



THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

ADAR – NISAN 5778

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

MARCH 2018



WHAT'S HAPPENING SAN ANTONIO?

Keep up with what's happening in your San Antonio Jewish Community.

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BROADENING WORLD VIEWS

High school sophomores and juniors from across city take part in innovative Holocaust Study program.

DETAILS PAGE 4



PRESERVING JUDAISM'S PAST

New interactive map lets you discover thousands of European synagogues.

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PARTNERSHIP CORNER

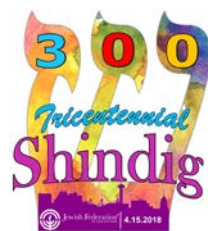


Jewish community to host SA Tricentennial event April 15

As San Antonio turns 300 years old, the San Antonio Jewish community will celebrate with a special official Tricentennial event, the *Shindig!*,

a street fair on Sunday, April 15.

The Hebrew letter "Shin" corresponds



to the number 300 in Hebrew Gematria (number to letter correspondence). The street fair will take place from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. in the Monte Vista

See **PARTNERSHIP**, page 6

For Hope for Humanity

March is a month of hope. It is the month in which we welcome in spring and the rebirth of life in the natural world. We also begin our celebration of Passover on the very last day of March this year. Additionally, in San Antonio we will commemorate *hope* this month with the 2018 *For Hope For Humanity* event



Letter from our CEO

RONIT
SHERWIN

benefitting the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio on March 7th. We are thrilled to have our honorary co-chairs Linda & Phil

Hardberger and Rene and Marty Wender representing what we know will be a powerful and important event.

We have a subtle theme inserted in our program this year which is a yellow butterfly. The butterfly is a simple, graceful creature,

See **CEO LETTER**, page 12



J-Serve 2017 participants

J-Serve 2018 coming in April

Close to 100 Jewish teens in grades 7 through 12 will come together Sunday, April 8 to volunteer at local non-profits to help make a difference in San Antonio as part of the J-Serve initiative.

J-Serve is a national initiative where Jewish teens from all over the U.S. come together, no matter affiliation, to collaborate on various community service projects.

This is an opportunity for Jewish teens



to hang out with old friends, make new friends, and receive community service hours.

Teens will arrive at the Barshop Jewish

See **J-SERVE**, page 12

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



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OF SAN ANTONIO

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RONIT SHERWIN, CEO

JONATHAN GURWITZ, Board Chair

LESLIE KOMET AUSBURN, Editor/Director of Marketing & Communication

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Lauren Sandoval

PROOFREADERS

Barbara Argo
Eleanor Komet

Debbie Linck
Renee Sabel
Susan Whipple



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OF SAN ANTONIO

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

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the April 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is March 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 advertising@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6960.

Ad deadlines for April 2018 ISSUE:

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

Harry James Duhart

Beth Eidelberg Stern

Sara Maryn Golding

Allan Pincus

Herbert M. Schrader

Dr. John G. Stoessinger

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday, March 2

Light Candles at: 6:16 p.m.

Shabbat, March 3

Shabbat Ends: 7:10 p.m.

Friday, March 9

Light Candles at: 6:21 p.m.

Shabbat, March 10

Shabbat Ends: 7:15 p.m.

Friday, March 16

Light Candles at: 7:25 p.m.

Shabbat, March 17

Shabbat Ends: 8:19 p.m.

Friday, March 23

Light Candles at: 7:29 p.m.

Shabbat, March 24

Shabbat Ends: 8:23 p.m.

Friday, March 30

Eve of First day Passover,

Light Shabbat Candles at:

7:33 p.m.

Shabbat, March 31

Eve of Second day Passover,

Light Holiday Candles after:

8:28 p.m.

Thursday, Apr 5

Eve of Seventh day Passover

Light Holiday Candles

at: 7:37 p.m.

Friday, Apr 6

Eve of Eighth day Passover

Light Shabbat /

Holiday Candles at: 7:38 p.m.

YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH. OUR LEGACY OF CARING.

For Porter Loring, this is a milestone year.

We turn 100. For much of that time, we've focused on serving the Jewish community, honoring its traditions, and comforting its families at times of need. So for us, this is a time of reflection and of gratitude to you, for all we've shared throughout the years – and for all we hope to share in years ahead.

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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



MLK COMMUNITY UNITY MARCH

Members of the Jewish community (above) gather for the commUNITY March for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in January.

Yom Hashoah

Kindertransport 80th Anniversary



Wednesday, April 11 at 7:30 pm

Congregation Rodfei Sholom | 3003 Sholom Dr.

Guest of Honor: Henri Roanne-Rosenblatt
Kindertransport Survivor from Belgium

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

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



YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



Holocaust Study Seminar enters 2nd year

The Holocaust Memorial Museum is launching the second year of the Holocaust Study Seminar. This program aims to educate and expose high school sophomores and juniors to the history and atrocities of the Holocaust, with the intent of broadening their world views and empowering them to positively impact the world in which they live. This unique program will extend over six months, culminating in a trip to Europe, where the students will be able to continue what they learned in the classroom at historical locations across Germany and Poland.

As the program enters its second year, the Museum has been able to see how the original cohort has grown from this experience. The students from the last cohort are still very involved in our organization and the current programs that we offer. They have all thought about different ways in which they can change the world around them and are volunteering during the sessions with our current cohort.

"It is great to see how these students still believe in our mission and to see their growth as citizens," said Holocaust Museum Director Ellen Ollervidez. "We are very excited to begin this second

year with our new students.

"This year we have been privileged enough to expand the number of students we will be educating from eight to twelve," added Ollervidez. "This includes a diverse group from Reagan, Harlan, International School of the Americas, Alamo Heights,

Madison and Harlandale. We have had our first 3 sessions together and we have already seen their inquisitive minds and their desire to learn about this history. We look forward to the next few months and how these brilliant students will grow and change."



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., INTERFAITH SERVICE

The Martin Luther King Interfaith Service each year acknowledges and honors the teachings of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King. Numerous faith groups attend and offer prayers, songs, stories, dance and music. Each faith group is invited to carry a banner during the processional and this year Eleanor Stokes-Liss and Jacob Cohen serve as representatives of the Jewish community. This year's service was held on January 14.



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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



Artist David Kassan captures local faces of the Holocaust

David Kassan, portraiture artist and Edut Project founder, visited San Antonio to document and draw some of San Antonio's local Holocaust Survivors. Kassan, in partnership with the Shoah Foundation, is creating an exhibit featuring his portraits of Holocaust survivors.

One of the five San Antonio survivors David met was George Fodor, seen in the images above. A special thanks to Francine Garza-Vale and Light One Candle Foundation for granting the funds to bring David to our community.



HMMSA IN HIGH SCHOOL FILM FESTIVAL

On Sunday, Feb. 4, students from the Media Production Team at Ronald Reagan High School, learned about Holocaust history with Docent Varda Ratner and Survivor Rose Williams. Under the guidance of their teacher, Mark Soppe, these students will prepare a 3-minute video featuring the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio for the Bexar County High School Film Festival. The festival will take place at the Tobin Center on April 23.

Burial of bone fragments from Auschwitz

On Sunday, Jan. 28, one day after International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Jewish community came together to lay to rest bone fragments, once donated to the Holocaust Memorial Museum and believed to be from Auschwitz Concentration Camp.

Led by Rabbis Mara Nathan and Samuel Stahl, and joined by Holocaust survivors, and museum educators Anna Rado and Rose Williams, the bones were interred at the Old Agudas Achim Cemetery.



PULITZER PRIZE-NOMINATED AUTHOR Jack Sacco recounts his father's journey from Alabama farm boy to heroic soldier at the liberation of Dachau.

Jack Sacco

April 22, 2018 at 3pm

The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg
Campus of the Jewish Community

Information about online registration and VIP reception to come. Contact Mindy Cohen, SAJSS Program Director at 210.616.4811 or mindyc@sajss.com

SAJSS
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Jewish Senior Services

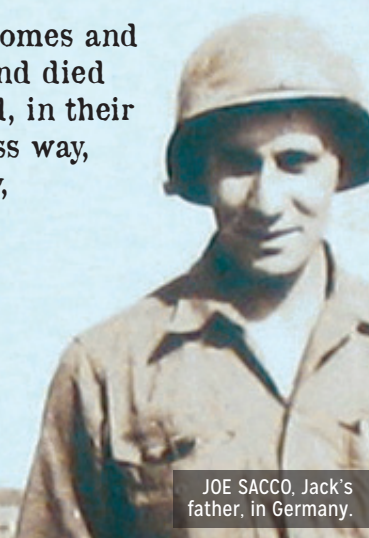


“ They traveled far from the homes and families they loved. They fought and died for people they did not know. And, in their own simple and profoundly selfless way, they not only served their country, they saved the world. ”

from *Where the Birds Never Sing*



Award-winning author **JACK SACCO** has been a featured speaker for more than 500 audiences worldwide.



JOE SACCO, Jack's father, in Germany.

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

Mindi Silver-Weiss

This month, Federation shines a spotlight on Mindi Silver-Weiss. We asked her to tell us about herself, her journey to San Antonio and her relationship with Judaism and the San Antonio Jewish community.

I was born and raised in the Detroit area. I married my high school sweetheart, Fred Weiss, 46 years ago. After getting my MSW at the University of Michigan, I worked for many years as a Medical Social Worker. Later, I went to work for Jewish Family Services (JFS) as a Clinical Social Worker in their Senior Services Department. My last job in Detroit was the Director of an Adult Day Program for persons with dementia. After coming to San Antonio, I worked a short-time for JFS and have also worked part-time for Golden Manor (now San Antonio Jewish Senior Services). I retired from my work at SeniorBridge as a Geriatric Care Manager 2 years ago.

What brought you to San Antonio?

I moved to San Antonio 10 years ago with my husband when he accepted a position with UTSA.

What is your strongest Jewish memory?

My strongest Jewish memory is walking to the

Orthodox Synagogue near our home with my mother and Bubie and sitting between them upstairs in the women's section.

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

I have pursued a number of meaningful volunteer activities since retiring. I am a programming chair for NCJW, I am a museum monitor at the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio and I am a classroom volunteer every week at Pre-K for SA North Campus. While that is the most fun I have as a volunteer, the most rewarding is Volunteering for Make-A-Wish as a wish granter. We interview wish kids and their families after

they are referred to the program and then plan a send-off party for them when their wish is granted.

Please share you favorite Jewish holiday. Why?

My favorite Jewish holiday is Pesach. While in Michigan, I enjoyed hosting large family seders. Since moving to Texas we've been blessed with wonderful friends who include us in their seders. I love trying new recipes and baking Pesach desserts.

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

I hope to see the agencies of the SA Jewish community work together to provide more services for the many aging Jewish seniors.



PARTNERSHIP

continued from page 1

neighborhood and it will feature food trucks, craft vendors, Jewish bands, and more.

This year also happens to be the 70th birthday of Israel, and JFSA's partnership region in the Western Galilee has arranged for two renowned pastry chefs, Natali Marciano (pictured) and Judith Baranes, to showcase their talents, present demonstrations and share recipes in a hands on way with the San Antonio Jewish community.

Seven years ago, Marciano decided to fulfill her dream of becoming a pastry chef. She studied in the famous Stella pastry academy in Tel Aviv. When she ended her studies there she baked and catered many events from home, and in 2016 she and her husband opened Lola Patisserie coffee shop in Akko. In the shop she conducts workshops and prepares desserts for many events in the region. Judith Baranes assists Natali in her pastry shop and caters



events as well.

Both Marciano and Baranes say they look forward to meeting the Jewish community of San Antonio and sharing their unique and tasty recipes.

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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK



PJ LIBRARY CELEBRATES TU B'SHEVAT

PJ Library held a "make your own edible tree booth" at the Barshop JCC Hands on Tu B'Shevat event. Families were able to be creative and connect with the fruit trees in Israel.



Members of the Pearl Society gather for brunch on February 11th

Pearl Society hosts Galentine's Brunch

The Pearl Society, Jewish women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s, hosted its first event of the year on Sunday, Feb. 11 at Liberty Bar.

Pearl Society and Young Adult Division board member, Riley Greenberg, hosted the Galentine's Brunch.

In attendance were Pearl Society co-chairs Darcy Hoberman and Tracy Morris, Women's Philanthropy board members Lori Paige Goldblatt, Michelle

Vizurraga, Gabriela Tawil, Young Adult Division board member Tina Alvarado, and Pearl Society member Jessie Glasser.

The national Pearl Society was started in 2015 by three young Jewish women from Hartford, Connecticut seeking to find ways to engage more women in Jewish philanthropy. They embraced the basic teaching that all Jews are responsible for one another and the world in which they live.

Since then, this program has taken off nationally and is a way to establish a Jewish connection for women who want to give from the heart and feel a connection to Jewish life through events and philanthropy.

The next Pearl Society event will be Monday, April 30. Pearls will take a mini-mission to Morgan's Wonderland and Monarch Academy to bring much needed supplies to students and learn about accessibility and inclusion at the park and school.

The event has a cover of \$18 per person, and a kosher lunch will be included in the tour and program.

The event is open to both current Pearls and those women interested in joining the Pearl Society.

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



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JFS annual fundraiser tickets available now

On April 29, Jewish Family Service of San Antonio (JFS) will host its annual fundraiser, *The Evening of Inspiration*, to celebrate JFS's forty-five years of service to San Antonio and surrounding communities. The evening will be hosted at The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community starting at 5:30 p.m.

The seated dinner will honor those who have been inspired by JFS, and who inspire others to support the great work accomplished by Jewish Family Service. Honorees

include former JFS Board president Mitchell Kaliff and Bruce Smiley-Kaliff and longtime JFS board member Buddy Gardner. The program of the evening will pay homage to forty-five years of JFS's outstanding leaders and programs.

For reservations and more information regarding sponsorships and advertisements, contact Marie Angelicchio at (210) 302-6964 or angelicchiom@jfs-sa.org, or visit <https://jfs-sa.org/evening-of-inspiration/>

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

JWV Next Post meeting: Sunday, March 25 at 9 a.m., Room 277 at the Jewish Campus - Light breakfast followed by business meeting

JWV has partnered with area agencies to provide assistance to veterans in our community.

Transportation: Need a ride to a meeting or doctor's appointment? JWV SA post has established an agreement with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS - formerly Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services) to

provide transportation to Jewish veterans. To sign up or learn more, contact SAJSS at (210) 616-4811.

Financial Assistance: The SA JWV post in partnership with Hebrew Free Loan has established a no interest loan geared towards veterans. For further information call (210) 736-4352. You must be a veteran to be eligible.

Would you like to be a voice in the Jewish Veteran community? Find out how to become a member of SA Post 753 Jewish War Veterans U.S.A. by calling David Marne, (210) 281-1604.

Temple Chai to honor founding members

Temple Chai, San Antonio's small Reform congregation, is celebrating its thirteenth anniversary this year with a brunch to honor founding members Doris Toubin z"l, Jimmy Toubin, Marcia Goren Weser and Dr. Elliot Weser. The Founders Brunch will be Sunday, Apr. 29, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Omni at the Colonnade.

Jimmy Toubin is the current president of Temple Chai, past president of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, Golden Manor

(now San Antonio Jewish Senior Services) and the San Antonio Food Bank. Doris Miller Toubin z"l passed away in 2014, and Jimmy has continued her commitment to bettering San Antonio through their shared volunteer projects.

Marcia Goren Weser is a past president of Temple Chai and Temple Beth-El, past chair of the SoL (Source of Light) Center, and past chair of Gemini Ink. Dr. Elliot Weser is also a past president of Temple Chai, as well as of Golden Manor

(now San Antonio Jewish Senior Services) and the Development Committee of the Carver Cultural Center. He was an Alamo Heights City Council member and the founder of the UT Health Science Center Gastroenterology Department.

Sponsorships, tributes and reservations for the Founders Brunch are available now at www.templechaisa.org/founders.

For more information, call (210) 340-2090 or email info@templechaisa.org.

Volunteers needed for Memorial Day flag project

JWV Post 753 is looking for volunteers to help place American flag on the graves of Jewish military veterans buried in the San Antonio Jewish cemeteries. The flags will be placed Sunday afternoon, May 27, the day before

Memorial Day, weather permitting. Those interested should call Herschel Sheiness at (210) 468-5598, and leave a voicemail if no answer. Volunteers interested in helping at a specific cemetery should note that in their message.



MAIMONIDES
SOCIETY of
SAN ANTONIO

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

Wednesday, April 25 at 7:30pm
12500 NW Military Hwy, Holzman Auditorium

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

This event is free and open to the community.

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Agudas Achim launches new program for women

Congregation Agudas Achim has begun a new monthly women's Rosh Chodesh program. Open to all Jewish women, the group will gather monthly for meaningful and soulful activities, learning through art, design and movement.

The March program will feature meditation and yoga led by Allie Braley on Saturday, March 17 following Shabbat services and Kiddush lunch (approximately 12:30 p.m.).

"This is an opportunity to join a group of vibrant women for meaningful and soulful activities and learning opportunities through art, design and movement," said Director of Congregational Learning, Samantha Mazuz. "You can connect to your inner self and your community as we grow together through this

new Rosh Chodesh monthly women's program."

In April, the group will meet for lunch and learn more about mental health. This session will be led by Dr. Lori Kels, who discuss how to be more self-aware about your personal mental health and increase your knowledge and access to mental health services.

For the May program, attendees will focus on painting with their souls and explore their Judaism transforming their understanding into works of art. Dinner and supplies will be provided for only \$10.

For more information, contact Jessica Peden at (210) 479-0429 or by email at j.peden@agudas-achim.org.

Temple Beth-El welcomes visiting scholar Weissman Joselit



Dr. Jenna Weissman Joselit, Temple Beth-El's visiting scholar from March 22-24, is the Charles S. Smith Professor of Judaic Studies and Professor of

History at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., where she also directs its graduate programs in Jewish cultural arts, the first of this kind in the country.

In a trio of presentations that draw on different settings – the home, the sanctuary and the civic square – and on objects that range from stained glass windows and

Kiddush cups to Ten Commandments monuments, Weissman will explore the hold the material world has had on the American Jewish imagination. The weekend schedule at Temple Beth-El includes:

***Thursday, March 22, 7 p.m. -**
Taking Stock

***Friday, March 23, 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Services -** *Talisman or Granite Movie Poster? The Ten Commandments in America*

***Saturday, March 24, 11:45 a.m. – Lunch & Learn:** *The Politics of Stained Glass*

There is a \$12 per person charge for lunch. You must RSVP & pay in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/TBEL-L1>.

NCJW Book Buddies – sharing a love of books with pre-K kids

Once a month, members of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) share their enthusiasm for books by reading to four-year old children in the PreK4SA program through a program called Book Buddies. Established three years ago, Book Buddies is a community service project where NCJW members visit the PreK4SA campus of 25 classrooms of four-year-old preschoolers on Medical Drive.

"Our goal with Book Buddies is to foster a love of reading and books," said Joyce Sheiness, who chairs

the project. "Not only do we read to the children throughout the school year, but we also give them an opportunity to select a book to take home. This is very special to them."

"The children show their appreciation by writing notes and drawing pictures for our volunteers, and we get lots of hugs and smiles. But the real joy is seeing a child's face light up when we give them a book to keep."

The project has reached about 1500 children since its inception, and NCJW is looking to add volunteers who are willing to commit

one hour a month to make a difference in a child's life. Donations of new or gently used children's books as well as monetary donations are always appreciated.

If you're interested in volunteering to read or would like to donate to Book Buddies, please contact Joyce Sheiness at (210) 260-7918.

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

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March Lunch and Learn at Temple Chai

Rabbi David Komerofsky will host two informal lunch and learn sessions on Wednesdays, March 21 and March 28 at noon at Temple Chai. The conversation will

focus on big Jewish questions and include classic and modern texts.

The community is invited to bring lunch and ideas for an hour of inspiration

and fun. RSVP at www.templechaisa.org. For more information, call (210) 340-2090 or email info@templechaisa.org.

Early bird special at Heintz Preschool

Heintz Preschool at Congregation Agudas Achim is offering an early bird special. Families can wave the \$250 registration fee by paying the first month's tuition by April 13.

"Heintz preschool prides itself on 'Creating Creative Curiosity' with a high focus on kindergarten readiness. We stand out because of our small ratios, two teachers in each classrooms, daily personalized attention to each child in order for each child to reach their maximum potential," said Heintz Preschool director, Taryn Bretado.

The preschool offers daily rotations, weekly and monthly themes not only focusing on secular themes but also intertwining Jewish values with each theme. Children 6 weeks and up participate in tailored rotations including; Zumba, art, cooking, Hebrew, music, and Spanish. In addition to rotation, students are taught skills to improve handwriting through the multisensory



and well adapted program Handwriting without Tears.

Students at Heintz preschool participate in an intergenerational Yad by Yad program in conjunction with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. Through this program, Heintz preschool students visit local senior living facilities and participate in activities and companionship with Jewish seniors.

School days run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and extended hours are offered from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is limited space available in each classroom.

Contact Heintz Preschool Director, Taryn Bretado, at (210) 479-7023 or by email at t.bretado@agudas-achim.org for more information.

Camp Gan Izzy full S.T.E.A.M. ahead

This summer, Camp Gan Israel will add a comprehensive line up of S.T.E.A.M. activities and instructors. (S.T.E.A.M. stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.)

In addition to sports, activities, carnivals, dress up days, field trips, and on-site free swim and swim instruction, Gan Izzy Gadol campers (ages 5 - 12) will get to learn from and interact with a team of local S.T.E.A.M. instructors.

Activities include: Snapology! Lego and Robotics, Mad Science with DoSeum, Youth Code Jam with Finch robots, Art with My Art Starz, Sewing 101, Mosaic and Glass Fusion, CGI Street Art with a local graffiti artist, Rocket Building and launching. and



basketball with Taliah Lopez.

Activities for Mini Gan Izzy (ages 18m - 4y) include music, Pint-sized Picassos, TOTS Basketball, swimming, and so much more.

New for this summer's Mini Gan Izzy: Mad Science, yoga, cooking and more.

Camp Gan Israel will be

in session Monday, June 25 - Friday, August 10, and will be held at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning on Blanco Rd.

For more information visit www.GanIsraelSA.com or contact camp director Rochel Teldon at (210) 764-0300 or director@ganisraela.com.



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TASA welcomes new music teacher



ANA WHITE

Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA) has welcomed Ms. Ana White as their new music teacher. White joins TASA with the highest commendations from the Chair of the Music Education department at Trinity University. She came to TASA from Austin Texas through the

Music Education Department at Trinity University. White was President of the Trinity University chapter of Collegiate Texas Music Educators. She is a clarinetist and a ukulele player. She has organized a variety of innovative music education initiatives, including hands-on

instrument demonstrations for the hearing impaired.

After one of White's classes at TASA one second grader noted, "I learned that music spreads around because it makes people feel good, and I really enjoyed the beautiful sound of the (bass) clarinet. White joins TASA with

a combination of talent, warmth, and love of music that she enjoys sharing with her students.

White is replacing Juan Pena, who recently accepted a university faculty position.

TASA wishes Mr. Pena every success in his new position.

Block & Dreeben students focus on *shemirat haguf*, March's Jewish value

Each month, the JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children focuses on a Jewish value. The teachers participate in a Text Study session with a rabbi or other Jewish scholar and look closely at Jewish texts related to the value. As they study with a partner (*chavruta*) and ask questions about the specific text, they then discuss how the value relates to their lives. Most importantly they discuss how to make the value relevant to the children.

March's Jewish value is *shemirat haguf*, taking care of our bodies. This month children are working with

the schools' UTSA intern who is creating outdoor activities to develop balance, coordination, and other physical skills. Children will also play games by sorting "Go Foods" (fruits, vegetable, lean proteins, and whole grains) and "Whoa Foods" (candy, cookies, soda) and will enjoy cooking healthy foods. Integrating Jewish values into everyday classroom activities can help make them meaningful to the children. Children develop a lifetime of appreciation and understanding of Jewish values through "hands-on" experiences.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUTH

Summer J-Camp Open House

The Barshop JCC's annual Summer J-Camp Open House will be held Tuesday, Mar. 27 from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Holzman Auditorium at the JCC. The event is free and open to the community.

JCC members are encouraged to register at the event in order to receive early bird rates, which will expire March 30. Members of the community are invited to learn more about the JCC's day camp program.

Camp directors will be in attendance to answer questions about camps for youth in kindergarten through high school, as well as about specific programs, such as Sports Camp, Tennis Camp, and Counselor-in-Training opportunities. There will also be inflatables and other activities for campers.

Summer J-Camp runs from May 29 to August 24, with both one-week and four-week options. The camp day runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with extended care available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"This year's theme for camp is 'Once Upon a Summer'. I'm excited for all the adventures our campers will be able to have this summer," said Rachel Rustin, JCC Director of Camp and Youth Services.

For more information about J-Camp, please visit www.jcccampsanantonio.org, call (210) 302-6859, or email rustinr@jcc-sa.org.

NCSY offers programs for area Jewish teens

This month, Rodfei Sholom hosted the Southwest NCSY Spring Regional Shabbaton.

Close to 200 teens from Dallas, Denver, Houston and San Antonio came together for an inspiring, fun-filled weekend, designed to make Judaism relevant and exciting.

Teens had an opportunity to hear from world renown senior educators, giving them a chance to explore their Judaism in a meaningful way.

"NCSY has come alive in San Antonio, creating many opportunities for the Jewish youth to come together and explore their Judaism, no



matter what affiliation," said Rabbi Ashi Gluck. "NCSY has something for everyone. Events ranging from purely social to purely educational,

and everything in between."

NCSY recently started a 12-week course for Jewish teens who are interested in exploring their Judaism in-

depth.

For more information regarding NCSY contact Rabbi Ashi Gluck at (845) 300-6528.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUTH

MEGA BABKA-LLAH BAKE



Close to 100 children enjoyed the first Kids Mega BABKA-LLAH Bake on Sunday, Feb. 4, at the Chabad Center. Participants made their own Babka cake and Challah, built their very own Challah Pillow like Build-a-Bear, and enjoyed a Challah and dip bar.

J-SERVE

continued from page 1

Community Center (JCC) at 9 a.m. to check in, receive a free t-shirt, and prepare a bag lunch. Teens will then be assigned and transported to one of several

volunteer sites with an expected return to the JCC by 2 p.m.

The event is free; no experience necessary. For more information or to sign up, contact Devin Billstein at (210) 302-6869 or billsteind@jcc-sa.org.

Tu B'Fusion at SA Food Bank farm

On January 31, in celebration of *Tu B'Shevat*, students from Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA) rolled up their sleeves and got to work at a farm operated by the San Antonio Food Bank.

This was another TASA Fusion Day, where all grades participate in learning activities spanning multiple disciplines.

Students K-8, faculty and parent volunteers, worked together to harvest thousands of heads of cabbage for needy families in San Antonio.

It was a model of teamwork with teams spanning all grade levels made up of harvesters, basket loaders, and transporters.

Not only was it a wonderful *Chessed* opportunity to help others,



a lot was learned as well.

Some things the students learned:

- About the agricultural cycle, as part of TASA's Life Sciences curriculum.
- About the agricultural cycle, as part of TASA's Judaic Studies curriculum dealing with *Tu B'Shevat*.
- About the concept of "farm to table" (and how fruits don't come from the grocery store.)
- About the amount

of space, effort, and manpower it takes to grow and harvest produce.

- About the value of teamwork.
- About being a part of a community and how contributing to community needs is an essential part of being a member of a community.
- That cabbages can be pretty heavy, and it is fun to work and perform *Mitzvot* together.



The Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio, community sponsors and ArtsPower proudly presents

My Heart in a Suitcase

The Kindertransport was the informal name of a series of rescue efforts which brought thousands of refugee Jewish children to Great Britain from Nazi Germany and the annexed territories. This play tells the story of one Kindertransport survivor, Anne Lehmann Fox, and her family's decision to part with her.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



NEW MEMBER BRUNCH AT CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM

Congregation Agudas Achim welcomed its 2017 new members at their annual New Member Brunch. For more information on membership or to learn more about Agudas Achim, contact Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham at Rabbi.Abraham@agudas-achim.org or Executive Director Linda Moad, at linda.moad@agudas-achim.org.



TASA MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

TASA's 3rd and 4th graders enjoyed attending the The Water Cycle as part of the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra's Young People's Concert series at Tobin Hall on January 18.



SHARING AND CARING WITH TEMPLE BETH-EL YOUTH

Students from Grade 6 of Temple Beth-El's Religious School presented a Tu B'Shevat seder to the residents of Adante Senior Living.

CANTOR BERLIN HONORED FOR 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

A celebration in honor of Cantor Julie Berlin's 10th Anniversary at Temple Beth-El took place on the weekend of Shabbat Shirah. Pictured here at the Saturday night Jazz Café, from left, are co-chairs Allan and Suzie Raufman, Larry and Rabbi Mara Nathan, Cantor Julie and Rabbi Alan Berlin, and co-chairs Robin and Gary Kressbach.



CAA SHABBATON

Agudas Achim recently had its annual Shabbaton weekend at Camp Young Judaea for all of its 3rd through 8th graders. The students enjoyed an avenger's themed Shabbat and weekend full of fun activities, prayer, and education.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



RODFEI SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE DISCUSSES ENTEBEE 40 YEARS LATER

Congregants and community members listen to Congregation Rodfei Sholom's Scholar-in-Residence Steven Weil speak on 40 years Since Entebbe: Remembering the Victims, Heroes and Leaders who Shaped Modern Jewish History at the home of Sharon and Arturo Fux. Weil shared his perspective on the Israel Defense Force's daring and heroic 1976 rescue of more than 100 hostages, mainly Israelis, after terrorists hijacked their flight from Tel Aviv to Paris.



HAMENTASHEN BAKING AT SIMCHA SOCIAL CLUB

The Simcha Social Club at Congregation Agudas Achim took time to learn more about the holiday of Purim with Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, baked hamantaschen together, and enjoyed a delicious lunch. The Simcha Social Club is for those 65+ thanks to a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. All are invited to the next Simcha Social Club event on March 8 at 11:30 am.



TU B'SHEVAT AT GAN GANI PRESCHOOL

Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees, springs to life thru art for students at Gan Gani Preschool, as they prepared for a nature walk at Hardberger Park. For more information and to schedule a tour please call Rivkie Block at (210) 492-1085 or email director@gangani.org.

ALL JOKES AT THE SUNSHINE CLUB



More than 50 Jewish seniors met for a Pre-Purim themed 'Rabbis Telling Jokes' Sunshine Club luncheon on Tuesday, February 6, at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. Seniors ate lunch and listened to Rabbi Levi Teldon telling his best Jewish jokes. For information about upcoming events please visit www.ChabadSA.com/SunshineClub. The Sunshine Club is a joint program of the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning and San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



POLICE OFFICERS VISIT HEINTZ PRESCHOOL

Heintz Preschool enjoyed a visit from the San Antonio Police Department SAFFE (San Antonio Fear Free Environment) Unit. Students learned about what to do in case of a fire, stranger safety and that police officers are our friends and there to help us in times of need.



OUT AND ABOUT WITH TBE60S+

Temple Beth-El's group TBE60s+ recently took a behind the scenes tour of the Toyota Plant in South San Antonio, with transportation funding from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Temple Beth-El teens head to Washington, D.C.

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, when speaking about the importance of teaching children about government said that “... they must see how every cog in the wheel of democracy is important and bears its share of responsibility for the smooth running of the entire machine.”

For seven 11th and 12th graders who traveled with Temple Beth-El on a trip to Washington, D.C. in January,

the experience gave them an up-close and personal look at our government. Senior Rabbi Mara Nathan and Director of Youth Programs, Joel Swedlove, led the envoy of teenagers as they took part in the L'taken Social Action Seminar, a weekend run by the Religious Action Center (RAC).

During the weekend, the students learn about various issues that they are passionate about and how to shape that



Temple teens in Washington, D.C. with Rabbi Mara Nathan, Joel Swedlove, and Representative Joaquin Castro.

passion into a speech they will deliver at the offices of their Senators and Congressman. What made this weekend stand out was that while they were in D.C. there were two large marches going and the government was in the

middle of their weekend long shut down.

Junior Christopher Marcus said that the experience of seeing such large scale displays of the first amendment was exciting. “It’s something I’ve never seen

before,” he said. “It’s cool to see people who care so much.” Even with the shutdown, the students were able to meet with staff members for both Senators Cornyn and Cruz as well as each of their individual Congressmen.

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HANDS ON TU B'SHEVAT

Families engaged with each other at the Barshop JCC's first ever Hands on Tu B'Shevat event last month to celebrate the birthday of trees, with activities, treats, and community.



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IN THE COMMUNITY: SENIORS



SAJSS volunteer Rivka Schechter led the first Shabbat service at Franklin Park Sonterra on February 16.

SAJSS Jewish Living and Shabbat with seniors programs expands their reach

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS) took its Jewish Living program to Franklin Park Sonterra for the first time Wednesday, Feb. 21.

Jewish Living gives residents an opportunity to watch a film that has a connection to Jewish culture. In January, residents of Madison Estates enjoyed documentaries about magician Harry Houdini and sports broadcaster Marty Glickman as part of the Jewish Living program.

At Adante Senior Living, the residents have named their Jewish Living program *SAJSS Presents*, and watch films shown by SAJSS Connections Facilitator, Mindi Silver-Weiss.

"After a well-attended Hanukkah party held at Franklin Park recently in December, we are very excited to continue a relationship with residents

there," said Lauren Sandoval, SAJSS staff member. "We are eager to reach new Jewish seniors through this program and other services we provide, such as transportation."

Additionally, SAJSS is working with San Antonio clergy and volunteers to schedule Shabbat services for seniors at Franklin Park Sonterra.

SAJSS volunteer Rivka Schechter led the first Shabbat service on February 16. These programs are planned to continue on a monthly basis, with the goal that they will grow to more days each month.

All are welcome to attend these events. No RSVP needed.

For film schedules or questions, call (210) 616-4811 or email Mindy Cohen, SAJSS Program Director, at MindyC@sajss.com.

Enjoy Jazz Sunday at the Witte

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS) invites seniors and others in the community to enjoy an afternoon of Jazz under the pecan trees at the Will Smith Amphitheater at the Witte Museum on March 11 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine.

Food and beverages are available for purchase. Blankets and chairs are allowed and recommended.

In case of rain, the concert will move indoors to the Prassel Auditorium.

This program is free for Witte members. A subsidy from SAJSS will allow seniors who are not members of the Witte to attend for only \$5.

Visit <https://jazzsunday.paperform.co> to RSVP, which is required to receive the discounted entry to the museum.

To ensure entry for this discounted price, guests must meet SAJSS at the admissions desk between 2:30 p.m. and 2:45 p.m.

For questions, call Mindy Cohen, SAJSS Program Director, at (210) 616-4811.

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Passover celebrations at the JCC

The Barshop Jewish Community Center will present two Passover dinner celebrations, including the First Night Community Seder, Friday, March 30 at 6 p.m., and the Kosher for Passover Community Dinner Tuesday, April 3 at 6 p.m. Both dinners will be held on Campus in the Holzman Auditorium.

This year's Seder will be led by Hazzan David Silverstein of Congregation Israel with piano accompaniment.

The Seder will be family friendly, participatory, lively, and feature food from Irene's Kosher Catering. Space is limited, and reservations are a must. Tickets are \$20 for ages 12 and

up, \$12 for ages 6-11, and children ages 5 and under are free. Vegetarian entrees are available with advanced notice.

The Kosher for Passover Community Dinner will be a relaxed, informal evening featuring a menu of matzo lasagna, green salad, Passover noodle kugel, and Passover brownies.

The event is open to the community, and diners can come and go as they please.

Tickets are \$15 for ages 12 and up, \$9 for ages 6-11, and children ages 5 and under are free. Reservations are accepted online at www.jccsanantonio.org/seasons or by calling Maya Siler at (210) 302-6867.

Chabad to offer Community Seders in Hebrew and English

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning will be hosting two concurrent Passover Seders, for the English and Hebrew language communities. Relive the Exodus, discover the eternal message of the Haggadah, and enjoy a Seder complete with hand-made Shmurah Matzah, Israeli wines, and a dinner spiced with singing and explanations of the unique traditional customs of this special night.

The Seders will take place on Friday, March

30 at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. Services begin at 8 p.m. followed by the Seders at 8:30 p.m. Couvert: \$45 adult, \$25 child (no one will be turned away due to lack of funds).

In addition, handmade Shmurah Matzah will be available for purchase from the Chabad Center: One pound Matzah - only \$20 3 Matzah pkg. for Seder - \$10

To reserve seats and/or order Matzah please call Chabad at (210) 764-0300 or visit www.ChabadSA.com/seders.

Temple Beth-El hosts Community Seder on March 31

Temple Beth-El will host a Community Seder on Saturday, March 31 at 6 p.m. The Seder will be held in the Barshop Auditorium and is open to all.

The evening includes prizes for the Afikomen, and adult and child-friendly food.

Reservations are required by Monday, March 26, at noon. Temple Member Adults are \$30 each.; Non Temple member Adults are \$36 each.; Children, 12 & under are \$15 each; and Children, ages 2 & under no charge.

You can register and pay online: <http://tinyurl.com/tbe-community-seder> or

you may make your check payable to Temple Beth-El and mail to: Community Seder at Temple Beth-El, 211 Belknap Place, San Antonio, Texas 78212. To pay by credit card by phone,

call Dollie Closna at (210) 733-9135, ext. 126.

Contact Lety Vargas at San Antonio Jewish Senior Services at (210) 616-4811 if you would like assistance with transportation to Temple Beth-El.

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Transportation available for seniors to Passover Seders

Jewish seniors needing rides to services for Passover or a Community Seder can call San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS) for transportation.

In part of the effort to fight isolation of Jewish seniors, SAJSS strives to make sure that no Jewish senior wanting to attend religious services or

Jewish community events is left at home without the means for transportation to the event.

The community is asked to please pass along the word to any Jewish senior who may know that may need to utilize this service.

To set up a transportation reservation, please call Lety Vargas at (210) 616-4811.



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Congregation Agudas Achim Pre-Passover events and Second Night Community Seder

Congregation Agudas will host a number of pre-Passover events leading up to a Second Night Community Seder. Events include:

- Thursday, March 22 at 4:30 p.m. - Passover Storytime led by Rabbi Abraham at Barnes and Noble La Cantera.
- Friday, March 23 - the congregation will host a pre-Passover Potluck Dinner preceded by a Friday Night With Friends Musical Service and Family Friendly Friday Night Preschool and Elementary School services starting at 6:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 28 - Free Pre-Passover Pizza Party beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Agudas. Those attending will have the opportunity to bring their hamaetz to burn. There will be fun for the family with

a bounce house and a San Antonio Fire Department truck to explore.

Agudas Achim welcomes the community to attend an interactive Community Second Night Seder on Saturday, March 31 at 6 p.m., designed for the whole family.

There will be a traditional meal, songs, Haggadah readings and spiritual insight. Reservations are required by Friday, March 23. Cost is \$25 per adult, \$10 for youth, 6-11 years old and children under 5 are free.

Your payment is your reservation. You can pay online at www.agudas-achim.org, call (210) 479-0307 to pay by phone and to RSVP to all other events, or mail your check to: Congregation Agudas Achim, 16550 Huebner Road, 78248.

Events for Passover at Congregation Rodfei Sholom

Burn your Chametz

Join Congregation Rodfei Sholom and the San Antonio Fire Department for the traditional burning of the Chametz on Friday, March 30. Kids will have an

opportunity to explore the fire truck, the uniforms and hear from the fire fighters. Every year, families have a great time running around on the playground, watching the Chametz burn and eating ice cream.

For more information on burning the chametz and other Passover happenings at Congregation Rodfei Sholom, please contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558. synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.



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Annual Community Seder

Congregation Rodfei Sholom invites the community to join them for their annual community Seder on Saturday, March 31.

Led by Rabbi's Aryeh and Avraham Scheinberg, the lively second night Seder will feature all of the traditional prayers, stories, songs and a full meal.

For more information about the community Seder please contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.

Congregation Agudas Achim screening of *7 Days in Entebbe*

On March 25 at 3 p.m. Congregation Agudas Achim will screen the newly released *7 Days in Entebbe* film at Santikos Embassy 14, 13707 Embassy Row. The showing will be followed by a no host dinner at The Well, 5539 UTSA Boulevard.

Reserved tickets are \$25 per person with guarantee best seats in the house, and general admission seats are \$15 per person. Each ticket includes popcorn and a drink.

The events surrounding the hijacking of an Air France flight going from Tel Aviv to Paris in 1976 and the most courageous rescue mission that was ever attempted inspired *7 Days in Entebbe*.

This event is open to the entire community. Reservations can be made to the office at (210) 782 – 8253 or by email at rsvp@agudas-achim.org. For more information, contact Stephanie Kutler at (210) 479-0307 or s.kutler@agudas-achim.org.

Beldon Library launches music appreciation class for seniors

Beldon Library, a program of Jewish Federation, has launched a new monthly music appreciation class for seniors. The interactive class is free and open to all seniors.

The program was inspired by Librarian Lynn Waghalter after she discovered many memorable TV program theme songs and movie scores she so enjoyed were written by Jews. During the first class in January, opening bars of recognizable taped music were played by Waghalter as participants tried to identify the composers; answers quickly evolved into a lively discussion regarding the backgrounds of each. January's program



Beldon Librarian Lynn Waghalter in center is flanked by attendees Rhoda Rappaport on her right & Joan Pfeifer, Phyllis Ringel to her left.

The next Music Appreciation class will take place on March 19 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

featured music from notable Jewish composers including Fred Steiner, Lalo Schifrin, Mack David, writing team Ray Evans & Jay Livingston.

The February class presented

works by Burt Bacharach; March will be about Carole King, and subsequent classes will focus on more composers, genres of music, songwriters, lyricists, and other Jewish artists.

Held in the Senior Activity Room, next to the Beldon Library in the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community, the monthly class takes place on the third Monday of each month from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Scholarship Applications NOW AVAILABLE

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Applications must be received no later than Thursday, April 5, 2018.

Applications are available online at www.jfsatx.org or by contacting Caitlin Strayer at:

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Beldon Library News

Discover the great books for all ages at the Beldon Library.

Preschoolers from the Block & Dreeben School for Young Children visit the Beldon Library every Monday at 4:15 p.m. for story time and book check out.

The Beldon Library has a shelf filled with adult fiction books written in Hebrew. These books are available for check-out.

The Library is currently accepting donated books, CDs, DVDs, and other media for the annual Used Book Sale.

The sale will take place at the Library in August. Please note: prayer books and bibles will not be

BELDON LIBRARY HOURS:

Mondays and
Wednesdays
12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

accepted.

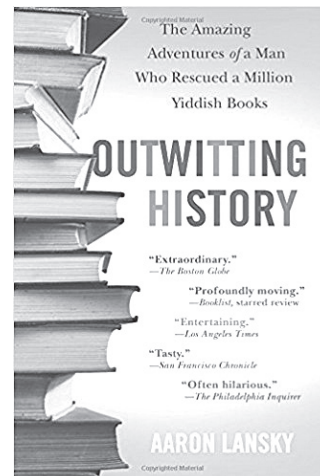
The Mitzvah Project that the Beldon Library has with the Vilna/Vilnius Jewish Public Library in Lithuania is ongoing, with a focus on their children's book section. Donations of new or gently used children's books with Jewish content are being accepted.

Contact Beldon librarian, Lynn Waghalter, at waghalterl@jfsatx.org for more information on this humanitarian project.

Temple Beth-El Bagels and Books Club

On Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m., Temple Beth-El's Bagels and Books Club will present a discussion of *Outwitting History: The Amazing Adventures of a Man Who Rescued a Million Yiddish Books*, by Aaron Lansky. UTSA Professor of Art History, Judith Sobre, Ph.D., will lead the discussion in the Block Conference Center at Temple Beth-El. Sobre has a personal connection to *Outwitting History* as her father is mentioned in it.

As a twenty-three-year-old graduate student, Aaron Lansky set out to save the



world's abandoned Yiddish books before it was too late. Today, more than a million books later, he has

accomplished what has been called "the greatest cultural rescue effort in Jewish history." In his award-winning book *Outwitting History*, Lansky shares his adventures as well as the poignant and often laugh-out-loud stories he heard as he traveled the country collecting books. Introducing readers to a dazzling array of writers, he shows how an almost-lost culture is the bridge between the old world and the future—and how the written word can unite everyone who believes in the power of great literature. The book is available on Amazon.com.

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

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

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

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

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

Cut out and mail to Jewish Federation of San Antonio, 12500 NW Military Hwy, Suite 200 San Antonio, TX 78231

Yes! I am excited to receive the *The Jewish Journal* by email beginning October 2018.
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Jewish victims from Florida school shooting remembered for their kindness

By Ben Sales
and Josefin Dolsten

(JTA) — They volunteered. They played soccer. They went to camp. They were sweet, mature and easygoing. They were just beginning their lives, or helping others on their way.

And one may have died so that others could live.

Jewish students and staff were among the 17 people who were killed when a

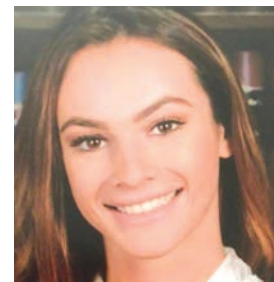
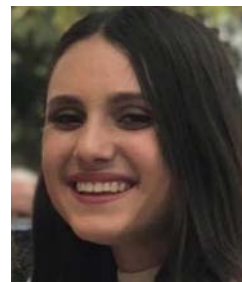
gunman entered Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14 and began shooting. Among the Jewish victims are first-year students Jaime Guttenberg and Alyssa Alhadeff, senior Meadow Pollack, student Alex Schachter and Scott Beigel, a geography teacher who saved students' lives by closing a door as he was shot.

"It's chaos here and devastation," Rabbi Jonathan

Kaplan of the local Temple Beth Chai told JTA on his way to console bereaved parents in his congregation. "No words can describe what happened here."

Jaime Guttenberg and her brother Jesse were students at Stoneman Douglas High School. While her brother managed to escape the school, Jaime was killed.

Guttenberg and her brother were volunteers at The Friendship Initiative,



a program that pairs neurotypical students like them with special needs kids. Another volunteer at the center, Gina Montalto, also was killed in the shooting.

Jeb Niewood, president of The Friendship Initiative, remembered Guttenberg as a genuine person who loved helping others.

Alyssa Alhadeff had

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attended Camp Coleman in Georgia, a Reform Jewish camp, for one summer, and was planning on returning this year. Staff there remembered her as being “like an angel,” always happy to help out and quick to adjust to a new environment.

“She was one of the easiest campers, very mature,” said Lotem Eilon, Alhadeff’s unit head. “She was very friendly and didn’t have to deal with drama per se. Alyssa was very mature and friendly and fit into camp right away, even though she came in older.”

Meadow Pollack, a senior, also died in the attack. In a photograph posted on Facebook, she is wearing a gown in preparation for graduation. She planned to go to Lynn University in nearby Boca Raton next year.

“Please say a prayer for the family of an amazing girl I got to call my bestfriend growing up,” wrote Gii Lovito on Facebook. “[H]er life was taken way too soon and I have no words to describe how this feels. Rest In Peace my beautiful angel... you are and forever will be loved.”

Another victim was Alex Schachter, Congregation Beth Am wrote on Facebook. He was a member of the school’s marching band.

“He will be missed immensely,” an extended family member of Schachter’s told ThinkProgress. “Everybody is just broken up and beyond shocked... His family adored him, and we’re all really just in shock.”

Teacher Scott Beigel was reported to have been shot as he shut the door to protect students from the gunman, an expelled student identified as Nikolas Cruz. One of the students in his class, Kelsey Friend, recounted how Beigel, 35, let her and other students into his classroom and then attempted to lock the door.

“I had talked to my teacher and said ‘I am scared.’ And then we all heard gunshots, and he unlocked the door and let us in. I had thought he was behind me, but he wasn’t,” Friend told ABC News. “When he opened the door, he had to relock it so we can stay safe, but he didn’t get the chance to [stay safe].”

Friend said she would likely not be alive had Beigel not opened the door for her.

Beigel was a staff member at Camp Starlight, a predominately Jewish summer camp in Starlight, Pennsylvania. In a Facebook post, the camp called him a “beloved friend and hero.”

British foundation for preserving Jewish heritage unveils map of Europe’s synagogues

By Cnaan Liphshiz

(JTA) — Europe has 3,318 synagogues, according to a new British organization that unveiled what it said was the first-ever pan-continental study of Jewish houses of worship.

The Foundation for Jewish Heritage, which was registered in the United Kingdom in 2015 and aims to help preserve and restore endangered European synagogues, commissioned the Center for Jewish Art at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem to tally and document Europe’s synagogues.

“The foundations launched last week in London,” said the

foundation’s chief executive, Michael Mail.

The results of the study, which took a year-and-a-half to complete, are on display on an interactive map accessible on the foundation’s website.

The map’s database includes a detailed classification for each registered synagogue, including such categories as its current condition, ranging from bad to excellent, its significance as a monument and its current status: used, disused or converted to serve as any one of a dozen purposes, including police station, mosque, garage and

See **MAP**, page 27

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Trump administration to move US Embassy to Jerusalem in May, Israel's 70th birthday

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Trump administration will formally move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv in May to coincide with Israel's 70th anniversary.

"We're planning to open the new U.S. Embassy to Israel in Jerusalem in May," a State Department spokesman told JTA in an email. "The Embassy opening will coincide with Israel's 70th anniversary."

The spokesman did not reveal a specific date, but May 14 would mark 70 years since Israel's establishment.

The spokesman said the embassy would be located in a southern Jerusalem neighborhood on the side that Israel held before 1967 but running along the seam of what was then the border.

"The Embassy will initially be located in Arnona, on a compound that currently houses the consular

operations of Consulate General Jerusalem," he said.

Building a new embassy will take at least three years, and the spokesman suggested that at least for now, much of the daily operation of the embassy would remain in Tel Aviv.

"At least initially, it will consist of the Ambassador and a small team," the spokesman said of the Jerusalem operation.

Trump administration officials had said previously that the embassy move would take place in 2019. President Donald Trump has heralded his December 6 recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital as one of the highlights of his administration.

He earned lengthy applause in February from the CPAC annual conservative conference in Washington when he mentioned the Jerusalem recognition.

Another source apprised

of the move provided JTA with a timeline for the move: In the first phase, starting in May, Ambassador David Friedman and some staff will begin working out of the consular section at a cost of about \$300,000 to \$500,000.

In the second phase, by the end of 2019, an annex on site will be constructed for a more permanent working space for the ambassador, staff and a classified processing site.

That will cost \$10 million to \$15 million, and the security arrangement will cost at least \$45 million.

The third phase, the site selection and construction of a new embassy, will take up to nine years.

CEO LETTER

continued from page 1

nurtured in a safe cocoon. When the time is right, the butterfly emerges, free to spread its wings and fly to wherever it desires.

In 1942, Pavel Friedman, a young man, wrote a poem titled *The Butterfly*, while living in the Terezin Concentration Camp. Pavel reflects upon a butterfly he saw that he never saw again, stating, "*The butterfly was the last one. Butterflies don't live in here, in the ghetto.*" Pavel Friedman was murdered in Aushchwitz in 1944. I first read this poem when I was a religious school student over thirty years ago, and it has haunted me ever since.

We cannot change the past. What we do have in our power is the ability to impact the future, and the most assured way to combat the atrocities of the Holocaust is through education, so that it never happens again. The work of our Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio is critical in our community, serving our local city and south Texas. We teach students, young and old, the righteousness of being an upstander, speaking out against bigotry and hatred. The dignity of each human being is sacred and divine.

As spring emerges in the world around us, we will see flowers bloom and butterflies soar. And it is our duty to ensure that there is never a "last butterfly" for any child.



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MAP

continued from page 25

funeral parlor.

One synagogue mapped by the foundation in Poznan, Poland, is today a swimming pool. Another in Cracow, Poland, is a bar, Mail said.

Beyond providing researchers a continental overview that Mail said did not exist prior to the study, it also can serve as a reference point for philanthropists, added Mail, whose foundation identified some 160 synagogues in imminent risk of being ruined beyond the point of restoration.

"It allows for restoration efforts to become strategic," Mail said. "Donors can see where they are most needed."

Before WW II, Europe had some 17,000 synagogues, Mail said. Less than a quarter of the synagogues mapped by the Foundation for Jewish Heritage are now being used as such.

"We are quite simply losing our history," said Mail.

Mail said the foundation has made progress on two preservation projects: one in the Merthyr Tydfil Synagogue in Wales, and another in the Great Synagogue of Slonim in Belarus.

The foundation wants to empower local authorities to restore or preserve synagogues rather than perform the work itself, he said.

At the Merthyr Tydfil Synagogue is a striking Gothic structure that became a gym following the local Jewish



community's disappearance in the 1980s. It is now for sale. Mail's foundation is in talks with authorities on opening a museum of Welsh Jewry.

In Slonim, the foundation is conducting a feasibility survey to devise a preservation strategy with the mayor's office.

The foundation has raised more than \$150,000 for these projects, the study and another program for preserving synagogues in Syria and Iraq.

New Israeli line of Passover wine launched by former NBA all-star

Former NBA star Amar'e Stoudemire has launched a new line of kosher-for-Passover wines, grown and produced in Israel. Stoudemire's interest in his own Israeli wine label began when he relocated to Israel to play for Israel's Hapoel Jerusalem team in 2016. He retired from basketball the following year, but remains a part-owner of the team.

Stoudemire, who was raised Christian, began exploring Judaism on a trip to Israel in 2010, and stated that he felt "spiritually Jewish, culturally Jewish." He identifies with the Hebrew Israelites, an African-American group that believes they are descendants of the biblical Israelites and keeps some Jewish practices.

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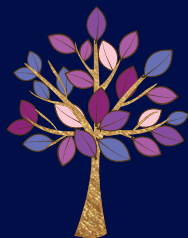




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