



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

ADAR-NISSAN 5777

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

MARCH 2017



COMMUNITY ROUNDUP

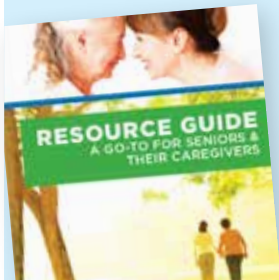
Get a full *wrap-up* report on *What's Happening* in your San Antonio Jewish Community.

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LEARN IT, REMEMBER IT

HMMSA launches Intensive Holocaust program for group of area high school students.

PAGE 7



DON'T NAVIGATE IT ALONE

GMJSS offers community free go-to-guide for seniors and their caregivers.

PAGE 19

Applications being accepted for Federation's Emerging Young Leadership course

By **Samantha Mazuz**,
JFSA Young Adult Division Director

For generations, the Jewish community of San Antonio has thrived due to the hard work and leadership of outstanding individuals. These leaders paved the way for us, and are responsible for the tremendous resources and programs our community has to offer. Our goal of the Emerging Leadership Course (ELC) is to build the next generation of leadership so that they too can leave their mark, be heard, and make a difference in our community.

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio's Emerging

See **APPLICATIONS**, page 16

Holocaust Book Series welcomes distinguished professor on April 5



Dr. Victoria Aarons

By **Ellen Ollervidez**

Join the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio for the latest Holocaust Book Series on Wednesday, April 5 at 6 p.m. at the Jewish Campus of San Antonio, as Dr. Victoria Aarons discusses her books *Third-Generation Holocaust Representation: Trauma, History, and Memory* and *Third-Generation Holocaust Narratives: Memory and Memoir in Fiction*.

Aarons serves as the O.R. & Eva Mitchell Distinguished Professor of Literature at Trinity

See **AARONS**, page 4

J-Serve presents community service opportunities for Jewish teens

J-Serve, the annual international day of community service for Jewish teens, will be held on April 2, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jewish teenagers in grades seven through twelve are encouraged to attend.

In addition to earning community service hours for school, teens will also get the opportunity to fulfill the Jewish values of *gemilut chasidim* – acts of loving kindness, *tzedakah* – just and charitable giving,

and *tikkun olam* – the responsibility to repair the world. More than 13,000 Jewish teens are expected to participate in J-Serve worldwide.

San Antonio J-Serve participants will register for their service site beginning at 9 a.m. Service opportunities will include the San Antonio Food Bank, Texas Senior Games, and other local non-profits. Lunch and

See **J-SERVE**, page 4



More than 100 Jewish teens from San Antonio participated in J-Serve 2016.

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



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OF SAN ANTONIO

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EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the APRIL 2017 issue of the Jewish Journal is MARCH 10, 2017 at noon. All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

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

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

ADVERTISING:

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

Ad deadlines for APRIL 2017 ISSUE:

- Ad space reservations due no later than MARCH 12, 2017 by noon
- Press ready ads due by MARCH 16, 2017.

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

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

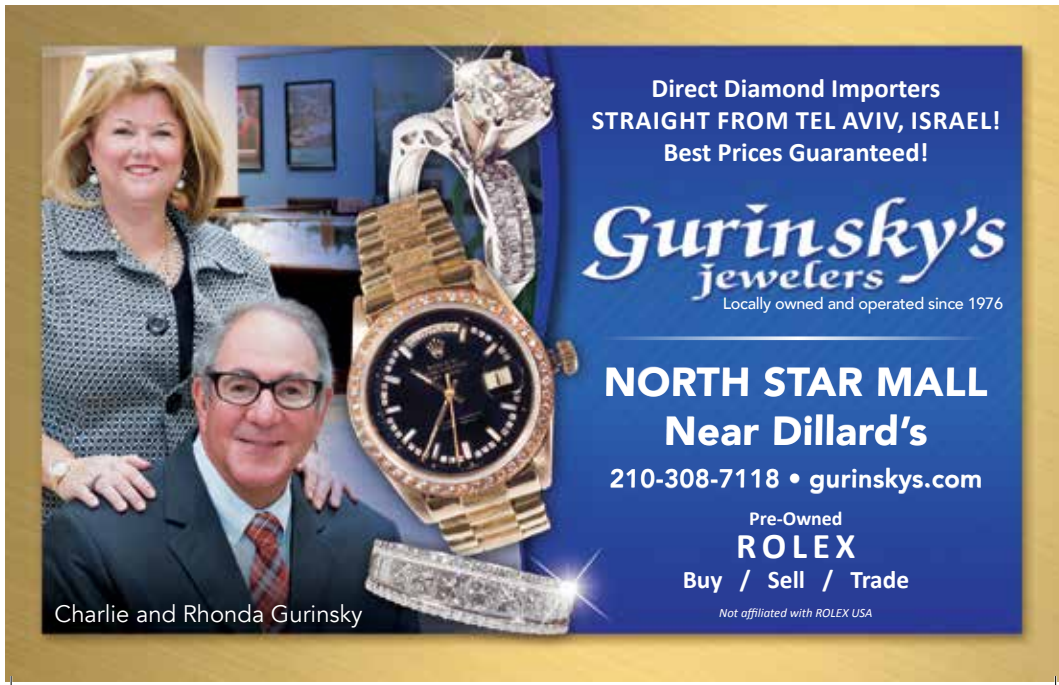
JEWISH JOURNAL EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jewish Journal of San Antonio is a monthly publication created and paid for by the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. The Journal's primary focus is creating awareness and engagement within the local Jewish community about activities, programs and issues with which the Jewish Federation is involved.

As a service to the broader Jewish community, area synagogues and organizations are invited to submit content relevant to the Jewish community at large for publication consideration.

Items selected for publication are done so solely at the discretion of the Journal Editor and the Jewish Federation. Submissions may be edited and/or re-written for content and length.

We aim to fairly reflect the breadth and depth of activities and Jewish life taking place in the San Antonio Jewish community.





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Educating San Antonio's Jewish Preschoolers for 29 years

Rosenthal family ensures legacy

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio has received a substantial bequest from trusts created under the Wills of Moss Rosenthal and Rebecca Rosenthal. The funds from the Rosenthal Trusts have been placed in the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies of San Antonio, ensuring the legacy of the Rosenthal family in perpetuity in our community. Dr. Sharon Rosenthal, daughter in law of Moss and Rebecca Rosenthal (and surviving spouse of Edward Rosenthal, Ph.D.), recalled that her husband's parents were long-time supporters of the Jewish Federation and other Jewish organizations and had moved to San Antonio from Brady, Texas, in the 1950's to be in a larger Jewish community.



The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies of San Antonio was established to help create permanent charitable endowments to support our community's growing and changing needs. Dedicated to furthering the quality of Jewish religion, life, and culture in the greater San Antonio area, the Foundation works with individuals and families who are passionate about the Jewish community. We help donors identify meaningful ways to provide a lasting contribution to the community they love.

For information on legacy gifts, please contact Ronit Sherwin,

Laser plans departure from GMJSS

To every thing there is a season.

After 9 years of dedicated service to Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services and after having successfully dealt with some health issues, Daniel Laser will be stepping down as Executive Director at the completion of the agency's fiscal year on June 30, 2017.

Daniel joined the organization in 2008, initially to aid in its transition after the sale of the Golden Manor Jewish Home for the Aged, then as Finance Director, Acting Executive Director, and Executive Director for 7 years. Under his leadership, the organization has changed its focus to connect with and enhance the lives of Jewish seniors in the San Antonio community, wherever they may reside. Primary initiatives developed during his tenure include transportation for seniors to religious and social events, support in the form of grants for senior programs through partnerships with over 8 other Jewish and non-Jewish agencies and synagogues, and direct programming in senior residential facilities with Jewish



LASER

populations. After the agency outgrew available space at the Campus, Daniel efficiently oversaw a move to the Acropolis building in 2016.

GMJSS has utilized the larger space to expand both staff and direct programs such as E.D.G.E. – classes and outings designed around its mission to Engage, Discover, Grow and Explore.

Daniel says he is "so proud to have had this opportunity to serve our San Antonio Jewish senior community" and he looks forward to continuing to contribute to our community in new ways.

Alice Troy, President of the GMJSS Board of Directors, comments: "The GMJSS board and larger community are so grateful to Daniel for the positive impact he has had on Jewish seniors in the San Antonio area. We wish him continued good health and fulfillment in his future endeavors."

The Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio Presents:

Holocaust Book Series

Dr. Victoria Aarons will present her books *Third Generation Holocaust Narratives: Memory in Memoir and Fiction* and *Third Generation Holocaust Representation: Trauma, History and Memory*

Wednesday, April 5th, 2017 at 6:00pm

In Auditorium C at the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community

After the discussion, the Holocaust Memorial Museum will be open to the public where visitors can purchase a signed copy of Dr. Aarons' publications.

Dr. Aarons *Third Generation Holocaust Representation* shows how Holocaust literary representation has continued to flourish into the 21st-Century – gaining increased momentum even as its perspective shifts into a third generation outpost.

This event is free and open to the public. Please RSVP online at www.jfsatx.org/events or by contacting Matthew Faulkner at (210) 302-6807 or email at faulknerm@jfsatx.org.



Jewish Federation®
OF SAN ANTONIO

FROM THE COVER

J-SERVE,

continued from page 1

transportation to service sites will be provided and activities will run until 3 p.m. T-shirts will be available to the first 100 teens to arrive.

Interested teens should register by Wednesday, March 29. For more information or to sign up, visit www.jccsanantonio.org/jserve, or contact Rachel Rustin, JCC Director of Jewish Journeys, at (210) 302-6969 or rustinr@jcc-sa.org.

AARONS, continued from page 1

University and the Education Committee Chair of the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio.

Her early career focused on the great American Jewish writers, Philip Roth, Bernard Malamud, and Saul Bellow. Each, she says, spoke experientially and culturally through the lens of *Yiddishkeit*, captivating readers to unique perspectives and voice. More recently, she has turned her academic eye to Holocaust literature and asks the question, "What does it mean to write about something one did not witness?"

As a judge of the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, a prize awarded each year to a rising American Jewish writer of fiction, she noticed the return to the subject of the Holocaust. In her latest books, Dr. Aarons examines these third-generation writers, the "transmission of trauma" and "the imaginative recreation and reconstruction of the past; and the future of Holocaust memory and representation."

To RSVP for her presentation, call (210) 302-6807 or email faulknerm@jfsatx.org.

IN LOVING MEMORY

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Dr. Alfred Sumberg



COMMUNITY SECOND NIGHT PASSOVER SEDER

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The Power of the Collective

After a few difficult weeks, my faith in Jewish communal life was restored at the February meeting of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. We had an open and honest discussion amongst the directors on an important and charged topic: Israel. Our board chair, Jonathan Gurwitz, moderated the conversation with great fairness and sensitivity. In the end, some agreed to disagree and did so respectfully.

Later in the meeting Judy Palans, the JFSA Vice Chair of Financial Resource Development, shared the campaign report for 2016. She noted that our final campaign number was just \$7,000 shy of \$1.5



**Letter from
our CEO**

RONIT
SHERWIN

million. Another member of the board then suggested that if each of us around the table committed \$333, we would hit \$1.5 million. A piece of paper was sent around and many of us signed and committed to an immediate increase. It was a beautiful moment.

It was not primarily about the \$1.5 million. The beauty of that evening was that after a challenging conversation, we could all agree that we were around that table because of our commitment to our Jewish community. While it can

be difficult and sometimes painful to acknowledge our differences, we are one people, one family.

We will soon welcome the season of spring (the change of seasons might not mean as much for us in Texas as it does for our friends and family in other parts of the country). I want to encourage each of us to recommit our dedication and love to our Jewish community. We are stronger together. When we gather around the Seder tables next month we'll remember that our lives are all about the questions, and our willingness to sit together and listen and be heard.

L'shalom,
Ronit

Why Jewish community must listen to opposing views

One of the first experts interviewed in the documentary film *The J Street Challenge* is Andrea Levin, executive director of the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America. CAMERA is a great organization that I have personally worked with to help fight anti-Israel bias in the media and on college campuses.

Levin's statement is clear and concise: "J Street is a phenomenon that is real and that the Jewish community needs to address. We should engage with them. We should talk to them. We should debate them."

Members of the local



**Letter from
our Board
Chair**

JONATHAN
GURWITZ

Jewish community shared online, encouraged others to watch and publicly screened *The J Street Challenge*. Sadly, some of them completely disregarded Levin's message, encouraging a boycott of a recent *Conversation about Israel* that included a representative of J Street in a panel discussion. Worse, others threatened to financially punish the Jewish Federation of San Antonio for doing precisely what Levin advised.

See **LETTER**, page 9

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YOM HASHOAH

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Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

Rabbi Ashi Gluck



Rabbi Ashi Gluck recently joined Congregation Rodfei Shalom as their new Youth and Outreach Director. He says he enjoys putting his positive energy and enthusiasm into running Rodfei Shalom's Sunday School, Shabbos groups, winter and summer camps, Bar Mitzvah lessons, NCSY teen group and more. He is also involved in San Antonio's Hillel at UTSA and Trinity, and

in creating a Jewish atmosphere for young professionals in the area. The Gluck family moved to San Antonio after living in Jerusalem for 5 years while Rabbi Ashi received his Rabbinic Ordination from The Jerusalem Kollel. Rabbi Ashi is married to Brach, and they have two children, Moishe (4) and Sari (1.5). Originally from Monsey, New York, Rabbi Ashi says he feels honored

and excited to be a part of the San Antonio Jewish community.

Q: What brought you to San Antonio?

A: The Spurs! No, seriously... We were really happy living in the Holy Land, but after becoming a Rabbi, I wanted to go out and try to make a difference for the Jewish world. We checked out many job positions, but when we

came here to San Antonio, I was immediately drawn to the amazing people of the community, and the opportunity to bring more Judaism to people's lives.

Q: What is your strongest Jewish memory?

A: Having been raised in a vibrant home built on love for my fellow Jews, Torah and G-d, every memory is a strong Jewish memory. But if I had to pick one, I would have to say witnessing my grandmothers' joyous dedication to Judaism and a Torah lifestyle, especially having survived the Holocaust.

Q: What volunteer activities do you find the most rewarding?

A: I especially love all the youth programming that I am fortunate enough to run at Rodfei Shalom. It

is tremendously rewarding for me to see the kids' smiles and enthusiasm as they build up their Jewish pride and love for G-d.

Q: What is your favorite Jewish holiday?

A: I truly love them all, for each holiday has its unique and special qualities. Any holiday spent together with my family and friends is always the best.

Q: What is your hope or aspiration for the San Antonio Jewish community?

A: To help continue building a vibrant Jewish community together with all y'all.

Scholarship & Program Grant Applications

Applications must be received no later than
Monday, April 3, 2017

Applications are available at:

www.jfsatx.org

or by contacting Caitlin Strayer at
210.302.6960 | strayerc@jfsatx.org



Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO



The Foundation for Jewish
Philanthropies of San Antonio

Grants

Non-Profit organizations are invited to submit program applications for funding new projects with grants between \$500 and \$7,500. If your organization received a grant last year, you may apply for a second year. Categories may include:

- Education
- Conservation/Preservation
- Religious
- Youth Arts & Culture
- Medical/Science
- Social/Human Service

Scholarships

Jewish Sleep-Away Camp

Scholarships are available to students entering grades 2-12. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Jewish High Schools

Scholarships are available to students attending a Jewish High School outside of San Antonio. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Undergraduate Studies

Scholarships are available to individuals seeking to further their undergraduate education. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Graduate Studies

Scholarships are available to individuals seeking a postgraduate degree in Jewish education, Rabbinical, or Cantorial studies. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Elmer and Sally Cooper Scholarship

Scholarships are available to Jewish students whose university studies are in pre-med in the United States. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Beady Berler Scholarship for Study in Israel

One scholarship is awarded annually to a student who is enrolled in a college or university within the state of Texas. This is a merit-based scholarship for an academic course of study in Israel as part of a degree program.

Area high school students selected for Holocaust Study Seminar

By Ellen Ollervidez

In early January, HMMSA Education Director Juana Rubalcava placed calls to eight high school students that had been selected for the Holocaust Study Seminar; a series of 15 classes that culminates with travel to Germany, Poland, and Hungary. This

program, funded by the Sue Carter Charitable Trust and developed by the staff of the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, is the brainchild of trust executor, Chris Busbee. It is Chris's belief that Holocaust education provides innumerable examples of human behavior and without a thorough understanding of this history, we will become

immune to its lessons and suffer its repetition. In an address to students, Chris delivered an empowering message that young people can make the world a better place and he is counting on them to do so. By developing this program, it is our belief that children will be more responsive and moved by the lessons of this tragic period in world history.

Students meet on Sundays for three hour sessions ranging in topics from the roots of antisemitism, the rise of Nazism, propaganda, and social, economic, political, and racial policy of government and institutions.



Maxine Cohen teaches the roots of Antisemitism to Holocaust Study Seminar students.

In mid-June, educators will accompany students to Berlin, Krakow, Auschwitz-Birkenau, and Budapest. Upon return, students will

develop and present exhibits that demonstrate their learning, understandings, and experiences to the community.



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Jewish National Fund and the Jewish Federation of San Antonio host Israel Defense Force Soldier

Lt. Col. Tiran Attia from the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) came to San Antonio on February 6 to speak to the community about his special initiative integrating youth with disabilities into the IDF.

He spoke about how the JNF is dedicated to ensuring

that no member of Israeli society is left behind.

Currently, there are more than 300 individuals with special needs involved in the Israeli military.

There are hopes to expand this number and this unit in the future.

Federation extended special thanks to Ande Maas and Tina Almendares for helping to bring this event to San Antonio and for sharing their own personal stories and sponsoring the refreshments for the evening.



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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



Dr. Marvin Forland, Dr. Elliot Weser, Karen Grinzaid, Dr. Michael Stern, Dr. Habib Nathan, and Dr. Susan Noorily

Maimonides Society welcomes JScreen

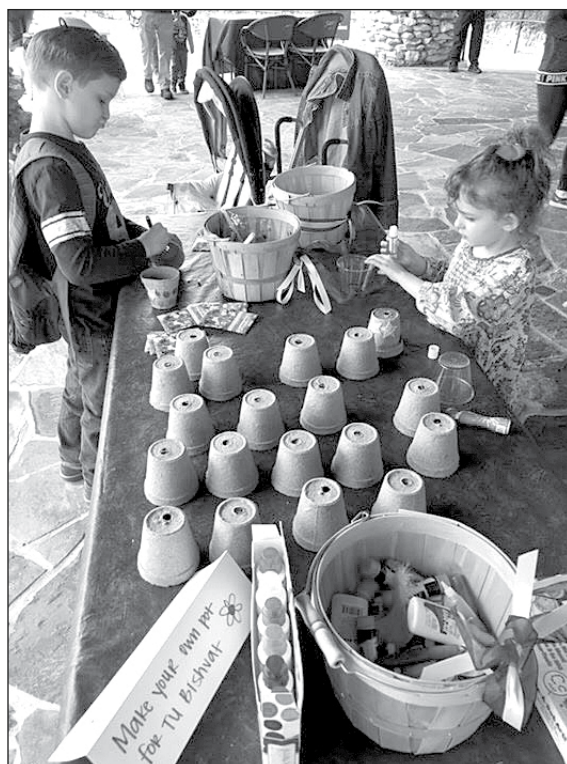
On January 26, Karen Grinzaid, Director of JScreen, spoke to community members about the prevalence of Jewish genetic diseases, their impact on individuals, families and communities, the importance of genetic screening to help people plan ahead for the health of their future families, and ways healthcare professionals can help families access information and testing. JScreen is a national online Jewish genetic disease carrier screening program based out of Emory University. The event was sponsored



Judy Scheinberg and Federation's Susan Kariv

by The Maimonides Society of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. Maimonides Society Leadership includes Drs. Marvin Forland,

Habib Nathan, Susan Noorily, Michael Ozer, Steven Rosenblatt, Stephen Shanfield, Michael Stern and Elliot Weser.



PJ FAMILIES CELEBRATE BU B'SHEVAT IN THE GARDEN

Fifteen PJ Library families headed to the San Antonio Japanese Tea Garden to make Tu B'Shevat trail mix, create their own bird feeders, and paint and decorate their own planting pots in honor of the birthday of the trees.

Guest reader, Leslie Hickey, shared two PJ Library books, *Happy Birthday Trees* and *Thank you Trees*. She also led the children in yoga-like stretching activities to grow as trees for Tu B'Shevat.

Beldon Library News

A new program for adults will begin on Tuesday, March 7 at 10 a.m. at the Beldon Library at the Jewish Campus.

The book discussion group, *Coffee, Books, & More*, is a cooperative effort with the Adult Enrichment & Education Program of the JCC.

This group will meet every other month. Bring your list of books to the March meeting.

Librarian Lynn Waghalter says there are many other programs ongoing at the library.

"There are new adult fiction in Hebrew ready for check-out, said Waghalter. "The Summer Reading Program children grades K – 5 will begin in June.

A Used Book Sale is in the works for late summer. Donations of gently used books are now being accepted."



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2017 *Learn and Remember* focuses on refuge in America

The Holocaust: Learn and Remember is a yearly commemoration and remembrance of the Holocaust. The 2017 events took place in January and February at San Antonio public library branches across the city. This year's theme focused on refuge in

the Americas. Partners for the event included the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, Sharkmatic Advertising, Carmen and Steve Goldberg, Rabbi Samuel and Lynn Stahl, and Bette and Jack Vexler.

AT RIGHT: (l to r): Ellen Ollervidez, HMMSA Director, Hannah Pankowsky, Holocaust Survivor, and Howie Nestel, co-founder of *The Holocaust: Learn and Remember*.



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LETTER

continued from page 5

Despite this boycott and the threats, the *Conversation about Israel* was one of the most well attended events Federation has sponsored in recent years. Nearly 200 people heard a vigorous debate between Jeremy Ben-Ami of J Street and Michael Makovsky of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), moderated by William Daroff, head of the Washington office of the Jewish Federations of North America.

There were no softball questions. And while the debate was civil, it also at times demonstrated a strong and serious clash of ideas. Whether one agrees with J Street or JINSA, I believe nearly everyone who attended found the event to be informative and valuable to the community.

The day before *Conversation about Israel*, the Federation board had its own vigorous debate about the propriety of the event. Even at that late date, had it been the will of the board to do so, we would have canceled the event. I invited – twice in fact – a motion to cancel the event.

Several members of the board expressed their reservations. Five asked to go on record as opposing Federation's sponsorship of the event. Supporters of the event and the commitment to dialogue and engagement prescribed by Levin were just as passionate. In the end, no one was willing to introduce a motion to cancel the *Conversation about Israel*.

There were three issues about which I believe the Federation board had unanimity. First, we all recognized the good intentions of those on both sides of this issue. As I wrote last month, no issue stirs more passion in the Jewish community than Israel, and appropriately so.

Second, we agreed that withholding financial support from Federation was not an acceptable

way to express displeasure about this event. No one who cares about the community, Federation's support of our local institutions and overseas allocations to Israel and Jewish communities abroad should weaken that support because of a disagreement about a panel discussion.

As board chair, I am ultimately accountable to the community for what happens at Federation. There are appropriate ways to express opposition to my leadership, at the board level and at the annual meeting.

Third, we agreed that Federation should have done a better job of vetting this issue and explaining it to the community. This shortcoming is personal for me, both because I am board chair and because it's what I do for a living.

Jerry Sandler, board chair of the Jewish Federations of North America, recently shared with its members his "Reflections on Bringing Back Civility" to the larger Jewish community. In it, he wrote, "I believe that Federations should be like think tanks. We convene thought leaders from inside and outside the community. We are the one organization that touches all others, from synagogues to agencies and beyond, in an effort to address the most serious issues affecting our communities today, from taking care of Jews in need to supporting the State of Israel."

In this spirit, the Jewish Federation of San Antonio will continue to support a variety of programming related to Israel, Holocaust education, the arts and culture, and engagement with the broader community. My commitment to the community as board chair is to make sure we are more proactive in reviewing and communicating events that might be misunderstood or that might engender controversy in parts of the community.

Chabad's Annual L'Chaim Celebration to be held on April 2

Chabad's Annual L'Chaim event will be held on Sunday, April 2 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning at 14535 Blanco Rd. Headlining the entertainment for the evening will be world class Trumpet Virtuoso Arik Davidov.

During the event, Ramiro Cavazos, President and CEO of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, will be honored with Chabad's Distinguished Community Service Award. Efraim and Orah Abramoff will be honored with the Dor L'Dor Award.

In addition to his myriad civic and professional accomplishments, Cavazos has been a stalwart friend and supporter of Israel and the San Antonio Jewish community for many years.

He was one of the founding members of the Latino Jewish Dialogue which began in 1992 in his own basement. Under his leadership, the Hispanic Chamber organized two trade missions to Israel and has actively promoted business and cultural ties between Israel and San Antonio.

In 2000, Cavazos was instrumental in securing the City of San Antonio's Office of Cultural Development's sponsorship of *Chanukah on the River*. In September of 2015, as a response to swastikas and vandalism in the Rodfei Sholom neighborhood, he organized the *Prevent Hate Crimes Forum* at the Pearl.

The Abramoffs arrived in San Antonio from Israel 50 years ago and San Antonio



Honoree Ramiro Cavazos



Honorees Efraim and Orah Abramoff

has never been the same. Efraim has been very active in the real estate development community contributing jobs and buildings to San Antonio's skyline. He has excelled in forging partnerships of Texans with Israelis in irrigation technology, medical imaging and more. His expertise and guidance was critical in the construction of Chabad's new center. Meanwhile, Orah - with her dynamic and vivacious personality - became a beloved Hebrew & Israeli dance teacher to hundreds throughout the years.

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities call the Chabad office at (210) 764-0300 visit www.chabadsa.com/lchaim.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday March 3

Light Candles at: 6:17 PM

Shabbat March 4

Shabbat Ends: 7:11 PM

Friday March 17

Light Candles at: 7:26 PM

Shabbat March 18

Shabbat Ends: 8:20 PM

Friday March 31

Light Candles at: 7:34 PM

Shabbat Apr 1

Shabbat Ends: 8:28 PM

Friday March 10

Light Candles at: 6:21 PM

Shabbat March 11

Shabbat Ends: 7:15 PM

Friday March 24

Light Candles at: 7:30 PM

Shabbat March 25

Shabbat Ends: 8:24 PM

PURIM BASH

Saturday, March 11

@ 8:30pm at
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Agudas Achim-Chabad's YJSA-Temple Chai-Temple Beth-El-Rodfei Sholom-YAD

For questions or more information, contact
Samantha Mazuz at mazuzss@jfsatx.org



masa von
Israel Journey



Temple Chai to offer class on Jewish Monotheism

Temple Chai will offer a two-session adult education course entitled *E Pluribus Unum – Jewish Monotheism*, on March 21 and 28 at 7 p.m.

Judaism is monotheistic, but the texts of our tradition emerged from a world that acknowledged many gods. Rabbi David Komerofsky will explore the many names of God and how the beliefs we take for granted today came to be.

“The motto of the United

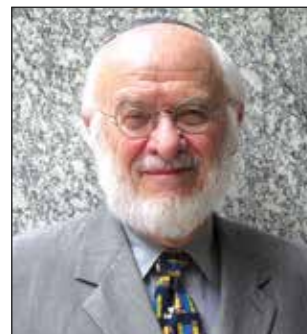
States, *E pluribus unum*, means ‘Out of one, many,’ said Rabbi Komerofsky. “It is also relevant to a Jewish understanding of God. The Torah acknowledges many deities, and one of Judaism’s greatest innovations was differentiating from its surroundings with the worship of a single Creator.”

This course is free and open to the public. To register, visit templechaisa.org/monotheism or call (210) 340-2090.

Renowned legal scholar Lewin to be Schaffer Scholar at Chabad March 3-4

Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning will host a Shabbat weekend open to the community featuring world-renowned legal scholar and attorney Nathan Lewin.

On Friday, March 3 services will begin at 6:15 p.m. followed by Shabbat dinner and lecture at 7 p.m. Lewin will speak on the topic of *Combating Hamas Terrorism in American Courts: The Story of the Landmark Case for US Victims of Terrorism in Israel*. A children’s program during the lecture will be provided. Cost for Friday night dinner is \$20 for



adults, \$12 for children under 12.

Saturday, March 4 morning services will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by the Torah reading at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Kiddush luncheon at 12:15 p.m. During lunch, Lewin will address the topic *Is Religious Liberty in Danger in America*. The

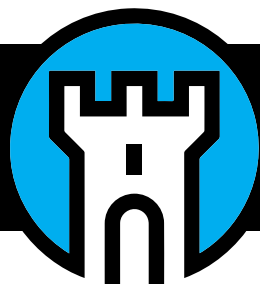
luncheon and address is free and open to the community.

On Saturday night at 8:30 p.m. at the home of Rabbi Chaim & Rivkie Block, Lewin will address *The Challenges of a Sabbath-Observing Litigator*. Light dinner will be served. Cost is \$10 per person.

Lewin has been recognized by the *DC Legal Times* as one of *Washington’s Greatest Lawyers of the Past 30 Years* and was ranked Number 2 among *Washington’s Best Lawyers* by the *Washingtonian*. His many clients have included former president Richard Nixon, actress Jodie Foster, and musician John Lennon.

Born on January 31, 1936, in Lodz, Poland, Lewin’s grandfather was the chief rabbi of Rzeszow and also served as a member of the Polish Legislature (“Sejm”). His father was the youngest member of the Lodz City Council in pre-war Poland.

This weekend is sponsored by Dr. Eric and Adah Schaffer in loving memory of Dorothy and Alfred Schaffer. For more information and reservations, please call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.ChabadSA.com/Lewin.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



TIME & TORAH AT RODFEI SHOLOM

During a parent children learning experience at Rodfei Sholom on February 4, parents were given the opportunity to teach Torah lessons to their children. The evening included Havdalah, Torah, pizza and ice cream.



FORMER ISRAELI CHIEF RABBI VISITS SAN ANTONIO

Former Chief Rabbi of Israel, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, visits with TASA students during his trip to San Antonio in February.



SUNSHINE CLUB SENIORS ENJOY ALL THAT JAZZ

Seniors enjoyed an afternoon of food and friends on February 7 at the Chabad Center with Jazz hits by Mark Greenwald at the Sunshine Club. The Sunshine Club is a joint program of the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning & Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services. For upcoming events visit www.ChabadSA.com/SunshineClub.



TEENS PREP FOR TEMPLE BETH-EL'S ANNUAL HAMENTASHEN SALE

Teens from Temple Beth-El enjoyed each other's company as they baked some of the 300 dozen hamentashen in the weeks leading up to Purim to support youth programs throughout the year.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



WORLD WIDE WRAP AT AGUDAS ACHIM

Agudas Achim participated in the World Wide Wrap on Superbowl Sunday. Agudas Achim was one of more than 120 Conservative synagogues all over the world who participated in the program. Men, women and students from the Inda Posner Religious School learned how to wrap tefillin together sharing in morning services. This was followed by breakfast sponsored by the Agudas Achim Men's Club.



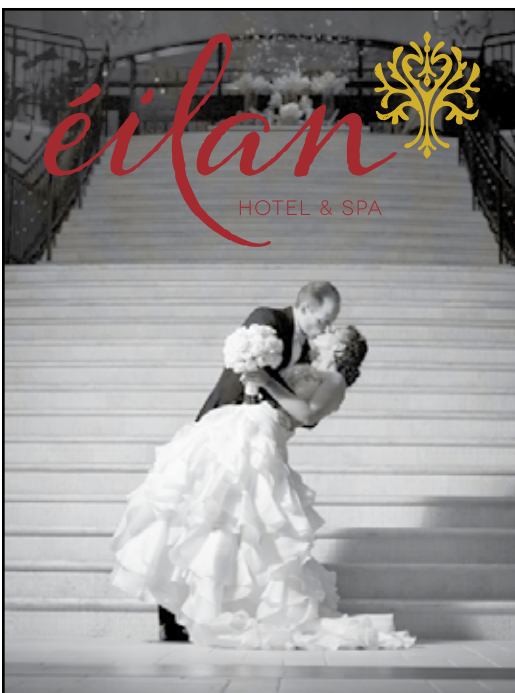
SIMCHA SOCIAL CLUB HOSTS TU B'SHEVAT SEDER

A large gathering of seniors turned out to hear Rabbi Ariel Platt lead a spiritual and thought provoking Tu B'Shevat Seder. Attendees ate different foods and drank juices that had meaning in the celebration of the first fruits of the season.

RABBI AND AUTHOR VISITS CHABAD



Author and Rabbi David Eliezrie reviewed and signed his recent book *The Secret of Chabad: Inside the World's Most Successful Jewish Movement* at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning on Sunday, Jan. 29.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



INTERFAITH SERVICES CREATE CULTURE OF AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING

Pastor Kenneth Kemp of Antioch Baptist Church speaks at Temple Beth-El during Shabbat services on MLK weekend. Both congregations shared multiple exchanges over the weekend, including the Temple's Senior Rabbi, Mara Nathan, speaking at the church's Sunday morning service.

JEWISH COMMUNITY PARTICIPATES IN THE 30TH ANNUAL MLK INTERFAITH SERVICE



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Service Sunday, Jan. 15 drew a large, diverse crowd at New Creation Christian Fellowship. Clergy included (above from left to right) Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, Reverend Woodie W. White, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton. Teens Jordan Wolf and Laini Komerofsky (at right) carried the Jewish banner in the interfaith procession.



ANNUAL MLK JR. MARCH MARKS 30TH YEAR

San Antonio's 30th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. March took place on Monday, Jan. 16. More than 50 members of the Jewish community marched together in honor of MLK, Jr. Organizers are looking forward to even more participation next year.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



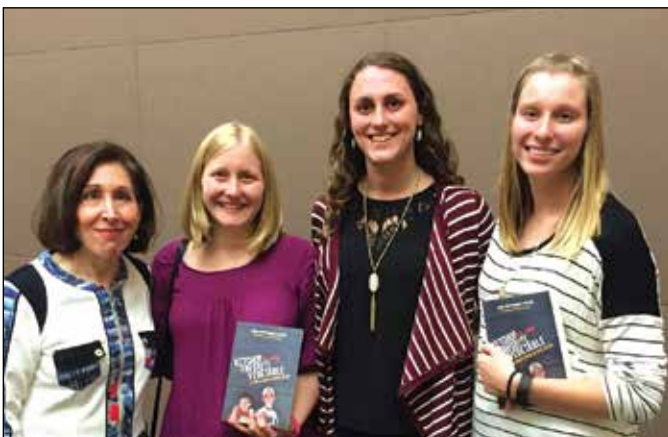
CHUGGING ALONG AT TEMPLE BETH-EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Temple Beth-El middle school students cooking up a storm in their Religious School cooking chug.



PAINTING WITH A TWIST

The JCC partnered with Painting with a Twist Alon in January for a JCC night of painting.



AUTHOR ADDRESSES IMPACT OF AUTISM ON FAMILIES

Author Liane Kupferberg Carter, who spoke at the JCC in January about her book, *Ketchup is My Favorite Vegetable: A Family Grows Up with Autism*, pictured with Trinity Master of Arts in Teaching students and Hillel alumni.



GAN GANI CELEBRATES TU-B'SHEVAT WITH PLANTING

Alamo Area Master Naturalist Lissa Martinez and Texas Forest Service Regional Urban Forester Mark Kroeze plant a tree on the front lawn at Gan Gani Preschool as part of students' Tu B'Shevat curriculum. For more information about Gan Gani, visit GanGani.org.



HOW TO RAISE A MENSCH

Rodfei Sholom Scholars in residence, Rabbi and Mrs. Yitz Greenman, spoke at the home of Rabbi Ashi and Brach Gluck on January 28 about the topic of "How to Raise a Mensch."

HOLOCAUST BOOK SERIES

On January 25, Dr. Edward Westermann presented his new book, *Hitler's Ostkrieg and the Indian Wars: Conquest and Genocide*, to over 75 guests. The next presentation in the series will take place April 5.



IN THE COMMUNITY



Young adults enjoy Texas Weekend Retreat at Horseshoe Bay

A delegation from YJSA (Young & Jewish San Antonio) enjoyed the first ever Texas Weekend Retreat at Horseshoe Bay Resort together with Jewish young adults from Austin, Dallas and Houston. It started with a *holy happy hour*, followed by lively Shabbat services and a lavish dinner where everyone shared a little something about themselves. There was also learning, meditation, a BBQ and bonfire, and food all weekend long. The weekend was topped off with a hike to Enchanted Rock. Another Texas weekend retreat is being planned. Visit www.YJSA.org for upcoming events.

Hadassah Shabbat and Chai Tea

The 105th anniversary of the founding of Hadassah will be celebrated at two events in San Antonio this month.

Temple Chai will host the annual Hadassah Shabbat on the Shabbat before Purim, Friday, March 10, at 6:45 p.m. Hadassah leaders will participate in the services and provide goodies at the Oneg Shabbat afterward.

To replicate the first-ever gathering of Hadassah, when Henrietta Szold brought

her friends together for tea, the San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah will hold a "Chai" Tea on Sunday, March 26, at 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Garden Tea Lounge (in the Craftiques Mall) at 2375 N.W. Military Hwy. Those who attend will enjoy a full luncheon tea and learn about Hadassah's "Chai Society." Tickets are \$36. For reservations, contact Hadassah.

If you know a woman in her 20s, 30s, 40s, or 50s

who might be interested in Hadassah, tell her about the Aviva Group, a group for younger women. They're planning their own events, including monthly lunches and other fun gatherings. Like the Facebook page at facebook.com/HadassahAvivaSA.

For more information Leslie Hickey at (719) 233-9353 or carsman@hotmail.com, or Suzanne Patrick at (301) 461-2098 or suzannepatrick@gmail.com.

APPLICATIONS

continued from page 1

Young Leadership Course is designed to encourage and nurture Jewish volunteerism and increase participation in and commitment to the San Antonio Jewish Community.

The 2016-2017 cohort of the ELC has become a close-knit group of 17 participants. For the eight sessions of the course, the participants have discussed and learned about topics including; the Jewish history of San Antonio, the structure and workings of the local Jewish community, the needs and challenges facing Israel and world Jewry and how to be a great advocate, and the development of specific leadership skills to make a positive contribution to



l to r: ELC Participants Cameron Ervin-Dillard, Devin Billstein, and Omri Russo at a recent ELC Shabbat Dinner. Also pictured is Anna Keene.

Jewish life.

Applications for the next cohort will be available over the summer and the course will kick off in August 2017. To learn more about the ELC, or if you or someone you know may be interested in participating in the course, contact Samantha Mazuz at mazuzss@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6970.



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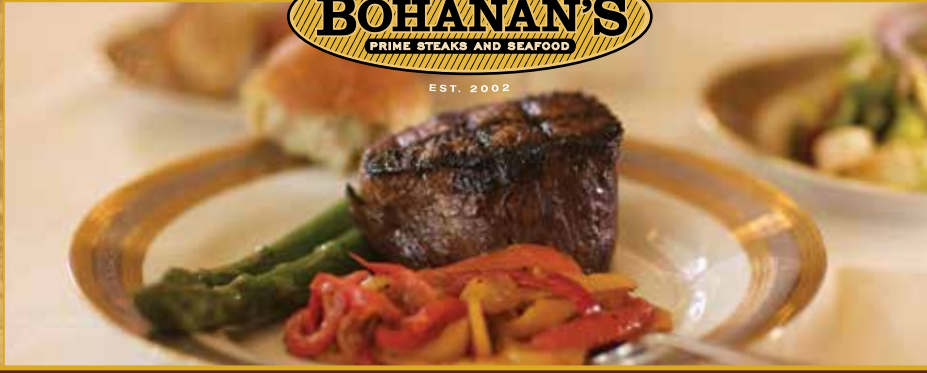
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Heintz Preschool opens enrollment for 2017-2018 School Year and Literacy Summer Camp

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim has opened enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year. The program includes Hebrew and Spanish Immersion as well as an academic curriculum.

"We pride ourselves on our challenging curriculum and nurturing environment with small class sizes here at Heintz Preschool," said Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado, who adds that she is excited about both the core hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the school continuing to expand with a growing number of students staying for extended day from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition to opening enrollment, Heintz Preschool will host Open Houses Fridays March 3, 24, 31, and April 7 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Enrollment is also now open for Heintz Preschool's Summer Literacy Camp. Weekly themes center around beloved children's



books. The children will enjoy water activities, bouncy houses, and a petting zoo, and learn about dinosaurs, reptiles, transportation, furry friends and nature. Each week is full of stimulating activities, lessons and play.

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



TASA students make terrariums at the San Antonio Botanical Gardens during their Tu B'Shevat field trip.

Celebrating Tu B'Shevat with TASA

Students of the The Shumel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio took a field trip to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens in honor of Tu B'Shevat. Grades were split into different groups where they had the opportunity to go on a teacher-guided tour of the Botanical Gardens. Students also took part in the Terrarium Ecosystem program, during which the students constructed terrariums to take home, while learning about plant growth and ecosystems. Students also learned about the meaning of Tu B'Shevat, and the seven species of produce that have a special connection to the land of Israel.

NCSY Regional Shabbaton in Dallas

Over 20 San Antonio Jewish Teens will be joining 200 Jewish Teens from all over Texas and Colorado, for a Regional Shabbaton in Dallas. They will spend Shabbat together, making new friends, hearing speakers, and experiencing unique programs. For more information contact Rabbi Ashi Gluck at (210) 493-3557.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUTH

TASA opens enrollment through 8th grade

The Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio has expanded its program to include an 8th grade for the coming school year.

TASA's mission is to provide its students with a well-rounded college preparatory education, with a balanced emphasis on practical skills, knowledge, and training necessary to succeed in the 21st century. This is done in an environment



that fosters and cultivates Jewish values, ethics, and identity.

TASA caters to a diverse set of families with different interests, socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds, and Jewish observance levels. Part of TASA's mission is the belief that high-quality Jewish education is a right, not a privilege, which should be afforded to every

Jewish student, regardless of socio-economic status.

To schedule a tour of TASA or an appointment with Rabbi Nimchinsky, Head of School, please call the TASA office at (210) 607-7261 or email office@torahacademysa.com.

Applications for grades K-8 can be found on the TASA website at TorahAcademySa.com.

Inda Posner Religious School at Congregation Agudas Achim expands

The Inda Posner Religious School at Congregation Agudas Achim has grown by nearly 35% in the last two years. As part of its growth, the school has also expanded its family programming and activities within the school.

"It is very important to us that the religious school experience is not only about the children but the entire family going on this Jewish journey together," said Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Senior Rabbi at Agudas Achim. "We are always looking for different ways to connect families to make Judaism more

meaningful in their lives."

New programs have included a special five session Family B'nei Mitzvah Class for sixth grade families, and a fourth and fifth grade student led Shabbat service followed by a traditional Shabbat dinner with their families.

Religious school parents now get together on the last Sunday of each month for a "Kaffee Klatch" to schmooze, enjoy food together and to get to know each other.

For information, please contact Rabbi Abraham at (210) 479-0307 or rabbi.abraham@agudas-achim.org.

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YOUTH



Registration for Spring Break and Summer J-Camp underway

Registration for the JCC's Spring Break J-Camp (March 13-17) and Summer J-Camp is under way. J-Camp is one of only four camps in the San Antonio area currently accredited by the American Camping Association.

Parents who are interested in sending their children to camp are encouraged to attend the Summer J-Camp Open House Tuesday, March 27 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

JCC Members can register now through March 31 to take advantage of Early Bird registration fees. Registration opens to the public April 1. For more information, visit www.jccsanantonio.org/camp.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: SENIORS

Resource guide available to help seniors and caregivers

When should you step in and assist an aging parent, companion, sibling or friend? Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) has developed a new guide that can help by providing resources and other information to be prepared.

This new tool is a go-to guide for seniors and caregivers, providing

information from local legal resources to a check-list to help with a transition or visit to a care facility. The 1st edition of the guide is now available free of charge around the community – including synagogues, some local businesses, or by calling the GMJSS office to request a copy. This living document will be updated and published to connect the

San Antonio Jewish Senior community to the resources you need.

The guide includes a foldable medical card that is intended to hold essential information such as medications, significant medical history and emergency contacts. For more information or for copies, call the GMJSS office at (210) 616-4811.

L'Chayim Club explores *The Road to Being Healthy and Happy*

The L'Chayim Club will host its monthly get-together on Wednesday, March 15 from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Congregation Rodfei Sholom. Tirza Nestel, a dietician and nutritionist, will discuss *Good Nutrition: The Road to Being Healthy and Happy*. Nestel has practiced dietetics for more than 17 years, and works with adults and children with specific nutrition needs and diseases. She specializes in creating and implementing nutrition programs, and providing shopping and cooking advice to

families.

There will be a D'Var Torah given by Rabbi A. Scheinberg, followed by a home-cooked meal. Seniors are invited to attend at no charge, thanks to a grant from Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services and co-sponsorship of Rodfei Sholom., and the cost for all others is \$5 per person. If attending, please RSVP by Monday, March 13 to the synagogue office at (210) 493-3557 or rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Join E.D.G.E. for spring social outings

Jewish seniors can enjoy a free night of theatre at The Playhouse San Antonio on March 2 from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. The senior theatre group Timeless Theatre Troupe, funded in part by GMJSS, will present the Senior Theatre Showcase. Ample parking

available, along with new accessible lobby and bathrooms. No reservations needed.

Bring your family and friends, and support Jewish senior services in San Antonio while you dine out on April 26 from 4 p.m. to close, Willie's Grill & Ice

House at 4051 North Loop 1604 West will donate 15% of your check to GMJSS. No reservations needed. Can't dine in? To-go orders benefit GMJSS, too. Just be sure to mention that you are supporting the GMJSS spirit night.

These social events are part of a program sponsored by GMJSS called E.D.G.E., which was developed to help seniors to continue to engage, develop, grow and explore as they age. For questions or for transportation, please call the GMJSS office at (210) 616-4811.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: TEENS

AGUDAS ACHIM SHABBATON WEEKEND AT CAMP YOUNG JUDEA

Students in third through eighth grade from Agudas Achim in Austin and San Antonio got together for a joint weekend Shabbat celebration held at Camp Young Judea in Wimberley. It was an opportunity to learn, dance, sing and participate in a communal Shabbat experience as well as to enjoy camp and the outdoors together.



NCSY SUPER BOWL PARTY

Thirty Jewish High School students bonded during a fun-filled evening hosted by Jewish youth group NCSY on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5.



Seeking Volunteers to Teach in the Museum

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

Do you enjoy learning and working with the public?

Are you seeking a rewarding volunteer experience?

Consider becoming a docent at the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio. A history background is not required... just an interest in learning and a high level of enthusiasm. A new partnership with Yad Vashem has allowed us to create an ongoing docent training program which will kickoff on February 1st through an online digital portal. Training will continue with our Museum staff and experienced docents.

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



Texas Hillel's successful campus engagement internship

At Texas Hillel, we work hard every day to reach out to students and build meaningful relationships. We measure the success of these engagement efforts by our attendance and engagement numbers. As of January 17, 1,322 unique students had an interaction, such as attended an event or a personal interaction with Hillel staff, intern or student leader, since August. We are so proud of

these extraordinarily high engagement numbers and largely attribute this success to our Campus Engagement Internship program.

The Campus Engagement Internship program trains 10 students every year to identify and build relationships with students who might not otherwise get involved at Texas Hillel or Jewish life on campus. With coffee dates, get-togethers and events at Hillel, Campus

Engagement Interns (CEIs) connect with students by understanding their interests and connecting them to opportunities they find meaningful.

Current CEI Supervisor Moriah Sonsino (senior in the Liberal Arts Honors Program from San Antonio) states, "Our goal is to connect to Jewish students who don't have a Jewish connection. We want them to develop a bond to Judaism

while they are in college so they carry that with them into the future."

CEIs help students get involved by becoming a familiar face and inviting them to events. A student Moriah engaged with when she was a CEI was freshman Graeme Campbell (junior majoring in Jewish Studies from Houston). Moriah and Graeme connected at an event and she's watched him become increasingly

involved ever since. In her words, "Graeme is practically running Hillel now" as a former Executive Cabinet member and current Jewish Student Life intern.

We look forward to the continuing success of the CEI program and to reaching more Jewish students so they have meaningful experiences at UT and become Jewish community leaders post-college.

ARTS & CULTURE

Fiesta parade tickets on sale – B'nai B'rith

As a fundraiser for B'nai B'rith, the San Antonio lodge is selling seats for the 2017 Fiesta parades. Tickets are \$12 each for seats on the eastside of Broadway between 9th and 10th Streets. Monies raised will assist Hillel chapters in San Antonio, Austin and

College Station, as well the Jewish Federation's Literacy Council, Jewish Family Service's Passover program and Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services. For purchases or additional information, contact Lodge President, Irwin Barath at (210) 341-4502.

JCC presents a comedy night, plus two authors this spring

March and April are full of entertainment, education, and culture at the Jewish Community Center. Thursday, March 9 at 8 p.m., the JCC partners with Laugh Out Loud! Comedy Club for an evening of comedy with Gary Gulman.

One of the only comedians to perform on every late night comedy show, Gary's stand up is sure to delight. Tickets are \$10 each, or two for \$16 when purchased in advance.

Call (210) 302-6867 or visit www.jccsanantonio.org/comedy for more information.

Sunday, March 26 at 10 a.m., the JCC hosts Kim



Friedman and Kate Siegel, whose book, *Mother, Can You Not?*, is based on the Instagram account, @CrazyJewishMom. The event features brunch bites by Irene's Kosher Catering and

celebrates the Jewish mothers and daughters in everyone's life. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for teens.

Finally, April 6 at 7 p.m., the JCC welcomes Gary Belsky, author of *On the Origins of Sports: The Early History and Original Rules of Everybody's Favorite Games*. Gary will discuss the historical and cultural contexts of several sports' origins, as well as the relationship between Jews and Sports. Tickets are \$10 each.

Call (210) 302-6867 or visit www.jccsanantonio.org/authorspeakerseries for more information for both author events.

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Concert at Temple Beth-El

The community is invited to Temple Beth-El for a concert featuring the music of local composer, David Pinansky, on Sunday, March 14 at 4 pm.

This concert will highlight some of his many instrumental and choral compositions written for both synagogue and secular use. Performers

will include David Pinansky, Cantor Julie Berlin, Robert Brewer and a professional vocal ensemble.

A light reception will follow.

PURIM 2017

starts the evening of Saturday, March 11 through the evening of Sunday, March 12

Chabad plans *Purim in the Palace* celebration

Chabad will hold its annual Purim Megillah reading on Saturday Night, March 11 at 8 p.m. in the sanctuary at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

During the reading there will be a special multi-media presentation for the children.

Following the Megillah, reading the community is invited for refreshments

and music. Costumes are encouraged.

Sunday morning, March 12, services will be held at 8 a.m. during which the Megillah will be read at 8:45 a.m. Sunday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. another Megillah reading will take place, followed by the annual meal and celebration.

This year's theme will be *Purim in the Palace*, held at Chabad at 5:30 p.m. The

Persian palace-themed program will include a Live Fire Juggling show by Brothers of the Flame, pony rides, live music and dancing and Purim related activities for children.

Cost of the dinner is \$15 for adults, \$10 for children 3 and over.

For reservations, call Chabad at (210) 764-0300 or visit www.ChabadSA.com.



Purim Ball 2016

Agudas Achim hosts Purim celebrations

Congregation Agudas Achim will celebrate Purim Roaring 20's style at its annual Purim Ball on March 4. The event will include food, music and a silent auction.

Purim Palooza! takes place Sunday, March 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. The family event includes face painting, Inflatables and join in dozens of carnival games. The cost is \$5 per person; children under

age 2 are free.

Magician and juggler, Tim St. John, will entertain at *Megillah Magic* and free dinner on Saturday, March 11 at 6 p.m. A Megillah Reading and costume contest follows at 7:15 p.m.

To RSVP to all events, call Agudas Achim at (210)479-0307 or email rsvp@agudas-achim.org.

Beth-El Players present...

The Beth-El Payers at Temple Beth-El will present a fun Purim shpiel on Saturday, March 11 at 6 p.m.

The Room Where It Happens is written in the style of the wildly popular Broadway Musical. Temple Beth-El's "rollicking"

annual Purim event will be held in the Barshop Auditorium.

For details visit www.beth-elsa.org.

Purim Seudah and Megillah at Rodfei Sholom

On Sunday, March 12 at 3pm, Congregation Rodfei Sholom will host its annual Purim Seudah and Megillah Reading. This year's theme will be *Throwback Israeli* with the food and dress

from Israel's early years. Kibbutzniks, IDF, El Al, Ben Gurions and Golda Meirs are all welcome. Neck ties are not. There will be falafel, shawarma, hummus, chocolate spread,

and more. There will also be camels, music, and fun for the whole family. All are welcome. Contact the synagogue office for more information.

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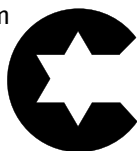
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PASSOVER 2017

starts the evening of Monday, April 10
through the evening of Tuesday, April 18

Temple Chai to host second annual Seder at the Food Bank

In the Pesach Hagaddah we recite: "let all who are hungry, come and eat..." In keeping with this theme, Temple Chai will hold its second annual Community Seder on Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Food Bank (5200 Enrique M. Barrera Pkwy, San Antonio, TX 78227). The menu is provided by Catalyst Catering, a non-profit arm of the SAFB. All proceeds benefit the Food Bank.

"This is a worthy collaboration for our congregation which has collected non-perishable food at our Shabbat services practically since its inception," explained Temple Chai's Rabbi David Komerofsky. "Last year we initiated this collaboration to highlight the theme of the holiday and connect it with local issues of hunger. The Food Bank does exceptional work, and Temple Chai is pleased to highlight its mission

on the holiday of Passover."

A traditional menu will be served, and is \$25/members, \$30/non-members, half-price for children 6-11, and free for children 5 and under. Complimentary transportation will be available from Temple Chai's Lockhill Selma home to/from the Food Bank. Reservations are required and due April 3.

For reservations, please visit www.templechaisa.org/Seder or call (210) 340-2090.

Temple Beth-El to host several Passover Seders

Temple Beth-El will host several Passover Seders which are open to the community.

To RSVP and for more information about each of these Seders visit www.beth-elsa.org:

- Community Seder (second night) – Saturday,

April 11 at 6 p.m. led by Temple clergy at Temple Beth-El.

- Women's Seder – Tuesday, March 28 at 6:15 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, led by Temple clergy and volunteers. This year's Seder will include reflections from multi-generational

family members Tory and Barbara Richmond, Lainey Komerofsky, Rachel and Bobi Stern.

- Men's Seder – Thursday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at the Barn Door Restaurant. Service will be led and underwritten by Temple's Brotherhood.

Agudas Achim prepares for Passover

Congregation Agudas Achim will host the following events for Passover:

- A Passover Storytime with Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham at Barnes and Noble La Cantera will take place Tuesday, April 4 at 4:30 p.m. This program is free and open to all. There will be lots of fun with singing, stories, games and more.

- A pre-Passover potluck is scheduled for Friday, April 7 at 6:15 p.m. beginning with Friday Night with Friends Musical Kabbalat Shabbat

Service, and Family Friendly preschool and elementary school service. This potluck is *not* Kosher for Passover and offers an opportunity to use up the last of your hamaetz. Bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share.

No RSVP necessary. Agudas Achim will provide tableware, drinks and dessert.

- On Sunday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m., bring the kids for some pizza and fun playing on a San Antonio Fire Department fire truck. Bring your hamaetz. The

department will oversee an on-site burning of non-Kosher for Passover products. The event is free and open to all.

- Agudas Achim will host an interactive Second Night Community Seder on April 12, 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per adult, \$10 Youth (6-11 yrs.) and under 5 is free. Space is limited.

For more information and to make reservations for any of the events, please call (210) 479-0307 or rsvp@agudas-achim.org.

YOUR JEWISH COMMUNITY

SAN ANTONIO CONGREGATIONS

Congregation Agudas Achim (Conservative)

16550 Huebner Road, 78248
Phone: (210) 479-0307
Fax: (210) 479-0295
website: www.agudas-achim.org
Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Senior Rabbi
Hazzan Jeremy Lipton
Rabbi Ariel Greenberg, Director of
Congregational Learning

Congregation Beth Am (Reconstructionist)

7150 IH 10 West, 78213
Phone: (210) 492-2173 /
Fax: (210) 342-8935
website: www.bethamsatx.org
Lay Leader Marion Bernstein

Congregation Rodfei Sholom (Orthodox)

3003 Sholom Dr., 78230
Phone: (210) 493-3557
Fax: (210) 492-0629
E-Mail address: rodfeisa@gmail.com
Website: www.rodfeisholom.org
Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg
Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg

Temple Beth-El (Reform)

211 Belknap Place, 78212
Phone: (210) 733-9135
Fax: (210) 737-8946
E-mail address: Temple@beth-elsa.org
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Join PJ Library at these upcoming events...

A Pasta Springbreak Playdate

Tuesday, March 14 from 5-7pm
At Walker Ranch Park
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PERMITTING

A Pre-Passover Party

Sunday, April 2 from 3-5pm
At Congregation Agudas Achim
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New year at a glance

What has the JWV Post of San Antonio been up to?

- Installation of new officers at a dinner featuring guest speaker M.H. Levine, Executive Director of Jewish Family Service, who spoke on his experiences in the US Air Force.

- Bingo social for patients at the CTC Audie Murphy VA Hospital. The next bingo social will be on May 30, from 7 to 8 p.m.

- First post meeting under the leadership of Herschel Sheiness, with guest speaker Abel Araiza with the Fort Sam Houston Memorial Detachment Services.

Coming next: On March 26, the post will host its monthly meeting in room 277 at the Jewish Campus starting at 9 a.m. with a light breakfast followed by the business meeting.

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 MARCH and who are buried in a local cemetery. (If you know of a name that is missing please contact Herschel at 468-5598.)

ABBY, JOSEPH	FINDER, RUDOLF	PANZER, CHARLES
ADELMAN, JACK	FOX, LEO	PINKUS, HAROLD
ADLER, HARRY	FORTGANG, HERBERT	POMERANCE, HARVEY
ALTER, JACK	FREEDMAN, LESTER	PTASHKIN, NORMAN
APTER, MORRIS	FRIEDMAN, BEN	RISKIND, RUEBEN
ARBETTER, MILTON	GEISBERG, WALTER	ROMAN, JOSEPH
BEILIN, HARRY	GILBERT, HENNON,	ROSEN, HERBERT
BERENZON, OSCAR	GOLD, PETER,	ROSENBLATT, JULIUS
BERHKNOPF, SAMUEL	GREENFIELD, LOUIS,	ROSETT, FORREST
BLAKKHARTT, JESSIE	HIRSCH, LOUIS	RUBUN, HARRY
BRIDGES, JAMES	JACOBSON, HARRY	RUBIN, LESTER
BRITTON, HOWARD	JARROW, LYLE	SACKS, HARRIS
BROOK, BERNARD	JASIE, MAX	SARTOR, BURT
BROOK, BOB	KAPLAN, JAMES	SCHWARTZBACH, CHARLES
COHEN, HAROLD	KAUFMAN, LESLIE	SEEMAN, NORMAN
DOMAN, SAMUEL	KNITTLE, GERALD	SELIG, FRANK
DORF, JEROME	KRAUSS, SOLOMON	SINGER, HERBERT
DYM, DAVID	LADENSOHN, SAMUEL	SOLIS, JACOB
ELLNER, BERNARD	LANE, FRANK	SOSKIN, MARSHALL
ESQUIVEL, JESUS	LAWRENCE, HARRY	STRUM, JEROME
FEINBERG, RAYMOND	LITOFSKY, JACK	TRINIDAD, GABRIEL
	MARCUS, HYMAN	TRODLIER, WILLIAM (KIA)
	MAZUR, GERALD	UMAN, BERNARD
	MEYER, SAUL	USDANE, DAVID
	MILLER, JOSEPH	VOGEL, ADOLPH
	MILLER, SIDNEY	WEINBERG, JACOB
	MORGAN, DAVID	WEINSTEIN, ALICE
	MYRELL, JOSEPH	WOLFE, EDWARD
	NEWMAN, MORRIS	WOOD, HAROLD
	ORTIZ, DAVID	YOURMAN, HYMAN
	OKRENT, MURRAY	

U.S. & WORLD

January tally of terrorist attacks in Israel bloodiest in 6 months

(JTA) – Five Israelis were killed in January by Palestinian terrorists, making the month the deadliest since June, according to Israel's security service.

The Shin Bet recorded a total of 100 attacks in January, which left 16 wounded, according to its monthly report published in late February.

Four of the victims were killed in Jerusalem on January 8 when the assailant drove his truck into a crowd of soldiers. One man was killed the previous week in Haifa. Of the attacks documented in January, 81 involved the hurling of firebombs.

The previous month had seen 98 attacks.

2016 called unprecedented year for hate in U.S.

(JTA) –The number of hate groups in the United States rose in 2016, and most of them subscribe to anti-Semitic views, a civil rights group found.

Last year, 917 hate groups were active, up from 892 in 2015, according to a report released in February by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

At least 550 of the 917 groups are anti-Semitic in nature. The groups active in 2016 include 99 categorized as neo-Nazi, 100 as white nationalist, 130 as Ku Klux Klan and 21 as Christian Identity, a religious movement that says whites are the true Israelites and Jews are descended from Satan.

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Jewish Federations awards new round of grants to help Holocaust survivors

(JTA) — The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) recently announced the distribution of \$2.8 million in grants to 34 organizations in 18 states and 27 communities through its Center for Advancing Holocaust Survivor Care, which was established to address the

needs of thousands of Holocaust Survivors in the United States.

In addition to this federal effort, Jewish Federations' National Holocaust Survivor Initiative links support from Federations, foundations, private citizens and federal, state and local governments to help aging Holocaust

Survivors live with dignity and security in the comfort of their communities.

The initiative includes a \$45 million fundraising campaign, and the local funding awarded today comes from the federal funding plus philanthropic dollars raised through the Federations' campaign.

Finally, a book for Jews with Alzheimer's

By Lisa Keys

NEW YORK (JTA) — The book is large and fits comfortably on a lap. The color photographs nearly fill each page. Each image depicts real people doing everyday Jewish things — a young girl eating matzah ball soup; a bubbe and her grandchildren lying in the grass; a man wearing tefillin, praying. The sentences are in large print; they are simple ("Mother says the blessing over the candles") and easy to read.

But the book is not for young children learning how to read, nor is it for parents to introduce Judaism to their preschoolers.

Rather it is designed for those suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's disease, a progressive type of dementia that causes a slow decline in thinking, memory and reasoning. The book — a series of independent pictures and captions — requires no memory to read and follow along, allowing those with memory-loss issues to enjoy and engage with each image on its own terms.

L'Chaim: Pictures to Evoke Memories of a Jewish Life,

by Eliezer Sobel, is probably the first book of its kind — a Jewish-themed book created explicitly for adults with Alzheimer's or dementia.

"If patients see the pictures, say the names of the pictures, make some comments or are in any

way affected by the books, that's a good thing, period," David Teplow, a professor of neurology at UCLA, told JTA.

The book is available on Amazon.com and other online bookstores.

MAZAL TOV

BAR MITZVAH: Spalding Yaakov Garakani



Spalding Yaakov Garakani will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 18, at Congregation Agudas Achim. He is the son of Heidi A. Roschek and brother of Sterling Garakani. Spalding is a freshman at Churchill High School, where he is a part of the Junior Varsity swim team and is known by his fellow teammates as a 'hardcore breaststroker'. He also plays the violin for the JV orchestra, where he sits 2nd Violin, 1st Chair. For his mitzvah project, Spalding has chosen to volunteer his service for the San Antonio Food Bank at Haven for Hope Community Kitchen.

MAZAL TOV

BAR MITZVAH: Joseph Michael Friedberg



Joseph Michael Friedberg will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 25, at Congregation Agudas Achim. He is the son of Dr. Michael and Barbara Friedberg and brother of John Friedberg. Joseph is the grandson of Ruth and Samuel (of blessed memory) Friedberg of San Antonio and John and Patricia Rayl (of blessed memory). Joseph is an A honor roll student at William P. Hobby Middle School and played on the 7th grade basketball team. He was also a member of the 7th grade football team. Joseph enjoys playing the clarinet, tenor saxophone and piano. He enjoys taking piano lessons with Dr. Nicole Narboni. Joseph also enjoys being a part of the Boy Scouts. Joseph's mitzvah project is to collect non-perishable food items for the San Antonio Food Bank. He will have a collection bin in the synagogue rotunda beginning March 1.

BAR MITZVAH: Michael David Kressbach



On Saturday, April 1, Michael David Kressbach will be called to the Torah as Bar Mitzvah at Temple Beth-El. Michael is in seventh grade at Stinson Middle School where he is on the A Honor Roll and plays saxophone in the symphonic band. Michael's Bar Mitzvah project is helping the animals at the San Antonio Zoo by gathering supplies — from paper towel rolls to used fire hose — and making enrichment items with the help of the zoo's Training & Enrichment Specialist. Michael is the son of Robin and Gary Kressbach and brother to Benjamin and Jonathan Kressbach. He is the grandson of Gail Motelson and Richard Berchin, and of Howard and Dorothy Kressbach, of blessed memory.

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