Father Patrick Desbois to speak at Hope for Humanity Benefit

Event to benefit the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio

Father Patrick Desbois will be the featured speaker at the Hope for Humanity Benefit for the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio (HMMSA) to be held Wednesday, May 18 at the Pearl Stables. Debois, who is a French Roman Catholic priest, has just been named to the inaugural Braman Endowed Professorship of the Forensic Study of the Holocaust in the Center for Jewish Civilization in Georgetown University’s Walsh School of Foreign Service.

The chair was endowed in February with a $10 million gift from Norman and Irma Braman.

Father Patrick Desbois will be the keynote speaker at fundraising event for the Holocaust Memorial Museum on May 18.

Yom Hashoah to feature survivor Hanna Pankowsky and the Second Generation

Yom Hashoah observances will be held on Wed. May 4 at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Agudas Achim, 16550 Huebner Road. The program will feature Hanna Davidson Pankowsky who will tell the story of her family’s journey from Lodz Poland, where she was born, to escape into Russia then Mexico City ending up in the United States. In particular, Hanna will talk about her mother, Sophia Davidson with Faryl Greller, who will speak about Davidson’s work, and Hanna’s daughter Helen Pankowsky M.D. who will introduce Hanna.

Jewish Campus improvements include new entry for greater security

Saul Levenshus, President/CEO Barshop Jewish Community Center

Several years ago, prior to the economic downturn of 2008, the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community was in the midst of a strategic effort to both expand and improve facilities for its tenant agencies, and to simultaneously create a more effective way to manage access to the building. Unfortunately, timing wasn’t on our side in 2008. Fast forward to 2016 where foot traffic is increasing on what seems like a daily basis, the Campus has re-initiated plans to create a new entryway leading into the main lobby from the rear of the building.
EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS

The submission deadline for the MAY 2016 issue of the Jewish Journal is APRIL 12, 2016 at noon. All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

How to submit: Email submissions to jewish@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 Sandy Leigh at (240) 498-8999 or advertising@jfsatx.org.

Ad deadlines for MAY 2016 ISSUE:
• Ad space reservations due no later than APRIL 12, 2016 by noon;
• Press ready ads due by APRIL 16, 2016. Please include a contact name and phone number with all submissions.

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

JEWISH JOURNAL EDITORIAL POLICY
The Jewish Journal of San Antonio is a monthly publication created and paid for by the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. The Journal’s primary focus is creating awareness and engagement within the local Jewish community about activities, programs and issues with which the Jewish Federation is involved.

As a service to the broader Jewish community, area synagogues and organizations are invited to submit content relevant to the Jewish community at large for publication consideration.

Items selected for publication are done so solely at the discretion of the Journal Editor and the Jewish Federation. Submissions may be edited and/or re-written for content and length.

We aim to fairly reflect the breadth and depth of activities and Jewish life taking place in the San Antonio Jewish community.
MAY 18, 2016  6:00 P.M.
PEARL STABLE  6:45 P.M.
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS  PROGRAM BEGINS
Individual Tickets: $250
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For $36 you can honor the memory of a victim and/or survivor of the Holocaust.

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DEADLINE IS APRIL 11! Call Today!

The Holocaust Memorial Museum is a program of:
CALENDAR OF EVENTS: APRIL 2016

April 1
• First Friday Shabbat Dinner, Temple Beth-El, 6 p.m.

April 2
• Shabbat Lunch Havurah, Temple Beth-El, 11:45 a.m.
• Starz Presents: Seussical the Musical, The Campus, 7 p.m.

April 3
• Babies, Bagels and Blocks, Agudas Achim, 9:30 a.m.
• 5th Annual Walk Against Genocide, The Campus, 2 p.m.
• Starz Presents: Seussical the Musical, The Campus, 2 p.m.
• Starz Presents: Seussical the Musical, The Campus, 4:30 p.m.

April 4
• Agudas Achim Lunch and Learn, Grimaldi’s at the Quarry, 12:30 p.m.

April 5
• NCJW: Trashy Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
• Temple Beth-El Board Meeting, Temple Beth-El, 7 p.m.

April 7
• Agudas Achim’s Brews & Schmooze, Bigz Burger Joint, 5:30 p.m.
• JNET Event with Yuda Doliner, Green at the Pearl, 6:30 p.m.
• Club Agudas Achim for 40s and 50s, TBD, 7 p.m.
• TBE30s40s: Snacks & Spirits, Tuder Residence, 7 p.m.
• Women’s Torah Study Group, Temple Chai, 7 p.m.
• “Four Children” TBE20s30s, led by Sam Stern, TBD, 7:30 p.m.

April 10
• JCC J-Serve, The Campus, 9 a.m.
• Alamo Brandeis B’nai B’Rith Lodge, The Campus, 10:30 a.m.
• Sisterhood Anniversary Tea Honoring Laura Schnitzler & Harriet Tomes, Agudas Achim, 1 p.m.
• Israel through the Looking Glass: Documentary Viewing, Rodfei Sholom, 7 p.m.

April 12
• Spirit Night to Benefit with Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, Willies Grill & Ice House, 4 p.m.
• Women’s Seder, Temple Beth-El, 6:15 p.m.
• JFSA Board Meeting, The Campus, 7 p.m.

April 13
• Israel Partnership Teachers Conference/JFSA, (13th-17th)
• L’Chayim Club Luncheon for Seniors, Rodfei Sholom, 11:30 a.m.
• Scholar in Residence: Rabbi Mary Zamore, Temple Beth-El, 6:30 p.m.

April 15
• Family Shabbat Service & Potluck Dinner, Agudas Achim, 6:15 p.m.
• Pre-Passover Potluck Dinner & Family Services, 6:15 p.m.
• Young Couples Club of Agudas Achim, Moshe’s Falafel, 7 p.m.

April 16
• Healing Service, Agudas Achim, 9 a.m.
• Family Shabbat, Temple Beth-El, 9 a.m.
• Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Mary Zamore, Temple Beth-El, 12:30 p.m.
• Havdalah, Movie & Discussion with Rabbi Zamore, 7 p.m.

See CALENDAR, page 8
Building a relationship with Israel

I had the great fortune to be born to a sabra, a native Israeli. Technically, my mother is a Palestinian, as she was born in British Mandatory Palestine in 1944. I first visited her birthplace and our homeland when I was five. I still hold dear those early memories of playing on the beach with my three siblings and then lying in bed in the small apartment we rented, listening to my mother and her cousins chatting in Hebrew late into the night. While I was fascinated by the Hebrew letters on Coca-Cola bottles and gum wrappers, I was even more taken with Israel itself. I fell in love with Israel – the land, the people, and the language.

As we begin to prepare for the holiday of Passover, I think about my time spent in Israel. I have walked the land and taken full advantage of my freedom to claim Israel as my land, too. I hold Israeli citizenship, a privilege granted to children of those born in the land of Israel. In many ways, I cannot appreciate the utter joy and gratitude the Israelites must have felt upon leaving Egypt and ultimately entering the Promised Land. That is why the celebration of Passover is so very important for us as Jews. We attempt to walk in the shoes of those who came before us and re-enact the Exodus experience. We taste the tears of salt water, ingest the bitterness of slavery and eat the “bread of affliction.” Passover is an experiential holiday. It is not simply a history that we read: Passover is an experience.

My trip to Israel at the age of five was the first of many, and I plan to take many more. I will begin this month...
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Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 6:30 pm
Kindly RSVP by Monday, April 18

Please send your reservation and check/credit card payable to: Congregation Agudas Achim ~ 16550 Huebner Rd. San Antonio, TX 78248, pay online at www.agudas-achim.org, or call Sherri Samuels at 210.479.0307

Ronit Sherwin
Chief Executive Officer
Jewish Federation of San Antonio
Community unites for Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha’atzmaut

The event will begin upstairs at the Jewish Campus at 5:30 p.m. with a tribute to those who fought for the state of Israel. At 6:15 p.m., the community will move downstairs to the gym to enjoy an Israeli dinner along with the headliner Listen Up! Acapella group. Listen Up (pictured), delivers harmony, humor, and vocal pyrotechnics with a love and pride of being Jewish and connected to Israel. For 23 years, the group has been the “house band” (sans instruments) of the Greater Chicago Jewish Folk Arts Festival. “Our music creates a special connection,” says musical director, Steve Singer. “We are building that relationship from the first note...to energize and inspire. By the end of the show, we’re family.”

We hope you will join your community for this free concert (food will be for purchase).

Interfaith leader Bemporad speaks at San Antonio event

Internationally recognized theologian, scholar and interfaith advocate, Rabbi Jack Bemporad was back in San Antonio to be the initial speaker at the 14th Annual Catholic Intellectual Tradition Lecture Series on February 24 at St. Mary’s University. He spoke on The Revolutionary Impact of Vatican II on the Jewish Community and My 40-year Journey Toward Reconciliation and Mutual Understanding.

A Holocaust refugee from Italy, Bemporad came to the United States at the age of six and was ordained as a rabbi in 1959.

An interfaith leader for more than 30 years, Rabbi Bemporad serves as director of the nonprofit Center for Interreligious Understanding (CIU), where he is bringing people of all religious faiths together to promote honest dialogue, mutual respect and theological understanding.

Partnership Teachers to visit San Antonio this month

From April 13-18, San Antonio will welcome 11 educators from the Western Galilee Region in Israel. The group will tour and learn with the San Antonio River Authority, spend a day viewing and learning about Hebrew and Jewish education in San Antonio, and meeting with Jewish early childhood and college educators. The Western Galilee contingent will be hosted by area families. Their visit will include meetings with the Israel and Overseas Committee, along with Holocaust survivors. For more information about the Partnership2Gether delegation, please contact Lauren Abraham at the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at AbrahamL@jfsatx.org.
YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

CRC continued from page 5

States total methane emissions. According to Brian Lipinski at the World Resources Institute, “if food loss and waste were its own country it would be the world’s third-largest emitter, only exceeded by China and the United States.”

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), wasted food is the largest percentage of material that ends up in landfills and incinerators. Therefore, reducing food waste would significantly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases, thereby limiting global warming.

We might then inquire just who is wasting the food. According to the EPA, food waste is defined as “uneaten food and food preparation wastes from residences and commercial establishments such as grocery stores, restaurants, and produce stands, institutional cafeterias and kitchens, and industrial sources like employee lunchrooms.”

Both retailers and consumers can make changes and reevaluate their practices. Managing food waste starts with measuring and tracking. Modern technology can make this task easier.

Tools are being developed and available online to do assessments and audits. The EPA has a Wasted food and packaging toolkit. There are smart phone applications that help consumers know how long food has been in the refrigerator, plan portions and make shopping lists. There is software to weigh and track discarded food in restaurants.

Restaurants can adapt menus and improve planning. Guests can be encouraged to take food home. Kitchen scraps can be composted. There are now online solutions to donate unused food to those in need.

Retail locations can perform waste audits, analyze the inventory, use discount shelves for items near their expiration dates and donate to local food banks and charitable organizations.

If the food industry works to tackle the issue of wasted food, then grocery stores, restaurants, and other food establishments can help society while at the same time reducing costs for their business.

If we each step-up on the issue of wasted food, we can reduce water and energy associated with food production and we can reduce greenhouse gases.

CALCULATION continued from page 4

April 17
• Jewish War Veterans Post 753, The Campus, 9 a.m.
• Sisterhood Election Meeting, Temple Beth-El, 10:30 a.m.

April 18
• JFSA Innovation Fund Meeting, The Campus, 6:30 p.m.
• Golden Manor Board Meeting, The Campus, 7 p.m.

April 19
• AACOG Volunteer Appreciation Event hosted by JFS, 9 a.m.
• Sisterhood Board Meeting, Agudas Achim, 10 a.m.
• Agudas Achim Passover Story time & Dinner, Barnes & Noble/Grimaldi’s, 4:30 p.m.

April 21
• Pre-Passover Pizza & Fire Truck to Burn Hametz, Agudas Achim, 5:30 p.m.

April 22
• JCC First Night Seder, The Campus, 6 p.m.

April 23
• Pesach
• Community Passover Seder, Agudas Achim, 6 p.m.
• Community Seder, Temple Beth-El, 6 p.m.

April 24
• Board Meeting, Jewish Family Service, The Campus, 7 p.m.

April 27
• JCC Kosher for Passover Dinner, The Campus, 6 p.m.
• JCC Board Meeting, The Campus, 7:30 p.m.

May 1
• Agudas Achim Sisterhood Mother’s Day & Installation of Officer’s Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
• Sisterhood Honors Luncheon, Temple Beth-El, 12:30 p.m.
• JCC Author & Lecture Series Presents: Leslie A. Kimmelman, The Campus, 1 p.m.

April 20
• TBE20s30s Passover Seder, The Yergin Residence, 5:30 p.m.

May 4
• Yom Hashoah, Agudas Achim, 7 p.m.

May 5
• Agudas Achim Yom Hashoah Trip to Houston Holocaust Museum, 8 a.m.
• Young Couples Club of Agudas, TBD, 7 p.m.

May 6
• JCC ‘Fore the Kids’ Annual Golf Classic, Brackenridge Park Golf, 12 p.m.
• First Friday Family Shabbat & Dinner, Temple Beth-El, 6 p.m.
• Women’s Torah Study Group, Temple Chai, 7 p.m.
YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Stefano Iacono

Spotlight on Stefano Iacono is finishing up his final semester at the University of Texas San Antonio with a degree in Women’s Studies. As an active participant in the Jewish community, Stefano has worked at the JCC in the after school program, has led numerous Kabbalat Shabbat services for the kids, taught classes for Judaics After School, worked as the Music Specialist at the JCC Summer Camp, taught Hebrew school at Temple Beth El, participates as a song leader at Temple Beth El, serves as the Religious and Cultural Vice President of Hillel San Antonio, became a founding father of the local AEPI chapter, and is an active young Jewish adult in San Antonio. Stefano’s love for Judaism and great musical talent inspire all around him. He is eager to expand his Jewish learning, as his talents and love for what he does guides him and impacts others. Stefano is marrying Alex Stubbs-Trevino this month. Everyone that knows Stefano knows how kind and caring he is, and are so excited for him to begin the next part of his Jewish Journey.

Stefano was just accepted to Hebrew Union College for Cantorial Studies, and will be leaving for Israel to begin his studies this summer.

What brought you to San Antonio?

I grew up in San Antonio, but wasn’t raised Jewish. I attended Kids Club (the after school program at the JCC) in the 5th grade and that was my first exposure to Judaism. It wasn’t until after high school that I attended a Friday night service at Temple Beth-El. As a young gay man, I was often “unwelcomed” as myself and impacts others.

What is your strongest Jewish memory?

After completing my conversion in 2013 I lead my first service as a song leader with the Temple Beth-El band and choir. That was the most amazing and uplifting experience and I knew that I was in the right place.

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

I had the opportunity to lead a few services on Lackland Air Force Base for the new recruits when they were in between rabbis. In addition to leading Friday evening services, I came for learning sessions on Sunday mornings about Judaism. Some of the people who attended the service were not Jewish, but were interested in the religion and culture, and others were even interested in exploring conversion. It was incredible to participate in conversations that allowed people to explore a spirituality and religion that myself had found through searching.

Please share your favorite Jewish holiday. Why?

I love Sukkot. The idea of “dwelling” is so spiritual to me and observing Sukkot reminds me of why I chose to live a Jewish life. Building the sukkah, dwelling in it, serving meals for my family, and enjoying the changing of the seasons as fall greets us; all great things in one holiday.

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

I am so excited to see all of the young adult programming excel and grow. There are so many options now and our community is becoming so cohesive, so I hope this continues. It is hard to put yourself out there as a young Jewish adult, and our lives require that we maintain busy schedules, but the only way to strengthen our community is to ensure our future. If we want our synagogues to reflect our needs (spiritually and socially) then we have to be there for our communities as well.

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Holocaust Survivor visits HHMSA

Dr. Nelly Toll, who was hidden as a child in Poland during the World War II, was in San Antonio on March 2 to talk about her experiences and the paintings that made Imagining a Better World. An exhibition of her work was on display at the the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio from January 4 – March 31.

Popcorn and Philanthropy for Federation women

The Women’s Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation enjoyed a Night Out at the Movies on February 16 in support of the Jewish Film Festival. The women enjoyed drinks and appetizers at Tre Enoteca before viewing Apples From the Dessert, an Israeli film about young love and familial pressure. The evening was planned by co-chairs Wendy Glick and Darcy Hoberman.

To be included in future communications about Women’s Philanthropy events, email Julie Schack, Director of Women’s Philanthropy, at Schackj@jfsatx.org.
On March 6–7, Young Adult Division Director, Samantha Mazuz, and Lay Leader, Board Member, and JNet SA Chair, Jacob Kluger, traveled to Los Angeles for a National Young Leadership Summit. The lay leader professional workshop, focused on engaging young adults, was held at the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. The forty attendees had the opportunity to connect in person to Jewish Federation of North America staff as well as lay leaders and Young Leadership professionals from various cities in the United States. The group gathered for a meaningful two days to learn best practices, how to plan for success, effective communication for high performing volunteer-professional teams, how to create outcomes vs outputs, and overviews of the latest research, trends, initiatives and effective strategies Jewish Federations are using to engage young adults and ultimately “build Jews.” “It is an exciting time for our San Antonio Jewish community as the Young Adult Division is growing, forming a board, creating new innovative programming and partnerships, and effective strategies are being implemented to engage young adults and ultimately “build Jews.” “It is an exciting time for our San Antonio Jewish community as the Young Adult Division is growing, forming a board, creating new innovative programming and partnerships, and effective strategies Jewish Federations are using to engage young adults and ultimately “build Jews.” “It is an exciting time for our San Antonio Jewish community as the Young Adult 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YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

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Jewish High Schools
Scholarships are available to students attending a Jewish High School outside of San Antonio. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Undergraduate Studies
Scholarships are available to individuals seeking to further their undergraduate education. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Graduate Studies
Scholarships are available to individuals seeking a postgraduate degree in Jewish education, Rabbinical, or Cantorial studies. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Elmer and Sally Cooper Scholarship
Scholarships are available to Jewish students whose university studies are in pre-med in the United States. Eligibility for scholarship is based primarily on financial need.

Beady Berler Scholarship for Study in Israel
One scholarship is awarded annually to a student who is enrolled in a college or university within the state of Texas. This is a merit-based scholarship for an academic course of study in Israel as part of a degree program.

Applications must be received no later than Thursday, April 12, 2016.
Applications are available online at www.jfsatx.org or by contacting Caitlin Strayer at:
The Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio
210.302.6960 | strayerc@jfsatx.org

PJ LIBRARY SPRING BREAK PLAYDATE
Congregation Rodfei Sholom hosted the PJ Library Spring Break Playdate on Tuesday, March 15. The children ate hamantashen and enjoyed playing on the playground, especially the swings and slides. Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg read Backyard Purim from the PJ Library collection and handed out popsicles. The children got into the spirit and painted Purim masks. The event attracted children ages six months to young elementary school students. It was the perfect opportunity for families to interact and enjoy some fun and relaxing time together. For more photos, see What's Happening.

SPECIAL HAVDALAH SERVICE FOR PJ LIBRARY CHILDREN
Rabbi Marina Yergin and Stefano Iacono of Temple Beth-El led the children of PJ Library in a spirited and uplifting Havdalah celebration in honor of Jewish Disabilities and Awareness month.

JCC AND PJ WELCOMED PURIM WITH AN AUTHOR VISIT
The Barshop JCC and PJ Library welcomed author Joanne Rocklin of “I Say Shehechyanu” for a Pre-Purim celebration. Children participated in Purim crafts such as magnet Hamantashen making, gragger and mask decorating, and they enjoyed interactive readings with the author and her pet cat puppet. The next co-sponsored author reading will be on May 1st from 1-3 with acclaimed children’s Israel book “Everybody Says Shalom” by Leslie Kimmelman. This event will include Israel related activities for children. Contact the Barshop JCC to reserve your family’s spot by calling 210-302-6820 or online at www.jccsanantonio.org.
The Jewish Family Service (JFS) annual Evening of Inspiration will honor three couples who are dedicated and committed to the well-being of others and the services provided by JFS. The event will be Sunday, May 1 at the Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community starting with a reception honoring Elaine and Dr. Stephen Cohen, Marinel and Michael Robbins, and Aliza and Dr. Willie Cantu. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner.

Honorees are selected for their inspirational commitment, service, and dedication to the community and the mission of JFS which is to enhance the lives of others.

“Each of these couples have inspired us by working to enhance the lives of others through their unselfish acts and deeds; they made a difference,” said M.H. Levine, Executive Director.

The JFS Evening of Inspiration is an annual fundraiser to support JFS programs that provide services to seniors, disabled individuals, and support a mental health program which includes psychiatric services. Babysitting and dinner will be available for children. The event will conclude with a raffle drawing and dessert. The event is open to the public and seating is limited.

For reservations, to place an ad or a tribute in the event program, contact Cheryl Hayes at JFS at (210) 302-6921.

IN THE COMMUNITY

JFS Evening of Inspiration set for Sunday, May 1

Aliza and Dr. Willie Cantu
Elaine and Dr. Stephen Cohen
Marinel and Michael Robbins

The ER Where You Are

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www.inwood-er.com
IN THE COMMUNITY

Yom Hashoah trip to Houston Holocaust Museum

The third annual Agudas Achim Yom Hashoah trip to the Houston Holocaust Museum is now open for reservations. Open to all adults, this year’s program will be modified to accommodate seniors and people with limited disabilities with a handicapped accessible bus for transportation.

The group will depart Congregation Agudas Achim at 8:00am on Thursday, May 5 and enjoy a kosher lunch at Laykie’s Gourmet Café at the Evelyn Rubenstein JCC in Houston before proceeding for private docent tours at the museum. A kosher box dinner will be provided on the way back to San Antonio.

Hosted by Congregation Agudas Achim, the program is co-sponsored by Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services.

The cost is $15/person and you must reserve your place; please call Sherri Samuels at (210) 479-0307. Reservations are on a first come basis and seating is limited.

SA to host regional Hadassah conference

The San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah will host a three-day conference for the Greater Southwest Region from Friday, June 3 to Sunday, June 5. The theme of the gathering is Spur the Power Within. Members of the local Jewish community are invited to come and hear some of the outstanding speakers during the weekend.

Online registration for the conference, which will be held at the San Antonio Airport Hilton, has opened at: http://www.hadassah.org/events/2016gsw. For further information, call Roberta Abelman at (210) 394-7405.

TEMPLE CHAI to offer daytime introduction to Judaism

Temple Chai is beginning its new term of the eight-week Introduction to Judaism course and will be offering its next round on Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. beginning April 6.

“We’ve offered classes only in the evening the last two terms, and want to make this learning opportunity available to those with different scheduling needs,” said Rabbi David Komerefsky, who will conduct the course. Classes are held at Temple Chai’s facility, 2121 Lockhill Selma (NE corner at NW Military Highway).

The course covers a broad range of topics including history, theology, life-cycle, holidays, ritual, and culture. No prior learning is required, and all are welcome. For those interested in conversion to Judaism through Temple Chai, this course partially fulfills the formal educational requirement. For more information or to register, visit www.templechaisa.org/intro or call (210) 340-2090.

YOM HASHOAH continued from page 1

who was a promising artist in Poland. Hanna’s daughter, Helen Pankowsky, MD, will introduce her and Faryl Greller will share her successful efforts to bring Hanna’s mother’s work to the public.

The Yom Hashoah service is coordinated by the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio in partnership with Congregations Agudas Achim, Beth Am, Israel, Rodfei Sholom, Temple Beth-El, Temple Chai and Chabad Lubavitch. The service is free and open to the public. The doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and the ceremony begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio at (210) 302-6807 or the main office of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at (210) 302-6960.

ROCK IN THE RED ZONE

Film Screening followed by Live Concert

Sunday, May 15
at the Barshop Jewish Community Center
Doors Open at 6:00pm
6:30pm - Screening of Rock in the Red Zone
   directed by Laura Blalis
8:00pm - Musical performance
   by featured musician Avi Vaknin

Single Ticket: $15 • Group Rate: $10
Purchase tickets at www.jccsanantonio.org/rockredzone
Food will be available for purchase.

For more information, contact Maya Siler,
210-302-6867 or silerm@jcc-sa.org.

Presented by:
Barshop ICC
Jewish Federation OF SAN ANTONIO

14 APRIL 2016 A publication of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio THE JEWISH JOURNAL
Members of the Jewish community are invited to join Rabbi Chaim and Rivkie Block and a San Antonio delegation for an unforgettable experience the weekend of May 13-15. The delegation will spend Shabbat with the Jewish community in Crown Heights, New York.

Imagine that the shtetl of Europe has been frozen in time, transported to New York, and then unfrozen. Walk down the main street and see the Judaica stores, hear the sounds of the yeshiva students, and smell the kosher restaurants. There are signs in Hebrew and Yiddish everywhere and shuls at every corner. Meanwhile, the skyscrapers of Manhattan rise in the distance.

Crown Heights is the heart of the Chabad Lubavitch movement and home to thousands of its followers. It has become famous as one of the warmest and welcoming communities in the Jewish world. The locals open their houses to visitors from across the globe, urging them to step inside and feel at home. Spending a Shabbat weekend in Crown Heights has become a must-do experience that creates lifetime memories.

The group will take a guided tour of the neighborhood, visit a matzo bakery and a scribe’s workshop, and take in comedy shows and other entertainment. During Shabbat, the group will pray together, learn together, and share a Shabbat meal with local families and friends. The trip also includes a visit the iconic 770 Eastern Parkway building and the Ohel, the resting place of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, o.b.m.

The program is open to both men and women, singles or married.

The cost for the program is $220 per person and includes all Shabbat meals and accommodations at a home in Crown Heights. Interested participants can visit www.shabbatintheheights.com or call Rabbi Chaim Block at (210) 764-0300.

It’s not manna from heaven, but this Passover, provide something just as crucial to the survival of the Israeli people.

With Israelis enduring terrorist attacks on a daily basis, your donation to Magen David Adom, Israel’s national emergency medical services agency, saves lives by purchasing the medical supplies, ambulances, and Medicycles our 15,000 volunteer and professional EMTs and paramedics need. And, because MDA operates Israel’s only national blood bank, your donation also ensures civilians and IDF soldiers have the blood they need to survive.

Make a difference. Please donate today. Todah rabah. Pesach kasher v’sameach.

Agudas Achim Sisterhood to host 97th Annual Tea

Laura Schnitzler and Harriet Tomes will be honored at Agudas Achim Sisterhood’s 97th Annual Tea on Sunday, April 10 at 1 p.m. in the Gurinsky Family Social Hall. The event is open to the community and participants are welcome at the door.

The cost of the tea is $18/person and Sisterhood welcomes additional contributions honoring the women. For more information, contact Bernice Mazer at (210) 341-8226.

Other upcoming Agudas Achim Sisterhood events include:

• Thursday, April 7 at 9:15 a.m. Sisterhood will plant and beautify the landscape of Warrior and Family Support Center at the San Antonio Military Med Center. All RSVPs must be cleared through the base. To RSVP, call Sherie Trakhtenbroit at (210) 823-5466 and provide your complete name, driver’s license, State and number and date of birth.

• May Book Review - Tuesday, May 10 at 10 a.m. in the Gurinsky Family Social Hall. Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham will be reviewing There is No Messiah - and you’re it by Rabbi Robert N. Levine D.D. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Suzan Mendlovitz at (210) 344-1108.
Temple Beth-El Welcomes Rabbi Mary Zamore as their Spring Scholar

On the weekend of April 15-17, Rabbi Mary Zamore will engage the community in a discussion about the ethics of food production, food consumption and their intersection with Judaism. Zamore will speak at Shabbat evening services (The Sacred Table: Creating a Jewish Food Ethic), teach during a lunch and learn on Shabbat morning (Matzah, Hametz, Manna: Biblical Foods Teach Us What to Eat Everyday) and facilitate a discussion of the movie The Gefilte Fish Chronicles on Saturday evening. This wonderful (and delicious) weekend of programming is funded by Jean and Jesse Wulfe Religious Enhancement Fund and the Gilbert and Ruth Lang Human Endowment Fund.

Rabbinic Network. She is also the CCAR’s Director of Mentoring. Rabbi Zamore is the editor of and a contributing author to The Sacred Table: Creating a Jewish Food Ethic (CCAR Press, 2011) which was designated a finalist by the National Jewish Book Awards. Rabbi Zamore is a frequent contributor to the Huffington Post.

For a full schedule of weekend events see the community calendar or visit www.beth-elsa.org.

IN THE COMMUNITY

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

April Post meeting
On Sunday April 17 at 9 a.m., Ilene Rubin, past Post Commander, will speak on her 6 months of active duty in Iraq. The event, which includes a light breakfast, will be held in Room 277 at the Jewish Campus. A business meeting to follow speaker. The SA JWV post usually meets on the 4th Sunday of each month, however, Passover falls on the regular meeting day and in respect to the holiday, the meeting has been moved to the 3rd Sunday in April. (The May meeting will be help May 22)

Member Irwin Barath says “What better way to begin Passover than to have a presentation by Past Commander Ilene Rubin speaking on current events in the same area where Jews fled Egypt and wandered in the near by area for many years?”

Non-members interested in attending Post activities can contact Commander Floyd Williams at (210) 651-9835 or Past Post Commander Irwin Barath at (210) 341-4502.

Bingo Social
The Post will host a Bingo/Social at Audie Murphy VA Hospital, CTC Section on Tuesday May 31 from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. For more information, contact Ken Ashworth at (210) 647-0330.

Memorial Day
Memorial Day, Post members will place American flags on the grave sites of veterans buried at Temple Beth El, Agudas Achim, and Rodfei Sholom cemeteries. For further information contact Herschel at (210) 468-5598.

Now is a good time to have a heartfelt word.

The opportunity can pop up anywhere and anytime to have a heartfelt word with those you love - a parent, your spouse, a family member. They’ve shared so much with you in this life, but now’s the time to share how they want their lives to be remembered.

Get them to talk in detail about what they’re proudest of: the work they did, the unit he served with, the charity she volunteered for, the kids they helped. If it filled their hearts with joy, it will fill the hearts of family and friends with pride and admiration.

That’s the idea behind Heartfelt Word. Let our booklet help you organize your thoughts and start the conversation. Then bring out details that can add depth to your relationship now and your memory of them later, when they’re no longer around to share life’s experiences.

Heartfelt Word materials are offered as a public service, without charge, by Porter Loring Mortuaries. For more information, please call 210.227.8221.

HeartfeltWord.com

HEARTFELT WORD

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Temple Chai to host Shabbat Service-and-Dinner-in-One

Temple Chai will host an all-in-one Shabbat service and dinner on Friday, April 15 at 6:45 p.m. at 2121 Lockhill Selma (NE corner at NW Military Highway). Coordinated by the Temple Chai Brotherhood and Ron Kipp, this Shabbat experience combines the rituals of a Reform Friday night service with the joy and interaction of a Shabbat dinner table.

“Reform is a verb, and Temple Chai embraces the opportunity to experiment with different ways to connect people with our traditions,” said Rabbi David Komorofsky. A modified service with music, readings, stories, and conversation will be held around dinner tables in Temple Chai’s all-in-one sanctuary/social hall/classroom.

“Ron Kipp, a new Temple Chai member, brings a spirit of enthusiasm and will be our primary cook. Our congregation’s history of innovation will come together for this new kind of Shabbat celebration,” explained Maury Goldstein, Brotherhood President.

Temple Chai has a tradition of sharing meals after Shabbat services, taking advantage of the congregation’s friendly atmosphere. On April 15 the meal will be part of the service. To RSVP, visit www.templechaisa.org or call (210) 340-2090.

Area Reform rabbis participate in historic moments in Israel

In February, Rabbis Mara Nathan and Alan Berlin of Temple Beth-El traveled to Israel for the Central Conference of American Rabbis’ (CCAR) 127th annual convention. This convention gave them a unique opportunity to delve into the intricacies of Israeli society and participate in several historic moments.

As a CCAR Board member, Rabbi Nathan was privileged to attend an intimate meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu where Reform leaders thanked him for enabling the freshly finalized agreement to create an egalitarian prayer section at the Kotel (the Western Wall) to move forward. A few days later, convention participants gathered at that very spot for morning prayers, Torah reading and reflection on the ever changing landscape of Judaism.

The day before, Rabbis Nathan and Berlin were guests at the official meeting of the Knesset Committee for Immigration, Absorption and Diaspora Affairs. Committee Chairman Avraham Naguisa (Likud) presided over a lively presentation highlighting the importance of maintaining respect and space for the full spectrum of Jewish practice in Israel. Members of Knesset including Tzipi Livini, Michael Oren and Yair Lapid spoke. In addition to all the thinking and learning, Rabbis Nathan and Berlin had the privilege of sharing Shabbat dinner with the American Ambassador to Israel, Daniel Shapiro, and his family at their residence in Herzliya Pituach.
**WHAT’S HAPPENING**

**L’CHAYIM CLUB OFFERS HEALTHCARE INFORMATION TO SENIORS**

On March 9, Varda and Dr. Adam Ratner of the Patient Institute spoke at Rodfei’s Lchaim Club Luncheon about *Taking Control of Your Healthcare: A Guide for Seniors*. L’Chayim Club is co-sponsored by a grant from the Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services. For more info on upcoming speakers and events please contact the Rodfei office at (210) 493-3558.

**PURIM RECESS BRINGS YOUNG ADULTS TOGETHER**

The Barshop JCC and The Tribe, the social component of the Jewish Federation’s Young Adult Division, hosted a Purim Recess for young adults on Sunday, March 13. Activities included an obstacle course, and games of “knock out” and basketball. Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham and Rabbi Levi Teldon joined the group to talk about the Mitzvah of celebrating Purim.

Even our newest PJ readers enjoyed spending time together to watch the big kids on the playground.

**PJ LIBRARY**

PJ Library friends Chaya Faiga, Amaia and Rus showcase their Purim masks after they spent time adding the perfect color and the finishing touches on their own stylish mask color of their choice.

**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

Agudas Achim Sisterhood hosted an intergenerational “happy hour” at Brio Italian Tuscan Grille on February 16. The women – from teens to seniors- celebrated the changing roles of women. Pictured (l to r) Linda Aboloff, with her daughter Molly Sowry, and granddaughter Emma Sowry.

**TEMPLE BETH-EL MEMBERS MAKE MUSIC TOGETHER**

Students from Temple Beth-El performed in a recent Sunday concert featuring Temple members. The next concert in the series will feature Rabbi Mara Nathan (flute), Cantor Julie Berlin, and Bob Brewer (piano) on Sunday, May 15 at 4 p.m.
ONE STEP AT A TIME
Rabbi Aron Hoch of the Aish Hatorah Village Shul in Toronto spoke to a class from Rodfei Sholom on Steps to Greatness at the home of Sharon and Aryeh Kluger on February 23.

HOW TO CHOOSE A GOOD PASSOVER WINE
Choosing the right wine for Passover Wine enthusiast Steve Kerbel (2nd from left) was the guest speaker at Rodfei’s pre-Pesach Israeli wine tasting at the home of Megan and Jacob Kluger on March 5.

SIXTY & SINGLE MINGLE
Temple Beth-El’s newly-formed group, TBE60s+ Singles hosted its first event on March 5 – dinner & theater with 30 new friends. Organizers say a great time was had by all. For information on the group, contact Temple Beth-El at (210) 733-9135.

PAINT FOR PASSOVER
ABOVE: Carlie and Maisie Davis painted their own Passover Seder plates at the JCC’s Paint for Passover event, Sunday, March 6.

AT RIGHT: Ilana Gurewitz with her finished Passover Seder plate at the JCC’s Paint for Passover event, Sunday March 6.
WHAT’S HAPPENING

GOLDEN MANOR OPENS NEW SATELLITE OFFICE
On March 3, Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services was honored with the hanging of the Mezuzah in their new satellite office. Rabbi Levi Teldon from Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning performed the dedication ceremony and blessing.

REEL FUN
Heintz Preschool hosted a kid friendly Movie Night on February 21. Children had fun playing and eating, while adults had an opportunity to bid on the silent auction.

CHILDREN LEARN THE HORRORS OF THE HOLOCAUST
Susanne Jalnos, a Holocaust survivor and member of Congregation Agudas Achim, spoke with the Inda Posner Religious School 8th grade and parents about her childhood experiences from ghettos to Auschwitz, to work camps, and then the liberation by American troops which eventually led to her reuniting with her sister and brother.

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Not valid on Mother’s Day. Limit one coupon per table. Dine in only.
L’Chayim Club Luncheon at Rodfei Sholom

Rodfei Sholom’s L’Chayim Club for community seniors will have their next monthly event on April 13, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm. “Hand-woven by Hannah” - Hannah Margolis will talk about the journey she has taken with her Judaic woven art. She will bring some of her finished pieces for you to see. After the lunch, Hannah will demonstrate how the loom works, and will have some non-Judaic scarves to sell. D’var Torah by Rabbi Scheinberg: “Getting Ready for Pesach: Spiritually and Physically.” It will be an opportunity to learn about Passover and ask questions, as well as socialize and enjoy a delicious lunch. There is no charge for seniors, thanks to co-sponsorship of Rodfei Sholom and a grant from Golden Manor. Others are welcome and encouraged to attend at $5 per person.

RSVP by Monday, April 11, to Rodfei Sholom at rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557.

GMJSS ATTENDS SENIOR DAY KICKOFF AT MORGAN’S WONDERLAND

More than 180 seniors attended a Senior Day kickoff and Expo event at Morgan’s Wonderland on Friday, March 4. The event was sponsored by First Friday Network, a network for those that serve the senior community. Vendors provided information to seniors on a variety of topics from insurance options, services and assistance, living facilities and more. Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, which was on the planning committee for the event, was also one of the vendors there and had the opportunity to visit with many seniors.

GMJSS wants to start the conversation: National Healthcare Decisions Day

No matter what your age, decisions need to be made about healthcare. It is not a topic that is always comfortable to address. Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services wants to remind you that National Healthcare Decisions Day is April 16, and the purpose is to inspire, educate and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning. One conversation can make all the difference.

There are times when due to illness, accident or the end of our journey in life, we must rely on others to make decisions for us. Planning ahead for such events is critical.

Everyone should have an advance directive, which comes in two main forms – a healthcare power of attorney and a living will. A healthcare power of attorney documents the person you select to be your voice for healthcare decisions if you cannot speak for yourself. A living will documents what medical treatments you would or would not want at the end of life.

There are also other documents that your attorney can explain and help you with that will direct those making the decisions for you based on what your wishes are including organ donation, resuscitation and more.

There are resources available to help both start and guide the creation the documents necessary and also how to talk with loved ones about these topics. A list of options is listed at www.nhdd.org/public-resources.

It is a good idea to get the conversation started so that you can have confidence that when the time comes, unexpected or not, you have your decisions in order and they have been made clear.

Contact GMJSS at (210) 302-6946 if you have any questions or if they can be of assistance in any way.
Wherever you find the Jewish Federation, you’ll find family, support, & Jewish traditions.

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio helps countless people overcome poverty, hunger, and despair... and supports programs that sustain Jewish identity and enrich our community in San Antonio, Israel and around the world.

Together we make a world of difference. We are Jewish San Antonio, we are STRONGER TOGETHER.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Passover.

Jonathan Gurwitz, Vice Chair, Development  Richard Planto, Chair, Board of Directors

www.jfstax.org ▪ info@jfsatx.org
210.302.6960 ▪ JFSATX
Join your community to commemorate ISRAEL

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE & INDEPENDENCE DAY

Wednesday, May 11th At the Jewish Campus

5:30pm
Yom Hazikaron Service
Holzman Auditorium

6:15pm
Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration
Wulfe Gymnasium

Congregation Agudas Achim
Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning
Jewish Family Services
Temple Beth-El
Temple Chai
Shmuel BassTorah Academy of San Antonio
Congregation Rodfei Sholom
Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services
Congregation Beth Am
San Antonio Hillel
Barshop Jewish Community Center
Young Adult Division (YAD)
PJ Library of San Antonio
Congregation Israel
Community Relations Council (CRC)

*Event coordination done by the Israel and Oversees committee of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio
Heintz Preschool opens enrollment for 2016-2017 school year and Literacy Summer Camp

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim has opened enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year. The preschool will host an Open House on April 8 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Focusing on Spanish and Hebrew Immersion as well as the highly acclaimed High Scope curriculum, the director says she is excited to continue all of its success into the next school year.

“We pride ourselves on our challenging curriculum and nurturing environment with small class sizes here at Heintz Preschool,” said Heintz Preschool Director Celina Geideshman.

Geideshman noted the school will have new core hours from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with extended stay programming from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Enrollment is also now open for Heintz Preschool’s Summer Literacy Camp. Weekly themes center around beloved children’s books. The camp will include water activities and a petting zoo. Children will learn about dinosaurs, reptiles, transportation, furry friends and nature. Each week is full of stimulating activities, lessons and play.

Themes for camp include:
• Brown Bear; Brown Bear; Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
• The Very Hungry Caterpillar
• America The Beautiful Week
• Magic School Bus
• Dr. Seuss

For more information about Heintz Preschool, please contact Preschool Director Celina Geideshman for information or a tour of Heintz Preschool, (210) 479-0429 or c.geideshman@agudas-achim.org.

JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children teachers as learners

Ben Zoma says, “Who is wise? He who learns from every person.” (Pirkei Avot 4:1).

In the spirit of this Mishna, all full-time JCC early childhood teachers study Jewish texts monthly. Traditional Jewish texts and Jewish values are explored which benefit, not only the children, but the teachers themselves. During each session, a value is studied with supporting text. Teachers begin by exploring texts in pairs called chevruta, a traditional mode of Jewish learning.

By asking questions about the meaning of the texts, teachers are able to begin to explore how the texts and values are relevant to themselves personally and as early childhood professionals. Time is then spent discussing how each teaching can be applied to the children and families in their classrooms. Rachel Rustin, JCC Director of Jewish Journeys, serves as the facilitator of each study group.

According to Alissa Levey Baugh, JCC Director of Early Childhood Services, “Rachel does an amazing job making these ancient teachings relevant to the important work we do with young children and their families. I believe this opportunity for our teachers enhances not only our knowledge of Jewish traditions and values, but brings our faculty together as a learning community.”
JCC Summer J-Camp registration opens

JCC Summer J-Camp 2016 registration opens to the community April 4. This summer’s J-Camp theme is Seussical, focusing on lessons learned by the beloved author, Dr. Seuss. A variety of four and one-week camps are available to kids entering kinder through tenth grades, as of fall 2016.

Two four-week traditional sessions will be offered, in addition to several one-week Academy Camps, including Exploration, Discovery, All Sports, Tennis, and Navigators. Age restrictions apply for each one-week session.

Additionally, two weeks of pre- and post-camp offerings will be available, providing families with an entire summer of activities for their children. Daily early and late stay options are available for an additional fee.

Teens entering ninth through tenth grades are encouraged to enroll in the Counselor in Training (CIT) program where participants will work closely with counselors and specialist to learn leadership skills, how to work with children, and build skills in a variety of areas. For more information about this program, contact Devin Billstein at (210) 302-6869 or billsteind@jcc-sa.org.

Many camps have limited space availability; early registration is strongly encouraged. Register online and find more details, including paper forms, at www.jccsanantonio.org/camp, or call the JCC Youth & Camping Office at (210) 302-6859.

Rodfei’s Camp SEED is back

Registration is now open for Camp SEED 2016 at Rodfei Sholom. The summer camp will include swimming daily, weekly trips, a trip to Sea World, and new this year – a zip line.

“But, most of all, campers will be part of the amazing Jewish spirit and environment that our returning SEED counselors bring,” said Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg. “The secret to our camp’s amazing ruach and to the kids wanting to come back year after year is the SEED counselors. They are warm and kind and fun. They build yearlong relationships with the campers. They can’t wait to see the campers every day and the campers can’t wait to see them.”

Camp will be held June 27 through August 12. Scholarships are available. Contact Rodfei at rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557 for more details.

Teen service day J-Serve to be in April

J-Serve, the annual day of community service for Jewish teens, will be held Sunday, April 10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jewish teenagers in 7th through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. This is the tenth year the Barshop Jewish Community Center has coordinated this city-wide event.

Attendees will receive lunch and community service hours for school. T-shirts will also be available for the first 125 teens to arrive.

Participants will register for their service site beginning at 9 a.m. Service opportunities will include sites such as the San Antonio Food Bank, the Texas Senior Games, and other local non-profits. Transportation to service sites will be provided.

For more information or to register, please contact Rachel Rustin at (210) 302-6969 or rustinr@jcc-sa.org, or visit www.jccsanantonio.org/jserve.
Looking for a Seder?

Recent Jewish involvement on the UTSA campus has included a Pre-Purim Hamantash Bake, Weekly Shabbat dinners, socials, Challah Bakes and Kosher lunch and Jewish discussions on Campus. Chabad on Campus is dedicated to the needs of Jewish Students. If you know of a student in need of a Seder please contact Campus Rabbi, Ari Weingarten at Ariweingarten@gmail.com or (210) 391-3621.

Hillel San Antonio offers wide array of programming for area college students

Hillel San Antonio continues its successful semester with new programs and initiatives. On February 16, students attended The Barshop JCC’s Jewish Film Festival where they watched Apples from the Desert. Students met for dinner beforehand at Habanero’s Grill and enjoyed a lively discussion. The next day, Trinity University students congregated for a Lunch and Learn, at which students discussed topics of Jewish literature. Hillel has also started a new initiative at UTSA called Coffee and Chill, where students meet with Hillel professional Alan Yancelson to discuss Jewish topics and have a free cup of coffee. Hillel also hosted two Israeli soldiers who spoke with students on their experience in the IDF (see Stand with Us article). On March 1, UTSA students had a table on campus where they wrote Hebrew names of interested students. It was a very successful event with more than 60 students stopping by to learn more.

By engaging Jewish students on their own terms on campus and in the wider community, Hillel San Antonio is increasing its reach and deepening its impact. We look forward to continued success this semester. If you know of any Jewish students in town, please let Alan Yancelson know at (210) 201-5397 or e-mail him at AYancelson@HillelSA.org. Find Hillel San Antonio on Facebook or visit the website at HillelSA.org. To sign up for the newsletter, e-mail Alan.

Sinai Scholars in full swing at Chabad on Campus

Chabad on Campus is currently offering an 8-week course on Jewish essentials through the Sinai Scholars Society, a branch of the Jewish Learning Institute geared specifically to students. Current members meet weekly on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. for an involved class on Jewish perspectives including relationships, Shabbat, and Jewish identity.

If you know of a student who is interested in this course for the Fall 2016 semester contact Campus Rabbi, Ari Weingarten at Ariweingarten@gmail.com or (210) 391-3621.
IN THE COMMUNITY: COLLEGE

Israeli soldiers share experiences with UTSA Hillel

The Israeli Soldiers Tour, sponsored by StandWithUs, an international Israel education organization, stopped in San Antonio on February 19 to meet with students from Hillel San Antonio. During their visit, soldiers Idan and Sagie (last names omitted for security purposes) recounted their personal experiences serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

27-year-old Sagie says as a teen, the 2002 death of 15-year-old Gastón Perpiñal by a suicide bomber greatly affected him. Gastón was part of Sagie’s basketball team. An only child, Gastón had convinced his parents to fulfill his dream of making aliyah from Argentina only 4 months earlier.

“My perspective changed; it was then that I thought about survival,” said Sagie. “At only 15, I stopped taking life for granted. I now wanted to make a significant contribution to the army.”

Sagie served as a platoon commander in the Israeli artillery corps.

Idan, 29, was a tank commander in the armored corps. He participated in the disengagement of Gaza in 2005, and recalls “the pain of taking action against my own people.” The evacuation of Gaza only escalated the number of rockets launched at Israel and he was called to service in 2008. Idan described incidents that “appalled me at the immorality of Hamas’ terrorist use of Palestinian residents as human targets.”

Both concluded their presentations with a reminder that Israel longs for peace and co-existence.

To learn more about the Israeli Soldiers Tour and StandWithUs, visit www.StandWithUs.com.

Making an academic choice for your child

Several years ago, my husband and I attended a Chavurah gathering with friends. It was a meaningful evening as we both left feeling spiritually uplifted. Our Jewish identity and education began to shift that night. As time went on, we became more involved in our children’s Jewish pre-school activities and attended more Chavurahs. Our own Jewish identities grew stronger, too.

It was now time to select a kindergarten. While there are many great school choices available in our city, we ultimately went with a private Jewish education at the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA). We felt good about our choice, but as young parents, we still had questions.

Did we make the right choice? Is the kindergarten class too small? Will he receive a well-rounded secular education, as well as a Jewish one?

We have now been part of the TASA family for eight months and feel that we made the best decision for our son.

While TASA can appear to be for Orthodox families only (given its initial location at Rodfei Sholom), this is a huge misconception about the school. If it were true, we would not be there. The leadership, administration and teachers come from mixed backgrounds and run the school based on giving each Jewish student a positive educational experience, regardless of their synagogue affiliation. The only requirement TASA makes for incoming families is to come with a positive attitude toward learning and they will handle the rest... and boy do they!

TASA provides its students with a well-rounded secular education within a Jewish environment. This means our son receives a wonderful and diverse general studies program including reading, writing, math and science. Plus, he takes computer lab, physical education (PE), arts and music and Hebrew as a second language. He learns both American and Jewish history, participates in after-school sports programs, attends weekly Kabbalat Shabbat services and goes on exciting and educational...
Barshop JCC to host first night community Seder and Kosher for Passover dinner

In celebration of Passover, the Barshop JCC will host a first night community Seder on Friday, Apr. 22. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Rabbi Steve Fisch of Congregation Beth El Binah in Dallas will return to lead the participatory Seder.

This event, open to the entire Jewish community, will include a meal, singing, conversation, and search for the Afikomen. Ceremonial Manischewitz and grape juice will be provided though guests are welcome to bring a bottle of Kosher for Passover wine. Vegetarian entrees are available with advanced request.

Tickets, which are $20 (adults twelve and over), $12 (children ages six to eleven), and free for children five and younger, can be purchased online at www.jccsanantonio.org/seasons or by calling (210) 302-6867. Those interested may reserve a single seat, table for ten, or anything in between.

The JCC will also host a Kosher for Passover community dinner on Wednesday, April 27 at 6 p.m. This will be a relaxed event intended to serve individuals and families who want to take a break from Passover cooking and enjoy the holiday with the Jewish community of San Antonio. Seats may be reserved online at www.jccsanantonio.org/seasons or over the phone at (210) 302-6867.

Agudas Achim Passover programs

Agudas Achim will host several community events in celebration of Passover including a Second Night Seder (see below). For more information and to make reservations, please call (210) 479-0307.

Pre-Passover Potluck – Friday, April 15 at 7:15 p.m., preceded by Friday Night With Friends Simcha Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Family Friendly Friday Night Service at 6:15 p.m.

This potluck is not Kosher for Passover and a great opportunity to use up the last of your hametz. Bring a dairy/vegetarian dish to share and please remember to use ingredients with hechshers. No RSVP necessary. Agudas Achim will provide tableware, drinks and dessert.

Passover Story time with Rabbi Abraham at Barnes and Noble La Cantera – Tuesday, April 19 at 4:30 p.m. Bring the little ones and join Rabbi Abraham for another holiday story time at Barnes and Noble La Cantera. This program is open to all at no charge. Children hear amazing stories about Passover and then walk over to Grimaldi’s Pizza for a no-host dinner.

Pre-Passover Pizza Party & Fire Truck – Thursday, April 21 5:30 p.m. co-sponsored by Sisterhood. Bring the kids for some pizza and fun on an SAFD fire truck on site for the burning of hamatz. This dinner is free and open to all. RSVP for catering purposes to rsvp@agudas-achim.org.

Second Night Community Seder - April 23, 6:30 p.m. Join Agudas Achim for an interactive family Seder with song, Hagaddah readings and spiritual understanding. Cost: $25/adult, $10/child 6-11, and children 5 and under are free.

Let all who are hungry, come and eat

In our Pesach Hagaddah we recite: “let all who are hungry, come and eat…”

In keeping with this theme, Temple Chai will hold its annual Second Night Seder on Saturday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Food Bank (5200 Enrique M. Barrera Pkwy, San Antonio, TX 78227). The menu is provided by Catalyst Catering, a non-profit arm of the SAFB. All proceeds benefit the Food Bank.

“This is a worthy collaboration for our congregation which has collected non-perishable food at our Shabbat services practically since its inception,” explained Temple Chai’s Rabbi David Komerofsky. “The community is invited to celebrate with us, with special pricing for college students and the military.”

“This is a first for us,” explained Eric Cooper, CEO of the Food Bank. “It is significant that two of our past presidents, Jimmy Toubin and the late Sterling Neuman, are from Temple Chai, and have long been involved in helping to alleviate hunger in South Texas.”

A traditional menu of gefilte fish, matzo ball soup, charoset, char-grilled chicken Merlot and potato/vegetable medley, sorbet dessert and beverages is $25/members, $30/ non-members, half-price for children 6-11, and free for children 5 and under. Complimentary transportation will be available from Temple Chai’s Lockhill Selma home to/from the Food Bank. Reservations are required and due April 14.

For reservations, visit www.templehaisa.org/seder or call (210) 340-2090.

Temple Beth-El Passover Seders

Temple Beth-El will host several Passover seders which are open to the community. All are welcome and encouraged to come. To RSVP and for more information about each of these seders visit www.beth-elsa.org.

• Community Seder (second night) – Saturday, April 23 at 6:00 pm led by Temple clergy at Temple Beth-El.
• Women’s Seder – Tuesday, April 12 at 6:15 pm at Temple Beth-El, led by Temple clergy and volunteers. This year’s theme is Stronger Together (based on the traditional charge Chazak Chazak V’nitchazek - Be strong, be strong, and may we strengthen one another).
• Men’s Seder – Tuesday, April 26 at 6:00 pm at the Barn Door Restaurant. Service led and underwritten by Temple’s Brotherhood.

Hadassah hosts wine tasting

The San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah is helping to get ready for Passover with a kosher wine tasting on Sunday, April 3, at 4 p.m. at the home of Marge and Robert Gregerman.

A local wine expert, Roberto Viejo, will give a brief introduction to several locally-available kosher wines, which everyone will have the chance to sample, along with some light kosher snacks.

Reservations must be made by calling Marion Bernstein at (210) 493-1801. The cost for the event is $10 per person or $18 per couple. Newly-gifted annual members of Hadassah and new life members will be admitted at no charge.
Rodfei Sholom hosts Community Seder

Rodfei Sholom will host a synagogue Seder on the second night of Passover, Saturday, April 23. The Seder, led by Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg and Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg, will include explanations and insights into the Haggadah.

For more information and to RSVP, contact the synagogue at rodfisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557.

Chabad to offer Hebrew and English language community Seders

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning will host two concurrent Passover Seders, for the English and Hebrew language communities. Relive the Exodus, discover the eternal message of the Haggadah, and enjoy a Seder complete with hand-made Shmurah Matzah, Israeli wines, and a wonderful dinner spiced with singing and explanations of the unique traditional customs of this special night.

The Seders will take place on Friday, April 22 at the Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd. Services begin at 8 p.m. followed by the Seders at 8:30 p.m. Couvert: $45 adult, $25 child (no one will be turned away due to lack of funds).

In addition, handmade Shmurah Matzah will be available for purchase from the Chabad Center for $25 pound.

To reserve your seats and/or order Matzah please call Chabad at (210) 764-0300 or email info@ChabadSA.com.

Perspective

continued from page 27

field trips such as the Rodeo, Witte Museum and Food Bank. Special guests come to the school to visit with the students like Wane McGarity from the Dallas Cowboys who recently helped celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday with the kids by reading favorite storybooks.

TASA’s school spirit is another component not to be overlooked. My son loves going to school because his teachers make learning fun with educational games, contests and prizes. Whether celebrating a Jewish holiday or simply making it to the 100th day of school, the TASA spirit cannot be denied.

The size of the school creates a safe and nurturing family atmosphere for my son too. The older students help mentor the younger ones and various grade levels come together for special lessons and activities so the classroom size and dynamic is always changing. This encourages my son to be flexible, have friends outside of his Kindergarten class and creates an extra level of comfort, which ultimately gives him a boost in confidence to learn.

Finally, TASA is teaching our son how to critically think about life - both academically and spiritually - through its incredible Judaic Studies program. Thanks to the school, we see our son beginning to build a strong Jewish moral compass, which we believe will help him navigate through life as he grows older, both inside the classroom and in the real world.

Simply put, my son wakes up every morning eager to go to school; and that’s a wonderful feeling for our family. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, “Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.” I couldn’t agree more, which is why our family advocates for TASA.

Steven H. Butler, C.P.A.
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Rodfei Sholom’s IPA to screen
Israel Through the Looking Glass

The community is invited to attend the screening of the documentary Israel Through the Looking Glass, Sunday, April 10 at 7 p.m. at Rodfei Sholom, 3003 Sholom Drive.

Directed by Ami Horowitz and produced by CUFi (Christians United for Israel), the film addresses the accusations of Apartheid and racism against Israel prevalent today and the lies behind the BDS movement.

It’s based on interviews with those spreading lies to delegitimize the Jewish State and interviews with Muslims, Christians and Jews living in Israel and in the territories. The film is a myth-shattering at times heart breaking, at times humorous as it reflects the facts on the ground and the truth about Israel.

Ami Horowitz, the director, is also a co-producer, co-director, co-writer and star of the 2012 documentary, U.N. Me. He also produces short videos about absurdities found in college campuses, politics, world affairs and more.

The screening of the documentary is sponsored by the Israel Public Action Committee of Congregation Rodfei Sholom(IPA). The IPA works to provide information to the general public about Israel and the Middle East. It monitors and counters anti-Israel bias in the media, exposes anti-Israel propaganda, and encourages action and advocacy for Israel.

There is no charge for the film. Students are encouraged to attend the film. Reservations are encouraged.

For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Bobbie Ghitis at 210-493-3557, ext. 212 or send an email to iparodfei@gmail.com.

Spurs game watching night to benefit GMJSS

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) will host a Spurs game watching party at Willie’s Grill & Icehouse, 4051 NW Loop 1604 (at NW Military Hwy) on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. Tipoff for the Spurs v. Oklahoma City Thunder, the last home game of the season, is 7 p.m.

Mention you’re there in support of Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services and Willie’s will donate 15% of your check.

For more information, contact Christina Weinfeld at (210) 302-6946 or cweinfeld@goldenmanor.net.

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- Braised Brisket

ALL MEALS INCLUDE:
- Matzo Ball Soup
- Potato Kugel
- Green Beans with Toasted Almonds
- Traditional Charoset
- Spinach and Strawberry Salad

$99.99
The Capitol Steps Comedy Troupe headed to San Antonio

If you think some of the antics in this year’s presidential race have been more than a little ridiculous, wait until an award-winning comedy troupe gets ahold of them! Tickets are now on sale for the June performance of The Capitol Steps. For decades, the comedy troupe from Capitol Hill has been weaving its creative web of political zingers and skits, and now they’re bringing their show on the road to San Antonio.

The Capitol Steps will “mock the vote” at one performance only, Sunday, June 26 at 7 p.m. at Trinity University’s Laurie Auditorium. Tickets, available through Ticketmaster, range in price from $36 - $225, with special student seats (with ID) for only $10.

Organizers say, “The Capitol Steps have had people across the U.S. in stitches for more than 30 years, making good-humored fun of politicians and more. It’s been more than 15 years since they’ve performed in San Antonio, and with the election now reaching a frenzied pace, there’s plenty of great new material and every candidate is fair game.”

The Capitol Steps San Antonio event is presented by Pulman, Cappuccio, Pullen, Benson & Jones, LLP.

For tickets or more information, visit http://www.capitolstepssanantonio.com.

Experience Splendor On The Range

Do you ever wonder what life was like when horses were the fastest means of transportation? Now you can experience America’s 16th century firsthand. PlainsCapital Bank is proud to sponsor Splendor on the Range: American Indians and the Horse at the Witte Museum, an interactive exhibition featuring more than 200 artifacts. Come explore this important and exciting period in history when the horse forever changed the way of life in Texas and the American West.

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ARTS & CULTURE
Polish president opens museum for Righteous among Nations

WARSAW (JTA) — Amid a public debate about Poland’s Holocaust era record, the country’s president attended the opening of a museum for non-Jews who saved Jews’ lives during the genocide.

At a ceremony in mid-March attended by approximately 2,000 people, Andrzej Duda spoke of anti-Semitism as not only hateful to Jews, but also disrespectful to the memory of those who risked their lives to save them.

Those who “sow hatred between people, sow and foment anti-Semitism, at the same time trample upon the grave of the Ulma family,” he said of the family that gave the new museum in the southeastern town of Markowa its name: The Ulma Family Museum of Poles Who Saved Jews.

On March 24, 1944, German police murdered eight Jews and several people who hid them: Jozef Ulma, his pregnant wife and their six children. The Ulmas were recognized in 1995 as Righteous among the Nations for their actions by Yad Vashem, Israel’s Holocaust museum.

The Markowa museum’s opening is one of several new government initiatives to commemorate the Righteous, including plans and funding for a monument to be located next to the All Saints Church on Warsaw’s Grzybowski Square. Another monument, which is controversial for its location, is planned near the Museum of the History of Polish Jews at what used to be the Warsaw Ghetto.

The Polish government allocated this year $53,000 for building a chapel dedicated to the Righteous in Torun near Bydgoszcz in central Poland.

Hipster care package startup sets Jewish Kickstarter record

(JTA) — A hip Jewish care-package project says it has become the most successful Jewish campaign ever on the Kickstarter crowdfunding platform.

After Hello Mazel reached $70,000, it became “the most-funded Jewish campaign in Kickstarter history,” according to the Kickstarter campaign page.

The project, which said it plans to send out four packages a year with “the best Jewish stuff,” has since secured 1,395 backers who pledged $152,021 to help bring this project to life.

“We thought to ourselves, ‘There’s got to be a way to get more Jewish to more people,’” According to Hello Mazel’s Kickstarter description.
US warns citizens in Israel to be on high alert

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The U.S. diplomatic missions in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are warning American citizens in Israel to maintain heightened awareness.

“During the last few months...there have been a number of attacks in Israel, Jerusalem, and the West Bank that have resulted in injury and death to multiple individuals, including to U.S. citizens,” a security message sent to U.S. citizens in Israel in March. “Given these recent events and the continuing dynamic security environment in these areas, the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv and the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem remind U.S. citizens of the need to maintain a high degree of personal situational awareness and to monitor local media for information about breaking events.”

The warning came a day after Taylor Force, a graduate student at Vanderbilt University on a school trip to Israel, was killed in a stabbing attack that wounded as many as 10 people at and near Tel Aviv’s Jaffa Port. Earlier the same day, terror attacks in Jerusalem and central Israel left a haredi Orthodox man and two Israeli Border Police officers seriously injured.

U.S. government employees were also temporarily prohibited from visiting Jerusalem’s Old City.

The message also reminded U.S. citizens “to exercise heightened caution in areas around the Damascus, Lion’s and Herod’s gates to the Old City, as these locations have been the scene of past attacks.”

Remembering Jewish Military Veterans

The Jewish War Veterans of America Post 753 asks you to remember these Jewish military veterans whose Yahrzeit occurs in the month of April, and who are buried in a local cemetery. If you know of a name that is missing please contact Herschel at (210) 468-5598.

Altman, Richard
Bailey, Billy
Beanstock, Sam
Bennett, Victor
Berkie, Louis
Berler, Alvin
Bitterbaum, Bertrand
Brenner, Alan
Cohen, Leon
Cohen, Sam
Cohn, Milton
Dirck, Bernice
Edelman, Robert
Feigenbaum, Simon
Feinstein, Morris
Feldman, Herbert
Finkel, Phillip
Forman, Samuel
Friedlander, Darvin
Friedlander, Dorothy
Garrett, Ernest Sr.
Glickman, Ralph
Goldberg, Isaac
Goldberg, Mack
Goldberg, Sydney
Gutierrez, Al
Hoot, Morton
Isiger, Irving
Kamrass, Samuel
Kanter, Melvyn
Kaufman, Jack
Kelman, Dave
Kislin, Benjamin
Kline, Sidney
Koplin, Marvin
Kraft, Al

Lang, Jack
Lawson, Charles
Levine, Saul
Lipsien, Sheldon
Logan, Marcia
Love, Alan
Lynston, Paul
Malina, Abraham
Maltz, Albert
Maltzberger, Robert
Maze, Albert
Miserocchi, Louis
Mittler, Earl
Mongite, Howard
Narango, Humberto
Nossow, Morris
Passur, Sam
Piloff, Lawrence
Pyles, Thomas Sr.
Reich, Mendel
Ramelet, Louis
Rosenfeld, Robert
Rosenthal, Moss
Schwartz, Charles
Seelig, Billy
Segel, Abram
Silverman, Harold
Spiro, Herbert
Sterling, Jules
Tarver, Sylvia
Weiner, Joseph
Weiss, Henry
Wolfe, Alexander
Wyant, Michael
Zausmer, Bert

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FROM THE COVER

SECURITY
continued from page 1

When complete, this new upstairs rear entry (in what used to be the Campus Café) coupled with the main entrance in the front of the property, will direct all access into the building through the Main level lobby. An essential part of this project will be completion of the partial walkway which historically has provided access to the Jewish Family Service offices from the parking lot facing Wurzbach. The walkway will provide easy access into the building for anyone parking on the side of the building.

It is important to note that the current JCC Sports & Fitness entrance (located on the lower level in the rear of the building), will no longer serve as an entry/exit for the building, and instead will serve as an alternative access point into the JCC pool area for those who do not need to utilize the locker rooms.

Once both front and back entrances are operational, the Main lobby will begin to function as a singular checkpoint for all JCC members and their guests who come to access Sports & Fitness facilities and activities on the lower level.

Additionally, this newly located Main Lobby Courtesy desk/checkpoint will be used for all JCC members, guests and visitors coming to the Campus for meetings, activities and events, to access the upper level of the building which houses administrative offices for the JCC, Jewish Federation, Jewish Family Service, Golden Manor, and the San Antonio Holocaust Memorial.

Theatre patrons coming to attend a show at the Vexler Theatre will also pass this checkpoint to pick up tickets and access the lower level where the Theatre is located.

Access control points at the entrances to both the JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children and the Eleanor Kolitz Hebrew Language Academy will remain as is.

This new system will allow the Campus to manage access and to more effectively monitor who is in the building at all times. Of course, movement to and from the upper and lower levels will remain easily accessible for anyone with a current JCC membership card so JCC members are encouraged to get in the habit of carrying their card whenever they’re entering the building.

In order to ensure everyone’s safety until construction is complete, the JCC Sports & Fitness entrance will remain closed. JCC members, guests and visitors to the Campus are asked to park closer to the NW Military side of the building and to enter through the front doors to access programs and facilities.

Please look for signage in and around the building designed to provide easy directions during our construction phase and thank you in advance for your support and cooperation as we strive to provide you and our community with a clean, safe and easily accessible facility.

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Bat Mitzvah: Sadie Alexis Greenberg

Sadie Alexis Greenberg will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 2 at Congregation Agudas Achim. She is the daughter of Stacy and David Greenberg, and the sister of Colton and Dustin Wilson, Seth Greenberg, and Rachel Cohen. Sadie is the granddaughter of Dorothy Lewe of Florida, Charlie Barnett of Boerne, and Diane Barnett (of blessed memory).

Sadie is also the niece of Sheila Hans (of blessed memory) of Connecticut and Irving Greenberg (of blessed memory) of Florida.

Sadie is a 7th grader at Jackson Middle School. She is on the A/B honor roll in all pre-AP classes, was named MVP of her volleyball team, and is involved in journalism. Sadie attended the EKA Jewish Day School from Kindergarten through fifth Grade. Her hobbies include playing volleyball, club soccer and spending time with family and friends.

Sadie rescued her dog, Ranger, from the Humane Society. For her Mitzvah project she is collecting items for the Humane Society as she has always loved animals and wanted to help them. She is also giving a donation to Congregation Agudas Achim.

Bat Mitzvah: Joshua Weidlich

On March 4 and 5, Joshua Weidlich, son of LTC Chris and Robin Weidlich, became the first Bar Mitzvah at Temple Chai since the congregation moved into its own space. Josh is a student and athlete at Barbara Bush Middle School and chose as his mitzvah project a collection of sporting goods to send to soldiers in Afghanistan.

“My Torah portion teaches us that Shabbat rest is important, and I want to help the people who are deployed to enjoy some relaxation,” Josh said. “My father was overseas for 27 months and worked long hours. I want others to be able to use the things I collect so that they can have time off from their duties.”

Lisa J. Goldstein, Temple Chai’s educator and cantorial soloist, worked one-on-one with Josh in the months leading up to the service. Josh helped to lead the worship on Friday night and Saturday morning, read three aliyyot from the Torah, and offered an original interpretation of the text.

Roos chosen to lead law firm

Marty Roos has been promoted to partner-in-charge at Strasburger & Price, LLP. In addition to his new leadership role, Roos will continue to maintain his active practice.

Roos served as a board member for the Jewish Federation from 2001-2005, and on the Jewish Community Center board from 2003-2007.

Miller to receive Or Tamid Award

Temple Beth-El’s Sisterhood will honor Sharon Kaufman Miller as its Or Tamid award recipient at a luncheon at the Menger Hotel on May 1 at 12:30 pm.

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Osem Matzah
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Look in-store for coupon offer

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Available at your San Antonio Alon Market Store, 8503 NW Military Highway, (210) 479-4300
Prices good thru Saturday, April 30, 2016, while supplies last.