkie Marrus (left) and Vice President Brach Gluck (right).

“It’s so exciting to see a revamping in our PTO structure and having enthusiastic parents that are ready to step up and make a difference,” said Marrus.

Parent volunteers are working on events that will be open to the community - such as family dinner nights and TASA’s annual Hanukkah party.

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YOUTH NEWS

Heintz Preschool accepting children for waiting list

Heintz Preschool at Congregation Agudas Achim has grown to record numbers, the largest in the school's history.

Despite opening four new classrooms in the last year, the school has already reached capacity in some age levels, forcing the school to begin a wait list for the first time.

"Thanks to our reputation in the community and growing school, we were forced to create a waiting list for the time being until we can outfit more new classrooms to accommodate the numbers wanting to attend our school," said Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado.

Since some children will move from one age level to the next, and with plans on building more classroom space, there is hope that the waiting list will not exist for more than a

few weeks. However, the school recommends applying for a spot and coming for a tour as soon as possible in order to reserve a spot in the school.

Heintz Preschool, for children 6 weeks old through Pre K prides itself on "Creating Creative Curiosity," with a high focus on kindergarten readiness.

The preschool offers daily rotations, weekly and monthly themes not only focusing on secular themes but also intertwining Jewish values with each theme.

The core school day is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with extended hours are offered from 7am to 6pm.

For a tour or to learn more information, contact Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-7023 or by email at t.bretado@agudas-achim.org.

HIGH HOLIDAYS

Temple Beth-El welcomes guests

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur guest cards are available for guests of Temple Beth-El members. Each pass is valid for all services on the respective High Holy Day. Guest passes are issued to adults under 26 years of age, military personnel, out of town guests of members, members of other congregations, and individuals exploring Judaism. Those eligible for membership are encouraged to complete an application online, at <https://www.beth-elsa.org/MembershipApplication>.

Unaffiliated guests who do not qualify for a guest pass are invited to attend

all Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at Temple Beth-El, 211 Belknap Place. To obtain a guest pass, register online at <http://tinyurl.com/TBEGuest> or call the Temple office by Wednesday, Sept. 6, at (210) 733-9135, ext. 126. Registration is required and donations are welcome for each guest pass.

Guest cards requested after Wednesday, Sept. 6, will be available at the San Pedro Avenue (west) entrance to the Temple. Requests made prior to that will be mailed to the guest. Children under the age of 18 may attend services with any adult cardholder.

Rodfei Sholom to host Yom Kippur Break Fast in memory of Zee Fisher

Rodfei Sholom will celebrate the memory of Zee Fisher and her dedication to Jewish Life in San Antonio at its annual Break Fast on September, 19, 2018 directly following Neelah services. Break Fast is open to the community, and generously sponsored by friends of Dave and Zee Fisher, and Congregation Rodfei Sholom. To RSVP, contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.

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HIGH HOLIDAYS

Temple Chai social action committee kicks off year of advocacy

Temple Chai's social action committee, chaired by Jonathan Fink, is launching the 5779 Jewish year with a focus on immigration.

In the spirit of the Biblical command "You must love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt," (Deut. 10:19) the committee will work with local and national organizations that fulfill that ancient promise.

The work of the social action committee will be highlighted on Yom Kippur, when the liturgy reminds the Jewish people that "repentance, prayer, and righteous actions" are needed to make the individual and the community whole. Information about advocacy,

volunteering, and involvement in various social action projects will be available throughout the day on Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Temple Chai's services at Embassy Suites Landmark San Antonio. See www.templechaisa.org/HHD for the schedule.

The social action committee mission statement is "to connect Temple Chai congregants with opportunities for *gemilut chasidim* (acts of loving kindness) and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) causing Temple Chai to be known for social action within the San Antonio Jewish and general community."

For more information, visit www.templechaisa.org/social-action.

Temple Chai High Holy Day services open to all

Temple Chai, San Antonio's small Reform congregation on the northwest side, is making its High Holy Day services open to the entire community, free of charge. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services will be at the brand-new Embassy Suites San Antonio Landmark, conveniently located at 5615 Landmark Pkwy (IH-10 West just inside Loop 1604).

Prospective members and spiritual seekers are encouraged to RSVP online so that they can be welcomed warmly at the services they choose to attend. Information, schedule, and registration materials are at www.templechaisa.org/HHD.

Led by Temple Chai's Rabbi David Komerofsky and Cantorial Soloist Lisa Goldstein, with accompanist Manahara Virasinha and a volunteer choir, the High Holy Day liturgy this year is from the new Reform prayerbook *Mishkan HaNefesh*.

"The High Holy Days can be overwhelming," said Rabbi Komerofsky. "Large crowds, long services and heavy content can sometimes be too much. Our services are intended to be



Lisa Goldstein and Rabbi David Komerofsky

spiritually uplifting and meaningful while still accessible. Being a small congregation means that even on the most crowded day of the year it's still impossible to get lost in the crowd."

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HIGH HOLIDAYS

Agudas Achim offers holiday programs throughout the month of Tishrei

On the Sunday after Rosh Hashanah, Agudas Achim will host its annual Tashlich service and free Pizza Picnic at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 16. The service and event will take place at the location of the original site of Agudas Achim, 102 Aubrey Street at the corner of Aubrey Street and Old Guilbeau Road.

For the fourth year in a row, Agudas will be conducting the Tashlich Service to “throw away our sins,” and Agudas Achim will also be providing free pizza, cookies, and water to all in attendance. All are welcome to attend and are welcome to bring picnic blankets and other dairy food items as well.

To finish off the holiday

month, Agudas Achim will again celebrate Simchat Torah in style with a free Simchat Torah Family Program and an Agudas Achim Sisterhood sponsored Hot Dog Dinner on Monday, Oct. 1 beginning at 6 p.m.

After the dinner, around 7:15 p.m., all are welcome to participate in the family friendly interactive Simchat Torah service, and celebration of Agudas Achim’s Kindergarten Consecration.

Congregation Rodfei Sholom presents 3rd Annual Tashlich at the Pearl

On Sunday, Sept. 16 at 10 a.m., the community is welcome to join Congregation Rodfei Sholom down at the river at the Pearl Brewery (behind Green Vegetarian Cuisine) for a traditional *Tashlich* service and bagel brunch.

To RSVP for Rodfei Sholom’s Tashlich service and brunch, or for more information on High Holiday services and programming, call Rodfei Sholom at (210) 493-3588.

WHAT’S HAPPENING



JCC HOSTS EARLY CHILDHOOD COMMUNITY DINNER

Children from the JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children enjoy a performance by Morgan’s Wonderland on the importance of being kind at the program’s first Community Dinner of the year on August 7.



L’CHAYIM CLUB OFFERS LEARNING AND SOCIAL TIME FOR SENIORS

Last month, Congregation Rodfei Sholom’s Rabbi Scheinberg gave a talk on Tisha B’av and Jewish mourning and grief to senior citizens at the monthly L’Chayim Club lunch. For more information on future L’Chayim Club Events, please contact Rodfei Sholom at (210) 493-3558.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



AGUDAS ACHIM DRUMS INTO THE NEW MONTH FOR ROSH CHODESH

Congregation Agudas Achim's Women's Rosh Chodesh group drummed into the month of Elul, getting ready for the New Year with a dinner and Spiritual Drumming Circle. All women are welcome to join the Women's Rosh Chodesh group for upcoming events on October 9, November 8, and December 8.



SHABBAT MORNING HIKE

For more than a year, Temple Beth-El's young adults group, @TBE20s30s, has been organizing monthly Shabbat Morning Hikes at various parks and trails around San Antonio. It is a chance for participants to commune with nature and enjoy a very different kind of Shabbat experience. For further information, contact Rabbi Marina Yergin at myergin@beth-elsa.org.



LITERACY SUMMER CAMP AT HEINTZ PRESCHOOL

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim finished another fantastic summer with its 10-week Summer Literacy Camp. Campers explored art, music, drama, Spanish, Hebrew, water play, and more all through different book themes each week.

TEMPLE BETH-EL BROTHERHOOD POKER TOURNEY BENEFITS AZRA

Temple Beth-El Brotherhood's recent Poker Extraganza raised \$3,200 to benefit AZRA – Association of Reform Zionists of America. Jim Barshop won the first place trophy, Daniel Laser took second place, and David Adelman won third.



FORMER HEAD OF FORENSICS FOR ISRAEL POLICE DEPARTMENT SPEAKS AT AGUDAS ACHIM

Congregation Agudas Achim recently hosted an event with guest speaker Elliot Springer, the former Head of Forensics for the Israel Police Department for 30 years and current head of the same unit for the New York Police Department. Springer spoke about his years of experience of using forensics to seek out terrorists in Israel.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



WITH SUMMER OVER, JCC SAYS THANKFUL GOODBYE TO J-CAMP'S SHLICHIA

Dafne Perlmutter (center) served as the Barshop JCC's J-Camp Shlichia, an Israeli emissary who spent the summer at camp through a program with the Jewish Agency for Israel. Dafne taught campers about Israel, including teaching a Hebrew word of the day every day.



CAMP GAN ISRAEL SEES RECORD ENROLLMENT

Summer 2018 was a record year for Camp Gan Israel history with 158 campers enrolled. Since its establishment in 1988, Camp Gan Izzy has served over 2000 campers and has seen a 125% increase in the last 3 years. (Photo: Joe Hernandez/The Life in Art)



AGUDAS ACHIM CLERGY AND STAFF VISIT CAMPERS AT CAMP YOUNG JUDAEA

Congregation Agudas Achim's clergy, Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham and Rabbi Ben Richards, along with Director of Congregational Learning Samantha Mazuz visited San Antonio campers at Camp Young Judaea during the first and second summer terms.



CJP

continued from page 5

vulnerable, extending this support to children who have no agency and who are in our country, scared and alone. This week, CJP really will make a bigger difference."

"It's one thing to talk the talk," said CRC Chair Kevin Epstein, "but CJP really put their concerns into action. I was inspired by their commitment to tikkun olam, traveling 2,000 miles to learn and help others."

CJP's Fund to Aid Children and End Separation (FACES) is a crisis response fund, with 100% of the proceeds going to benefit three organizations — the Young Center, the Interfaith Welcome Coalition, and Catholic Charities — doing critical work to reunify families and support migrants. Since launching on June 22, the fund has raised over \$217,000 from 481 people.

SUKKOT

Variety of Sukkot events planned at Congregation Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim will host an array of programs for the holiday of Sukkot and Simchat Torah, which are open to the community:

Shawarma in the Sukkah on Sunday, Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. Services begin at 5:45 p.m. followed by dinner, fun, games, and a bouncy house for kids.

Simcha Social Club Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 11:30 AM. Assistant Rabbi Ben Richards will explore the history and traditions around the holiday of Sukkot. Everyone 65 and up is free thanks to a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.

16th Annual Pizza in the hut on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 5:30 p.m. Enjoy pizza, DJ, games, and more for all ages. USY teenagers will be serving the pizza and all tips are accepted to help them earn money to send them to regional events.

Smoothies in the Sukkah

on Thursday, Sept. 27 from 3-5 p.m. Join Heintz Preschool for its first ever Smoothies in the Sukkah with Heintz Preschool teachers will be making delicious smoothies to drink. All tips and proceeds fund new classroom supplies for Heintz Preschool.

Young Couples Club of Agudas (YCCA) Sushi in the Sukkah on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m.

Potluck Dinner in the Sukkah on Friday, Sept. 28 at 6:15 p.m. Family friendly musical services for all ages and youth experiences will be followed by a dairy potluck dinner in the Sukkah. Attendees are asked to bring a dairy or parve dish.

Teen Sleepover in the Sukkah on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 7:30 p.m. for teenagers in 6th through 12th grade! The annual Teen Sleepover will begin with Havdallah, games, snacks, movie watching and more followed by sleep over in the Sukkah for those in High School.

Club Agudas Achim and

Moonlight Supper Club Dinner and Karaoke in the Sukkah on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. Club Agudas Achim and Moonlight Supper Club (those 40+) will enjoy dinner and karaoke in the Sukkah.

For more information on any Sukkot or other events or to RSVP, contact the office at (210) 479-0307 or at RSVP@agudas-achim.org.

Temple Beth-El to host Jazz in the J.Y. Golden Sukkah – September 29

Temple Beth-El host its annual Jazz in the J.Y. Golden Sukkah on Saturday, Sept. 29 beginning at 7 p.m.

The evening event will include *Havdalah* and live jazz from the Maverick Quartet. Wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served

There is no charge for the event or refreshments, thanks to the generosity of Claire Golden, who has dedicated this event in memory of her beloved husband, J.Y. Golden. An RSVP, however, is requested online at <https://beth-elsa.org/JazzSukkot>.



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SUKKOT

Annual Persian Sukkot Shabbat Dinner at Rodfei

Rodfei Sholom will host a Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah on Friday, Sept. 28 that is open to all members of the Jewish community. The Sukkot Shabbat, to be held at the congregation, 3003 Sholom Drive, will feature a traditional, homemade Persian dinner created by long-time Rodfei member Manijeh Nathan.

To make reservations or for more information on Sukkot happenings, contact the synagogue office at (210) 357-3558.

Annual Sukkot Family Dinner to be held at Chabad – Sept. 23

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning invites the community to attend its Annual Sukkot Family Dinner on Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. Services will be held at 6:45 p.m. and the dinner will begin at 7:45 p.m.

The festive event will be held in the center's spacious Sukkah and will feature a traditional holiday dinner, singing and L'chaims. Cost is \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children.

Kindly RSVP by visiting www.chabadsa.com or by calling Chabad at (210) 764-0300.

Chabad to Host Annual Sushi in the Sukkah - Sept. 27

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning invites the community to attend its annual Sushi in the Sukkah event on Thursday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. at the Chabad Center,

14535 Blanco Rd. The adult-only event will be held in the center's spacious Sukkah and will feature an on-site sushi chef, open bar, dancing, and lots of socializing. Cost is \$20.00 per person.

Kindly RSVP by visiting www.chabadsa.com/sushi or calling Chabad at (210) 764-0300.

Simchat Torah at Chabad – Oct. 1

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning invites the community to attend its Simchat Torah Kiddush and Hakafot on Monday, Oct. 1, at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. An interactive educational program for children will begin at 7:00 p.m. Hakafot dancing and a Kiddush with light refreshments will begin at 8:00 p.m. No RSVP is necessary.



Lulav & Etrog sets available at Chabad

Lulav and Etrog sets for Sukkot are available from Chabad for \$50 per set. Orders must be received no later than September 16, and picked up at Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd, when orders arrive.

For more information or to place an order, contact Chabad at (210) 764-0300 or info@chabadsa.com.

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Discovery in Brussels

By Marion Bernstein,
Past President,
Jewish Family Service

We were walking along a shady street in the St. Gilles district of Brussels, Belgium. Our son, who lives nearby, gestured to a row of apartments and offices. “This is some sort of Jewish social service agency,” he said, and pointed out the armed guards and massive brick planters between the street and row of buildings. From the name on the door, it appeared to be the local equivalent of our Jewish Family Service.

My adventurous husband suggested that we might want to pay the agency a visit. Fortunately, I had a business card that listed me as “Past President of JFS” which allayed the concerns of those who buzzed me in. “Just wait here,” they said. “The director is here and she will show you around.” That’s how we met

Véronique Lederman-Bucquet, “directrice générale” of the Service Social Juif. A native of France, she fortunately speaks excellent English.

Her agency was founded after World War II with the assistance of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. It serves all the French-speaking Jews in Belgium. (An agency serving Flemish Jews is based in Antwerp.) Among its concerns are more than 200 Holocaust survivors still living in Belgium.

Aside from that, they provide social, psychological, and even medical services to both Jews and non-Jews in the community. In some respects, their services mirror those of our Jewish Community Center or San Antonio Jewish Senior Services, in that they offer clubs for seniors to meet and discuss the Bible, see films, or converse in Yiddish, Hebrew or even English.

They provide a space for students to do their homework after school, and many of the regulars are Moslem children. “Their parents trust us,” notes Lederman-Bucquet.

The SSJ has about 40 employees and a budget that’s about twice as large as that of our JFS. They receive money from their royal (national) government as well as from Jewish groups like the Claims Conference, which provides funds for victims of the Holocaust. They also raise funds from the community, and they just held a fundraising dinner in May.

One aspect of their service is one we fortunately have little experience with – aiding the survivors of terrorist attacks. Brussels not only



had a murderous attack on the Jewish museum, but also terrorist attacks on the general public on the subway and at the airport. Lederman-Bucquet says that she has consulted with her counterparts in France, and they help one another in dealing with the aftermath of these all-too-common events.

I shared with her our experiences with natural disasters, such as hurricanes and flooding.

Certainly JFS and the SSJ deal with different sorts of disasters, but it all comes down to helping human beings cope with what the world throws at them. I am proud to be part of that effort.

B’nai B’nith: View from the top

By Irwin Barath,
Special to The Jewish Journal

Sitting here watching the world go by, I find it rather interesting that I am asked, “Is there a B’nai B’rith Lodge in San Antonio?” My answer is “YES”.

We are small in numbers, but we are fulfilling our mission, assisting the young and the old. We are collaborating with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services to provide lunches for the elderly. We also work with Jewish Family Service in their meals for the elderly program.

And, we assist the Hillel chapters in Austin, College Station and San Antonio.

B’nai B’rith San Antonio usually meets at 10:30 a.m. on the second Sunday of the month (provided there is no Jewish Holiday on that day). We meet at the Jewish Campus in room 227. We will not meet in September, but will meet on October 14, as we celebrate B’nai B’rith’s 175th birthday.

I invite you to come join me as we watch the world go by, as we assist our young and old, and reflect upon the past.



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ARTS & CULTURE

JCC Author & Speaker Series kicks off in September

The Barshop JCC's 2018-19 Author & Speaker season begins Thursday, Sept. 6 at 7 p.m. with Katherine Reynolds Lewis who will discuss her book, *Good News about Bad Behavior: Why Kids are Less Disciplined than Ever and What to Do about It*. In this highly connected age, children have less self-control than ever. Lewis will read from her book and discuss what steps parents can take to instill independence and responsibility in the next generation. The event is great for parents and educators of all ages.

Next month, Mike Reiss, one of the longest-serving writers and producers of *The Simpsons* will be at the JCC to share his book, *Springfield Confidential*:

Jokes, Secrets, and Outright Lies from a Lifetime of Writing for The Simpsons. In celebration of the television show's thirtieth anniversary, Reiss offers a humorous look at the writing and making of the legendary Fox series that has become one of the most revered artistic achievements in television history. The event will be Saturday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.

Both events will be held at the Barshop JCC. Tickets are \$10 each for general admission, or \$30 for an event ticket and an autographed book, and may be purchased online at www.jccsanantonio.org/authorspeakerseries or by calling (210) 302-6820.

Silver Solutions Health Fair – Sept. 20

The 8th Annual Silver Solutions senior health fair will take place Thursday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community, 12500 N.W. Military Highway.

This is a free community event spotlighting programs and services provided by organizations that support San Antonio seniors and caregivers. Presentations will include:

- **10:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.** Fraud & Scams – Sheriff Javier Garcia
 - **11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.** Smart Phone Security – Tom Ervin, F.B.I. Special Agent, Cybersecurity Division
 - **12 noon – 12:30 p.m.** Sleep Problems & Solutions – Venkat Srinivasan, M.D., author of *Mind-Body Principles*
 - **12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.** Loneliness & Isolation – Kathleen Jordan, LMSW, Director of Social Services, Jewish Family Service
 - 1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.** Housing – George Losoya, AACOG, ADRC Coordinator
 - 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.** Mind Your Meds – Medication Management, Leanne Palma, Staff Pharmacist – H-E-B Alon Center
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possible by Jewish Family Service, Texas Public Radio, and sponsors: AACOG's Alamo Service Connection, K.T. Whitehead – Certified Elder Law Attorney, H-E-B, UT Health, The Bank of San Antonio, and HealthTexas Medical Group. For information, call (210) 302-6954.

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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 you 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 new Jewish Journal Digest, 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 jewishj@jfsatx.org.

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Ben Kingsley carried a photo of Elie Wiesel with him while filming *Operation Finale*

By Naomi Pfefferman

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Ask Ben Kingsley about why he was keen to portray Nazi criminal Adolf Eichmann in the new film *Operation Finale* and he describes the traumatic childhood incident in which he first learned about the Holocaust.

The 74-year-old British actor was then in grammar school and at home alone when he turned on a documentary about the liberation of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

“I remember my heart stopped beating for a while,” Kingsley, who is not Jewish but believes he may have some Jewish relatives on his mother’s side, said in a telephone interview. “I nearly passed out. And I have been indelibly connected to the Holocaust ever since.”

His connection was even more enhanced when he asked his grandmother about the atrocities, and she said that “Hitler was right” to have killed Jews.

“I went into deep shock and was unable to counter her,” Kingsley said. “But something must have clicked in my innermost soul that said ‘Grandmother, I will make you eat your words. I will pay you back for that. You have not distorted or poisoned my mind.’”

Kingsley went on to portray the Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal in the HBO film *Murderers Among Us*; the Jewish accountant Itzhak Stern in *Schindler’s List*; and Anne Frank’s father in a 2001 ABC miniseries. He



Ben Kingsley stars as Adolf Eichmann in *Operation Finale*. (Valeria Florini / Metro Goldwyn Mayer Pictures)

also won an Academy Award for his turn as the titular Indian independence leader in 1982’s *Gandhi*.

During research for his Shoah-themed films, Kingsley became close friends with Holocaust survivor, activist and author Elie Wiesel. Not long before Wiesel’s death in 2016, the actor vowed to him that “the next time I walk onto a film

set that is appropriate to your story, I will dedicate my performance to you.”

So when Kingsley was offered the Eichmann role in *Operation Finale* after Wiesel’s death — a film that debuts Aug. 29 and focuses on the Holocaust architect’s capture — the actor jumped at the chance. Just as he famously carried a picture of Anne Frank during

the filming of *Schindler’s List*, he carried a photo of Wiesel during the filming of *Operation Finale*.

“[E]very day as promised, I looked at a picture of Elie that I carried in my pocket and said ‘I’m doing this for you,’” Kingsley said.

Operation Finale tells the story of Peter Malkin and other Mossad agents who covertly hunted and captured Eichmann hiding in Argentina and brought him to Israel for trial in 1961, where he was ultimately executed. The heart of the story is the cat-and-mouse game between Malkin (played by Oscar Isaac) and Eichmann, both of whom were master manipulators, according to the film’s director, Chris Weitz (*About a Boy* and *A Better Life*).

“Each one is trying to convince the other of something,” Weitz said in a telephone interview.

“Malkin wanted to convince Eichmann to sign a paper indicating that he was willing to go to trial in Jerusalem. And Eichmann is trying out various defenses that he will eventually use in Israeli court. So in that regard there is the subterfuge of the escaped war criminal and also the subterfuge of the spy as he’s trying to turn a source.”

As for Eichmann, Weitz said, “I think the evidence shows a very chameleon-like figure who is constantly trying to serve his own ends and ambitions.”

Kingsley unabashedly sees his character as evil.

“What other adjective can you use?” he asked. “Not only did he commit these crimes as an architect of the Final Solution, he went to his grave proud of what he had done — utterly unrepentant.”

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KINGSLEY

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Yet Kingsley said he chose not to portray Eichmann as “a B-movie, cartoony, comic strip villain.”

“That would have done a terrible disservice to the victims and the survivors I know and love,” he said. “It’s important for us to accept, to stomach and to swallow that the Nazis were men and women – ‘normal’ people. Twisted people, but they didn’t come from Mars.”

Weitz, 48, had his own personal connection to the material. His father, the fashion designer John Weitz, escaped Nazi Germany in 1933 at the age of 10. Nine years later he arrived in the United States and later became a spy for the OSS, the precursor of the CIA. He interrogated Nazi war criminals and helped liberate Bergen-Belsen, “which forever changed him,” his son said.

The filmmaker grew up with his father’s war stories and ultimately helped the patriarch write multiple books about Nazi war criminals.

As research for the film, both Weitz and Kingsley relied in part on the expertise of former Mossad agent Avner Abraham, who has curated a now-touring exhibition about Eichmann. Weitz eschewed photographing the famed glass booth in which Eichmann spent his trial – a part of the exhibition – because he feared that might be “blasphemous.”

The director also said he had “endless trepidations” about depicting images of the Holocaust, and so chose to do so through the lens of the Mossad agents’ memories.

“The agents’ memoirs indicate that they all found it deeply unsettling to be so near the person who had taken part in the murder of their families,” Weitz said. “Some of them were disappointed that all this evil could have the face of this rather unprepossessing man, which felt terribly out of scale to all the damage that had been done.”

Jewish delegation witnesses ‘heartbreaking’ situation at border detention centers and courthouse

By Josefin Dolsten

(JTA) — A delegation of Jewish leaders from 17 organizations has been visiting detention and migrant facilities on the U.S.-Mexico border.

The 27-person delegation visited detention centers in San Diego on August 21 and traveled to asylum-seeker shelters in Tijuana, Mexico, the following day.

The trip, which was organized by the Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish refugee aid group HIAS, included meetings with American and Mexican government officials, immigration attorneys and humanitarian workers. Among the participants were representatives from three Jewish movements — Reform, Reconstructionist and Conservative — as well as groups such as the American Jewish World Service, the Jewish Council on Public Affairs and J Street.

Mark Hetfield, CEO of HIAS, described the visits to detention centers and courthouses where migrants are being tried on charges that they entered the country illegally.

“It’s heartbreaking to see the way the United States is treating immigrants. It’s not

treating them like human beings,” he told JTA in a phone interview from Tijuana.

Hetfield, a former immigration lawyer, said members of the delegation witnessed migrants being tried in a court as a group and that some who pleaded guilty to criminal charges lacked proper understanding of the consequences.

“It’s really troubling in terms of the lack of due process and the lack of understanding that people have as they’re going through and pleading guilty to these criminal proceedings,” he said.

Nancy Kaufman, CEO of the National Council of Jewish Women, said visiting a detention center for unaccompanied minors, which held children as young as 6 years old, was “eye opening.”

Though she described the shelter as “clean and decent” and the staff as “very caring,” she had concerns about the conditions.

“I asked if they go to school. They have school there, but I don’t know how you have meaningful educational programs for that kind of range of kids,” she said.

Kaufman referenced the Holocaust in speaking about the importance of the trip.

“As Jewish leaders, we need to bear witness. We all

committed after the Holocaust to ‘Never again’ — we meant it,” she said. “I think we all live our lives with the belief that every person is made in the image of G-d, *‘b’tzelem Elohim,’ and should be treated with dignity and respect.*”

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of ADL, called the trip “a moral imperative” in a statement to JTA.

“In the face of continued harsh policies by the Administration targeting immigrants and asylum seekers, we’re here to learn more about the crisis at the border, listen to the experiences of migrants and asylum seekers escaping violent conditions, and recommit to our advocacy for humane and compassionate immigration policies,” he said.

Many Jewish groups have joined progressives and some conservatives in criticizing President Donald Trump’s immigration policies, including his executive orders banning citizens from some Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States and the since-rescinded policy of separating migrant families at the border.

In late August, HIAS organized a letter to Trump urging him to raise the cap on refugees admitted into the country to at least 75,000. The letter was signed by leaders of 36 Jewish groups. Trump set the cap for 2018 at 45,000, a historic low, and is considering a further decrease, *The New York Times* reported last month.



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Jeremy Corbyn's secretary urged voters to avoid candidates who appeared in Jewish newspapers

(JTA) — British Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn's longtime secretary urged supporters to oppose candidates who appeared in the Jewish media, *The Sun* reported.

In a pamphlet published by the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign in 2010, Nicolette Petersen recommended that Labour supporters "read the Jewish Chronicle online and look at websites that will show you who not to vote for," asserting that it was better to divert support from Labour than to support anyone considering himself a "friend of Israel," according to *The Sun*.

"This isn't about helping Palestinians. It's about attacking Jews," Jewish Chronicle editor Stephen Pollard said. "The recommendation that activists who want to rid Parliament of Zionists use the Jewish Chronicle for a hit list of targets exposes the truth: that they use the word Zionist as a euphemism for Jew."

The incident is the latest of a string of revelations detailing Corbyn's antipathy for the Jewish state and highlights the widening gap between the British left and the country's Jewish community.

In July, Britain's three Jewish newspapers, including the Chronicle, united in publishing a front-page editorial warning of the "existential" threat to British Jewry that a government led by Jeremy Corbyn would pose.

"We do so because the party that was, until recently, the natural home for our



Jeremy Corbyn addresses the crowd in London's Trafalgar Square, July 13, 2018. (Niklas Hallen/AFP/Getty Images)

community has seen its values and integrity eroded by Corbynite contempt for Jews and Israel," the editorials said, referring to the Labour Party. "The stain and shame of anti-Semitism has coursed through Her Majesty's Opposition since Jeremy Corbyn became

leader in 2015."

Last month, i24News reported that Corbyn had called Israeli opposition leader Tzipi Livni a "war criminal" during a 2010 visit to the Gaza Strip. Writing for the Morning Star, a communist newspaper, he said that "any plans by the

British government to curtail the opportunity to arrest" the former Israeli foreign minister would be "seen as yet another confirmation of British duplicity in the treatment of Palestinian people."

That revelation came a day after it emerged that Corbyn, already facing scrutiny over his contacts with various Palestinian terrorist groups, hosted a 2012 panel featuring a number of senior members of Hamas, the terrorist organization that controls Gaza.

Corbyn appeared beside several individuals who had been convicted of murder and had been freed the previous year in a prisoner swap.

Among those who appeared with Corbyn were Khaled Mashaal, who at the time was Hamas' political chief, and Husam Badran,

the erstwhile head of the group's military wing who had overseen a series of bombings that killed dozens of Israeli civilians, including the 2001 attacks on the Sbarro pizzeria in Jerusalem and the Dolphinarium disco in Tel Aviv. Alongside Mashaal and Badran was Abdul Aziz Umar, who was responsible for the 2003 Cafe Hillel bombing in Jerusalem.

Corbyn said during the panel that "their contribution was fascinating and electrifying" despite the fact that the participants appeared to advocate violent attacks against Israel. Badran was filmed at the event saying that the Palestinians had been displaced by force and that "the return will only be viable through military and armed resistance and nothing else."





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Headstones smashed at Jewish cemetery in Poland for second time in less than a month

(JTA) — A Jewish cemetery near Krakow was vandalized for the second time in less than a month, resulting in damage to dozens of headstones.

At least 30 headstones were pushed over, some of them shattered, in the latest incident recorded at the cemetery in Myslowice, a town located about 40 miles west of Krakow, the *Jewish.pl* news site reported August 22 on its Facebook page.

Some of the headstones toppled had been repaired following an earlier incident in which 20 headstones were shattered in late July, the report said. Police are investigating both incidents but have no suspects in custody.

In 2012, the Council of Europe adopted a nonbinding resolution placing responsibility for the care of Jewish cemeteries on national governments. The resolution was based in part on a report that said Jewish cemeteries are “probably” more vulnerable than other cemeteries.

In addition to frequent vandalism, including for anti-Semitic reasons, at Jewish cemeteries, the report also noted instances of cemeteries in Eastern Europe that have been turned into “residential areas, public gardens, leisure parks, army grounds and storage sites; some have been turned into lakes.”

Trump administration slashes \$200 million in funding to Palestinians

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- The Trump administration cut funding to the Palestinians by \$200 million, citing Hamas rule in the Gaza Strip.

“At the direction of President Trump, we have undertaken a review of U.S. assistance to the Palestinian Authority and in the West Bank and Gaza to ensure these funds are spent in accordance with U.S. national interests and provide value to the U.S. taxpayer,” a State

Department official said in an email to JTA.

“As a result of that review, at the direction of the president, we will redirect more than \$200 million in FY2017 Economic Support Funds originally planned for programs in the West Bank and Gaza. Those funds will now address high-priority projects elsewhere. This decision takes into account the challenges the international community faces in providing assistance in Gaza, where Hamas control endangers the lives of

Gaza’s citizens and degrades an already dire humanitarian and economic situation.”

It’s not clear what the cuts would mean for overall funding, although the figure suggested they would be far-reaching. Congress has in the past mandated \$400 million to \$500 million in funding for the Palestinians, but the United States already cuts back funding commensurate with payments the Palestinian Authority pays to the families of Palestinians who have attacked Israelis.

Additional showing of documentary on San Antonio’s Black history scheduled

Following two sold out showings of the San Antonio documentary, *Walk on*

the River: A Black History of the Alamo City, additional showings are now in the

works for late September and will be held at Alamo Drafthouse Park North in San Antonio. For information, dates and tickets, visit walkontheriver.com. Tickets are only \$10 per person. The film’s premier in August was an official Tricentennial event at the Carver Community Cultural Center, and played to a sold-out crowd of 600.

The ambitious documentary highlights Black contributions to San Antonio over a 100 year period, leading up to desegregation. It highlights the innovative, resilient nature of a community faced with discrimination and segregation and the lasting impact on the cultural fabric of San Antonio.

The San Antonio Black and Jewish communities have long worked together on issues of social justice, and jointly conduct a series of interfaith services and events during Dream Week each year.

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Israel has announced more West Bank settlement construction — Both the left and right are angry

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Israeli government advanced plans for the construction of more than 1,000 housing units in the West Bank on Wednesday, drawing condemnations from both the political left and the settlement movement itself.

Construction on 382 of the 1,400 units will be able to begin immediately, while the others will require several more approvals before breaking ground. A number of the units are slated to be built in isolated settlements, Haaretz reported.

Settlement expansion is “like sticking a finger in the eye of any possible peace process,” said Tamar Zandberg, chairwoman of the left-wing Meretz party. “The government doesn’t care about Israeli interests, only about the interests of settlers.”

The Yesha Council, which represents the settlement movement, complained that the Netanyahu administration was



A General view of the the settlement of Halamish in the West Bank near Ramallah in 2010.

limiting settlement expansion.

“This is the smallest number of units that the committee has advanced in the last year-and-a-half,” the

council said in a statement reported by The Jerusalem Post. “At past committee meetings some 2,000-3,000 housing units were advanced and

this number is small compared to the tens of thousands of housing units authorized throughout the country. A nationalist government should be expanding construction and not reducing it.”

The council called “upon the prime minister to remove restrictions and to allow for construction throughout Judea and Samaria, just as it occurs in the rest of the country. This must be done today.”

The Knesset’s Land of Israel Caucus also protested the decision, saying that “the government decided to authorize fledgling communities, it must implement the decision more energetically and actively promote the regulation of these communities, and not go the opposite way.”

The Israeli army’s Civil Administration was expected to legalize two West Bank outposts on August 21 but ultimately refrained.

Poland gives record number of passports to Israelis

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) -- More than 20,000 Israelis have obtained Polish citizenship in the

years 2010-2017 -- an increase of more than 250 percent over the previous seven years.

The data, released last month by the

embassy of Poland in Israel, on the approval of naturalization applications by Israelis to the Polish embassy in Israel show that 10,820 Israelis became Poles

during the years 2015-2017 alone -- slightly more than in the years 2002-2010 combined.

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Loophole allows expansion of Western Wall egalitarian prayer section

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- A plan to expand the Western Wall's egalitarian prayer section received final approval, using a loophole that applies to handicapped-accessible sites.

The approval was first reported on August 27 in *Haaretz*, which did not say when the meeting to approve the work took place.

Approval of the work under the special regulation cut months off the time it would take to begin the work, since it need only be approved by the municipal engineer and not also by both the regional and local planning committees.

The scheme to approve the fast-track process for the work was supported by the Prime Minister's Office, according to the report.

The attorney general's office reportedly was against using the loophole of as a way to approve a major and controversial project. The plan was approved by the Jerusalem municipality's legal counsel, however. Plans to renovate the site, with a budget of more than \$7 million, have continued, despite the suspension of a comprehensive plan approved in 2016.

In June 2017, the Cabinet suspended the deal that came about as a result of negotiations between the Reform and Conservative movements, the Women of the Wall, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Israeli government. The suspension came after the government's haredi Orthodox coalition partners pressured Netanyahu to scrap the agreement, including threatening to bring down the government.

Netanyahu had promised to expand the area following the suspension of the comprehensive deal, though the expansion has been appealed to Israel's Supreme Court over concern that it would damage an important archeological site.

In July, the three members of the Knesset ministerial committee charged with deciding whether to approve the plan to upgrade the Western Wall's egalitarian section resigned over political pressure from the haredi Orthodox parties. Netanyahu placed himself as head of the committee.

LITHUANIA

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the only synagogue in the city that survived World War II.

During his visit, Netanyahu noted that he is a Litvak on both sides and called his visit is a return. "I come to Vilna, I return to Vilna as the head of a proud, strong, advanced Jewish state. For the Jewish people, what has changed in these 75 years? Not the attempts to destroy us. They're still (trying) to destroy us. Iran says so openly. Hamas says so openly and others. What has changed is our ability to defend ourselves by ourselves. We are no longer defenseless. We are no longer helpless. We are a power that controls our own destiny with the State of Israel and the army of Israel."

The Netanyahus also visited the Vilna Ghetto. "We saw the glory of Jewish Vilna that was lost and in this visit we see an expression of what has been retrieved – the rise of the reborn Jewish state of Israel. What a distance we have travelled in 75 years from the death pits of Ponar to a

rising power in the world," he said.

(For more than a year, Jewish Federation of San Antonio sponsored a Mitzvah Project to help the Vilna/Vilnius Jewish Public Library build up its children's section.)

Netanyahu was accompanied by Lithuanian Foreign Minister Linas Linkevičius, who he called a "great friend."

"I want to thank you Linas for standing up for Israel and the truth in European forums, for telling your colleagues the service that Israel performs in

saving so many European lives by our resourceful and brave intelligence people. We have saved so many European lives in so many countries. Israel in many ways is the defender of Europe and it's time that Europe understood this," he said.

The prime minister was in Lithuania to take part in the Baltic States Summit, the first time that a prime minister of Israel has visited Lithuania and has been invited to the summit.

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