



# THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

AV-ELUL 5778

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

AUGUST 2018

## ***The Jewish Journal* is going digital: What you need to know**

Beginning October 2018, the *Jewish Journal* is going digital, and will be emailed 11 times a year in an easy to read and navigate flipbook format that computer users have been asking for.

### **Why the change?**

The new web-based publication will allow us to reach wider audiences and satisfy requests from a growing number of readers who prefer getting news online.

Going green is also environmentally friendly and fiscally responsible for the Jewish Federation, which produces and distributes the *Jewish Journal* at no cost to the community.

### **What won't change?**

The new online publication will have the same content, and the same look and feel as this printed version, only it will be in a digital flipbook instead of on paper. We anticipate launching a new Jewish Journal website sometime next year, which will have the most up

See **DIGITAL**, page 7

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**You must let Jewish Federation know if you would like to continue receiving a printed publication.** This is an opt in service. If we don't receive a request, you will NOT receive the *Jewish Journal Digest*.

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**PAGE 26**



### **YOUR JEWISH COMMUNITY**

See what's happening and get involved!

**PAGE 12**

## The quest for understanding: With answers, come more questions



**Letter from our CEO**

**RONIT SHERWIN**

I began the summer with intensity. I accompanied our Holocaust Study Seminar students (year two of a program coordinated by the HMMSA) to Germany and Poland. After studying together for more than five months, these twelve students went to the places where one of the darkest periods of history occurred. It was an amazing trip and also a difficult journey. While I previously noted that the trip to Europe was a "culmination" of their studies, I now know better that there is no "culmination" in learning about the Holocaust. There are only

### **PHOTOS FROM THE HOLOCAUST STUDY**

**PAGE 14 - 15**

more questions.

In a few weeks, many of our children will begin another year of school. The new school year is an exciting time, filled with fresh beginnings and new school supplies too. As Jews, we want our children to not simply absorb new information, but to also ask questions in the process. We all know the old joke – "two Jews, three opinions." While that joke tends to highlight the argumentative nature of

See **CEO**, page 3

## Entire Western Wall is 'danger zone,' archaeologist says

After a large stone fell from the Western Wall on July 23, an Israeli archaeologist declared the holy site's entire plaza a "danger zone."

Other stones "could immediately fall" and hurt people, Zachi Dvira told The Times of Israel. He is completing a Ph.D. on the archaeology of the Temple Mount.

The boulder that fell at one of the sight's areas designated for egalitarian mixed prayer weighed about 220 pounds, according to Israel Radio. It missed all onlookers but landed close to a female worshiper.



Israel "doesn't do proper preservation [of the site] because of politics," Dvira said, arguing that the controversy surrounding the egalitarian prayer area has prevented the proper upkeep.

While the egalitarian section has been closed since the incident, he believes visitors should stand a few feet back from the wall in all of its sections, for safety reasons.

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### **WHAT'S INSIDE**

CANDLE LIGHTING **2**

HIGH HOLIDAYS **23**

IN THE COMMUNITY **9**

SENIOR NEWS **24**

WHAT'S HAPPENING **14**

ARTS & CULTURE **25**

PERSPECTIVE **20**

US & WORLD **26**

YOUTH & TEENS **21**

Also read the Journal online at: [www.jfsatx.org](http://www.jfsatx.org)



# THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF SAN ANTONIO

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**RONIT SHERWIN**, CEO

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## Jewish Federation OF SAN ANTONIO

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

### EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS:

The submission deadline for the September 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is August 10, 2018 at noon.

All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

**How to submit:** Email submissions to [jewishj@jfsatx.org](mailto:jewishj@jfsatx.org)

• Articles & Announcements - Email as word documents. Articles submitted for consideration are subject to editing.

• Photos - Email high resolution images (300 dpi) in jpg attachments only.

### ADVERTISING:

To place an advertisement or request ad rates, contact Leslie Komet Ausburn at [advertising@jfsatx.org](mailto:advertising@jfsatx.org).

#### Ad deadlines for September 2018 ISSUE:

• Ad space reservations due no later than August 10, 2018 by noon  
• Press ready ads due by August 16, 2018.

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

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

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Erickson John Bryan

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## CANDLE LIGHTING

### FRIDAY, AUG. 3

Light Candles at: 8:07 p.m.

### SHABBAT, AUG. 4

Shabbat Ends: 9:03 p.m.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 10

Light Candles at: 8:01p.m.

### SHABBAT, AUG. 11

Shabbat Ends: 8:56 p.m.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 17

Light Candles at: 7:55 p.m.

### SHABBAT, AUG. 18

Shabbat Ends: 8:49 p.m.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 24

Light Candles at: 7:47 p.m.

### SHABBAT, AUG. 25

Shabbat Ends: 8:41 p.m.

### FRIDAY, AUG. 31

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### SHABBAT, SEPT. 1

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## YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

### YAD plans second *Gefilte Fish Tank* event — February 2019



More than 75 guests showed up to the first *Gefilte Fish Tank* in June at The Well. The Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio launched the inaugural event, based loosely on the popular TV show *Shark Tank*, as a way to fund innovative projects in San Antonio's Jewish community. Guests enjoyed appetizers and dips at the "Take A Dip" Buffet, a tasty custom cocktail, and live music with the band Three Volt Dimes.

In this first round, five projects applied to pitch at the event in front of the audience and an expert panel of "Gefilte Fish": David Adelman, Leslie Komet Ausburn, Bonnie Reed, and Marty Wender. The YAD Board reviewed the pitches and allocated micro-grants to the projects from Hillel San Antonio, National Council of Jewish Women, Congregation Agudas Achim, Artist David Kassan, and community member Zac Levin. \$3,000 was awarded between the

five winners through the Innovation Fund, generously supported by the Wulfe Family Trust, and an additional \$300 raised at the event went to the winners. YAD plans to host the *Gefilte Fish Tank* twice a year and the next event is planned for February 24, 2019.

If you have an innovative idea or would like to learn more about the event, contact JFSA's Director of Community Engagement Eva Laporte at [laportee@jfsatx.org](mailto:laportee@jfsatx.org).

#### CEO

continued from page 1

our people, arguments begin with asking questions. The Talmudic tradition is based on the concept of asking questions in order to arrive at a deeper understanding of the material. The entire Passover

Seder is also centered around a desire to evoke questions in even our youngest children.

If there is one thing I learned from my trip to Germany and Poland earlier this summer, it is that I only have more questions than I did previously. And while my questions frustrate

me at times, I am trying to embrace what it means to have questions. My own children raise multiple questions daily, and I want to model for them that raising questions is not a nuisance but an indication of a sincere quest for understanding.

In a matter of weeks we will

embrace the Jewish New Year, another fresh beginning. We lead into this holiday with great introspection and self-examination. And we do so through many questions: *What did I learn from this past year? What part did I play in what happened and did not happen in my life? How do I want to*

*act differently in the world in this coming year? What do I want my community to look like? What will I do to make that happen?*

I hope to embrace my questions in the coming year and recommit to lifelong learning. Please join me in this commitment.

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# Answer the Call!

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or contact Alexis Benedict at 210.302.6967



## Big Sonia to be screened at the JCC

On Sunday, Aug. 19 at 5 p.m., the Barshop JCC Jewish Film Festival and Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio will co-present the documentary *Big Sonia*.

Directed by Seattle-based filmmaker Leah Warshawski and Todd Soliday, *Big Sonia* is an “inspirational piece about the healing power of forging human connections that wisely maintains its focus on its spirited, stylish main subject” *LA Times*.

In the last store in a defunct shopping mall, 91-year-old Sonia Warshawski – great-grandmother, businesswoman, and Holocaust survivor – runs the tailor shop she’s owned for more than 30 years. But when she’s served an eviction notice, the specter of retirement prompts Sonia to resist her harrowing past as a refugee and witness to genocide. A poignant story of generational trauma and healing, *Big Sonia* offers a laugh-out-loud-funny portrait of the power of love to triumph over bigotry, and the power of truth-telling to heal us all.

The screening will be followed by a talkback, featuring Holocaust survivor Susanna Weisz Jalnos. Additionally, the Holocaust Memorial Museum will be open to tour for an hour following the talkback.

Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased online at [www.jccsanantonio.org/filmevents](http://www.jccsanantonio.org/filmevents), or by calling the JCC at (210) 302-6820.

## Community gathers for Tikkun for Troops

Nearly 200 volunteers gathered on Sunday, July 8 to pack supplies for military troops around the world at the 2nd Annual *Tikkun for Troops*. Hosted by the Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, the community-wide event featured a kosher bagel breakfast, craft stations with PJ Library, DJ Rikko Ollervidez, and a selfie-mirror station. In kind sponsors included Starbucks, H-E-B and The Life in Art Photography.

Chaplain Mendy Stern offered an opening invocation, and Orit Eylon, singer and Associate Professor of Music at the University of the Incarnate Word, performed the Star Spangled Banner and Hatikvah. Interpreter Robert Cardoza accompanied the anthem in both ASL and Israeli Sign Languages. Guest speaker, Colonel Hannah S. Margolis, USAF Ret. shared her career experiences as a Jewish

See **TIKKUN**, next page



ABOVE: San Antonio Military men and women joined with our local Jewish children to share in a patriotic photo.



AT LEFT: PJ Library children Nora and Amanda (and many others) participated in edible American flag making projects, along with USA spirit stick making and postcard writing stations in order to show appreciation and thanks to our military.

## San Antonio Community Israel Experience 2019

# SIGN UP NOW!

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<https://daattravel.com/San-Antonio-Community>

**Questions? Contact**  
**Lauren Abraham at**  
**AbrahamL@jfsatx.org**

# YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

## TIKKUN

continued from previous page

woman in the military. Major Gayle "Hava" Haischer-Rollo introduced honorary co-chairs Lyndon Villone and Jillian Monk, US Veterans who work with service animals and equine therapy for veterans with disabilities at Heel the Heroes.

During the event, volunteers packed more than 50 boxes of supplies (approximately 300 pounds), to ship to Operation Gratitude, an agency that sends care packages to troops stationed around the world.

To learn more about community events and the Young Adult Division, contact Eva Laporte at [laportee@jfsatx.org](mailto:laportee@jfsatx.org).



Major Hava Haischer-Rollo and Captain Saul A. Rappeport joined Irwin Barath at Tikkun for Troops



Young adults Stephanie Finger and Jared Mendeloff (and dozens of others) packaged various goods to be sent off to our troops.

Chaplain Mendy Stern offered an opening invocation to our many community members in attendance at the second annual Tikkun for Troops.



## A Conversation with Faith and Civic Leaders on Immigration Community Concerns

By Ellen Ollervidez, CRC Director

On Tuesday, July 3 at City Hall with Mayor Ron Nirenberg and City of SA Immigration Liaison, Tino Gallegos, a large interfaith group met to better understand the plight of refugees along the South Texas border.

The purpose of the gathering was to investigate, teach, and articulate the refugee situation so that we may empower and equip our spheres of influence to act with compassion and care.

San Antonio is one of the nerve-centers of the trauma that has occurred as a result of immigrants, asylum seekers, the zero-tolerance policy and the following executive order that ended the practice of separating

immigrant children from their parents.

The situation is complex and is compounded by the fear of immigrants that has been perpetuated in public and private, creating confusion for those wanting to help.

Members of the faith based community are offering support locally by providing people and financial resources that go toward legal services, and needs of shelters and facilities that offer support to this vulnerable population.

For more information about how you can help, contact the Interfaith Welcome Coalition at [sanantoniowelcome@gmail.com](mailto:sanantoniowelcome@gmail.com).

## Holocaust Study Seminar Open House & Reception Sunday, September 16th | 3-5pm

12500 NW Military Hwy, Holzman Auditorium

Twelve students went on a journey from Southwest Texas to Central & Eastern Europe. Their exploration of the twentieth century will inspire them to deliver the best of the twenty-first.

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Contact Juana Rubalcava at 210.302.6812 for more details.



# YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

## JFSA installs new board at 2017 annual meeting

Jonathan Gurwitz, now immediate past chair of the Board of Directors the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, presided over the 96th annual meeting held on June 4, 2018. Harry Levy, IV, was installed as the chair of the Board of Directors, along with a new Executive Committee and six new directors: Dana Gorelik, Jean Karren, Joe Patrick, Elisa Reinsmith, Amy Saklad and Alice Troy.

The presentation of awards included Philip Moss as the recipient of the Joel A. Toubin Community Relations Council Award, Riley Greenberg as the recipient of the Sylvia F. and Harry Sugerman Young Leadership Award, Ayelet Kboundi as the recipient of the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education and Michael Swanson as the recipient of the Chair's Award in recognition of his outstanding service to the Federation over the past year.

The program concluded with remarks from Consul General of Israel to the Southwest United States, Gilad Katz. In his remarks, Katz highlighted the various programs and ways the Jewish Federation of San Antonio connects to Israel, including the upcoming April 2019 Community Israel Experience Trip. Consul General Katz arrived in Houston with his family last August, just prior to Hurricane Harvey.



A Jewish educator for over thirty years, Ayelet Kboundi received the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.



Former chair of the Community Relations Council, Philip Moss received the Joel A Toubin Community Relations Council Award from Jimmy Toubin.



Incoming Jewish Federation President, Harry Levy and his wife Mary and outgoing president, Jonathan Gurwitz, and his wife Rachel are joined by the Council General Gilad Katz and his wife.



Young Leadership award winner, Riley Greenberg is joined by her fellow graduates from the year-long Educational Leadership Course.



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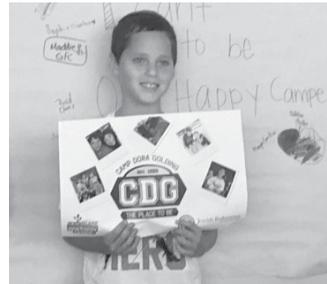


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## One Happy Camper Interview: The Miller Family

The Miller family relocated to San Antonio four years ago from Englewood, New Jersey. Seth and Valerie Miller, along with their four kids, Shannah, Yosef, Tali, and Avi (ranging from ages 2-13) moved here due to Seth's job. Seth and Valerie grew up in an orthodox home with their parents involved in their own community, and so getting involved in the San Antonio Jewish community came naturally to them. Their goal is to make our (Jewish) community a better place.

The Millers believe that Jewish over-night camp is a great way to have 24/7 full Jewish immersion where kids learn to love their Jewish roots



and make connections all around the country and the world.

When looking for a camp, the Miller family chose Camp Dora Golding as it is very sports focused for their active son. The camp includes everything from Soccer, to ropes course, and biking, and infuses Jewish values and learning into each activity. It includes Kosher food and a

Shomer Shabbat (observant lifestyle) like they are used to at home.

The One Happy Camper gift grant has really helped the Miller offset their first time costs for both Shanna and Yosef, as the cost of camping and Jewish education can really add up with four children. In addition, it has helped them actually make the decision to send their kids to overnight camp even easier.

Their goals and aspirations are that their kids keep in touch with friends from a variety of Jewish backgrounds and cities around the world, and that Jewish camping helps build their personal skills and make them more "worldly." In addition, they want their kids to learn that Judaism is beautiful and not suffocating. With teens as they are growing up, it's tough to see the fun and beauty of our religion on an everyday basis, but with their camp experiences, the Millers hope the next generation will be proud to be Jewish!

### DIGITAL

continued from page 1

to date news and information available 24/7.

### How do I ensure I will receive the new digital Jewish Journal?

We will email readers as soon as the latest Journal flipbook is "hot off the press" and ready to read online.

There is no limit to the number of people in a household who can access the flipbook Journal, and we encourage each individual in your home (14 and older) to be signed up.

### Is there anything I need to do to ensure I continue receiving the Journal digitally?

We can't email you the new online *Jewish Journal* unless we have your email address in our *Jewish Journal* email list.

Please email us ([Vargasy@jfsatx.org](mailto:Vargasy@jfsatx.org)), call Federation, or print and mail the email addresses of everyone in your household who would like to have access to the *Jewish Journal* each month.

Be sure to include emails for your spouse, college students, and out of town friends and

relatives with a San Antonio connection.

### Your privacy is key.

Your emails will NOT be shared or used for any other purpose unless you specifically request that we add you to our community email list to receive other Federation communications and updates. You may opt out of the monthly Journal notifications at any time.

### What if I want to continue receiving a printed version of the Journal?

We understand that some of our readers still prefer to receive their *Jewish Journal* news in printed format.

Beginning in October, we are happy to snail mail the new *Jewish Journal Monthly Digest* print publication to anyone who requests it.

This will be a smaller print publication that will include important news and select articles from the digital version of the *Jewish Journal*.

**Please Note: You must let Jewish Federation know if you would like to continue receiving a printed publication, as this is an opt-in service. If we don't receive a request, you will NOT receive the Jewish Journal Digest.**

Please call Federation today at (210) 302-6960 or email Yolanda Vargas at [Vargasy@jfsatx.org](mailto:Vargasy@jfsatx.org) to add your name to the print mailing list.

You may also send a letter with your request to: Jewish Federation of San Antonio, 12500 NW Military Hwy # 200, San Antonio, TX 78231. Please mark "Print Journal please" on the outside of the envelope.

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# YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

## IN MY VOICE

# Hannah Margolis – Being a Jewish woman in the military

Colonel Hannah S. Margolis, United States Air Force Retired shared some of her experiences as a Jewish woman in the military at the Federation's 2nd Annual Tikkun for Troops presented by the Young Adult Division. A portion of her speech is published below:

"In 1956 the Air Force had a significant need for Physical Therapists, and the opportunity to go to graduate school for one year in exchange for 2 years of service sounded great.

Never did I know that this Jewish girl from Brooklyn would end up having a 27 year career. And that career would be followed by a Jewish Federation of San Antonio grant to establish a Gerontology Outreach Program.

At the end of the 18 months, I again retired and the program went to Jewish Family Service. And I am now living happily ever after in San Antonio, doing volunteer work.

My first overseas assignment was to Tripoli, Libya. Long before Kadafi. It turned out that I was the senior ranking Jewish officer as a Lieutenant, so I ended up being the Lay Leader, and even had a trip to Germany to attend a retreat. Of course it was a bit strange, that the place they chose to hold the retreat was where Hitler had stayed much of his time.

I had the opportunity to spend the Seder with an Italian family, who had moved to Tripoli as part of a large group around the Second World War. As an American



woman, I was able to sit at the table with the men, while their women stayed in the kitchen. We were allowed to bring matzoh and wine with us.

As long as it did not come from Israel. The Base tailor would bring a large sheet of unleavened bread to his shop and keep it warm on the steam table, and I would exchange it for a box of Matzoh.

I had the opportunity to work with the local hospital treating their Polio patients. As an American woman I was granted privileges, which included driving men to the hospital supply center and bringing equipment we needed.

I taught the local woman

how to follow through on the exercise programs, and tell me how the children did, when I came back the following week.

Being a woman never posed any problems, probably because as one young man told me once early in my career, that I was respected as I "wore a white uniform". Being Jewish never posed a problem, and I never hid it (except in Libya) I always told the Jewish people that worked for me, that it was okay to ask for the Holidays off as long as you were willing to work on their Holy Days.

Long after I retired, I was told that I did not receive the position as Director of a program where new medical officers received their military orientation, because I was a single female, and I would not be giving these new officers a true impression of their future career.

But in retrospect, that would have meant that I would not have ended my career in San Antonio, and I am so glad that my last assignment was not in Wichita Falls."

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## YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS



More than a dozen families gathered at the Splash Pad at the Pearl Brewery on Tuesday, July 10.

## PJ Library splashes at the Pad

With the summer heat, PJ Library planned three splash pad events around San Antonio to gather together and help our children cool off with a Jewish theme.

At Hemisfair Park, families came together to discuss the Mitzvot (commandments) they had been doing this summer and enjoy the PJ Library story, *It's A Mitzvah*.

At the Pearl Splash Pad, the focus was on Israel. The kids heard *Good Night Israel* and made edible Israeli flags with graham crackers and other tasty ingredients. At the final Hollywood Park Splash Pad,



Hemisfair Park hosted our first splash pad outing with lots of water, play and snacks for the kids.

PJ families made their own edible Noah's Ark, and heard stories about Noah's ark.

Joe Hernandez of Life in Art Photography captured images of PJ families during all of the fun.

To learn more about upcoming PJ Library events, visit PJ Library San Antonio on Facebook or contact [AbrahamL@jfsatx.org](mailto:AbrahamL@jfsatx.org).

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### JCC offering new and old classes this fall

The 2018 Fall/Winter edition of the Barshop JCC's bi-annual Program Guide, containing a variety of recreational, educational, and enrichment classes and services for people of all ages, is now available in print at the JCC or digitally at [www.jccsanantonio.org/publications](http://www.jccsanantonio.org/publications). The guide provides members and the community a snapshot of all that's available at the JCC from August to December and even a bit beyond.

Offerings include favorites, such as the youth Soccer Academy, STARZ and NOVA youth theatre troupes, parenting workshops, tennis for youth and adults, BBYO for teens, adult painting, Israeli dancing, small group personal training, Senior Chefs, and more.

New for youth this season are a variety of music education classes, including introduction classes to Percussion, DJ-ing, and Guitar. New classes for adults include an interactive "write your own story" class, beginning line dance, a one-day class about cutting the cord to cable TV, and an AARP safe driving course.

Most programs are available to the community with JCC Members receiving a reduced rate, and in some cases, early registration opportunities. For more information, call visit [www.jccsanantonio.org/register](http://www.jccsanantonio.org/register) to review and register online or call (210) 302-6820.

### Temple Chai elects new leadership

Temple Chai, San Antonio's small Reform congregation, elected its 2018-2019 leadership at its recent annual meeting. Jimmy Toubin was re-elected president, joined by continuing vice president Susan Ghertner and new vice presidents Dr. Gerald Adcock and Allan Polunsky. Freda Levinson was elected secretary and David Blinderman was re-elected treasurer. New trustees are Susan Albert and Dr. Lewis Greenberg, joined

by continuing trustees LTC Felix Gonzales, Ron Heller, Lee Markman, Steve Samet, Dr. Mike Stern, Dr. Susan Weintraub and Dr. Elliot Weser. Auxiliary presidents are Jackie Blinderman and Maury Goldstein.

The annual meeting included a year-in-review and the announcement of plans for the coming year, including exciting changes for the High Holy Days. Temple Chai will be relocating for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and will soon advertise a schedule of services that are open free-of-charge to the entire community.

For more information about the congregation and to see the membership materials, visit [www.templechaisa.org/join](http://www.templechaisa.org/join) or call (210) 340-2090.

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

# CreativKids SA summer day camp's 9th year a huge success



Midway through Temple Beth-El's summer camp, CreativKids SA, some 68 volunteers had already clocked in nearly 600 hours of service. With camp averaging approximately 50 at-risk children a day (with about 150 unique campers thus far), the San Antonio Food Bank provided nearly 2000 meals in just the first four weeks. Each day, experienced counselors and junior counselors, have provided activities including STEM/Building, Art, Physical Fitness, Cooking, and Games in order to enhance the campers' experience both in body and mind. CreativKids also participates in a tennis program at McFarlin where the campers are given free

tennis lessons twice a week. Dedicated counselors and many volunteers help make camp a huge success.

The area surrounding Temple Beth-El is a food desert, and 100% of the children receive free meals during the school year. Beth-El Food and Fun Summer Day Camp (now CreativKids SA) started nine years ago in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank to address food insecurity issues in the neighborhood. Over the years, the camp has continued to do that but has also expanded to include educational activities to help keep kids' minds engaged during the summer months. CreativKids is run solely on

grants and donations from generous donors including the Harvey Najim Foundation, the Greehey Foundation, the Sundt Foundation, the Alamo Heights Rotary Club, the Builders' Exchange, and many individuals, one of whom anonymously donated funds to purchase school uniforms for camp. Many who donated items through the camp's Amazon wish list or gave gift cards and checks. Camp organizers say the generosity of our community is awe inspiring. Donations are gladly accepted all year long.

To learn more about the annual camp program, contact Kathi Kardon at [kardon595@gmail.com](mailto:kardon595@gmail.com) or Robyn Rosen, [snr711@aol.com](mailto:snr711@aol.com).

## Pre-Holidays Shabbaton Weekend at Chabad

The community is invited to attend a Shabbaton with Rabbi Tuvia & Chaya Teldon at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning, 14535 Blanco Rd. on Friday, Sept. 7.

Services will begin at 7 p.m. followed by Shabbat dinner at 8 p.m. and a talk by Mrs. Chaya Teldon titled *What's in Your Wallet? Tools for Body and Soul*. A children's program during the lecture will be provided. Cost for Friday night dinner is \$20 for adults, \$12 for children under 12.

On Saturday, Sept. 8, 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. and a presentation by Rabbi Tuvia Teldon titled *How to Reboot Your Relationship with G-d: 4 Steps to Meet the Year Head On*. The luncheon and address is free and open to the entire community.

Rabbi and Mrs. Teldon are the founders and



regional directors of Chabad on Long Island, overseeing the activities of its 32 Centers and 45 Rabbis throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties.



Mrs. Teldon is a much sought after speaker, and has lectured on 5 continents. The New York Times called her the "Erma Bombeck" of Jewish speakers and she was interviewed by Oprah on the Oprah Winfrey Network.

Together they have five children and a growing family, and are the proud parents of Rabbi Levi Teldon.

For more information and reservations, visit [www.ChabadSA.com/Shabbaton](http://www.ChabadSA.com/Shabbaton) or call (210) 764-0300.

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## Chabad welcomes New Rabbi and Rebbitzin to lead YJSA

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning has announced the addition of a new rabbi and rebbitzin to its staff.

Rabbi Eli Nochum and Tzivia Block, will join the Chabad team as the new directors of the Young & Jewish San Antonio (YJSA) founded by Rabbi Levi & Rochel Teldon.

YJSA was established in 2011 with a small group of friends around the Teldon's Shabbat table. Seven years later, it has touched the lives of hundreds of Jewish young adults through a variety of spiritual, social, holiday, and educational events.

"Rabbi Eli & Tzivia are compassionate, devoted and talented individuals and leaders who will take YJSA to the next level," said Rabbi Levi Teldon. "With so many young Jewish adults living and moving to San Antonio, it's time for a full-time dedicated team to foster those deep personal connections and expand the programming and classes."

Recent census data studied by Forbes showed



that San Antonio has the nation's highest population growth rate among millennials.

Rabbi Eli Nochum was born and raised in San Antonio and is the son of Rabbi Chaim & Rivkie Block of the Chabad Center. He received his rabbinic ordination at the Central Chabad Yeshiva in Brooklyn. Tzivia, who will also serve as a lead teacher at Gan Gani Preschool, is from Montreal, where they have lived and taught for the past two years. They have one child, Menachem Mendel.

For more information about YJSA, visit [www.YJSA.org](http://www.YJSA.org), email [rabbieli@yjsa.org](mailto:rabbieli@yjsa.org) or follow @YJSAtx.

## SA member among winners of Hadassah's *Experience the Power* contest

Hadassah Life Membership is known to have many joys: just ask San Antonio's Lesli Moser and the other four winners of Hadassah's *Experience the Power* contest. Each recently won a Hadassah Mission to Israel or a VIP trip to New York City, simply for submitting a 100 word article describing what the Zionist Woman's organization, Hadassah, means to them.

Moser, a member of Aviva, the young women's group member of the San Antonio Chapter of the Greater Southwest Region,

was among four winners to receive an exclusive trip to New York City to visit the offices of Hadassah headquarters, and 2 museums.

A relatively new Hadassah Life Member, Moser was



inspired to enter after realizing that deep generational roots lay within her

new-found and deep faith, belief in the Zionist passion for Israel and Hadassah's strong community philanthropic works. As a Jewish woman, Moser felt compelled to reveal, "I understand the weight of what I carry, these ancestral covenants, and realize I will pass the torch of Life itself onto the next generation." Continuing, she wrote "This means I must forge forward and inspire those around me towards the very same purpose. It has to be intentional, filled with promise, to keep shining throughout the darkest of times. I will hand this holy-empowered torch, lit millenniums ago by women who were empowered, to my daughter and others who are also torch-bearers, knowing we are surrounded by women, in spirit, both seen and unseen, as we sojourn on."

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## TASA 2018 KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

On Monday, June 4, 2018 the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio kindergarten class celebrated their graduation from kindergarten with songs and poems that featured elements of what they learned this year in both General and Judaic studies.



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## CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM WELCOMES NEW RABBI

Congregation Agudas Achim welcomed new Assistant Rabbi Ben Richards with a few exciting welcome events including a Friday Night service and Potluck Dinner which featured the Shweiki Band. The next welcome event is a Happy Hour at Cover 3 on Monday, Aug. 20. All are welcome.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## CULTIVATING FRIENDSHIP

On May 31, Temple Beth-El was hosted by the Raindrop Turkish House for a shared Iftar dinner. Temple members said the experience was “delightful and enlightening.”



## KIDS KEEP THEIR COOL AT THE JCC

Children in the JCC’s Block and Dreeben School for Young Children enjoy water play in the early childhood playground. Educators say the water play offers opportunities for children to problem-solve, question, explore, and experiment. It’s also a fun hands-on activity, promoting learning in a variety of ways.



(Standing l-r) Norton Shectman, Garland Scott, Ken and Marcia Ashworth, and Irv Barath. Seated is Herschel L. Sheiness. The post conducts bingo and provides refreshments to the patients as well as social with them.

## JWV AND DAV ELEVATE BINGO GAME AT VA HOSPITAL

Jewish War Veterans Post 753, San Antonio, Texas recently paired with Disabled American Veterans Alamo Chapter to purchase a new bingo caller table and display board for the Audie Murphy VA Hospital’s Community Living Center. The Post recently used the new equipment for the first time since the equipment was installed.

## JLI EXPLORES HOW HAPPINESS THINKS AT SAJSS CLUBHOUSE



*How Happiness Thinks*, a six-session summer JLI course, was presented by Rabbi Levi Teldon of the Chabad Center in partnership with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS) as part of the SAJSS Clubhouse series. Drawing on classical Jewish and mystical teachings, this course offered participants a deeper understanding of the human experience, and demonstrated how the science of positive psychology is now corroborating what Judaism has always known about what makes us happy. For more information on future programming, contact SAJSS at [www.sajss.com](http://www.sajss.com) or call (210) 616-4811.



## WATERMELON WEDNESDAY SUMMER STORY TIME

Watermelon Wednesday Summer Story Time with Rabbi Jeffrey and Lauren Abraham brought out huge crowds again this summer. The watermelon was sponsored by Jody and Paul Reddy. The final Watermelon Wednesday Summer Storytime on Wednesday, Aug. 8 at 10:30 a.m.

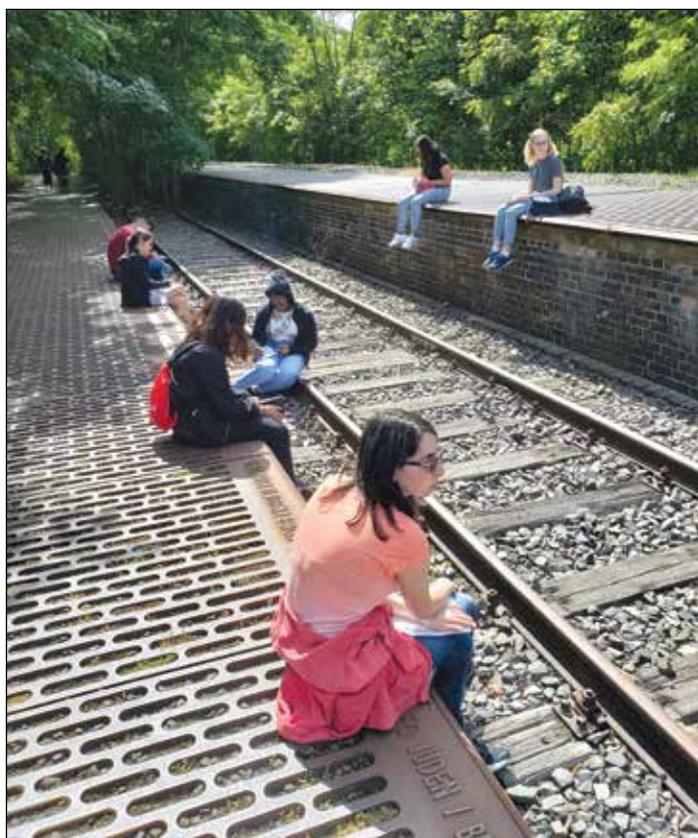
# JFSA'S 2018 HOLOCAUST STUDY SEMINAR

**“We need to not dehumanize villains because then we distance ourselves from them as human beings.”**

– Sofia Fortuno



The students on the last day with our Berlin Tour Guide Olaf Kolbatz



The students at Grunwald Train Station (Track 17)



(At Left) Students exploring Yad Vashem's book with 4 million victims of the Holocaust

**“Even if I do something that's silent it can make waves.”**

– Nadia Morrow,  
in reference to how she can be a change in the world.



Learning about the rescue efforts of the Zabinskis at the Warsaw Zoo



The students at the Olympic Stadium where the 1936 Olympics were held



The students learning about the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp

# JFSA'S 2018 HOLOCAUST STUDY SEMINAR

**“The youth is the future, and at that time, Nazi youth was the future... it reminded me that we have the power to alter the path we're on.”**

– Esha Reddy

JFSA's Holocaust Study Seminar Students began the unique program in January 2018, spending 6 months gaining an understanding of the Holocaust.

On June 9, the 12 students along with local educators, set out for the experience of a lifetime, learning at many historical sites. The program took the students to visit and study sites in Berlin, Warsaw and Krakow. These students will display, share, and discuss their experiences on September 16, from 3-5 pm, in the Holzman Auditorium at the Jewish Campus of San Antonio. All are invited when these messengers of history reflect on their experience abroad.

The Holocaust Study Seminar was made possible by a grant from the Sue and Richard Carter Charitable Trust. Participants include Anna Mako – Alamo Heights High School; Anthony Valdez – Harlandale High School; Esha Reddy – Health Careers High School; Hunter Wall - Health Careers High School; Isabel Castro - Alamo Heights High School; Jasmine Mitchell – James Madison High School; Jocelyn Epstein – Ronald Reagan High School; Nadia Morrow – Harlan High School; Nick McCann - Harlan High School; Scout Wilson - Health Careers High School; Sofia Fortuno – International School of the Americas; Tristan Bourgoin - Alamo Heights High School.



Learning about Otto Weidt's Workshop for the Blind

Learning at the Wannsee Villa



Students learning about Auschwitz



Learning about the Plaszow Concentration Camp

**“I've been selfish to see the people of the Holocaust as just a statistic. It's not 6 million deaths, but 6 million individual memories lost.”**

– Nick McCann

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## CAMP RODFEI ENDS SUMMER WITH A SPLASH

More than 50 campers along with new Rodfei Sholom Youth Director Rabbi Moshe Rossenwasser and NCSY City Leader Rabbi Ashi Gluck had a great time with Camp Rodfei's Under the Sea theme. Activities included daily swimming, field trips, arts and crafts and plenty of singing, dancing and laughing with friends and SEED Counselors. For more information on other upcoming Youth and Family Programs, please contact Rabbi Moshe at (210) 493-3558.



## TASA HOLDS IT'S FIRST 8TH GRADE GRADUATION

On Wednesday, May 30, 2018 Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio held its first Commencement exercises. The program celebrated the accomplishments of TASA's 7th/8th grade cohort and the graduation of the eighth graders. Each of the students had the opportunity to address the audience. The students shared their thoughts about their reflections and aspirations regarding family, faith, their Judaism and Jewish education. Their messages were intermingled with words of Torah and thanks to their friends, teachers and families. Rabbi Chaim Block of the Chabad Center, and Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg of Rodfei Sholom, each addressed the students with words of blessing and encouragement.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## IT'S A WRAP...CAMP GAN ISRAEL

150 children over the summer experienced Camp Gan Israel at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. During its 30th year in operation, campers enjoyed old-school, outdoor summer activities, field trips and daily swimming. For more information, contact camp director Rochel Teldon at [director@ganisraelsa.com](mailto:director@ganisraelsa.com), call (210) 764-0300 or visit [www.GanIsraelSA.com](http://www.GanIsraelSA.com).



## FUN AND GAMES WITH YOUNG COUPLES CLUB OF CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM

The Young Couples Club of Agudas Achim (half pictured here) shared lots of laughter as they gathered for a games night at the home of Lisa & David Abramson.



## TEMPLE MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AT HAVEN FOR HOPE

Each month, Temple Beth-El members and friends volunteer to serve dinner at St. Vinnie's Bistro for residents of Haven for Hope's Prospect's Courtyard.

Pictured here, Temple members Amy and David Sokol are in line in June to serve close to 500 people.

To sign up to receive notifications to participate, contact Geri Gregory at (210) 733-9135, ext. 120 or [geri@beth-elsa.org](mailto:geri@beth-elsa.org).

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Congregation Rodfei Sholom

\* Dietary Laws Observed

**Celebration Luncheon  
with Comedian from Israel**

Hope you will join us for lunch and laughter with Jewish comedian Joel Chasnoff as we celebrate 50 years of serving Jewish seniors.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION WITH CAA SISTERHOOD

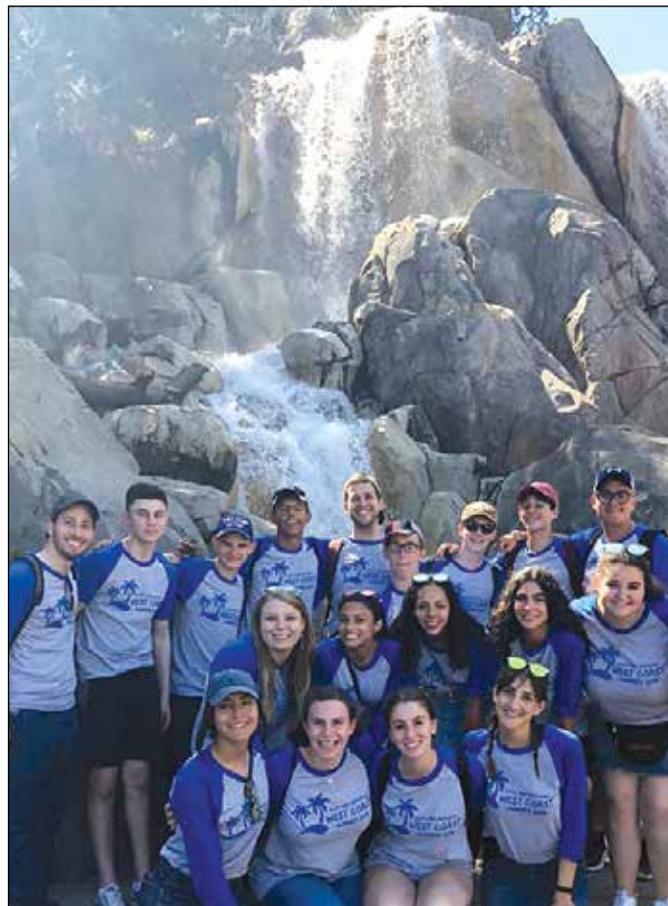
Congregation Agudas Achim's Sisterhood gathered for a multi-generational happy hour this past June celebrating the important role women play in Jewish society.



Rebeca & Howard Solomon are joined by Dr. Nola Marx at Rodfei's Sholom's L'Chayim Club, which is partially funded by a grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS).

## L'CHAYIM CLUB

This summer, Rodfei Sholom's L'Chayim club featured a talk by high school senior and non-profit founder, Julia Singer, CEO of Apps for Aptitude, an organization that uses technology to help kids. For more information on L'Chayim Club and other Rodfei events for seniors, contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3558.



## NCSY'S JEWISH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

NCSY San Antonio recently enjoyed a celebratory trip to the West Coast after completing a 12-week Jewish Scholars Program.

See Letter to the Editor about NCSY's Jewish Scholars Program by Sarah Abraham on page 21.



## JCC SENIORS TEA PARTY

With all the excitement of the spring royal wedding, the JCC's senior program enjoyed a tea party, complete with treats and hats.

## JFS works to remove stigma, barriers of mental health care

*Special submission by JFS-SA*

According to the CDC's website, heart disease is the number one cause (633,842) of death in the United States, cancer is second (595,930), and diabetes is seventh (79,535). If you do not receive regular treatment, take the prescribed medication, and follow the steps necessary to treat those illnesses, your health will decline. Left untreated, these diseases take your life.

People with diabetes do not produce enough of the hormone insulin for their body to function properly. This is a chemical imbalance where often part of the treatment is a prescription to replace the patient's insulin. Additionally, Diabetics are referred to a nutritionist for dietary education, counseling for behavioral changes, and frequent follow-up care with their doctor. Comprehensive treatment is vital for a person with diabetes to live a long and healthy life.

Diabetes is covered by insurance and widely discussed in our society without stigma.

Suicide is consistently in the top ten list of causes of death in the United States. Many people who are diagnosed with a mental illness do not produce enough hormones such as norepinephrine, serotonin, or dopamine necessary for their body to function properly. This too is a chemical imbalance, and often the treatment is to prescribe medication to replace those hormones. These patients are also in need of education, counseling for behavioral changes, and regular follow-up care with their doctor. Comprehensive treatment is also vital for a person with a mental illness to live a long and healthy life.

How different are the treatments of these two diseases? Yet treatment for mental illness is not accepted in our society, carries an unnecessary stigma, and is often not covered by insurance. Left untreated, mental illness can take your life just like any other disease.

Suicide is only one reason people with mental illness lose their lives. If you add up all the deaths on the CDC's website related to all mental illnesses, including homicides

linked to domestic violence (16,832), drug-related deaths (64,070), alcohol-related deaths (88,000), and intentional self-harm/suicide (45,285) the numbers are staggering. The combined number of deaths related to these mental illnesses is 214,187. That would make deaths directly related to mental illness the third leading cause of death in the US. Yet in 2018 there is still a stigma about mental illness, and funding for treatment is minimal.

Jewish Family Service (JFS) is working to remove both the social stigma and the financial barriers to mental health treatment in San Antonio. JFS is determined to treat people in our community with illnesses such as depression, anxiety, and PTSD. These and many others are all treatable diseases that can affect anyone regardless of race, gender, and economic or social status. If you or someone you know needs help, call JFS at (210) 302-6920. For more information about JFS, and how you can help remove the financial barriers to mental health, visit [www.jfs-sa.org](http://www.jfs-sa.org).

## Adult education this fall at Temple Chai

Temple Chai will offer an adult learning series beginning in August, all of which are open to the public. The series includes:

### **Introduction to Judaism**

with Rabbi David Komerofsky  
Wednesdays from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
8 sessions, beginning Aug. 29  
Plus several interactive discussions on Sundays with Gayle Kipp

### **Hebrew/Anshei Mitzvah**

with Lisa Goldstein  
Thursday evenings  
Temple Chai members interested in adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Anshei Mitzvah) in the spring, are welcome to take this course in the fall to be ready for service-leading. The course is also appropriate for adults who just want to learn Hebrew without committing to the spring ceremony.

### **Stranger than Fiction: Torah Then and Now**

with Joshua Lustig  
Tuesdays from 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
August 21, 28 & September 4  
A three-session course examining how different topics (Slavery / Death Penalty / Rights of Women) have been covered in antiquity and today.

### **Preparing for the High Holy Days**

with Rabbi David Komerofsky  
Two Lunch and Learn sessions  
Tuesday, August 28 & Thursday, August 30 from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.  
An exploration of the themes of the High Holy Days and how the month of Elul helps to prepare us for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

### **A Way with Words: Translating the Torah**

with Rabbi David Komerofsky  
Three Lunch and Learn sessions  
Tuesdays, October 16, 23 & 30 from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.  
A close reading of a handful of Torah texts and how they have been translated and mistranslated. These sessions will explore the power of language and meaning that gets lost when not looking at the original.

For more information or to register for any of the classes, visit [www.templechaisa.org/adult-education](http://www.templechaisa.org/adult-education) or call (210) 340-2090.

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## Senator Menéndez to speak at NCJW opening meeting

The San Antonio section of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) will host State Senator Jose Menéndez for comments and conversation at its opening meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at the IBC Bank Branch Events Center at 8650 Fredericksburg Rd.

Guests and spouses are welcome to attend the event, which begins at 7 p.m. with a meet-and-greet featuring light refreshments. Senator Menéndez will speak and take questions beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The senator will discuss the agenda for the 2019 session of the Texas legislature and will share his thoughts on issues

affecting women, families and children, which relates directly to NCJW's mission.

A member of the Texas house from 2001 to 2015, he has served State Senator for District 26 since January 2016. Menéndez has passed over 200 bills that benefited children, seniors, veterans, and San Antonio families. One of the bills, *David's Law*, empowers students, parents, schools, and law enforcement to combat and prevent cyberbullying.

Since space is limited, please RSVP by August 31 to [mindisw@gmail.com](mailto:mindisw@gmail.com). For any questions, contact Mindi Silver-Weiss at (210) 497-2333.

## Intro to Judaism at Temple Chai

Temple Chai, San Antonio's small Reform synagogue, will offer an eight-week *Introduction to Judaism* course on Wednesdays from 7-8:30 p.m., beginning August 29. The course will meet at Temple Chai at 2121 Lockhill Selma (at the corner of NW Military Highway).

Taught by Rabbi David Komerofsky, this course introduces the basics of Jewish thought and practice. Interfaith couples, non-Jews considering conversion, and Jews looking for adult-level basics will find it meaningful. A mix of study, discussion and practical experiences, the course is designed for those interested in exploring Jewish life. Topics include Jewish holidays, life-cycle events, theology, prayer, Israel, and history.

"The only prerequisite is curiosity," said Rabbi Komerofsky. "This course

brings ancient ideas and practices to life in a progressive context. The richness of Jewish life in all of its diversity is a gift that is available to anyone who chooses to accept it. Whether Jewish by choice, by accident or both, it's never too late to learn."

*Introduction to Judaism* is open to the community with \$180 pre-registration; no charge to Temple Chai members. For more information or to register, call (210) 340-2090 or visit [www.templechaisa.org/intro](http://www.templechaisa.org/intro).

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## At Issue: The Tainted Waters of Evian

Eighty years ago, during the summer of 1938, delegates from 32 nations met in the French spa town of Evian-les-Bains. Their purpose was to deal with the crisis of Jewish emigration. The Nazis were firmly in power in Germany and Austria, and anti-Semitism was rampant in Poland, Hungary, and Romania. Though Kristallnacht was still a few months off, in November, Jews had been stripped of their citizenship, their rights, and – already, in many cases – their lives. It was clear to everyone, especially Jews, that worse was yet to come. Millions sought refuge outside Europe, but emigration to Palestine provoked an Arab revolt, causing Britain to renege on its commitment, in the Balfour Declaration, to establishing a Jewish homeland. In the midst of the Depression, the United States and other nations were reluctant to add Jewish refugees to the ranks of their own unemployed.

The delegates at Evian spoke eloquently about the barbarism unleashed in Germany and the need to provide a safe haven for endangered Jews. However, only two small countries, Dominican Republic and Costa Rica, were willing to make a practical commitment to saving lives. As Vice President Walter Mondale noted 41 years later: "If each



Perspective:

STEVEN G. KELLMAN

nation at Evian had agreed on that day to take in 17,000 Jews at once, every Jew in the Reich could have been saved." The Holocaust was not inevitable.

Mondale was speaking in Geneva, not far from Evian, to a conference convened to deal with an influx of refugees from Southeast Asia. Unlike in 1938, the United States in 1979 was pledging to take in 168,000 refugees during the coming year, in addition to the 200,000 already admitted. Mondale was urging international humanitarian action. "Let us not be like the others," he pleaded. "Let us renounce the legacy of shame."

Adolf Hitler gloated over the failure of the civilized world to save the European Jews. "I can only hope and expect that the other world, which has such deep sympathy for these criminals," he declared "will at least be generous enough to convert this sympathy

into practical aid. We, on our part, are ready to put all these criminals at the disposal of these countries, for all I care, even on luxury ships." Hitler understood the hypocrisy of those who denounced his actions against the Jews but used economic arguments to camouflage their own anti-Semitism.

The fact that Hitler referred to the refugees as "criminals" is of course painfully ironic – a criminal regime was blaming its own victims. It is also painfully contemporary, since that is the word – "criminal" – that the current American president has used to describe families and unaccompanied children desperate for asylum. Mondale could look back 41 years to see a parallel between the plight of Jewish refugees and those from Southeast Asia. We can look back 80 years and work for a higher standard of compassion and decency.

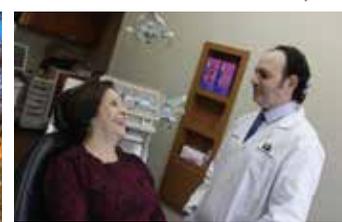
Steven G. Kellman is a professor of comparative literature at UTSA. The opinions expressed in this article are his own.

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Letter to the Editor

NCSY's Jewish Scholars Program

by Sarah Abraham

NCSY has become a home for (many of us) Jewish teens in San Antonio. (Some of us) lack the learning aspect of our Judaism.

Many are engaged in secular after school clubs and activities, which makes it hard to find time to learn, but thanks to our dear rabbi, Rabbi Ashi Gluck, he is able to provide many golden opportunities to enjoy Torah learning, and offer inspiring programs to the teens of San Antonio.

Once a week for twelve weeks, Rabbi Ashi and the NCSY Chapter Board ran a JSP course, Jewish Scholars Program.

We brought incredible speakers from around the country to come and share their life experiences, and connections to Judaism by learning Torah.

Over 30 inspired teenagers came once a week after school to learn and progress in their spiritual journey. It was beautiful to see the teens commitment to JSP.

The spiritual energy that emanated from each meeting was incredible...

This course was filled with passion for learning and has positively transformed my perspective on Judaism.

I am so thankful and blessed for an opportunity to learn about my heritage and culture.

Heintz Preschool to open to record numbers

Heintz Preschool at Congregation Agudas Achim is preparing for the 2018-2019 school year. Heintz preschool prides itself on "Creating Creative Curiosity" with a high focus on kindergarten readiness.

"The Preschool offers small ratios, unique electives, daily personalized attention for each child, in order for each child to reach their maximum potential," said Heintz Preschool director, Taryn Bretado.

The preschool has daily rotations, weekly and monthly themes not only

focusing on secular themes but also intertwining Jewish values with each theme. Children 6 weeks old through PreK participate in tailored rotations including; Yoga, Art, Cooking, Music, Hebrew, and Spanish. Additionally, students are taught skills to improve handwriting through the multisensory and well adapted program Handwriting without Tears.

Students at Heintz preschool participate in regular intergenerational Yad by Yad programs in conjunction with San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.

Through this program, Heintz preschool students visit local senior living facilities and participate in activities and companionship with Jewish seniors in San Antonio.

The core school day is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with extended hours are offered from 7am to 6pm. There is limited space available in each classroom with some waiting lists already forming in some age groups. For a tour or to learn more information, contact Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-7023 or by email at [t.bretado@agudas-achim.org](mailto:t.bretado@agudas-achim.org).

JCC's early childhood school accreditation continues

Recently, the Barshop JCC's Block and Dreeben School for Young Children received a nearly perfect score on its National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) re-accreditation.

Considered a "gold standard" for a high quality early childhood programs, the school has received NAEYC accreditation for more than twenty-five years and remains one of only thirty-four accredited centers in San Antonio – out of more than 550 licensed childcare centers in the city.

To achieve accreditation, a school must meet ten standards: relationships among children and adults; curriculum; developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching; child progress; health and nutrition of children, including protecting children and staff from illness and injury; educationally qualified instructors; collaborative relationships between the school and families; community relationships; a safe and healthful indoor and outdoor environment; and strong leadership which effectively implements policies, procedures, and systems.

Learn more about the program at [www.jccsanantonio.org/ecd](http://www.jccsanantonio.org/ecd).



Rodfei Sholom Talmud Torah for children begins August 26

A new year of Rodfei Sholom's Talmud Torah will kick off Sunday, Aug. 26. Led by new Youth Director, Rabbi Moshe Rosenwasser, Talmud Torah will feature weekly Havdalah and Judaics, Hebrew and art classes for

elementary age children. Classes run every Sunday from 9 a.m. – noon.

For more information and registration visit [www.rodfeisholom.com](http://www.rodfeisholom.com) or contact Rabbi Moshe a call at (210) 493-3558.



Fall registration for KESHER CHAI open

KESHER CHAI (The Chai Connection), Temple Chai's education program for kids, will begin its new year on Saturday, Sept. 9. KESHER CHAI meets regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and includes a full range of Jewish content from holidays and rituals to Hebrew language and prayer. Children from kindergarten through seventh grade participate in a variety of activities each week. Lisa Goldstein and Rabbi

David Komerofsky lead discussions, art projects, games, and lessons centered on timely Jewish topics relevant to the kids' experiences.

KESHER CHAI is a benefit of Temple Chai membership, and is open to all. There is no charge for Temple Chai members, and a nominal fee for non-members.

For more information or to register, visit [www.templechaisa.org/keshher-chai](http://www.templechaisa.org/keshher-chai) or call (210) 340-2090.

# YOUR JEWISH COMMUNITY LISTINGS

## JEWISH FEDERATION OF SAN ANTONIO

Main Number: (210) 302-6960 / Holocaust Memorial Museum: (210) 302-6807 / Beldon Library: (210) 302-6805

**Ronit Sherwin**, Chief Executive Officer  
*sherwinr@jfsatx.org / (210) 302-6961*

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*laportee@jfsatx.org*

**Ellen Ollervidez**, Community Relations Council  
Director and Holocaust Memorial Director  
*ollervideze@jfsatx.org*

**Juana Custard**, HMMSA Education Manager  
*rubalcavaj@jfsatx.org*

**Caitlin Strayer**, Marketing and Office Manager  
*strayerc@jfsatx.org*

## SAN ANTONIO CONGREGATIONS

**Congregation Agudas Achim (Conservative)**  
16550 Huebner Road, 78248  
Phone: (210) 479-0307  
Fax: (210) 479-0295  
Website: [www.agudas-achim.org](http://www.agudas-achim.org)  
Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham  
Rabbi Ben Richards  
Samantha Mazuz, Director of  
Congregational Learning

**Congregation Beth Am (Reconstructionist)**  
7150 IH 10 West, 78213  
Phone: (210) 492-2173  
Fax: (210) 342-8935  
Website: [www.bethamsatx.org](http://www.bethamsatx.org)  
Lay Leader Marion Bernstein

**Congregation Rodfei Sholom (Orthodox)**  
3003 Sholom Dr., 78230  
Phone: (210) 493-3557  
Fax: (210) 492-0629  
Website: [www.rodfeisholom.org](http://www.rodfeisholom.org)  
Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg  
Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg

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

**Temple Chai (Reform)**  
2121 Lockhill-Selma  
San Antonio, TX 78213  
Phone: (210) 340-2090  
Website: [www.templechaisa.org](http://www.templechaisa.org)  
Rabbi David Komerofsky  
Lisa J. Goldstein, Educator/  
Soloist

**Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning (Orthodox)**  
14535 Blanco Rd., 78216  
Phone: (210) 492-1085  
Fax: (210) 493-9460  
Website: [www.chabadsa.com](http://www.chabadsa.com)  
Rabbi Chaim Block  
Rabbi Yossi Marrus  
Rabbi Levi Teldon

**Congregation Israel of San Antonio (Conservative, Covenantal Judaism in Prayer and Practice)**  
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additions to the Journal editor  
at [jewishj@jfsatx.org](mailto:jewishj@jfsatx.org).

## SAN ANTONIO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

**Barshop Jewish Community Center**  
12500 NW Military Highway, Suite 275, San Antonio, TX 78231  
Phone: (210) 302-6820 Executive Director: Saul F. Levenshus Email: [jcc@jcc-sa.org](mailto:jcc@jcc-sa.org)  
Board Chair: Adam Zeldes Website: [www.jccsanantonio.org](http://www.jccsanantonio.org)

**Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America**  
Website: [www.hadassah.org](http://www.hadassah.org) [www.facebook.com/hadassah](http://www.facebook.com/hadassah)  
Phone: (212) 355-7900 (National) or (210) 394-7405 (Local)  
Contact: Roberta Abelman. [rabelmanesatx.rr.com](mailto:rabelmanesatx.rr.com)

**Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community**  
12500 NW Military Hwy, Suite 100, San Antonio Texas 78231  
Phone: (210) 302-6801 President: Steve Butler Website: [www.thecampustx.org](http://www.thecampustx.org)

**Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio**  
P.O. Box 780264 San Antonio, TX 78278  
Phone: (210) 736-4352 Website: [www.HFLA-SA.org](http://www.HFLA-SA.org)  
Executive Director: Laura Zausmer Richardson President: Tim Grossman

**Hillel San Antonio**  
Website: [www.sahillel.org](http://www.sahillel.org) Phone: (210) 201-Jews (5397)  
Contact: Natalie Steiner Email: [natalie@hillelsa.org](mailto:natalie@hillelsa.org)

**Jewish Family Service**  
12500 NW Military Highway, Suite 250, San Antonio, TX 78231  
Phone: (210) 302-6920 Executive Director: Talli Goldman-Dodge President: Steve Marks

**National Council Of Jewish Women (NCJW)**  
Website: [www.ncjwsa.org](http://www.ncjwsa.org) Membership Info: Linda Levy - [llevy@satx.rr.com](mailto:llevy@satx.rr.com), (210) 340-5174

**NCSY San Antonio**  
Contact: Rabbi Ashi Gluck, City Director Email: [glucka@ncsy.org](mailto:glucka@ncsy.org) Phone: (845) 300-6528

**Ohr Lanu Foundation**  
14439 N.W. Military Hwy, San Antonio TX 78231  
Phone: (210) 973-7172 Website: [ohrlanu.org](http://ohrlanu.org) Executive Director: Margaret Gofman-Klein

**San Antonio Jewish Senior Services**  
13409 N.W. Military Hwy. Suite 210, San Antonio, TX 78231  
Phone: (210) 616-4811 Website: [www.sajss.com](http://www.sajss.com)  
Executive Director: Stacey Kline Schwartz President: Suzanne Huber

**Judaics After School (JAS @ The J)**  
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**Gan Gani Preschool**  
14535 Blanco Rd. 78216 / Phone: (210) 764-0300

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

**JCC Block & Dreeben School for Young Children**  
12500 NW Military Hwy., 78231 / Phone: (210) 302-6846

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

## YOUTH NEWS

# Heintz Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School open house – August 19

Congregation Agudas Achim's Heintz Preschool & Inda Posner Religious School will host an open house on Sunday, Aug. 19 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon.

During the open house, Heintz Preschool students will be able to visit their classrooms, and meet their teachers. In each classroom there will be a small snack provided as well as a fun activity for the children to get introduced to the new school year. There will also be demonstrations from the Heintz Preschool specialists including yoga, Spanish, Hebrew, music, and drama! Parents and children will also have the opportunity to sign up for after school activities including tumble bus, soccer shots, basketball tots, and more.

Inda Posner Religious School students, and students in the Agudas Chai high school program will have the opportunity to introduce themselves to their teachers, find their classrooms, meet their peers.

For more information about the open house or about enrollment, contact Jessica Peden at (210) 479-0429.



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## HIGH HOLIDAYS

# Special Guest Speaker, Musical Service, and Tacos and Tequila at Agudas Achim Selichot Program

Congregation Agudas Achim will host a special Selichot program and service on Saturday, Sept. 1 co-sponsored by AIPAC. The program's guest speaker will be Steven A. Cook, Eni Enrico Mattei senior fellow for Middle East and Africa studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He is an expert on Arab and Turkish politics as well as U.S.-Middle East policy.

The Selichot Service and program will begin at 8 p.m., followed by the Havdallah.

The evening will continue with the Torah Scroll Mantle Change and Procession and a special spiritual musical Selichot Service led by Agudas Achim clergy. The evening will end with Agudas Achim's annual Tacos and Tequila event, which is free and open to the entire Jewish community.

For more information, contact the office at (210) 479-0307, e-mail [info@agudas-achim.org](mailto:info@agudas-achim.org), go to [www.agudas-achim.org](http://www.agudas-achim.org), or check out the Agudas Achim Facebook Page.

# Pre-High Holidays *TED Talks* Style Event at Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning is pleased to present a pre-High Holidays *TED Talks* style event on Thursday, Aug. 30, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. Doors open at 7 p.m.

"For over 3,000 years, Jews have been studying and interpreting the wisdom of Torah," said Rabbi Levi Teldon, program director at Chabad and the event's host. "This High Holiday season, ten San Antonians will add their voice to this unbroken narrative."

*TEN High Holidays: Jewish Ideas Worth Do-*

*ing'* features a series of live ten-minute power talks— by local professionals, artists and business people— showcasing important Jewish ideas that change attitudes and lives. These personal talks are designed to educate, challenge and inspire.

Presenters will be announced as they are confirmed.

Light refreshments will be served. \$5 online registration, \$10 at door. Sponsor \$180. Event Co-Sponsor \$500.

For more information please visit [www.ChabadSA.com/TenTalks](http://www.ChabadSA.com/TenTalks) or call (210) 764-0300.



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# Rodfei Sholom to host Sunday Funday High Holiday Expo

Get ready for the high holidays at Rodfei Sholom's annual Sunday Funday Rosh Hashanah Expo on Sunday, Sept. 2 at 1 p.m. The program will include lunch, games, crafts and holiday baking and decorating the Rodfei Sukkah. For more information or to RSVP please contact Rodfei Sholom at (210) 493-3558.

## HIGH HOLIDAYS

### It's All The Buzz for High Holidays at Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim is again offering its award winning youth experiences for High Holidays: *The Buzz*.

Focusing on the entire experience for children from birth all the way through teenagers, *The Buzz* creates exciting "camp-like" rotations for the youth to learn about the important lessons and values for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in an exciting way. These rotations include sports, art, drama, music, Zumba, yoga, and prayer experiences, along with other creative learning featuring a petting zoo, an HEB apple specialist, and a Bee Keeper.

Children ages newborn through 5th grade will begin with special projects at the start of services at 8 a.m. with rotations beginning at 9 am and continue through the end of services on both days of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur.

6th through 12th grade students will participate in challenging conversations with peers, designing their own prayer experience, and connection with friends in addition to age-appropriate rotations. The middle and high school programming will begin at 10 a.m. and continue through the end of services on all three days as well.

A macaroni and cheese lunch will be provided for all ages on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur during *The Buzz* Youth Experience. For more information, contact Jessica Peden in the Agudas Achim School office at (210) 479-0429.

## SENIOR NEWS

### Hadassah offers heart info at *Silver Solutions* health fair on Sept. 20

The San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah will be distributing information about heart health at the 8th annual *Silver Solutions* health fair taking place at the Barshop Jewish Community Center (12500 NW Military Hwy.) on Thursday, Sept. 20. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Hadassah booth will offer brochures from Hadassah's *Every Bite Counts* national campaigns, with suggestions about taking control of your heart health. Information will include tips about exercise, food, and how to lessen the risk of heart disease.

Additionally, there will be materials available about the Hadassah Hospital in Israel and its ongoing efforts to both study and treat heart disease.

### TBE60s+ Singles upcoming social events

Temple Beth El's senior social group TBE60s+ Singles invites the community to attend a performance by the Olmos Ensemble at Laurel Heights United Methodist Church (227 W. Woodlawn) on Sunday, August 3 p.m.

The group will then enjoy an early no host dinner together at Cappy's (5011 Broadway). The cost for the concert is \$10.

#### Upcoming events include:

**October** – Meal at Panchito's then the San Fernando Cathedral Light Show

**November** – Potluck & Learn to Paint with Watercolors

**January** – "What to do if you are at the Wrong Place at the Wrong Time," presentation by the Bexar County Sheriff's Department, then meal at Dogfather's.

**February** – Tour & Glass Blowing Demonstration at Garcia Glass, then meal in Southtown

**March** – Bus Tour to see the Wildflowers, visit Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin with lunch, sightseeing in Johnson City & Fredericksburg.

**April** – Mini Golf & Meal at Max & Louie's

**May** – Museum Tour & meal

**June** – Rock of Ages: Dinner & Live Music

**July** – Cooking Demonstration

For further information and to place your name on the mailing list, contact Geri Gregory at (210) 733-9135, ext. 120, or [geri@beth-elsa.org](mailto:geri@beth-elsa.org).

This is a fun and active social group that is supported, in part, by San Antonio Jewish Senior Services.

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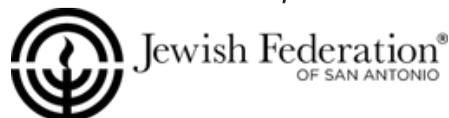
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Contact Eva Laporte at [LaporteE@jfsatx.org](mailto:LaporteE@jfsatx.org)



# The Sheldon Vexler Theatre turns 20

The Sheldon Vexler Theatre will open their 20th Season with Tennessee Williams' classic drama, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, on stage August 25 through September 16. The play follows the life of a desperate Southern belle, Blanche DuBois, who seeks shelter at her sister's New Orleans apartment following the loss of their ancestral home. There, she is challenged by the unforgiving brutality of her brother-in-law, Stanley, a controlling blue-collar worker who uses sexual threat like a

weapon.

Directed by Vex Production Manager Dylan Brainard, the cast includes Regina Burpo (Negro Woman), Kevin Cox (Stanley), Matthew Halteman (Mitch), Brandi Hollsten (Blanche), Shelby Langhoff (Stella), Andrew Olmos (Steve), Susan Qassom (the Nurse), Gretchen Randall (Eunice), and Travis Simpson (the Doctor).

Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. For more

information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.vexler.org/streetcar](http://www.vexler.org/streetcar) or call The Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835.

Season Passes may also be purchased through September 16. The Season Pass includes one admission to each of the productions this season. Following *A Streetcar Named Desire*, The Vex will present *A.R. Gurney's Sylvia*, *Ken Ludwig's farce Leading Ladies*, and *Masteroff, Kander, and Ebb's dark musical Cabaret*. Visit [www.vexler.org/vex20](http://www.vexler.org/vex20) for more information.

# The Zee Fisher Rodfei Sholom Book Club to meet Sept. 5

On September 5, the Zee Fisher Rodfei Sholom Book Club will meet to discuss *The Shawl* by Cynthia Ozick. *The Shawl* is a short story first published by Cynthia Ozick in 1980 in *The New Yorker*.

It tells the story of three characters: Rosa, Magda, and Stella on their march to and internment in a Nazi concentration camp.

*The Shawl* is noted for its ability to instill in the reader the horror of the Holocaust in less than 2,000 words.

Book club meetings take place at Rodfei Sholom and are open to the community.

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

# Little Free Library at Temple Beth-El

Temple Beth-El has installed its first Little Free Library.

It stands at the corner of Belknap and Ashby, offering local residents a variety of books.

The idea for the Little Free Library was brought forth by Barbara Richmond, built by Brotherhood members Daniel Laser and Larry Macune, and decorated by

San Antonio Federation of Temple Youth (SAFTY).

Temple members donate the books to keep the library stocked and ready for the many people in our community. When you're in the neighborhood, "Take a book, share a book!"

Have books you'd like to donate? Put them in the Little Free Library!



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# SENIORS

## Free community event for senior and caregivers — Silver Solutions

Silver Solutions is a *free* community event spotlighting programs and services provided by institutions that support San Antonio seniors and their caregivers. *Gather resources and information from senior service providers and speak with experts on a wide variety of aging matters!*

### Education Presentations

- 10:30 am – 11:00 am *Fraud & Scams* – Sheriff Javier Garcia
- 11:15 am – 11:45 am *Smart Phone Security* – Tom Ervin, F.B.I. Special Agent – Cybersecurity Division
- 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm *Sleep Problems & Solutions* – Venkat Srinivasan, M.D. – author of *Mind-Body Principles*
- 12:45 pm – 1:15 pm *Loneliness & Isolation* – Kathleen Jordan, LMSW – Director of Social Services, Jewish Family Service
- 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm *Housing* – George Losoya – AACOG, ADRC Coordinator
- 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm *Mind Your Meds – Medication Management* – Leanne Palma, Staff Pharmacist – H-E-B Alon Center

Experts will also be available for attendees to *Ask the Expert* and have a one-on-one conversation on a variety of topics. Care at Home demonstrations will also be offered.

Silver Solutions 2018 is also made possible by Jewish Family Service, Texas Public Radio, and their sponsors: AACOG's Alamo Service Connection, K.T. Whitehead – Certified Elder

### SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL SILVER SOLUTIONS

Thursday, September 20, 2018  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Barshop Jewish Community Center  
12500 NW Military Hwy.  
San Antonio, TX 78231  
[www.jfs-sa.org/silversolutions](http://www.jfs-sa.org/silversolutions)

Law Attorney, H-E-B, UT Health, The Bank of San Antonio, and HealthTexas Medical Group.

Vendor and sponsor opportunities are still available - please contact Marie Angelicchio at [angelicchiom@jfs-sa.org](mailto:angelicchiom@jfs-sa.org) or 210-302-6954

## WE'RE GOING GREEN!

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

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

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

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

To send via postal mail, send to: Jewish Federation of San Antonio, 12500 NW Military Hwy, Suite 200 San Antonio, TX 78231

Yes! I am excited to receive the *The Jewish Journal* by email beginning October 2018. Please make sure you have the following email addresses in your database:

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## Israel shoots down Syrian fighter jet that entered Israeli airspace

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Israel shot down a Syrian fighter jet that penetrated more than a mile into its airspace.

Two Patriot missiles intercepted the Russian-made Sukhoi on Tuesday, July 24, the Israel Defense Forces said in a statement. The plane reportedly crashed into the Yarmouk area in Syria; it was not immediately confirmed if the two pilots ejected before the plane was downed.

The IDF said the plane

was under surveillance as it approached and breached the border.

The missiles set off Code Red alerts throughout Israel's Golan Heights.

According to the IDF, there has been an increase in fighting in Syria near the border with Israel since Tuesday morning as well as activity by the Syrian air forces.

"The IDF is on high alert and will continue to operate against the violation of the 1974

Separation of Forces Agreement," the IDF said, referring to the agreement on disengagement between Israel and Syria following the Yom Kippur War.

Syria's official state-run SANA news agency cited an unnamed military source as saying that the warplane had been hitting rebel targets in the area of Sidon on the outskirts of the Yarmouk Valley in Syrian airspace when it was struck it.

## Pregnant women in Israel get to skip to the front of the line

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- An amendment to Israel's Women's Equal Rights Act will allow pregnant women to skip to the head of lines at "supermarkets, shops, pharmacies, the post office and other places that provide public service."

The bill, which was proposed by Joint List parliamentarian Yousef Jabareen, was passed unanimously in July.

## How cast of new *Fiddler on the Roof* production learned Yiddish in a month

By Josefin Dolsten

NEW YORK (JTA) — The National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene's new production of *Fiddler on the Roof* enacts a familiar story in an unfamiliar language.

The actors sing about joy and hardship, and argue about the importance of tradition, in the language their characters would have spoken in the Old Country.

But before rehearsals started in June, the majority

of them had no experience with the language.

Of the 26 cast members, only three spoke Yiddish fluently. Another nine had some experience with the *mama loshen* (nickname for Yiddish), but everyone had just a month to memorize the entire script.

The result is extraordinary, giving audience members a new experience and new understanding of one of Broadway's best-loved musicals. (For those who

don't speak Yiddish, there are supertitles in English and Russian.)

This production of *Fiddler on the Roof* — or *Fidler Afn Dakh* — marks the first time the musical is being performed in Yiddish in the United States, and only the second time in its history (a Yiddish version ran for about four weeks in Israel in 1965), according to the New York-based theater company.

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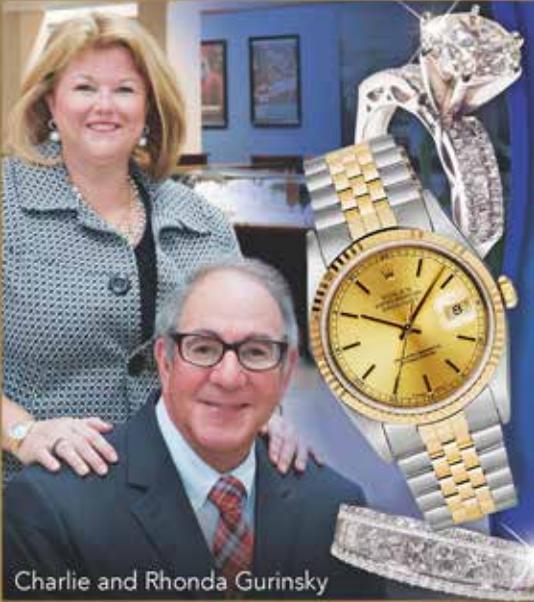
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