



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

SH'VAT - ADAR I, 5779

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

FEBRUARY 2019



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

There's so much to do and experience in your San Antonio Jewish Community. Find out what's been happening.

PAGES 14-17



Ready to create your own legacy? Find out how.

PAGE 3



HONORING JEWISH VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

The Holocaust Memorial Museum will offer a free screening of the documentary *Bagels Over Berlin* on March 4.

PAGE 3



JEWISH COMMUNITY UNITES FOR MLK DAY

More than 150 members of the Jewish community from all congregations across the city joined together to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. See more photos page 25.

Israel: A place for everyone

Last month I traveled across Israel, from the very northern tip of Rosh Hanikrah to the very southern tip of Eilat, with many locales in between.

As with previous trips, this one was special. I shared this time in Israel with my husband and my younger children. I began traveling to Israel in 1978 as a young child, and I continued as a teenager, a young adult, a Jewish



Letter from our CEO

RONIT SHERWIN

professional (several times) and now as a mother and guide to my children. Watching my children experience Israel has been extraordinary, and I am grateful to have been fortunate to do so.

I genuinely love all of Israel. I am in awe of the view from the Golan Heights and I appreciate the serenity and magnitude of the desert. But what I cherish most about my time in Israel is the people. I love seeing the large religious families hurrying in the streets of Jerusalem before Shabbat and I also love listening to the secular Jews chatting in

See **CEO**, page 6

LIFE & LEGACY™ initiative launched February 1

LIFE & LEGACY is a four-year partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation that assists communities across North America through partnerships with Jewish Federations and Foundations, to promote after-lifetime giving to benefit Jewish social service organizations, synagogues and other Jewish entities. Through training, support and monetary incentives, LIFE & LEGACY motivates Jewish organizations to secure legacy gifts, steward donors and integrate legacy giving into the philanthropic culture of the Jewish community.

Jewish Federation of San Antonio, the lead partner with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, is one of 5 community partners accepted to participate in the 7th LIFE & LEGACY co-hort. There are 57 North America Jewish communities participating with 565 partner

See **LEGACY**, page 3

Vandals toss Torah scrolls on floor of Jerusalem synagogue

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Vandals broke into a Jerusalem synagogue and tossed four Torah scrolls on the floor.

The break-in took place in the Kiryat Yovel neighborhood on January 28.

Worshippers arrived on the next morning and found the Torah scrolls, prayer books and other Jewish artifacts strewn all over the floor.

A hole was cut in the side of the ark that housed the Torah scrolls in order to remove

them.

The synagogue, called Siah Yisrael and populated mainly by immigrants from France, does not have any security cameras.

The attack was condemned by both of

Israel's chief rabbis and other religious leaders, the president and prime minister and lawmakers.

The vandalism comes days after attacks on two

See **SCROLLS**, page 24



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

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the March 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is February 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 March 2018 ISSUE:

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

IN LOVING MEMORY

Gerald "Jerry" Carduner

Evelyn Koenig

Donald Eisner

CANDLE LIGHTING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

SHEVAT 26, 5779

Light Candles at 5:54 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

SHEVAT 27, 5779

Shabbat Ends 6:49 PM

Shabbat, Torah Reading: Terumah

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

ADAR I 3, 5779

Light Candles at 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

ADAR I 4, 5779

Shabbat Ends 6:55 PM

Shabbat, Torah Reading: Tetzaveh

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

ADAR I 10, 5779

Light Candles at 6:05 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

ADAR I 11, 5779

Shabbat Ends 7:00 PM

Shabbat, Torah Reading: Ki Tisa

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

ADAR I 17, 5779

Light Candles at 6:10 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

ADAR I 18, 5779

Shabbat Ends 7:05 PM

Shabbat, Torah Reading: Vayak'heil

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

ADAR I 24, 5779

Light Candles at 6:15 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

ADAR I 25, 5779

Shabbat Ends 7:09 PM



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Janet Irwine named Chief Financial Officer for Jewish Federation of San Antonio

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio has named Janet Irwine as Chief Financial Officer. Janet has more than thirty years of experience in accounting, finance, and business development, and twenty years of experience working with senior executive leaders of corporations, entrepreneurial and non-profit companies, and non-profit boards.

Irwine says, "I am excited to be a part of the Jewish



IRWINE

Federation where I can support and help advance the important work in the community." She started her career in public accounting with Ernst & Young before serving as Assistant Vice President of Internal Audit for Luby's Cafeterias. She progressed to CFO of the San Antonio Area Foundation where she acquired

her passion for community support. Irwine then provided business development for professional services with consulting firm Accretive Solutions.

In 2012, she served in various leadership roles for Marathon Petroleum (formerly Tesoro), including Controller, Information Technology and Human Resources. Irwine retired from Marathon in December 2018 and joined the Federation in January 2019.

San Antonio LIFE & LEGACY partners are:

Barshop Jewish Community Center
Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning
Congregation Agudas Achim
Congregation Rodfei-Sholom
Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio
Jewish Family Service of San Antonio
Hillel San Antonio – audit partner
Jewish Federation of San Antonio
San Antonio Jewish Senior Services
Temple Beth-El
Temple Chai
The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community

LEGACY, continued from page 1

agencies. Throughout the country there has been a tremendous response from individuals and families to ensure that their Jewish community thrive! As of September 30, 2018, 52 LIFE & LEGACY partner communities nationwide have secured 21,684 legacy commitments with an estimated value of \$798 million.

In San Antonio, eleven Jewish organizations and synagogues have embraced the LIFE & LEGACY initiative; this represents a shared commitment to work together collectively to secure endowment gifts. Team members from each partner agency and synagogue participate in community workshops to learn how to help their donors create legacy gifts for the causes they care about. This initiative enables donors to fulfill their philanthropic wishes by supporting specific needs in the Jewish community, and provide critical resources for local agencies, synagogues and work to create a united and strong Jewish community for future generations.

Through LIFE & LEGACY, a donor can indicate their intention of a legacy gift to benefit one or more organizations. The donor can make a commitment either through a current or future gift to one of the Jewish organization's endowment fund or by declaring his/her intent to remember the organization in his/her will or estate plan.

When you establish a legacy gift – whether it's through a bequest in your will, or a portion of your IRA or another giving vehicle – you are creating a vibrant Jewish San Antonio community for the next generation. Ready to create your legacy? Contact any partner organization or synagogue or contact Beth Keough, Director of LIFE & LEGACY, at (210) 302-6813 or keoughb@jfsatx.org.

They flew, they fought, they gave their lives Documentary screening March 4

On Monday, March 4 at 7 p.m., the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, the Community Relations Council, B'nai B'rith Men and a number of generous community members will present, *Bagels Over Berlin*, a documentary film about the Army Air Corp in WWII. The screening will be held in the Holzman Auditorium at the Jewish Campus.

Director Alan Feinberg, who will be at this free screening, "was attracted to the story of Jewish American war heroes who played a major role in winning the war." Feinberg explains that "Jews comprised a larger percentage of the armed forces in WWII than their share of the population. Despite a history of exclusion and discrimination in the 1920's and 1930's - Jews responded to the Japanese sneak attack on their homeland with an overwhelming determination to fight for the country they loved."

Says Feinberg, "Jews in America were mostly regarded as poor and recent immigrants whose loyalty to America was the subject of doubt."



"Please join us along with area veterans, families, and community youth in this intergenerational experience that reminds us of the bravery and sacrifice of these heroes," said museum director Ellen Ollervidez.

Viewers younger than 6th grade are discouraged. Visit jfsatx.org to reserve a seat to this free event.





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Maimonides Society partners with University of Incarnate Word for Zinn Lecture

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio Maimonides Society and the University of Incarnate Word will host Dr. Rachel Yehuda, who will deliver the Myron B. Zinn M.D. Memorial Lecture on Tuesday, March 2 at 7 p.m. at the University of Incarnate Word Concert Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Yehuda is professor of psychiatry and neuroscience and the director of the Traumatic Stress Studies Division at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. She is also director of the Mental Health Patient Care Center at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center in New York City.

She was born in Israel to an observant Jewish family and was immersed in Jewish culture and tradition, attending a Jewish day school and raised by her rabbi father. She grew up in Cleveland in a neighborhood populated

by many Holocaust survivors- an experience that ultimately prompted her research on intergenerational trauma.

She has studied the children of Holocaust survivors and of pregnant women who survived the 9/11 attacks. Her science helps to understand how to flourish beyond the traumas large and small that mark each of our lives and those of our families and communities.

Yehuda is a recognized leader in the field of traumatic stress studies and has authored more than 250 published papers, chapters,

and books in the field of traumatic stress and the neurobiology of PTSD. Her current interests include the study of risk and resilience factors, psychological and biological predictors of treatment response in PTSD, genetic and epigenetic studies of PTSD and the intergenerational

transmission of trauma and PTSD.

Genetics describes DNA sequencing, but epigenetics sees that genes can be turned on and off and expressed differently through changes in environment and behavior. Yehuda is a pioneer in understanding how the

effects of stress and trauma can transmit biologically, beyond cataclysmic events, to the next generation.

The Myron B. Zinn M.D. Memorial Lecture Fund at the Jewish Federation of San Antonio was created by his family to honor Dr. Zinn's commitment to medical ethics.

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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Warrior and Family Support Center Christmas lunch

Volunteers from the Jewish community shared Christmas Day at the Warrior and Family Support Center greeting and serving those who serve our country. The Warrior and Family Support Center supports active duty service members and their families.

Volunteers included organizer David Simon along with Rachel, Jonathan, Allie and Jordan Gurwitz (pictured); Jean and Butch Karren; Ron and Jean Schlesinger; and Liz Glazier and Mike, Sam, Tyler, and Matthew Piesman. The meal was prepared by Tim the Girl Catering.

Volunteers interested in serving Easter lunch at the Support Center may sign up by contacting Ellen Ollervidez at (210) 302-6962.



The meal was prepared by Tim the Girl Catering.



With your help, the extraordinary impact of the 147 Jewish Federations across North America changes lives here at home, in Israel and in more than 70 countries around the world. The Jewish Federation system identifies, supports and addresses the full range of social service issues, provides lifesaving humanitarian relief, supports breakthrough programs for all ages, and sustains the Jewish community today and for future Generations.

The Jewish Federations of North America raise and distribute more than \$3 billion annually for social welfare, social services and educational needs. The Federation movement protects and enhances the well-being of Jews worldwide. We make a difference through our team and partner agencies in each Federation community, and globally through key partners including The Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

To find out how you can get involved in our community and beyond, contact the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at (210) 302-6960. We are stronger together.



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Federation hires new Director of Development

Jewish Federation of San Antonio has hired Jill Jacobs as Federation's new Director of Development.

Jacobs is a native Texan who was born and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. Her parents still reside in the same house they lived in when they brought her home from the hospital and still have the same land line phone number. She and her husband, Victor Aguirre, moved to San Antonio in



May 2018. Jill spent her first year of college abroad in Israel participating in the Young Judea Year Course and then went on to earn a Bachelor's in Science, a Master's in Business and a Post Bachelorette in Accounting all from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

She was the Senior Market Director for the American Heart Association in Corpus Christi for four years and the Executive Director of Development for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for two years.

In addition to her leadership roles in her professional life, she has been active in the Jewish community and the community at large. In Corpus Christi, Jill served as

president of the Sisterhood at Congregation Beth El, led the annual Jewish Food Fest (the Jewish Communities biggest fundraiser), and served on both the JCC and the temple boards.

Outside the Jewish community, Jill has been an active member of the Junior League for over 10 years, and has volunteered with multiple nonprofits including the American Cancer Society, First Friday

and a number of animal related organizations. One of her favorite extracurricular activities has been her volunteer work with a Corpus Christi organization called the Clowns Who Care, where she goes under the alias of Quirky Queen of Hearts and cheers up the children at the local children's hospital with her fellow clowns.

CEO

continued from page 1

the cafes on Rothschild Street in Tel Aviv. My children were able to interact with the diversity of Israelis during our time. They met their great, great uncle Moshe, the brother of their namesakes (my grandmother and her other brother) and many cousins of their generation as well. Language did not seem to be a barrier, especially when playing video games. In addition to family, my family and I were embraced warmly by new friends. We attended a Progressive synagogue in Nahariyah for Shabbat and we enjoyed a marvelous, eclectic Shabbat dinner with members of the community, who became fast friends.

I even love the mundane aspects of Israeli society. It was fun for me to take my

kids to the shuk (market) and grocery stores, exploring new foods and also finding comfort in the familiar items. The way pedestrians and taxi drivers argue with each other in Hebrew is particularly entertaining. There is something very comfortable about being in Israel that has nothing to do with religion. As my friend Avraham Infeld says, it is about peoplehood. And these are my people – our people.

Regardless of politics or religious observance, I believe there is a place for each Jew in Israel. And I think we all have the capacity to love Israel as well, and I do not mean "young love" that is naive. I think we can all love Israel with mature love, seeing the challenges and faults and embracing the depth and capacity therein. If you have yet to fall in love with Israel, I highly suggest it.

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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

PJ Library Fifth Annual Winter Bash



PJ Library children enjoyed becoming magical animals as they got their faces painted.

Twenty PJ Library families came together on December 24 to enjoy a magical evening at the Jewish Community Campus. PJ Library dad and guest reader Howie Nestel taught the children about how they can do a mitzvah and help in their own homes, as he became “The Mitzvah

Magician” from the well-known PJ Library story.

Nestel also spoke about his clothing and materials drive “Gotcha Covered” that he has coordinated over the past 21 years. He reminded the children that donating their own old toys can make the world a more magical place.



Howie Nestel came to life as the Mitzvah Magician while teaching the children how to do good deeds to help the world.



Cousins shared a fun night out with glow magic wands and glasses.

The night included face paint, balloons animals, magic wand making, breakfast for dinner, and magical movies for kids of all ages.

For more information about PJ Library, visit the PJ Library San Antonio Facebook page.

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PJ LIBRARY FAMILIES BRING IN THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER



PJ Library committee member, Rachel Rogoff shares her favorite book, *Take Care to Remind Everyone to Take Care of the Earth This Year*.

Over a dozen PJ Library families welcomed 2019 with “snow much fun” as the children made edible snow men, played and enjoyed the park, and heard the book “Take Care” as they discussed new year’s resolutions and ways to take care of the earth this year. Even on a cool morning, the children were ready to enjoy the new year.



The Atlas-Siegler family enjoy making their edible Kosher snowman.

Shabbat at Chabad with Israel's Southwest Consul General Gilad Katz

Chabad will host a special Shabbat weekend with Israel's Consul General to the Southwest, Gilad Katz, the weekend of Feb. 8-9 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

On Friday, Feb. 8, services will begin at 6 p.m. followed by Shabbat dinner at 7 p.m. and a lecture entitled *The Latest from the Israel-America Strategic Partnership*. Receive a real-time, firsthand analysis of the current US-Israel relationship from a well-connected Israeli diplomat. Get a behind-the-scenes account of what's being done to strengthen the historic and unbreakable bond shared by these two allies. Cost for dinner is \$25 adults, \$12 for children under 12. Children's program during talk provided.



KATZ

Saturday, Feb. 9, morning services will begin at 9:30 a.m., Torah reading at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Kiddush luncheon at 12:15 p.m. During lunch, Katz will address the topic *Portraits in Leadership: Timely Lessons from the Lives of Our Biblical Leaders*. The luncheon is free and open to the entire community. Children's program during talk provided.

Consul General Gilad Katz was appointed as Head of Post in August of 2017 to lead the Consulate General of Israel to the Southwest U.S., which is responsible for the six-state region of Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Consulate's departments include Academic, Cultural, Hispanic, Press, Political, and Strategic Affairs.

Prior to this post, Consul General Katz held the title of Advisor to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and held prestigious titles as Head of the Hebrew Correspondence Department and the Public Affairs Department.

For reservations please call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.ChabadSA.com/Katz.

Group Therapy sessions available through JFS

Jewish Family Service offers group therapy sessions ranging in a variety of topics for people of all ages. Current topics include:

- **Anger Management** – adults age 18+ will focus on understanding, processing, and resolving anger through a variety of topics, including learning tips for managing and controlling your anger.
- **Adult Social Skills** – designed for adults with high social anxiety, and those struggling with navigating the social nuances of the world.

• **The Bending Blend** – intended for adults age 50+, this group utilizes yoga (mostly from a seated position) and proper breathing techniques while learning what anxiety is and how to manage it.

• **Women's Trauma Recovery** – a blended approach of psychoeducation and cognitive behavioral therapy that will help develop resources to manage trauma-related symptoms.

Curious whether group therapy is right for you? To learn more and find out how to register, visit www.jfs-sa.org/groups or by call (210) 302-6920.



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Dr. Yehuda is a recognized leader in the field of traumatic stress studies and has authored more than 250 published papers, chapters, and books in the field of traumatic stress and the neurobiology of PTSD. Born in Israel to an observant Jewish family, she grew up in Cleveland in a neighborhood populated by many survivors of the Holocaust; this experience prompted her research in epigenetics and intergenerational trauma.

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Adult Education at Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim has launched a number of new adult education classes for 2019.

- Starting February 4, Agudas Achim will be offering its new cohort for Adult B'nei Mitzvah on Monday nights from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. This year and a half long class will delve into the deeper meanings of the Jewish religion, texts, prayers, and spirituality. The class will culminate with an Adult B'nei Mitzvah in May 2020. The class will be taught by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Rabbi Ben Richards, and Director of Congregational Learning Samantha Mazuz.

- Beginning March 4 for four Monday nights from 7:30-9 p.m., Rabbi Richards will teach a new class on *Secrets of the Siddur*. Rabbi Richards will be going through some of the ins and outs of *t'fillot*, prayers, where they originated, and why the prayers are still in use today.

- On April 11 from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m., Rabbi Abraham will host a one-time lunch and learn session with analysis and thoughts on the results of the April 9 Israeli elections.

- The congregation's Agudas Achim University is back with a new twist. On Sunday, April 14 participants will have the opportunity to learn with three different college professors relating to important topics pertaining to Jews today.

- In May, Rabbi Abraham will host a four-part class on *Dilemmas of Faith*.

For more information on pricing and details about the classes or to sign up, contact Jessica Halfant in the Agudas Achim Education Office at j.halfant@agudas-achim.org or (210) 479-2689.

New Course at Chabad asks *Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair?*

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning is offering *Crime and Consequence*, a new six-session course by the acclaimed Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) exploring 3,000 years of Jewish perspective on conviction, sentencing, and criminal rehabilitation, at two different locations:

- Six Tuesday afternoons, beginning Feb. 5 from 12 noon-1:15 p.m., at Jackson Walker Law Offices at Weston Center, 112 E. Pecan Suite #2400, and
- Six Wednesday evenings, beginning Feb. 6 from 7:30-9 p.m., at Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd.

Participants in the course will ponder foundational questions: What is achieved by locking people away? Is life-without-parole a justifiable penalty? Can man have the authority to sentence another man

to death? How should we respond to the most serious crimes? Are “correctional facilities” helping criminals make amends? Is there a balance between the needs of society, prospective employers, and ex-offenders?

“*Crime and Consequence* is for people who care deeply about humanity, who are enraged at injustice, and who are fascinated by real-life catch-22 scenarios,” remarked Rabbi Chaim Block. “Participants in the course will uncover the humanity within all people—including criminals, question judicial practices that seem unethical and unfair, and explore effective crime deterrents.”

Interested students may call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and a course overview.

NCJW to host Texas Freedom Network at Lunch & Learn

The San Antonio Section of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) will host a Lunch & Learn with Kathy Miller, president of the Texas Freedom Network on Friday, Feb. 15 at 12 noon at Max and Louie's. The community is invited to attend.

Miller has spent her career focused on mobilizing support for issues such as women's reproductive freedom, children's health care,

public education and ending partner violence. She has trained thousands of individuals from Texas and across the nation on media relations, grassroots organizing and mobilizing to combat radical-right political extremism.

To RSVP for this no-host luncheon, RSVP to mindisw@gmail.com by February 12. For more information, contact Mindi Silver-Weiss at (210) 497-2333.



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Jewish Family Service begins community talks about mental health

In collaboration with local agency Rise Recovery, Jewish Family Service (JFS) will host the first in a series of community talks on Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at The Jewish Campus. The first workshop, called *Well, My Kid is Resilient, Right? – Conversations and Mental Health Resources for Today's Parent* will begin with opening remarks from Mayor, Ron Nirenberg, followed by a moderated panel discussion, and concluded by a round robin of mini-breakout sessions.

Experts will discuss signs and stages, as well as resources, for common mental and behavioral health issues that today's youth may experience. By introducing the dialogue, JFS hopes to eliminate the shame, stigma, and guilt that may be associated with these topics, and provide the tools and empowerment to address them.

The second half of the evening will give parents an opportunity to visit with various agencies and engage with health care professionals about challenges including trauma, bullying, stigmatizing mental health, and more. Parents will leave knowing how to approach these conversations with their kids, and will be provided with an abundance of resources to review and refer back to.

Additional partnering agencies include Alamo Heights ISD, Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas, Clarity Child Guidance Center, Eating Recovery Center of San Antonio, NAMI San Antonio, Michelli Ramon LCSW and Rise Recovery.

The event is free and open to the community. RSVP's are requested and can be submitted online at www.jfs-sa.org/partnerevents or by calling (210) 302-6954.

Temple Beth-El's Purim Carnival to benefit the Youth Fund

Get ready for food, games, raffles and more at Temple Beth-El's Purim Carnival, Sunday, March 3 from 12 noon – 2 p.m.

The event will include inflatables, *hamantaschen* and a "design your own" CupCake Walk.

This year will also feature a special Toddler Carnival Room with age appropriate games, crafts and snacks for children 5 and under.

All proceeds from the Carnival benefit the Youth Fund, which funds all Temple Youth Group and Informal Education programming throughout the year.

All *hamantaschen*, which can be pre-ordered online (see below), will be home-made and sold for \$10 per dozen. Flavors are Cherry, Blueberry, Apricot, Chocolate, Poppyseed, Peach, and Assorted.

A regular wristband entitles the wearer to unlimited games, face painting, balloon animals, etc. and is



\$30. A toddler room Wristband is available for \$15.

Advanced Tickets for Carnival are for individual games as well as food items at the snack bar. Get 20 tickets for \$10, 30 for \$15, 40 for \$20, or 60 for \$25.

Order online at <http://bethelsa.formstack.com/>

[forms/purim_carnival](http://bethelsa.org/forms/purim_carnival)

Pick up your *hamantaschen* and pre-order tickets at the carnival on March 3.

Questions? Contact Joel Swedlove, Director of Youth Programs & Informal Education at joel@beth-elsa.org or call (210) 733-9135 x151.

MONDAY, MARCH 4 AT 7PM



More than half a million Jewish men and women enlisted in or were inducted into the U.S. armed forces after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. Of these, 150,000 joined the Army's Air Corps, which had a mortality rate of 70 percent, the highest in the services.

BAGELS OVER BERLIN is about the experiences of Jewish Army Air Corps veterans in World War II. In this documentary, Jewish veterans relate fascinating stories of life in the service, realizing their recollections will be lost forever if not shared.

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For more information or to RSVP visit JFSATX.ORG or call 210.302.6960



Win a trip to Israel at the Congregation Agudas Achim Annual Purim Ball

Do you have dreams of traveling to Israel? Consider purchasing a raffle ticket from Congregation Agudas Achim for a chance to win a week-long trip to Israel.

The winner of the raffle will receive two first class tickets to Israel along with six nights at the famed King David Hotel.

Raffle tickets are \$25 each. The winner of the raffle will be announced at Agudas Achim's Annual Purim Ball on Saturday night, March 2. The winner does not need to be present to win.

The 4th Annual Purim Ball which will honor Rhonda,

Charlie, and Sara Lee Gurinsky as well as Eileen, Robi, and Susanne Jalnos, features a Monte Carlo theme with a live band, great food, a casino for attendees to play at, and a silent and live auction.

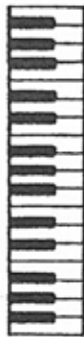
Individual tickets are \$72. Table sponsorships begin at \$1,000 up to a premier table at \$1,800.

Contact the office at Agudas Achim at info@agudas-achim.org, call (210) 479-0307, or visit to <https://agudas-achim.org/purimballpayment> to purchase tickets or to learn more.

Save the Date for Jewish Family Service Inspiration Brunch – Sunday, May 19

Jewish Family Service will host its annual Inspiration Brunch on May 19 at 10 a.m.

For details visit www.jfs-sa.org/inspiration.



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The Chabad Center offers new adult education series on *Living Jewishly*

The Chabad Center is offering a 4-page adult education series on *Living Jewishly*, which explores the what, how, and why of Jewish life, bringing depth and spirituality to the *mitzvah* observance.

The series, which will be taught on four Thursdays in February, from 7:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd., includes:

- Kosher Secrets – February 7 with Rabbi Yossi Marrus

- A Shabbat Overview – February 14 with Rabbi Levi Teldon

- Cooking Shabbat in an Hour – February 21 with Rochel Teldon and the Chabad Rebbetzins

- Jewish Intimacy & Family Purity – February 28 with Rabbi Chaim and Rivkie Block

Interested students may call (210) 764-0300 or register online at www.chabadsa.com/living-jewishly.

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Abraham at AbrahamL@jfsatx.org

Temple Chai to dedicate new facility with weekend of celebrations, February 8-10

Temple Chai, a Reform Congregation in the Heart of Jewish San Antonio, will celebrate the dedication of its new facility and spiritual home from February 8-10. Temple Chai is now located at 15316 Huebner Rd., between NW Military Hwy. and Churchill Estates.

The weekend celebration of dedication includes a Friday night

service, a Saturday morning KESHER CHAI program with kids and families, and a Sunday afternoon mezuzah dedication.

The Friday night service will be February 8 at 6:45 p.m. KESHER CHAI, the congregation's education program for children, will celebrate its new dedicated space with a program for kids and parents on February

9 at 10:30 a.m. An open house and mezuzah dedication for the new sanctuary and congregational home will be February 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The entire community is invited to attend all of the celebrations. RSVP for KESHER CHAI and the Sunday program at www.templechaisa.org or by calling (210) 340-2090.

Congregation Rodfei Sholom to host Rodeo Sunday Funday – Feb. 10

Rodfei Sholom will host a rodeo themed Sunday Funday on Sunday, Feb. 10 at 12 p.m. Activities will include a petting zoo, rodeo games, arts and crafts and lunch for the whole family.

For more information on Rodfei Sholom's monthly Sunday Funday programs please contact Youth Director Rabbi Moshe Rosenwasser at Rabbimoshe@rodfeisholom.com or (210) 493-3558.

B'nai B'rith meeting – Feb. 10

B'nai B'rith lodge members will get together for their monthly activity in room 227 at The Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community on February 10 at 10 a.m. During the meeting the lodge will share details about a new collaborative project with Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

Temple Chai to offer lunch and learns on Prophetic Judaism

Temple Chai will offer a three-week lunch and learn course on the topic of Prophetic Judaism. Rabbi David Komerofsky will lead the text-based discussion on biblical passages that have become central to

Reform practice and belief.

The course will meet on Tuesdays, February 12, 19 and 26 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. at Temple Chai's new facility, 15316 Huebner Road, Building 3. Bring your lunch, Temple Chai

will provide drinks and a kosher dessert.

There is no charge for the course, and all are welcome to participate. Register at www.templechaisa.org/lunchandlearn or by calling (210) 340-2090.

Jewish War Veterans Corner

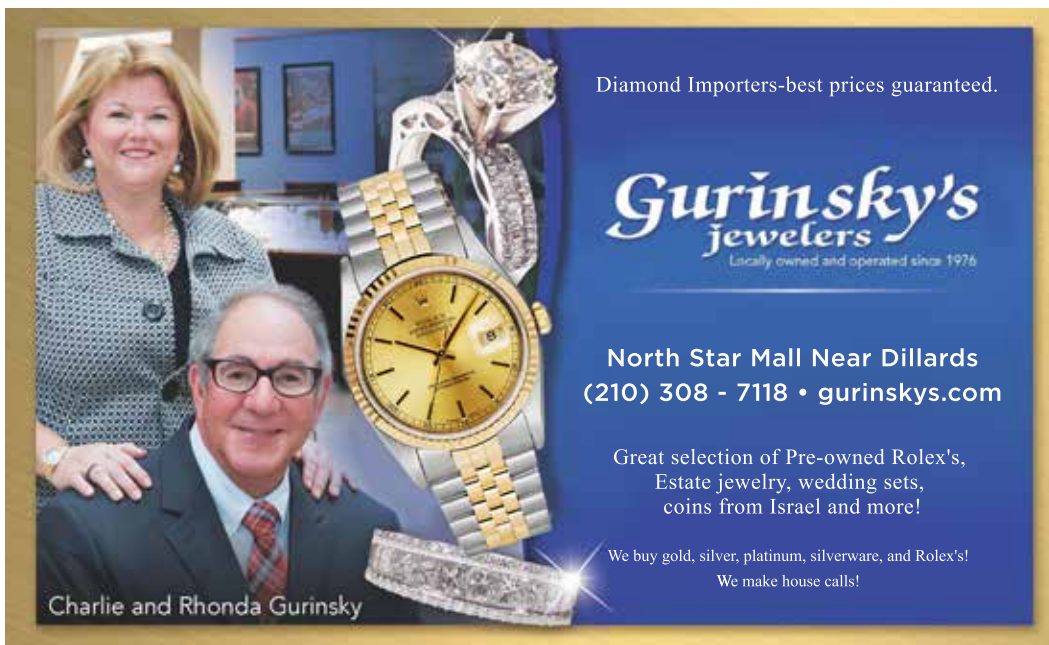
The regular meeting of JWV Post 753, will take place at the Jewish Campus on Sunday, Feb. 24 at 9 a.m., and will include a light breakfast followed by a presentation by Colonel Bonnie Shweiki. In her presentation, she will share how she balances her military

career and family life.

Newly installed Post Commander Garland Scott has appointed the following to the following post positions: Adjutant, Arwen Wilson; Quartermaster, Jeffrey Hoffman; Chaplain, Norton Shectman; Public Relations

Julio Ordonez and Irwin Barath; and Bingo Chair, Irwin Barath.

Interested in learning more about JWV or becoming a member? Contact Garland Scott (210) 834-0113.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Volunteers cooks included (l to r) Allan Kwastel, Mina Lopez (co-chair), Roger Ojeda (co-chair), Arline Kwastel, Joan Plotnick, Emma Rodriguez, and Ruthie Chafetz.



Warren and Iris Lieberman delivering a meal to the Northwest Police Substation.

MITZVAH MONTH WITH TEMPLE BETH-EL

Over 450 Temple Beth-El volunteers participated in “Mitzvah Month,” which included cooking and Christmas Day meal delivery to 50 fire and police stations around town to 620 individual first responders’ meals.



JEW YEAR'S DAY

Area Jewish young adults gathered at the Barshop Jewish Community Center on New Year's Day for San Antonio's inaugural Moishe House without Walls (MHWOW) event. Coined “The Jew Year's Day Mitzvah Merge,” participants enjoyed a bagel brunch while assembling hygiene kits for Haven for Hope.



KUGEL COOKOFF CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to all of Temple Beth-El's 2019 Kugel Cookoff Contestants.

(l to r): Jim Barshop, Amy Strickland, Kay Nell Bates (3rd place winner), Ann Ojeda (1st place winner), Kathi Kardon (2nd place winner), and Trent Boarnet.



NEW BEGINNINGS WITH CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH GROUP

Congregation Agudas Achim's monthly women's Rosh Chodesh group celebrated the new month of Shevat with a special Women's Tu B'Shevat Seder. The group meets each month for Rosh Chodesh and joins for dinner and a program related to the Jewish month ahead.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



ART IN BLOOM

TASA students pose with their combined segments of a Georgia O'Keefe inspired art project.



HEINTZ PRESCHOOL WINTER CAMP FUN

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim enjoyed two weeks of Winter Camp with fun activities learning about the theme of winter from all over the world.



CHILDREN CELEBRATE THE "NEW YEAR" FOR TREES

Children at the JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children prepare for Tu B'Shevat by learning about trees.



RODFEI'S KOSHER CHINESE DINNER

A group of volunteers, led by Ora and Ronen Bass, organized Rodfei Sholom's December 25th Kosher Chinese Dinner.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM'S SIMCHA SOCIAL CLUB RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR WITH HEINTZ PRESCHOOL STUDENTS

Congregation Agudas Achim's Simcha Social Club for those 65+ had an exciting New Year's program as everyone enjoyed deli food and played bingo together. What made this year's celebration particularly meaningful was the addition of students from Heintz Preschool joining in together on the Bingo fun!



ALL ABUZZ AT THE TASA SPELLING BEE

TASA finalists of the SCRIPPS Spelling Bee display their awards. The first place winner will represent TASA at the upcoming Bexar County Spelling Bee in March.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM

Congregation Agudas Achim's Social Action Committee set up a volunteer project for members during Winter Break at Habitat for Humanity. The group worked on painting and other aspects of helping to build a home for a family in need.



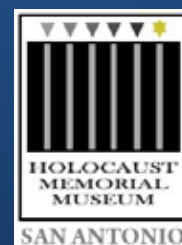
EMTZA MEGA OVERNIGHT

Middle schoolers from Rodfei Sholom and around the community had a great time at the EMTZA Mega Overnight. They went to Fiesta Texas, had a BBQ and bonfire and a midnight movie. For more information about programming for kids of all ages, contact Rodfei Sholom Youth Director Rabbi Moshe at RabbiMoshe@rodfeisholom.com or (210) 493-3558.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO TEACH IN THE MUSEUM

Are you passionate about the “never again” message? Do you have a few hours a month to volunteer at the museum? We are seeking **people of all backgrounds** with enthusiasm for history and learning to become museum docents. Be part of creating a tolerant and empathic society by beginning a rewarding volunteer experience at the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT JULIE TZUCKER-NIKOLAS, EDUCATION COORDINATOR AT 210-302-6812 OR DOCENTS@HMMSA.ORG



SENIORS



The Texas Senior Games are open to athletes who are 50 years and older

Texas Senior Games in San Antonio

The 2019 Texas Senior Games, presented by Clover, a Medicare Advantage PPO, will take place March 28 through April 11. This year marks 30 years that a Senior Games has been hosted in San Antonio; it is the sixth year the State Games have been held here.

Coordinated by the Barshop JCC, the Texas Senior Games are a group of spirited competitions for athletes ages fifty and better to compete in more than twenty-five categories, including pickleball, tennis, basketball, swimming, track and field, cycling, shuffleboard, and even scrabble. New events include a softball throw, football throw, and soccer kick. Participants must be fifty years old by December 31 of the Games year.

Participants can register now through March 7 online at www.texasseniorgames.org. Registration fees are \$45 plus event fees. Online registrations must be received by 11:59 p.m. March 7. Paper forms may be submitted with an additional \$15 processing fee and must be postmarked by March 7.

For more information about the Games, or to

request a paper registration form, call the Texas Senior Games hotline at (210) 302-6973.

Volunteer opportunities are also available for those interested in participating but not competing. Volunteers help with scorekeeping, check-in and t-shirt distribution, refreshments, and more. Email your interest to Cathy Pottorf at pottorf@jcc-sa.org, visit the website, or call the Texas Senior Games hotline.

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YOUTH NEWS

Agudas Achim youth choir welcomes new members

Do you have a child or grandchild who loves to sing? They may be interested in joining Congregation Agudas Achim's new youth choir which launched last

September. The choir, led by Orit Eylon and Arlene Spanier, performs at Jewish community events throughout the year.

For more information,

contact the Director of Congregational Learning at the Education Office at Agudas Achim at s.mazuz@agudas-achim.org or (210) 479-2689.

Community is recurring theme at TASA

Throughout the school year, children of TASA have been focused on the importance of community.

In December, TASA students participated in a food drive spearheaded by TASA faculty members and collected hundreds of food items for needy members of San Antonio's Community. The food was donated to the San Antonio food Bank for distribution.

As part of TASA's partnership with San Antonio Jewish Senior services, TASA students participated in the San Antonio Jewish Senior Services' Gala event that was held at the end of 2018 by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing Hatikvah.



Over Hanukkah (pictured), TASA students brought the spirit of Hanukkah to residents of Adante & Madison House

Senior Living centers. TASA students from grades three through eight sang songs, lit menorahs, and played dreidel with the residents.

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JCC Spring Break Camp

The Barshop Jewish Community Center is offering Spring Camp for youth in kindergarten through sixth grades from March 11-15.

Campers in kinder through first grade will participate in crafts, games in the gym, nature activities, and more. Campers in second through sixth grade will also have the option to participate in sports, tennis, or arts camps. Flexible registration options allow families to sign up to attend camp by the day, with discounts available for multi-day registrations.

The JCC will also host their annual Summer J-Camp Open House event Tuesday, Mar. 26 from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Holzman Auditorium. There will be games, activities, and inflatables for campers, and discounts, information, and registration assistance for adults.

Camps at the JCC are open to the community; discounted rates are available to JCC members. For additional information or to register for Spring Break Camp, visit www.jccsanantonio.org/jcamp or call the Youth & Camping Office at (210) 302-6859.



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Heintz Preschool to hold Annual Intergenerational Rodeo Day

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim will celebrate the San Antonio Rodeo in style again this year with its annual Yad B'Yad Intergenerational Rodeo Day on Friday, February 15 at 9:15 a.m. The day will begin with a rodeo-style Shabbat celebration followed by pony rides, special projects, and "rodeo style" food for those in attendance.

The event is open to anyone in the Jewish community interested in joining Heintz Preschool students for this intergenerational day of fun.

Heintz Preschool Enrollment is ongoing for the spring and already beginning for the 2019-2020 school year. The core school day is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with extended hours offered from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is limited space available in each classroom with some

waiting lists forming in some age groups. For a tour or to learn more, contact Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-7023 or by email at t.bretado@agudas-achim.org.

Block & Dreeben School for Young Children opens registration for 2019-20 school year

The Barshop JCC's Block & Dreeben School for Young Children will hold a meeting for prospective families Wednesday, Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. to discuss the philosophy and curriculum, followed by a tour of classrooms. Following the meeting, registration will open to JCC members not currently enrolled in the program. Community enrollment begins Monday, Feb. 11. JCC membership applications must accompany registration forms. Call (210) 302-6846 for more information.

The Block & Dreeben School is the only Jewish NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited early childhood program in San Antonio. The program offers a play-based curriculum for children six weeks to four-years old/pre-k. The school is open year-round 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-



Children at the JCC's Block & Dreeben School for Young Children learn through play

Friday, with full- and limited part-time schedules available.

The school hires early childhood professionals with college courses in child development and early childhood education. A Judaica specialist teaches the children about Jewish customs, traditions, and values.

Shabbat is observed weekly, while Jewish holidays are celebrated throughout the year. Additionally, a music specialist works with the children each week, and visitors from the community are welcomed throughout the year for special events.

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In My Voice

By Neely Kasanoff,
BBYO Lonestar Regional
Sh'licha

I have always felt an attraction to Eastern Europe; to me, that is where my family's roots are, and the region's history is too rich to go unnoticed.

I was fortunate enough to spend 10 days in Ukraine in November of 2018 with BBYO on Ambassadors to Ukraine.

The purpose of the program was to be integrated with Active Jewish Teens, or AJT, the Jewish youth group with chapters all throughout the Former Soviet Union (FSU).

Upon arrival to Kyiv (I

quickly learned that locals despise the American spelling of Kiev), we ran activities with the preschool and the elderly at the JCC Halom.

The JCC, along with Chesed, serves as the foundation for Jewish life in Kyiv. Ukraine lacks a national welfare system, so the only way to receive help in elder years is through being a Jew with Chesed.

Unfortunately, most of their funding comes from Germany's reparation agreements after World War II, where they promised to pay for the lives of Holocaust survivors, so the funding will run out over the next 5 to 10 years as the

number of survivors lowers.

Next was the Babi Yar memorial site, home to a story I was not familiar with. During World War II, tens of thousands of Jews were ordered to this ravine, unknowing that they were to be massacred. We shared survivors' stories, sang the Sh'ma, and sobbed in solidarity. The site is beautiful; seeing beauty in a horrific place exemplified the Jewish people, we always persist. However, there is still a large percentage of the population who do not know about the tribulations of the Jewish people, so it's our job to foster a global environment not only tolerant, but understanding

of the Jewish people.

After four days in Kyiv, we transitioned to AJT's International Convention. In attendance were over 400 teens from every member state of the FSU, Israel, and America. The convention's theme was "History Inside of Us", consisting of lectures on Jewish history throughout Europe.

The entire conference was held in Russian, and since I am not fluent, I expected a difficult time. However, many participants jumped at the chance to translate and made sure that I was included in every activity. I have never felt more comfortable in an uncomfortable situation,

and I have never felt more at home.

San Antonio BBYO is working to partner as the first ever sister city with Moscow AJT in efforts to build a bridge between our communities. Seeing the raw passion of teens living out the Jewish life their parents and grandparents did not get to live reinforced that the Jewish community is alive and strong across the FSU, and they do not intend to be silenced again.

Together, we can empower Jews around the world to be proud of their Judaism, and we can foster the new age of global Judaism to be stronger than it has ever been before.



YJSA to host Shabbat dinner for young adults – Feb. 15

YJSA (Young & Jewish San Antonio) will host the 4th annual Shabbat 100 on Friday, Feb. 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. bringing together more than 100 young Jews in their 20s-30s, singles/couples, to transform Friday night into a "magical" Shabbat dinner.

"We are thrilled for this

opportunity for our ever-growing Jewish young adult community to come together and celebrate Shabbat as one big family," said Rabbi Eliyahu Block, co-director of YJSA. "The event will feature an open bar (21+), lavish Shabbat dinner, and soaring Shabbat spirit."

The schedule is 6:15 p.m. candle

lighting, 6:30 p.m. Shabbat service, p.m., 7 p.m. cocktails hour, and 8 p.m. Kiddush and dinner.

2019 Table Hosts as of print are Elie Allen, Rabbi Eli and Tzivvia Block, Hannah Cramer, Linda Gavrielov, Koby Sokoloff, Natalie Steiner and Hillel San Antonio, and Alan Yancelson.

Cost for student \$25, reserved seating with table host \$30, general seating \$36.

The event will be held at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd. For more information and to register please visit www.yjsa.org/shabbat100.



TASA highlights community influencers through Changemakers

Changemakers is an ongoing TASA program designed to expose students to people of note, in order to broaden their understanding of the individuals who contribute positively to our community and the world around us.

Changemakers guests have included Chaim Shulman, a former IDF Lone Soldier, who spoke about what it was like to serve as an American in the Israeli army, and veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. Andrew Greller who discussed the similarities and differences between human and canine eyes. Dr. Greller brought along Ms. Annette of Guide Dogs of Texas, whose passion in life is training dogs to be guide dogs for the blind.

Margaret Gofman-Klein, Executive Director of Ohr Lanu, shared with students the importance of patient advocacy, while Julie B. Norman, who recently retired as Senior Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education at MIT, discussed how important math & science are in every career field.

Dr. Lawrence Cohen, of the Center for Complementary Medicine, shared his unique approach to medicine and helping people by looking for the causes of their ailments.

Rabbi Chaim Block, Executive Director & Senior Rabbi at Chabad of SA was TASA's Hanukkah Changemaker. He discussed how important it is for every Jew to be a "lamplighter", a person who reaches out to positively affect others.

Jacob Schwartz spoke about the importance of a Jewish Education.

Dr. Joe Ghitis, a radiologist who specializes in neurological radiology, joined TASA's growing list of Changemakers and explained how he works with doctors to help diagnose patients through their CT, MRI and X-ray scans.

Upcoming Changemaker guests at TASA will include first-responders, community leaders, and many more.

At Issue: What's so Special About the Jews

Heading Home, the exuberant feature that kicks off this year's San Antonio Jewish Film Festival, on February 16, roots for the underdog, a ragtag group of Jews recruited to play for Israel in the World Baseball Classic. Though some Jews excel at sports – Amy Alcott, Hank Greenberg, Sandy Koufax, Sid Luckman, Aly Raisman, Mark Spitz – athleticism is rarely associated with the People of the Book. It is hard to imagine Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson Z"l kicking a field goal or hitting a bank shot.

Jews have, by contrast, excelled in other spheres. In an 1899 essay called "Concerning the Jews," Mark Twain observes that, despite being a tiny percentage of the population, the Jew "is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his commercial importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk. His contributions to the world's list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine, and abstruse learning are also away out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers." Twain was writing before the institution of the Nobel Prize, but he would not be surprised to learn that by 2019 Jews have been recipients more than 22 percent of the time, though they constitute barely .2 percent of the world's population.

It might seem brazen chutzpah for a Jewish film festival to be celebrating the accomplishments of Jews, but a documentary called *Why the Jews?* – scheduled for February 17 – does



Perspective:

STEVEN G. KELLMAN

just that. If not guilty of ethnic chauvinism, it at least ponders the enigma of extraordinary achievement by a small, often oppressed minority. Maimonides, Rashi, and Hillel were Jews, as were of course the authors of the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud (as well as the New Testament). But in more recent times, Jews such as Marc Chagall, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, George Gershwin, Franz Kafka, Claude Lévi-Strauss, Karl Marx, and Jonas Salk have shaped the modern world. Using talking heads including Noam Chomsky, Alan Dershowitz, and Steven Pinker, the film examines the roles of nature and nurture. Can the undeniable intellectual and artistic prowess of Ashkenazi Jews be explained, like Tay-Sachs,

by an inbred gene pool? Or is it the product of an isolated culture that for generation after generation emphasized fanatical devotion to learning?

Spoiler Alert: *Why the Jews?* offers no convincing answer. But the question "Why the Jews?" might also be posed to ponder why the Jews have, perhaps longer and more lethally than any other people, be singled out for persecution. Is it envy? Perhaps the envy is misplaced. The nebbeshes, zhlibs, and shmegegges in the Jewish community surely outnumber the Leonard Bernsteins, Richard Feynmans, and Susan Sontags. Any catalog of famous Jews would have to include Yigal Amir, David Berkowitz, Meyer Lansky, Bernie Madoff, and Jack Ruby. Jews are the chosen people, chosen for a wide variety of fates.

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

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The Sheldon Vexler Theatre presents *Leading Ladies*

The Vex's third show of the season, Ken Ludwig's *Leading Ladies*, has all the elements of a typical farce: slamming doors, mistaken – or false – identity, and ludicrous situations. It also promises to be a fun evening at the theater.

The Houston Chronicle says *Leading Ladies* is “so funny, it will make sophisticated and reasonable men and women of the twenty-first century cackle till their faces hurt.”

Directed by Jim Mammarella, the cast includes Jared



Stephens and Andrew Olmos as Jack and Leo, two down-on-their-luck Shakespearean actors who find themselves

performing “Scenes from Shakespeare” on the Moose Lodge circuit in Amish country. When they hear that an old lady in York, PA is about to die and leave her fortune to her two long lost English nephews, they resolve to pass themselves off as the duo to get the cash. But, as it turns out, the nephews are actually nieces. But when did that ever stop two actors with a trunk full of costumes? As the newly minted “Maxine” and “Stephanie,” entanglements abound, sparks fly, and hilarity ensues.

Leading Ladies runs February 9 through March 3 with performances Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets – ranging in price from \$19 (JCC Members) to \$23 (community) – may be purchased online at www.vexler.org/leadingladies or by calling (210) 302-6835.

The Zee Fisher Rodfei Sholom Book Club – Feb. 6

The Zee Fisher Rodfei Sholom Book Club will meet to discuss *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* by James McBride on Wednesday, Feb. 6. *The Color of Water* is McBride's autobiography and memoir. The chapters alternate between McBride's

descriptions of his early life and first-person accounts of his mother Ruth's life, mostly taking place before her son was born. McBride depicts the conflicting emotions that he endured as he struggled to discover who he truly was. His mother narrates the hardships that she had to

overcome as a white, Jewish woman who chose to marry a black man in 1942. This month's discussion will be led by Dr. Nola Marx.

To RSVP or for more information on the Zee Fisher Rodfei Sholom Book Club, please contact Rodfei Sholom at (210) 493-3558.

9th Annual San Antonio Youth Film Contest awards night - Feb. 27

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) and Family Violence Prevention Services (FVPS) will award trophies and cash prizes to winners in the Short Film and Public Service Announcement categories to highlight the growing issue of School Violence at the 9th Annual *Can't Beat Love* Film Premiere and Winner's Gala.

The event will take place at Santikos Silverado located at Loop 1604 and Bandera Road on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

While statistically violence in schools is rare, the perception of increased risk and the emotional toll violence has taken is very real. Local high school filmmakers will be

asked to explore the topic of school violence to create films that explore the topic from the perspective of the perpetrators, the victims, the families, and the extended community.

“School violence has become a significant concern in recent years, not only in Texas but across the U.S.,” said NCJW co-chair of *Can't Beat Love* Marcia Waldgeir. “We are pleased to join our long-term partner Family Violence Prevention Services in presenting school violence as a *Can't Beat Love* topic this year. It is our goal to build greater awareness of the roots, perceptions and emotional impact of school violence while providing student filmmakers with an outlet to address this important issue.”



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Save the Date for a Paper Midrash Project

On Friday and Saturday, March 29-30, Isaac and Rabbi Shawna Brynjegard-Biali will be Guest Artists-in Residence at Temple Beth-El. They will combine contemporary art, pop culture, and scholarship in their "Paper Midrash" programs, including a hands-on paper-cutting workshop studying text, cutting up comic books and making Midrash art. For more information, visit www.beth-elsa.org.

Rodfei Sholom to host lecture on Shakespeare and Judaism— Feb. 28

On Thursday, Feb. 28, Jacob Bunin, attorney and literature teacher and researcher, will give a lecture on *Shakespeare: Significance of His Work and Topics of Jewish Interest*. The lecture at Congregation Rodfei Sholom will address various subjects of Jewish interest connected to Shakespeare including anti-Semitism in *The Merchant of Venice*,

anti-Semitism in Elizabethan England, and the influence of Tanach on Shakespeare's work as well as Jewish ideas and values in his plays and Shakespeare in Yiddish theater.

For more information on the Shakespeare lecture and other Rodfei Sholom educational programs, contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.

Remembering deceased Jewish military veterans

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

ALEXANDER, PHILIP
APTER, MORRIS
BELDON, MORRIS
BLOCK, EPRAIM
BLOOM, BERNARD
BRAUNSTEIN, JEROME
BURGHEIM, JOSEPH
BURKE, LIBBIE
BURRIS, KENNETH
CAHAN, LEON
CHAFETZ, JOSEPH
CHASAN, JOSEPH
CHERNIS, JOSEPH
COHEN, MAKCOM
COLE, HARRY
COOPER, ELMER
COTTRELL, SYLVIA
CRANE, DAVID
CUKIERMAN, DAVID
EASTMAN, HENRY
EIGENBERG, AILEEN
ERGAS, JOSEPH
FRIEBAND, CARL
GODFREY, JAMES
GOLDSTINE, MELVILLE

GREENSPOON, ARTHUR
GROSSMAN, LEON
HARRIS, BNEJAMIN
HELSE, GEORGE
HOEFLE, JOE
JAFTE, GERARD
KAHN, BERNARD
KARREN, HARRY
KATZ, CHARLES
LEONARD, GERALD
LESSER, PHILIP
LEVINSON, DANNY
LINICK, IRVING
MILLER, IRVING
MILLER, NED
MILLMAN, KEITH
MILLMAN, SAMUEL
NORMAN, PAUL
PASSUR, HENRY
PENNER, MORRIS
PITLUK, LOUIS
PITTS, GASTON
POKLOFF, ALEXANDER
SAMUEL, MORRIS
SHAENFIELD, JACK

SCHARF, STANLEY
SCHIFFLER, FERN
SCHNEIDER, MAX
SEGI, ARTURO
SHALLET, EDWARD
SLAPPER, JOSEPH
SMITH, OLIVER
SPECTOR, BERNARD
STEPNER, OSCAR
STEIN, ARTHUR
STEIN, HARRY
STEIN, MARTIN
STRAUS, FREDRICK
TARNOWER, GERALD
TUDZIN, SAM
VEXLER, HAROLD
VEXLER, SHELDON
WEBER, ROBERT
WEINER, LOUIS
WEISSER, SEYMOUR
WHITE, SAMUEL
WOLF, DAVID (1997)
WULFE, JESSE

SCROLLS

continued from page 1

synagogues in the central coastal city of Netanya. The Netan Ya Reform congregation was flooded on January 26 when unknown vandals forced open a window and placed a hose through it with the water running.

The water was ankle deep throughout the building when it was discovered and had ruined prayer books, furniture and building infrastructure, according to the Jerusalem Post.

On January 26, prayer books were burned at the McDonald International Shul in Netanya, an Orthodox synagogue on McDonald St., and the words "Hail Satan" were painted on a wall.

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Israeli Consul General Gilad Katz at MLK March



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Senate advances bill codifying Israel aid, protecting states that shun Israel boycotters

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The U.S. Senate advanced a Middle East policy bill that codifies assistance for Israel and protects states that ban dealings with Israel boycotters.

On January 29, the Senate voted on 74-19 to advance the bill, introduced in early January by Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla.

It includes language that codifies into law the \$38 billion over a decade that President Barack Obama pledged to Israel in the final

months of his term in 2016.

It also adds legal protections to states that penalize businesses that comply with the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement targeting Israel.

The bill's other components reinforce the U.S.-Jordan relationship and add sanctions on Syria's Assad regime. All four components resurrect bills that failed to pass in the last Congress.

Palestinian Authority Prime Minister resigns

JERUSALEM (JTA) — On January 29, Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah submitted his resignation to President Mahmoud Abbas.

The rest of the government also resigned, according to reports. Abbas will

have to decide whether to accept any or all of the resignations. The resignations came two days after the Fatah Central Committee recommended that Abbas remove Hamdallah and form a new government packed

with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The current government includes representatives of Fatah and Hamas. Fatah makes up the largest segment of the PLO.

Twitter suspends accounts aiming fake news at the Israeli public

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Twitter suspended 61 accounts linked to foreign fake news manipulation campaigns aimed at the Israeli public.

The move brings to 343 the number of accounts suspended by Twitter since Israeli elections were announced in December, according to Elad Ratson, director of research and development of Israel's Foreign Affairs Ministry.

The new group of 61

accounts had a total of more than 28,000 followers, and most of them were in English.

Meanwhile, Facebook announced in a statement on January 28 that it would launch in various countries, including Israel, "additional tools to help prevent foreign interference and make political and issue advertising on Facebook more transparent."

Advertisers will need to be authorized to purchase political ads; Facebook will give people more information about ads related to politics and issues; and it will create a publicly searchable library of these ads for up to seven years, the statement said.

The new tools will be launched in March, in the last weeks of Israel's election campaign, with a global rollout planned for June.

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