

# jewish life in silicon valley jvalley magazine



## The Gratitude Issue

Village House Women's Shelter ....pg. 8  
10 Years of Embrace-A-Family .... pg. 17  
Yavneh's Hebrew Immersion ..... pg. 18  
Jewish Federation 3.0 ..... pg. 19  
SJ Police Auditor Aaron Zisser .... pg. 20  
Life Inside Hatikvah House ..... pg. 29



Award-Winning Fitness Facility • Preschool  
 Jewish Day School K-8 • State-of-the-Art Auditorium  
 On-Site Catering & Cafe • Event Rental Space  
 Community Mikvah • Mah Jongg Tournament  
 Swimming Pool • Tennis Courts  
 Silicon Valley Jewish Music Festival  
 Counseling Services • JFS Knitzvah  
 Poker Tournament • PJ Library  
 Community Challah Bake  
 Art Exhibits • Live Theater  
 Volunteer Opportunities  
 Free 3-Day Fitness Pass  
 Home Care Services  
 JValley Magazine

**Voted #1 Fitness Facility  
 in Silicon Valley!**



# Levy Family Campus

We're Your Place

HOME OF



Addison-Penzak JCC  
 of Silicon Valley  
 Levy Family Campus  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)



Jewish Family Services  
 of silicon valley  
[www.jfssv.org](http://www.jfssv.org)



יבנה  
**Yavneh**  
 Day School  
[www.yavnehdayschool.org](http://www.yavnehdayschool.org)

**Camps & Sports**  
 Summer, Spring & Winter Camps



Jewish Federation  
 OF SILICON VALLEY

**408.358.3033 • [jvalley.org](http://jvalley.org)**

14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032



@jewishsiliconvalley



@jewishsv



@jewishsiliconvalley

The Levy Family Campus is owned and operated by your Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley.

# JVALLEY MAGAZINE PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY



## Miri Bialik BRE 01164715

Real Estate Broker Associate at Intero  
Office 650.947.4672 • Cell 408.315.6555

*Always At Your Service*

Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate • Eco Broker  
Senior Residents Specialist • Top Producer  
Zillow Premier Agent



## Michael W. Malter

**Binder & Malter, LLP**  
2775 Park Avenue • Santa Clara 95050  
michael@bindermalter.com  
[www.bindermalter.com](http://www.bindermalter.com)

Certified Specialist, Bankruptcy Law • The State Bar of California  
Board of Legal Specialization, Specializing in all aspects of  
bankruptcy representation, distressed real estate & asset protection.



## Marni Novick, Au.D.

340 Dardanelli Lane, Suite 22, Los Gatos

**408.540.7128**

drnovick@siliconvalleyhearing.com  
[www.siliconvalleyhearing.com](http://www.siliconvalleyhearing.com)

My own experience with hearing loss led me to help others improve  
their hearing and well-being. Comprehensive diagnostic hearing  
evaluations, hearing aid consultations, tinnitus evaluations.



## Lynn Osband

**Event Planner**

**408.981.8422**

LynnOsbandEvents@gmail.com  
[www.LynnOsbandEvents.com](http://www.LynnOsbandEvents.com)

Weddings, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Special Events & Consulting



## Janice L. Shapiro

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist

**408.596.4810 • janiceleeshapiro.com**

3880 S. Bascom Ave., Suite 216 • San Jose, CA 95124

*Welcomes individuals, couples and families*  
License No. LMFT86051



## Paul Streit Photography

**Bat/Bat Mitzvah Photography My Specialty!**

**408.323.9996**

[www.bmitzvahphoto.com](http://www.bmitzvahphoto.com)

email@paulstreit.com

Honored to capture your very special occasion and celebration with  
friends and family. Please visit my website to view examples or  
contact me or more information. Ask about my JValley Magazine special!



## Carol Elias Zolla

**16450 Los Gatos Blvd., Suite 209**  
**Los Gatos, CA 95032 • 408.358.6900**  
carol@zollalawfirm.com

[www.zollalawfirm.com](http://www.zollalawfirm.com)

Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law  
The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

To advertise in the Professional Directory, contact  
Jeff Rosenplot at 408.357.7502 or jeff@jvalley.org

# WHAT'S INSIDE

Around The Community .....	4
Simchas .....	5
Weddings .....	6
Obituaries .....	7
Interfaith Village House Women's Shelter .....	8
Courage in the Face of Disaster .....	9
Early Childhood Jewish Education .....	10
PJ Library .....	11
Kehillah's "Fancy KabShab Challahday" .....	12
APJCC Remodeling Update .....	13
Personal Case for Legacy Giving .....	14
Jewish Hospitality - Let's Talk About It .....	15
Hands On With Jewish Art .....	16
Embrace-A-Family Celebrates 10 Years .....	17
Yavneh's Hebrew Immersion Program .....	18
Jewish Federation 3.0 .....	19
San Jose's Independent Police Auditor	
Yavneh Alumus Aaron Zisser .....	20
Jewish Yoga Comes to APJCC .....	22
Weekly Events Calendar .....	23
Daily Events Calendar .....	24
Hatikvah House Provides a Home .....	29
The Lighter Side .....	30
Letter to the Editor .....	30



facebook  
**jewishsiliconvalley**



twitter  
**@jewishsv**



instagram  
**jewishsiliconvalley**

**jvalley** jewish life in silicon valley magazine

14855 Oka Rd., Suite 200 • Los Gatos, CA 95032  
Phone (408) 357-7502 • Fax: (408) 356-0733

### JEWISH FEDERATION CEO

Jyl Jurman • jyl@jvalley.org  
(408) 357-7500

### EXECUTIVE EDITOR ADVERTISING & BILLING

Jeff Rosenplot • jeff@jvalley.org  
(408) 357-7502

### EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Pat Bergman

### SIMCHAS & OBITUARIES

Andrea Greyber  
andrea.greyber@gmail.com  
(408) 377-6224

Published six times per year by the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley. We reserve the right  
to edit all content. JValley Magazine is not responsible for the content of paid advertising.

**Online at [jvalley.org/news](http://jvalley.org/news)**



# AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Shir Hadash 6th and 7th graders baked cookies for local firefighters in appreciation for all of their wildfire relief efforts over the past few weeks.



Yavneh's 6th grade class was a whirlwind of activity, packing Rosh Hashanah bags at Jewish Family Services.

## DO THE TWIST



Mavens and novices joined forces on the Levy Family Campus on October 26 to take part in the Jewish Federation's Do The Twist event, the annual challah baking. Sponsored by Women's Philanthropy, Do The Twist allowed attendees the opportunity to share challah baking secrets and skills with each other. This year's event was a tremendous success. Attendees are looking forward to getting their bake on next year!



Santa Clara Fire Department All Hazards Staff Battalion Chief Douglas Young (pictured third from left) took part in a US Congressional delegation to Israel to discuss cyber security issues with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and members of the Israeli government. Young was featured in JValley Magazine's Summer 2017 issue (available online at [www.jvalley.org/news](http://www.jvalley.org/news)).



Dr. Paula Kushlan speaks at the WP breast cancer event and panel discussion at the Levy Family Campus.



## Births

### Leeba Miriam Miller

**Teri & Berry Kane** of Temple Emanu-El are pleased to announce the birth of their granddaughter Leeba Miriam Miller was born on February 8 in Santa Monica to Emily & Nathan Miller of Pacific Palisades. The naming took place at the Historic Breed Shul in Los Angeles.

Leeba's other grandparents are Jeff & Julie Miller of Palos Verdes. Their grandson Izzy Lassen Kane was born on October 2 in San Francisco. His parents are Alex & Lindsay Kane of Pacifica. The bris was performed by Rabbi Moshe Traeger at the home of Izzy's grandparents in Willow Glen. Izzy's other grandparents are Nancy Hirsch Lassen of New Orleans and Wayne Lassen of Foster City. Great-grandmothers are Sally Ravel of Saratoga and Yetta Kane of Long Beach.



Art Program as a Madricha this year. She also has supported the initial design phase of transforming the Temple Emanuel gift shop, which will eventually be an online resource for the Silicon Valley community. Last Spring, Kira was awarded Most Valuable Player on one of her girls' middle school basketball teams. For her Mitzvah project, she is supporting HIAS and its refugee programs. Personal pictures and stories of refugees around the world were hung in the Sukkah.

### Naomi Pearl Brown

Daughter of **Shannon Brown & Dana Brody-Brown**, was called to the

Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 21. Naomi is in seventh grade at Old Orchard School. She loves basketball, singing, her friends and dogs, especially her beloved Daisy and Poppy. Naomi is a graduate of Temple Emanu-El Preschool, and, along with her brother Lucas and parents, has been a member of Temple Emanu-El for ten years. Naomi is excited to celebrate this occasion with family and friends.



## Called to the Torah



### Will Joshua Yashar

Son of **Lourdes & Frank Yashar**, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 9 at Congregation Beth David. Will is in eighth grade at Pinewood School in Los Altos Hills. He likes music and reading and participates

in school sports, recently taking up golf and tennis. He is also interested in discussing current events with his father and is in debate club at his school. Will loves spending time with his family, his sister Kimi, newly adopted dog Belle, his friends and Friday family movie nights. For the past five years, Will has spent two weeks of his summer at Camp Newman. Last summer visited Israel for two weeks with his family and while there, he celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of his friend Josh Freeman at Robinson's Arch in Jerusalem. For his mitzvah project, Will participated in JFS's BackPack Drive. He raised over \$2,000 and filled over 16 backpacks.



### William Gabbert

Son of **Lorraine & Matthew Gabbert**, was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on October 28. William is an 8th grader at Herman Intermediate School. He enjoys science, drawing and playing percussion in the school band, as well as taking drum lessons. As a Boy Scout, William enjoys camping and new adventures. In

Scouts, as in life, he is open to new friendships and challenges. Through Synopsys, William has worked to beautify schools and participated in "Stuff the Bus," which provides backpacks filled with school supplies for disadvantaged youth. Through Temple, he played board games with seniors at Chai House and through the Humane Society Silicon Valley, spent time with animals in need of a home. He loves his dog, Cooper, a terrier-maltese mix, adopted from Pound Puppy Rescue. For his mitzvah project, he will be collecting donations and new cat and dog toys and blankets for the Humane Society. William was excited to share his Bar Mitzvah with family and friends.



*We messed up in our last issue. Sorry, Rita and Jerry (and baby Sarah). And Mazel Tov to all of you!*

### Sarah Jacobson

**Rita & Jerry Jacobson** of

Congregation Sinai are pleased to announce the birth of their great-granddaughter, Sara Jacobson on June 19. She weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces. Sara is the daughter of Nechemia & Chaya Jacobson of Jerusalem and the little sister of Yosef Mendel. Her grandparents are Rabbi David & Emily Jacobson of Los Angeles and Yehuda & Bella Hoschander of Toronto, Canada.



### Kira Kalbfeld

Daughter of **Michelle Selber & Todd Kalbfeld** was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on October 7 at Temple Emanu-El. Kira is an 8th grader at the Waldorf School of the Peninsula. She is an avid reader, enjoys Latin ballroom dancing, and excels in art/design. She will be bringing her art skills to the Temple Emanu-El Religious School

To submit Simchas or obituaries, contact Andrea Greyber via email at [andrea.greyber@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.greyber@gmail.com) or by phone at (408) 377-6224.



# W E D D I N G S



## Elisheva Jacobson and Noam Tsuberi

Rita & Jerry Jacobson of Congregation Sinai are thrilled to announce the marriage of their granddaughter Elisheva Jacobson to Noam Tsuberi who were married at Mah'ara Kivvutz Beit Guvim on August 22. She is the daughter of Dr. Jeff & Michele Jacobson of Hashimomim and he is the son of Dror & Aviva Tsuberi. Noam is in the IDF and Elisheva is an engineering student at Ben Gurion University. The couple will live in Beersheva.

## Liad Stein and Sharon Yarimi

Liad Stein, son of Gil & Mimi Stein of Aptos, and Sharon Yarimi, daughter of Hadas Damit & Reuven Yarimi, were married on June 12 at Kibbutz Afek. The wedding followed a traditional Yemenite Henna ceremony hosted by the bride's mother held at the community center at her home in Moshav Achiud. The couple currently live in Tel Aviv. After brief visits to the United States, they will honeymoon in the Far East and then return to Israel.



נשמח לעזור במכירה/קנייה של הנכס שלכם  
לפרטים נוספים חייגו (408) 905-9101



ELISA SCHWEIZER

elisa@serenogroup.com  
(408) 905-9101  
CalBRE # 02034011



DAN RUBNITZ

drubnitz@serenogroup.com  
(408) 859-3671  
CalBRE # 01015666





# O B I T U A R I E S

## Simon Kleinman

June 16, 1921 – September 12, 2017

*"Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Sailor"*

Simon Kleinman was a man of many talents and interests. Born and raised in the Bronx, NY, Sy was the youngest of five and the first of his siblings to be born in the United States. His family immigrated from a Warsaw, Poland. Serving as a soldier in the U.S. Army during WWII, Sy was bound for the invasion of Normandy in June 1944. Fate stepped in as he became ill and was held back. None of his platoon survived.



After his discharge from military service he headed West to seek opportunity. He arrived in San Francisco in 1947 where he worked various jobs in sales. Sy found his calling in the automobile business. He started as a salesman on a used car lot in the outer Mission District of San Francisco, and by the mid-1950s he owned his own Ford dealership. The grand opening for his dealership, Capitol Ford of San Jose, was in 1970. Sy remained at the helm for 33 years before retiring in 2001. His sons Larry and Paul, worked beside him.

World traveler and teller of stories and jokes extraordinaire, Sy was a self-made man, well-regarded and recognized among his professional peers and within the community. Sy was an avid sailor and owner of two award-winning boats, Swiftsure "Big Blue" and Swiftsure II. This September, his crew won their seventh class win since 1990.

Devoted husband to his late wife Phyllis Mae Kleinman, for 60 years he was father to his sons Laurence Hernandez (Kristi), Elliot Kleinman (Afi), Paul Kleinman (Debra), and daughter-in-law Joyce Kleinman. His legacy continues with his grandchildren: Jenni Kleinman Berebitsky (Jeff), Scot Kleinman (Shannon), Rob Kleinman (Gerri), Leslie Hernandez Dinneen (Jon), Alex Kleinman, Mark Hernandez (Beverly), Asher Kleinman, Alec Kleinman, and Ari Kleinman, and great-grandchildren Wyatt Kleinman, Philip Berebitsky, Violet Kleinman and Skah Kleinman. Preceded in death by his beloved wife Phyllis, parents Yankel and Tzriel Kleinman, brothers Gabriel "Scrilic," Samuel, Henry "Noyach" and sister Rose Weithorn.

Fair winds and following seas, Simon. You will be greatly missed.

Those wishing to donate to causes dear to Simon's heart on his behalf: The Disabled Veterans National Foundation, 202.737.0522 or The Simon Wiesenthal Center, 800.900.9036. Ask that your donation be placed under Restricted Funds.

OWNED AND OPERATED BY TEMPLE EMANU-EL

## Home of Peace

Cemetery and Mausoleum  
Established 1853

The South Bay's only Jewish-owned  
Cemetery, Mausoleum & Columbarium

**PRE-NEED TERMS**  
Wayne Rose, Administrator

**408.266.4184 • cemetery@templesan jose.org**

## Los Gatos Memorial Park Shalom Garden

*Serving the Bay Area Jewish community since 1889*

*Peaceful, park-like setting overlooking Santa Cruz Mountains*

- \*Pre Plan and receive a discount
- \*Graveside Ceremonies in a serene setting
- \*Upright monuments available
- \*Trained funeral professionals
- \*Traditional caskets and ritual services

2255 Los Gatos-Almaden Rd., San Jose, CA 95124

[www.losgatosmemorialpark.com](http://www.losgatosmemorialpark.com)

**(408) 356-4151**

### Darling-Fischer Mortuaries

**Chapel of the Hills**  
615 N. Santa Cruz Ave.  
Los Gatos, CA 95030  
(408) 354-7740  
FD940

**Garden Chapel**  
471 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95112  
(408) 998-2226  
FD557

**Campbell Memorial Chapel**  
231 E. Campbell Ave.  
Campbell, CA 95008  
(408) 379-5010  
FD898

[www.darlingandfischer.com](http://www.darlingandfischer.com)

## Cremation - Why NOT Tahara - Why YES

For more information:  
**Chevre Kadisha of South Bay: [www.ckosb.org](http://www.ckosb.org)**

**Male burial inquiries**  
Tel: (408) 425-6911

**Female burial inquiries**  
Tel: (408) 264-3138

# Temple Emanu-El Hosting Interfaith Village House Women's Shelter

by Janet Phinick, Sisterhood President, Temple Emanu-El of San Jose

Village House is a rotating interfaith shelter supported by several religious assemblies throughout Santa Clara County. It serves as a place of hope and refuge for 15 emotionally and physically vulnerable women who would otherwise be living in the streets. Temple Emanu-El has joined the team of shelter partners. In December, Temple Emanu-El will provide a warm, safe place for our women "guests" to sleep, eat and bathe. Emanu-El is looking for volunteers to help make this program a success. Our guests will be spending nights at our facility, receiving meals, taking showers, and helping out with some of the clean-up duties. During the day, we will be accompanying our guests a short walk away at a neighboring congregation, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Village House was born nearly two years ago out of an opportunity to help those in need in our community. As the housing crisis escalates in San Jose, the need to find viable and sustainable solutions for those that are under housed and homeless increases. Every two years, San Jose and Santa Clara County send out teams of volunteers to conduct an arduous census of our homeless. The number of people living in the streets has stabilized in Santa Clara County and is actually decreasing slightly (15%), based on census data. However, the severity of homelessness has increased significantly. Duration of homelessness spanning five years and longer is becoming more common in the Bay Area with 35% considered chronically homeless (increasing 20% since 2011 – from 45% to 64%). Longer periods of living in the streets impacts health and shortens lifespans.

Local government has been working with the Village House and others to change laws and ordinances to pave the way for more programs designed to reach the population of under housed and homeless. They also try to reach those in our community that fall into the "low income" underemployed and non-working demographic that feeds into the homelessness population. Many of the homeless people in the streets have jobs, families or get some kind of government assistance for income loss or food. There are several programs in place that offer housing under one roof for a large number of homeless in "Drop-In Centers." Warehousing humans in large open rooms is not the answer. Temple Emanu-El doesn't believe this is humane living for anyone.

The sheer volume of homeless people in our area is daunting, with numbers nearing 7,000 in Santa Clara County and 4,500 in San Jose itself. Village House may not reach a large population of those living in the streets, but it does hope to set an example of how helping just a few women can make a huge impact in their lives. Village House is establishing a realistic model of what it takes to carve out a segment of the population for further expansion to other segments. To understand whether this approach is feasible, it is necessary to break down the population of homeless from the census. 33% of the population is living in the streets. 33% of those are newly homeless. Those that have been homeless more than twice in one year was recorded at 19%, the same percentage of people living in encampments. The most startling statistic is the 64% that have been homeless for over a year. A whopping 48% of Santa Clara County's homeless population

has been displaced four or more times in the past three years. That means at least every three months for the past three years, they have had to relocate and readjust to new surroundings.

If Village House expanded to five locations a year, it could serve 150 women. With this math, in less than three years, we could reduce the number of homeless women living in the streets.

Several of our guests have graduated from Village House and moved on to rented rooms and secured employment. IHOP has made the commitment to hire Village House guests. We are engaging with other employers to partner with our program, too. This type of work is a step toward full independence, a process that takes time and patience. Because Village House is a partnership of congregations, we have housing resources for temporary or long-term rentals. This is the fruit of months of multiple faith organizations working together to make our community a better place to live and set an example for other communities to support others less fortunate with dignity and compassion.

If you have questions about how our program operates or how to volunteer, please visit <https://www.villagehousesccca.com>. You can also reach out to 408.997.5111 or 408.615.1605.

*Creating Sweet Memories  
in Our Homes. . .*



*Over Thanksgiving and Hannukah  
with Family and Friends*



Rosa Bencuya  
Realtor®  
APR-Saratoga Office  
408.499.2077  
[rbencuya@apr.com](mailto:rbencuya@apr.com)  
[HomeByRosa.com](http://HomeByRosa.com)





# Courage in the Face of Disaster

by Rabbi Laurie Hahn Tapper

What gives someone the courage to start again? Where do we find the strength after destruction? Often when the story of Chanukah is told, emphasis is placed on the bravery the Maccabees displayed to fight for their religious freedom. But this year, in the wake of so many disasters, natural and man made, when so many right here in our own Bay Area community are still recovering from the destruction of the wildfires, a different kind of bravery that is also in the Chanukah story resonates.

What happened when the war was over? How did it feel to walk into the Temple and to see it desecrated? How did it feel not to even find enough oil to light the menorah so they could rededicate the Temple and make it useable again? I imagine the sadness could have been paralyzing. In fact, you might say it would take a miracle for the Maccabees to find the will to begin again.

Rabbi David Hartman taught that the fact that the Maccabees even bothered to light the first wick of the menorah when they only had enough oil to light the lamp for one day, is in fact the miracle of Chanukah. Bravery in the face of loss, courage and faith in the future even when the present feels barely possible, being grateful for what you do have and putting it to use. The Maccabees didn't have the fortune of our hindsight, yet they lit the menorah anyway. Perhaps this year, the miracle of Chanukah is the miracle of the human spirit to begin again when nothing is promised and nothing is certain.

In Santa Rosa, in Puerto Rico, in Houston, in Mexico City, in all the places around our country where it is hard to find a flicker of hope that the next day will be better, may this understanding of the miracle of Chanukah help us believe in our future, even in our darkest days.

N O R C A L W I L D F I R E R E L I E F

**THIS IS WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE EVERYTHING  
HERE'S HOW TO HELP**



**DROP OFF GIFT CARDS IN THE LEVY FAMILY CAMPUS & YAVNEH LOBBIES**



The APJCC, Jewish Family Services, the Jewish Federation and Yavneh are partnering to **collect gift cards** for fire victims throughout the region. Gift cards allow those who have lost everything to begin the process of rebuilding their lives.

Gift cards that will help the most include Target, Walmart, Kohl's, Safeway, gas cards as well as Visa and Mastercard gift cards. Additionally, gift cards from PetsMart and Petco will help those who evacuated with pets.

*Law Offices of*  
**Shannon Stein**

Family Law Services in Santa Clara, San Mateo and Alameda Counties

- Dissolutions
- Mediations
- Child Custody
- Property Division
- Post-Judgment Issues
- High-Asset Cases
- Paternity
- Pre-Marital Agreements
- Post-Marital Agreements
- Child Support
- Restraining Orders
- Guardianships
- Juvenile Dependency Law
- Civil Harassment

*Our Clients Come First*

**408.774.9097**

438 S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale  
info@shannonsteinlaw.com  
shannonsteinlaw.com






**NURTURING YOUR CHILD'S JEWISH EDUCATION**



**pasje**

**Palo Alto School  
for Jewish  
Education**

- Independent Sunday School K-8
- All Inclusive and Welcoming Community
- Affordable Alternative to Synagogue Membership
- Jewish Ethics & Values
- Holidays, History, Hebrew
- B'Nai Mitzvah Program

**www.pasje.org**

**Call 650-444-2117**

# Early Childhood Jewish Engagement Commitment, Dedication, and Ensuring a Jewish Future

By Rabbi PJ Schwarz, Congregation Shir Hadash

In *Pirke Avot*, Rabbi Yehudah ben Tema teaches that, “At five, the study of Bible; at ten, the study of Mishnah; at thirteen, responsibility for the mitzvot; at fifteen, the study of Talmud; at eighteen, marriage...” Every decade marks a stage in development, fostered by the love for Judaism that began in early childhood.

In recent years, great attention has been placed on engaging young families in the Jewish community. What has been discovered is that young families are seeking dynamic and meaningful ways for them to experience Judaism with other young families. This trend is far from new, but early childhood family engagement has once again become a focal point of conversation among Jewish professionals. The most important years of a child's life for building cognition, character, and identity are within the first five years. Research tells us that nearly 85% of these key developmental capabilities are formed in children by five years of age.

As such, early childhood family engagement programs in congregations can serve as a meaningful gateway into Jewish life for children and their families. Children are eager to learn and discover new things about the world and themselves, and parents are eager to experience the world through their

child's eyes. The opportunities instill a sense of connection to Judaism that can be permanently imprinted and remain an important aspect of a child's well-being. In addition, early childhood family engagement within congregations help families strengthen their relationship with Judaism and serves as an important venue for families to connect with other families. Meaningful and engaging Jewish experiences can lead to a greater commitment to and involvement in Jewish life.

Congregation Shir Hadash provides numerous opportunities for families and their children to come together and learn, play, and grow in a Jewish context. One such initiative is our Shir Shabbat, Jr. program that builds upon the “Tot Shabbat” model and includes a Shabbat sing-a-long, story, and a craft or activity, all developmentally appropriate for children ages 0-6 and their families. Each Shir Shabbat, Jr. will take place from 9-10:30am on Saturdays (November 11, January 20, February 10, March 17, April 14, and May 5).

Our Jewish future is in the tiny hands of infants, and when we support their curiosity and creativity and join them in their own imagination, we can see Judaism whose vibrancy will endure for generations to come.

**SELLING?**  
**Haryl Pascal**

**(408) 505-6429**

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

**JFS Board Member**

**CA BRE #01749728**

**REALTOR**





# So Much More Than A Jewish Lending Library

By Roni Wolfe, Jewish Federation Outreach Coordinator

How often have you heard an older person say that they wished something had been around when they were younger? My mother always laments that Costco didn't exist when she had four kids to raise. Every time she sees the huge container of peanut butter, she regrets that it wasn't available when she wanted it. For me, it's PJ Library. My favorite part of the day was settling down with my kids at bedtime and reading stories with them. Yes, we did have some wonderful books about Jewish holidays and values, but how nice would it have been to receive a new one each month that is age-appropriate and has supplemental content such as craft ideas and discussion questions. As parent Joy Cohen says, "Our kids get really excited when they get a new PJ Library book in the mail. It's great to be able to read stories together and share in the Jewish experience with each of the *chagim* (holidays)."

PJ Library is a program created in 2005 by the Harold

Grinspoon Foundation. It sends out free Jewish books and music every month to subscribers from the age of 6 months to 8 years. For older children, 9 to 11 years, there is PJ Our Way, where they get to pick the chapter books they receive. If your child is not already enrolled in the program, it's easy to do. Just go to [pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org) and click "Sign Up."

But wait, there's more! PJ Library also sponsors events in the community. Recently, our local PJ Library has co-sponsored the Celebration of Animals with Congregation Sinai, and storyteller Izzy ben Joel with Yavneh Day School. We'd like to expand our programs to set up local play groups, pop-up Shabbats, and other activities. To reach that end, we are putting together a PJ Parent committee.

To learn about the PJ Parent committee or other ways to get involved, please contact Roni Wolfe, [roni@jvalley.org](mailto:roni@jvalley.org), or 408.357.7508.









## Take a look at Yavneh Day School




<p>Strong academics in a warm, inclusive community</p> <p>Integrated, relevant Jewish learning</p> <p>Teaching teams with low student-teacher ratios</p> <p>Hands-on science and Singapore math</p>	<p>Music and modern band</p> <p>PE and after-school sports</p> <p>Hebrew language immersion</p> <p>STEAM: interdisciplinary, project-based work</p> <p>Visual and performance arts</p> <p>Emphasis on social justice</p>
---	--






For more information, or to schedule a tour, please contact  
[joy@yavnehdayschool.org](mailto:joy@yavnehdayschool.org) 408-984-6700

www.yavnehdayschool.org

## Scholar-in-Residence

Beyond the Headlines:  
Current Issues in the Middle East  
With Dr. Eric Mandel

Thursday, November 30th - Saturday, December 2nd

Dr. Eric Mandel, Director of the Middle East Political and Information Network, will help us navigate through several complex issues involving Israel and the Middle East. Dr. Mandel is a regular columnist for the Jerusalem Post, writing about the US-Israel relationship, Iran, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement.



### Political Islam: Expectations for 2018

Thursday, 11/30 - 7:30pm

### Israeli Relations with Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey

Friday, 12/1 - 8:00pm

Join us for dinner beforehand. Sign up at [www.beth-david.org/](http://www.beth-david.org/)  
RSVP or call the office 408-257-3333.

### Is Jewish Unity an Israeli Security Issue?

Saturday, 12/2 - 1:15pm

### The Six-Day War: Consequences Fifty Years Later

Saturday, 12/2 - 7:00pm

Details at [www.beth-david.org/SIR](http://www.beth-david.org/SIR)



**Congregation Beth David**

1700 Prospect Road • Saratoga • 408.257.3333





# Kehillah's "Fancy KabShab Challahday"



On October 27, students from Kehillah Jewish High School hosted a "Fancy KabShab Challahday" in honor of The Shabbos Project, an international movement that brings communities together every year for the Shabbat of Oct. 27-28. Everyone wore fancy clothes, sat together at tables covered in white tablecloths, broke bread, and sang songs.



Students doing coastal restoration in Half Moon Bay during the service learning portion of our annual orientation week.

## ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE

**December 10th**  
**2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

### How to RSVP:

visit [visitkehillah.eventbrite.com](https://www.visitkehillah.eventbrite.com)

**Marilyn Lerner**  
Director of Admissions  
[mlerner@kehillah.org](mailto:mlerner@kehillah.org)  
650-213-9600 x154



**Where rich traditions are paired with the  
best of the Silicon Valley mindset**

Kehillah Jewish High School  
3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto, CA 94303 | 650-213-9600 | [kehillah.org](https://www.kehillah.org)



# APJCC Remodeling Fitness Center & Improving the Pool Area

by Jenny Green, Marketing Director, APJCC

The APJCC is remodeling its fitness center this fall. The two first-floor fitness rooms will be getting 40 new pieces of exercise equipment, new paint, new flooring, and a new reception desk. The renovation begins November 19. The remodeled rooms will open December 6.

Later this winter, the APJCC will also be installing a permanent shade structure at the pool, as well as a snack shack. CEO Nate Stein said, "The renovation is part of our continuing investment in the JCC, to make sure we're serving the community, supporting health and wellness, and providing the best equipment and service to our members."

During the fitness center renovation, most of the current fitness equipment will be moved into the basketball gymnasium for members to use.

The new equipment will include some of the latest machines from Matrix and Precor, including elliptical machines, treadmills, climb mills, adapted motion trainers, upright bicycles, recumbent bicycles, and a squat rack.

Pictures of the new machines, as well as paint samples and samples of the new flooring will be on display at the JCC during the renovation.

## WERBA ♦ RUBIN WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC



**ALAN WERBA, CPA, CFP®**

408.260.3109 | [AWERBA@WERBARUBIN.COM](mailto:AWERBA@WERBARUBIN.COM)

*Wealth Management, Retirement Planning  
and Complex Tax Strategies*

**AARON RUBIN, JD, CPA, CFP®**

408.260.3138 | [ARUBIN@WERBARUBIN.COM](mailto:ARUBIN@WERBARUBIN.COM)

*Wealth Management and 401(k) Portfolio Design*

3055 Olin Ave., Suite 2000 | San Jose, CA 95128

[www.werbarubin.com](http://www.werbarubin.com)

Werba Rubin Wealth Management, LLC ("Werba Rubin") is an investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Securities transactions may be offered through Loring Ward Securities Inc., a non-affiliated entity, member FINRA/SIPC. IRN WR 12-125 (Exp 8/14)



## Experience it all at the JCC!

Join us for Jewish education, enrichment classes, fitness, aquatics, camp, preschool, cultural programs, and much more.



**Addison-Penzak JCC  
of Silicon Valley**  
Levy Family Campus

**14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032**  
**408.358.3636 | [info@apjcc.org](mailto:info@apjcc.org)**  
**[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)**

# The Personal Case for Legacy Giving

by Jeff Rosenplot

Faith is a very personal thing. It means something different to each of us. In the Jewish community, our faith is deeply embedded into the fabric of our everyday lives. Where we worship, where we go to school, even where we go to relax, each thread is part of what makes us whole.

"Congregation Beth David has been very meaningful for us throughout our lives," said Alan Werba. "We were married there, our daughters were both Bat Mitzvah'd there. Definitely the synagogue has been a very important part of our lives."

"Yavneh Day School is particularly important to our family," said Marjorie Alpert. "It's where our kids go to school."

The Community Legacy Project is a community-wide collaborative program established by the Jewish Federation and includes most Jewish organizations and synagogues in the South Bay with the sole purpose of building a lasting and enduring future.

Being Jewish means something different for everyone. Your reasons for creating a Legacy fund are as personal as your own relationships with your family and the community at large. Perhaps you want to ensure a strong Jewish education. Or you support the outreach efforts of organizations like Jewish Family Services. Maybe you want to ensure your grandchildren are able to experience the power of holiday services at your synagogue. Whatever your reason, we want to help give you the opportunity to preserve it.

The Community Legacy Project allows members of the Jewish community at any stage of life to designate a portion

of their estate to any of the nine different organizations that comprise the Legacy project. The Community Legacy Project also provides expert guidance throughout the entire process.

"One of the reasons I'm very supportive of the Legacy Project and why I've committed to doing Legacy giving myself is that I'm certain my grandfather would have supported it," said Jeff Warwick. "Now it's my opportunity to do the sort of work my grandfather had not been able to do."

"My father had always been a strong supporter of the Jewish Federation," said Ruth Sporer. "So I've been completely supportive of anything they've asked me to do."

The reasons why are as unique as the people establishing

a Legacy gift. The common thread is the desire to build and maintain a strong sense of Jewish community. We hope you'll consider a Legacy gift as part of your estate plan. We want to make the process as simple as possible. To get started, contact Jyl Jurman at 408.357.7500 or by email at [jyl@jvalley.org](mailto:jyl@jvalley.org). For more information, visit [www.communitylegacyproject.org](http://www.communitylegacyproject.org).

The Community Legacy Project is a partnership between the following Jewish organizations: Addison-Penzak Jewish Community of Silicon Valley; Congregation Beth David; Congregation Shir Hadash; Congregation Sinai; Hillel of Silicon Valley; Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley; Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley; Temple Emanu-El; and Yavneh Day School.



Alan Werba



Jeff Warwick & Marjorie Alpert



Ruth Sporer

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center  
Congregation Beth David  
Congregation Shir Hadash  
Congregation Sinai  
Hillel of Silicon Valley  
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley  
Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley  
Temple Emanu-El  
Yavneh Day School

# What's your legacy?

Jewish tradition teaches that one of our key responsibilities is to make the world a better place for future generations.

## 408.357.7500

[www.communitylegacyproject.org](http://www.communitylegacyproject.org)





# Jewish Hospitality – Let's Talk About It

by Diane Fisher, Director, Community Relations Council

*Hachnasat orchim*, the Jewish value of hospitality, is said to be more important than even worship or study. Making sure the needy have a place to rest and feel safe has been the Jewish benchmark for decent behavior. Our historic experiences of exile and expulsion also inform our sense of obligation to help provide for those without adequate shelter. The housing situation in Silicon Valley is anything but welcoming, and it's a problem that could radically change the quality of life for all of us, both the housed and the unhoused.

We have an opportunity to discuss our Jewish values in the context of the Bay Area housing crisis through our invitation by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation to participate in On the Table.

On the Table is a program that will take place in mid-November, that seeks to invite everyone to share their housing concerns and their ideas for fixing the crisis. The Foundation has coordinated over 300 conversations, from private living room

chats to public events. The ideas will be compiled into a report that hopefully can be leveraged into concrete policy.

The On the Table discussions organized by the JCRC will engage a diverse demographic of the Jewish community. Temple Emanu-El's Tikkun Olam Committee is hosting an open discussion that will include supporting information from the Silicon Valley Housing Trust. Congregation Beth David will discuss the issue over Shabbat luncheon after services. Congregation Shir Hadash's 11th and 12th grade students will discuss the tragic increase in teen homelessness recently reported in the Mercury News.

The impetus created by On the Table is important, but the conversation needs to be on-going. Housing is a priority topic for the JCRC, so if you are interested in continuing these conversations, contact [diane@jvalley.org](mailto:diane@jvalley.org) or 408.357.7504.

Your perfect event.

Weddings  
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs  
Special Events & Consulting

*Lynn Osband*  
EVENT PLANNER

[LynnOsbandEvents.com](http://LynnOsbandEvents.com)  
[LynnOsbandEvents@gmail.com](mailto:LynnOsbandEvents@gmail.com) 408.981.8422

**SCOTT LASKY**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs - Weddings  
**(408)807-4770**  
[www.laskyphoto.com](http://www.laskyphoto.com)  
[scott@laskyphoto.com](mailto:scott@laskyphoto.com)

Over 900 Mitzvahs and 700 Weddings Photographed  
Go for Experience!!



## Burial Plots for Sale

After moving out of state, we have a burial plot available in the beautiful Shalom section of Los Gatos Memorial Park in San Jose. This is a single plot that accommodates two individuals.

Plots in this cemetery are very popular. Terms are negotiable but don't delay in contacting us.

For more information please contact

[lgtager303@gmail.com](mailto:lgtager303@gmail.com)



# Hands On With Jewish Art – Making Papercut Art

by Gordon Gladstone

Touring the museums of the world from a Jewish perspective, it becomes easy to feel a certain degree of art envy. A towering El Greco, the haunting eyes of the Mona Lisa and the endless paintings, sculptures and ceramic that have been produced for the glory of the Catholic Church might leave the Jewish art patron wondering why we took the prohibition on graven images so seriously. This isn't just a European experience. Jews living in Muslim countries were even more diligent about avoiding iconography owing to the Muslim belief that the prohibition extended to all representative art.

Before that, during the classical period Jews employed art to great effect. The beautiful mosaic synagogue floors unearthed in places like Bet Alpha, Tziporri and En Gedi attest to a rich and cosmopolitan approach to art that incorporated Greco-Roman motifs in Jewish contexts. One can only imagine what artwork was lost to the ravages of time and willful destruction.

Since the dawn of the modern age, Jewish artists have leapt into both secular and Jewish art. From Chagall to Agam we live in a time where Jewish art is abundant and beautiful. It is enough to inspire anyone to try it for themselves.

One of the most interesting and arresting artistic forms is papercut art. Papercuts are one of the most ancient forms of folk art, emerging not long after the invention of paper itself

in China, and taking root in many countries and cultures. Jewish papercuts were popular in Eastern Europe and used as decorations for synagogues, yeshivot and homes, where one need only have access to a pair of scissors and some paper, but the folk art was nearly wiped out during the Holocaust along with the shtetl folk who created it. In the past few decades it has experienced a revival and has become a higher art form. Consisting of intricately cut and layered paper, it creates an illusion of depth, offers a vibrancy of color and allows for multiple textures. Artist Lisa Rauchwerger, who specializes in 2-dimensional Judaic papercuts and 3-dimensional paper sculpture, in addition to intricate papercut *ketubot* (Jewish ritual marriage contracts), describes her approach to this technique.

"Some of my work (is intended) to be cute and whimsical, with simple line and color," Rauchwerger said. "The part which comes easiest to me and makes me, and hopefully you, smile. At the same time, you will find more thought-provoking work (namely, my Judaic papercuts), work usually based on traditional Jewish text with a modern twist, work in which one can find countless symbols and hidden meanings and new explorations of old ideas. This work I like to call visual midrash... This work reveals my love for Hebrew letters, both their forms and their meanings. The letter *shin* appears often, symbolizing G-d's feminine presence in the form of the Shechinah. It also appears in my logo, but this time as a scribe's quill, dipped in the ink of centuries, the ink of knowledge and creativity. When I create Jewish papercuts, I feel connected in a very meaningful way to a long line of Jewish art and artists that spans centuries."

You can learn more about the process of joining art and Jewish meaning (and produce your own visual midrash) on Sunday, December 10, at Congregation Shir Hadash when Rauchwerger will explain her process of Visual Midrash including a text study followed by a torn-paper midrash-making session. No experience needed, all materials provided. The program starts at 9:30am and details can be found at [shirhadash.org](http://shirhadash.org).

## Your Journey to Better Hearing Begins Here



At Silicon Valley Hearing, we understand the daily struggles and challenges that come with a hearing loss, tinnitus symptoms and auditory processing disorders. By addressing these concerns, you will enhance your quality of life and communicate more effectively with your loved ones and those around you.

Hearing Tests • Hearing Aids • Tinnitus • APD



408.540.7128

340 Dardanelli Lane, Suite 22  
Los Gatos, CA 95032

MON 8:30a-4p • TUES 8:30am-5p • WED 9a-5pm • TH 8:30a-5p • FRI 8:30a-12p

[siliconvalleyhearing.com](http://siliconvalleyhearing.com)

**Joel Nelson PRODUCTIONS**

**DJs**  
**BANDS**  
**PHOTO BOOTHS**  
**AUDIO**  
**VISUAL**  
**RENTALS**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**JOELNELSON.COM • 408.446.5000**



# Embrace-A-Family Celebrates Ten Years

By Lori Cinnamon, Manager of Community & Volunteer Engagement, JFSSV

Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley invites you to be a part of the tenth annual Embrace-A-Family program, which brings hope and smiles to those in need. Your gifts will help ease holiday pressures and stress for needy families, senior adults, and recently arrived refugees.

This program started ten years ago with two dreidel boards. Last year JFSSV expanded to 26 boards in 19 locations including area synagogues, schools, and businesses.

## Generosity Restores Hope for Recipients

Embrace-A-Family restores hope to people in need, and the generosity of the community over the years has been astounding. There are many beautiful and heartwarming stories from this program.

A 35-year-old man, who was working a low-paying job and faced increased rent, began living out of his car. He was later able to find a shared apartment situation. JFS provided him with gift cards that had been donated to the Embrace-A-Family program and he was able to buy a futon for his new place. He also received a bedding set. He is so grateful for being able to have a proper night sleep, something many take for granted.

In 2016, generous donors fulfilled wishes for a five-year-old boy of a refugee family. He needed to adjust to a new language, going to day care, and living in a new country. When he received his Embrace-A-Family toys and new bike, he smiled



from ear to ear. It was at that point that the young boy began to feel at home and that things were going to be okay.

## What You Can Do to Help

Look for JFSSV dreidel boards in the community from now through December 19. Boards may be found at these locations: Levy Family Campus (main and Yavneh/APJCC Preschool lobbies, upstairs at Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley), area synagogues (Congregations Beth David, Emeth, Shir Hadash, Sinai; and Temples Emanu-El and Beth Torah), Pars Kosher Market, South Peninsula Hebrew Day School, and Gan Ronit. (Please contact JFSSV at 408.357.7467 for updated locations.) Purchase the gift on the tag and bring your unwrapped gift to the JFSSV office at the Levy Family Campus, 14855 Oka Road, Suite 202, Los Gatos. Your gift will bring a smile – and be a blessing – to someone in need.

Embrace-A-Family once again has a Target Gift Registry for those who like to shop online. Please check the Jewish Family Services website, [www.jfssv.org](http://www.jfssv.org) for this year's link. Please pass along information about the Embrace-A-Family Target Registry to family and friends who live out of Silicon Valley.

## More Ways to Participate

- Contribute gift cards (gas station, supermarket and discount department store) for struggling families and isolated seniors to help them throughout the year.
- Choose a Shabbat meal dreidel and contribute to our Shabbat meal program. With these funds needy seniors, individuals and families can receive a hot delicious kosher Shabbat meal.
- There are also dreidels to contribute to the transportation needs of newly arrived refugees, students, and job seekers. These funds will help with bus passes and bikes for transportation.

Embrace-A-Family is a program of JFS' Project NOAH. For additional information or to volunteer, visit [www.jfssv.org](http://www.jfssv.org) or contact Lori Cinnamon, Manager of Community and Volunteer Engagement, at 408.357.7467 or [loric@jfssv.org](mailto:loric@jfssv.org).



### Temple Emanu-El

**Rooted in Tradition**  **Growing our Future**

1010 University Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 408.292.0939 [www.templeسانجوس.ورگ](http://www.templeسانجوس.ورگ)

#### An Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

**Sunday, November 19 at 7:00 PM**  
**Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph,**  
**80 S Market St, San Jose, CA 95113**

Please join the interfaith community of San Jose in giving thanks. Attendees are encouraged to bring canned food to donate to Second Harvest. Pie and refreshments will be served following the service.

#### Latkes & Laughs

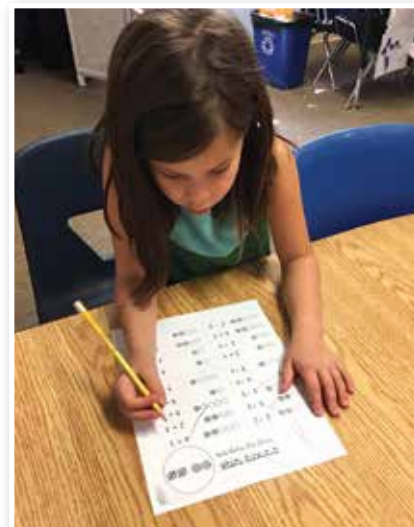
**Sunday, December 17. Doors open at 5:30 PM, show starts at 6:30 PM.**

Enjoy a night of potato pancakes and punchlines with comedians Jeff Applebaum, Kira Soltanovich, and Ben Feldman. Students: \$18, General Admission: \$54, Tables of 10 available. Ticket price includes delicious latke dinner. For tickets visit [www.latkesandlaughs.com](http://www.latkesandlaughs.com)

#### Shabbat in Nature

**Sunday, January 27 at 10:00 AM at Oak Meadow Park, 233 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA 95032.**

Celebrate Shabbat in Nature with a Shabbat morning service led by Rabbi Dana Magat in a nearby park setting. This Shabbat in Nature will have a Tu B'Shvat theme. Vegetarian potluck lunch and optional hike following minyan. Dogs on leash permitted.



# Yavneh's Hebrew Immersion Program Providing a Silicon Valley model for teaching Hebrew

By Jeff Rosenplot

"There's a narrow period of time when kids' brains are open to learning languages easily," said Zvi Weiss, Yavneh Day School's Head of School. Yavneh's Hebrew Immersion program began its third year this fall and the results are speaking for themselves.

"The children who participated in the pilot year are in second grade now," Weiss said. "And our feedback is that our second-grade students are already more advanced in understanding Hebrew than our eighth-grade graduates." The Hebrew Immersion Program model incorporates a co-teaching method with one English-speaking teacher and another Hebrew-speaking teacher in the same classroom. All subjects including math and science are taught in both languages.

"When they're first exposed to this approach, students aren't quite sure what to think," Weiss said. "But almost from day one the kids will respond to the Hebrew-speaking teacher even if they don't know the language. They'll respond to context, body language, things like that. And the ones who are the most resistant to it at the beginning are overwhelmingly the strongest students by the year's end."

Learning a second language helps students make connections and develop their brains in ways that are helpful in all subjects, not just Hebrew. Math, science, social studies, even English are better understood with the addition of a second language. Students are able to better learn English grammar if they've learned Hebrew.

"Hebrew language instruction in America has been a challenge," Weiss said. "It wasn't a priority for many years. Learning Hebrew provides a direct link and understanding of Israel. Language equates to mindset. Learning in this way introduces students to a Hebrew-thinking mindset, which provides a personal connection to Israel. Having an Israeli teacher in the class also helps the children understand things like cultural differences and mannerisms."

In addition to providing structured instruction, Hebrew-speaking teachers put their cultural mark on the classroom. "They bring games from the childhood," Weiss said. "Books, stories, and I mean actual Israeli stories, not translations.

They bring songs, poems, their memories of holidays. All of these things help provide a tangible and real connection to Israel."

As for the teachers themselves, the co-teaching approach was a bit of an adjustment.

"Most if not all of our teachers were excited and enthusiastic," Weiss explained. "For those who have been teaching for a long time, having another teacher in the classroom has taken some getting used to. We have amazing teachers that want the best for our students, to help them grow, learn, to become leaders. The feedback from teachers has been overwhelmingly positive."

Yavneh's Hebrew Immersion Program is being held up as a model other Jewish day schools across the country are emulating.

"Being located in Silicon Valley, we should be doing this type of thing," Weiss said. "Trying new things, disrupting the status quo. Many schools across the country are facing the same challenges. I was on a panel at the Prisma convention for Jewish day schools this past summer where I discussed what we're doing at Yavneh to help students improve their understanding of Hebrew. I had a lot of schools contact me afterwards. The Brandeis School in Marin, for instance, has recreated our model and is currently experimenting with it. We're lending support wherever we can."

A program like this requires a great deal of resources. Outside of basic Hebrew primers, teachers need deeper materials such as math texts and other things. All of these items cost money.

"We're always very grateful for financial support," Weiss said. "We're pleased to talk about underwriting opportunities. And we're always looking for substitute teachers from within the community."

Aside from tangible measurements such as grades and comprehension, Weiss has a much simpler metric for success.

"If I see kids running into school in the morning faster than they're running out at the end of the day, we're doing something right."



# Jewish Federation 3.0

## Adapting our Federation to Meet Our Future Needs

By Jay Friedman, Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley VP of Strategic Initiatives

When the Jewish Federation was first founded in Boston in 1895, there was a need for a strong and centralized organization to help support the financial needs of the local Jewish community. With Jewish immigration on the rise from Eastern Europe, Federation 1.0 supported organizations like synagogues, orphanages, senior homes, immigration settlement, vocational training, Jewish education and other similar needs. With the trauma of the Holocaust and the promise of a Jewish homeland, the Federation incorporated support of global Jewry and Israel as part of its mission as Federation 2.0. While this centralized fundraising model has been very successful, it hasn't changed that much over the past 100 years.

American Jews have achieved a remarkable level of assimilation and prosperity in the past 100 years, which is readily apparent here in Silicon Valley. As times have changed, so have the needs supported by the Federation. And now, many of the Jewish communal organizations the Federation supports have embarked on additional fundraising efforts. In addition, Israel has matured and prospered, as well.

Among donors, the approach to charitable giving has also shifted, and not just among Millennials. Donors place greater emphasis on a nonprofit's ability to deliver tangible and measurable results. Millennials bring new expectations to charitable giving, and they demand new kinds of information from charitable organizations. Emphasis is placed on greater online access to information as well as social giving models such as Kickstarter and GoFundMe campaigns.

Living and working in Silicon Valley, many of us know

that we can't rest on our laurels in order to stay relevant. Change is inevitable. We know that the "big" issues of the past – Jewish immigration or the building of a nascent Israel – are behind us. Substantial needs still exist both locally and abroad but the type of needs has changed. We also recognize that in the changing fundraising landscape our approach to fundraising is much less effective than it once was.

The Federation Board recognizes the need for change. But what form that change may be has yet to be determined. To help us reimagine our Federation of the future, the board is working with San Francisco-based consulting firm UpStart to develop new approaches that will allow us to seize the opportunities available to us. UpStart works exclusively with Jewish organizations. They have a deep understanding of the Federation mission. And their approach is with an entrepreneurial, design-thinking mindset for which Silicon Valley is well known.

As we begin this process, we don't know where we'll end up. And that's the point. We're tackling a challenge that is confronting many of the Federations in the US and Canada. Would we expect anything else from Silicon Valley?

The Federation is dedicated to being responsible stewards of all donor gifts. We take that responsibility very seriously. The Federation's board of directors also understands the need to adjust to changing times. Change is what allows any organization to grow and thrive, no matter what the terrain. We're excited about embarking on this process to build the future Federation model – Federation 3.0. And we'll provide timely updates as to our progress in future issues of *JValley Magazine*.

**2017 LEVY FAMILY CAMPUS Dec.3 • 9am-3pm**

**Mahjongg**  
tournament

**Tickets \$54 • Register online at**  
**[giving.jvalley.org/mahjongg](http://giving.jvalley.org/mahjongg)**

SPONSORED BY



Addison-Penzak JCC  
of Silicon Valley  
Levy Family Campus

# Yavneh Alumus Aaron Zisser

## San Jose's Independent Police Auditor

by Jeff Rosenplot

For Aaron Zisser, the City of San Jose's new Independent Police Auditor (IAP), the key to building trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve is communication.

"In independent civilian oversight, it's about collaboration," Zisser said. "We rely heavily on community outreach and engagement."

With a string of high-profile cases across the country, including those in Ferguson, Baltimore and Chicago, police oversight has become a hot-button topic.

San Jose's Office of the Independent Police Auditor's mission is to provide independent oversight of the police misconduct complaint process to ensure its fairness, thoroughness and objectivity. The IAP works with the San Jose Police Department's Internal Affairs Department to investigate incidents of officer-involved shootings, complaints of excessive force and other issues.

"We're a separate division from the police force," Zisser explained. "We report to the Mayor's Office and the City Council directly. The Police Department reports to the City Manager's Office. This organizational structure helps ensure we remain independent."

Zisser is a former US Department of Justice (DOJ) attorney, operating out of the Civil Rights Division in Washington, DC. He sees the major differences between working at the federal and local levels as coming down to the weight of each office.

"At DOJ, we had the authority of the federal government behind us," Zisser said. "The potential of federal action was a strong incentive for communities to address their issues. Despite that or maybe because of that, the DOJ took a collaborative approach to reform. I loved that about the process. The DOJ litigated very seldom. There were exceptions, Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County in Arizona the most notable. But there was always the threat of federal action that could be levied. Enforcement was always a possibility."

The collaboration between law enforcement and the IAP is more pronounced at a local level, Zisser explained.

"The DOJ had total access to everything," Zisser said. "San Jose's IAP follows the auditor model of oversight. We review internal affairs investigations if our office has received a request to do so from the public. Unless there's a complaint through our office, we don't review cases. We also don't have carte blanche access to police files and data as we did at the DOJ. We rely on strong relationships between civilians like us and law enforcement leadership. (Chief of Police) Edgardo Garcia has been very open and cooperative to oversight."

San Jose's IAP requires a complaint to be filed through their office before they can become involved. Both the public and law enforcement can request that IAP gets involved in a particular issue. The IAP reviews the case, interviews those involved and provides impartial recommendations to law enforcement and city officials. On a broader scale, their office looks for patterns and policy deficiencies made apparent by an incident or a series of incidents. The IAP can make policy recommendations.

"Chief Garcia has adopted several of the recommendation of the IAP," Zisser said. "The whole idea is to increase transparency and accountability." Law enforcement may also tap the IAP's expertise to help facilitate changes they believe are necessary. A major issue being discussed right now is how mental health issues are dealt with in the context of public safety.



"The question law enforcement is asking is how best to handle disturbances involving people with mental illness," Zisser said. "We're working on how best to de-escalate these types of situations by having mental health professionals be part of a response team. Santa Clara County is exploring this as well. A potentially deadly situation can often be mitigated by this type of expertise. Is law enforcement, whose primary role is keeping the peace, the appropriate group to handle mental health cases?"

Zisser was born in San Jose, raised in Campbell and went to Yavneh Day School for kindergarten through fifth grade. After doing his undergraduate work at UC Berkeley, he went to law school at UC Hastings and transferred to Georgetown University in Washington, DC. He did internships involving prisoners' rights and other civil rights-related topics before clerking for a federal judge in Memphis, Tennessee. This experience led to four years with the DOJ's Civil Rights Division, where he worked in the special litigations section. His team investigated and monitored mental health services, jails and prisons and the school-to-prison pipeline. He was part of the group that oversaw tribunals held at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. After returning to the Bay Area, Zisser consulted independently on issues like jail overcrowding as well as working on the San Francisco and BART oversight committees. He worked with the State Attorney General's office regarding their own civil rights investigations, and was then tapped to lead San Jose's IAP.

"I point to the DOJ as a best practice in oversight," Zisser said. "The reason I can do this work is because I've seen it work at the DOJ in very similar ways. For the most part, I feel like it's familiar territory for me."

Zisser is a straightforward and candid individual. He is data-driven, and follows logic and evidence wherever it takes him. The ultimate success of his department comes down to two things.

"What is our reputation among the community," Zisser said, "and are we providing a demonstrable impact. Qualitatively we measure the number of complaints we

receive. Last year it was roughly a ten-percent rate. Are we seeing more or less over time, and can we spot trends so that we can help law enforcement and the community at large address these issues?"

The most important piece, Zisser believes, is building a sense of trust between law enforcement and community members.

"The community at large and individual neighborhoods in particular are highly engaged," Zisser said. "Organizations such as People Acting in Community Together (PACT) and many, many others are always part of every conversation. That's exactly what our community needs."

Zisser says that law enforcement is integral to helping build this level of trust.

"There is a lot of opportunity for collaborating," Zisser said. "Some officers believe there is a co-equal relationship between the police and the community where both elements deserve to be heard equally. That's just not how it works. Government actors have a responsibility to its citizens to listen to them. The citizens, as soon as they're done talking, have the right to turn around and walk away. Is that the best model? No. But does that mean you as a government actor turn off your ears and stop listening? You shouldn't.

You have an obligation. You have the public trust, you are receiving taxpayer dollars, you were appointed, elected, whatever, you are carrying a weapon in the instance of a police officer. You have power, and you have constitutional obligations. The public has no constitutional obligations to you. You have a constitutional obligation to them. They need to get it out of their heads that there is some reciprocal responsibility. That would be nice if the public listened but that's not how it works."

Zisser's civil liberty approach is meant to serve as a reminder to the constitutional duties public service requires.

"Come into the conversation," Zisser advises law enforcement officers. "Be willing to listen. Be willing to speak with our office. Convey your concerns. We can't craft policy recommendations without the officers on the street. They have a lot of expertise and input as to how to do things in a better, smarter way."

---

"You have an obligation. You have the public trust, you are receiving taxpayer dollars... you are carrying a weapon in the instance of a police officer. You have power, and you have constitutional obligations. The public has no constitutional obligations to you. You have a constitutional obligation to them. They need to get it out of their heads that there is some reciprocal responsibility."

---



## CELEBRATE WITH US!

Super Sunday is the Federation's biggest fundraising day. Be part of Israel's birthday party fun and make a difference in the community. Help raise money for the APJCC, JFS, Yavneh, Hillel Silicon Valley, Santa Cruz Hillel, BBYO, SPHDS, Kehillah, Chai House and the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival.

Register online at  
[jvalley.org/36days](http://jvalley.org/36days)  
or call 408.357.7503

Make The Call  
**Super Sunday**  
SUN DEC 10 2017

# Jewish Yoga Comes to APJCC

by Jeff Rosenplot

When the APJCC wanted to create more Jewish connections within their exercise programs, they looked to a source with a decidedly non-Jewish reputation – yoga. Kirsten Olshen, the APJCC's group fitness director, and Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia, Director of Jewish Life, worked with Rabbi Laurie Matzkin, a new APJCC preschool mom and longtime creative Jewish educator, to develop a Jewish yoga program.

"So much of Jewish life flows from the heart and the mind," says Matzkin. "Embodied practice, or mindful movement, allows us to personalize and internalize the messages of our tradition, whether from the weekly Torah portion, an upcoming holiday, or a profound yet simple Jewish value."

Rabbi Matzkin has been leading Jewish yoga classes since her first time on the Kol Emeth Women's Retreat in summer 2010, where she was asked to create an alternative to Sunday morning services. Since that summer, she has been leading Jewish yoga sessions for synagogues, day schools, camps and retreats around the Bay Area and Southern California. This past summer, Rabbi Matzkin was certified through Breathe for Change, a yoga teacher training program geared toward educators, founded by Silicon Valley's own Ilana Nankin.

Yoga sometimes gets a bad rap for the misconception that its origins lie in religions contrary to Jewish thought. Matzkin, Olshen and Seid-Valencia are making it clear that Judaism does have room for holiness in the physical form.

"For *Parshat Noah*, for example, our movements lead up to Boat Pose, or *Navasana*," Matzkin explained. "There's the obvious connection of the ark. But on a deeper level, we turn to the rabbinic tradition. When Noah is born, the Torah says, 'Lemech conceived a son – *va'yoleid ben*.' Rabbinic scholar

Samson Raphael Hirsch wrote, 'in Noah was fulfilled the Jewish conception of a son, *'ben*, as one through whom the building of the world (*'banah*') continues.' Medieval rabbis taught that 'Standing with his family on the threshold of the 'new' world, renewed and recreated from the overwhelming desolation and emptiness of the Deluge, Noah receives a Divine blessing, the identical blessing to Adam: 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the land.' We see that Noah needed to build, to act, to have the inner strength to create a new world." It turns out that for Boat Pose, we need to engage the core, the lower trunk including the abdomen. This area in our body is considered the center of willpower, identity and motivation, and is connected to the basic right to act."

"As we move through our movements," Matzkin continued, "we imagine and even internalize the experience of Noah, building a better world, showing up in our core, engaging with strength and resolve, and eventually allowing the blessing of our effort to give us peace."

Rabbi Matzkin's new Pre-Shabbat Yoga class launched Friday, October 20 in Studio B and will be on the Fitness Schedule every week on an ongoing basis. The timing of the class, between 1-2:15pm, was carefully chosen to accommodate Yavneh's Kabbalat Shabbat timing, so that parents, grandparents, and others can enjoy both yoga and communal singing and prayer before the school week ends.

"Whether this will be your only taste of Shabbat or whether you are traditionally observant and gearing up for 25 hours of Shabbat," Matzkin said, "Pre-Shabbat Yoga is a gift that will stay with you throughout the weekend."

## Menorahs and Miracles: A Hanukkah Celebration

**Sunday, December 3, 2017, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose**

Music! Food! Crafts! Celebrate your own culture or learn about the cultural traditions of your neighbors!  
A CDM cultural celebration in partnership with Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center of Silicon Valley

Admission: Adults and Children 1 – 59 years old: \$15 Seniors 60+ years old: \$14  
Museum Members and Infants under 1: Free

Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose  
180 Woz Way, San Jose, CA 95110  
(408) 298-5437 [www.cdm.org](http://www.cdm.org)



Children's  
Discovery  
Museum  
of San Jose



Addison-Penzak JCC  
of Silicon Valley  
Levy Family Campus



The APJCC is proud to be a part of the Initiative on Jewish Peoplehood, co-funded by the Koret Foundation and the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture, and supported further by the Jewish Federation of Silicon Valley and other generous supporters. Thank you to PJ Library and Yavneh Day School for also participating in Menorahs and Miracles. This event is also made possible, in part, by the Corporate Alliance sponsorship of Veksler Academy of Music & Dance.





For a daily digest of events in and around the South Bay's Jewish community, please see the following pages.

This is JValley Magazine's calendar of South Bay Jewish events, the most complete and up-to-date list available. This page contains events that are repeated weekly. The following pages contain a daily digest of goings-on in our community. Contact information, including websites for some congregations and the APJCC, can be found on the bottom of each page. For the most current information, visit our online calendar at [www.jvalley.org/calendar](http://www.jvalley.org/calendar).

## Monday

### Intermediate Hebrew at CBD 10-11:30am, Beth David

This continuing class uses a college-level textbook to improve your Hebrew reading, vocalizing, and understanding.

### Beginning Hebrew at CBD 11:45am-12:45pm, Beth David

Acquire basic Hebrew skills and a 900-word vocabulary for reading the Siddur, Chumash, and simple literature. Must be able to read printed Hebrew. Refresh and expand your childhood skills.

### Torah Study @ Chai House 3:30-4:30pm, Chai House, San Jose

This engaging class with the APJCC's Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia keeps us full of life through the words of the Torah. All abilities, ages, and levels are welcome - you do not need to be a resident of Chai House. This is a free, drop-in class. No need to register. 814 St. Elizabeth Dr., San Jose. 408.947.1818.

## Tuesday

### Classic Jewish Texts 9:30-11am, 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. No need to register. Rabbi Felsen, 650.857.1800.

### Basic Conversational Hebrew for Beginners at CBD 11am-Noon, Beth David

Learn basic skills in conversational Hebrew in this class for beginners. Instructor Sarah Hanuka.



Stay Connected.  
Text **JEWISHVALLEY**  
to **22828**

## Wednesday

### Heschel Roundtable 9-10:30am, APJCC

Drop in to study and discuss the writings of Abraham Joshua Heschel. We will start with his book, *The Sabbath*, which presents the Jewish Sabbath as an antidote to the fast pace of daily life in modern society. No experience or specialized knowledge necessary. Each week we'll read and discuss a short selection from his writings. This is a free, drop-in class. No need to register. Led by Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia.

## Thursday

### Hasidic Havurah 11am-Noon, APJCC

This class takes a look at some of the great works of past Hasidic teachers and strives toward deepening our contemporary Jewish spirituality. This is for all abilities and levels and is a free, drop-in class. No need to register. Instructor: Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia.

## Friday

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

Join Ruben Levy or Rabbi Ohriner for weekly Talmud Study. English texts are available. Newcomers are welcome. Donations to Adult Education are appreciated.

### Jewish Ethics at CBD 11:15am-12:15pm, Beth David

All are welcome to join CBD's Jewish Ethics Class as they study Rabbi Teluskin's text *You Shall Be Holy*.



**San Jose  
Candle  
Lighting Times**

#### NOVEMBER

Friday, Nov. 24 4:34pm

#### DECEMBER

Friday, Dec. 1 4:32pm

Friday, Dec. 8 4:32pm

Friday, Dec. 15 4:33pm

Friday, Dec. 22 4:36pm

Friday, Dec. 29 4:41pm

#### JANUARY

Friday, Jan. 5 4:46pm

Friday, Jan. 12 4:53pm

Friday, Jan. 19 5:00pm

#### Find Your Location

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
408.257.3333  
[www.beth-david.org](http://www.beth-david.org)

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos  
408.358.1751  
[www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org)

**Congregation Sinai**  
1532 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose  
408.264.8542  
[www.sinaisj.org](http://www.sinaisj.org)

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
408.358.3033  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
408.292.0939  
[www.temple-sanjose.org](http://www.temple-sanjose.org)



## WED22

### Lunch & Learn Torah Study

Noon-1:30pm, Emanu-El

Food for your body. Food for your soul. Need a better way to spend your lunch hour? Join Rabbi Magat for an informal study and discussion session of a selected Torah portion. Together we will navigate through traditional interpretations and modern applications of our historic teachings. Bring your lunch and be ready to get a new perspective on Torah. Open to members and non-members and no previous Torah study is required.

## FRI24

### Kabbalat Shabbat Service

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

Once a month we like to offer our Shabbat service at an earlier time to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

## SAT25

### Approachable Torah at CBD

10:30am-12:30pm, Beth David

Netivot Haneshtama: Approachable Torah. Rabbi Berkowitz leads a lively conversation about the Torah portion.

### Tot Shabbat at CBD

11:15am-Noon, Beth David

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

## TUES28

### Stanford Fall Blood Drive

4-8pm, Shir Hadash

Congregation Shir Hadash will host our Fall Blood Drive in partnership with Stanford Blood Center. For more information about becoming a blood donor or to schedule appointments online, please visit the blood center's website, sbcdonor.org

Use the "Make an Appointment" link at the right hand side of the page and enter our zip code 95032, and click "Search" to locate the Shir Hadash drive. (You will be asked to log in and choose a preferred donation time.) The red-colored tabs at the top of the page will take you through the entire donation process, specific eligibility requirements, and health facts about blood donations.

## THURS30

### CBD Scholar-In-Residence

### Political Islam: Expectations for 2018

7:30-8pm, Beth David

Dr. Eric Mandel, Director of the Middle East Political and Information Network, will help us navigate through several complex issues involving Israel and the Middle East. Dr. Mandel is a regular columnist for the *Jerusalem Post*, writing about the US-Israel relationship, Iran, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement. Dr. Mandel will discuss political Islam, including the Sunni-Shiite divide, and its probable impact in the Middle East during the coming year.

## FRI1

### Shabbatluck Dinner

6-7pm, Emanu-El

Shabbat potluck dinners take place throughout the religious school year on the first Friday of each month before the Erev Shabbat Family Service. Our family service will be led by our 6th-grade class and will feature the participation of our 3rd-grade class.

### CBD Scholar-In-Residence

### Israeli Relations with Egypt, Jordan and Turkey

7:30-8pm, Beth David

Dr. Eric Mandel, Director of the Middle East Political and Information Network, will analyze Israel's evolving relationships with three key countries in the Middle East: Egypt, Jordan and Turkey.

### Erev Shabbat Family Service

7-8pm, Emanu-El

This service in the sanctuary includes the participation of our 3rd-grade class with leadership from our 6th-grade class. We're proud of our students and their participation and leadership in our service.

### Yavneh-Shir Hadash Family Shabbat Service

7-7:45pm, Shir Hadash

Join Congregation Shir Hadash for a joyous Family Service with Yavneh Day School. This Shabbat is also our annual Legacy Society Shabbat.

## SAT2

### CBD Scholar-In-Residence

### Is Jewish Unity an Israeli Security Issue?

1:30pm, Beth David

Dr. Eric Mandel, Director of the Middle East Political and Information Network, will discuss the sometimes-strained relationship between American Jews and Israel, and how lack of Jewish unity can adversely affect Israeli national security.

### CBD Scholar-In-Residence

### The Six-Day War: Consequences Fifty Years Later

7pm, Beth David

Dr. Eric Mandel, Director of the Middle East Political and Information Network, will discuss the Six-Day War and its aftermath fifty years later.

## SUN3

### WP Mah Jongg Tournament

9am-3pm, Levy Family Campus

Open to novices and mavens alike! There will be coffee and nosh in the morning, and lunch will be served. APJCC Auditorium on the Levy Family Campus. The APJCC & Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation are co-sponsoring the event. \$54/contestant. To register, visit [www.giving.jvalley.org/mahjongg](http://www.giving.jvalley.org/mahjongg) or contact Roni Wolfe, 408.357.7508 or [roni@jvalley.org](mailto:roni@jvalley.org).

#### Find Your Location

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
408.257.3333  
[www.beth-david.org](http://www.beth-david.org)

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos  
408.358.1751  
[www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org)

**Congregation Sinai**  
14855 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose  
408.264.8542  
[www.sinaisj.org](http://www.sinaisj.org)

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
408.358.3033  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
408.292.0939  
[www.temple-sanjose.org](http://www.temple-sanjose.org)





### **CBD Men's Club Monthly Meeting**

**9:30-10:30am, Beth David**

All Jewish men welcome. Join us for our monthly meeting over bagels w/schmeer to schmooze, plan events and share ideas as part of our CBD community.

### **Adult Academy at CBD**

**9:45-10:45am, Beth David**

In this class series, we will study the mitzvot, the core practices of Judaism. We will focus on those deeds which, according to the Talmud, "yield immediate fruit and continue to yield fruit in the time to come." Co-taught by Rabbi Laurie Matzkin and Sarah Hanuka.

### **Book Group at Shir Hadash**

**10:45am-Noon, Shir Hadash**

The Congregation Shir Hadash Book Group discusses *Judas* by Amos Oz.

Jerusalem, 1959. Shmuel Ash, a biblical scholar, is adrift in his young life when he finds work as a caregiver for a brilliant but cantankerous old man named Gershom Wald. There is, however, a third, mysterious presence in his new home. Atalia Abravanel, the daughter of a deceased Zionist leader, a beautiful woman in her forties, entrances young Shmuel even as she keeps him at a distance. Piece by piece, the old Jerusalem stone house, haunted by tragic history and now home to the three misfits and their intricate relationship, reveals its secrets.

At once an exquisite love story and a coming-of-age novel, *Judas* offers a surprising perspective on the state of Israel and the biblical tale from which it draws its title. This is Amos Oz's most powerful novel in decades.

Please join us for a lively discussion - it is open to the public and will be hosted in the Library.

### **Menorahs & Miracles at the Children's Discovery Museum**

**Noon-4pm, Children's Discovery Museum  
180 Woz Way, San Jose**

The APJCC's annual Hanukkah celebration at the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose. All visitors to the museum today are welcome to participate in cultural activities for the

Hanukkah holiday. Regular museum admission fees apply. Contact Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia at 408.357.7413 or rabbihugh@apjcc.org.

### **Jewish Cub Scouts at CBD**

**1:30-3:30pm, Beth David**

Calling all boys in 1st through 5th grades to join Beth David's own Cub Scout Pack 504, meeting at CBD on Sundays twice monthly.

## **TUES5**

### **Yiddish Conversation Group at CBD**

**3-4:30pm, Beth David**

The Yiddish Group is for people to re-activate prior Yiddish knowledge, to learn Yiddish for the first time, to have conversations.

### **Israeli Dancing**

**7:30-9pm, Emanu-El**

Great exercise! Great fun! Great chance to meet new people! 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 we welcome everyone from the community to join in the fun.

## **WED6**

### **Lunch & Learn with the Cantor**

**Noon-1:30pm, Emanu-El**

Join the Cantor for lunch, and bring your thirst for Jewish knowledge! Bring a sack lunch and join Cantor Edmondson on the first Wednesday of each month to share in a stimulating discussion of liturgy and music. This event is open to the community.

## **THURS7**

### **The History of Modern Israel from 1948 to Now!**

**7:30-8:30pm, Beth David**

Instructor Sarah Hanuka.

## **FRI8**

### **Erev Shabbat Service**

**7-8pm, Emanu-El**

On the second and third Fridays of each month, services are held at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Different special activities are often incorporated, such as "Ask the Rabbi," a sermon and discussion, a musical program, or a guest speaker. Join us for an Oneg afterwards where you can mingle and meet new people.

## **SAT9**

### **Babies & Bagels: Baby Shabbat**

**9-10:30am, Emanu-El**

Temple Emanu-El presents a Shabbat experience geared towards families with children ages 1-30 months. Little ones will enjoy a service full of Shabbat songs, Torah talk, and parachute play! Kiddush, motzi, and a bagel oneg sponsored by Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood follows this fun-filled program. What a great opportunity for parents of young children to meet and form groups—perhaps even lifelong friendships—with their peers. Everyone is welcome!

### **Stretching Into Shabbat at CBD**

**10:30-11:30am, Beth David**

Makom Yoga provides a refreshing mix of Jewish learning (with themes flowing from the weekly parsha, upcoming holidays and beyond) with guided meditation, breath work and asana practice. Suitable for all levels. Led by Rabbi Laurie Matzkin.

### **An Exploration of Shabbat Prayer For Russian Speakers at CBD**

**10:30-11:30am, Beth David**

With Rabbi Ilana Baird.

### **Tot Shabbat at CBD**

**12:30-1:30pm, Beth David**

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

#### **Find Your Location**

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
**408.257.3333**  
www.beth-david.org

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
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

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
**408.358.3033**  
www.apjcc.org

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
**408.292.0939**  
www.temple-sanjose.org



**Jewish Book Group Discussion at CBD**  
**1:30-3pm, Beth David**

*Destiny Disrupted: A History of the World Through Islamic Eyes* by Tamim Ansary, led by Steve Levin.

**SUN10**

**Super Sunday**

**9:30am-2pm, Levy Family Campus**

Super Sunday is here! Join us for a celebration of Israel's 70th birthday and make the call to support your Jewish community! Part of the 36 Days of Giving! To learn more or to volunteer, go to [www.jvalley.org/36days](http://www.jvalley.org/36days) or call 408.357.7508.

**EWJ Speaker Series**

**Lisa Rauchwerger, "Makng Midrash" at Shir Hadash**

**9:30am-Noon, Shir Hadash**

Under the guidance of talented papercut artist, Lisa Racuhwerger, known locally for her beautiful ketubot, we will be creating visual midrashim, which allow us to approach traditional Hebrew texts and infuse them with new and personal meaning. Both the study and artist creation will offer opportunities for insight and spiritual growth as well as artistic expression and skill development.

**Kehillah Admissions Open House**

**2-4:30pm, Kehillah Jewish High School**

**3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto**

Prospective families are invited to come and hear from our students, faculty, and administrators about the Kehillah Jewish High School experience at one of our upcoming open houses! All middle school family members are invited. Learn about our exceptional academic program, individualized college counseling, theater program, athletics, class trips, and extracurricular clubs and activities. Take a student-led tour of our campus and check out our impressive science labs, laboratory for engineering arts, music room and recording studio, black-box theater, and more.

**Camp Ramah in Northern California's Gala**

**5-10pm, Domenico Winery**

**1697 Industrial Road, San Carlos**

Camp Ramah in Northern California's Gala will be held at Domenico Winery.

For more information, visit

<https://ramah.org/product/gala2017/> or call 888.226.7726.

**TUES12**

**Retirees Lunch & Learn**

**11:30am-1pm, Shir Hadash**

Come and meet Rabbi PJ Schwartz, Congregation Shir Hadash's new Rabbi Educator, as we explore the concept of miracles within Judaism. Jewish tradition is filled with stories of miraculous events that brought forth hope for the Jewish people during times of trial and tribulation. Deepen your understanding of the "Miracle of the Oil" as we prepare for Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights.

**WED13**

**Lunch & Learn**

**Noon-1pm, Emanu-El**

Join the Rabbi for lunch, and bring your opinion! Bring a sack lunch and join Rabbi Magat on the second Wednesday of each month to share in a stimulating discussion of recent events, political happenings, and other relevant topics related to current events. This event is open to the community.

**THURS14**

**Ladies Who Lunch**

**11am-1pm, Beth David**

Ladies Who Lunch meets each month at the home of a different participant. Generally, there is a theme and attendees bring lunch dishes to match, and share stories, recipes and memorabilia. This is a casual fun opportunity to socialize with women of all ages. Email [cbd.women@beth-david.org](mailto:cbd.women@beth-david.org) or call 408.257.3333 for this month's location.

**CBD Men's Club - Beer with the Boys**

**7:30-9:30pm, The Garrett Station**

**14101 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos**

Calling all CBD Men—Join us for dinner, a beer with the boys and casual socializing.

**The History of Modern Israel from 1948 to Now!**

**7:30-8:30pm, Beth David**

Instructor Sarah Hanuka.

**FRI15**

**Tot Shabbat with Catered Dinner**

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

Worried that your little ones will squirm and make noise during services? No need to worry at Tot Shabbat! Led by Rabbi Magat and Cantor Amanda Edmondson, families with young children will enjoy upbeat songs, a short story, and a talk with the Rabbi on the bimah during these brief services. The perfect way to introduce your little ones to the tradition of Friday nights. Following services, enjoy a delicious dinner provided by Sisterhood, of course at no charge!

**Hanukkah Service with the Shir Hadash Junior Choir**

**7-9pm, Shir Hadash**

Celebrate Hanukkah with a family Hanukkah service and candle lighting at Congregation Shir Hadash. Featuring storytelling, the Shir Hadash Junior Choir, and jelly doughnuts, it will be a fun-filled evening for the whole family. This event is free and open to the public. Families are encouraged to bring their own menorah and candles to light up the sanctuary on this sixth night of Hanukkah.

**Erev Shabbat Service**

**7-8pm, Emanu-El**

On the second and third Friday evenings of each month, services are held at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Different special activities are often incorporated, such as "Ask the Rabbi," a sermon and discussion, a musical program, or a guest speaker. Join us for an Oneg after where you can mingle and meet new people.

**Find Your Location**

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
**408.257.3333**  
[www.beth-david.org](http://www.beth-david.org)

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos  
**408.358.1751**  
[www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org)

**Congregation Sinai**  
1532 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose  
**408.264.8542**  
[www.sinaisj.org](http://www.sinaisj.org)

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
**408.358.3033**  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
**408.292.0939**  
[www.temple-sanjose.org](http://www.temple-sanjose.org)





## SAT**16**

### **Shir Fun Tot Shabbat Hanukkah**

**9:30-10:30am, Shir Hadash**

Join us for this fun-filled morning with Congregation Shir Hadash! Rabbi Schwartz will lead a brief Shabbat Service with the story of Hanukkah in the main Sanctuary, followed by crafts, playtime, schmoozing and special latkes and sufganiyot for snack in the Oneg Room.

### **Community Shabbat Service for Hanukkah and Jewish Book Month**

**10:30am-Noon, Shir Hadash**

Jewish Book Month is an annual event on the American Jewish calendar dedicated to the celebration of Jewish books and observed around Hanukkah. This year we will be bringing American Jewish author Irene Reti to talk about her book *Kabbalah of Stone*, which takes place in Girona, Spain during the expulsion. This is part of our focus this year on Sephardi Judaism in anticipation of a trip that some members of the congregation are making late in the spring to Spain and Israel.

Author and photographer Irene Reti is the editor of numerous anthologies. Her memoir, *The Keeper of Memory*, is about growing up as the daughter of Holocaust survivors who kept their Jewish identity a secret from her. She has also written about marine biology. Irene will focus on the historical research which guided her in writing this novel.

### **Israel Today! Shabbat Seminars at CBD**

**1-2pm, Beth David**

Wide ranging topics exploring various aspects of Israeli society including culture, economy, military and immigration, and their influence on the Israeli society. Seminar begins after Kiddush lunch.

## SUN**17**

### **Congregational Town Hall**

**9:30-11:30am, Shir Hadash**

We invite you to join us for an opportunity to meet and ask questions of the Congregation Shir Hadash Board and senior staff. We hope you will join us for an update about the 2017-18 membership year and other synagogue activities.

### **Knitzvah Meeting**

**10am-Noon, Chai House**

**814 Elizabeth Drive, San Jose**

Knitzvah is a JFSSV (Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley) volunteer group of knitters, crocheters and seamstresses of all ages. They meet monthly to create beautiful handmade creations. Knitzvah distributes these gifts to 18 nonprofits. All ages and levels of experience are welcome. Come and be a part of this dynamic group or donate yarn to help them meet the needs of our community.

### **Latkes & Laughs**

**5-9pm, Emanu-El**

Punchlines and Potato Pancakes! Join Temple Emanu-El for the annual Latkes and Laughs fundraiser. This year's comedians include:

Kira Soltanovich, a regular on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, Showtime Special writer for Joan Rivers, Selena Gomez, and Justin Beiber.

Ben Feldman, *SF Weekly's* "Comic to Watch."

Jeff Applebaum, *The Tonight Show with Craig Ferguson*.

## TUES**19**

### **Yiddish Conversation Group at CBD**

**3-4:30pm, Beth David**

The Yiddish Group is for people to reactivate prior Yiddish knowledge, to learn Yiddish for the first time, to have conversations.

### **Israeli Dancing**

**7:30-9pm, Emanu-El**

Great exercise! Great fun! Great chance to meet new people! 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 we welcome everyone from the community to join in the fun.

## THURS**21**

### **Blood Drive at CBD**

**3:30-7:30pm, Beth David**

Every 3 seconds someone needs blood, but less than 3% of the population in the Bay Area donates blood. YOU can save a life! Give The Gift of Life! Schedule an appointment online at [www.sbcdonor.org](http://www.sbcdonor.org) or call 650.723.7831. Use sponsor code 0722. Drop-ins welcome, too. The World Health Organization says: "Blood is the most precious gift that anyone can give to another person – the gift of life."

### **Dames Who Dine**

**7-9pm, Beth David**

Once a month we get together for dinner, to relax and enjoy each other's company. This is an opportunity to get to know new women or to catch up with old friends. Email [cbd.women@beth-david.org](mailto:cbd.women@beth-david.org) or call 408.257.3333 for information.

## FRI**22**

### **Kabbalat Shabbat Service**

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

On the fourth Friday of each month we like to offer our Shabbat service at an earlier time to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

## SAT**23**

### **Approachable Torah at CBD**

**10:30am-12:30pm, Beth David**

*Netivot Haneshamah*: Approachable Torah Rabbi Berkowitz leads a lively conversation about the Torah portion.

#### **Find Your Location**

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
**408.257.3333**  
[www.beth-david.org](http://www.beth-david.org)

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos  
**408.358.1751**  
[www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org)

**Congregation Sinai**  
1532 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose  
**408.264.8542**  
[www.sinaisj.org](http://www.sinaisj.org)

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
**408.358.3033**  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
**408.292.0939**  
[www.temple-sanjose.org](http://www.temple-sanjose.org)



**Tot Shabbat at CBD**  
**12:30-1:30pm, Beth David**

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

**WED27**

**Lunch & Learn Torah Study**  
**Noon-1:30pm, Emanu-El**

Food for your body. Food for your soul. Need a better way to spend your lunch hour? Join Rabbi Magat for an informal study and discussion session of a selected Torah portion. Together we will navigate through traditional interpretations and modern applications of our historic teachings. Bring your lunch and be ready to get a new perspective on Torah. Open to members and non-members. No previous Torah study is required.

**TUES2**

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

The Yiddish Group is for people to re-activate prior Yiddish knowledge, to learn Yiddish for the first time, to have conversations.

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

Great exercise! Great fun! Great chance to meet new people! 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 we welcome everyone from the community to join in the fun.

**THURS4**

**The History of Modern Israel**  
**from 1948 to Now!**

**7:30-8:30pm, Beth David**  
Instructor Sarah Hanuka.

**FRI5**

**Shabbatluck Dinner**  
**6-7pm, Emanu-El**

Everyone is welcome to join our congregational family for a Shabbatluck Dinner. These potluck dinners take place throughout the religious school year on the first Friday of each month before the Erev Shabbat Family Service. Meet and schmooze with our Youth Group students, their families, and our congregation during a friendly potluck dinner and stay for a delightful Shabbat service.

**Three Generations & Family Shabbat**  
**7-8pm, Shir Hadash**

Celebrate family relationships with Rabbi Levenberg, Rabbi Aron and Cantor Felder-Levy. Congregation Shir Hadash invites the community to Three Generations Shabbat, celebrating the relationships among grandparents, parents, and children. Multi-generational families will be called to the bimah for an aliyah and a special blessing.

Everyone is welcome, whether or not your extended family is part of the synagogue. No local relatives? Give us a call and we can partner your family with an honorary grand-buddy for the day. The fun continues after the service with a festive potluck luncheon, crafts, and games.

**Erev EESY Shabbat Family Service**  
**7-8pm, Emanu-El**

The first Friday of the month during the school year (September through May), services begin at 7pm in the sanctuary. This service includes the participation and leadership from our EESY Youth Group. We're proud of our students and their participation and leadership in our service. Most Family Services are preceded by a congregational Shabbatluck potluck dinner.

**SAT6**

**Mindfulness & Meditation**  
**Through the Hassidic Lens**  
**10:30-11:30am, Beth David**

Using Hassidic Torah text and stories, Rabbi Seid-Valencia enables participants to find personal meaning in Jewish prayer and discover that current spiritual tools are rooted in the traditional Jewish experience.

**SUN7**

**Dumisani Washington Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel**  
**11am-Noon, Beth David**

Strengthening the relationship between Israel, the Jewish people and people of African descent through education and advocacy. Dumisani Washington is a pastor, composer, author and music teacher in Northern California. He is also an Israel advocate with a vision to strengthen solidarity with the Jewish state among Black Americans and other communities of color. He has been an Israel supporter for many years.



**Get JValley Magazine to go.**  
**Visit [jvalley.org/news](http://jvalley.org/news) to read current and past issues wherever you go.**

**Find Your Location**

**Congregation Beth David**  
19700 Prospect Rd., Saratoga  
**408.257.3333**  
[www.beth-david.org](http://www.beth-david.org)

**Congregation Shir Hadash**  
20 Cherry Blossom Lane, Los Gatos  
**408.358.1751**  
[www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org)

**Congregation Sinai**  
1532 Willowbrae Ave., San Jose  
**408.264.8542**  
[www.sinaisj.org](http://www.sinaisj.org)

**APJCC/Levy Family Campus**  
14855 Oka Rd., Los Gatos  
**408.358.3033**  
[www.apjcc.org](http://www.apjcc.org)

**Temple Emanu-El**  
1010 University Ave., San Jose  
**408.292.0939**  
[www.temple-sanjose.org](http://www.temple-sanjose.org)





From left: Diane Covarrubis, Joey Ferman, Shota Goldston, David Hurwitz, Tina Schmidt, Hillary Wolfe and Delores Wade.

# Hatikvah House Provides a Home

## One of California's only Jewish independent living facilities for developmentally disabled adults

by Jeff Rosenplot

If it's Wednesday, you can be sure the residents of Hatikvah House will be enjoying pizza at Mountain Mike's. According to Delores Wade, the facility's administrator, the only thing residents love more is their weekly trip to Costco.

"The samples are a big hit," Wade said. "So is the food court. The residents love Costco hot dogs."

A trip to Costco also provides an opportunity for the developmentally disabled residents of Hatikvah House to make the decisions about what food to buy for the week.

"Our residents have responsibilities around the house," Wade said. "Those are in addition to the jobs most of them also have. Hatikvah House is their home, and there are always things that need to be done."

As California's only Jewish independent living facility for developmentally disabled adults, Hatikvah House fills a unique need. The nondescript house on the quiet residential street in Campbell gives no outward indication as to its importance within the disability community.

"I've been here since it opened 17 years ago," said resident Hillary Wolfe. Wolfe's family lived in San Diego when they discovered Hatikvah House. After living away from them for many years, her family eventually moved to the Bay Area to be closer to her.

"We're a family," said Diane Covarrubias, the live-in night supervisor. "They're my kids."

Hatikvah House serves residents who are classified as "level three" by the State of California, which describes developmentally disabled adults who have the ability to work and take basic care of themselves.

"We have a specific type of client we can accommodate," Wade said. "And because we keep a kosher kitchen, we're also able to accommodate clients with very specific cultural needs."

Shabbat is observed as are all Jewish holidays, including a huge annual Hanukkah party. Rabbi Phillip Ohriner of Congregation Beth David provides rabbinical support. Residents participate in a structured schedule of events and activities that are responsive to their individual needs. Outings to restaurants, films and live theater are all part of life at Hatikvah House.

"Most of our residents have jobs," Wade explained. "Hillary Wolfe is a greeter at Safeway. And Joey Ferman does landscaping at the Tesla factory in Fremont. They travel to and from their jobs every day, pack their own lunches the night before, and it's that sense of freedom and responsibility


that helps keep them engaged."

"Hatikvah House is like a little pearl," said David Hurwitz, a member of the facility's board of directors. "Not many people know it exists, and we'd like to change that."

Hatikvah House currently has an open room available. Residents must be between 18 and 59 with challenges in cognitive, self-help and social functioning. They may also have physical limitations, but do need to be ambulatory and able to exit the facility on their own in the event of an emergency.


Operating entirely on tzedakah from members of the Silicon Valley Jewish community, Hatikvah House is always appreciative of donations. Donations may be made through their website at [www.hatikvahhouse.org](http://www.hatikvahhouse.org), or by calling 408.379.0106.

## GOT WINE???



**FREE**  
Wine Tasting  
with this Ad!  
(Liquor Glass Not Included)

## HaGafen Cellars



*Gold Medal Wine Since 1979*  
**Tasting & Sales 11-4**  
**Tours, By Appointment, Daily at 11**

**4160 Silverado Trail**  
**Napa, CA 94558**  
**1-888-424-2336**  
**[www.hagafen.com](http://www.hagafen.com)**

**SAVE 15% OFF your next order in our tasting room or online with code "Jewish News"!!!**

# THE LIGHTERSIDE The Hanukkah House in the Christmas Neighborhood

by Rachael Berman-Huck



Oh, Hanukkah, that time of year where over the course of eight nights, I try to get through dinner while listening to my children ask over and over, “Is it time to light the menorah and (of course) open a present?” Eight nights. Eight. Long. Nights.

My house has a permanent odor of oil, which stays on the stove way too long because, seriously, how do you dispose of all that oil? Pour it down the sink? Flush it down the toilet? Maybe I’ll figure out how to use it for heating fuel.

We eat latkes and donuts filled with jam and convince ourselves that it’s okay to eat all that fried goodness because it’s part of our Jewish history and it’s our duty to honor our history. We then complain about our stomach ache and blame it on the fried food because, let’s face it, complaining is our *real* Jewish heritage. We also make the absurd claim we each make the best latkes around. I mean, you’ve really got to try my family’s recipe. They’re the best.

We all know what it’s like growing up being a Jew surrounded by Christmas. I mean, I get it, Christians really

know how to do a holiday. All the lights, the trees, the hijacking of every store you go into.

A couple of years ago, I had one of my favorite Hanukkah moments. I was in the car with my children trying to get home to make dinner so we could light the menorah and have some Hanukkah fun. As we started driving toward our house, my son said, “Mom, I’m sorry to tell you this, but we moved to the wrong neighborhood. I don’t know if you noticed but this is a Christmas neighborhood, and we need to find a Hanukkah neighborhood.”

I tried to explain to him that *all* the neighborhoods are filled with *all* kinds of people and different faiths, but that he’d better get used to it. There’s always going to be a lot of Christmas decorations.

We got home and lit the menorah, and he looked at me and said, “Well, just like the miracle of the oil lasting, it’s a miracle we have such a beautiful Hanukkah house in a Christmas neighborhood.” Oy, maybe he didn’t quite get it. Or maybe he gave me a whole new way of looking at things, especially when Christmas decorations go on sale in September.

*Rachael Berman-Huck is a standup comedian who will soon be seen in the sitcom West Coast Rachael. Learn more about Rachael’s comedy by visiting [www.westcoastrachael.com](http://www.westcoastrachael.com), or follow her on Facebook at WestCoastRachael and on Twitter @WestCoastRach.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In *Sanctuary is Part of Our Jewish History* (Opinion, Summer 2017), Rabbi Melanie Aron reflects on how our families came to America, fleeing autocratic and genocidal regimes, and how, as Jews, this may shape our identity with refugees and immigrants. Rabbi Aron’s Congregation seeks to implement the Union for Reform Judaism’s (URJ) recommendation to advance the interests of illegal immigrants by providing them with legal, financial, and educational support, and by sheltering them from ICE on temple grounds.

The URJ urges congregations to first discuss these measures with legal counsel. That is because harboring illegal immigrants on temple grounds is a violation of federal law – a form of civil disobedience. Civil disobedience can and has played a positive role in our history. But it carries risks that must be carefully considered.

First is the risk of undermining respect for the rule of law. Respect for the law is essential to our democracy and sustains the many freedoms we enjoy, including our ability to openly contest the decisions of government with which we disagree, and perhaps to change those decisions, peacefully and legally.

Second is the risk of encouraging others, including those holding opposing views, to disobey the law. This carries the potential to undermine the people’s acceptance of the rule of law and to tear apart the very system that enables the freedoms we treasure, the same freedoms that immigrants to America have long sought.

In 2010, Michael Oren, Israel’s then-ambassador to the U.S., tried to speak at U.C. Irvine but was shouted down by pro-Palestinian protestors. Since that time this tactic and other openly hostile acts against pro-Israel and Jewish students, widely defended in the name of civil disobedience have spread with impunity. Supporters of Israel have been harassed, and even

physically assaulted. In the case of sanctuary, civil disobedience must be used prudently, when it is the only effective means to prevent the unjust use of power after all legal measures have been tried. Because of these risks, civil disobedience is not the only effective means, and legal measures have not been fully exercised. Our system provides checks and balances that work, and are working. A vibrant, legal movement opposing executive policies on immigration is underway – in Congress, in the courts, and at the grass roots level led by churches and synagogues. Reform congregations can freely take a range of effective measures without violating the law.

My grandmother, Ida Kaplan, came to America from the Russian Pale of Settlement. As an immigrant, Ida would likely support legal efforts on behalf of immigrants. But Ida found freedom in America, and she respected its democratic process and rule of law – principles that distinguished her adoptive country from the Old World. Ida would never break the laws of the nation she loved over an issue that has barely begun to run the course of our democratic process.

I am moved by the sentiments of the URJ. I support legal efforts on behalf of immigrants who face injustice. But I believe that by urging congregations to divert precious resources away from measures that work and into deliberate law-breaking at this early stage, the Reform Movement fails its own ideals and those of the many Ida Kaplans who found their way to our shores.

Bill Kaplan  
Former Board Member  
Congregation Shir Hadash

*Letters to the editor may be sent to [jeff@jvalley.org](mailto:jeff@jvalley.org). JValley Magazine reserves the right to edit letters for content and length. Letters to the editor are reviewed carefully. Not all letters to the editor will be published.*





# HANUKKAH

*Call today for a free market analysis of your home!*



**Bill Lister**

BRE #01179611

408.892.9300 (Cell) • 408.355.1551 (Office)

Toll Free 866.408.1644

BLister@cbnorcal.com • [www.BillLister.com](http://www.BillLister.com)



**GLOBAL  
LUXURY**



**Now donating 15% of my net earnings to the JCC or a legitimate  
charity/organization of your choice!**

©2017 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker®, Coldwell Banker Global are registered trademarks licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and Operated by NRT LLC. Each Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Office is Owned and Operated by NRT LLC. BRE License # 00313415

# Give Early

## Don't wait for the Super Sunday call

Log onto [giving.jvalley.org](http://giving.jvalley.org) or mail back the Federation donation form. No calls from us on Super Sunday!

# Give More

## The need is always growing

Please consider an increase in your gift this year. 20%, 15%, even 3% helps us provide even more support to the APJCC, JFS, Yavneh, Hillel Silicon Valley, BBYO, the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival, Santa Cruz Hillel, SPHDS, Kehillah, Chai House and camperships, plus direct support for Israel.

# Give Back

## We need volunteers

The Federation is always looking for energetic people to help shape the future of Silicon Valley's Jewish community.

Call Marci Gordon  
at 408.357.7503 or email  
[marci@jvalley.org](mailto:marci@jvalley.org).



**Make your gift today**  
**[jvalley.org/36days](http://jvalley.org/36days)**

**Levy Family Campus • 14855 Oka Rd., Suite 200  
Los Gatos, CA 95032 • 408.358.3033**



[JewishSiliconValley](https://www.facebook.com/JewishSiliconValley)



[@JewishSV](https://twitter.com/JewishSV)



[JewishSiliconValley](https://www.instagram.com/JewishSiliconValley)



Share your story and see others on social media using the hashtag

## #MyFederation

# **We're Your Federation. Your Gift Matters.**