Help make 5775 a Shanah Tovah

Jonathan Gurwitz
2014 JFSA Campaign Chair

“L’Schanah tovah tikatevu.”
For 100 generations, Jews have greeted one another at the New Year with this expression of hope and blessing: “May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year.”

Yet, we know the history. Many of those years were not good ones. Jewish communities, often isolated and weak, were subject to the vicissitudes of their times.

As we approach 5775, what kind of year will it be? A year that fulfills our hopes for the future, or one that confirms our fears from the past?

The headlines are grim. Israel, under attack from homicidal fanatics committed to its destruction, is denounced by the international community for having the audacity to defend itself. The deliberate targeting of Arab or Muslim civilians in Syria, Iraq, Sudan or Pakistan – and in numbers that dwarf the entire Arab-Israeli conflict – passes without notice. Yet Israel’s response to a Hamas strategy that seeks to maximize civilian casualties on both sides earns condemnation.

In Europe, synagogues and cemeteries are desecrated. Groups from the far left and the far right march together in the streets and chant, “Death to the Jews.” Jews have taken down mezuzahs from their doorposts or hide their kipot and other religious garb in public for legitimate fear of being targeted.

Perhaps most worrisome, an intellectual blind spot or, worse, a tolerance for naked hatred, has emerged among people who should know better. On college campuses, in the media and,

Israel lowering interest rate again as economy struggles amid Gaza op

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel’s central bank is reducing its interest rate to an all-time low to counteract a foundering economy due in part to the Gaza military operation.

The Bank of Israel announced late last month that it was dropping the rate to 0.25 for September. It marks the second straight month that the rate has been lowered.

Along with the Gaza operation, Bank of Israel Governor Karnit Flug cited the global economic slowdown for the problems in Israel’s economy.

“Our intention in reducing the interest rate is in effect to help the economy strengthen its capability to recover from a weakness it finds itself in both due to the global slowdown and the fighting,” Flug told Israel Radio on Monday.

The Gaza operation has affected nearly all economic sectors of Israel, including tourism, agriculture and manufacturing.

Israel’s Manufacturers Association estimated the total economic impact of the operation on Israeli manufacturers so far to be

See 5775, page 7
IN LOVING MEMORY

David Garrison
Lee Greenberg
Avis Halberstadt
Elinor Mazur
Susan Tani
Charles Henry Way

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
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<td>Parashat Nitzavim-Vayeilech</td>
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<td>Shabbat Shuva</td>
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<td>October 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>8:27 p.m.</td>
<td>Havdalah</td>
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The submission deadline for the OCTOBER 2014 issue of the Jewish Journal is SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 at noon. All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

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

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

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

Ad deadlines for OCTOBER 2014 ISSUE:
- Ad space reservations due no later than September 12, 2014 by noon;
- Press ready ads due by September 12, 2014.

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

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

The weeks leading up to the Jewish Days of Awe, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, are filled with complex anticipation. We are eager to begin a new year of hope and promise, while also anxious with fear of judgment for a year of unfulfilled promises and unaccomplished goals. It is a time that mirrors the deep tension we harbor as a Jewish people, our hubris as being human beings with infinite potential who are also just pebbles of sand in a vast universe. The Jewish New Year is a time of intense introspection and reflection on what matters in our lives.

The brilliance of the Jewish calendar shines as it provides the entire month of Elul for preparations for the New Year. Jewish tradition refers to this month as time in which “the King (God) is in the field.” At all other times, the King sits in the castle, far from the field and inaccessible to the people. But it is during this time that God is near to us, most able to hear us and understand our thoughts and our prayers.

We are now in this time of closeness to the Divine, a time in which we are perhaps more conscious of who we are and how we behave. Whether it is our relationship with God or our relationships with others, the month of Elul is a time to reflect and to commit to doing better. We are given another year and another chance to improve ourselves and our world.

It is with the fullness of aspiration and hope that I wish each of you in our San Antonio Jewish community a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. I hope that we all aspire to better ourselves and do more for our community. L’shanah tova u’metukah - to a good and sweet New Year for us all!

Ronit Sherwin
JFSA CEO
sherwinr@jfsatx.org

L’Shana Tova

Wishing you a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year 5775
from the
Officers, Board of Directors, and Staff
of the
Jewish Federation of San Antonio
The STRENGTH of a People
The POWER of Our Community

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank The Jewish Federation of San Antonio for your substantial donation to The Torah Academy of San Antonio (T.A.S.A.). Your generosity will touch the lives of each and every family that T.A.S.A. has the honor to serve in offering a creating a cutting-edge Torah and secular education, and our efforts in the classroom have been graciously supported by your mitzvah! The furniture you donated is greatly appreciated, and will continue to be cherished for as long as Hashem blesses T.A.S.A. ’s doors to be open. We will be dedicating a day of instruction at The Torah Academy of San Antonio to The Jewish Federation of San Antonio in your honor.

Sincerely,

Michael David Tamaren, M.Ed.
“Establishing the T.A.S.A. Way!”

Ronit Sherwin
JFSA CEO
sherwinr@jfsatx.org
Dear friends,
The Jewish Journal of San Antonio, Federation’s free monthly Jewish newspaper, is now offering readers the opportunity to honor or memorialize friends and loved ones with tribute donations to JFSA. Tribute donations may be made in honor of a bar/bat mitzvah, the birth of a baby, a graduation or a wedding; in memory of loved ones; or as thoughtful way to say “thank you.” Donations of $36 or more will be acknowledged with a two line tribute in the Jewish Journal unless the donor requests otherwise. To request a High Holiday greeting or tribute ad, contact Sandy Leigh at advertising@jewishj.org. The deadline for the October issue is September 12.

Thank you!

Congratulations to Jay Peters, MD, Chief of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, for winning a 2014 University of Texas System Regents Outstanding Teacher Award
- Dr. Elliot and Marcia Goren Weser

Wishing a speedy recovery to my daughter, Sally Scharff
- Shirley Tudzin

Mazel Tov to Ronit Sherwin and David Komerofsky on their recent marriage
- Leslie Komet Ausburn & Sandy Leigh

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Peyton Elizabeth Ausburn
- Leslie and Adam Ausburn

Congratulations to Ethan Ausburn and Madeleine Ausburn on their respective films being selected and screened for the San Antonio Film Festival
- Leslie and Adam Ausburn

Wishing the San Antonio community a happy and healthy New Year, 5775
- Ronit Sherwin and David Komerofsky

Thank you, Miranda, for being the most fabulous, wonderful wife a husband can have
- Joshua Sutin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Sept. 2014

SEPTEMBER 1
- All Campus Offices Closed
- JNetSA 1st Wednesday Breakfast, 7:30 a.m., Il Sogno

SEPTEMBER 3
- Temple Beth-El Sisterhood Sip & Schmooze, 5 p.m.
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Book Club, 7:30 p.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 4
- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, 7:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 5
- Temple Beth-El Machar After Hours, 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 6
- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, 8 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 7
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom Toys for Yeladim Family Sunday Funday, 10 a.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 9
- Barshop JCC Early Childhood Family Gathering, 6 p.m., at The Campus
- Jewish Federation Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m., Room 277 at The Campus

SEPTEMBER 10
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom L’Chayim Club The Message of the Shofar, 11:30 a.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom
- NCJW Opening Meeting, 7 p.m., Home of Judy & Mike Kelne

SEPTEMBER 11
- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, 7:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater
- Temple Beth-El Machar Torah on Tap, 8 p.m

SEPTEMBER 13
- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, 8 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater
- Congregation Rodfei Sholom A Taste of the Holidays, 6:30 p.m., Congregation Rodfei Sholom

SEPTEMBER 14
- The Sheldon Vexler Theater Presents One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, 2:30 p.m., Sheldon Vexler Theater

SEPTEMBER 15
- Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Room 277 at The Campus

SEPTEMBER 16
- Congregation Agudas Achim Sisterhood Torah

See CALENDAR, page 7
WE INVITE YOU TO OUR SYNAGOGUE
FIRST YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP FREE FOR NEWCOMERS TO SAN ANTONIO...

Congregation Rodfei Sholom

EXPERIENCE JUDAISM IN A SPIRIT OF TRADITION, HARMONY & COMMUNITY.

At Rodfei Sholom we have outstanding Rabbis who have grown our community and grown up in our community, who have built and continue to build our congregation and our communal life. Our Congregation is an expression of their love and concern for others and for Am Israel.

At Rodfei Sholom:

- you are part of a larger family, closely connected to Torah, tradition and Eretz Israel.
- you meet people of all ages, from many parts of the world and from all religious backgrounds.
- you hear English, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Russian, Yiddish, Hungarian and more.
- there is an intergenerational Kiddush every Shabbat
- there are educational opportunities for all ages
- children grow in an atmosphere of love & warmth
- children of all ages have special Shabbat groups every week
- you have an Israel Public Action Committee advocating for a secure Israel
- you hear outstanding speakers throughout the year
- everyone is appreciated and welcome

WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT rodfeisa@gmail.com or call 210-493-3557
WAKE UP TO A SOUND THAT CAN CHANGE LIVES.

This New Year, let us bring hope to people in despair. Nurture and sustain our Jewish community locally, in Israel, and around the world. Your gift to the Federation's 2014 Annual Campaign makes it possible, all year long. Donate at www.jfsatx.org.
FOCUS ON FEDERATION

Off the Shelf at Beldon Library

Lynn Waghatler, Beldon Library

L’Shana Tova! Happy and Healthy 5775!
The Beldon Library is starting the New Year off with new titles for adults and children.
The library is open:
Monday, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Wednesday, 1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Calendar of Jewish holidays for parents

The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio has sent copies of the Calendar of Jewish Holidays 2014-2015 to local public schools and universities. The calendar includes a description of each holiday and also includes an extension into 2016 for longer range planning. The Community Relations Council encourages Jewish parents to share important holiday dates with their schools and teachers. Any Jewish parent who would like copies of the calendar to provide to their child’s teacher is invited to call the Community Relations office at (210) 302-6960 for copies. Copies are also available online at www.jfsatx.org.

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still dream about. Israel, despite the fanaticism of its enemies, is stronger economically and militarily than ever.
What should be the relationship of one to the other, of those of us who are privileged to live in comfort and those who must shutter their windows or rush to the sound of air raid sirens?
The answer comes from our heritage: “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I?”
We have an obligation to build up our communal institutions and to create a vibrant and enduring Jewish life here in San Antonio. Yet we also have an obligation to our brothers and sisters in Europe, or trapped in Iran and elsewhere, and in Eretz Yisrael.
The primary commitments of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio are to klal Yisrael – the responsibility of each Jew for another; to tzedakah – justice, charity and righteousness; and to tikunik olam – the process of repairing the world. These commitments can only be fulfilled through the funds raised by the Federation’s annual campaign.
A theme of our Federation campaign comes from the Pirkei Avot: “It is not your obligation to complete the task, but neither are you at liberty to desist from it entirely.”
None of us alone can fulfill the obligation. Together, as the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, we can do our parts. Please generously support Federation’s annual campaign and help make 5775 a Shanah Tovah.
IN THE COMMUNITY

JFS offers Emotional Communications group for couples

It’s been said, “Deal with your emotions or your emotions will deal with you.”

That’s good advice, but most of us have no clue how to deal with them. People often suffer from one of two emotional extremes. Some are out of control emotionally; living in a constant state of turmoil. Their emotions rule their lives. On the other extreme are those who deny their emotionality; they think the key to emotional health is to be non-emotional. Both extremes are unhealthy. Balance is the key.

Jewish Family Service (JFS) is launching a 12 week Emotional Communications group to help participants discover healthy emotional expression, self-awareness and how to manage their emotions. Led by Gene Krenzer, LMFT, the program also teaches how to think, feel, and talk about hurts, fear, anger, guilt, shame, and condemnation. When participants become comfortable with this level of emotional communications, intimacy builds, and they experience peaceful and fulfilling relationships.

The program, designed for couples desiring an improved relationship with better communication, will be held Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. beginning October 7 in the JFS office, 12500 N.W. Military Highway, Suite 250.

Sessions are $30 per couple per session and there is a $12 workbook to purchase per person. Contact Gene at (210) 302-6932 or krenzere@jfs-sa.org for more information or to register.

Jewish Family Service, supported in part by funding from the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, is a community service agency serving all regardless of religious, ethnic, or economic background.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

Sunday Sept. 28
Post meeting at the JCC Room 277, starting at 9:30 am with light breakfast, followed by business meeting

Tuesday Sept. 30
Bingo/Social at Audie Murphy VA Hospital CTC from 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Oct.26
Post meeting at the JCC, starting at 9:30 am with a light breakfast, followed by business meeting

Sunday Nov. 2
Post fundraiser at Walmart on Bandera Rd, more details

Thursday Nov. 13
Post members to serve supper at the Wounded Warriors Building

Thursday, Dec. 25
Post to walk the wards at Audie Murphy VA Hospital, distributing ice cream cups and bars, cookies to patients and staff on duty

The Department’s January 2015 meeting will be hosted by the New Orleans post, instead of the San Antonio post. Want to help with any of the JWV activities? Call Ken Ashworth at (210) 647-0330

May your year ahead be filled with the blessings of health, happiness, and peace.

L’shana Tova ו’maktadיתו

Not a member yet? Not a problem. No charge for non-member attendance at High Holy Day late evening services and children’s services. Prior registration required and donations welcome. Contact Geri at (210) 733-9135 ext. 120 or geri@beth-elsa.org to register or for more information.

Temple Beth-El

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Rob & Emily Kaufman

new balance
San Antonio
Free parenting program offered at Barshop JCC

Precious Minds, New Connections, a free parenting program at the Barshop Jewish Community Center, will begin its 13th program year this month, offering classes and workshops for all caregivers of children, birth through three years.

Those who take advantage of the ten-week classes are not only the parents of young children; they are also caregivers that come in all varieties, including childcare providers, foster and adoptive parents, and various family members, including many grandparents.

“It is always an added bonus when we have a grandparent in class because they have the wonderful gift of hindsight,” says Program Director and educator Cindy Berman.

Amy Sugarman, program educator, knows the importance of quality parenting education. “It is our hope that all caregivers take the time to learn about their children and find the most effective ways to support them as they grow and change,” explained Sugarman.

Classes are free to all parents and caregivers of children under four years of age, thanks to a generous grant funded by Kronkosky Charitable Foundation.

The first session begins on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at either 9:15 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. Sessions are two hours; participants can expect qualified childcare, a light snack during morning classes or a meal during evening classes, a children’s book or other incentive, and course, material. Additional dates for this school year are December 1, January 5 (evening class only), and March 3.

Please call (210) 302-6846 to sign up or for additional information.

Hadassah prepares for the New Year

With the High Holidays approaching, both local Hadassah groups have activities planned. The Leah Goot Group will hear the executive director of the San Antonio Holocaust Memorial Museum, Francesca Garrett, discuss Following in the Footsteps of Survivor; on Sunday, Sept. 7, at 3 p.m. in the museum, on the second floor of the Jewish campus, 12500 NW Military Hwy. As seating is limited, reservations are required. RSVP to Marge Present at (210) 492-5153.

A musical program and kosher Mexican luncheon will be offered by the Rose Treiman Group at the home of Jean Schlesinger on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 11:30 a.m. Couvert is $15. For information and to make reservations, call Micki Harris, (210) 824-4178, or Ruth Toback, (210) 694-7552.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, both local Hadassah groups will gather to raise funds to complete and furnish the new Sarah Wetsman Davidson Tower at Hadassah Hospital. Hadassah members will contact other members on that day by telephone. Those who would like to volunteer to help with the phone-a-thon are asked to call Micheline Rothblut, (210) 823-8603, or Kathy O’Neill, (210) 823-8603.

As the holidays approach with visits to cemeteries and recitations of Yizkor, the memorial prayer, Hadassah encourages those who would like to remember their closest relatives to invest in a Perpetual Yahrzeit at the Hadassah Hospital in Ein Karem. Every year, on the Hebrew anniversary of your loved one’s passing, the appropriate prayers will be said in his or her memory at the Abbell Synagogue, home of the famed Chagall windows. Each year you will also receive a notice of your upcoming Yahrzeit.

To find out more about this memorial program, call Kathy O’Neill at (210) 823-8603.

IN THE COMMUNITY

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1133 Austin Hwy - 824.8686 / 434 N. Loop 1604 West - 483.8989
Volunteer at the San Antonio Food Bank

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) welcomes community members to spend a day with them at the San Antonio Food Bank for learning, lunching, and serving on October 28 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms. In Bexar County one in four children and one in five adults experience food insecurity (not knowing where or when they will get their next meal.) Each week the San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) assists 58,000 individuals through their network of agencies and a variety of programs with food needs. “Volunteering for the SAFB, is a wonderful opportunity for us to actualize our mission,” says Ruthie Wurzburg, San Antonio NCJW Presidium Chair.

Carpooling will be available for individuals meeting at the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community at 12500 NW Military Hwy at noon. A tour of the SAFB located at 5200 Old Hwy 90 will begin at 12:30 p.m., followed by a box luncheon ($8 per person.)

For more information, contact Gayle Alterman at gaylealterman@gmail.com.

Rabbi Lazer Gurkow to be the Scholar in Residence at Chabad

The community is invited for a Shabbat Weekend with author Rabbi Lazer Gurkow September 12 -13 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

On Friday, September 12 services will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by a Shabbat dinner and lecture at 8:30 p.m. Rabbi Gurkow will speak on the topic of Planting Seeds of Happiness in the Fertile Soil of Life. A children’s program during the lecture will be provided. Cost for Friday night dinner is $25 adults, $12 children under 12.

Saturday morning services will begin at 9:30 a.m., Torah reading at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Kiddush luncheon at 12:15 p.m. During lunch Rabbi Gurkow will address the topic Seeking an Anchor in a World of Shifting Values: Finding the G-d in Good. Kiddush lunch is free and open to the entire community.

A prolific writer, Rabbi Gurkow is the author of two books and more than six hundred articles that appear regularly in both online and print publications. He has written extensively on many Jewish topics including Shabbat, Kashrut, Jewish Holidays and family purity and has lectured to audiences throughout Israel, Australia and North America. Gifted with the ability to present the complicated in easily understood language, he is a long-standing Scholar in Residence with Askmoses.com and is the founder of www.innerstream.org. Rabbi Gurkow is the rabbi of Congregation Beth Tefilah in London Ontario, Canada and resides there with his wife and six children.

For more information and reservations, call Chabad at (210) 764-0300.
Many people want to think of human trafficking as something that occurs in other countries. It is something that occurs in the brothels of Nepal where girls and boys, women and men, are forced to sell their bodies or work all day in the quarries of India breaking stones. However, the belief that human trafficking is a problem beyond America’s borders is very far from reality. There are traffickers in San Antonio who are selling area children. The truth is wherever there is a willing buyer there is a trafficker willing to sell.

Crystal Chandler, a Bexar County Assistant Criminal District Attorney in San Antonio, will discuss the issues related to Human Trafficking in the San Antonio area at the National Council of Jewish Woman’s (NCJW) opening event on Wednesday September 10 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mike and Judy Kelne.

In 2007, Chandler helped found and then served as a board member of Chapter 61 Ministries, a non-profit organization engaged in the fight against human trafficking. In 2009, Chapter 61 started a nationwide campaign, Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) to combat human trafficking by mobilizing the trucking industry. The TAT initiative was so successful that it evolved into a separate national non-profit entity and was recently named to the United Nation’s list of 100 Best anti-Human Trafficking Practices in the world.

Chandler has spoken throughout the state educating and raising awareness of human trafficking. This is a community event, open to everyone. RSVP by September 8 to Mindi Silver-Weiss at mindsww@gmail.com or (210) 497-2333 to ensure adequate seating is available.

Donations of gently used luggage for NCJW’s Transitions program, for children transitioning out of foster care, will be accepted at the event.

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High Holy Days 2014/5775
Services are conducted at the Jewish Community Campus by Rabbi David Komerofsky

and guest cantorial soloists Caitlin Smith and Lauren Langbaum with Manahara Virasinha (piano) and Stephanie Vargas (violin)

All are welcome
Visit our website for service times and more information on membership incentives and High Holy Day tickets
Complimentary passes for military personnel and students

You shouldn’t get lost in the crowd while you’re finding yourself at services.
Temple Chai is big enough to inspire you, but small enough to know you.

www.templechaisa.org

L’Shana Tova to my family and friends and especially to my Mother, Alda Epstein
Sandy Leigh
IN THE COMMUNITY

Chabad to host Pre-High Holiday Torah Study Workshops – September 14

The community is invited for a Day of Torah Study with Rabbi Chaim Block, Rabbi Yossi Marrus and author Rabbi Lazer Gurkow on Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd.

Morning services will begin at 8 a.m. followed by a continental breakfast and registration at 9:00 a.m. The first session of workshops will begin at 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. Topics will include ‘The Call of the Shofar: A Biblical, Historical and Mystical Overview’, ‘Perspectives on High Holiday Prayer: The Machzor’s Liturgy & History’, ‘Terrorists and Human Shields: Must We Die to Protect the Shield? What If the Shield Was Your Brother?’ and a Rosh Hashana Challah Baking Workshop.

The second session, from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. will provide participants the opportunity to attend an additional workshop. A delicious buffet lunch will follow.

Cost for the breakfast, workshops and lunch is $18. For a full program schedule and reservations, please call Chabad at (210) 764-0300.

IN THE COMMUNITY: COLLEGE NEWS

Hillel reaching out to Jewish students for the 2014-15 school year

San Antonio Hillel provides programming, learning opportunities, and social events for Jewish college-aged students at a variety of San Antonio campuses including UTSA, Trinity, and UTHSC. On-campus lunches, Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations, and learning opportunities are just some of the many exciting things Hillel has planned for the coming school year.

Hillel will also facilitate Birthright Israel trips for San Antonio students. More than 400,000 young Jewish people from over sixty countries have received the gift of a free trip to Israel.

Birthright Israel provides this free ten-day trip for young Jewish adults to learn about Israeli history and culture, to connect to their Jewish roots, and to explore their Jewish identity.

“Traveling to Israel during college is such an amazing experience. It’s this special once in a lifetime gift that opens young adults’ eyes to what Israel really is, how important Israel is to our people, and how important it is that we continue passing on our traditions throughout future generations,” said Samantha Mazuz, San Antonio Hillel Director.

Birthright registration opens on September 9.

Community members who know of a Jewish college student attending a local campus are encouraged to refer them to Hillel San Antonio.

For more information about Hillel or to refer a student, contact Samantha Mazuz at Samantha@sahillel.org or at (210) 201-JEWS (5397) or visit www.sahillel.org or www.facebook.com/SAHillel.

NCJW wishes everyone a Peaceful and Sweet New Year

NCJW wishes everyone a Peaceful and Sweet New Year

Happy New Year!
By Aaron Sarfati, President of TASA

It’s that time of year again. The summer vacations are over, the High Holidays are looming around the corner, and TASA is back in session. It is amazing to think back and realize that just one short year ago we opened our doors based on a hope and a determination to provide high quality academics in a Jewish environment. We can now confidently proclaim that our first year was a resounding success and with one year under our belt, year two is set to be even better.

I am a proponent of using data to help drive evaluations and continuous improvement, so I would like to share a few interesting insights from our end-of-year testing data, courtesy of the Education Records Bureau’s CTP4 exam. One impressive statistic was found in our First Graders: they mastered 95% of the expected math concepts compared with 75% mastery by other private school first graders across the country. Additionally, our first graders exceeded the national average mastery by 12% across all categories tested. When looking across all grades and across all subjects tested, our students on average were on par with the expected mastery of other private schools and were slightly ahead of public schools administering this exam. Also, across all grade levels, our students outperformed other leading private schools by 9% in mathematics.

We are very pleased with the results of our first year and will use these results to set and meet an even higher bar. To meet these goals, our entire staff worked diligently throughout the summer to enhance the rigor and balance of our curriculum and offerings. Our team, led by Mr. Michael Tamaren, M.Ed. and Rabbi Yossi Marrus, are challenging our students to ensure that this year we not only meet national standards, but far exceed them.

We would like to thank the Jewish Federation of San Antonio for its generous allocation to support us in preparing our next generation of Jewish leaders. The Board of Directors and Staff of TASA would also like to wish everyone a Shana Tovah U’Mekukhah.

To find out more about our school, please visit our website at www.TorahAcademySA.com or call (210) 607-7261.
Hummingbirds! Grown-Up and Me program at Heintz Preschool

With all the older children attending school, little ones and caregivers are invited to join in the school spirit with Heintz Preschool’s Hummingbird class.

Parents or caregivers of children under 24 months are invited to meet new friends, celebrate Shabbat, enjoy sensory exploration, and learn through play in Heintz Preschool’s class. The class introduces young children to a lively Kabballat Shabbat experience led by Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazan Jeremy Lipton, and “Ms. Aliza” Cantu. After the service, Hummingbirds are treated to challah and snacks in their classroom with their new Hummingbird friends.

“Hummingbirds class is structured for young children and allows for abundant sensory exploration, age-appropriate hands-on activities, and lots of play time,” said Aliza Cantu, HPS Director and Hummingbird teacher. “Children are invited to sing, dance, and create in this joyful Jewish experience.”

Hummingbirds meets every Friday at 9:15 a.m. during the school year. To register, or for more information, please contact Aliza Cantu at (210) 479-0429 or a.cantu@agudas-achim.org.

Familiar faces return in a new capacity to the JCC preschool

The Block and Dreeben School for Young Children has welcomed two new Judaics Specialists, Mary Levy and Bobi Stern.

Mary Levy and her family became involved at the JCC when it was located on Rampart where all three of their children were enrolled in the JCC School for Young Children and where Mary joined the faculty teaching pre-kindergarten through 2000.

Mary was involved in the National Association for the Education of Young Children teaching workshops at both the local and national levels. She also taught classes at Temple Beth-El and became the volunteer adult advisor for SAFTY, Temple’s high school youth group. Mary rejoins the JCC staff as an Early Childhood Judaics Specialist where she will help young children and their families experience the joy of Judaism and Jewish life through music, movement, and hands-on activities.

Bobi Stern has taught children in San Antonio for over 33 years at Temple Beth-El and Congregation Agudas Achim’s Heintz Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School. Previously, she was a nurse in New York, and after her children were born, she worked as an RN for ICU patients at NYU Medical Center.

Bobi states that Jewish education has been “one of the best pieces” of her life. She will be a Judaics Specialist for the JCC’s An Ethical Start® program. The curriculum provides a unique method for learning universal values through a Jewish lens providing children and their families with value-able tools for their everyday lives.
A Honey of a Year with Yad B’Yad

The Yad B’Yad Intergenerational Program at Heintz Preschool will have a Honey Fest to celebrate the High Holy Days on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 10:15 - noon. All grandparents and grandpals are invited to work “hand-in-hand” with the preschool students while enjoying a snack of foods with honey, visit with a local bee keeper, and sing along with Ms. Mindy during a music session.

People often ask, “Who can be included in this intergenerational program?” Any adult who qualifies for “senior discounts” is invited to share in the fun with the preschool children. There are always preschoolers looking for grandpals to pair up with during the program days. Yad B’Yad allows children to invite their own grandparents to and to meet “stand-in grandparents,” known as grandpals, while enjoying time at the preschool. Yad B’Yad can also fill a void for a grandparent whose own grandchildren are older or live far away.

This is the fourth year that the Yad B’Yad Intergenerational Program is a grant recipient of Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services. It is held the third Wednesday of each month (except Grandparents’ Shabbat on Friday November 21).

Contact the Heintz Preschool office (210) 479-0429 or email yadbyad.heintz@gmail.com for more information.
March of the Living: Defiance and Hope

Each spring, thousands of people from around the world join together for the March of the Living, an educational program which includes the history of the Holocaust and the examination of the roots of prejudice, intolerance and hate. The March of the Living itself, a silent walk from Auschwitz Birkenau, is a tribute to all victims of the Holocaust. This year, San Antonio teen Jacob Schwartz participated in the March. The essay below is the second of a two part series about his experience.

One of the recurring themes of the March was defiance and hope. Although it was immensely difficult to hear the stories that the survivors shared, we also had a strong sense of pride because everything we stood for, everything we represented as Jews, Hitler had tried to destroy, and through it all, we are still here. The Jewish people are alive and thriving. Standing in Birkenau, a place dedicated to destroying every trace of the Jewish people, and finishing a Sefer Torah is just remarkable. Being able to walk down a street and see all kinds of Jews: Chareidim and secular Jews, Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, young and old Jews, altogether in one country. Being able to pull over at a random park to wrap Tefillin and read the Torah. Being able to practice Judaism, knowing that you are free to do so because the land you are in is protected for that very reason is something very special, something many of us take for granted.

Israel knows how to commemorate their fallen soldiers. In America, Memorial Day has become a day to shop, have a barbecue or buy new mattresses because the sacrifice our troops have made feels very far from home. In Israel, every single person knows someone who has fallen in a war because not a generation has passed without a serious strike against the sovereignty of the nation. When the siren goes off on Yom Hazikaron, Israel’s memorial day, everything stops. We were driving down a highway when it happened, and we pulled into a gas station.

Looking around, I saw a lot full of other Jews who were standing still, paying tribute. We were all united in the somber moment. As sad as Yom Hazikaron is, Yom Ha’atzmaut is that much more joyous. We spent that evening at a kibbutz, celebrating with the people who lived there. There were mats and sleeping bags laid out for the children, who were running around, wrestling and dancing with each other, while the adults danced through the night. For Independence Day, we marched again, but this time full of joy, through Jerusalem. The stark contrast of the two weeks was embodied in the

See MARCH, page 17

Frame every image with care.
MARCH
continued from page 16
two marches: marching in
a place of sorrow and death
to one of joy and happiness.
Dancing at the Wall with so
many other Jews, carrying
the Torah scroll that had been
completed the week before
in Birkenau; reduced me to
tears, but they were tears
of joy. I was so overcome
with pride, because during
those two marches, I was
unfathomably proud to be a
Jew. Never have the words
“Am Yisroel Chai” sounded
so true! The people of Israel
live on!
This final story really
represents the emotions
of the whole trip. As we
gathered around the ovens
doing, we were told
a story: When the camps were
liberated, soldiers were told
give all of your rations to
the Jews! They are starving!”
but this was not a sound idea.
Many died from overeating
as a result, so they were
told to put the Jews back in
the camps and doctors were
sent to slowly add more
food to their diets. One day,
a soldier (who’s grandson
was a friend of one of the
Rabbis on the trip with us)
saw a little boy lying in line,
too tired to stand. He went
over to the boy, planning to
pick him up and wait with
him until he received his
food, but when he bent down
to embrace him, he was
overcome by emotions. He
began to weep, clutching the
boy to his chest in a gentle
embrace. He hugged the boy
for a few minutes before
releasing him. When he
opened his eyes, what he saw
astonished him: all of the
children in line for food had
left that line and formed one
in front of him, waiting for
their chance to be hugged.
These children had lost their
parents and had no one to
care for them, to feed them,
to hold them, or to love
them. Never again would
they feel the gentle embrace
of their parents, never again
would they know the faces
of their grandparents, never
again play tag with their
brothers or sisters. No child
should ever experience this,
but millions did because
of the baseless hate and
the decision of so many to
stand still and remain silent.
So I ask of you: don’t be
a bystander; stand up for
what’s right. Finally, please,
I beg you, go hug your
children, wife, husband,
parents, siblings- anyone;
because we are all each other
and should never take one
another for granted.

PERSPECTIVE & OPINION
WHAT’S HAPPENING

PROJECT CHALLA L’CHAYAL

Rodfei Sholom volunteers, led by Aviva Bass, bake Challahs to benefit The Project Challah L’Chayal. All the challahs were sold and more than $1,200 was raised, which will be donated to the Lone Soldier organization in memory of Nissim Sean Carmeli.

PALETA PARTY

In celebration of National Ice Cream Month, Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services took Paletas, Mexican popsicle treats, to area senior centers. Throughout the month, GMJSS visited Adante Senior Living, Golden Estates Rehabilitation Center, Wedgwood Senior Apartments and Madison Estates.

Join the Community for

A Day of Fun, Philanthropy, and Tikkun Olam (repairing the world)!

Volunteer at Super Sunday, November 2nd!

- Make a Difference
- Food and Fun
- Babysitting
- Children’s Activities
- Mitzvahs and More

Super Sunday Co-Chairs:
Kelly Klein and Howie Nestel

The STRENGTH of a People
The POWER of Our Community

Contact Federation today:
JewishFederation@jfsatx.org
210.302.6960

November 2, 2014

SUPER SUNDAY

Save the Date
More than 200 guests attended the *Ode to Summer’s End* concert event held at Temple Beth-El on Sunday, Aug. 17. The program was a collaborative effort presented and sponsored by Temple Beth-El, Congregation Agudas Achim, Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, Congregation Rodfei Sholom and Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, with support from Temple Chai and Jewish Federation of San Antonio. The program began with a kosher reception and was followed by the performance.

**2014 FEDERATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN NOW UNDERWAY**

With your help, the Jewish Federation of San Antonio Annual Campaign provides immediate relief for people in need. We also create a positive impact on the lives of youth, individuals, and families at home and abroad. Please join us in making our world a better place.

**How can you participate?**

Donate to Federation’s Annual Campaign
- Online at www.jfsatx.org
- By mail by sending a check to: Jewish Federation of San Antonio
  12500 N.W. Military Hwy., Ste. 200
  San Antonio, Texas 78231

Your donation will make a difference to help people in need, rescue people in danger and maintaining a vital Jewish life in San Antonio, Israel and 70 countries abroad.

**Volunteer for our annual phone-a-thon**
- Super Sunday - Sunday, Nov. 2
  Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community
  12500 N.W. Military Highway
  To sign up, please call (210) 302-6960

**Get involved**

Jewish Federation of San Antonio welcomes you to join us in our many activities and events throughout the year. Help us build a stronger, more connected Jewish community.

To learn more about JFSA, please visit www.jfsatx.org or give us a call at (210) 302-6960. We welcome everyone to play a part in making a difference in our world.

**Encourage your teenagers to join Bnai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program**

For more information, visit www.jfsatx.org and click on “Ways to Give” or email Rachel Stern at rasternagmail.com. Applications are available in the Federation office.
The true meaning of Shana Tova

SHANAH TOVAH! We will say these two words hundreds of times over the course of our High Holy Day season. And yet this simple phrase has far more significance for us than the traditional greeting we share as we encounter a new year once again.

Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins explains: “When we wish each other a shanah tovah, a good year, we think of the Hebrew word shanah or year, and extend greetings for a good year. But the Hebrew root shin, nun heh has another meaning as well. It is the core of the verb le-shanot, to change. Further, the same root, shin nun heh also denotes repetition, as in the name of the great book of codified Torah law compiled by Moses Maimonides, Mishneh Torah; the repetition of the Torah. In other words, a shanah tovah, a good year, is a year of shanot, of change, of doing things differently and better. And it also denotes a year of repetition, of relearning all the old lessons that our tradition of truth and wisdom has been teaching us for many centuries.

Shanah is a unique word, just as this is a unique moment in our San Antonio Jewish community. With several new rabbis and institutional leaders this will certainly be a year of shanot. There will be much learning about long standing traditions, family connections and community concerns. Historic relationships will be strengthened and new opportunities for collaboration and community will be fostered. It will also most certainly be a time of experimentation, innovation and transformation for us all.

As we prepare ourselves for the Days of Awe as a community and as individuals, may we take the time to reflect on how we would like this year to be a Shanah Tovah; a time of personal reflection and growth, a time when we recommit ourselves to a life of kindness, generosity and intentional living, a year when we honor the past just as we pledge to change for the better.

With wishes of goodness and sweetness in the year ahead!

Shanah Tovah,
Rabbi Mara S. Nathan
Temple Beth-El
Pause and reflection during the Ten Days

Some days are more special than others. The ten days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are known as the Ten Days of Repentance or Aseret Yemei Teshuvah. The first section of the Schulchan Aruch, (Code of Jewish Law), speaks of the intensification of our religious practices during these days. For example, it notes one should become more scrupulous about eating bread made by Jews, even if one is generally lax in this regard. In our community, this concept and ones like it are not the norm. Whatever the level of our observance, we can and should make a concerted effort to raise ours a notch.

Rabbi Moshe Isserles (1520-1572) notes that the Ten Days are a time to scrupulously examine one’s deeds, adding that we should work even harder on examining deeds which were only possibly wrong. After all, when one is certain that he or she has misbehaved, regret comes effortlessly. In the Temple our ancestors brought a chattat (a kid or lamb) sin offering for certain sins but brought a more expensive asham (a ram) offering for possible guilt. This means that thinking about sinning is more expensive than actually sinning. What is going on here?

It seems to me that the halakhah, Jewish Law, is instructing us to be especially attentive to the grey areas of decision-making. Stealing is wrong. Most of us would be appalled to find ourselves in possession of something taken without permission from its owner. In fact, for such clear-cut questions, it does not even require significant effort to do the right thing. Should we discover that we have truly stolen, we must confess, apologize, return the item, and pay any damages.

Ambiguity is much more elusive. Many of our decisions are defensible without being right. Do we stick with our rationalizations, or do we do the hard work of reconsidering our deeds? Questioning our ambiguous errors is no fun, and we often don’t have the wherewithal.

When we think back on the past year, it may be relatively simple to identify a few big mistakes we made, regret, and have resolved to repair. The more difficult task, however, is to discern those moments of carelessness, haste, and inattentiveness when we caused damage without awareness. Rabbi Isserles is directing us to focus on these morally ambiguous behaviors during the Ten Days and to try to make all of our deeds more intentional and more constructive.

By pacing ourselves through the Ten Days of Repentance we can accomplish a great deal, remembering and repairing not only the intentional damage that we have wrought but also rethinking the sketchy or questionable moments when we could have and should have done better.

As we look to our New Year, I look forward to many more days of Torah, tefillah (prayer), mitzvot, and maasim tovim (good deeds) in 5775. May your prayers be sweet in your mouth, and may they be accepted with favor by the Holy Blessed One.

Shanah Tovah U’Mitukah (To a Happy, Healthy, and Sweet New Year)!

Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham
Congregation Agudas Achim

THE RABBIS’ VOICES FOR THE JEWISH HIGH HOLIDAYS

IT’S GOING TO BE A SWEET NEW YEAR

Celebrate the New Year with our large selection of apples and honey. Plus, freshly baked Round Challah, Honey Cake, Apple Coffee Cake, Rugelach and more in our Bakery.

Or simply call our Catering department to order a chef prepared dinner or break-the-fast buffet. We have kosher menus for all your holidays.
Becoming stronger Jews to make the world a better place

We often think of Rosh Hashanah as the most “Jewish” of our holy days. After all, at what other time of the year do Jews congregate together in such numbers. Yet, in fact, Rosh Hashanah is a holiday whose major themes are not particularly Jewish, but rather are universal in nature. Hayom harat olam—Today, we celebrate the birthday of the world. Hayom yaamid hamishpat kol yetzuray kedem. This day, all the creatures of the universe stand in judgment before G-d. This day, we pray, G-d, reign over all the universe in Thy glory. Shine forth in the majesty of Thy triumphant civilization but are a result of democracy; they neutralize the launching pads of those missiles. Hamas encouraged its own women and children to remain as human shields to be able to extract from the world a sympathy for themselves and antipathy for Israel.

While the world has forgotten the difference between intentional attacks against innocent people and accidental killings of the human shields that Hamas has placed next to the launchers, we should never be blindsided by any argument of moral equivalency. Let there be no confusion in our minds; between the perpetrators of evil and those who defend their populations against missile attacks. That kind of moral equivalency is, in fact, immoral equivalency.

In the last 7 weeks since the murder of the three Israeli teenagers, we have seen Israel assaulted with at least 4,000 missiles aimed at her population centers. In response to that, Israel attacked Hamas and their missile launchers that were embedded in densely populated neighborhoods, mosques, schools, and hospitals. In Israel’s defense of its people, Israel tried to neutralize the launching pads of those missiles. Hamas encouraged its own women and children to remain as human shields to be able to extract from the world a sympathy for themselves and antipathy for Israel.

We live in a world that has gone haywire and forgotten what justice is, what compassion is, what brotherhood is, what inner peace and international peace are, and what love is. Let us become stronger Jews, more educated, more exposed to the joy and wisdom of Judaism. Let us remain steadfast to the millennial truths of our Torah, which will provide the strength, courage, and fortitude to be a light unto the nations. We can be a blessing to a world that needs the faith and heritage of Israel to survive. May this new year bring blessing and strength to our families, communities, and to the world.

Aryeh Scheinberg
Congregation Rodfei Sholom

Rosh Hashanah Symonim: Foods for thought and hope

Dr. Rosalind Horowitz
Professor and Director, Jewish Society at UTSA

The foods we eat are not only for nutrition and good health, but they are also symbols for the way we orchestrate our lives. This is evident at the distinctive Rosh Hashanah Table.

Our Rosh Hashanah Table carries not only attributes of holiness associated with the Altar; in addition, this table signifies ways we should experience life. The Symonim (translated “symbols” or “signs”) are placed on the Rosh Hashanah Table to guide our thinking, as a precursor to the meal and our new year. They remind us of values to emulate and deeds to enact in the New Year 5775. Most, even young children, are familiar with the apples and honey; yes, they signify that the year should be a sweet one. But it is also noted by the Rabbis that the Gematria (numerical value) of honey conveys our faith in a ‘Merciful Father’. Less known and practiced is that there should be a fish on the table. This is to remind us we should be, first and foremost, Leaders, not...
We modern Jews have it too easy. We are free to disassociate ourselves from Jews and Judaism, so we forget that that's only a fairly recent option. Today the only forces keeping Jewish people involved with Judaism come from within. And since no one has been successful in perpetrating genocide against us for about seventy years, we are quick to forget that this moment in history is not normal.

The last sixty-six years have been the exception to Jewish life, not the rule. That's why I'm a Zionist, because I know that as much as the State of Israel is a modern miracle, it's something created by a people whose millennia of yearning and struggle reached its tipping point when faced with annihilation. When there is nowhere else to turn, people head for home.

My rabbinate has been spent primarily with people born after 1948 and 1967, as I am. I was an academic administrator or Hillel director for fifteen years and am used to being among the oldest people in the room on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year it will be different in my work with Temple Chai. I will stand before people much wiser and more experienced, keenly aware of my pisher status. This year more than others I recognize that my younger peers and I have a skewed view of the universe because we don't know first-hand a world without the State of Israel. We have no eyewitness memory of Jews on death marches. We may know people who have those memories, but they are the stuff of history to us. History, not memory.

It is through this prism that we experience the realities of Israel's ongoing struggle for acceptance and international recognition, and the rising tide of anti-Semitism around the globe. Those sworn to destroy the Jewish state make clear that they prefer not just no Jewish state in the Levant, but no Jewish people anywhere. We have it too easy because we don't know anything different. But what will our children and grandchildren know? I try not to be alarmist, but it's hard to be optimistic about a thriving Jewish future when so many appear eager to erase the Jewish gains of the second half of the twentieth century. At the same time, too few are willing to stand up for a people that is roughly one quarter of one percent of the world's population. Demography and history are not on our side.

Today, after thousands of years of wandering and suffering, we're finally at home again and relatively safe. But for how long, nobody knows. We Jewish people can’t take a single moment for granted, and each new year is a fresh opportunity to do more to fulfill our eternal mission to make the world better for all humanity. Perhaps this is the year that we will at last find peace wherever we live. It’s that hope that propels us always forward.

David Komerofsky
Temple Chai
As Temple Beth-El marks its 140th anniversary this year, it will build upon its rich tradition while welcoming new innovations and people during the upcoming High Holy Days.

Most notably, Rabbi Mara Nathan will lead her first High Holy Day services as the congregation’s new senior rabbi. Since she started in her position in July, the Temple has enjoyed significant congregational participation and spiritual and social energy.

As has been the practice in previous years, the Temple will have an early and late service on both holiday eves, and will have two concurrent services for each morning’s worship. The Temple also holds a children’s service each holiday morning and offers complimentary babysitting during the main services.

As has been done for many years, four congregants will share personal perspectives on what Judaism means to them during a Yom Kippur symposium prior to the congregation’s afternoon service. The Temple will also debut a pilot version of a new Reform High Holy Day Prayer Book, *Mishkan HaNefesh*, during Yom Kippur afternoon, Yizkor (memorial), and Neilah (concluding) services. Members of the community are welcome at Temple Beth-El during the High Holy Days and throughout the year.

Service details and guest pass information are available in the High Holiday section in this issue of the Jewish Journal, online at www.beth-elsa.org or by calling the Temple office at (210) 733-9135.

Celebrating 10 Years in San Antonio

Marco Gonzalez, SVP; Connie Gilbert, SVP; Chris Davenport, SVP

After 10 years of serving the San Antonio market, we remain focused on meeting the needs of local businesses. Our customers say that we are “responsive and creative” — we are committed to their success and to the prosperity of this community. Call or visit any one of our four San Antonio locations and find out for yourself why PlainsCapital has become one of Texas’ largest community banks.

210.321.3352
PlainsCapital.com
High Holiday notes from Congregation Rodfei Sholom

The Rodfei Sisterhood is kicking off their 2014-2015 year with A Taste of the Holidays cooking demonstration. This special event featuring renowned Dallas caterer Lowell Michelson will be held at Rodfei Sholom on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Lowell will share recipes appropriate for holiday dinners and Break-Fast meals. Everyone in attendance will get a taste of a variety of appetizers, main dish, side dishes (including a vegetarian dish), desserts, and drinks.

This is a new membership event for women interested in joining the Rodfei Sisterhood for the upcoming year. Dues are $25. As a member, you will have the privilege of attending events throughout the year at no additional charge. Upcoming activities include an art event, a gardening class, a lecture with a medical expert, a community service day, and more.

On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Friday, Sept. 26, Congregation Rodfei Sholom will host a traditional lunch following services. RSVP by Friday, Sept. 19 by contacting the synagogue at rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Rodfei Sholom’s Tashllich observance will take place near the Synagogue on Monday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. Tashlitch, which means “you will cast,” takes place between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We symbolically cast away our sins into a natural body of water (i.e. lake), and resolve to improve our lives. Congregants will leave promptly from Rodfei at 6 p.m. and will return for pizza. Adults are $5; children are free. RSVP by Monday, Sept. 22 if planning to attend.

Temple Chai spotlights music for High Holy Days

Sopranos Lauren Langbaum and Caitlin Smith will join Rabbi David Komensky for the special music of the 2014 High Holy Days at Temple Chai. Both young women sang in Temple Beth-El’s choir in the past, and have continued their love of music in college and beyond. “Both are outstanding examples of Jewish education and leadership in our community,” said Mark Meyers, Temple Chai President.

Cantorial soloist for Rosh Hashanah services, Caitlin Smith, has been Song Leader and T’fillah Coordinator at the Union of Reform Judaism’s Greene Family Camp since 2006. She served as leader of the Reform minyan and on the Hillel board at the University of Texas, Austin, and is currently a pre K-5 Life Skills teacher at Del Valle ISD. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Applied Child Development/Special Education.

Lauren Langbaum is cantorial soloist for Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services. She earned a degree in Vocal Performance at the Boston Conservatory of Music. A graduate of Clark High School, she is now pursuing a Master of Music in Musical Theatre at New York University.

Principal piano accompanist is Manahara Virasinha, a native of Sri Lanka who attended the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. Elizabeth Vargas, violinist, will render Bruch’s Kol Nidre. Temple Chai’s emphasis on music extends to its Contemplative Music Service on Yom Kippur afternoon, an opportunity for the congregation to “…get out of its mind and into its soul.” No words are spoken; in silence, all are encouraged to meditate and reflect upon this sacred time, while musical presentations are offered by Dr. Michael Stern and Manahara Virasinha, piano; Madge Cady, violin and viola; and Elizabeth Vargas, violin.

The community is welcome to attend. For more information, please call the Temple Chai office at (210) 340-2090, or Mark Meyers, (210) 241-3860, or visit www.templechaisa.org.

FOOD

continued from page 22

Followers, likened to the head—and not the tail—of the fish. And so we are Leaders—individually and collectively in many walks of life.

But there are still additional Symornim, even less known, used in Sephardic and Ashkenazic circles, that are worthy of our focused attention, which we will discuss at a Rosh Hashanah dinner for UTSA students, faculty, staff, and friends.

These other less known symbols signify perspectives taken in life. There is a blessing associated with each of these foods to express gratitude for the food and to also give us direction and hope during hard times.

At our dinner, on the first night of Rosh Hashanah, we will recognize dates and discuss their power to bring blessing of protection and survival; the dates are said to signify that we should see our adversaries, our enemies who seek to obstruct or destroy us, eradicated!

The pomegranate, on the table, with its multiple, juicy, red seeds, suggests we should perform a multitude of good acts in this world.

The carrots, which appear in a variety of forms, depending on one’s cultural practices, known as a tzimmes, a compote with honey, sometimes pineapple, prunes, or other fruits and sweet potatoes — convey that the year to come should bring a sweet, lushious existence, and that our merits and sweetness should grow and be multiplied.

Rashi conveys that these foods have been singled out because they have specific consequences—either possessing quick growth cycles or a sweet taste.

College students, faculty, staff, and friends of UTSA are invited to join in on the elaboration of these Symornim and dinner at the home of Professor Rosalind Horowitz, the first night of Rosh Hashanah, Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. We will examine how Rosh Hashanah provides us not only with food for physical health, but also food for thought and action including “higher levels of reasoning” beyond the foods of the typical daily life.

Who would imagine that food would have such symbolic significance? As Talmudic references and commentators describe, we are to ‘gaze’ at these foods (some elevate them at the table) but the gazing, looking on at the beauty of these foods and taking in their symbolic meanings is vital for a transition.

We can, then, offer a blessing for each possibility they convey about life and, eventually, enjoy eating them, taking them into our body.

RSVP by Sunday, September 21 by calling (210) 493-8368 or e-mail ComposerRh@aol.com. There is no charge.

All college students are welcome.

L’Shanah Tovah 5775! May it be a year of sweetness, where the symbols identified above, usher intellectual, psychological, moral, and spiritual fulfillment, peace and love for Israel, respect for our Soldiers, and hope for humanity throughout the world.
# HIGH HOLIDAY CALENDAR 5775

## CHABAD CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE & LEARNING

14535 Blanco Road San Antonio, Texas 78216 / (210) 764-0300 / www.ChabadSA.com / Chabad

All services will be held in the new sanctuary at the Chabad Center / Officiating: Rabbi Chaim Block, Rabbi Yossi Marrus, Rabbi Levi Teldon

### Selichot Services
- **Saturday, Sept. 20**
  - 1 a.m. (Sunday a.m.)

### Erev Rosh Hashanah
- **Wednesday, Sept. 24**
  - **Shachrit** - 6:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 7:10 p.m.

### Rosh Hashanah Day One
- **Thursday, Sept. 25**
  - **Shachrit** - 9 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 11 p.m.
  - Shofar Service - 12 p.m.
  - **Musaf** - 12:45 p.m.
  - **Minchah** - 5:45 p.m.
  - **Tashlich @ Edgewater** - 6:45 p.m.
  - **Maariv** - 8 p.m.

### Rosh Hashanah Day Two
- **Friday, Sept. 26**
  - **Shachrit** - 9 p.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 11 p.m.
  - Shofar Service - 12 p.m.
  - **Musaf** - 12:45 p.m.
  - **Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv** - 7 p.m.

### Shabbat Shuva
- **Saturday, Sept. 27**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 7 p.m.

### Fast of Gedalya
- **Sunday, Sept. 28**
  - **Shachrit** - 8 p.m.
  - Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.

### Erev Yom Kippur
- **Friday, Oct. 3**
  - **Shachrit** - 6:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah** - 3 p.m.
  - **Kol Nidrei** - 7 p.m.

### Yom Kippur
- **Saturday, Oct. 4**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 12 p.m.
  - **Yizkor** - 1 p.m.
  - **Minchah** - 5:45 p.m.
  - **Neilah** - 6:45 p.m.
  - **End of Fast** - 7:51 p.m.

### Erev Sukkot
- **Wednesday, Oct. 8**
  - **Shachrit** - 6:30 a.m.
  - Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.
  - Annual Sukkot Dinner - 7:45 p.m.
  - **RSVP (210) 764-0300**

### Sukkot Day One
- **Thursday, Oct. 9**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 6:45 p.m.

### Sukkot Day Two
- **Friday, Oct. 10**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & (Kabbalat Shabbat) Maariv** - 6:45 p.m.

### Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot
- **Saturday, Oct. 11**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 6:30 p.m.

### Chol HaMoed Sukkot
- **Sunday-Tuesday, Oct. 12-14**
  - **Shachrit** - 6:30 a.m. (Sun. 8 am)
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 6:45 p.m.

### Hoshanah Rabbah/Shemini Atzeret Eve
- **Wednesday, Oct. 15**
  - **Shachrit** - 6:30 a.m.
  - Minchah & Maariv (Hakkafot) - 6:45 p.m.

### Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Eve
- **Thursday, Oct. 16**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Yizkor** - 11:30 a.m.
  - Minchah & Maariv - 6:45 p.m.
  - Children’s Program - 7 p.m.
  - Simchat Torah Dancing-Hakkafot - 7:45 p.m.
  - **Kiddush & Refreshments** - 7:45 p.m.

### Simchat Torah
- **Friday, Oct. 17**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading, Aliyot Honors/Hakkafot - 11 p.m.
  - Minchah & Maariv (Kabbalat Shabbat) - 6:45 p.m.

### Shabbat Bereishit
- **Saturday, Oct. 18**
  - **Shachrit** - 9:30 a.m.
  - Babysitting & Junior Minyan - 10:30 a.m.
  - Torah Reading & Sermon - 10:30 a.m.
  - **Minchah & Maariv** - 6:30 p.m.
### Congregation Agudas Achim

16550 Huebner Road; San Antonio TX 78248 / (210) 479-0307 / www.agudas-achim.org / Conservative

Officiating: Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Hazzan Jeremy Lipton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selichot</strong></td>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 20</td>
<td>8:16 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>**Havdalah and Viewing of <strong>“20 Million Minutes,” a documentary of the effort in 2012 to petition the International Olympic Committee for a moment of silence in memory of the Munich 11 of 1972</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Torah Scroll Mantle Change and Procession</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Selichot Service followed by Margaritas and Munchies</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Erev Rosh Hashanah</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 24</td>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>First Day Rosh Hashanah</strong></td>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 25</td>
<td>Morning Services - 8 a.m. Youths Services (birth – high school - 11 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Kiddush luncheon following services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Second Day Rosh Hashanah</strong></td>
<td>Friday, Sept. 26</td>
<td>Morning Services - 8 a.m. Youths Services (birth – high school - 11 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Kiddush luncheon following services</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kabbalat Shabbat</strong></td>
<td>Friday, Sept. 26</td>
<td>6 - 15 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Shabbat Shuvah</strong></td>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 27</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Kiddush luncheon following service</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kevar Avot/Memorial Services</strong></td>
<td>Sunday, Sept. 28</td>
<td>Memorial Gardens - 9 a.m. Palmetto Street - 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Tashlich Service</strong></td>
<td>Sunday, Sept. 28</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Riverwalk at original Agudas Achim site</strong> @ 102 Aubrey St., San Antonio, Texas 78204</td>
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<td><strong>Kol Nidre</strong></td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 3</td>
<td>6:45 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Yom Kippur</strong></td>
<td>Saturday, Oct. 4</td>
<td>Morning Services - 9 a.m. Youths Services (birth – high school - 11 a.m.</td>
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<td>Musaf - 11:15 a.m.</td>
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<td>Yizkor - 12:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>Afternoon Recess - 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Avodah - 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Martyrology - 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Mincha - 5 p.m.</td>
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<td>Neilah - 6:15 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Children’s Processional - Final</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Shofar - Family Havdalah - 7:59 p.m.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Break the Fast in Memory of Ruth Reif and Steven Gossen</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Erev Sukkot</strong></td>
<td>Wednesday, Oct. 8</td>
<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Oneg in the sukkah</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sukkot First Day</strong></td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 9</td>
<td><strong>Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sukkot Second Day</strong></td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 10</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Musical Kabbalat Shabbat</strong></td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 10</td>
<td>**“One Friday Night With Friends” - 6:15 p.m.</td>
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</table>

**Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot**

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 9 a.m.

**Kiddush luncheon following service**

**Teen Camp Out in the Sukkah**

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 7 p.m.

**Breakfast in the Sukkah**

**Hoshanah Rabbah**

Wednesday, Oct. 15 - 7:30 a.m.

**Breakfast in the Sukkah**

**Erev Sh’mi Atzeret**

Wednesday, Oct. 15 - 6:15 p.m.

**Sh’mi Atzeret (Yizkor)**

Thursday, Oct. 16 - 9 a.m.

**Yizkor - 11 a.m.**

**Kiddush luncheon in the sukkah**

**Erev Simchat Torah** - Thursday, Oct. 16

**Family Dinner - 6 p.m.**

**Reservation required**

**Service - 7 p.m.**

**Dancing with Sifrei Torah**

**Simchat Torah**

Friday, Oct. 17

**Service & Dancing with Sifrei Torah** - 9 a.m.

**Kiddush luncheon following**

**Kabbalat Shabbat**

Friday, Oct. 17 - 6:15 p.m.

**Shabbat Bereshit**

Saturday, Oct. 18 - 9 a.m.

**Kiddush luncheon following**

**Babysitting provided during services.**
CONGREGATION BETH AM

7150 IH-10 West, at the intersection of IH-10 and Loop 410 (westbound access road) San Antonio, Texas, 78213 / (210) 492-2173 / www.bethamsatx.org / Reconstructionist / All services will be held in the Fellowship Hall at First Unitarian Universalist Church / Officiating: Rabbi Barry Krieger

Selichot
Saturday, Sept. 20 - 10 a.m.
Part of Shabbat morning services

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7:15 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day 1
Thursday, Sept. 25
Morning service - 9:30 a.m.
Children's service - 10:30 a.m.
Tashlich - 3 p.m.
At Joske Pavilion, Brackenridge Park

Shabbat Shuvah
Saturday, Sept. 27 - 10 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur- Kol Nidre
Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day 2
Friday, Sept. 26
Morning service - 9:30 a.m.
Shabbat Shuvah
Saturday, Sept. 27 - 10 a.m.

Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4
Yom Kippur Morning Service - 9:30 a.m.
Children's service - 10:30 a.m.
Yom Kippur Yizkor - Noon
Forum with Rabbi Krieger - 4 p.m.
Yom Kippur Mincha & Ne’ilah - 5 p.m.
Havdalah followed by Break-the-Fast - 8 p.m.

Congregation Beth Am requires no reservations or tickets, except for the break-the-fast on Saturday, Oct. 4. For details or to RSVP, call (210) 492-2173. Babysitting will be provided at no charge on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur.

CONGREGATION ISRAEL OF SAN ANTONIO

210) 387-2436 / http://www.congregationisraelsatx.org / Conservative
All High Holiday services to be held at Patriot Heights All Faiths' Chapel, 5000 Fawn Meadow, San Antonio, Texas 78240.
Officiating: Hazzan David Silverstein, JD, Ritual Leadership, Rev. David Miron, accompanist and Professional Chorale

Selichot penitential services
Saturday, Sept. 20 - Midnight

Erev Rosh Hashanah service
Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7:15 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah morning service
Thursday, Sept. 25 - 9 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah – 2nd morning service
Friday, Sept. 26 - 9 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre
Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.
Eve of Atonement

Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4
Shacharit and Torah service - 9 a.m.
Yizkor and Musaph - 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Mincha and Neilah - 6 p.m.
Shofar and Havdalah; Break the Fast - 7:52 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 24
Evening Services - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:11 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah
Thursday, Sept. 25
Morning Services - 8 a.m.
Shofar Service - 11 a.m.
Evening Services - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 8:10 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah – Day 2
Friday, Sept. 26
Morning Services - 8 a.m.
Shofar Service - 11 a.m.

Shabbos Shuva-Shabbat of Repentance
Friday, Sept. 26
Kabbalat Shabbat - 7 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:08 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 27
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma’ariv - 7 p.m.

Tashlich
Monday, Sept. 29 - 5 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur
Friday, Oct. 3
Mincha - 3 p.m.
Kol Nidre - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Yizkor Memorial Service - 12:30 p.m.
Mincha - 5 p.m.
Followed by Ne’ilah
Sounding of Shofar - 8 p.m.

Erev Sukkot
Wednesday, Oct. 8
Mincha/Ma’ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:55 p.m.

Sukkot
Thursday, Oct. 9
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma’ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 7:54 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 10
Morning Services - 9 a.m.
Mincha/Ma’ariv - 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting - 6:52 p.m.

FORT SAM HOUSTON JEWISH CONGREGATION
All services will be held at the Fort Sam Houston Main Post Chapel, Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234

Eve of Rosh Hashanah, First Day
Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 1915 Hrs. (7:15 p.m.)

Rosh Hashanah, Second Day
Friday, Sept. 26 - 0900 Hrs. (9 a.m.)

Shabbat Shuvah
Friday, Sept. 26 - 1930 Hrs. (7:30 p.m.)

Eve of Yom Kippur – Kol Nidre
Friday, Oct. 3 - 1900 Hrs. (7 p.m.)

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THE HILL COUNTRY
All services will be held at Unitarian Universalist Church of the Hill Country, 960 Barnett Street, Kerrville, Texas 78028 / Officiating: Rachel Walsh

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 7 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah
Thursday, Sept. 25 - 10 a.m.

Yom Kippur- Kol Nidre
Friday, Oct. 3 - 7 p.m.

Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4 - 10 a.m.

JCHC doesn’t require tickets. For more information, please call (830) 367-2000.
## Temple Beth-El

211 Belknap Place; San Antonio, TX 78212 / (210) 733-9135 / www.beth-elsa.org / Reform
Officiating: Rabbi Mara Nathan, Rabbi Elisa Koppel, Cantor Julie Berlin

### Selichot
Saturday, Sept. 20
- Selichot Discussion and Dessert 8 p.m.
- Candlelight Selichot Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 9:30 p.m.

### Erev Yom Kippur
Friday, Oct. 3
- Early Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.
- Late Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 8:45 p.m.

### Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4
- Children’s Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 9 a.m.
- Meditation and self-study with music for adults, 9-10:30 a.m., ~In the Oppenheimer Chapel
- Morning Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.
- Morning Service in the Barshop Auditorium 10:30 a.m.
- Apples and Honey 12:30 p.m.
- Served in the Jacobson Garden and Stahl Gallery

#### Appletini Lunch
12:30 p.m.
For those in their 20’s, 30s, and 40s-ish in the Dreeben Family Pavilion

### Sukkot - First Day
Thursday, Oct. 9
- Sukkot Morning Festival Worship in the Oppenheimer Chapel 10:30 a.m.

### Sukkot – Second Day
Friday, Oct. 10
- Shabbat Sukkot Family Service in the Wulfe Sanctuary 6:30 p.m.
- Shabbat Sukkot Family Dinner 7:45 p.m.
- In the Brotherhood Sukkah, prepared by Temple Brotherhood. Advanced RSVPs and payment required.

### Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve
Wednesday, Oct. 15
- Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve Service and Consecration 6:30 p.m.
- In the Wulfe Sanctuary

### Atzeret-Simchat Torah
Thursday, Oct. 16
- Atzeret-Simchat Morning Festival Worship Service with Yizkor 10:30 a.m.
- In the Oppenheimer Chapel

### Tashlich and Picnic
Sunday, Sept. 28 12:30 p.m.
To be held at the site of the former River Walk Inn, 329 Old Guilbeau Rd.
Bring your own picnic lunch. The service will begin at approximately 1 p.m.

### Kever Avot
Sunday, Sept. 28
(Cemetery Memorial Service)
Temple Beth-El Cemetery (Palmetto St.) 3 p.m.
Beth-El Memorial Park (Austin Highway) 4 p.m.
TEMPLE CHAI

All services held in the Holzman Auditorium (unless otherwise noted), Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community
12500 N.W. Military Hwy. (at Wurzbach) San Antonio, TX 78231
Temple Chai Office 7410 Blanco Rd., Suite 340  San Antonio, TX 78216 / Phone: (210) 340-2090 / Website: www.templechaisa.org / Reform

Officiating:Rabbi David Komerofsky / Cantorial Soloists: Caitlin Smith, Lauren Langbaum accompanied by Manahara Virasinha

Selichot
Saturday, Sept. 20  9 p.m.
Reception/Havdalah

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 24  8 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah
Thursday, Sept. 25  10 a.m.

Apples and Honey Reception
followed by Tashlich ceremony

Shabbat Shuvah
Friday, Sept. 26  6:45 p.m.

Kol Nidre
Friday, Oct. 3  8 p.m.

Yom Kippur
Saturday, Oct. 4
Morning Service - 10 am
Text Study with Rabbi Komerofsky
1:30 pm
Contemplative Music Service
3:15 pm
Yizkor Service
4:15 pm
Neilah Service
5:15 pm
Break-the-Fast follows Neilah

Sukkot in the Sukkah
Saturday, Oct. 11  10 a.m.

Simchat Torah
Friday, Oct. 17  6:45 p.m.

Complimentary admission is extended to all military and students with ID. Reciprocity for members of other Jewish congregations is also granted for admission to any of our services.

A $180 contribution is requested of non-member families. This includes admission for adults and all children under the age of 18 to all High Holy Day services and events. This High Holy Day contribution will be applied to the Annual Membership Commitment for those joining Temple Chai this year.

For information or High Holy Day tickets, please call the Temple Chai office, (210) 340-2090 or our President, Mark Meyers, (210) 241-3860.

GOLDEN ESTATES REHABILITATION CENTER

130 Spencer Ln, San Antonio, TX 78201
Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services will provide High Holiday Services for the residents at Golden Estates.

Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, Sept. 24  10:30 a.m.

Yom Kippur
Friday, Oct. 3  2 p.m.

Sukkot Luncheon
Wednesday, Oct. 8  Noon

Sukkot Luncheon
Wednesday, Oct. 8  Noon

BARRY L. EFRON
Attorney at Law

- Probate
- Estate Planning
- Family Law
- Real Estate
- Bankruptcy

10010 San Pedro Avenue Suite 660
San Antonio, Texas 78216
210-366-9676
Fax 210-366-0412
Not certified by The Texas Board of Legal Specialization

John S. Troy
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

PLEASE TELL OUR ADVERTISERS YOU SAW THEM IN THE JEWISH JOURNAL!
Adon Olam: Deepening our spiritual connection

“I know you. I was written nearly 2500 years ago just for you. They call me Adon Olam. I was written as a prayer to light a path for our people through every kind of darkness. No matter where you have come from and no matter what you have gone through, my words hold a secret message especially for you.”

These are the opening words of a new book, Adon Olam, A Search for Meaning, by Rabbi Zalman Weiss.

Last night twenty-five of us were treated to an amazing talk by this Orthodox rabbi from Jerusalem who happens to be the brother of one of the members of the Chavurah my husband and I belong to.

As he told us of his work in Israel with people wanting to convert to Judaism, he admitted that they often asked him difficult questions that he could not answer.

As he searched for answers for his students, he discovered a wealth of Jewish wisdom that had been hidden for centuries in the words of the verses beginning with Adon Olam. He spent four years researching the topic, and then another five years writing and rewriting this volume that just had its first printing.

As we are all getting ready for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the spiritual highpoint in our Jewish year, we learned it doesn’t have to be at the same level of understanding and spiritual connection as in previous years. It can escalate.

Rabbi Weiss implored us to learn about the meaning hidden in the words of this song we mindlessly sing during our worship services, words that were written 2500 years ago by the last prophets of Israel. In doing so, we will grow in our understanding of the divine relationship we all have with our God.

According to Rabbi Weiss, these revered men knew that the age of prophecy was coming to an end, and there wouldn’t be any direct communication with the Master of the Universe until the coming of the Messiah. Thus, they hid the wisdom that led to the truth about God in the words of Adon Olam.

Before leaving the Chavurah, I bought two books, one for me and one for Bobi. As we are writing this column, neither of us has completed the reading of this book, but we both know that this is our kind of subject matter.

Bobi adds: As Linda has said, she bought me this wonderful book that emphasizes Adon Olam, which is a search for meaning in one’s life. Without a search for meaning, we cannot develop Jewish wisdom that must include the desire to learn more about God.

Who wouldn’t agree with Rabbi Weiss that every piece of ourselves and the world in which we live is truly a gift of God? As long as we are alive, we have to continually be searching and be ready to recognize the importance.

See MISHUGAS, page 33
Vex Season Passes and One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest tickets on sale

The Sheldon Vexler Theatre’s 16th Season began in August with Dale Wasserman’s drama One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest. The play, directed by Dylan Brainard and featuring Vex Artistic Director Ken Frazier as R.P. McMurphy – the role Jack Nicholson portrayed in the film – continues this month with performances through September 20.

Based on Ken Kesey’s novel of the same name, One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest follows a rebel, McMurphy, who feigns insanity in order to finish out a prison sentence in a mental ward instead of on a work farm. There, he discovers the patients of the asylum make a lot more sense than the restrictive and conformist establishment. Note: this production contains adult themes and language.

Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Individual ticket prices are $15-21, depending on ticket type, and Vex Season Passes ($60-68) are available for purchase through September 20, which includes one admission to each of this season’s four productions. Visit www.vexler.org for more information about the 2014-15 season. To purchase tickets and season passes, or tickets to One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest, call The Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835.
### Rodfei Sholom Book Club

Members of the Rodfei Sholom Book Club will gather at the Synagogue on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the book, *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit (with facilitator Dr. Nissim Elbaz).

Ari Shavit, a long-time columnist for the liberal newspaper, *Haaretz*, examines his country’s history, its glories, and its most painful chapters. This narrative is more than the sum of its parts—both personal and national, deeply human and of profound historical dimension. As it examines the complexities and contradictions, the author uses the defining events of the past to shed light on the present. For more information, contact Rodfei Sholom.

### Sunday Funday *Toys for Yeladim*

Rodfei Sholom monthly Sunday Funday events generally focus on fun, educational activities for our children, but an upcoming program open to the community this month is “other-oriented” and highlights doing a mitzvah.

The special project, called *Toys for Yeladim*, takes place on Sunday, Sept. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event is being generously supported by Reuben Lopez, owner of The Toy Zone located at 10003 N.W. Military Highway and the new location at 22211 IH-10 West. All those purchasing items for this event will receive a 20% discount. When checking out, be sure to mention the toys are for children in Israel.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a new toy, game, craft project, or art supplies to be used in the shelters in Israel. Due to the current situation and constant activity in the summer, the shelters need to be resupplied. From September 2 through 7, there will be bins in the lobby at Rodfei Sholom, and everyone is encouraged to bring toys, etc. during office hours (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). On Sunday Funday, children will have materials to make cards and pictures to send with the collected items. A light continental breakfast will be available at $5 for adults. Children are free, but are encouraged to bring an item to donate. For more information, contact rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557.

### L’Chayim Club on Sept. 10

The Rodfei Sholom L’Chayim Club for seniors will have their monthly event on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Rodfei Sholom synagogue. *The Message of the Shofar* presented by Rabbi A. Scheinberg will give insight and meaning into the upcoming holidays.

This will be followed by a lunch and an opportunity to exchange ideas and socialize with friends. The program is open to everyone. Seniors are free, thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor. Other participants are $8 each. For more information and to RSVP by Friday, Sept. 5, contact rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3558.

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Featuring

Avi Issacharoff is The Times of Israel’s Middle East analyst. Born in Jerusalem, he graduated from Ben Gurion University with a B.A. in Middle Eastern studies and then earned his M.A. from Tel Aviv University on the same subject.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Avi was the Middle East Affairs reporter for Israeli Public Radio covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the war in Iraq and the Arab countries between the years 2003-2006.

In 2002 he won the “best reporter” award for his coverage of the second intifada. In 2004, together with Amos Harel, he wrote “The Seventh War - How we won and why we lost the war with the Palestinians.” A year later, the book won an award from the Institute for Strategic Studies for containing the best research on security affairs in Israel. In 2008, Issacharoff and Harel published their second book, entitled “34 Days - The Story of the Second Lebanon War,” which won the same prize.

Tuesday, September 16, 2014
7:30 PM
Dessert Reception to Follow

Congregation Agudas Achim
16550 Huebner Road • San Antonio

Registration is required; please visit www.aipac.org/SATXAgudasAchim

For more information, please contact:
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832-380-7709
kpenn@aipac.org
OAKLAND, Calif. -- An Israeli-operated cargo ship blocked from unloading its goods for four days in Oakland by anti-Israel protesters feigned a return to sea before doubling back secretly to port.

The standoff began last month when the Piraeus, operated by Zim Integrated Shipping Services, Israel’s largest shipping company, was scheduled to dock at Oakland Port.

Hundreds of protesters organized by the Arab Resource and Organizing Center in San Francisco blocked the entrance to the port to prevent longshoremen from entering, ostensibly to draw attention to Israel’s operation in Gaza.

The ship remained at sea for a day, then docked for three days, when it left with its cargo intact, seemingly headed for Southern California. Instead it quickly turned around and docked at another terminal, where two dozen longshoremen worked overnight to unload the cargo.

AROC’s Block the Boat campaign had earlier declared victory, claiming in one statement that “workers honored our picket,” suggesting that union members sympathized with the protesters.

But a news release from the International Longshore and Warehouse Union said the union takes no position on the Middle East conflict and was concerned only with protecting its workers from the “volatility associated with a large demonstration and significant police presence.”

Anti-Israel protesters had some success stopping Zim ships from unloading in Oakland twice before, in 2010 and 2012.

Demonstrators attempted to block a Zim vessel in Long Beach on Aug. 13 but failed to stop workers from unloading the cargo.

Block the Boat has called for protests in Tacoma, Wash., and Vancouver, B.C., with the aim of shutting down Israeli shipping to the West Coast.

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Calls to UK anti-Semitism hotline soar since start of Gaza conflict

(JTA) -- The number of calls to an anti-Semitism hotline in the United Kingdom have jumped nearly fivefold since the beginning of Israel’s conflict with Gaza, according to a British Jewish organization.

In July, the hotline of the Community Security Trust, British Jewry’s watchdog on anti-Semitism, received 240 calls, according to the Independent, a British publication. The hotline averaged 50 calls a month during the first half of 2014.

The volume was the highest since the hotline was launched except for January 2009, when Israel conducted its last ground invasion of Gaza. Many of the calls concerned verbal attacks that compared Jews to Nazis or accused them of being child killers.

Britain has seen a spate of protests against Israel since the conflict began in early July. In August, a branch of the British supermarket chain Sainsbury’s removed kosher food from its shelves during an anti-Israel protest.

“The actual data is bad enough but cannot convey the mood of the Jewish community, with many people telling us that they have never felt so bad, have been under such pressure, nor worried so much about what the future may hold,” said the Community Security Trust’s communications director, Mark Gardner, according to the Independent. “British Jews, like those elsewhere, will continue to suffer local anti-Semitic impacts from overseas events and global ideological trends.”

Hamas targets Israeli offshore gas rig with rockets

(JNS.org) Hamas said it fired two rockets at an Israeli offshore gas rig, in the first such attempt by the Gaza terrorist group since Operation Protective Edge began.

The offshore gas platform called Noa is located approximately 19 miles off the Gaza coast and is owned by the U.S.-based gas company Noble Energy and the Israeli gas firm Delek.

While the Noa platform is within range of Hamas rockets, the rockets largely lack any guidance systems and are highly inaccurate. The Israeli military said no rockets have struck the platforms.

“The gas is flowing, business as usual,” a spokeswoman for Noble Energy said, Reuters reported.

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Hollywood elite sign statement condemning Hamas

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Nearly 200 Hollywood elite from actors to directors to studio heads have signed a statement condemning Hamas, as its conflict with Israel continues.

“Hamas cannot be allowed to rain rockets on Israeli cities, nor can it be allowed to hold its own people hostage. Hospitals are for healing, not for hiding weapons. Schools are for learning, not for launching missiles. Children are our hope, not our human shields,” read the statement signed by members of the Creative Community for Peace and posted on its website on August 23. (www.creativecommunityforpeace.com/justice/)


The statement also said that the signatories “are saddened by the devastating loss of life endured by Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza. We are pained by the suffering on both sides of the conflict and hope for a solution that brings peace to the region.”

Among those signing the document are: Aaron Sorkin, Sylvester Stallone, Roseanne Barr, Sherry Lansing, Seth Rogen and Kathy Ireland.

The statement follows several comments, including ones on Twitter and Facebook, by Hollywood figures, in support of Gaza and the Palestinians.
Welcome baby Casell

Faye and Jason Casell and big sister Ellery celebrated the birth of Sascha George on June 3 in Houston. He weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19.25 in. long. Grandparents are Jane and Steve Bankler, and Susan and Jay Casell, all of San Antonio. Great-grandparents are Luise and Morris Bankler, also of San Antonio.

Jason is an attorney at Reed Smith in Houston, and Faye works in early childhood education.

Zucker-Franklin engagement

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zucker are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie, to Ari Franklin, of Chicago, Illinois.

The couple met in Austin, Texas at a holiday party in November. Their many mutual friends wondered when the pair would eventually meet.

Ari is the son of Jonathan and Linda Franklin of Oak Park, Illinois.

Julie runs Outreach and Engagement programs at the Dell Jewish Community Center in Austin, Texas.

Ari is an entrepreneur and currently the Director of Experience at Uberpong, based out of Austin.

The couple will wed in Austin in January 2015.

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Wishing You L’Shanah Tovah
And A Sweet Holiday Season

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**Elite Instant Coffee Tin**
- Price: $9.88 ea.
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- Price: $13.48 ea.
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**Red Delicious Apples**
- Price: $4.48 ea.
- Get 2 Free Items with purchase of this item

**J&J Cottage Cheese**
- Price: $5.21 ea.
- Get A Free Item with purchase of this item

**Golden Blintzes**
- Price: $4.39 ea.
- Get A Free Item with purchase of this item

**Aaron’s Boneless Beef Chuck Eye Roast**
- Price: $6.97 lb.
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Prices good Monday, September 1 thru Friday, October 31, 2014, while supplies last.

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