

THE OFFICIAL JEWISH MAGAZINE OF SILICON VALLEY • MAY 2018

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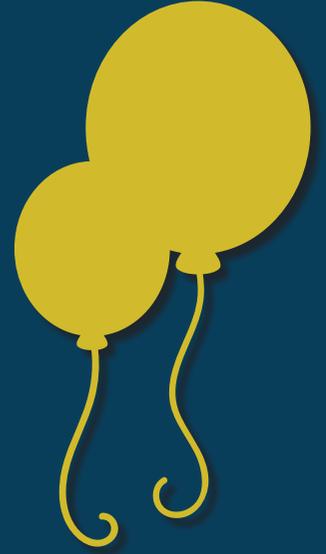
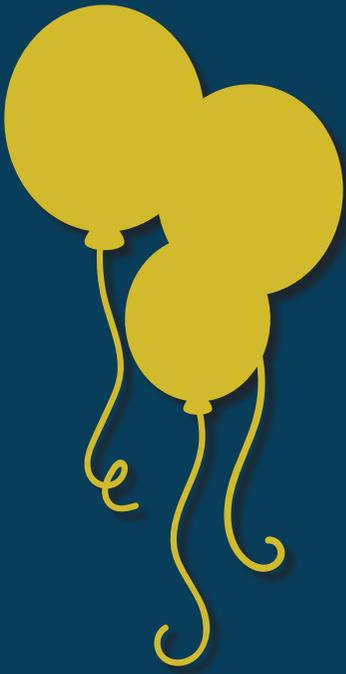
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Dr. Seuss

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From the CEO
Jyl Jurman

“Respect and tolerance are liberating acts, whereby the differences of others are recognized as the same as our own and whereby the riches of another culture are taken as the wealth of all.”

Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, 2014

In *Fiddler on the Roof*, Tevya disowned his own daughter, his Chava, his “Little Bird,” when she marries a non-Jewish Russian soldier. Tevye’s world is small, defined both by the laws and culture of Judaism and the oppressive pogroms of the times. Yet his struggle with tradition is one shared by countless other fathers and mothers over time as successive generations define their own ethos. Today, the truly global nature of our world can lead to a deeper understanding of those that are different -- if we let it.

From the Bay Area study, we know that there is a rich diversity within the Jewish community in Silicon Valley. The way we look, who we marry and how we express ourselves Jewishly runs a very wide gamut. I pray the words of Irina Bokova will ring true and “the riches of another culture are taken as the wealth of all.”

It has been both refreshing and reassuring to see how our youth - the next generation - has begun to mold and define their tomorrow based on their activism today. Across the nation and in Silicon Valley, we see that their enthusiasm and drive for what is right is contagious. From our young Yavneh students organizing a peaceful walkout in solidarity with others across the country protesting guns in schools to Los Gatos High School students celebrating their cultural diversity and taking a stance against racism, it is clear that the next generation will make a difference.

This issue includes articles written by students who are following their passions as they graduate to the next stage in their lives. From a new-found love of Israel to activities that both support and celebrate cultural diversity, our youth are dedicating their lives to the things that matter to them the most. And we are truly delighted to be able to share some of these with you.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- 07** From the Chair
- 08** Power of Women 2018
- 10** Fighting Injustice Through Friendship
- 12** APJCC Music Festival Hits the Beach!
- 18** SPHDS 8th Grade Trip to Israel
- 20** Yavneh 8th Grade Trip to Israel
- 22** Kehillah Seniors Intern at Jewish Federation

jvalley jewish life in silicon valley magazine

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AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Yavneh Singers performed at the County of Santa Clara Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony.



Kol Hakavod to Yavneh Day School's Kitah Dalet! Their plant and seed sale raised over \$650 for Project N.O.A.H. of Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley.



The Yavneh singers sang for the seniors at the APJCC. They joined the seniors for lunch, welcomed Shabbat, and performed.



Yavneh students took part in the Community Yom Ha'Shoah u'Geurah Memorial Service at Congregation Beth David.



AROUND THE COMMUNITY



BBYO and NFTY teens work together to restore the preschool garden at the Peninsula Jewish Community Center as part of J-Serve, the international day of Jewish youth service. South Bay teens pictured include Amit Aloni, Ron Levy, and Evan Spielvogel.



Harry and Joanne are Chaplain Aides who lead a monthly Shabbat service at Chateau Cupertino. JFS Chaplain Aides led Seders or Passover programs at six facilities this past Passover, including at Belmont Village in Sunnyvale.



Bella is a Russian émigré Holocaust survivor who studies ESL in our JFS classes. She was delighted to pick up some Matzah after Passover to make her food budget stretch further. JFS received 1458 lbs. during Passover Food Drive including 1101 lbs. from a few local Safeways.

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From our Federation Chair

Joel Rubnitz

This past year has been a difficult one as our Jewish community has lost several long-term leaders. Sadly, my co-chair, Susan Gavens, was one of those leaders we lost. Susan was so much more than just my working “better half,” she was a friend who complemented me in every way. Working together these past two years was an experience I will never forget and I am so fortunate to have had. The last couple of months has been difficult for so many of us, as we come to terms with the huge gap left by the loss of our beloved Susan. There have been so many times when I have felt my enthusiasm for my role wane without her. And that is exactly the opposite of what Susan would have wanted. So as my term comes to an end, I vow to do better, not just for Susan, but for the future of our community.

So, I have asked myself, “*What would Susan do?*”

How does a community like ours move on after suffering such a loss? I know in my heart that if the situation was reversed, Susan would decide to do more! She would make her calls and take her walks with her friends, community members, Rabbis and other professional leaders. And she would tell us all we need to step up and volunteer!

Susan was often a quiet leader. She worked tirelessly to engage our teens and young adults in Jewish-related programs and volunteer activities. Susan truly understood that the future of our community and of Israel relies not only on this generation but the next and the next. In our time together as co-chairs of

the Federation, Susan and I often discussed how we could get more out of the resources of our community.

The community study of Bay Area Jews we co-sponsored showed very clearly that while our Jewish community continues to grow, the number of people who volunteer or get involved in Jewish organizations is shrinking. Working together, we need to find new ways to engage the widely diverse members of our Jewish community.

We need to continue to provide a safety net for the underserved in Silicon Valley and abroad. We need to continue to engage our youth, our teens and our young adults with trips to Israel, Jewish education, youth groups and cultural experiences.

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley encompasses all the above, but we cannot do this alone. The bottom line is, WE NEED YOU!

We need you to:

- Join a committee or board at the Jewish Federation, at one of our partner agencies or at your synagogue;
- Get involved with one of the Federation’s many programs such as PJ Library, Women’s Philanthropy, Jewish Community Relations Council or Giving Circle;
- Attend community and synagogue events;
- Get involved and support our youth groups;
- And yes, **give generously** to our Jewish community. The Jewish Federation, local agencies and synagogues all operate as non-profit organizations. They simply cannot survive without our financial support.

I hope you will follow my lead and honor Susan’s legacy by re-dedicating yourself to our Jewish community so that we can continue to thrive as a viable source of strength, culture, programming and spirituality for generations to come.

Nonprofit of the Year



The Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley has been selected as a Nonprofit of the Year by District 28 Assemblyman Evan Low. Federation CEO Jyl Jurman and Diane Fisher, director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, will represent the Jewish Federation at the State Capitol in Sacramento on June 6 to receive the award.

Since 2016, nonprofit organizations in California, chosen by their local legislators, have

been honored for exceptional service to their communities. According to Jan Masaoka, CEO of CalNonprofits, “Nonprofit organizations are vitally important to the economy and well-being of California. But too often they are ‘hidden in plain sight.’ We are thrilled that the State Assembly has passed a resolution putting the spotlight on nonprofits as an economic power that uses their power for the common good. We congratulate all of the award recipients on being honored for the great work they do everyday to make California a better place.”



2017 Janet Berg Award Recipient Sylvia Metz presents 2018 award to Honoree Judy Levin

Power of Women 2018

The Power of Women 2018 event, chaired by Elisa Schweizer, was a huge success! Almost 200 women (and a few men!) turned out to honor Judy Levin, our 2018 Janet Berg Award recipient, and to listen to Jessica Yellin and Ilana Golan speak about “the power of women!”



Elisa Schweizer welcomes everyone to Power of Women 2018

Judy’s award was presented by Sylvia Metz, the 2017 Janet Berg Award recipient. Both women are models of on-going and long-time commitment to the Jewish community. The depth and breadth of their dedication has positively impacted multiple Jewish agencies, including the

Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley, the APJCC, the Levy Family Campus and Hillel of Silicon Valley.

For Ilana Golan, her achievements as the first female Israeli commander in charge of flight-simulator training helped set the stage for the on-going successes she has achieved to date, as an engineer, an athlete and now as a VC. Not one to settle for “second best,” especially if the reason is gender-based, Ilana highlighted how determination and even a few failures have helped shape her into one of the *100 Women of Influence in Silicon Valley* today (2017 Business Journal).

Former Chief White House Correspondent for CNN, Jessica Yellin has reported on both politics and personalities in her work. She has covered four presidential campaigns and interviewed key political figures around the world. She has won both a Gracie Award and an Emmy for her outstanding reporting. Yet, she shared how she chose to leave CNN after her producers consistently asked that she report on events in a more sensationalized manner rather than focus on the facts she felt were the most important for viewers to learn. Today, Jessica serves on the board of directors for the Center of Public Integrity and is a Senior Fellow at the USC Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership and Policy. She is also the CEO and founder of Sage, a digital news company that will be primarily staffed by women and will report on issues of importance to women.

The lively joint question and answer session following both speakers was a testament to the impact both of these accomplished women made on event attendees.

Keynote Speaker Jessica Yellin, Janet Berg Honoree Judy Levin & Guest Speaker Ilana Golan



Introducing the W2W Professional & Volunteer Directory

The brainchild of Event Chair Elisa Schweizer, the W2W Directory provides an opportunity for women to share their professional services and volunteer capabilities with each other. As a special offer, all women who sign up for inclusion in the directory before June 30 will receive their listing free of charge for a year. Go to jvalley.org to sign up.

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Fighting Social Injustice Through Friendship and Inclusion

By Josh Greenberg and Cameron Sotoodeh
Seniors, Los Gatos High School

Long time friends since elementary school, Josh Greenberg and Cameron Sotoodeh have grown closer over the years. Despite their vast differences, their cultures, backgrounds and heritage have guided them to the same place of fighting for equality and respect. Here are their stories:

Cameron:

I remember being invited to Josh's bar mitzvah in 7th grade. I was nervous to attend but remember how welcoming and kind the rabbi and all of the religious leaders were. I even remember some of the verses of the prayers to this day. I saw a whole new side of Josh that day, and realized I was not the only kid with a diverse religious background.

Josh:

Cameron's story is a mirror image of mine, and I've learned how powerful it is to connect with someone who can truly understand your experiences and struggles no matter their background. We are preparing to graduate and begin our new journeys in college where we will take the lessons we've learned and continue our fight for equality and justice.

Josh:

Growing up in Los Gatos, the seemingly ideal family town, I thought I was sheltered from any hate. But as I entered Los Gatos High School, I quickly realized I was no longer protected. I've seen pictures of me and other Jewish students edited with swastikas on our foreheads. I've watched students text in a group chat entitled "Hitler Did Nothing Wrong." I've been told by a teammate that "the only difference

between a Jew and a pizza is that pizzas don't cry when shoved in an oven." I was living in two worlds. In one, I proudly attended Hebrew school, became a bar mitzvah, and celebrated Jewish holidays with my family. In another, I was a typical Los Gatos kid who swam for my school, never missed a Friday night Varsity game, and learned how to drive in the high school parking lot.

It was time to blend these worlds together and see what I was made of. In my sophomore year, I traveled to Israel with my family. I was surrounded by Jews embracing and celebrating our culture, and I finally felt I fit in. I had never been more proud to be Jewish. I returned home strengthened, empowered, and committed to invoke change.

At LGHS, I founded the Cultural Awareness Club to create a safe space on campus where students could take pride in their cultures and to provide a platform to educate other students on who they are. I hoped that through education, we could work to combat ignorance. Over the past four years I have grown into a person with the confidence to realize I do not need to mask my Jewish roots. I will never be silent again and will continue to be a voice for the voiceless in fighting for justice, equality, and respect.

Cameron:

When I was in middle school there was political conflict going on in the Middle East. My classmates, knowing that I am Iranian-American (or Persian because it sounds friendlier), wanted to get my take on the issue because, obviously, I am so knowledgeable on political events in a part of the world I'd never even been to. When asked what religion I was, not wanting to alarm my classmates with my foreign

religion, I would just say "Christian" to get off people's radars. But I was actually born into the 3800-year-old monotheistic religion of Zoroastrianism, a very simple religion whose principles influenced religions such as Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. I've heard the "Zoro-what?" line too many times when telling others my religion. Then I'd get the whole, "So you're actually Muslim" line.

But the thing is, lying about my religion so that others would be tolerant of it is not tolerance at all, in fact it's the direct opposite. I felt ashamed for lying about my faith, which my ancestors were persecuted for and suffered so that I could practice it freely one day.

In high school I wanted to create an environment where my fellow Persian students and I could have a place to share our culture and religions with our other classmates, so I founded the Persian Cultural Society. This club was an opportunity for my Middle Eastern friends and me to be open about our cultures and religions, and to bring together people of all different backgrounds to enjoy good food, music, and company.

The first step in tolerance between different religions and different types of peoples is understanding, which is why educating oneself on our differences is crucial in interfaith unity. Ultimately we all have the same goals with our faiths, just different methods. To quote the honored Indian civil rights activist and political leader, Mahatma Gandhi, "The essence of all religions is one. Only their approaches are different."

Josh Greenberg will be going to UC Berkeley. Cameron Sotoodeh is going to Penn State.

Teens Making A Difference

By Cindy Weinberg, Events & Marketing Manager,
Congregation Shir Hadash



Recent events exemplify how powerful and strong the voices of our young people are today. The country is watching as our teenagers challenge authority and political figures that they believe are not getting the job done and are not providing representation and protection for everyone. These students are refusing to sit by idly; they have organized rallies, given TV interviews, and used social media to gain momentum for their cause and to encourage other young people to register and get out to vote, so they can impact their own futures.

A similar dedication, commitment and passion for social justice drew three Congregation Shir Hadash teens, Emily Gringorten, Rachel Gringorten and Julian Sanghvi, to participate in the Religious Action Center's (RAC) L'Taken program. Every year, nearly 2000 high school-aged students participate in the seminar, which takes place in Washington, D.C. The program exposes students to public policy issues through a Jewish lens and reinforces the importance of having a say in social justice issues that impact their culture and community.

Each student chooses a topic or specific issue about which they are particularly passionate and lobbies on this issue with their member of Congress. Emily wrote about the issue of immigration. She mentioned the rescue of Ethiopian Jews in 1991 and the Jewish commitment to helping people around the world. Rachel's speech focused on the need to support The Equality Act, which will significantly reduce discrimination for LGBTQ citizens. Julian spoke in support of public schools and to oppose legislation that would provide more funding to religious and private schools (H.R. 691/S. 235, which would redirect federal funding for public education to private and parochial schools).

True to the goal of the program, the three L'Taken teens continue their activism months later through a variety of different projects. They were inspired to convey the central message of

L'Taken: coming together to change things in the world that we have the capacity to change. To that end, they are leading a session with 7th and 8th graders at Shir Hadash Hebrew High to teach social justice while having fun and building community. Additionally, they are speaking to graduating seniors at the temple's Baccalaureate Program about their experiences and the importance of social justice.

Julian came naturally to the idea of advocacy being an active participant in speech and debate on the local and national high school circuit. Other teens from Congregation Shir Hadash have participated in the Religious Action Center's social justice summer programs, including Josh Greenberg, who recently participated in Mitzvah Corps, working with refugee families.

For high school juniors and seniors, Congregation Shir Hadash has an alternating program of national and international Tikkun Olam. With L'Taken and Jews Around the World (JAW), Shir Hadash has been sending teens to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to advocate for social justice, and to various Latin American countries to participate in immersive service learning trips. This year's JAW program will take a trip to Costa Rica over President's Day weekend/Ski Week 2019. More information can be found by emailing Rabbi Schwartz at rabbischwartz@shirhadash.org.



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“Music Festival Hits the Beach” - Annual Festival Returns June 10 to the APJCC

By Jenny Green, Marketing Director

The APJCC’s Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival, held on the athletic field at the Levy Family Campus in Los Gatos, will return for its seventh year on Sunday, June 10, from 2:00-7:00 pm. Enjoy a relaxing day of beach-themed fun with music, food vendors, and a beer and wine garden.

The festival this year promises to provide family-oriented entertainment with music that will be accessible to everyone, with a mix of Israeli rock favorites from The Peatot, alternative music from Book of J, and American bluegrass from Nefesh Mountain, all performing on the main stage. New this year, the festival is adding a second stage for performers from the local community, including Yavneh Day School’s rock band, synagogue choirs, South Bay Teen Idol finalists, and other local favorites.

The beach theme is also new this year. The festival organizers are bringing in sand and water play for kids, a mechanical surfboard, beach balls and other beach games, snow cones, arts and crafts, and bounce houses. Festival goers are encouraged to come in beachwear and bring a towel and beach blankets or beach chairs to sit on.

According to Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the JCC’s director of community engagement, “We’re especially delighted with the bands we’re able to bring in this year. Nefesh Mountain is a soulful Jewish bluegrass band whose new album *Beneath the Open Sky* just received a glowing review from *Billboard Magazine*. We also were fortunate to sign *The Peatot*, one of the best Israeli rock cover bands around, which will bring an Israeli party experience to the

festival. And we also have *Book of J*, an exciting collaboration between Bay Area musician Jewlia Eisenberg and Jeremiah Lockwood.”

Nefesh Mountain’s song “Narrow Bridge” was voted one of the top 10 country songs of the year in the April 2018 issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine. Their music is unusual in bringing Jewish themes and Hebrew lyrics into the bluegrass genre. Band member Doni Zasloff, who agreed to be interviewed for this article, reports that she and the other members of the band have been “thrilled and honored” that the song,



and the entire album, have been receiving so much acclaim from the bluegrass community.

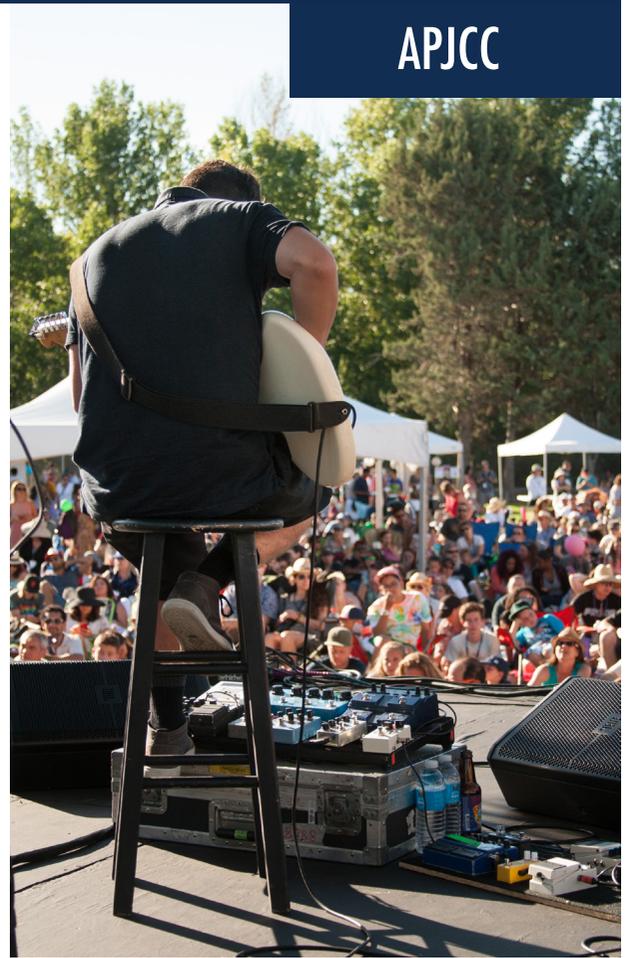
“We got to record in Nashville with some of the greatest bluegrass artists in this country and it was wonderful to get so much love and support” from the bluegrass community, she said. “Because so much of what we sing about is inclusive and universal, the music has become a way to connect people of different backgrounds....We’re looking forward to playing at the Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival and we promise to bring a lot of ruach.”

Festival goers from past years report that the festival is a favorite way to start the summer. “It’s a great day for the whole family, something for everyone, from kids’ activities, vendor booths, food and then, of course, the

music. A fun filled day for everyone,” said APJCC board member Jeanette Lerner.

APJCC member Eva Lippmann concurred. “It’s a fun time to get together with family and friends to enjoy fantastic weather, music, and food. We like to bring our chairs, a blanket and catch up with friends in a relaxed way. It’s been a family-friendly tradition for us since our recently Bat Mitzvahed daughter was a toddler, and we plan to be there this year, too.”

Kids 12 and under are admitted to the music festival for free. Tickets for teens and adults are \$8-\$15. There’s a discount for buying tickets online in advance, and tickets will also be available at the door. For tickets and more information, go to www.apjcc.org/music.



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Students at L'Dor V'Dor showcase their Hillel SV involvement.

Meeting the Challenge of Engaging Today's College Students

By Mitch Reitman, Assistant Director, Hillel of Silicon Valley

Hillel of Silicon Valley's L'Dor V'Dor community awards event held on April 8 at the Fourth Street Garage in San Jose attracted 170 supporters. The event honored long-time Hillel supporters, Len and Sylvia Metz, and outstanding SJSU student leaders, Josephine Tutman and Jordan Taxon.

Keynote speaker Dr. Mark Yudof, former president of the University of California, spoke on the evolution of the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel on university campuses. Yudof is a founder of the Academic Engagement Network (AEN), an organization of American university and college faculty and staff formed for the purposes of opposing the BDS movement, as well as standing up for academic freedom and against anti-Semitism on campus. Yudof noted that while students come and go on a college campus, faculty members are on campus long-term and they are instrumental in driving student activism.

During her welcoming remarks to the assembled crowd, Executive Director Sarita Bronstein said that she was proud that

Hillel had initiated 12 new programs this year. Bronstein also gave a behind-the-scenes peek at what it takes to engage Jewish students, considering the various difficulties Hillel professionals face, from finding the Jewish students to the challenges of establishing clubs. Additionally, the significant increase in anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activities on college campuses creates a culture of intimidation and mistrust, which in turn causes some students to recoil from engaging in Jewish life.

Bronstein added, "Students tell us that they have experienced being bullied and that they don't always feel safe or welcomed on campus. This distressing trend expands beyond student-led provocations; students also face challenges in the classroom. Some faculty use their pulpit as a platform to spew hatred and falsehoods; these targeted campaigns impact the way college students understand Israel and the Jewish people."

"Speaking with Impact," a series of workshops developed by Hillel SV, was created to help students feel more comfortable confronting anti-Semitism and anti-Israel activity on campus. The workshops help students engage in effective dialogue surrounding their support of Israel, and model how to build partnerships with diverse student organizations so that the Jewish community is integrated and valued on campus. For more information on the work Hillel SV does to support South Bay college students, please visit www.hillelsv.org.



Michael Dine is Awarded the 2018 J.J. Sakurai Prize

Mazel tov to Michael Dine, professor of physics at the University of California, Santa Cruz for receiving the J.J. Sakurai Prize for Theoretical Particle Physics.

Dr. Dine received this prestigious citation *“for groundbreaking explorations of physics beyond the standard model of particle physics, including his seminal joint work on dynamical, supersymmetry breaking, and for his innovative contributions to a broad range of topics, including new models of electroweak symmetry breaking, baryogenesis, and solutions to the strong charge parity problem.”*

Dr. Dine is a theoretical physicist working on questions of the Standard Model, its possible extensions, and issues in astro

physics and cosmology. He received his B.S. from Johns Hopkins University in 1974 and his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1978. He was a postdoc at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center and subsequently a long-term member of the Institute for Advanced Study. He was the Henry Semat Professor at City College of the City University of New York before taking a faculty position at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Dine’s work has included studies of the strong and weak interactions. Much of his research, however, has been aimed at understanding questions for which the Standard Model does not provide answers. Among these are the strong CP problem, where he was among those who proposed the currently favored view of the axion, as well as the axion as dark matter; and supersymmetry, where he proposed models to account for the hierarchy problem. His work on supersymmetry helped open a rich field studying the dynamics of supersymmetric theories and yielded insights into aspects of string theory.

Dine is a fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; has held Guggenheim and Sloan Fellowships; and has been the recipient of a Department of Energy Outstanding Junior Investigator Award. Dine’s service has included membership on the APS Publications Oversight Committee and chairing the APS’s Division of Particles and Fields Panel on the Future of Particle Theory. In addition, Dine is an active member of the board of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley.

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FROM THE CANTOR

By Amanda Edmondson
Temple Emanu-El

The basis of all Judaism is one goal: to be holy for G-d. That is the premise for all the laws and commandments, and essentially, how we live our lives. To be an upright person, abiding by societal rules, and helping the other is to make oneself holy. Judaism comes with an extensive life manual – the Torah – in which we receive many “suggestions” or commandments to help us become holy, some of which may no longer be relevant to our lives today. For example, I highly doubt that any of us feels like we’ve become holy after completing an animal sacrifice. In fact, I kind of think we would feel quite the opposite, and hopefully we wouldn’t do it at all!

So what should we do to make ourselves holy? This is a perfect question for our graduating high school seniors to ask themselves as they begin to take the next step forward in their independent, adult lives. If you are a parent of one of these inspired youths, surely you have taught them the benefits of following the laws of the society in which you live, how to treat others, and most importantly, right from wrong. As they move into this next stage of much greater self-autonomy, they have all the

wonderful and important tools you gave them. So, how do they maintain Judaism? By asking themselves when they make a choice, “Is this choice moving me towards holiness?” For these young people who are so enthusiastic, full of energy, and ready to take on the world, traditional Jewish prayer probably won’t fit the bill for that good old holy feeling. As Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel said, “Praying with their feet,” though, most certainly will.

The amazing thing that has come out of this tumultuous political climate is that people feel called to do something. That call seems to be even stronger in our youth. Those individuals who are graduating this year are in a unique position. They are old enough to have had some life experiences, to know right from wrong. Their generation accepts the other without thought of sexual orientation, race, or other historically dividing factors, AND they have the energy and drive along with a healthy need for risk-taking to be advocates for change in our world.

Let’s be sure to encourage these young people who have heard that call to conquer the world through their thirst for justice and equality. Even if we don’t always agree with them, humankind needs those strong, passionate voices. May these graduates find their own sense of holiness by “praying with their feet,” bringing positive change to our world, and may the rest of us help them do it.

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Graduation Rock Shabbat

Friday, June 8 at 7:30 PM;

Wine and Cheese reception at 6:30 PM

Featuring the musical stylings of our Rock Shabbat Band! An innovative and joyous worship experience with musicians and singers joining Rabbi Magat and Cantor Edmondson. Congregational singing is definitely encouraged, as is dancing in the aisles. Join us as we welcome the Sabbath in a fun and lively manner. All members and non-members are invited to a service like you've never been to before.



Summer Patio Services Beginning June 1

During the summer months (June through August), we celebrate the joy of Shabbat by holding services in our beautiful patio courtyard. Take advantage of our gorgeous California weather and join us for Kabbalat Shabbat patio services at 6:30 PM each Friday. These services are open to all members and non-members.



Shabarbecue

Friday, August 3 at 7:30 PM following our 6:30 Service

Shabbat + Barbecue = Shabarbecue.

Following our Kabbalat Shabbat service at 6:30 PM, join us on the patio for delicious barbecue food, mingling, and fun to end the summer. Free and open to members and non-members. RSVP to admin@templeanjosel.org.



Congratulations Class of 2018!



www.yavnehdayschool.org

Our 8th Grade Trip to Israel



By Natalia Tuchman
8th Grade Student
South Peninsula Hebrew Day School

From March 10 to March 23 many of the 7th and 8th graders at my school went on a trip to Israel. I was lucky enough to be one of them.

While we were there we got to see and experience many inspiring places and learned so much.

Even though I had been to Israel before and been to many of the places, I was able to experience it again with some of my best friends. One of the most meaningful places we visited was Yad Vashem, the museum that remembers the Holocaust and recognizes and honors the fighters, survivors and resisters. We went through many of the rooms talking about the terrible tragedies, seeing items and pictures of the war and hearing incredible stories of people fighting back

and not losing hope. The final room of the museum had a cone hanging from the ceiling with pictures and names around the inside of it. The pictures and names are of those who were killed during the Holocaust. When we stood underneath it there was a small pool of water. In the water was the reflection of the images in cone above. We were unable to clearly see the names and pictures.

Our tour guide explained that the cone above was filled with pictures because it drew similarities to how the Holocaust should be remembered: clearly and without doubts that it happened; everyone needs to be remembered even though they had no chance of a future or bringing about new generations. The images that you could vaguely see in the water resembled what is happening right now. As more survivors pass away and time goes on, people are starting to forget the terrible suffering and deaths the Holocaust brought. As we stood in the middle looking down at the water and up at the cone, we decided what is remembered. The dead do not have a way of telling their story, but through us, everyone who died can be remembered. We can carry on their stories so they are never forgotten. It is our job to make sure no one ever forgets the 6 million Jewish lives that were lost during the Holocaust.



By Dan Gotesdyner
8th Grade Student
South Peninsula Hebrew Day School

This year several of us from the seventh and eighth grade classes flew to Israel for 12 days. While there, we went to many biblical landmarks as well as historical ones. In the short life of this country, it has grown to be a world center in technology, healthcare

and much more. However, its history is riddled with misfortune and hardship.

We visited the Holocaust museum called Yad VaShem, which literally means "A Hand and a Name." What is the significance of this site? Here, we learned about the atrocities carried out against Jews in Europe in the 1930s and 40s. We also learned about the different reactions to the Holocaust from around the world. On September 2, 1945, World War II came to an end and it was clear that Jewish people needed a place to call home.

This impacted me to the point that I mull over still every now and again. How is it that from something so terrible something so good sprang up? The answer is difficult to come up with, but the best way I can put my thoughts into words is that it isn't the home that makes a person. It is a person that makes a home. The Jewish people, in their resilience and determination, would not let the Nazis or anyone else put them down. They would always rise from the ashes.

I hope that I can use this knowledge moving forward whenever I deal with a hardship or challenge. I know that my ancestors would never back down from a challenge. Neither do I, and I believe that is because their blood runs in my veins. It reassures me that all will be OK and that this is nothing compared to some hardships that others face. With that strength I can trudge forward and make my way in life.

Yad VaShem was the most inspiring part of the trip for me. My lineage is something to be proud of and so is every single Jew's lineage. We come from a line of bravery and determination that cannot be understated. Yes, I wasn't personally there, so why should I take pride? Because they are all my family, my distant kinsman, as are all Jews. And who knows, if my ancestors could overcome such a difficult situation, then maybe I can write an essay or two.

Congregation Emeth Takes the Lead – Initiating Interfaith Organizations in South Santa Clara County

By Susan Meyers, Past President, Congregation Emeth

For several years, Rabbi Debbie Israel, Congregation Emeth, had been concerned with the growing lack of tolerance and respect for cultural diversity in her community. The resistance faced by the Muslim community in response to their attempts to create the Cordoba Center with a Mosque and school on land they owned in San Martin was the catalyst that pushed Rabbi Israel to initiate the Interfaith Alliance of South County in 2015. Comprising 16 clerical leaders from Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin, the Interfaith Alliance has worked hard to build and model an atmosphere of trust, with open and honest conversations about the issues confronting each of the faith groups.

The Interfaith Alliance has led interfaith Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Day services; published letters in local newspapers; and gathered the multi-faith community together in marches and rallies in solidarity and support for one another, especially in response to anti-Semitic or anti-Islamic actions and sentiments.

Two years ago, inspired by the interfaith service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King - which was led by all 16 members of the clerical Interfaith Alliance - a group of lay leaders and I decided to take Rabbi Israel's brainchild one step further. We launched the Interfaith Community of South County (ICSC). Open to all faiths and denominations, the ICSC is committed to creating compassionate communities through educational, social and service programs.

From the outset, the 22-member steering committee, representing 18 local faith organizations, agreed to highlight what we have in common by celebrating the four major American holidays – Fourth of July, Memorial Day, Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Day. Our introduction to the community was at the Morgan Hill Fourth of July Parade in 2016. We marched with flags and our banner, singing *This Land is Your Land*. Our local clergy joined us, riding in vehicles behind us. Marching down the street to an audience of hundreds of happy fans, we were greeted with resounding applause!

We now join with the clerical Interfaith Alliance to coordinate and lead services on Thanksgiving and Martin Luther King Day.

Our commitment to education is evident at our twice-yearly "Faith of Our Neighbors" program. Together with the clergy, members of the ICSC take turns hosting an event at their respective places of worship, where they warmly and openly share their beliefs and traditions with the almost 300 attendees. To date the Muslim, Mormon, Jewish, Lutheran and Catholic congregations and the Buddhist Meditation Center in Morgan Hill have all hosted the program.

Current service projects of the ICSC focus on the needs of homeless families in our community. Several of our faith congregations participate in the Safe Parking Project, which provides select homeless families and individuals with a safe, secure and stable place to park their cars overnight. We also support Cecelia's Closet, a local organization that provides clothing and school supplies for families in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin.

Having fun together is also a large component of the ICSC. Together, members of the alliance enjoy concerts and speakers, Hawaiian luaus, and dinner in the Sukkah. The jewel in our social crown is the Interfaith Festival. This year's festival will take place August 19, from 1 - 5 pm at St. Mary's Church in Gilroy. The festival, open to the entire community, will feature food, music, dancing and children's games, showcasing the many interfaith cultures of South Santa Clara.

Quoting Rabbi Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself alone, what am I? And, if not now, when?"

The Interfaith Community of South County is responding to Rabbi Hillel: we are moving forward as a group now. To learn more about the ICSC, contact interfaithcommunity.org@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page: Interfaith Community of South County.



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By Rabbi Laurie Hahn Tapper

“ They stood in a circle
 They held hands
 They voiced their truths
 They quoted Torah
 They stood up for something
 They sang
 They figured it out together
 They did it all on their own ”

On March 14th a group of 6th graders, on their own volition, walked out of Yavneh in solidarity with students around the country to end school shootings. It was organic, student initiated and student created. It was a sacred moment of children owning their own future and we, their teachers watched. Sure, we (and their parents) have given them exposure to rituals, images, texts and values over the years, including the norm of sitting in a circle because each person matters, holding hands to make a connection, looking to Torah for meaning, and singing when words fail.

But our students took all of these things they had imbibed implicitly and explicitly over the years, and in a moment that was all their own created an experience that was uniquely theirs. Watching the students that morning, I think I finally began to understand the verse from Mishlei/Proverbs that guides our teaching here at Yavneh and is inscribed on our graduation diplomas:

חֲנֹךְ לַנֶּעַר עַל-פִּי דַרְכּוֹ גַם כִּי-יִזְקֶה יֵן לֹא-יִסּוּר מִמֶּנּוּ:

Educate a child according to their way and they will not depart from it when they are old.

Many schools around the country organized school assemblies to mark March 14th. As the school rabbi, I had been wondering that morning if I had been negligent in my duties by not doing so. However, as I watched the students I heard the words of Alfie Kohn, a leading thinker in progressive education, ring in my ears "The best teachers are the ones who have calluses on their mouth from biting their tongues." As a rabbi, I know I don't always bite my tongue, but as an educator I have learned that I need to have the courage to wait, to hold the space and silence so that the students have the room to step up and step in. I try not to do something for a child that they can say or do for themselves, because it robs them of the opportunity to have pride in their own abilities. It might be messier, or not as organized as I had envisioned, but it won't matter, because it was theirs and that's what makes it real and meaningful.

Our 8th Grade Trip to Israel

There are a host of experiences that can shape your middle school career, as well as shape your Jewish identity - B'nei mitzvah, summer camp, festivals, to name a few. However, there is rarely a more life-changing, identity-shaping, memory-building moment than an eighth grade trip to Israel.

This year, Yavneh's 36th, we embarked with our eighth grade class on a journey of a lifetime - our school's first Israel Journey, our masa la'aretz. Journeys mean a lot at Yavneh; in fact, they are a large part of our experiential learning program which has included trips to Marin Headlands, Yosemite, Los Angeles, Ashland, Philadelphia, New York City, Washington D.C, and now, Israel.

The students reflected on the impact this trip has had on them:

“What was the Israel Journey about for you?”

I have always loved being Jewish, but going to Israel brought everything into a new light for me. This trip has given me the opportunity to connect with myself and others on a new level. While it made me more connected to my class and teachers, it also made me realize how little I knew about myself. Israel didn't necessarily change me, but instead, brought out parts of me that I hadn't yet connected with. I never knew how much two weeks could change my life, but it did, and without this experience, I don't think I would be who I am now.

-Aurora



For me as an Israeli, the Israel journey was interesting. I have never seen Israel from the perspective of a tourist. It was amazing to see people coexisting with each other in a way I was never really aware of when I lived there. Being in Israel so far away from our families also helped me and my class bond in a way I never thought we could.

-Yaara

The Israel trip is a good experience because after learning so much about Israel and its history, the eighth grade class gets the opportunity to explore the land of Israel for themselves. Getting to participate in the culture through food, experiences, and sites is a great way for students to create a further interest in Israel.

-Talia

“What’s the next step on my Jewish journey?”

The next step on my Jewish journey is knowing how observant I want to be, and how much more I want to learn about Judaism.

-Noa B

I believe that my Judaism will lead me in the right direction no matter which way I turn next. My life is changing and the roles that Judaism plays in my life will change as well.

-Adinah

The next step on my Jewish journey is to learn about other religions and how they connect to, differ from, and mirror Judaism. I want to learn about all kinds of people in the world before I go deeper into Judaism and Israel. Once I have done this I would like to study the reasons behind Jewish traditions and mitzvot and ultimately which ones I connect to and which I will continue to observe for the rest of my life.

-Samara

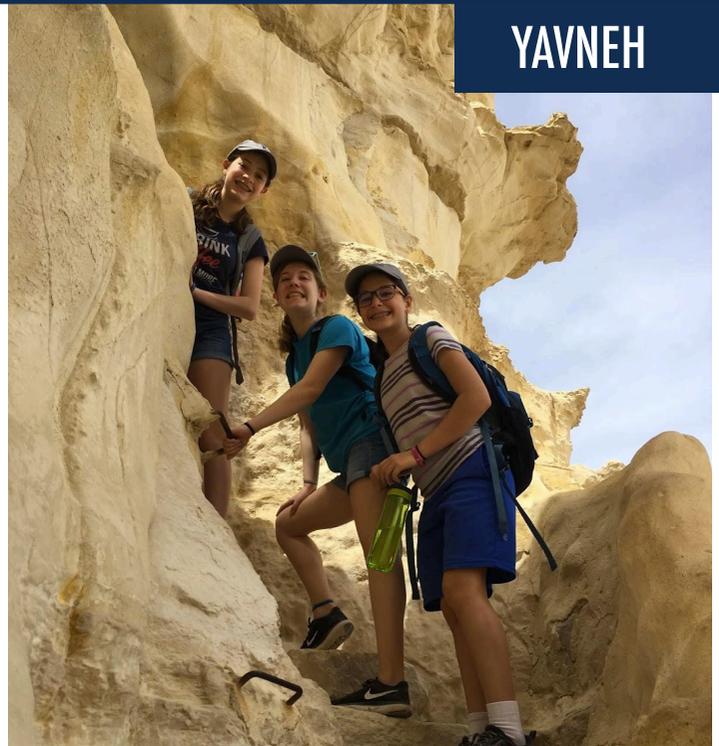
“How has Israel inspired that?”

Israel has helped connect me to the culture of the Jews, and I am proud to call them my people. The country pushed me to realize just how big and wonderful our small religion can be, and I am eager to continue doing my part to keep the culture alive.

-Noa T

“Why is a trip like this good for our school?”

A trip like this is good for our school because it opens a whole



new door of new experiences, adventures, and growth. It is one thing to study the beauty of Israel, but it is an entirely new experience and feeling to be there in person. For me, our journey to Israel was an opportunity to connect with our Jewish roots and each other as classmates. We spend time learning about Israel in our daily lives at school, but it is nothing compared to physically being there and experiencing it together.

-Yuval

This trip was good for our school because we have talked about Israel in class, and now we finally had the chance to get more in depth and really explore the country, as well as the way I really feel about the place. I learned a lot about myself and my connection to Judaism.

-Felix

We’ve been learning about Israel for over 10 years now. Actually having the chance to experience, to smell, taste, hear, and touch everything that we learned about brings so much more clarity and understanding to our learning.

-Ronel

Yavneh looks forward to continuing our Israel Journey as an annual experience for the eighth grade students!



Kehillah Jewish High School Seniors Intern at Jewish Federation

This past month, the Jewish Federation has been fortunate to have two interns working in our offices. Both seniors at Kehillah High School, Sonia Mazo and Daniel Reitman, have been “learning the ropes” working on projects that have benefited several of our programs.

An Unforgettable Start

By Sonia Mazo

It was a playful shriek that had brought me back to my senses. I transformed myself from the sleep-deprived zombie roaming the school halls to an alert and fun teenager. Finally, after a week, I was back at one of the most joyful places to be: the Oshman Family Jewish preschool. Walking across the street from Kehillah Jewish High School to visit three-year-olds at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center was a break from my routine of attending rigorous classes.

Kehillah Jewish High School has time designated every Tuesday and Thursday to reflect on Jewish values and lessons through different reflective practices. At the beginning of each semester each student has the ability to choose which practice they would like to join. I decided to join the volunteer reflective practice. On Tuesday, we would interpret the Parshah and apply it to what we could teach the children. For example, the Torah portion could be Bereisheet, which talks about how G-d created the universe. This Torah portion can be interpreted as asking the children to create something meaningful to them.

The first time I volunteered with the preschoolers, I was very intimidated by the idea of a bunch of rambunctious, loud three-year-olds. I was told by the preschool teacher that I

should start playing with the children, reading to them, and to keep the children safe. Most importantly, I had to be a good example to the children. I followed the teacher’s advice and I made sure the kids played fair, stayed safe, and helped clean up.

The first time I visited the preschool classroom, I was surprised that dozens of children were staring straight at me. Many of the children were too shy to greet me, however, I was welcomed by one outgoing girl who hugged my legs. The more I visited, the more the children lost their shyness. After a few weeks, children would come up to me to ask to play or read to them. The most interesting part that I noticed was how much the children would grow each week I visited.

I would like to say that I had a positive impact on these children’s lives. I remember the children would get so excited to hear me read to them. To spark a passion of reading, something that would benefit them through the rest of their lives, made me so proud to volunteer and be a part of their lives. In fact, I hope to volunteer more not just with children, but also immigrants to help them assimilate into American culture and to watch their personalities grow.

Volunteering at the preschool was one of the most memorable and fun volunteer experiences so far in my life.

My May Internship

By Daniel Reitman

My name is Daniel Reitman and I am a graduating high school senior. My school, Kehillah Jewish High School, has an internship project every year that all students in the senior class must complete to graduate. The internship can be completed with any volunteer task or job so long as the student accumulates 100 or more hours. The purpose of the internship is to choose a job and work environment that would closely mimic one we might choose to search for in the real world. I was assigned an internship at the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley because of my interest in digital design. The entire point of this internship is to prepare students like myself for the hard choices that come from entering college and living life.

So far, I think the internship has been a blast! I have completed several projects, including an advertisement featuring how the Federation has been honored as a California Nonprofit of the Year and another for Chai House. The work that I am most proud of is a poster that I made to spread awareness for the Federation’s Annual Campaign, which will be featured in the

lobby of the Levy Family Campus. As a result of all of this, I have learned quite a bit about what it means to be a digital designer in the office. For example, I have learned that creating these pieces takes time, effort and plenty of communication. It is all part of a long process that is actually very fulfilling. It teaches patience and understanding of others’ wants and needs. These are definitely helpful skills in the long run.

Working in an office is a major change from a classroom environment. There is much less noise around the area and everyone is working hard, compared to the bustling of school hallways and classrooms filled with people. I prefer this quite a bit more. It helps with focusing on my work, which is great for me!

I definitely think that this internship has been well worth my time. I have learned a lot, and I have been getting quite a bit of experience. I would hope that others are given the same opportunity to try what they want to do for work before actually going into it for themselves.

Kehillah Gala Benefits Scholarship Fund

The Kehillah Love Gala raised over \$103,000 for the Alison Ruebusch Scholarship Fund, making Kehillah education accessible to all capable students who seek a rewarding high school experience, regardless of their family's economic status.



Former Kehillah principal, Alison Ruebusch and Yavneh Head of School, Zvi Weiss



Tzachi Rechter and Corinne Jedwood



Rick HERNs Productions



Gala Chair, June Nicole Gur, Rowena Dodson, Roger Rosner, and Yaniv Gur



Susie Green (honoree) and her long-time friend, Debbi who flew in from out of town to celebrate



Head of School Rabbi Darren Kleinberg, Ph.D., Debra Kleinberg, Fran and Bobby Lent

Called to the Torah



Naomi Silverman, daughter of Sarah & Jerome Silverman, was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 17

at Congregation Sinai. She is a seventh grader who is home-schooled. She has played the piano for seven years and enjoys all kind of music. She also tutors reading, volunteers in the Congregation Sinai kitchen and participates in a monthly book club. Naomi enjoys writing, reading graphic novels, traveling, swimming and playing chess and video games and she loves sweets. Naomi's younger sisters, Alma and Liora, helped celebrate along with their proud grandparents, Lewis & Diane Sternfels of Los Angeles and Ronald & Renee Silverman of Florida. Other family and friends came in from all over the country. For her mitzvah project, Naomi will be donating a portion of her gifts to Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation, whose mission is to keep music alive in the schools, to get instruments to under-funded music programs and to support economically disadvantaged youth through access to music education.



Sonja Lippmann, daughter of Bruce & Eva Lippmann, was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April

14 at Congregation Sinai. She is a seventh grader at Union Middle School. She enjoys volleyball, dance and spending time with her dog Tikva. Sonja was very happy that her grandparents, Rebecca Lippmann and Lana & Jussi Rajna, were on hand to celebrate this special occasion. For her mitzvah project, Sonja

interviewed her grandfather, Jussi, a survivor of the Holocaust in Hungary. She became involved in Memory Candles and took part in community Holocaust ceremonies.



Lia Bzostek, daughter of Andy and Julie Bzostek, was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 21, 2018 at Temple Emanu-El. Lia is a seventh grader at Willow

Glen Middle School. She enjoys reading, musical theater and art. Since moving to the Bay Area 18 months ago, she has been in four productions at the Children's Musical Theater in San Jose, most recently in "Once Upon a Mattress." For her mitzvah project, Lia is knitting slipper socks to donate to a women's shelter in San Jose. Lia was excited to celebrate this wonderful occasion with her friends and family, from near and far. Lia hopes, one day, to meet a koala.



Ravital Prokter, daughter of Emma & Gregory Prokter, was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at

Congregation Beth David on April 28. She is in the seventh grade at Eastern Branch Discovery School. Her older brother, Jonathan, is a senior at Kehillah High School and her older sister, Abigail, is a freshman at Westmont High School. Ravital is a competitive swimmer whose specialty is the backstroke. For her mitzvah project she is serving as a counselor at a summer camp and a junior coach for Brookside Saratoga Swim Club.



Avin Benjamin Dorsay, son of Adam and Aurianne Dorsay, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah at Congregation Beth David in Saratoga on May 26. Avin is current-

ly a seventh grade student at Yavneh Day School. His brother, Bren, is in the third grade at Yavneh. For his mitzvah project, Avin is working with Loaves and Fishes, a soup kitchen in San Jose that provides hot meals, grocery bags and food assistance to those in need in Santa Clara County. Avin's proud grandparents, Tamar Jacobs and Dorothy and Richard Dorsay, were delighted to help celebrate this special occasion. Many years prior, both Adam and Aurianne had their b'nei mitzvot at Beth David, making the simcha all the more meaningful for Avin and all who attended.

Weddings



Rita & Jerry Jacobson, of Congregation Sinai, are pleased to announce the wedding of their granddaughter, Naava Yocheved and Shachal Lomp, son of Shai and Chani Lomp.

The couple were married on February 18, 2018 at Kedma Gardens, Neve Ilan. The bride did her national service by working with the elderly and physically challenged children; she graduated from Hebrew University and is now an occupational therapist. The groom finished his military service and is now a law student at Hebrew University. The couple resides in Jerusalem.

Congratulations



Class of 2018



Commencement Ceremony Speaker:

Jonathan Levin

Dean of Stanford Graduate School of Business

June 3, 2018 ▸ Campbell Heritage Theater ▸ 2:00 pm

LEARN MORE ABOUT
KEHILLAH CLASS OF 2018
COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

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Friday, June 1

Talmud Study: Tractate Megillah
10 - 11 am, Beth David

Join Ruben Levy or Rabbi Ohriner for weekly Talmud Study. English texts are available. Newcomers are welcome. AdultEd@beth-david.org for more information.

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service
6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, June 2

Mindfulness and Meditation Through the Hasidic Lens

10:30 - 11:30 am, Beth David

Using Hasidic Torah text and stories, Rabbi Seid-Valencia enables participants to find personal meaning in Jewish prayer. AdultEd@beth-david.org for more information.

Our Mercaz: Holy People/Holy Lives
1:15 - 2:15 pm, Beth David

Join Rabbi Ohriner on the first Shabbat of each month, following Kiddush lunch, to learn about the lives of the heroes in our Mercaz panels.

Sunday, June 3

Advance Funeral Planning
10 - 11 am, Beth David

Join us to learn practical knowledge towards clarifying your final wishes.

Monday, June 4

Torah Study
3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class is open to the community. All abilities, ages, and levels are welcome.

Tuesday, June 5

Classic Jewish Texts
9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the fundamental works of Maimonides, Luzzato, and other classic commentators. No Hebrew necessary. This is a free, drop-in class.

Israeli Dancing
7:30 - 9 pm, Emanu-El

Put on your dancin' shoes and come to our free Israeli dance class taught by our very own Loui Tucker. No dance experience necessary and everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, June 6

Kaplan Roundtable
9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Drop in to study and discuss the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No experience or specialized knowledge necessary. Instructor: Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia

Women Movie and Discussion Group
11:30 am - 3 pm, Beth David

Join other CBD Women for a midweek matinee followed by lunch. cbd.women@beth-david.org for details.

Lunch and Learn with the Cantor

Noon - 1:30 pm, Emanu-El

Bring a sack lunch and join Cantor Edmondson each month to share in a stimulating discussion of liturgy and music. Open to the community.

Thursday, June 7

Silicon Valley Beit Midrash
9:30 - 11 am, Congregation Sinai

This free class, led by Rabbi Josh Berkenwald, is open to the community. No Hebrew required. Drop-ins welcome.

Hasidic Havurah
11 am - Noon, APJCC

This class takes a look at some of the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Open to the community. Instructor: Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia

Play Mah Jongg
12:15 - 2:15 pm, Congregation Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. Email mahjongg@sinai-sj.org for more information.

Friday, June 8

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group
10 am - Noon, Shir Hadash

The Alzheimer's Association, in conjunction with Congregation Shir Hadash's Caring Committee, is offering a Support Group for anyone trying to navigate the day-to-day difficulties of caregiving.

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service
6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Graduation Rock Shabbat Service
7:30 - 8:30 pm, Emanu-El

Featuring the musical stylings of our Rock Shabbat Band! Everyone is welcome. We will also be honoring our graduating seniors.

Saturday, June 9

Shabbat Yoga
9:30 - 10:30 am, Beth David

Shabbat Yoga with Rabbi Laurie Matzkin provides a refreshing mix of Jewish learning with



June

June 1:	8:05
June 8:	8:09
June 15:	8:12
June 22:	8:14
June 29:	8:14

July

July 6:	8:13
July 13:	8:11
July 20:	8:07
July 27:	8:01

Find Your Location

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 19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga
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www.beth-david.org

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 20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos
 408.358.1751
www.shirhadash.org

Congregation Sinai
 1532 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose
 408.264.8542
www.sinaisj.org

Levy Family Campus
 14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos
 408.357.7429
www.apjcc.org

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 1010 University Ave., San Jose
 408.292.0930
www.temple-sanjose.org

guided meditation, breath work and asana practice. Suitable for all levels.

An Exploration of Shabbat Prayer & Study for Russian Speakers

10:30 - 11:30 am, Beth David
 With Rabbi Ilana Baird

Tot Shabbat

11:15 - Noon pm, Beth David
 For ages 5 and under. Relaxing, lighthearted, interactive, Shabbat program for tots. Includes songs, stories, puppets and more.

Jewish Book Discussion Group

1:15 - 3 pm, Beth David
 Join us for a discussion of Day of Atonement by David Liss, led by Paul Freudenthal.

Sunday, June 10

Annual Meeting 2018
10:30 am - noon, Sinai

Annual Meeting 2018
11am - 1:30 pm, Emanu-El

Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival 2018
2 - 7 pm, APJCC

Save the date for the annual Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival hosted by the APJCC at the Levy Family Campus.
www.apjcc.org/music.

Monday, June 11

Torah Study
3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is open to the community; all abilities, ages, and levels are welcome.

Tuesday, June 12

Classic Jewish Texts
9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Wednesday, June 13

Kaplan Roundtable
9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class studies the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No specialized knowledge required.

Lunch and Learn

Noon - 1 pm, Emanu-El
 Bring a sack lunch and join Rabbi Magat in a stimulating discussion of recent events, political happenings, and other relevant topics related to current events. Open to the community.

Annual Meeting
7 - 8:30 pm, Jewish Family Services

Meet in the APJCC Reinhard auditorium. We will also honor our volunteers.

Thursday, June 14

Silicon Valley Beit Midrash
9:30 - 11 am, Sinai

Talmud study with Rabbi Josh Berkenwald. Free - open to the community. No Hebrew knowledge needed. Drop-ins welcome.

Hasidic Havurah
11 am - noon, APJCC

This class takes a look at some of the great works of past Hasidic teachers, open for all abilities and levels. Free, drop-in class.

Ladies Who Lunch
11 am - 1 pm, Beth David

Ladies Who Lunch meets each month at the home of a different participant. Email www.cbd.women@beth-david.org for this month's location.

Play Mah Jongg
12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided.
mahjongg@sinai-sj.org

Friday, June 15

Pride Shabbat Service
6 - 7:30 pm, Sinai

We welcome the LGBTQ Jewish community, along with allies, family and friends, to celebrate Shabbat. Oneg following services.

Monday, June 18

Torah Study
3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, June 19

Classic Jewish Texts
9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the fundamental works of Maimonides, Luzzato, and other classic commentators. No Hebrew necessary. This is a free, drop-in class.

Yiddish Conversation Group
3 - 4:30 pm, Beth David

Learn Yiddish or reactivate your Yiddish as you converse with the group.

Refugee Crisis 2018: Update and What You Can Do to Help

7:30 - 9 pm, APJCC Adult Lounge
 Hear the latest on the JFS lawsuit against the Trump Administration, listen to the stories of local refugees impacted by the crisis told first hand, and learn how you can get involved and help. Wine and cheese will be provided.

Israeli Dancing
7:30 - 9 pm, Emanu-El

Put on your dancin' shoes and come to our free Israel dance class taught by our very own Loui Tucker. No dance experience necessary and everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, June 20

Kaplan Roundtable
9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class studies the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No specialized knowledge required.

Community Pool Party & BBQ
4 - 7 pm, APJCC

The public is invited to a FREE pool party and barbecue at the JCC.

Thursday, June 21

Silicon Valley Beit Midrash
9:30 -11 am, Sinai

This free class, led by Rabbi Josh Berkenwald, is open to the community. No Hebrew required. Drop-ins welcome.

Hasidic Havurah
11 am - noon, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the class studies the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Free and open to all.

Find Your Location

Chai House

814 St. Elizabeth Dr., San Jose
 408.947.1818
www.chaihouse.org

Hillel of Silicon Valley

44 S 11th St, San Jose
 408.286.6669
www.hillelsv.org

Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley

Levy Family Campus
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 403.358.3033
www.jvalley.org

Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley

Levy Family Campus
 14855 Oka Rd., Suite 202, Los Gatos
 408.556.0600
www.jfssv.org

Play Mah Jongg

12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. mahjongg@sinai-sj.org for more information

Judging Noa by Michal Stutin

7:30 - 9 pm, Beth David

Based on biblical verses, Noa pursues justice for her sisters and herself to escape bondage, political tricksters and deadly religious fanatics—set against the Exodus.

Mental Illness Support Group

7:30 - 9 pm, Sinai

Co-facilitated by Rabbi Berkenwald and Lisa Warner, LCSW, director of clinical and social services at JFS.

Friday, June 22

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service

6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate to everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, June 23

Approachable Torah

10:30 - 11:45 am, Beth David

Enjoy lively conversation led by Rabbi Berkowitz.

Tot Shabbat

11:15 am - noon, Beth David

For ages 5 and under. Relaxing, lighthearted, interactive, Shabbat program for tots. Includes songs, stories, puppets and more.

Sunday, June 24

Knitzvah Meeting

10:30 am - Noon, Levy Family Campus

JFS spearheads this volunteer group of knitters, crocheters and seamstresses. The finished creations are donated to 18 non-profit organizations. All ages welcome.

Cards for a Cause

1 - 3:30 pm, Beth David

Congregant sisters Debby Hoffman and Miriam Permut will lead us in an afternoon of fun as we make beautiful greeting cards for the Ronald McDonald House. RSVP online.

Monday, June 25

Torah Study

3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, June 26

Classic Jewish Texts

9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Wednesday, June 27

Kaplan Roundtable

9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class studies the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No specialized knowledge required.

Lunch and Learn Torah Study

Noon - 1:30 pm, Emanu-El

Bring your lunch and learn with Rabbi Dana Magat. Open to the community, no previous Torah study required.

Thursday, June 28

Silicon Valley Beit Midrash

9:30 - 11 am, Sinai

This free class, led by Rabbi Josh Berkenwald, is open to the community. No Hebrew required. Drop-ins welcome.

Hasidic Havurah

11 am - Noon, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the class studies the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Free and open to all.

Mah Jongg

12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided.

Dames Who Dine

7 - 9 pm, Beth David

Monthly dinner to catch up with old friends and meet new ones! Contact cbd.women@beth-david.org for more information.

Friday, June 29

Talmud Study: Tractate Megillah

10 - 11 am, Beth David

Join Ruben Levy or Rabbi Ohriner for weekly Talmud study. Newcomers are welcome. Donations to Adult Education are appreciated.

Limmud Bay Area 2018 Festival

2:45 pm, Sonoma State University

A two-day retreat in a Jewish space and time, open, inclusive and multi-generational. Go to limmudbayarea.org/ to register.

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service

6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Monday, July 2

Torah Study

3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, July 3

Classic Jewish Texts

9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Yiddish Conversation Group

3 - 4:30 pm, Beth David

Learn Yiddish or reactivate your Yiddish as you converse with the group.

Israeli Dancing

7:30 - 9 pm, Emanu-El

Put on your dancin' shoes and come to our free Israeli dance class taught by our very own Loui Tucker. No dance experience necessary and everyone is welcome.

Thursday, July 5

Hasidic Havurah

11 am - Noon, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the class studies the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Free and open to all.

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1010 University Ave., San Jose
 408.292.0930
www.templeanjos.org

Mah Jongg

12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. mahjongg@sinai-sj.org for more information.

Friday, July 6

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service

6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, July 7

Our Mercaz: Holy People/Holy Lives

1:15 - 2:15 pm, Beth David

Join Rabbi Ohriner on the first Shabbat of each month, following Kiddush lunch, to learn about the lives of the heroes in our Mercaz.

Monday, July 9

Torah Study

3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, July 10

Classic Jewish Texts

9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Annual Meeting

7 pm, Jewish Federation

Meet at the auditorium at the Levy Family Campus. RSVP at jvalley.org.

Wednesday, July 11

Kaplan Roundtable

9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class studies the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No specialized knowledge required.

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Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley

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Thursday, July 12

Hasidic Havurah

11 am - Noon, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the class studies the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Free and open to all.

Ladies Who Lunch

11 am - 1 pm, Beth David

Ladies Who Lunch meets each month at the home of a different participant. Email for this month's location.

Mah Jongg

12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. Email mahjongg@sinai-sj.org for more information.

Friday, July 13

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service

6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate to everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, July 14

Tot Shabbat

11:15 am - Noon, Beth David

For ages 5 and under. Relaxing, lighthearted, interactive, Shabbat program for tots. Includes songs, stories, puppets and more.

Jewish Book Discussion Group

1:15 - 3 pm, Beth David

We will be discussing My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner by Meir Shalev, led by Miriam Marr.

Sunday, July 15

Knitzvah Meeting

10:30 am - Noon, Levy Family Campus

JFS spearheads this volunteer group of knitters, crocheters and seamstresses. The finished creations are donated to 18 non-profit organizations. All ages welcome.

Monday, July 16

Torah Study

3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House

Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public.

All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, July 17

Classic Jewish Texts

9:30 - 11 am, APJCC

Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Yiddish Conversation Group

3 - 4:30 pm, Beth David

Learn Yiddish or reactivate your Yiddish as you converse with the group.

Wednesday, July 18

Kaplan Roundtable

9 - 10:30 am, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this free, drop-in class studies the writings of Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan. No specialized knowledge required.

Community Pool Party & BBQ

4 - 7 pm, APJCC

The public is invited to a FREE pool party and barbecue at the JCC.

Thursday, July 19

Hasidic Havurah

11 am - Noon, APJCC

Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, the class studies the great works of past Hasidic teachers. Free and open to all.

Mah Jongg

12:15 - 2:15 pm, Sinai

Bring your tiles and card and enjoy a friendly game of Mahj. Open to all. Drop-ins welcome. Refreshments provided. Email mahjongg@sinai-sj.org for more information.

Friday, July 20

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service

6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El

A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, July 21

Community Erev Tisha B'Av Service

9:15 pm, Sinai

Join the community at this candlelit service

to hear the chanting of the Book of Eichah (Lamentations).

Sunday, July 22

Tisha B'Av Shacharit Services
 9 am, Sinai

Tisha B'Av Community Learning & Minchah Service

1:30 pm, Sinai
 Daytime study session and service including Torah reading, Haftarah and tefillin. Rabbi Berkenwald will lead the study.

Monday, July 23

Torah Study
 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House
 Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Tuesday, July 24

Classic Jewish Texts
 9:30 - 11 am, APJCC
 Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

Wednesday, July 25

Kaplan Roundtable
 9 - 10:30 am, APJCC
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Thursday, July 26

Hasidic Havurah
 11am - Noon, APJCC
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Mah Jongg
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Dames Who Dine
 7 - 9 pm, Beth David
 Monthly dinner to catch up with old friends and meet new ones! cbd.women@beth-david.org for more information.

Friday, July 27

Kabbalat Shabbat Patio Service
 6:30 - 7:30 pm, Emanu-El
 A summer-time Shabbat service held early to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

Saturday, July 28

Tot Shabbat
 11:15 am - Noon, Beth David
 For ages 5 and under. Relaxing, lighthearted, interactive, Shabbat program for tots. Includes songs, stories, puppets and more.

Sunday, July 30

Torah Study
 3:30 - 4:30 pm, Chai House
 Led by the JCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, this class is free and open to the public. All ages, abilities and knowledge levels are welcome.

Monday, July 31

Classic Jewish Texts
 9:30 - 11 am, APJCC
 Rabbi Joey Felsen of the Jewish Study Network guides you through the works of Maimonides, Luzzato and others. No Hebrew necessary. Free, drop-in class.

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SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting
Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley

July 10, 7:00 pm

Desserts & Coffee

APJCC Auditorium at the Levy Family Campus

RSVP at jvalley.org

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