



SAVE THE DATE! Super Sunday is **October 11**

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

TISHREI 5776 – CHESHVAN 5776

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

OCTOBER 2015



THIS WAY TO SUPER SUNDAY!

Join the fun at this year's fundraising phone-a-thon.

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REBUILDING BOOK BY BOOK

The Beldon Library joins in the effort to rebuild a fledgling Lithuanian Jewish Library destroyed by the Nazis.

PAGE 28



DUES BY CHOICE

Temple Beth-El joins growing trend toward personal commitments over mandatory dues.

PAGE 10

Jerry Silverman, CEO of Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), addresses community leaders on September 1.



JFNA CEO addresses area Federation leaders

By Susan Kariv,
JFSA Chief Development Officer

Jewish Federation leaders gathered on September 1 at the home of Deborah and Morris Miller to support the Federation's 2015 Annual Campaign and to hear from Jerry Silverman, CEO of Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA). Silverman addressed our community commitment to Israel, the needs of global Jewry, such as in the Ukraine, the Iran Nuclear agreement, the importance of investing in our

young adults and future leaders, and how important the Federation's work is to our local, national and global Jewish communities.

He spoke about the impactful work of the Federation's Washington office, where professionals are representing the interests and concerns of all Jewish communities to members of Congress, where they advocate for key legislation that ensures the safety and security of Jewish institutions. He applauded

See **JFNA**, page 18,19

U.S. to make Iran deal official this month, no date set for sanctions relief

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The formal adoption of the Iran nuclear deal will be October 18, but it is not yet clear how long it will take for Iran to satisfy conditions to relieve sanctions, top U.S. officials said.

The senior administration officials, speaking on September 17 in a conference call with reporters, outlined the steps Iran must take before inspectors with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog, confirm that Iran is in compliance with the nuclear deal reached in July between Iran and six major powers.

The call to reporters came the same day that the Obama administration announced that Stephen Mull, the outgoing ambassador to Poland, would be the point person for ensuring Iranian compliance with the deal.

Among other measures, Iran must remove thousands of centrifuges from its Natanz reactor, ship overseas all but 300 kilograms of 12,000 kilograms of enriched uranium and remove the center of its plutonium reactor, the officials said.

Because of how involved the measures are, the officials would not estimate how long it would take to get to "implementation day," when the IAEA confirms compliance and sanctions are

See **IRAN**, page 28

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THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

PUBLISHED BY
The Jewish Federation of San Antonio
12500 N. W. Military Highway, #200
San Antonio, TX 78231
(210)302-6960
www.jfsatx.org

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

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EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the NOVEMBER 2015 issue of the Jewish Journal is OCTOBER 12, 2015 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:

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Ad deadlines for NOVEMBER 2015 ISSUE:
• Ad space reservations due no later than OCTOBER 12, 2015 by noon;
• Press ready ads due by OCTOBER 16, 2015.
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.



YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE THAT WE WANT FOR JUST ONE HOUR A WEEK

The San Antonio Jewish Coalition for Literacy wants to expand its program to help more elementary school students here in San Antonio, and we know that you are the one to make this expansion happen by tutoring a student in reading and math for just one hour a week. As experienced by other Coalition volunteers, you will have great feelings of accomplishment, satisfaction, and fulfillment by working with one student for the school year and making a positive difference in that student's life. And guess what, you even get a three month summer vacation as a reward for your efforts! If you know that you are that one special person to accomplish this, please contact Nathan Ratner, Coalition Coordinator, at 210-302-6972 or via email message at ratnern@jfsatx.org, to learn more about the program. Come and join us since you are definitely the one that we want!



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Super Sunday

Make a Difference

October 11, 2015 • 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community

Prizes

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Fun

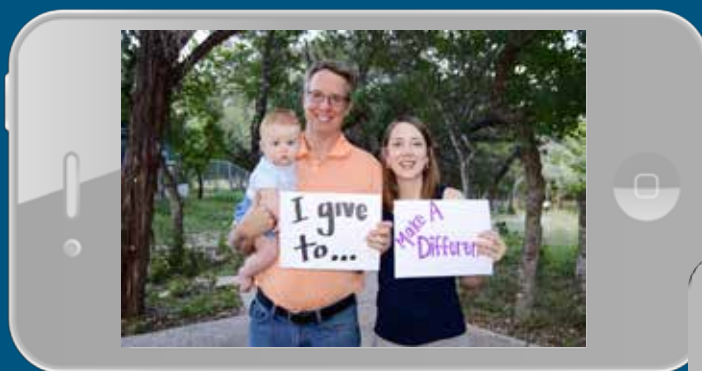
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Friends

Children's Activities and Childcare

Super Sunday Co-Chairs

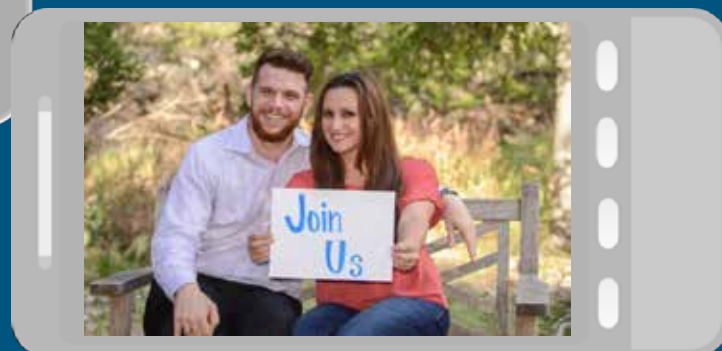
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Jewish Federation
OF SAN ANTONIO

Jonathan Gurwitz, Chair, 2015 Annual Campaign

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: SEPTEMBER 2015

October 1

- Sukkot
- Young Couples Club of Agudas Hosts Sushi in the Sukkah, 7 p.m.

October 2

- Sukkot
- Temple Beth-El, SAFTY Sukkot Lock-In & Leadership Training (Oct 2-3)
- Temple Beth-El, Brotherhood First Friday Lunch at China Inn, 12 p.m.
- First Friday Family Shabbat & Dinner, Temple Beth-El, 5:30 p.m.
- Musical Kabbalat Shabbat and Potluck Dinner in the Sukkah, Agudas Achim, 6:15 p.m.
- Sukkot Dinner at Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Following Services, 8:30 p.m.

October 3

- Sukkot
- Temple Beth-El, Shabbat Lunch Havurah: Deli Lunch & Movie Viewing, 11:45 a.m.
- Teen Campout in the Sukkah, Agudas Achim (Oct 3-4) 7 p.m.
- Temple Beth-El, Jazz in the Sukkah, 8 p.m.

October 4

- Sukkot
- Hoshana Rabba Brunch at Congregation Rodfei Sholom, 9:15 a.m.
- Sisterhood New Member Luncheon, Congregation

Agudas Achim, 11 a.m.

- Erev Atzeret-Simchat Torah/Consecration Service, Temple Beth-El, 6:30 p.m.

October 5

- Sh'mini Atzeret
- Atzeret-Simchat Torah Morning Worship, Temple Beth-El, 10:30 a.m.
- Free Family Hot Dog Dinner & Simchat Torah Program, Agudas Achim, 6 p.m.

October 6

- Simchat Torah
- Simchat Torah Lunch, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, 11 a.m.
- Board Meeting, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

October 7

- Book Club at Congregation, Rodfei Sholom, 7:30 p.m.

October 8

- Agudas Achim, Simcha Social Club, 11:30 a.m.
- Israel in the News with Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Agudas Achim, 1 p.m.

October 10

- Melave Malka, Rodfei Sholom, 8 p.m.

October 11

- SUPER SUNDAY, The Campus, 9:30 a.m.
- PJ Super Hero Super Sunday, The Campus, 3 p.m.

October 12

- Columbus Day

October 13

- NCJW Lunch & Learn with Author Nick Kotz, 12 p.m.
- JFSA Board Meeting, The Campus, 7 p.m.

- Walking a Narrow Bridge, Navigating Grief & Mourning in Jewish Tradition, The Campus, 7 p.m.

October 14

- L'Chayim Club Luncheon, Rodfei Sholom, 11:30 a.m.
- Workshop Taught by Rabbi Mara Nathan, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

October 15

- Agudas Achim Moonlight Supper Club, 7 p.m.

October 16

- Temple Beth-El, Jr. SAFTY, GFC FallFest, (Oct 16-18)

October 17

- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 8 p.m.

October 18

- Alamo-Brandeis B'nai B'rith meeting, The Campus, 10:30 a.m.
- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 2:30 p.m.

October 20

- An Evening with William Daroff, Federation

Washington Bureau Chief, 7 p.m.

- Walking a Narrow Bridge, Navigating Grief & Mourning in Jewish Tradition, The Campus, 7 p.m.

October 21

- Workshop Taught by Rabbi Mara Nathan, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

October 22

- Agudas Achim Brews & Schmooze at Big'z 1604, 5 p.m.
- TBE30s40s, 7p.m.

- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 7:30 p.m.

October 23

- International Shabbos Project, Rodfei Sholom, (Oct 23-24)
- Temple Beth-El, SAFTY, NFTY-TOR Fall Conclave in San Antonio, (Oct 23-24)

October 24

- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 8 p.m.

October 25

- Congregation Agudas Achim Sisterhood Estate Sale, (Oct 25-29)
- Jewish War Veterans Post 753 Business Meeting, The Campus, 9:30 a.m.

- Rodfei Sholom's Sunday Funday at the Jumpy Place, 10 a.m.
- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 2:30 p.m.

October 26

- NCJW Trashy Book Club, 6:30 p.m.

October 27

- Walking a Narrow Bridge, Navigating Grief & Mourning in Jewish Tradition, The Campus, 7 p.m.

October 28

- Workshop Taught by Rabbi Mara Nathan, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

October 29

- Scholar-in-Residence with Rabbi Charles Sherman, Agudas Achim, 7 p.m.
- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 7:30 p.m.

See **CALENDAR**, page 5

IN LOVING MEMORY

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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

CANDLE LIGHTING

Thursday, Oct. 1	Sukkot IV (CH" M) 7 p.m. Candle lighting
Friday, Oct. 2	Sukkot V (CH" M) 7 p.m. Candle lighting
Saturday, Oct. 3	Sukkot VI (CH" M) 8:28 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Sunday, Oct. 4	Sukkot VII (Hoshana Raba) 6:57 p.m. Candle lighting
Monday, Oct. 5 Tuesday, Oct. 6	Shmini Atzeret Simchat Torah 8:25 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Friday, Oct. 9 Saturday, Oct. 10	6:52 p.m. Candle lighting Parashat Bereshit 8:20 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Tuesday, Oct. 13 Wednesday, Oct. 14	Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan
Friday, Oct. 16 Saturday, Oct. 17	6:44 p.m. Candle lighting Parashat Noach 8:13 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Friday, Oct. 23 Saturday, Oct. 24	6:37 p.m. Candle lighting Parashat Lech-Lecha 8:06 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Friday, Oct., 30 Saturday, Oct. 31	6:31 p.m. Candle lighting Parashat Vayera 8:00 p.m. Havdalah (72 min)
Friday, Nov. 6 Saturday, Nov. 7	5:25 p.m. Candle lighting Parashat Chayei Sara 6:55pm Havdalah (72 min)

We are stronger together

I love *Sukkot*. Known in our tradition as *z'man simchatenu*, the time of our rejoicing, Sukkot is the first holiday of the new year and gives us the opportunity to make good on our promises and begin the year right. We embrace the festivities of *Sukkot* with a new spirit and the best of intentions.

The Jewish Federation is giving us all an opportunity to "do good" this month. Sunday Oct. 11 is Super Sunday, the day on which our community helps to ensure that financial resources are secured to provide for the needs of the global Jewish people and others close to home.



Letter from our CEO

RONIT SHERWIN

The funds raised through Super Sunday go directly to the Annual Campaign, and are then allocated to programs like senior meals at the Barshop JCC, Safety Net services with Jewish Family Services and Jewish education like the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio.

In Psalms (24:6) we read that "*This is the generation and those who seek its welfare.*" WE are the

generation responsible for today, and WE care about our community and its vibrancy. Please join me and so many others in person or on the phone Super Sunday. Make the call or answer the call, because we are all stronger together.

On *Sukkot* we eat and sleep in temporary shelters, mindful that so much of what we have and enjoy is fleeting. Together we can ensure that what we create for ourselves and others the rest of the year is sturdy and sound. *Chag Sameach!*

Ronit Sherwin
Chief Executive Officer

CALENDAR

continued from page 4

November 1

- Chai Lights: Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Hanukkah Show, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus,

2:30 p.m.

- AIPAC San Antonio Annual Event, La Cantera Hill Country Resort, 7 p.m.

November 3

- Board Meeting, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

November 4

- JCC Community Dinner, The Campus, 7 p.m.
- JCC Board Meeting, The Campus, 7:30 p.m.

November 5

- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 7:30 p.m.

November 6

- First Friday Family Shabbat & Dinner, Temple Beth-El, 5:30 p.m.

November 7

- The Texas Kosher BBQ Championship Pre-Party at Agudas Achim 8 p.m.
- The Vex Theater Presents, *Bad Jews*, The Campus, 8 p.m.

Central Area Partnership

Mission to Israel

March 28 - April 4, 2016

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Visit Nahariya, Akko, the Golan, Safed & Jerusalem.

Informational Parlor Meeting - 10.12.15 @ 7 PM

Registration deadline is 12.18.15.
JFSA subsidy available with registration by 12.1.15.

Questions? Contact Ronit Sherwin.

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Greg Davis and Liz Rockstroh



Aaron and Danielle Sarfati

Make the call; Answer the call

Super Sunday is going to be SUPER this year! The community is invited to come out to the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community, on Sunday, October 11, and help make calls in support of the 2015 Annual Campaign, the annual fundraising campaign that ensures our community's vitality and vibrancy in the year ahead.

There will be plenty of food, fun, friends, prizes, and mitzvahs as volunteers make calls between 10-4 pm. Israel, Jewish communities overseas, safety net services, Jewish camping, Jewish education, PJ Library, and the Holocaust Museum are just a few of the causes that will benefit from the Jewish Federation's campaign dollars raised. Co-Chairs, Liz Rockstroh & Greg Davis and

Danielle & Aaron Sarfati are looking forward to helping community volunteers "make the call."

New features for young children this year include PJ Library "Be a Super Hero on Super Sunday" at 2pm, and Super Sunday Camp for children K-5.

To sign up for a shift at Super Sunday, please contact the Jewish Federation office, (210) 302-6960, or register online at www.jfsatx.org. If you can't make the call, then "take the call" and make a difference!

Through the collective dollars of the Federation's Annual Campaign, we are able to make a difference in the lives of fellow San Antonians, as well as Jewish people in Israel and 60 countries around the world. We are STRONGER TOGETHER!

Federation hires new museum staff

Federation is pleased to welcome two new members to the Holocaust Memorial Museum staff: Education Associate Kristin Rodriguez and Programs Manager Matthew Faulkner.



Kristin Rodriguez is a graduate of the University of Texas at San Antonio with a Bachelor's degree in History. She recently earned her Master's in Museum Science from Texas Tech University. While at Texas Tech, she interned at the university's museum as a graduate assistant to the registrar. Rodriguez also worked at the George Ranch Historical Park in Richmond, Texas, working as an interpreter and with educational programming. She is currently working on grants that deal with the preservation and storage of the museum collections. As Educational Associate she will be assisting in future educational projects.



Matthew Faulkner is a former Dr. Edward Westermann Holocaust Education Fellow, and recent graduate from Texas A&M University – San Antonio. Matthew has a Bachelor's degree in Research History with a focus in European Studies and a minor in Communication Journalism. During his time as an intern, Matthew was able to assist with the museum's largest movie screening in the Spring of 2015 and aided in improving portions of the educational program the museum has to offer during tours. As Programs Manager, Faulkner now oversees all aspects of tours of the museum and museum events.

Spotlight on: Michelle Vizurraga

Michelle Vizurraga, her husband David, and their two children Eve, 8, and Rennix, 6, moved to San Antonio in July of 2014. Since their arrival, they have become very involved in the San Antonio community. Vizurraga has served on the PJ Library committee all year and brought her expertise from her time as a Jewish educator in Atlanta, Georgia to enrich the PJ programs. Michelle worked for three years at the Davis (Jewish) Academy in Atlanta and two years at the JCC Preschool there as well. In addition to serving as Vice President of the



Michelle Vizurraga and her family.

PTA at Blattman Elementary, she is a new member of the Jewish Federation Board and the Yad B'Yad

Intergenerational Coordinator at Heintz Preschool at Agudas Achim.

We asked Michelle a few questions to get to know her better:

What brought you to San Antonio?

We came to San Antonio because my husband David was stationed here for the Air Force to be an orthopedic surgeon at San Antonio Army Medical Center (SAMC).

What is your strongest Jewish memory?

My strongest Jewish memory was

that every year I sat at High Holiday services beside my Dad. He would always wrap me close in his Tallit (prayer shawl) and I would braid the tzitzit and we would say the prayers together. I can still picture it vividly in my head.

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

The volunteer activities I find the most rewarding are the ones that make a direct impact on others

See **SPOTLIGHT**, page 7

SPOTLIGHT

continued from page 6

and I can actually see the positive outcome from it. This year I have served on the PJ Library Committee and I have really enjoyed doing that! From making the Western Wall for the children's PJ Library section at Yom Ha'atzmaut (for Israeli Independence Day) to decorating and wrapping the giant birthday cake (out of boxes) for the World's Birthday Party at the PJ Library Rosh Hashanah program, I really enjoy helping our children form tangible memories of positive Jewish experiences like I had.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday and why?

My favorite Jewish holiday is Passover. I especially love the Seder. I enjoy sitting

around the table with my family reading the Haggadah and telling the story about the Exodus from Egypt and knowing that Jews all over the world are doing the exact same thing! Also one of my favorite movies is the Ten Commandments and we watch it every year. The holiday really comes to life!

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

A hope that I have for the Jewish community is that we support each other no matter to what affiliation we belong and that each individual is willing to participate as a volunteer/board member/or a committee member. I really enjoy living here and I have seen that our community is so special and only benefits from everyone's support.

San Antonio community gathers to address hate crimes



In reaction to anti-Semitic graffiti and vandalism at Congregations Rodfei Sholom and Agudas Achim and a northside neighborhood, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce organized a *Community Conversation about Preventing Hate Crimes* event at the Pearl Stables on September 1. The event was co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation of San Antonio and Catholic Charities.

Jerry Silverman, CEO of Jewish Federations of North America, told the attendees that in his childhood he spent many summers in San Antonio



U.S. Marshall Robert Almonte, Ronit Sherwin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio and Jerry Silverman, CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America (Photo credit: Allan Smith)

with his grandparents. His grandfather was the Hazzan

at the Congregation Rodfei Sholom. He remembers meeting Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg when he was a new young rabbi for the congregation.

Ronit Sherwin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio participated in a panel with Rabbi Scheinberg, District 8 Councilman Ron Nirenberg, J. Antonio Suarez, CEO of Catholic Charities, and law enforcement representatives. Winslow Swart was the moderator.

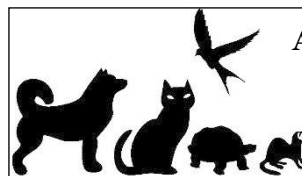
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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

PJ Library and Agudas Achim team up to celebrate the new year, 5776

By Lauren Abraham,
PJ Library Coordinator

PJ Library celebrated the world's 5776th birthday in partnership with Congregation Agudas Achim. The party, also celebrating PJ's first year of programming in San Antonio, attracted over 65 children and many energized parents along with them. Our PJ readers entered the Gurinsky Family Social Hall to work on creative birthday activities, which included stations to decorate their own birthday hat, pin the Rosh Hashanah apple on the tree, make a Shanah Tovah (New Year's) card for our Partnership community in the Western Galilee of Israel, and make a shofar that actually sounds.

Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton, and Yad B Yad Coordinator Michelle Vizurraga led the children in songs and stories. Rabbi Abraham taught the children about the age of the "world" and read *Happy Birthday World: A Rosh Hashanah Celebration*. The families sang about a Happy New Year and Shofar blowing. Hazzan Lipton

sounded the shofar and added energy and sound effects to the stories.

What is a birthday party without cake? The PJ Library committee built a life sized cake out of boxes and asked the children to write their wishes for the world on a small "cupcake." Then to end the program, our PJ Library readers got to go and enjoy and decorate their own cupcake and sing "Happy birthday to the world" in Hebrew and English.

"It was so amazing to see so many generations at this program," said Agudas Achim Youth Director, Eric Steitz. "Teens working to help out, young children and older learning about the holiday and singing together. Parents, grandparents, and everyone came together for the community. This is a great sign for the future of the Jewish people in San Antonio."

PJ Library San Antonio looks forward to its monthly programs and book arrivals at the homes of our young readers. Please like and check the PJ Library San Antonio Facebook page and follow us there for more exciting events to come.



Hazzan Jeremy Lipton sounds the shofar for the PJ Library families.



PJ children and Rabbi Ariel Greenberg and Abby Klionsky of the Institute for Southern Jewish Life worked together to wish the world a Happy Birthday.

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During a recent visit to San Antonio, Jan Goldstein, US Communities Partnership Director, spoke with Dr. Tara Frost and recent Young Leadership graduate Isadora Sintes about all of the educational twinning in our Western Galilee Partnership Region. They also discussed the upcoming Partnership Mission to Israel in 2016. To learn about upcoming parlor meetings and the trip to Israel, contact the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at (210) 302-6960.



Dave Ravitch, Partnership Consortium Co- chair from Benton Harbor, Michigan, recently took his first trip to Texas to share background and details about the Western Galilee Partnership and all of the potential for lay leaders to get involved, including in their task forces for Medical, education, arts and culture, and more. Ravitch (from left to right) enjoyed sharing stories and Israeli nosh with Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Ray Elias, and Daniel Laser of Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services.

"It was such an informative visit and time of growth for us all, and we look forward to making more connections over the coming year between our partners in the Western Galilee and us in San Antonio," said Lauren Abraham, JFSA Partnership Coordinator.



Pomegranate Society Demi Dinner to welcome P2G Artists

Each fall, the women of the Pomegranate Society of the Jewish Federation gather and organize an annual Demi Dinner. This special event recognizes women who make a gift in their own name of \$1800 or greater to the Annual Campaign. Co-chairs for this year's event are Ilene Franco, Simone Kboudi and Lauren Stanley.

For many years, the Demi Dinner has taken place in a private home and the women come together and share favorite homemade dishes. "The Demi Dinner has a long tradition in San Antonio," said Leslie Tramer, a member of the Pomegranate society.

This year, however, the event will be held at The Grill at Leon Springs, on October 14 beginning at 7 p.m.

"We wanted to try something a little different," said Kboudi. "It's really going to be an exciting evening." Interestingly, one of the restaurant's co-owners, Armand Obadia, is a native of Israel and said he is thrilled to be hosting the event.

This year's theme, *The Art and Soul of the Partnership*, will focus on Federation's



Partnership region in the Western Galilee of Israel. Special guests will be artists Joani Rothenberg and her Israeli cousin, Yael Buxbaum, who just completed a *Tree of Life* mosaic project, which hangs at the entrance to the new Women's Health Wing at the Galilee Medical Center. They will share their inspiring story of this collaborative project. During the Demi Dinner, guests will have the opportunity to partake in a little community art project of their own.

For more information contact Julie Schack, Director of Women's Philanthropy at (210) 302-6965 or schackj@jfsatx.org.

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Temple Beth-El moves to free will dues system

Temple Beth-El has introduced a new free will membership dues system. After an extensive process of research and conversations that began last year, the Temple's Board of Trustees adopted a policy which it believes better fulfills its sacred mission, and will stimulate membership giving and growth.

The new policy moves away from a traditional dues structure, replacing it with a personal pledge system. Now, a member's pledge is an individual choice. Instead of paying an assigned dues amount, each member household has the responsibility to fairly assess its own commitment level and give accordingly. Members are asked to contribute based on what the household determines is consistent with its ability to support, sustain, perpetuate and strengthen the congregation.

The new policy identifies a sustaining dues level as a guideline, which reflects the actual cost per membership to maintain its programs and facilities. It also outlines honorary *Ner Tamid* (Eternal Light) levels for those who are able to contribute above the sustaining level.

Temple Beth-El joins a small, but growing number of congregations throughout North America that have moved to this system. UJA-Federation of New York published an extensive study entitled *Are Voluntary Dues Right for Your Synagogue* earlier this year, closely examining 26 Reform, Conservative and Independent congregations that adopted a free will system, most within the last five years. While the study did not endorse any synagogue funding model, it described the repeated success of the free will or voluntary dues system.

The New York Times reported on February 2, 2015 that Rabbi Rick Jacobs, the President of the Union for Reform Judaism, said that "voluntary pledging is appealing not just for financial reasons, but also because it can shift the way synagogues are perceived. 'The bond that holds the Jewish people to one another is not primarily and fundamentally a financial arrangement, and when we suggest that it might be, it undermines everything we stand for,' he said."

Temple Beth-El's Executive Director, Rabbi Alan Berlin, noted that the policy harkens back to the method that was used by the ancient Israelites to build their sacred space. "As Moses asked each individual in the ancient community of Israel to contribute in building the tabernacle according to their own ability," he said, "we are asking our members to support Temple Beth-El in a manner which is meaningful to them. The new policy embraces this principle, adopting the slogan *Give to your Heart's Content*."

David Adelman, Senior Vice President of the Temple Beth-El Board, was a champion of this change and is leading the effort to roll out the new structure together with Vice President, Gayle Alterman. Adelman, a third generation Temple member, emphasized that one of his primary motivations for the change was to strengthen the congregation for future generations. A father of two teenage daughters, he wants the congregation to be a place to which his children will want to belong and support when they are adults.

Details about the new policy are available at www.beth-elsa.org or www.givetoyourheartcontent.org.

Agudas Achim to host Yad Vashem speaker

Lea Roshkovsky of the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem in Israel, will be the guest speaker at Congregation Agudas Achim on Sunday, Oct. 25 at 11 a.m. Roshkovsky will discuss her experiences teaching at the college and working with Jewish teachers from Europe

and the United States, as well as leading youth groups through Poland.

Yad Vashem is Israel's main Holocaust remembrance and education center.

The program is free and open to the community. Reservations are requested by emailing rsvp@agudas-achim.org.

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Guest speaker: Ensuring all deceased veterans full military honors

Manny Mendoza, who is part of the Ft. Sam Houston all volunteer Memorial Services Detachment, will be the main speaker at the JWV Post meeting on

Sunday, Oct. 25 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 277 at the Jewish campus. Mendoza will share details about the volunteer group, which provides memorial services at military funerals.

The presentation is free and open to the community, but RSVPs are requested by calling Irwin Barath at (210) 341-4502. There will be a post business meeting following the presentation for post members.

Congressman Castro presentation rescheduled

Congressman Joaquin Castro will speak to the JWV Post and the community on Sunday, Nov. 22 at in the Holzman Auditorium on the Jewish Campus. Rep. Castro was scheduled to speak on September 27, but the event was rescheduled due to an important vote on Capitol Hill. There is no charge for the event, but reservations are required by contacting Irwin Barath at (210) 341-4502. A business meeting for post members will follow Rep. Castro's presentation.



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Open house for upcoming Agudas Achim trip to Israel

Congregation Agudas Achim will host an open house to share details about a summer of 2016 trip to Israel to be led by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham. The informational session will be held on Sunday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. at the home of Ellen and Rikko Ollervidez. The 10-day trip is designed as a multi-generational tour with activities planned for youth, teens, adults and seniors. They will cover highlights of Israel while including some unique opportunities for the group, such as a BBQ dinner with Israeli troops and a Shavuot experience at the Kotel in Jerusalem. All are welcome to participate on the trip. The open house address will be provided upon RSVP. Please call Mindi Stern at (210) 479-0307 to RSVP or request additional information.

GMJSS welcomes new Programs Director

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) has announced the addition of two new members to the GMJSS team. Christina Weinfeld has been hired as the organization's new Programs Director, and Dr. Martha Spinks, Ph.D., MSW will serve as a consultant for GMJSS's strategic planning campaign, *REIMAGINE*.

Weinfeld is a native Texan, who has been active in the Temple Beth-El community and the San Antonio Jewish senior community. She is a graduate of Jewish Federation's and Temple Beth-El's Young Leadership Programs and currently serves on the Temple Beth-El Board. Weinfeld first began working with GMJSS as a



Christina Weinfeld



Dr. Martha Spinks

volunteer, helping at numerous GMJSS events and leading services for GMJSS at Golden Estates.

Spinks is well known in San Antonio for her work with the community's seniors and veterans. Most recently, Spinks served as the Director of

the Bexar Area Agency on Aging (BAAA) of the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG). Her career has also included positions as an Army Social Work Officer administering soldier and family programs and as the executive director of a large Senior Services program in central Los Angeles, where she oversaw the design and construction of an Adult Day Health Care Center for people with Alzheimer's and created an award-winning Senior Cyber Café.

To arrange a meeting with Spinks to discuss program development for San Antonio Jewish Seniors, call GMJSS at (210) 302-6946.

Rodfei Sholom participates in the Shabbos Project

The International Shabbos Project is taking place around the world on Shabbos, October 23 - 24. The Shabbos Project was introduced in South Africa in 2013 and had an astonishing effect. On the designated Shabbos, close to 70% of the country's 75,000 Jews kept Shabbos, most for the first time in their lives. It has now taken on international proportions



and last year more than 340 cities around the world participated.

Congregation Rodfei Sholom will begin Shabbat

with Kabbalat Shabbat services followed by a traditional home-cooked meal, *Divrei Torah* (discussion of torah), *Zemirot* (Shabbat Songs) in a friendly, welcoming environment. On Shabbat, there will be a kiddush following services and an afternoon of learning with visitors from Israel and different parts of the U.S., as well as just

relaxing and enjoying the special atmosphere of Shabbat in homes in the neighborhood. The day will conclude with services, Shalosh Seudat (third meal of Shabbat) and havdalah. If you would like to participate in the Shabbos Project at Rodfei Sholom, contact the synagogue at (210) 493-3557 or rodfeisa@gmail.com.

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Temple Beth-El welcomes young adults to @TBE20s30s

Temple Beth-El's group for 20s and 30s, now called @TBE20s30s, will host a number of events this month. Anyone interested in participating, leading, or even suggesting an event, can contact Lacey Dalby, Alex Stubbs-Trevino, or Rabbi Marina Yergin or can share their thoughts by emailing TBE20s30sSA@gmail.com. Group events can be found on Facebook ("TBE20s30s").

Upcoming Events include:

- October 8, 6 p.m. gather at the McNay Museum for Second Thursdays, a night of free fun on the museum grounds

including live music, food truck cuisine, and more.

- October 25, @TBE20s30s will host a breakfast for the NFTY-TOR Fall Conclave to be held at Temple Beth-El. Volunteers should contact TBE20s30sSA@gmail.com.
- October 30, 8 p.m., Potluck dinner in the Block Conference Room following Shabbat service. Participants are asked to bring whatever foods and snacks they wish to share. Halloween themed items are welcome. Email your fare to TBE20s30sSA@gmail.com.

2015 Texas Kosher BBQ Championship expands

The annual Texas Kosher BBQ Championship is expanding this year, offering a weekend of fun and food. The event, hosted by Congregation Agudas Achim, will be held on the synagogue grounds at 16550 Huebner Road. Ticket prices at the door have been reduced this year with even greater savings when pre-ordered on the website.

The weekend kicks off with a Pre-Q Party on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8 p.m. – 11 p.m. The \$10 per person ticket provides all-access pass and behind-the-scenes look at the teams as they prep and start cooking for the competition. The party includes live music, burgers and hot dogs (included in admission) and beer and soft drinks (for purchase).

Then, on Sunday, Nov. 8, the competition begins. Visit the team pits and sample almost a ton of kosher brisket, chicken and salmon, donated by HEB at The Texas Kosher

BBQ Championship from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Twenty (20) grill teams will vie for “Best Of” titles in the brisket, chicken, salmon and beans categories. The winners will be chosen by a panel of celebrity judges as well as by the attendees themselves in a People’s Choice selection.

Admission includes live music and entertainment, a Kiddie Korral with inflatables, hot dog and pickle eating contests. Beer and soft drinks will also be for sale.

There will be free on-site and off-site secure parking with continuously running shuttles. This year, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the San Antonio Fisher House Foundation, which provides free and low cost lodging to veterans and military families receiving treatment at military medical centers.

Sunday Texas Kosher BBQ Championship tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children at the door.

For more information on ticket and advanced pre-sale and combo ticket options, as well as offsite parking locations, visit www.TheTexasKosherBBQChampionship.com or call (210) 479-0307.

Holidays at a Glance 5776*:

Hanukkah - December 7 - 14, 2015

Tu B'Shevat - January 25, 2016

Purim - March 24, 2016

Pesach (Passover) - April 23 - 30, 2016

Yom HaShoah - May 5, 2016 (Holocaust Memorial Day)

Yom HaZikaron - May 11, 2016 (Israeli Memorial Day)

Yom HaAtzma'ut - May 12, 2016 (Israeli Independence Day)

Pesach Sheni - May 22, 2016

(2nd Passover, one month after Passover)

*All holidays begin at sundown the night before the date specified.

UT Professor provides compelling facts on Iran deal

Michael Ozer

San Antonio Chair,
Israel Bonds

Dr. Alan Kuperman, Associate Professor of Public Affairs and coordinator of the Nuclear Proliferation Project at the University of Texas at Austin detailed important scientific information regarding the Iran deal to an audience of 75 at Congregation Rodfei Sholom on Sunday morning, August 30th. The lecture was co-sponsored by Israel Bonds and Rodfei Sholom’s Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Using basic science and math, Dr. Kuperman clearly explained to the breakfast meeting that under the proposed deal, Iran’s breakout time to produce a nuclear weapon would be no more than 3 months, not the one year that the Obama administration has claimed.

“Breakout time is determined by three primary factors: the number and type of centrifuges, the enrichment of the starting material, and the amount of enriched uranium required for a nuclear weapon”.

Iran will be allowed to keep an additional 14,000 disconnected centrifuges for spare parts under the deal, in addition to the 5,060 centrifuges allowed for uranium enrichment. Dr. Kuperman argued that these extra centrifuges could be easily reconnected and brought up to speed, vastly increasing Iran’s ability to quickly enrich uranium.

Furthermore, although the deal permits Iran to keep only a small amount of enriched uranium in gaseous



From left: Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg (Rodfei Sholom), Dr. Michael Ozer (Israel Bonds Chair), Bobbie Ghitis (Rodfei IPA Chair), Professor Alan Kuperman (U.T. Austin)

form, it is allowed to keep much larger amounts in solid form. This can be rapidly converted to the gaseous form in a few weeks, again shortening the breakout time.

Finally, Dr. Kuperman contended that the administration’s argument that 59 pounds of enriched uranium is required to make an atomic weapon is flawed. “A 1995 study by the National Resources

Defense Council concluded that a nuclear weapon with the explosive force of the Hiroshima bomb required just 29 pounds of weapons-grade uranium.”

Following a contentious debate in the U.S. Senate, opponents of the deal, although in the majority, were unable to overcome the filibuster rule requiring a 60 vote majority. The accord is expected to be formally adopted on October 19.

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Temple Beth-El Shabbat after 6:30 p.m. plans upcoming dinner

Temple Beth-El's *Shabbat After 6:30 p.m.* group welcomes those 50+ to join them for a no host dinner (i.e., dutch treat) at Los Barrios, 4223 Blanco Road, following Shabbat Eve services on Friday, October 16.

The event is open to the community, but reservations

are required and can be made online at http://bethelsa.formstack.com/forms/tbe_sasix.

For assistance or more information, contact Mindi Silver-Weiss at (210) 823-7295 or Nancy Gerson at (210) 240-4578 for additional information.

Agudas Achim Sisterhood celebrates Veteran's Day Shabbat

The Sisterhood of Congregation Agudas Achim will sponsor Shabbat dinner on Friday, Oct. 30, to honor members of the Congregation who have served in the armed forces. Services begin at 6:15 p.m. and will be followed by a special Shabbat dinner. The Sisterhood's Community Service Committee is planning to have pictures

of the honorees in uniform and to include some fun activities during the dinner celebration.

Honorees will be guests of the Sisterhood; cost of dinner for others is \$18 for adults, \$9 for children 5 -11 years old, with no charge for children 4 years old and younger. For further information, call Sherie Trakhtenbroit at (210) 823-5466.



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Israel Bonds San Antonio to Honor Lizette and Brian Feld

Israel Bonds San Antonio will honor Lizette and Brian Feld at the organization's annual reception on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. The reception will be held at Congregation Rodfei Sholom. The keynote speaker for the evening will be well-know columnist for *The Boston Globe*, Jeff Jacoby according to Dr. Michael Ozer, San Antonio Chair of Israel Bonds.

Brian and Lizette Feld have devoted their time to the Jewish community, the Israel advocacy community and the general community for many years. They have been active supporters and leaders with AIPAC for over a decade. Brian and Lizette chaired the 2014 San Antonio AIPAC Annual Event. They have also been involved with the Jewish Federation in both Austin and San Antonio. Since moving to San Antonio in 2007, Brian has served on the Jewish Federation Board and was a member of the Executive Committee from 2010-2012. Lizette has co-chaired the Federation's Pomegranate Dinner and its Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration. Brian and Lizette chaired San Antonio's Super Sunday in 2010. Brian serves on the San Antonio Holocaust Commission and as



Lizette and Brian Feld with David, Adam, and Hannah on their recent trip to Israel

Secretary on the Board of the Eleanor Kolitz Hebrew Language Academy. Brian and Lizette have three children: Hannah, David, and Adam. The extended Feld family spent two weeks in Israel this past summer.

Scheduled speaker Jeff Jacoby is an award-winning columnist for *The Boston Globe*. His columns are distributed by the New York Times Syndicate, and can also be read at JeffJacoby.com. A native of Cleveland, Jacoby is the son of a Holocaust survivor and the product of a Jewish day-school education. Before beginning his newspaper

career, he briefly practiced law at the prominent firm of Baker & Hostetler; he worked on political campaigns in Massachusetts; and he was an assistant to Dr. John Silber, the president of Boston University. In 1999, Jeff Jacoby became the first recipient of the Breindel Prize, an award for excellence in opinion journalism. In 2004, he received the Thomas Paine Award from the Institute for Justice, which honors journalists "who dedicate their work to the preservation and championing of individual liberty." In 2009, he was presented with the Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism on the Middle East.

For more information, or to make a reservation, contact Steve Landis at steve.landis@israelbonds.com or (713) 360-3530.

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Beth Am hosts Rabbi Eliasov for Simchat Torah celebration

Rabbi Monty Eliasov will lead Congregation Beth Am during Simchat Torah on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in singing, dancing, and parading with the Torah.

Rabbi Eliasov is the spiritual leader of Congregation Shalom Rav in Austin. He was born in South Africa and came to the United States to study rabbinic literature at the

Telshe Yeshiva Talmudic Academy in Ohio. He studied both Jewish history and economics at Yeshiva University in New York, and then went on to complete his M.A. in rabbinic literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

He studied Kabbalah and neo-Chassidic prayer forms with Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, the founder of the Jewish Renewal movement.

He received rabbinic ordination from Rabbi Gershon Winkler.

He has been a regular visiting rabbi at Congregation Beth Am and will return for Purim services in the spring of 2016.

This hybrid celebration, which will include rituals from Hoshana Rabbah, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah, will be held in the Jefferson Building

on the campus of the First Unitarian Universalist Church on the westbound access road of IH-10. There

will be a Kiddush and following the service.

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Project Uplift to bring area women together

Congregation Agudas Achim Sisterhood and the San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah will observe Breast Cancer Awareness month with an unusual program, *Project Uplift*. On Sunday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. at Congregation Agudas Achim (16550 Huebner Rd.), women will participate in a creative bra decorating workshop for breast cancer awareness.

There will be a \$5 charge to cover the cost of supplies. Women in Hillel San Antonio have also been invited to attend at no charge, with their participation subsidized by Hadassah. To reserve a spot, contact Kathy O'Neill at (210) 823-8603 by October 15.

Temple Beth-El Sisterhood to host Hanukkah Gift Show

San Antonio families will have the opportunity to add to their Menorah collection and taste authentic latkes at the *Chai Lights Hanukkah Show* at Temple Beth-El on Sunday, Nov. 1 from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Organizers say the show will include Hanukkah toys, a wide variety of menorahs, candles, jewelry and special artistic Judaic items. Guests can enjoy hot potato latkes along with other foods and musical entertainment, as well.

"You could call us a one

stop Hanukkah shop with stickers, gift wrap, driedels and candy," said event chairman Janie Kolman. "Even though Hanukkah runs December 6-14, holding our show on November 1 makes it convenient to mail gifts to friends and family."

For help with special items, contact Sharon Teich of the Sisterhood Judaica Shop at (210) 305-1843.

Proceeds from the Chai Lights Hanukkah Show will benefit the youth and religious services at Temple Beth-El.

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Pulitzer Prize winner Kotz to speak at two upcoming events on October 12 and 13

Nick Kotz, a historian and Pulitzer Prize winning author who penned *The Harness Maker's Dream* about his remarkable family, the Kallisons, and their impact on San Antonio, will be the featured speaker at two special events this month.

Hadassah and the San Antonio Jewish Genealogical Society Meeting, October 12

Kotz will speak at a joint meeting of Hadassah and the San Antonio Jewish Genealogical Society on Monday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community (12500 NW Military Drive). Kotz will be available to sign copies of his book, which will be on sale at the event.

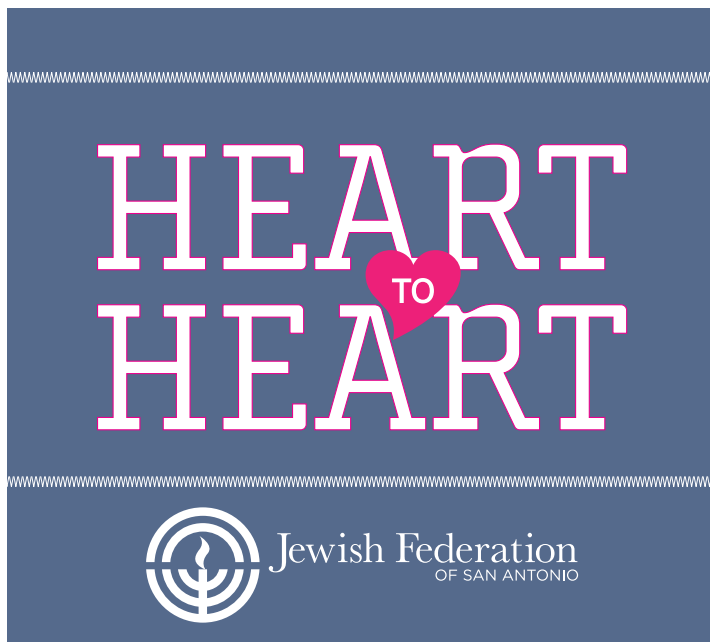
Light refreshments will be served. There is no cover charge. For reservations, contact Marion Bernstein at (210) 493-1801 by October 5.

National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Lunch and Learn, October 13

Kotz will also be the featured speaker at a Lunch and Learn hosted by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at noon at Scuzzi's Restaurant (N.W. Military Hwy. and 1604).

Kotz will discuss how his growing family built a legendary business and cattle ranch that helped develop modern Texas.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Marilyn Berkowitz at marilynn31@sbcglobal.net.



EDUCATION

Guest rabbi to speak on discovering hope after heartache at Agudas Achim

Rabbi Charles Sherman, author of the best selling book, *The Broken and the Whole: Discovering Joy After Heartbreak*, will speak at Congregation Agudas Achim on Thursday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. The program is sponsored by the Agudas Achim Rabbi Louis Schechter Scholar in Residence Fund.

Rabbi Sherman, the former rabbi of one of New York's largest synagogues, will discuss his family's struggle to address the heart-wrenching issues they faced after his youngest son suffered a brain-stem stroke. The stroke left him a quadriplegic and dependent on a ventilator. Rabbi Sherman will discuss his search for understanding and his discovery of joy and hope.

This program is free and open to the community with a dessert reception to follow. Please RSVP at rsvp@agudas-achim.org or call (210) 479-0307.

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Cost: \$2,699 (double occupancy) plus airfare. **Single supplement:** \$600. All participants will be asked to make a voluntary minimum gift of \$500 to the 2016 campaign of their local Jewish Federation.

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—Heart to Heart participant

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Go to www.JewishFederations.org/h2h or call Susan Kariv at 210-302-6968.

Temple Chai breakfast series explores BDS on campus

Temple Chai's next monthly *Breakfast with the Rabbi* is Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7:45 a.m. at the congregation's new home, 2121 Lockhill Selma (at the corner of NW Military Hwy). The topic will be the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) efforts being

waged against Israel on campuses across North America.

Led by Rabbi David Komerofsky, this series is an informal and interactive opportunity to explore relevant topics in depth. October's topic is of critical importance to the Jewish people. Rabbi

Komerofsky was the Hillel director at UT-Austin from 2006-2013 and continues to consult with Hillel International. He has extensive experience with Israel advocacy and education on campuses, and will share updates on the BDS movement and what can be done to

counter its impact.

Breakfast with the Rabbi is free of charge and open to the community. For more information or to RSVP, call (210) 340-2090 or visit www.templechaisa.org/rabbi-breakfast.

Agudas Achim offering new adult education classes

As part of its new initiative called LIFE (Learning Is For Everyone), Congregation Agudas Achim has expanded its Adult Education offerings for the 2015-2016 school year.

Classes, which begin the week of October 19, include daytime and evening offerings and include (but are not limited to) Intro to Judaism, Hebrew I & II, Perspectives on Faith, Jewish Ethics and Spiritual Health, Leaving a Legacy, Sex, War, and Betrayal and Influences of Spanish Jewry on the Ashkenazic World.

For a complete list of classes, times and pricing, contact Rabbi Ariel Greenberg at Rabbi.Greenberg@agudas-achim.org.

Jewish bereavement series begins October 13

A three-part learning series on Jewish bereavement will be held on Oct. 13, 20 and 27 from 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. at the Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community. *Walking a Narrow Bridge* is co-sponsored by Jewish Family Service (JFS) and several congregations. The series is open to the entire community, and is appropriate for anyone with questions about traditional practices and their modern interpretation and application. The topics will range from the practical to the philosophical, with a variety of approaches

presented.

Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham and Hazzan Jeremy Lipton of Congregation Agudas Achim will teach the Jewish mourning liturgies on Oct. 13. Rabbi David Komerofsky of Temple Chai will teach Jewish views of the afterlife on Oct. 20. Rabbis Mara Nathan and Marina Yergin of Temple Beth-El will teach the Jewish mourning calendar on Oct. 27. Future classes will be offered by other rabbis and cantors.

As a follow-up to the series, JFS will offer an ongoing

support group, *Makom Yinachem – A Space for Comfort*. More information about the support group and how to register will be available at the learning series.

These initiatives are sponsored by Jewish Family Service in cooperation with Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, Congregation Agudas Achim, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Temple Beth-El, and Temple Chai.

To learn more, call JFS at (210) 302-6920, visit www.jfs-sa.org, or contact one of the sponsoring congregations.



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Temple Chai offers new worship workshop

Temple Chai, a progressive Reform congregation, will offer a three-week workshop for anyone interested in learning to lead Shabbat services. The workshop will meet Wednesdays, Oct. 7, 14 and 21 at 12 noon at the congregation's new home, 2121 Lockhill Selma (at the corner of NW Military Highway).

Rabbi David Komerofsky

will take participants through the Shabbat liturgy and share guidance on how to craft a meaningful worship experience with the *Mishkan T'filah* prayerbook. Temple Chai's Worship Workshop is free of charge and open to the community. For more information or to RSVP, call (210) 340-2090 or visit www.templechaisa.org/learn2lead.

Where does the soul go after it departs this world?

Chabad, GMJSS, JFS & Porter Loring Co-Sponsor JLI's Journey of the Soul

Some questions are universal to the human experience. Is there life after death? What happens to the soul after we die? What is it like for those who have traveled over to the Great Beyond? These

are but a few of the questions addressed in the newest course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI), *The Journey of the Soul*, the institute's new six-session fall 2015 course.

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning will offer *The Journey of the Soul* at two different times: six Tuesday afternoons with Rabbi Chaim Block, beginning October 27, 12 p.m.-1:15 p.m. at the Law Office of Golden Steves Cohen & Gordon, 300 Convent St., Suite 2600, and six Wednesday evenings with Rabbi Levi Teldon, beginning October 28, 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. A third time and location is in the works.

The Journey of the Soul examines the soul

and its journey through refreshing and eye-opening Talmudic teachings, as well as ancient Jewish wisdom that sheds light on the philosophical, emotional, and practical aspects of coping with death and mourning.

The course is being offered in joint sponsorship with the Washington School of Psychiatry, enabling medical and mental health professionals to earn up to 7.5 AMA, APA, CBBS, and ASWB continuing education credits for their participation.

This JLI course is co-sponsored by Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, Jewish Family Service, and Porter Loring Mortuaries. Call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and other course-related information.

Agudas Achim introduces new lunch And learn Series

Beginning on November 2, Congregation Agudas Achim will launch a free monthly lunch and learn series at Gino's East-Chicago Deep Dish Pizza, 8224 Fredericksburg Road. Reservations are required. The 1 hour sessions will be led on a rotating basis by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton and Rabbi Ariel Greenberg. For details or to RSVP to the November event, email RSVP@agudas-achim.org or call (210) 479-0307.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



L to R – Charlotte Sue Alterman, Richard Alterman, Elaine Cohen



L to R – Marge Miller, Morris Miller, Alfred Miller



L to R – Jonathan and Leslie Tramer



L to R – Richard Planto, JFSA Board Chair, Deborah Miller, Sara Planto

JFNA

continued from page 1

the San Antonio Jewish community and encouraged all to continue their involvement – stating that every individual can make a difference.

During the event, Board Chair Richard Planto shared some of Federation's accomplishments during the last year and how we as a community are strong as we come together. Campaign Chair Jonathan Gurwitz gave a campaign update, sharing the

theme of the campaign *Stronger Together* - how through the Annual Campaign, together, we are able to reach out to the most vulnerable members of our community and ensure vitality and vibrancy in the year ahead. A goal of \$1,540,000 for the 2015 Campaign was announced. He shared that the goal represents an increase over the previous year, and is imperative, in order to meet the needs of the community. Gurwitz thanked all in the room for their generosity and for their leadership.



ABOVE:
L to R – Jason Kboudi, Jacob Kluger, Phillip Moss



AT LEFT:
L to R – David Fisher, Linda Fisher, Ronit Sherwin, CEO, Jewish Federation of San Antonio

WHAT'S HAPPENING



L to R -
Reuben
Bar-Yadin,
Stanley
Blend



L to R – Deborah Miller, John Troy



L to R – Jerry Silverman, CEO, Jewish Federations of North America,
Esther Vexler

L to R -
Linda Blend,
Judy Palans



GREEN COOKING

Mike Behrend from Green Vegetarian Cuisine was at the JCC Wednesday, Sept. 2 to lead a cooking demonstration of a vegan meal with a nod toward Rosh Hashanah. The meal included round foods in celebration of the sweet New Year, including fried eggplant, pesto new potatoes, tomato cobbler, apple tart, and pomegranate jam.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAM AT AGUDAS ACHIM



Agudas Achim Selichot program, co-sponsored by AIPAC, featured a presentation by guest speaker, Gabriel Mitchell, who spoke about Turkey/Israel relations.

WHAT'S HAPPENING



APPLES AND HONEY FOR A SWEET NEW YEAR!

Preschoolers at the Heintz Preschool celebrated Rosh Hashanah with an Apples with Abba get together.



HAPPY CHALLAH-DAY!

Kindergarten students in JAS – the Judaics After School program at the Barshop Jewish Community Center – each made a challah out of clay to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.



Congressman Will Hurd visits with Maggie Singer.

CONGRESSMAN DISCUSSES IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL

At an event co-sponsored by AIPAC and Congregation Agudas Achim last month, Congressman Will Hurd spoke about the Iran Nuclear Deal and US/Israel relations.

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KIDSPACE Family Learning launched at Temple Chai

KIDSPACE, a new monthly Shabbat educational program for families and their children ages 5-12, begins on Saturday, Oct. 10 from 10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m. at Temple Chai, 2121 Lockhill-Selma (corner NW Military Hwy). Fun-filled learning activities, focusing on Jewish values, ritual and holidays for kids, concurrent with discussions of Judaic topics for adults, provide an opportunity for Jewish learning for people of all ages.

"Because Temple Chai is small in membership and space, we have an opportunity to offer supplemental Jewish education in a more personal, informal manner," explained Rabbi David Komerofsky, who leads the classes. "Our focus is on values and holidays. We'll do fun and simple art projects. Take the 'v'ahavtah' prayer, about love. Younger kids can create a *mezzuzah*, as the verse commands. Older kids can explore the concept of loving neighbors and others

using song or art. The verses are studied by parents, emphasizing rituals to provide greater Jewish knowledge, even reading Israeli love poetry.

"With school, lessons, and extracurricular sports during the week, this Saturday Jewish experience is more accessible, and allows the family a more relaxed schedule of its own on Sundays," noted Komerofsky. "KIDSPACE supplements its monthly program with home learning for children and parents who don't always have prior supplemental Jewish education or camp experiences themselves. This is enrichment for the busy family, not bar/bat mitzvah preparation, or religious school like you've ever known it before."

KIDSPACE is included with Temple Chai membership; non-members may register for \$18/child for the entire year. Call (210) 340-2090 or go to www.templechaisa.org/kidspace to register.

San Antonio lawyer to speak about anti-terrorism conference in Jerusalem

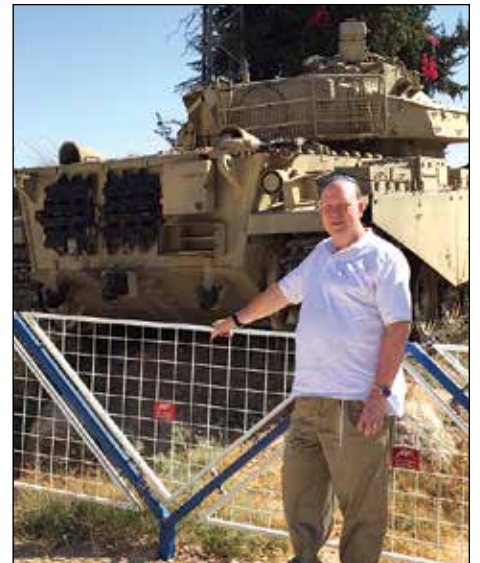
The L'Chayim Club of Congregation Rodfei Sholom will host an informative program with attorney Jon Powell during their monthly program on Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Powell, of the Powell Law Firm in San Antonio, spent one week in Jerusalem this summer attending the Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar held by Shurat Hadin - the Israel Law Center. Seventy attorneys from across the globe came together at this conference to utilize their legal skills, experience, knowledge and passion to help safeguard the United States, Israel, and the world's Judeo-Christian community from radical Islamic terrorism.

In addition to lectures and workshops taught by legal scholars such as Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz, attendees took field trips to destinations that are inaccessible to the general public.

Powell will share details on how to become better advocates for Israel. The program will be preceded by a D'var Torah in honor of Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan. The event will include a home-cooked meal and the opportunity to socialize and celebrate September and October *simchas*.

All seniors are invited to attend at no



San Antonio Jon Powell on a field trip during the Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar in Jerusalem.

charge thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor and co-sponsorship of Rodfei Sholom. Everyone else is also invited to attend at \$5 per person. For more information and to RSVP by Friday, Oct. 9, contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3557 or by e-mail to rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: For additional details about Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar in Jerusalem, see page 29.

IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUNG CHILDREN

Block and Dreeben School for Young Children teaches Jewish values

The Block and Dreeben School for Young Children will introduce a Jewish Value of the Month, beginning in October. Teachers will study a text related to the value and contemplate how to bring that value to the children and families.

According to Early Childhood Director, Alissa Levey Baugh, "Our goal is to immerse children in the monthly value through hands on experiences, songs, and stories." Rachel Rustin, JCC Director of Jewish Journeys, will continue to conduct monthly text study for all full-time early childhood teachers.

Each month teachers will study a Mishna from Pirkei Avot and other Jewish texts which relate to the Jewish value of the month.

In October, the value of Shmirat Haguf, *taking care of one's body*, will be introduced. Included in the focus of this value will be the children's participation in Discover Catch, a Jewish Community Center Association program focused on physical activity and healthy eating. Levey Baugh, "hopes the children and families will integrate these values into their daily lives in meaningful ways."

Yad B'Yad program kicks off new year

Heintz Preschool at Congregation Agudas Achim will kick off this year's Yad B'Yad program on October 2 with a Sukkot program for students and their grandparents and grandpals.

The program, now under the leadership of Director Michelle Vizurraga and presented with Golden Manor Jewish Senior

Services, is designed to bridge generations.

Upcoming Yad B'Yad programs include a celebration of Noah's Ark complete with a petting zoo on October 22.

For more information, contact Preschool Director Celina Geidesman at (210) 479-0429 or c.geidesman@agudas-achim.org.

Jump into Sunday Funday with Rodfei Sholom

Congregation Rodfei Sholom's Sunday Funday this month will take place on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon at The Jumpy Place, 15614 Huebner Road, # 106.

The entire facility has been reserved so organizers say there will be plenty of room for young children to jump and play with friends. Children 12

months and up are welcome to participate at \$10/child. Children under 12 months can participate for free and there is also no charge for adults. Light refreshments will be provided.

Everyone (including adults and any other non-jumpers) must wear socks. RSVP by Tuesday, Oct. 20 to (210) 493-3557 or rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Story time with the Rabbi



Rabbi Abraham led a Rosh Hashanah Story Time at Barnes & Noble that included stories, games and round challah for the little ones to learn about the holiday.

The next story time event, a Hanukkah Story Time at Barnes & Noble, will be on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

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Caitlyn Strayer, Office Manager

Lynn Waghalter, Librarian Beldon Library
waghalterl@jfsatx.org

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
Marion Bernstein, Layleader

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

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Temple Beth-El (Reform)

211 Belknap Place, 78212
Phone: (210) 733-9135 **Fax:** (210) 737-8946
E-mail address: Temple@beth-elsa.org
Website: www.beth-elsa.org
Rabbi Mara Nathan, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Marina Yergin
Rabbi Samuel M. Stahl, Emeritus
Cantor Julie Berlin

Temple Chai (Reform)

2121 Lockhill-Selma
San Antonio, TX 78213
Phone: (210) 340-2090
website: www.templechaisa.org
Rabbi David Komerofsky

Chabad Lubavitch of South Texas

14535 Blanco Rd., 78216
Phone: (210) 492-1085 **Fax:** (210) 493-9460
website: www.chabadsa.com
Rabbi Chaim Block
Rabbi Yossi Marrus
Rabbi Levi Teldon

Congregation Israel of San Antonio (Conservative, Covenantal Judaism in Prayer and Practice)

Office & Mailings:
16320 Huebner Road at St. Andrew
San Antonio, Texas, 78248
website: www.congregationisraelsatx.org
All Faiths Chapel:
5000 Fawn Meadow Drive at Floyd Curl
San Antonio, Texas 78240
Phone: (210) 387-2436
Hazzan David Silverstein, JD,
Founding Ritual Leader

Please send corrections and
additions to the Journal editor
at jewishj@jfsatx.org.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Barshop Jewish Community Center

12500 NW Military Highway, Suite 275, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6820 **Fax:** (210) 408-2341
Executive Director: Saul F. Levenshush Email: jcc@jcc-sa.org
President: David Palans **Website:** www.jccsanantonio.org
Programs include a nationally-accredited nursery school, an after-school center for school age children, summer camp programs, programming for senior adults, plus cultural, educational and recreational programs.

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus

of the San Antonio Jewish Community
12500 NW Military Hwy, Suite 100, San Antonio Texas 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6801 **Fax:** (210) 408-2322
Director of Operations: Mike Griffin
President: Alice Viroslav **Website:** www.thecampustx.org
The Campus features a variety of spaces available to rent for small or large events.

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services

12500 N.W. Military Hwy. Suite 260, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6946 **Website:** <http://www.goldenmanor.net>
Executive Director: Daniel L. Laser **President:** Shari P. Pulman
Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) works to meet the needs of Jewish seniors in the San Antonio area by providing transportation and direct services, and through grants to other organizations for programs that benefit San Antonio area Jewish seniors.

Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio

P.O. Box 780264 San Antonio, TX 78278 **Phone:** (210) 736-4352
Non-profit organization offering interest-free loans to members of the San Antonio Jewish community in need of temporary assistance

Jewish Family Service

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Phone: (210) 302-6920 **Fax:** (210) 302-6952
Executive Director: M. H. Levine **President:** Marion Berstein
Jewish Family Service (JFS) offers a wide range of professional counseling, social services, advocacy for victims of crime, and services for seniors including senior living and care options.

National Council Of Jewish Women (NCJW)

Website: www.ncjwsa.org
For Membership Information: Cathy Pottorf - catpot52@gmail.com
NCJW is a grassroots organization that advocates for women, children and family issues both locally and nationally.

Hillel San Antonio

Website: www.sahillel.org **Phone:** (210) 201-Jews (5397)
Contact: Alan Yancelson **Email:** ayancelson@hillelsa.org
San Antonio Hillel serves college students throughout the San Antonio area.

After School Judaics (JAS @ The J)

12500 NW Military Hwy., 78231 / **Phone:** (210) 302-6969

Gan Gani Preschool

14535 Blanco Rd. 78216 / **Phone:** (210) 764-0300

Heintz Preschool

16550 Huebner Rd. 78248 / **Phone:** (210) 479-0429

JCC Block & Dreeben School for Young Children

12500 NW Military Hwy., 78231 / **Phone:** (210) 302-6846

Shmuel Bass Torah Academy

3003 Sholom Drive, Suite #200, 78230 / **Phone:** (210) 607-7261

The views contained in Perspective are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect the beliefs of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

Rodfei's JWRRP 'MOMentum' Trip to Israel

When I first heard about the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project's (JWRP) Momentum trip to Israel, I was very pumped-up and, at the same time, wary if women of our community would understand the trip. Would there be enough women in San Antonio who would want to join this experience? It was difficult to sell and explain the experience, having never been on it myself. However, I was convinced this was a trip that all Jewish mothers should try to be a part of after hearing from past "trippers" words like "magical" and "transformative."

The purpose of this trip is to allow us Jewish mothers to access our best selves - wife, mother, friend - by teaching and inspiring us with Jewish wisdom and values. As JWRP's motto goes "Inspire a woman, you inspire a family. Inspire enough families, you inspire a community. Inspire enough communities, you can change the world."

July 5, 2015, seven women from San Antonio, Shira Bass, Janice Fagen, Melissa Fiero, Sandy Frydberg, Jordana Pazin, Barbara Powell, and I joined 200 others from around the USA in Israel.

Our group (of the many that travel throughout the year) was exceedingly fortunate to have Adrienne Gold - past Canadian TV host and current teacher at the Village Shul in Toronto - as our speaker, and what a speaker she was! Finally, someone was talking about aspects of life that are usually deemed unimportant. Here was a woman who recognized that they were worthy, that we wanted to know how to

PERSPECTIVE

MICHAL SCHEINBERG

approach them, needed to be heard. She gave us voice gracefully, articulately, and kindly - all the while guiding us toward becoming Jewish Women 2.0.

Along with Adrienne Gold, there were many other captivating speakers on the trip. Rabbi Gavriel Friedman woke us up with his energetic lecture on Shabbat morning. We were amazed by this man's spunk, charm, and 90's song references. Rachelli Fraenkel, mother of one of the kidnapped Israeli teens, stunned us with her strength and determination. Estee Yarmush awed us with her adoption story and total number of children she has - 14!

Besides trip leaders speakers, hosts, and lecturers, we enjoyed the wisdom of our tour guides as we toured beautiful Tiberius, traveled to mystical Tsfat, toured the Old City of Jerusalem, explored the impressive Masada fortress and floated in the Dead Sea. Other highlights of our trip include visiting Yad V'Shem (Israel's Holocaust Memorial), rafting on the Jordan River, meeting soldiers at an army base and presenting them with care packages.

The JWRP has partnered with an organization "Thank Israeli Soldiers." We were privileged to go to an army base and also to have *seudah shlishit* and *havdalah* at a private home with a group of soldiers. We were honored to meet some incredible young people who are protecting



During their travels, the San Antonio group participated in a Challah baking class with 200 other women

our homeland. One young commander (19 years old) at our table had to get special permission from his parents to be a warrior since he is an only child. We asked him what kind of things he might need that we could get for him and send when we returned home. He said he didn't need anything physical—that our appreciation was enough. There wasn't a dry eye at the table.

I came home with my cup full and am very thankful to have been a part of this year's San Antonio contingency. On this trip, we became a whole. We were only acquaintances before we left for Israel. We bonded quickly and learned to lean on each other as we went through all the emotions that this Israel experience brought us. Overall, going to Israel on this trip was definitely one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life.



The group experienced an "emotional, inspirational, and fulfilling morning with the organization One Family - overcoming terror together."

ARTS & CULTURE

OFF THE SHELF WITH THE BELDON LIBRARY

Book discussion November 5

Jewish Federation's Partnership with the Western Galilee is sponsoring a Partnership Book Club program at the Beldon Library, located on the Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community. Diana Bletter, National Jewish Book Finalist, will present a discussion of her book, *A Remarkable Kindness*, on Thursday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. For more information, contact Beldon Librarian Lynn Waghalter, at (210)

302-6805 or Partnership Coordinator Lauren Abraham, at (210) 302-6970.

Rebuilding Vilnius Jewish Library

The Beldon Library is honored to assist the Vilnius Jewish Library in Vilnius, Lithuania in rebuilding their Jewish library. Beldon Librarian Lynn Waghalter heard about their plight at a session at the Association of Jewish Libraries Conference this past June. The Vilnius Jewish Library was destroyed by the Nazis during the



Holocaust. The Lithuanian Jewish community is trying to rebuild and restock this library with Jewish books. The Beldon Library is in

the process of sending them books that have been selected from the library's collection as well as some donated books. Monetary donations

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"This is our mitzvah project for the New Year," said Waghalter.

New Play *Bad Jews* at The Vex

This October and November, the Sheldon Vexler Theatre will be presenting a play that is both "a scalding comedy" and a "serious Jewish drama."

In Joshua Harmon's "dramedy", *Bad Jews*, Daphna Feygenbaum swears she is the most devout Jew in her family. When her less observant cousin arrives to claim a treasured family heirloom and religious symbol from their late grandfather, a Holocaust survivor, a devastating and devastatingly funny battle of Old Testament proportions ignites.

The New York Times commented on one of the subjects in the script: "the question of who's the good Jew and who's the bad Jew — can a better Jew be a worse person? — might well be a question that a dozen Talmudic scholars could argue over for a good long time."

Audiences should be aware that the play contains adult language and is intended for mature audiences only. Tickets, ranging in price from \$16 to \$22, may be purchased by calling The Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835. *Bad Jews* opens Saturday, Oct. 17 and runs through November 14. There will not be a performance Saturday, Oct. 31.

Temple Beth-El Shabbat havurah all about the deli

Temple Beth-El will host a Shabbat lunch *havurah* (Jewish gathering) in the Barshop Auditorium on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 11:45 a.m., following Shabbat morning worship. Guests will enjoy a catered deli lunch and view the documentary, *Deli Man*. The film explores the story of the American deli as it connects with the story of Jews in America — their

immigration, migration, upward mobility and western assimilation.

The event is free for those 65 and older, and \$5 for those under 65. RSVP to Dollie Closna at dollie@beth-elsa.org or (210) 733-9135, ext. 208. The lunch program is made available to seniors thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services.



Agudas Achim Sisterhood book review explores Israel's role as a technology powerhouse



Agudas Achim Sisterhood opens its 2015-2016 book review season on Tuesday, Nov. 10 with special guest Mike Winakur, who will be reviewing *The Israel Test: Why the World's Most Besieged State is a Beacon of Freedom and Hope for the World Economy* by George Gilder. A world famous economist and tech guru, Gilder reveals Israel as an emerging technology powerhouse, second

only to the U.S. and far surpassing all European rivals in launching new industry-leading hi-tech firms. Gilder calls Israel the leading battleground for capitalism and freedom today.

The November 10 review will be held on at 10 a.m. in the Gurinsky Family Social Hall. Light refreshments will be served. For more information contact Suzan Mendlovitz at (210) 344.1108.

What is a Yahrzeit?

The Yahrzeit, meaning “time of the year” in Yiddish, is the anniversary of the death of a relative and is observed as a solemn occasion in all branches of Judaism. A special candle is lit, burning for the full 24 hours of the anniversary date.

When a loved one passes away, it is traditional to observe the seven days of Shivah. A yahrzeit marks both the end of the year of mourning, and the anniversary of death. Jews are required to commemorate the death of parents, siblings, spouses, or children. A 24-hour candle is lit the erev, or evening, before the yahrzeit. This custom is deeply ingrained in Jewish communities, and is seen as a way to honor the memory and souls of the deceased.

Direct family members attend synagogue for the evening of the previous day (Maariv), morning (Shacharit), and afternoon services (Mincha) and recite the Mourner’s Kaddish, the memorial prayer. Most synagogues keep a list of the Hebrew dates of members’ death, and remind family members of the date on the Shabbat before the Yahrzeit is observed. Although people are encouraged to come to synagogue on the Hebrew date of the Yahrzeit, Kaddish is always recited after the Rabbi reads the list of upcoming Yahrzeits in case mourners cannot attend weekday services on the Yahrzeit.

Kaddish Yatom, the “Mourner’s” Kaddish, is said at all prayer services, as well as at funerals and memorials. Customs for reciting the Mourner’s Kaddish vary among Jewish communities. In many synagogues, particularly Orthodox ones, it is customary that everyone in the synagogue stand. In other synagogues, the custom is that only the mourners themselves stand and recite the prayer, while the rest of the congregation sits, chanting only responsively. Some say Kaddish for deceased friends or non-direct family members, such as grandparents; others simply stand out of respect while the Kaddish is recited.

Honor the memory of your loved one. Create a memorial to share with family and friends.

Submitted by SA Jewish War Veterans Post 753

Remembering deceased Jewish Military Veterans

The Jewish War Veterans of America Post 753 asks you to remember these Jewish military veterans whose yahrzeit occurs in the month of October and who are buried in a local cemetery. If you know of a name that is missing please contact Herschel Sheiness at (210) 494-8768.

Adelstein, William
Antonoff, Morris
Axelrod, Milton
Blum, Miriam
Chafetz, Paul
Chandler, Charles
Cohn, Morris
Crane, William
Dennis, Gerald
Eisenberg, Louis
Franco, Albert
Fisher, Kenneth
Fitell, Sam
Friedberg, Samuel
Ghetzler, Benjamin
Gitzes, Hyman
Hornung, Herbert
Kandell, Harold
Kardon, Louis
Kay, Frank
Klein, Marcus
Klein, Vernon
Koplan, Morris
Landsman, Richard
Lang, Christopher

Lansberg, Harry
Levine, Saul
Lewin, Richard
Lieberman, Edward
Mann, Paul
Melish, Jacob
Midanik, Isadore
Oppenheimer, Frank
Oppenheimer, Jesse
Reich, Aaron
Rigsby, Jimmy
Rubinsky, Harry
Sandfield, Louis
Sapson, Samuel
Schreiber, Joseph
Shaenfield, Bernard (age 28)
Sontag, Murray
Spector, Nathan
Speert, Victor
Steinberg, Fred
Vizcarra, Santiago
Wiener, Leo
Yudine, Solomon
Zimmerman, Raymond
Zimmerman, Louis
Zwick, Earl

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ARTS & CULTURE

CYJ hosts Fall Family camping weekend



Camp Young Judea will host a weekend family camp at its facilities in Wimberley, Texas from November 6-8. The weekend will include storytelling, swimming, campfires, and other camp activities designed for the entire family. The price for the weekend includes lodging and meals. Pricing: Campers age 15-99: \$175 per person; Campers age 6-14: \$100 per person; Campers age 3-5: \$50 per person; and Campers age 2 and under: free. To register or learn more, visit www.cyjtxas.org/Retreat_Family_Camp/ or call (713) 723-8354.

FROM THE COVER

IRAN

continued from page 1

lifted. Reports have indicated that Iran is likely to comply with conditions in from between six months to a year from adoption of the deal.

"All of this will take a lot of effort and probably a fair amount of time," said an official. "The ball is in Iran's court – it's hard to predict how long it will be before sanctions relief is implemented."

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity.

One condition the Iranians must complete prior to October 18, or "adoption day," is to report to the IAEA on the possible military dimensions of its past nuclear activity. Iran has insisted its nuclear research is for civilian purposes only. The deadline for Iran's report to the IAEA is October 15.

The Obama administration on September 17 said the way was clear to launch the deal now that Congress has reached the deadline to pass a bill that would kill the deal. Senate Democrats used parliamentary procedures to block votes on three occasions.

Republicans oppose the deal. The Obama administration and opponents of the deal, which include Israeli Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, have for the last several months fiercely battled to influence Democrats and also the U.S. Jewish community on the deal.

Opponents said the deal leaves Iran a nuclear threshold state, while the Obama administration argued that it was the best means of keeping Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

Adam Szubin, nominated to be the Treasury undersecretary who manages sanctions relief, was a key player, reassuring Israelis and pro-Israel figures that non-nuclear sanctions against Iran – for its backing for terrorism and

its human rights abuses – would not only be sustained, but intensified.

Szubin, testifying on September 17 to the Senate Banking Committee, which must approve his nomination, invoked his Jewish heritage. His father, he noted, had fled Nazi-occupied Europe.

"My parents raised us to be conscious of the existence of real evil in the world, evil not as an abstract concept, but as an all too real threat that they had seen in their lifetimes: regimes — leaders and willing followers — who pursued murder and even genocide, in the Holocaust and, sadly, in other places in the decades that followed," he said.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: TEENS



B'nai Tzedek selects new board

Jack Rosenblatt, Tori Shiver, Molly Rosenblatt, Megan Siegel and Sophia Ricciardi (pictured) are part of the B'nai Tzedek new Leadership Board for the 2015-2016 school year. They are working together to develop volunteer opportunities and ways to help post-B'nai Mitzvah teens come together to help the world.

Volunteer service hours

can be awarded to any teen involved. B'nai Tzedek's first event for this school year will be on Tuesday, Nov. 24 at noon in preparation for Thanksgiving at the Jewish Campus. If you are interested in being involved and are in grades 7-12, contact B'nai Tzedek advisor Lauren Abraham at AbrahamL@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6960.

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San Antonio lawyer attends anti-terrorism law conference in Jerusalem

Jon Powell, of the Powell Law Firm in San Antonio, joined seventy attorneys from across the globe this summer, attending an Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar held by Shurat HaDin – the Israel Law Center in Jerusalem. The program focused on ways the group can utilize their legal skills, experience, knowledge and passion to help safeguard the United States, Israel, and the world's Judeo-Christian community from radical Islamic terrorism.

Attendees were trained on the process of confronting terrorism in the courtroom. They learned about suing

terrorist organizations and the companies and financial institutions that help them collect and move money intended to be spent on terrorist operations. Specifically, by tracking assets and bank accounts of terror groups and legally restricting their funds, Shurat HaDin-Israel Law Center and the lawyers who work with it hope to economically destroy Middle Eastern Islamic hate groups. The lawyers who attended the seminar were trained at the seminar to send demand letters, to file legal actions, and to draft and promote legislation all in an effort to safeguard world Jewry and

Christianity from terrorist attacks.

One notable example of such litigation is a case filed in Manhattan federal court under the U.S. Antiterrorism Act on behalf of citizens of the United States who were injured or killed in six terrorist attacks in Israel more than a decade ago. These attacks were supported by the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization. The case entitled *Sokolow v. PLO* was prosecuted by seminar speaker Kent Yalowitz of Arnold & Porter, LLP and by Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, the Director of Shurat HaDin – the Israel Law Center and

tried before a federal jury. In February 2015, the federal jury in that case found the Palestinian Authority and the Palestine Liberation Organization liable for supporting the terrorist attacks and ordered them to pay \$218.5 million to the American victims and their families. The verdict was automatically tripled under the U.S. Antiterrorism Act, amounting to a \$655 million final judgment.

The Activist Lawyer's Training Seminar featured lectures and workshops taught by jurists and legal scholars including Canadian MP Irwin Cotler, former Israeli Supreme Court

Justice Gabriel Bach, Israeli peace negotiator and international law expert Daniel Reisner and Harvard Law Professor Alan M. Dershowitz. In addition to learning about the terror victim litigation to bankrupt terrorist organizations, training sessions, lectures and hands-on workshops were designed to provide skills and strategies for litigating against the Boycott-Divest-Sanctions (BDS) movement and anti-Israel delegitimization campaign, advocating on behalf of the Jewish State, defending Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) officers from war crimes allegations and confronting anti-Semitism in local communities.

Attendees took field trips to destinations that are inaccessible to the general public, such as military courts, Israeli security agencies, IDF bases, and Lebanese and Syrian border crossings. Additionally, participants met with senior Israeli officials, judges and prominent international attorneys and discussed the activities of the Iranian supported terrorist group Hezbollah.

Conference participants were also offered cutting-edge social media training sessions designed to advocate for Israel and against terrorism. Additional conference topics included Article 49 of the Geneva Convention, the laws of war and war crimes committed by Hamas in the Gaza strip, such as indiscriminately targeting Israeli citizens.



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Political pundit Ann Coulter is under fire for what some deem anti-Semitic tweet



Jewish publication may drop Coulter over profane, inflammatory tweet

(JTA) — The online conservative Jewish publication *Jewish World Review (JWR)* may drop conservative political pundit Ann Coulter’s column in the wake of her tweet slamming Republican candidates for pandering to “f—ing Jews.” Coulter’s column, which appeared on the JWR website on September 17, a day after the CNN Republican debate and her infamous tweet and follow-up tweets, included an editor’s note reading: “This column was prepared before the author’s anti-Semitic rant. JWR reached out to her and awaits her reply.” Her column has been appearing on the website since 2000.

“She could have been drunk, she could have been high, I don’t know, I have to give her the benefit of the doubt ... but I don’t have to delude myself,” founder Binyamin Jolkovsky told *The Daily Beast*. “Pandering to Jewish money is about as anti-Semitic a stereotype as you could put forth. Her ‘eff-ing Jews’ comment is not identifying Israel — it’s identifying Jews, plural, and all Jews. There is no excuse for that. You can’t just wiggle out of something that vile and hateful.” Jolkovsky said he has not yet decided whether to pull her column, but that many readers would like to see that happen. Coulter defended her tweet.

Israeli Beverage maker offers to take in Syrian refugees

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Israeli company SodaStream has offered to take in Syrian refugees and employ them in its new factory in the Negev Desert. SodaStream and the mayor of Rahat, which is near the home beverage maker’s factory, said they can absorb up to 200 families. Some 30 percent of the 1,100 workers at the factory live in the Bedouin city led by Mayor Talal Al-Krenawi.

“As the son of a Holocaust survivor, I refuse to stand by and observe this human tragedy unfold right across the border in Syria,” said SodaStream CEO Daniel Birnbaum said in a statement. “Just as we have always done our best to help our Palestinian brothers and sisters in the West Bank, the time has come for local business and municipal leaders to address the Syrian humanitarian crisis and take the initiative to help those in need. We cannot expect our politicians to bear the entire burden of providing aid for the refugees.”

SodaStream announced a year ago that it would close its controversial West



SodaStream’s new plant near Rahat (Courtesy SodaStream) Bank factory and move its operations to southern Israel. Divestment and Sanctions movement, which seeks to hurt Israel’s economy over its policies toward the Palestinians.

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WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!

Through the collective dollars of our Annual Campaign, we are able to make a difference in the lives of our fellow San Antonians, as well as Jewish People around the world. Here are some examples of what our collective dollars fund and support.

LOCALLY

PJ Library – over 350 children between the ages of 0 and 7 receive books, free of charge, every month. Parents and grandparents are reading books about Jewish values and Jewish holidays with their children and grandchildren. They are experiencing “Jewish” together. These young families are also meeting each other at monthly events put on here in San Antonio. In a recent survey of PJ families, 80% of the families that participate said they are NOW attending Jewish community events.

Young Adults – Young adults are meeting each other and networking through “The

Tribe” social events and monthly “JnetSA” networking meetings.

Holocaust Memorial Museum – Through onsite visits and educational curriculum, The Holocaust Memorial Museum provided over 16,000 students and adults with education around issues of tolerance, bullying and genocide.

Jewish Education – Through formal and informal Jewish education, children and young adults are developing their Jewish Identity at the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio, the Jewish after School (JAS) program at the JCC, Jewish overnight camps, and on Israel trips. Federation provides

camperships, scholarships and support to ensure a life-changing Jewish experience.

Older Adult – Senior services are provided by the JCC through programs like the weekday senior meals program that allows local seniors to enjoy hot meals in the company of their peers. Critical Safety Net services are provided through Jewish Family Service.

Advocacy on Capitol Hill – Professionals in the Federation’s Washington office represent Federations’ interests and concerns to members of Congress, and advocated for key legislation that supports our work and ensures the safety and security of Jewish institutions.

WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!

ISRAEL AND OVERSEAS

Israel – Our Federation dollars provided round the clock care for Elder Adults in Israel, who last summer could not make it to a shelter when the rockets hit. Today, these adults are still enjoying daily programming and support. In the aftermath of the war last summer, children and adults alike were left with post traumatic symptoms. NATAL – the Israel Trauma Center, which is funded by Federation dollars, has touched the lives of over 130,000 men, women, and children. The center employs 150 mental health professionals who work across Israel helping individuals and families get back on their feet.

Partnership2Gether – Through our partnership with the Western Galilee, Hebrew school students at Agudas Achim and Temple Beth El are studying together with Israeli students, via Skype, and developing personal relationships that will last a lifetime; Educators are meeting and sharing best practices; Young adults leaders from the partnership are meeting with young adults in San Antonio, building new friendships and supporting each other as they take on leadership roles.

Ukraine – Amid ongoing political and economic instability in Ukraine, Federation

has been a lifeline for vulnerable and displaced Jews throughout the country. Over 4 million dollars has been allocated to meet the needs of Ukrainian Jews and facilitate Aliyah for those who want to relocate.

Europe – Fatal attacks in France as well as vandalism against synagogues and other Jewish facilities in Europe have been shocking and disturbing. Federation in coordination with Israel’s Prime Minister’s office have been working to coordinate security services for the Jewish schools and institutions in France.

We fund programs that strengthen our people, advocate on behalf of our shared values, and educate every generation to ensure our traditions endure. By supporting our community, the Federation enhances Jewish continuity and sustains each of us.

WE ARE JEWISH SAN ANTONIO – WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!

U.S. & WORLD NEWS

2 Jews shot
with BB guns in
Orthodox section
of New York City

(JTA) — Two Jews were shot with BB guns in separate incidents in a heavily Orthodox neighborhood of New York City.

City Councilman Rory Lancman said that the victims, neither of whom was seriously injured, were shot in mid September in the Kew Gardens Hills section of Queens.

The New York Police Department is investigating the incidents as potential anti-Semitic hate crimes.

Both victims were wearing clothing traditionally worn by Orthodox Jews. The gender of the first victim was not specified, but the second one was male.

New York State Assemblyman Michael

Simanowitz issued a statement saying, “I am deeply saddened to hear about the recent incident that betrays an unfortunate prejudice alive in our neighborhood. We live in a community that should celebrate and be proud of our diversity. Acts of bigotry will not be tolerated or go unpunished. I am confident that all perpetrators will be brought to justice, ending a recent string of shameful crimes.”

Queens, one of New York City’s five boroughs, is one of the most ethnically diverse counties in the United States. Kew Gardens Hills, which is home to Lander College for Men and various yeshivas, has a large haredi Orthodox population.

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New York Times criticized for chart singling out Jewish lawmakers

(JNS.org) The *New York Times* drew fire for a chart that it published on September 10 about Democratic opposition to the Iran nuclear deal. The chart highlighted the Jewishness of the opposing lawmakers and their Jewish constituencies.

Appearing in the international section of the newspaper under “Lawmakers Against the Iran Nuclear Deal,” the chart listed Congressional Democrats opposing the deal followed by a column headed “Jewish?” Another column showed the lawmaker’s “district and estimated Jewish population.”

“The newspaper’s decision to signal that Jewishness is the central factor to be scrutinized when looking at opponents of the deal evokes a number of dark and dangerous stereotypes,” the Committee

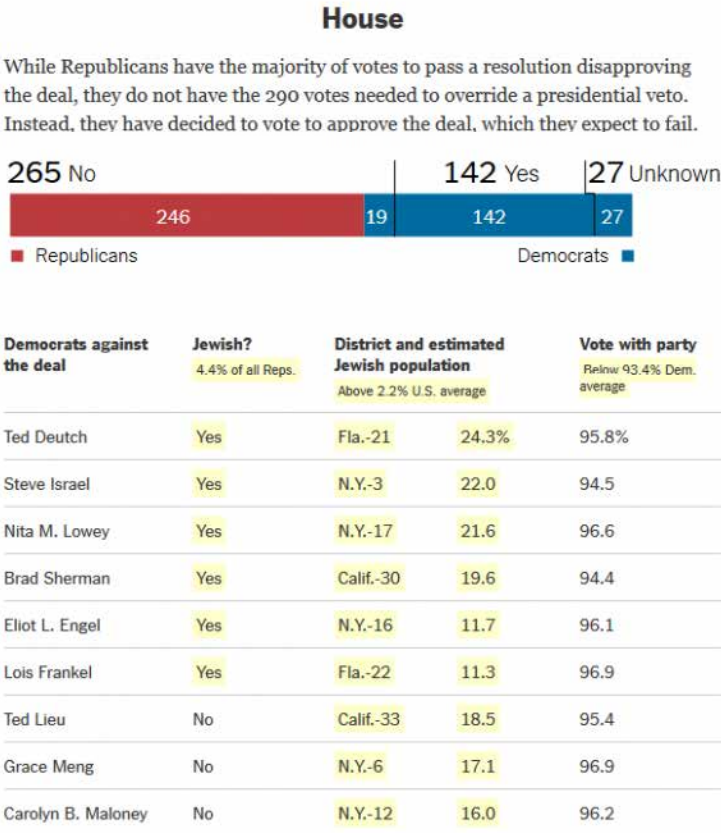
for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) watchdog group said in email alert about the chart.

Jonathan Greenblatt, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, said the chart was “offensive” and that the newspaper should print an “admission of error.”

The chart “reinforces stereotypes about American Jews and dual loyalty, distracts from real issues,” Greenblatt said.

While the *New York Times* removed the “Jewish?” column of the chart by the following day, the editor behind the chart stood by his decision.

New York Times deputy Washington editor Jonathan Weisman said on Twitter, “As I said, I take responsibility for graphic & don’t apologize. We kept data, just put it into intro. I’m Jewish.”



An article in the *New York Times* came under fire for showing in graph form (above) all lawmakers in the House and Senate who oppose the deal and whether they are Jewish. It also included the composition of a lawmaker’s district, displaying the percentage of Jewish individuals they represent.

Former Nazi concentration camp Dachau houses refugees amid Europe’s crisis

(JNS.org) A portion of the former Nazi concentration camp Dachau is being used to house dozens of refugees, the German town’s mayor says.

The concentration camp, which bears the infamous inscription “Arbeit Macht Frei”—“Work Will Set You Free”—has seen its former herb garden turned into a shelter for refugees, international news agency AFP reported.

According to Mayor Florian Hartmann, the town is facing a housing shortage

and did not have room to accommodate the influx of refugees and migrants amid Europe’s crisis on that issue. The camp site houses “about 50 people...who have lost their homes” and “serves as accommodation for people who cannot afford housing on the [open] market,” Hartmann said in a statement.

“These are the weakest members of society. This building has been burdened by history but can now take on a useful social role,” said Hartmann.

Chicago TV station atones for Yom Kippur faux pas

(JNS.org) A local television network in Chicago, WGN, used a stock image of the yellow Star of David—the patch the Nazis forced the Jews to wear on their clothing during the Holocaust—as the graphic accompanying a story about the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur this week.

The symbol was used during the Holocaust as a way to distinguish and dehumanize Jews.

Viewers were quick to react, taking to twitter to blast the station. WGN was quick to apologize online.

While some viewers were unsatisfied with the apology, others blamed the education system for failing to teach “young people” about the Holocaust and its symbols.



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Violence spikes in Jerusalem

By Ben Sales

TEL AVIV (JTA) — For Israelis, the Ten Days of Repentance from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur turned into days of deadly violence. Unrest swelled in Jerusalem following an Israeli ban on a protest group at the Temple Mount, the holy site known to Muslims as the Haram al-Sharif.

The clashes have been matched by a war of words, with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declaring “war” on Palestinian stone throwers and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas vowing that Jews will not be allowed to “dirty” the Temple Mount.



Palestinians throwing rocks at Israeli police during clashes in eastern Jerusalem, Sept. 18, 2015. (Hadas Parush/Flash90)

Here’s how the clashes started, what’s driving the violence and how Israel, the Palestinians and the world are responding.

Clashes at the Temple Mount are nothing new, particularly around the Jewish High Holidays.

The latest round broke out following Israel’s decision on September 9 to bar an Islamist protest group from entering the site. Israel said the group, known as the Murabitat, and its corresponding men’s faction have been yelling at

Jewish visitors and throwing stones at them.

“The aforesaid organizations strive to undermine Israeli sovereignty on the Temple Mount, change the existing reality and arrangements at the site and infringe

on freedom of worship,” said the Israeli statement announcing the ban.

Omar Kiswani, who directs the Al-Aqsa mosque on the mount, told the Guardian that Israel should not have the authority to restrict Muslims from entering the site.

“We call upon all Muslims to be present in Al-Aqsa,” he said. “It is the home of all Muslims and their presence in this place would intensify their connection to this place.”

Clashes between Israeli police and Palestinian protesters followed, leading to multiple injuries and one death.

Three days later, Israeli police raided the mount on

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the eve of the Jewish New Year, uncovering a stockpile of pipe bombs, firebombs and rocks that they feared would be aimed at Jewish worshippers. That night, a Jewish-Israeli, Alexander Levlovich, 64, was attacked by Palestinian protesters in the eastern Jerusalem neighborhood of Armon Hanatziv. They pelted his car with rocks, causing Levlovich to lose control of the vehicle and smash into a pole. He died the following morning.

Clashes between Israeli police and Palestinian protesters continued the following day, with two Israelis injured. On the third day of rioting, 26 Palestinians and five Israeli police officers were lightly wounded at the Temple Mount, according to Reuters.

On September 18, police barred Muslim men under 40 from the mount in anticipation of unrest following Friday prayers. Some 200 Palestinians protested the move at the Damascus Gate to Jerusalem's Old City and near the site where Levlovich was killed. Overall, according to Haaretz, three Israeli policemen and 21 Palestinians were injured in the clashes.

Israeli Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said that since September 18, an increased police presence in eastern Jerusalem has

tamped down the violence.

Neither side is happy about restrictions on the Temple Mount.

Controversy over who can do what at the holy site has been festering for decades. Although Israel has overall control of the area, a joint Jordanian-Palestinian Islamic religious body called the Waqf governs it.

Under current regulations, Muslims may visit and pray on the mount. Jews may also visit during limited hours, but are prohibited from praying or doing a range of things — kneeling, bowing, even crying — that resemble worship.

Jewish activists have called for greater access, but the Israeli government has resisted the call so as not to upset the delicate balance at the site. Some Muslims are also unhappy, claiming that Israel should not be permitted to control access to the Temple Mount.

"Israel will not be allowed to continue its steps," Abbas said, according to reports. "The Al-Aqsa mosque is ours. They have no right to dirty it with their filthy feet. We will not allow them to do that."

Jews make up a small minority of visitors to the Temple Mount. Just 12,000 Jews visit per year, compared to 3 million to 4 million Muslims.

Israel has upped its police presence and increased

penalties for stone throwers.

Israel has stepped up its rhetoric and police presence to combat the unrest. Israel added 800 officers to its Old City contingent, bringing the total number of police there to 3,500, according to Rosenfeld.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also declared "war" on stone throwers. Netanyahu is pushing through a new law that would allow police to fire more quickly on Palestinian stone throwers, as well as increase the stone throwers' prison sentences and fines.

"We attest to the fact that we decided to change the policy and declare war on those who throw stones and firebombs, shoot and riot,"

Netanyahu said. "In the State of Israel, people do not throw firebombs, or shoot at trains, or throw stones at will. Those who do so will pay a very heavy price."

World leaders urge restraint.

On September 21, the U.S. State Department called on all sides to "refrain from provocative actions and rhetoric." The United Nations Security Council used similar language in a statement on September 17, adding that "Muslim worshippers at the Haram Al-Sharif must be allowed to worship in peace, free from violence, threats and provocations."

Neither statement explicitly cast blame on either Israelis or Palestinians

for the clashes. But Jordan's King Abdullah II criticized Israel's actions, saying that "any more provocation in Jerusalem will affect the relationship between Jordan and Israel," according to the French news agency AFP.

Israel insists that it is committed to maintaining the status quo. Its actions, Netanyahu said, have come only to prevent violence at the site.

"Israel will maintain the status quo," Netanyahu told his Cabinet on September 20. "We have no plans to change them, but we also have no intention of allowing anyone to cause the deterioration of the arrangements on the Temple Mount by resorting to explosive and widespread violence."

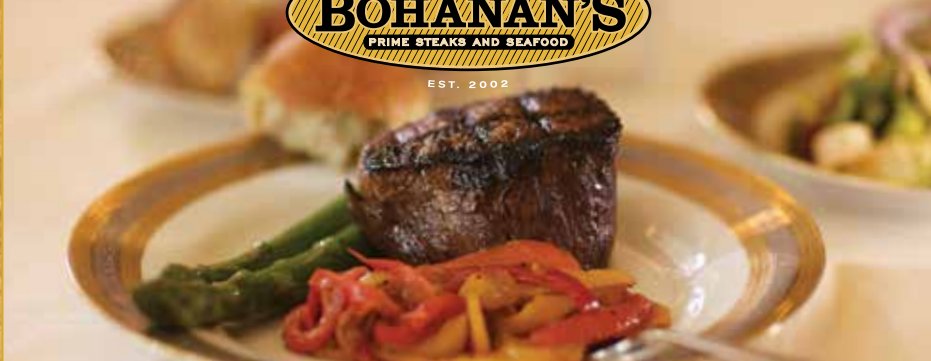


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