More than $194,000 raised in a single day

Making an Impact and Changing Lives

TODA RABA! Thank you to the more than 100 community volunteers who collectively raised a record breaking $194,229 at Super Sunday, on September 25, at The Campus, representing a 23% increase over last year's achievement. Super Sunday was truly a day of “Community”, where volunteers from all parts of the community came together to reach out to their fellow community members – to Make an Impact and Change Lives.

Super Sunday co-chairs, Greg Davis & Liz Rockstroh

See SUPER SUNDAY, page 22

HMMSA teams with educators and AT&T to promote Learn and Remember and other education programs

The Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio (HMMSA) has received a $15,000 grant from AT&T which will ensure area teachers continue to have access to an innovative Learn and Remember program and other teaching tools provided by the Museum.

Area educators, community leaders and Holocaust survivor Anna Rado

See REMEMBER, page 15

Jewish community to gather to commemorate Kristallnacht

The San Antonio Holocaust Memorial Museum, in partnership with Congregation Agudus Achim and Temple Beth-El, will host a Kristallnacht Commemoration program for the entire community at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 9 at Temple Beth-El. Kristallnacht refers to the night of November 9, 1938, when the sounds of breaking glass shattered the air, as German Nazis set fire to more than thousands of Jewish businesses, hundreds of synagogues and schools, and murdered dozens of Jews.

Approximately 30,000 Jewish men were rounded up and sent to concentration camps.

The program at Temple Beth-El, geared towards religious school students and their families, will

See GATHERING, page 15
EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS

The submission deadline for the DECEMBER 2016 issue of the Jewish Journal is NOV. 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 DECEMBER 2016 ISSUE:
- Ad space reservations due no later than NOV. 12, 2016 by noon;
- Press ready ads due by NOV. 16, 2016.
Please include a contact name and phone number with all submissions.

The Jewish Journal is 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.
2nd Annual
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JEWISH FEDERATION
OF SAN ANTONIO

Women’s
PHILANTHROPY

WOMEN’S PHILANTHROPY OF SAN ANTONIO INVITES YOU FOR AN EVENING OF INSPIRATION • TZEDAKAH • SHOPPING BENEFITTING CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF SA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016
THE CAMPUS OF THE SAN ANTONIO JEWISH COMMUNITY
DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

COST: $18

FOOD AND WINE WHILE MAKING A DIFFERENCE
(DEDICATE LAWS OBSERVED)

BRING A GIFT FOR THE CHILDREN AT THE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL. A LIST OF DESIRED ITEMS CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.JFSATX.ORG.
RSVP BY NOVEMBER 28TH ONLINE AT WWW.JFSATX.ORG OR BY CALLING (210) 302-6960.

EVENT CO-CHAIRS: ELISA REINSMITH & MARGARET GOFRMAN-KLEIN

The Children’s Hospital
of San Antonio™
A time of gratitude and calm

We are almost there – the conclusion of the 2016 Presidential Campaign! While talking politics is tricky business, I think it is safe to say that many, if not most, of us are ready for the campaign season to be completed. I eagerly await the chance to move forward and work towards a sense of unity that highlights the strength of our great democracy and the leadership responsibility we carry in our world.

As a Jewish people, we have also moved beyond the High Holiday season and are now entering the slower paces of the winter month. Between now and Hanukkah, we have fairly typical work weeks, each capped by Shabbat. My family knows that I cherish a “normal” week, a week without an event or a series of meetings. I love a Shabbat without plans and a Sunday at home, reading the newspaper and cooking lunch and dinner. I am grateful for a non-eventful day.

Though our Jewish calendar is calm this month, we have reason to celebrate as Americans. I hope that Thanksgiving can help us unite, at least before the holiday decorations emerge and remind us that we are not all of the same faith and traditions. Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays because it has no ‘yontif.’ Thanksgiving is for all Americans, no matter what religion you practice or where you may fall on any spectrum of observance.

Gratitude is something for which we can all aspire. I often times do not properly acknowledge the plenty I have. I have much to be thankful for at this moment, and November helps me to remember those blessings.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Elie Guggenheim
Rivian “Cookie” Markey
Robert Gernsbacher
Edmund Serfaty

CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday, Nov. 4
Light Candles at: 6:27 p.m.
Shabbat, Nov. 5
Shabbat Ends: 7:21 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 11
Light Candles at: 5:22 p.m.
Shabbat, Nov. 12
Shabbat Ends: 6:17 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 18
Light Candles at: 5:19 p.m.
Shabbat, Nov. 19
Shabbat Ends: 6:14 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 25
Light Candles at: 5:17 p.m.
Shabbat, Nov. 26
Shabbat Ends: 6:13 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 2
Light Candles at: 5:16 p.m.
Shabbat, Dec. 3
Shabbat Ends: 6:13 p.m.

Looking for the community CALENDAR OF EVENTS?

The monthly calendar for the San Antonio Jewish Community is now available online on the website of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. Keep up with the most up to date happenings at www.jfsatx.org.

Simply click on “Community Calendar” for a comprehensive listing of Jewish community events. Submissions for consideration may be emailed to Caitlin Strayer at strayerc@jfsatx.org.

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210.736.4352 | www.hfla-sa.org | info@hfla-sa.org
HMMSA: Month at a Glance

September was a busy month for the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio staff and docents. The month included a docent education planning meeting, a field trip to Austin to see a temporary Holocaust exhibit at the Bullock Museum, and an exciting reception where the Museum was awarded grant funds from the Charity Ball.

HMMSA volunteers Barbara and Burt Arnow.

HMMSA Chairs and Docents meet to plan Docent Education (Clockwise from bottom left): Vicki Aarons (Education Committee Chair), Matthew Faulkner (Programs Coordinator), Kristin Hernandez (Collections Manager), Gene Festa (Docent), Ed Scheiber (Docent), Lynn Scheiber (Docent), Marge Gregerman (Exhibits Committee Co-Chair), Becky Hoag (Docent Committee Chair), Juana Rubalcava (Education Director), and Ellen Ollervidez (Director).

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www.gurinskys.com 210-308-7118
Jewish Federation leaders gathered on September 20 at the home of Libby and Steve Golden, to support the Federation's 2016 Annual Campaign and to hear from Gil Hoffman, Chief Political Correspondent & Analyst for The Jerusalem Post. Hoffman spoke about the current situation in Israel, sharing challenges as well as the pride of the growing technology scene and its achievements. In spite of the many challenges in the region, Israel has been ranked as the 11th Happiest Country for a second year by the World Happiness Report. The Report ranks 158 countries by happiness levels using variables such as GDP per capita and healthy life expectancy. The report also includes extra factors such as social support, generosity, freedom to make life choices, and perceived absence of corruption.

Hoffman also spoke about the challenges of students on college campuses who are faced with hostile anti-Israel rhetoric. He encouraged the San Antonio Jewish community to educate and prepare our teens and college students. He applauded the San Antonio Jewish community and encouraged all to continue their involvement -- that every individual can make a difference.

Federation Board Chair Jonathan Gurwitz spoke of the accomplishments of the Federation over the last two years and expressed how proud he is that, after several years of declining campaigns, the 2015 campaign turned around and had a significant increase. Gurwitz thanked the volunteers for their support as campaigners and donors. He spoke about the various ways Federation dollars are making impact locally through programs like PJ Library, a new vibrant Young Adult Division, a new Women's Philanthropy initiative,
safety net services through Jewish Family Service, Jewish education at the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy, through camping experiences, and many other programs. He shared anecdotes from his recent trip to Europe, where he spent time meeting with members of the Jewish community in France. Federation dollars are assisting the Jewish community in France, Ukraine and wherever Jews are in need.

Gurwitz announced the goal for the 2016 Campaign is $1.6 million. He said the goal represents an increase over the previous year, and is imperative, in order to meet the needs of the community.

The Jewish Federation of San Antonio will “gift” $1000 to first time Jewish overnight campers through One Happy Camper grants.

Help your children build community while being Jewish and having fun!

Contact Lauren Abraham for more information at abrahaml@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6834

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Get Together grants for PJ Library families

PJ Library’s national headquarters has chosen San Antonio to be one of the first nine mid-size communities to pilot “Get together” grants. The purpose of these grants is for PJ Library families to “get together” in smaller more intimate groups. Anyone with a PJ Library subscription can sign up at www.PJlibrary.org/gettogether to plan their own Shabbat dinner or create any PJ Library inspired experience with three or four other families. Following the experience, the PJ family who hosted the event can send in a photograph and receive a $150 check in order to cover the expenses of the get together. The experiences can be of any variety, for PJ parents only or for PJ families to include their children.

“This grants program responds to a clear need for more opportunities to enjoy Jewish life in ways people find meaningful. The program offers a chance for busy families to “do Jewish” on their own time, in their own neighborhoods, in ways that make the most sense to them,” says Lori Hoch Steifel, National Engagement Officer for PJ Library. “We feel that San Antonio is doing a great job to get our PJ Library families together, and we want to offer the families even more.”
January 2017 Interfaith service to commemorate Martin Luther King

The 2017 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Citywide Interfaith Service on January 15, 2017 at 4 p.m. will include keynote speaker Bishop Woody W. White and representatives of the seven major faith groups. Bishop White is Bishop in Residence at Emory University’s Chandler School of Theology.

The service, hosted by the MLK Commission of San Antonio, will be held at St. Gerard Catholic Church, 1523 Iowa Street.

For more information, contact the Community Relations Office of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at (210) 302-6972.

### Federation raising funds for Hurricane Matthew relief

(JTA) — The Jewish Federations of North America has opened an emergency fund for Hurricane Matthew relief.

With winds topping 140 miles per hour, Hurricane Matthew left a path of destruction in its wake. The powerful storm wreaked havoc and forced hundreds of thousands to flee for their lives. The full scope of the devastation is still being assessed.

Jewish Federations across North America are raising funds to support communities in need. One hundred percent of your donation will go to the Hurricane Matthew Relief Fund. To donate, visit www.jewishfederations.org.

The Jewish Federations of North America is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization.

### JOIN THE YOUNG ADULT DIVISION FOR: 

View Federation’s calendar of events at http://www.jfsatx.org/calendar/

Join us!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2016

Santikos Embassy 14 & Max and Louie’s New York Diner

226 W. Bitters Road

RSVP on Facebook or to Samantha Mazuz at (210)302-6970 or mazuzss@jfsatx.org

ENGAGEMENT CO-CHAIRS:

cRiley Greenberg & Jennifer Goldberg
YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Leslie Hickey

Leslie Hickey has spent the last 15 years as a public servant in local and federal government. She joined the San Antonio Police Department in August 2015 as one of two Administrative Services Officers. Prior to that, she worked for the City of Colorado Springs for 10 years in the City Budget Office and for the Colorado Springs Fire Department. Leslie also worked for the United States Government Accountability Office in Washington D.C. and Denver, as a municipal bond rating analyst for Fitch in New York City, and as a Field Deputy for the City of Los Angeles.

Leslie was selected as a 2014 Rising Star by the Colorado Springs Business Journal. She was a Coro Fellow in 1996-1997 and is a Hadassah Leadership Fellow for 2016-2017.

Leslie is one of 16 Hadassah members chosen from across the country to participate in a two-year Leadership Fellows program.

Leslie is currently the Co-Vice President of Membership for the San Antonio Chapter of Hadassah, having formerly served as the President and Treasurer of the Colorado Springs Chapter of Hadassah and a member of Hadassah's Desert Mountain Region Board. She Co-Chairs the Congregation Agudas Achim Keruv Committee, and serves on the Agudas Achim Young Couples Club committee as well as the Purim Ball committee. Leslie and her husband, Bryce, have three young children – an eight year old boy and 5-year old boy/girl twins.

What brought you to San Antonio?

My husband’s company asked us to relocate. While we loved Colorado Springs, the opportunities in San Antonio are tremendous, and we realized this was the right move for our family. We have been welcomed with gigantic open arms into this thriving Jewish community and after one year here, we are feeling more at home every day.

What is your strongest Jewish memory?

I have a few of them. The earliest is going to Israel when I was a little girl – no more than 7 years old – to visit my sister who was spending a year there. It was an amazing opportunity to go back to Israel earlier this year, the first time since that visit, to experience our homeland as an adult. I also reconnected with distant family there, which made that trip even more meaningful. I also remember when my parents started our synagogue in Sacramento, California, when I was about 8 years old. I remember answering the phone in my house and asking people if they were calling because they were interested in joining the synagogue. I’d take down their name and number! I made a very good assistant.

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

My mother made me a life member of Hadassah in 2004, but like many young

Carol P. Christ & Judith Plaskow

on

Goddess and God in the World: Conversations in Embodied Theology
(As part of the “Three Faith Series”)*
at

The SoL (Source of Light) Center
at University Presbyterian Church
300 Bushnell Ave.
Monday, November 21, 7-9 pm.
Register at http://www.upcsa.org/registration/
or call (210) 732-9927

Tickets are $15, or $30 for the *Series, which includes “Explorations in Jewish-Christian Friendship” (11/17) and “Islam’s Jesus” (11/19).

All programs free for students with ID.

Co-Sponsored by Jewish Federation of San Antonio, Temple Beth-El, Temple Chai, Trinity University’s Chaplain’s Office and Departments of English and Religion

See SPOTLIGHT, page 11
Houston community leaders discuss religious freedom in Israel

The Jewish Federation of Greater Houston hosted a gathering on Sept. 26 of Texas Federation leaders and rabbis to meet with Eitan Levon, consul general of Israel, to discuss continuing challenges related to religious pluralism in Israel.

Those attending from Houston were president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Lee Wunsch, and chair of the board, Denis Braham. Houston rabbinic leaders included Rabbi Oren Hayon from Congregation Emanu El, Rabbi David Lyon from Congregation Beth Israel, Rabbi David Rosen from Congregation Beth Yeshurun and Rabbi Ranon Teller from Congregation Brith Shalom. Also in the group were Bradley Laye, CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas; and Rabbi Elana Zelony from Congregation Beth Torah in Dallas; Ronit Sherwin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio; and Ellen Ollervidez, director of the Community Relations Council, Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

“We were delighted to host this meeting with our consul general and rabbis and Federation leaders from Dallas, San Antonio and Houston,” said Wunsch. “We feel confident that Consul General Levon will convey our frustration with the lack of follow-through on the Israeli government’s commitments to full and equal rights for non-Orthodox Jews in Israel.”

The issues of religion and state, religious-secular tensions and the seeming lack of religious pluralism in Israel are often seen by North American Jews as one of the most disturbing aspects of modern Israeli life.

Jewish Federations long have been active in promoting pluralism in Israel, and, in 2015, established iRep – The Israel Religious Expressions Platform. iRep represents a consortium of Jewish Federations and funders committed to strengthening Israeli civil society and encouraging respect for diverse expressions of Jewishness in Israel.

“In recent years, there has been a noticeable increase in awareness of these issues, and momentum towards more significant transformations appears to be building. We want to see this continue,” said Braham.

Jewish Federations are committed to advancing freedom of religious expression in Israel. Alongside Jewish Agency chair Natan Sharansky, Jewish Federations are involved in, and are a chief advocate and driver for, ensuring equal access and rights for all Jews at the Kotel. Federations are a key player in ensuring proposed changes in laws in Israel do not harm non-Orthodox conversions and make the conversion process more open to all. Federations long have promoted greater freedoms for those marrying and divorcing in Israel, and now, through iRep, they work for major reforms.

(Copyright Jewish Herald-Voice, Oct. 13, 2016, reprinted with permission.)
San Antonio 5th Graders and the Western Galilee connect to make a difference

The 5th graders of the Agudas Achim Ina Posner Religious School (pictured) gathered at the Jewish Community Campus on Super Sunday to help make a difference and learn about the Western Galilee, our community's Partnership region in Israel. The students created videos about life here in America as they viewed the lives of the Israeli students their own age.

Director of Education for the Partnership region, Gil Klempert, taught the students new popular terms in Hebrew. The students also heard about new initiatives from the Jewish Federation of San Antonio and PJ Library Our Way.

AT RIGHT: Student Sarah Zaltsman and teacher Rosa Jonasz introduce themselves to new friends in Israel.

PARTNERSHIP CORNER

YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

San Antonio 5th Graders and the Western Galilee connect to make a difference

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SPOTLIGHT continued from page 9

women, I didn't have time to really get involved at that point. I'd just gotten married, started a new job, and a few years later started having kids. But then a local woman asked if I'd be willing to get involved, and pretty soon Hadassah was sending me to regional meetings where I was learning all about the amazing things Hadassah does – supporting Israel through our two major hospitals who treat everyone regardless of religion or nationality, as well as all the life-saving and cutting edge medical research being done at Hadassah hospital (major strides in treatments for ALS, MS, and others). I also learned that Hadassah advocates for women's issues here in the US, such as gender equity in medical research and fighting human trafficking. Hadassah is the largest Jewish women's organization in the United States with over 330,000 members, and I realized my involvement made me feel part of something bigger and it reinvigorated my connection to Israel.

Please share you favorite Jewish holiday. Why?
I've always loved Passover – the food and the meal in the home, surrounded by friends and family. My parents will usually fly in to visit and in the past, we used to host the seder and have 20+ people over to the house. With the move to San Antonio, our new home doesn't have a dining room, so I do miss hosting a seder, but we had a wonderful time this past year with friends one night and at the Agudas seder the next. We have really been blown away by the warm welcome we've received from the San Antonio Jewish community and are loving all the events that happen as well. We don't have enough time to attend everything!

Name a hope or aspiration you have for the San Antonio Jewish community?
I want to see every Jewish woman in San Antonio become a member of Hadassah! It's an organization that everyone can join and become part of the mission (men can join as Associates, and even my 5-year old daughter is a life member!) of this amazing organization that does so much for our homeland, for peace, and for women in the USA.

Make Time To Celebrate.

Call us for your next catering event or special occasion. A neighborhood tradition for over 30 years.

Restaurant El Jarro de Arturo

13421 San Pedro (281 at Bitters)
210 494 6084 • eljarro.com

Create your own JUDAICA IN CLAY at ALAMO CITY POTTERY WORKSHOP

register for all eight weeks or register for one
210 488-5744
for more information
Two leading feminist theologians, Carol P. Christ and Judith Plaskow, will engage in dialogue based on their new book, *Goddess and God in the World: Conversations in Embodied Theology*, on Monday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. at the SoL (Source of Light) Center at University Presbyterian Church, 300 Bushnell.

The program is jointly sponsored by the SoL Center, the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, Temple Beth-El, Temple Chai, and Trinity University Departments of Religion and English.

Christ and Plaskow met in the 1970s as graduate students at Yale University, and have collaborated ever since. They co-edited *Womenspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader on Religion*, and *Weaving the Visions: New Patterns in Feminist Spirituality*. Plaskow’s Reform Jewish upbringing led to her seminal 1990 book, *Standing again at Sinai: Judaism from a Feminist Perspective*. With a family background in Christian Science and Roman Catholicism, Christ’s books include *Odyssey with the Goddess*, *Rebirth of the Goddess*, and *She Who Changes: Re-imagining the Divine in the World*.

Their parallel yet different religious backgrounds led them to an examination of “...the nature of divinity... (agreeing) that the transcendent, omnipotent, male God of traditional theology must be reimagined... proposing a new method called embodied theology...” rooted in experience and relationship.

The SoL Center at UPC is an interfaith education center for those who seek to encounter the full dimensions of life and faith in the spirit of respectful curiosity.

Its *Three Faith Series* includes a Thursday, Nov. 17 program, *A Sacred Dissonance: Explorations in Jewish-Christian Friendship* with Prof. Anthony Le Donne and Larry Behrendt; an *Islam’s Jesus* program on Saturday, Nov. 19 with Dr. Zeki Saritoprak; and this program on Nov. 21.

All presentations are from 7 - 9 p.m.

All programs are open to the public. Students with ID attend free. Tickets for each program are $15/person, or if purchased as the SoL *Three Faith Series* $30 for three programs.

Space is limited. For reservations or more information, please call (210) 732-9927 or online at www.upcsa.org/registration.
Young Adult Division’s annual event, Appletini, was held on Saturday, October 8th at the home of Shirly and Alex Katzman.

Over 70 community members attended the event, joining together to celebrate the New Year. Co-chaired by Jennifer Goldberg and Riley Greenberg (the engagement chairs on the Young Adult Division Board which is lead by Chair, Kelly Klein) Appletini had representation from all synagogues in San Antonio.

New Rodfei Sholom rabbi and Young Adult Division member, Ashi Gluck, lead the group in a Havdallah service, as part his introduction to the Young Adult Division.

The lights were dimmed, as the attendees sang together the prayers to end the Sabbath and begin a new week.

Appletini’s, honey-flavored drinks, and apple-flavored whiskey were on the menu for the affair, fitting the evening’s theme of having a sweet new year.

The new Young Adult Division Board was introduced for the first time in public, while YAD Campaign Chair, Jeremy Rosen, introduced himself and shared his excitement for this year’s campaign and the importance of giving to our community.

Shirly and Alex Katzman welcomed everyone and wished them a happy new year.

As the Young Adult Division continues to grow and expand with more programming and events, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved.

For more information, contact Samantha Mazuz, Young Adult Division Director, at (210) 302-6970 or by email at mazuzss@jfsatx.org.
YOUR JEWISH COMMUNITY

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
Lauren Abraham, Special Programs Coordinator abrahaml@jfsatx.org
Leslie Komet Ausburn, Marketing/Editor The Jewish Journal jewish@jfsatx.org
Jane Briggs Gamez, Chief Financial Officer
Linda Brown, Campaign Administrator brownell@jfsatx.org
Alan Carney, Accounting Manager carneya@jfsatx.org
Matthew Faulkner, Programs Manager, Holocaust Memorial Museum faulknerm@jfsatx.org
Susan Avitan Kariv, Chief Development Officer karivs@jfsatx.org
Sandy Leigh, Advertising Director The Jewish Journal, advertising@jfsatx.org
Samantha Mazuz, Young Adult Division Director & Marketing Manager mazuzss@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
Rabbi Jeffrey Abraham, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Ariel Greenberg, Director of Congregational Learning
Congregation Beth Am (Reconstructionist) 7150 IH 10 West, 78213
Phone: (210) 492-2173 Fax: (210) 342-9335
website: www.bethamssatx.org
Lay Leader Marion Bernstein
Congregation Rodfei Sholom (Orthodox) 3003 Sholom Dr., 78230
Phone: (210) 493-3557 Fax: (210) 492-0629
E-Mail address: rodefisa@gmail.com
Website: www.rodfeisolson.org
Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg
Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg
Temple Beth-El (Reform) 211 Belgarn Place, 78212
Phone: (210) 733-9135 Fax: (210) 737-8946
E-Mail address: templebethelsa.org
Website: www.bethelsa.org
Rabbi Mara Nathan, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Marina Yergin
Rabbi Samuel M. Stahl, Emeritus
Cantor Julie Berlin

Jewish Community of the Hill Country Kerrville, Texas
For information: (830) 331-8941

Temple Chai (Reform) 2121 Lockhill-Selma
San Antonio, TX 78213
Phone: (210) 340-2090
website: www.templechaisa.org
Rabbi David Komerofsky

Chabad Lubavitch of South Texas 14535 Blanco Rd., 78216
Phone: (210) 492-1085 Fax: (210) 493-9460
website: www.chabadsa.com
Rabbi Chaim Block
Rabbi Yossi Marrus
Rabbi Levi Teldon

Congregation Israel of San Antonio (Conservative, Covenantal) Judaism in Prayer and Practice
Office & Mailings: 16320 Huebner Road at St. Andrew
San Antonio, Texas, 78248
website: www.congregationisraelssatx.org
All Faiths Chapel: 5000 Fawn Meadow Drive at Floyd Curl
San Antonio, Texas 78240
Phone: (210) 387-2436
Hazzan David Silverstein, JD,

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Barshop Jewish Community Center 12500 NW Military Highway, Suite 275, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6820 Fax: (210) 408-2341
Executive Director: Saul F. Levarshus Email: jcc@jcssa.org
President: Stephen J. Kramer Website: www.jccsanantonio.org
A birth through life organization, JCC programs include a nationally-accredited nursery school, after school care programs, summer camp programs, programming for adults and senior adults, plus cultural, educational and recreational programs open to the community.

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 Fax: (210) 408-2322
Director of Operations: Mike Griffin
President: Alice Virolsv Website: www.thecampusstx.org
The Campus features a variety of spaces available to rent for small or large events.

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services 12500 N.W. Military Highway, Suite 260, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6946 Website: http://www.goldenmanor.net
Executive Director: Daniel L. Laser President: Alice R. Troy
Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) works to enhance the lives of Jewish seniors in the San Antonio Area by providing transportation and direct programming and through partnerships with other organizations for programs that benefit San Antonio area Jewish seniors.

Hebrew Free Loan Association of San Antonio P.O. Box 780264 San Antonio, TX 78278 Phone: (210) 736-4352
Non-profit organization offering interest-free loans to members of the San Antonio Jewish community in need of temporary assistance.

Jewish Family Service 12500 NW Military Hwy., Suite 275, San Antonio, TX 78231
Phone: (210) 302-6920 Fax: (210) 302-6952
Executive Director: M. H. Levine President: Marion Bernstein
Jewish Family Service (JFS) offers a wide range of professional counseling, social services, advocacy for victims of crime, and services for seniors including senior living and care options.

National Council Of Jewish Women (NCJW) Website: www.ncjwsa.org
For Membership Information: Cathy Pottorf - catpot52@gmail.com
NCJW is a grassroots organization that advocates for women, children and family issues both locally and nationally.

Hillel San Antonio Website: www.hillelsa.org Phone: (210) 201-Jews (5397)
Contact: Alan Yancelson Email: ayancelson@hillelsa.org
San Antonio Hillel serves college students throughout the San Antonio area.

After School Judaics (JAS @ The J) 12500 NW Military Hwy. 78231 / Phone: (210) 302-6969
Gan Gani Preschool 14535 Blanco Rd. 78216 / Phone: (210) 764-0300

Heintz Preschool 16550 Huebner Rd. 78248 / Phone: (210) 479-0429
JCC Block & Dreenben 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
FROM THE COVER: YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

More than 1,000 synagogues were torched during Kristallnacht 78 years ago.

GATHERING
continued from page 1

Religious School aged students from all community congregations are invited to come to Temple Beth-El at 4:30 p.m. for a preliminary educational program focusing on the themes of tolerance and standing up against bigotry and anti-Semitism. The formal program will begin in the Wulfe Sanctuary at 5:30 p.m.

REMEMBER
continued from page 1

were present at the Museum during a press conference to announce the grant on Monday, Oct. 10. The Museum is a program of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

“The Holocaust is one of the most effective subjects we have for examining basic moral values and learning the lessons of how our words, actions or inactions can impact our lives and the lives of others,” said Ronit Sherwin, CEO, Jewish Federation of San Antonio. “This community is blessed with a wonderful, dynamic Holocaust Memorial Museum, and we are very pleased that local educators and funding partners see the value in what we can bring to the community to ensure our students – and all of us – learn and remember the lessons of the Holocaust.”

“Understanding the hard lessons of the Holocaust is critical to our country and to our future,” said Renée Flores, AT&T Regional Vice President, External & Legislative Affairs. “I am so proud of the teachers who embrace the innovative tools and curriculum available right here in San Antonio, of the students who have been touched by what they have learned here and on the Museum’s annual trip to Holocaust sites in Europe, and I’m humbled by AT&T’s commitment to this very important program.”

The Museum’s innovative curriculum includes the Learn and Remember program, produced in partnership with the San Antonio Library, which has included screenings of Holocaust films as well as presentations from scholars, members of the community affected by the Holocaust and Holocaust Survivors; the Holocaust Study Seminar, which seeks to educate and expose high school students to the history and atrocities of the Holocaust with the intent of broadening their world views and empowering them to positively impact the world in which they live; and a Holocaust Memorial Museum Workshop, geared toward middle school and high school teachers who want to teach the available curriculum.

The museum is free and open to the public. For hours or to learn more, visit www.hhmsa.org.

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DAVID BROZA

IN CONCERT

2016 Annual Campaign Closing Event

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2016

@ 7:30pm at The Well
5539 UTSA Boulevard

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT WWW.JFSATX.ORG for $18

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

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Judy Palans
Vice Chair, Development
YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Jane Weitzman at Julian Gold with Women’s Philanthropy

Each fall women from the Pomegranate Society of the Jewish Federation organize their annual event. This special event recognizes women who make an annual gift to the campaign, in their own name, of $1,800 or greater. Co-chairs for this year’s convivial event were Pat Kalmans and Lizette Feld. The event took place at Julian Gold, an upscale local women’s clothing store, where the women were able to shop, and meet and hear from Jane Weitzman, national philanthropist and co-founder of Stuart Weitzman shoes. Most importantly this event gave the women an opportunity to build community with one another.

Jane shared stories of her lifelong work and dedication to the JDC - the Joint Distribution Committee, one of the key agency partners of JFNA. She also shared her passion for beautiful shoes, art and signed copies of her recent book, Art and Sole.

This year, the Pomegranate Society decided to open the event up to all women who give a minimum gift of $180 to the campaign.

Prior to the event, the Pomegranate and Lion of Judah members were invited to a VIP champagne toast with Mrs. Weitzman. Julian Gold hosted the event. They also organized a Stuart Weitzman trunk show, donating a percentage of proceeds of all sales from the evening to the Jewish Federation’s Annual Campaign.

For more information about Women’s Philanthropy, or to get involved, contact Tracy Morris, at (210) 302-6965 or morrist@jfsatx.org

PJ Library invites you to...

PJ GIVES THANKS
Sunday, November 20th at 10am
MADISON ESTATES
8645 Fredricksburg Road
COME AND ENJOY AN INTERGENERATIONAL THANKFUL MORNING OF CRAFTS, STORIES, AND SNACKS.
This event will be a perfect way to “honor our elders.”

RSVP on PJ Library San Antonio’s Facebook or call (210) 302-6960

LIST
YOUR HOUSE
MAIN STREET PROPERTIES
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Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project

In the fall of 1999, a rural Kansas teacher encouraged four students to work on a year-long National History Day project which would extend the boundaries of a classroom setting to families in the community, contribute to history, and teach respect and tolerance to those around them.

A performance based on the story of a Catholic Polish woman, who rescued 2,500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto.

Performance times:
- November 12th at 7:30pm
- November 13th at 2:00pm SOLD OUT
RSVP required at faulknerm@jfsatx.org

The Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community
12500 NW Military Hwy.
San Antonio, Texas 78231

“He who changes one person, changes the whole world”
SA Chamber Music Society concerts at Temple Beth-El

The San Antonio Chamber Music Society is celebrating its 74th season with a series of Sunday concerts at Temple Beth-El, 211 Belknap Place.

On November 20 at 3:15 p.m., Brasil Guitar Duo, hailed by Classical Guitar magazine for its “maturity of musicianship and technical virtuosity,” will perform a seamless blend of traditional and Brazilian works.

The season continues on January 22, 2017, with the Aeolus Quartet, which was the 2013-2015 Graduate Resident String Quartet at the Juilliard School. The Les Amies Trio, a collaboration of New York Philharmonic Principal players Nancy Allen, on harp, and Cynthia Phelps, on violin, with internationally renowned flutist Carol Wincene, will perform on February 26, 2017.

The concluding performance for the 2016-17 season will feature the Calmus Ensemble, one of the most successful vocal groups in Germany.

All performances begin at 3:15 p.m. For more information, visit www.sacms.org.

Temple Chai to host Kugel Cook-Off

Temple Chai will sponsor the Doris Toubin Memorial Kugel Cook-Off on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. at its Northwest San Antonio facility.

Named in memory of one of its creators and a founder of Temple Chai, the Kugel Cook-Off is a fun and delicious get-together centered on a classic Ashkenazi Jewish dish and its many varieties. All are welcome to submit their entries, which will be judged by culinary experts in competition for prizes.

The Kugel Cook-Off includes a light brunch, $10 for adults and $5 for kids, as well as a cookbook with tribute ads. Registration for all parts of the event is available online.

For more information, visit www.templechaisa.org/kugel or call (210) 340-2090.

Judaica in Clay

Alamo City Pottery Workshop, located at 718 Labor Street, will be offering an eight-week class titled Judaica in Clay taught by April Grunspan. The class will offer the opportunity to create a collection of Judaica for use in your own home, or as gifts to give throughout the year.

Each week attendees will create one ritual item, including a mezuzah, a hanukkiah, Kiddush cup, spice box, Shabbat candlesticks, and a washing cup.

The classes run from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., beginning on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 through Sunday, Jan. 29, 2017 (no class on New Year’s day). The cost for the eight-week class, which includes all materials, is $180. Children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent.

For more information, call (210) 488-5744.

Beldon Library News

The Pre-K students from the Block and Dreeben School for Young Children are discovering that the Beldon Library is a cool place! The students have been enjoying story time at the library on Mondays from 3:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Librarian Lynn Waghalter states, “The children and I are having a great selection of children’s books that are here at the Beldon Library!”

The Mitzvah Project between the Beldon Library and the Vilna/Vilnius Jewish Public Library in Lithuania is ongoing. Librarian Lynn Waghalter, and Olga Potap, Acquisitions Librarian at Boston University, are working on a presentation for the 2017 AJL (Association of Jewish Libraries) Conference in New York City in June.

Jewish Book Month is November 25 – December 25, 2016. Discover the great books at the Beldon Library.
SHOFAR SCHOOL AT TEMPLE BETH-EL
For the High Holidays, Temple Beth-El offered a Shofar School on Sunday, Sept. 18. Adults and children participated in the program led by Dan Klein, Ba’al Tekiah.

TEMPLE BETH-EL YOUTH CELEBRATE NEW YEAR
(ABOVE) Temple Beth-El’s Rosh Hashanah Morning Children’s Service was wellattended and led by Leah Apothaker, Director of Congregational Learning, and Joel Swedlove, Director of Youth Programs and Informal Education.

ISRAEL BONDS SAN ANTONIO IS PROUD TO HONOR

HARRY LEVY IV
Harry Levy is a past president of Temple Beth El in San Antonio. He is currently the treasurer of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), and a member of the URJ’s North American Board and the Oversight Committee. Harry has been active in the Jewish Federation of San Antonio for many years and has been on the executive committee multiple times. He is currently the Planning and Allocations Vice President.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016
7:00 PM
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SAN ANTONIO, TX
Dessert Reception Couvert · $40.00 per person

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HEINTZ PRESCHOOL'S ANNUAL APPLES WITH ABBA
The children of Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim started the Jewish New Year with their annual Apples with Abba program. The program invites all dads of the preschool students to celebrate with their children in the classroom the week leading up to Rosh Hashanah.

TEMPLE BETH-EL TASHLICH CEREMONY AT THE PARK
Temple Beth-El held a brief Tashlich ritual after Rosh Hashanah Morning Services on Monday, Oct. 3 at San Pedro Spring Park, a short walk across the street from the Temple. Rabbis Mara Nathan and Marina Yergin, with Cantor Julie Berlin and Dave Yergin, Ba'al Tekiah, were there to lead the congregation.

AGUDAS ACHIM TASHLICH SERVICE AND PICNIC
Members of Agudas Achim “cast” away their sins at Tashlich services at the site of the original Agudas Achim by the Riverwalk. Following the service, participants of all ages enjoyed a pizza picnic together.

HIGH HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS AT AGUDAS ACHIM
Congregation Agudas Achim ended High Holy Days on a meaningful note with its annual Children's Parade of Lights at the end of Yom Kippur Services as part of Havdalah and ending the Fast. Children came in with glow-sticks to help the whole community celebrate the end of the fast and wish everyone a sweet year in the year to come.

RODFEI TASHLICH ON THE RIVER
Over 100 people joined in Congregation Rodfei Sholom’s Tashlich on the San Antonio River.
and Willie & Aliza Cantu, welcomed the volunteers and motivated the callers throughout the day with words of encouragement, updates and fun prizes. Federation board member, Larry Nathan, trained and motivated callers. Agencies and synagogues were represented. Young adults from the new Young Adult Division and from Hillel San Antonio were represented. Young children were volunteering in the calling room. The Bumble Bee Lady came out to motivate callers as well as read stories to San Antonio’s youngest community members at a special PJ Library Super Sunday event.

For the third
year, 5th graders from Congregation Agudas Achim were skyping with Israeli children from San Antonio's Partnership area in the Western Galilee in Israel!

A special pool of generous donors posed a challenge to callers. Increases and new gifts would be matched dollar to dollar up to $10,000. Callers worked hard to bring in increases and new gifts and by 1:30 pm, $10,000 had been reached! With the matching $10,000, the “Match Challenge” effort generated $20,000 to Sunday’s achievement.

“The energy on Super Sunday was absolutely contagious. It was incredibly inspiring to have so many volunteers come together to make a positive impact on our community,” said Liz Rockstroh, Super Sunday co-chair.

Susan Kariv, Chief Development Officer, said, “What a proud day for Jewish San Antonio. It was incredibly heart-warming to see so many volunteers working together to help our fellow Jews. The feeling of community and the energy around the desire to ‘make an impact’ was overwhelming. Thank you to our callers, donors and our leadership.”

After the success of the day, co-chair Willie Cantu mentioned, “When incredible people put out incredible effort, you get incredible results. Thanks to all!”

If you missed the chance to donate at Super Sunday, it is not too late. Make a gift that makes a difference by donating online at www.jfsatx.org, or call the Jewish Federation of San Antonio at (210) 302-6960.
WHAT'S HAPPENING

NCSY OUTING
FOR AREA TEENS
Rodfei Sholom's NCSY for high schoolers had an amazing time at a corn maze October 9. Rabbi Ashi Gluck and 20 teens participated.

SENIOR CHEFS CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR

Lorraine Leible, Fran Lehrman, and Violeta Cuenca enjoy their chocolate apple pops in celebration of a sweet new year at Senior Chefs, a class that traverses the world of Jewish holidays and their respective foods.

DINING OUT BENEFITS GOLDEN MANOR
JEWISH SENIOR SERVICES
Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) held a benefit at Willie's Grill and Icehouse on September 28. The turnout was amazing and GMJSS is incredibly thankful for the support of those who came and ate along with us or stopped in to say hi and ordered to go,” said Executive Director Daniel Laser. The event brought in a little more than $100 for GMJSS.
THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

Jim Mammarella (Otto Frank) and Jessica Salazar (Anne) rehearse a scene from The Diary of Anne Frank, on stage at the Sheldon Vexler Theatre through November 13. To purchase tickets, call (210) 302-6835. More information about the cast and show is available online at www.vexler.org/anne-frank. (Photos courtesy of Allison Cornwell.)

From left: Byrd Bonner (Mr. Van Daan), Lisa Fritschle (Mrs. Van Daan), and Isaac Ouellette (Peter Van Daan) in rehearsal for the Sheldon Vexler Theatre’s production of The Diary of Anne Frank. Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Group rates available.

AGUDAS ACHIM NIGHTLY SUKKOT CELEBRATIONS

Congregation Agudas Achim celebrated Sukkot this year with different meals each night. Hundreds of people attended to fulfill the mitzvah of eating together during the holiday of Sukkot. Events included Shawarma in the Sukkah, Adult Supper in the Sukkah, Pizza in the Hut, Sushi in the Sukkah, Potluck Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah, and a teen sleepover in the Sukkah.

ECD ART AUCTION

The Block and Dreeben School for Young Children held their second annual art auction in late September, early October. Each classroom created one piece of art for the auction that families were able to bid on, beginning September 26 at the Art Auction Kick-Off Reception. In the end, $2100 was raised for the Teacher Enrichment Fund. Photos courtesy of Shana Gurwitz.

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Celebrate the holidays and fall season at the JCC

The Painted Plate returns Sunday, Nov. 13, this time to celebrate Chanukah. Families will paint their own ceramic chanukiah (menorah) that they will be able to use for years to come. Individual adults are also welcome to attend to create a chanukiah to keep or give as a gift. The cost is $20 per chanukiah. Sign up online at www.jccsanantonio.org/seasons or call Maya Siler at (210) 302-6867.

Families staying in town for the Thanksgiving week can send their children to the JCC for Fall J-Camp Monday, Nov. 21 through Wednesday, Nov. 23. Campers will enjoy arts and crafts, gym, playground, sports, drama, games, and a special field trip. They will also discover new ways to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. Look for the registration form online at www.jccsanantonio.org/camp or in person at the JCC. Call (210) 302-6859 for more details about camp and events. They have also had a profound impact on the wider Jewish community and San Antonio through service to local synagogues, Jewish agencies, schools, and other organizations.

Finally, the San Antonio Symphony will present a preview of their Mozart Festival Wednesday, Nov. 30. Tickets are $15 ($10 for JCC Members), and may be purchased online at www.jccsanantonio.org/artandmusic, in person at the JCC, or by calling (210) 302-6820.

Follow the Leading Ladies to the Main Event

The JCC’s annual fall fundraiser, The Main Event, will take place Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at the JCC. This year, the JCC is honored to recognize past Board Chairs Shari Pulman, Varda Ratner, and Sharon Stern. These Leading Ladies have been indispensable to the JCC’s success since the beginning of the millennium, each chairing various JCC program committees, including Early Childhood, Youth and Camp, Marketing, Membership, and Theatre, and addition to major initiatives and events. They have also had a profound impact on the wider Jewish community and San Antonio through service to local synagogues, Jewish agencies, schools, and other organizations.

“The primary goal for the Main Event every year is for attendees to have fun, engaging with friends and the community.” said JCC CEO Saul Levenshus. The JCC Board of Directors, with event co-chairs, Leslie Hyman and Adam Zeldes, say they look forward to bringing the community together for a celebration and to pay tribute to these outstanding leaders.

Proceeds from the Main Event benefit youth and senior services, financial assistance for families and individuals in need, and future projects at the JCC through the Walter and Reba Viner Charitable Fund.

The evening will feature a diverse menu of culinary specialties provided by local restaurants, including Groomer's Seafood, H-E-B, Irene's Kosher Catering, Thai Topaz, and Tony G's Soul Food, with Myron's Prime Steakhouse hosting the bar. All food served will be under Kosher supervision.

Music will be provided by band Johnny P. and the Wiseguys, along with DJ Polo. The event will also feature casino gaming and the silent auction, featuring a new wine pull component. Sponsorship opportunities begin at $150, and individual tickets are $50. For more information and updates, or to purchase tickets or a sponsorship, visit www.jccsanantonio.org/mainevent, stop by any JCC Courtesy Desk, or call (210) 302-6820.

Games Day at Congregation Agudas Achim

Agudas Achim Sisterhood will hold its 19th annual Games Day to be held on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Gurinsky Family Social Hall.

This day of fun, friends and food is open to both men and women. Door prizes and a raffle add to the fun.

“We provide the tables, chairs and food. You bring your own group and game,” explains event chair, Linda Aboloff.

The cost of the event is $12 which includes a delicious lunch and snacks. Reservations are required. For more information and reservations contact Linda Aboloff at (210) 479-3612 or Sandy Weingart at (210) 826-1368.

IN THE COMMUNITY

IN THE COMMUNITY
Rodfei Sholom participates in the Shabbos Project

Congregation Rodfei Sholom will participate in the International Shabbos Project taking place around the world on November 11 - 12. The Shabbos Project was introduced in South Africa in 2013. Last year, more than 340 cities around the world participated. All around the world, Jews of every age, from all walks of life and across all levels of Jewish observance and involvement, have united to try and keep Shabbat together - many for the very first time in their lives.

If you would like to participate in The Shabbos Project at Rodfei Sholom or learn more, call (210) 493-3557 or e-mail rodfeisa@gmail.com.

Agudas Achim to host three Scholars-in Residence

Congregation Agudas Achim will be hosting three Scholars-in-Residence during the third week of November as part of the Society of Biblical Literature and the American Academy of Religion.

On Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m., Agudas Achim will host a Scholar in Residence evening with guest speaker and author Jim Long. The focus of the evening is his book, Riddle of the Exodus: Startling Parallels between Ancient Jewish Sources and the Egyptian Archaeological Record.

Riddle of the Exodus offers compelling and controversial evidence that the Exodus actually precipitated the fall of the Sixth Dynasty and the end of the Old Kingdom period. Light refreshments will be served.

Friday, Nov. 18 after Kabbalat Shabbat services at 6:15 p.m., Agudas Achim will host a dinner in conjunction with the Scholars-in-Residence series. During the dinner, Professor Shani Tzoref, author, scholar, a teacher of Biblical Hebrew and acclaimed expert on the Dead Sea Scrolls, will speak about her German-Israeli Dead Sea Scrolls Digitization Project. Also speaking is Naomi Graetz, a teacher of English at Ben Gurion University, about her book, Unlocking the Garden: A feminist Jewish Look at the Bible, Midrash and God.

Traveling Chassidim

Coming back for a second year, the Traveling Chassidim will return to Congregation Rodfei Sholom for Shabbat on December 2-3, bringing with them singing, dancing, and Divrei Torah.

For more details, contact Rodfei Sholom at (210) 493-3557.

Veterans Day Shabbat

Friday, Nov. 11 @ 6:45 PM

with a presentation by Colonel Thomas M. McNish, MD, USAFMC (Ret.)

Dr. McNish is a physician, decorated veteran, former POW, and inspirational leader. He will share his story during our Shabbat evening service on Veterans Day.

Traveling Chassidim

San Antonio’s Small Reform Congregation
A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

The Doris Toubin Memorial Kugel Cook-Off

Sunday, Nov. 20 @ 11:00 AM

Brunch | Prizes | Cookbook

www.templechaisa.org/kugel

2121 Lockhill Selma
210.340.2090

www.templechaisa.org
IN THE COMMUNITY

Agudas Achim hosts 4th Annual Texas Kosher BBQ Championship

The 4th Annual Texas Kosher BBQ Championship, held in partnership with HEB and Congregation Agudas Achim, will take place the first weekend in December.

The party gets started the night before at the Pre-Q, Saturday night, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. with food live music, dancing, games.

On Sunday, Dec. 4, festivities will include a day full of good kosher BBQ, music, dancing and a fun Kiddie Korral for the Kids.

For information or to purchase tickets, visit www.txkosherbbq.com. Off-site parking with shuttle service will be available. Agudas Achim is located at 16550 Huebner Road.

Chabad Center to host the 55th Annual Women’s Retreat

San Antonio’s Chabad Center will host the 55th Annual Women’s Retreat on the weekend of November 18 - 20.

The Retreat will be held at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel, and will feature world renowned Scholar in Residence Rabbi Yossi Jacobson.

The weekend will include close to 20 different workshops on happiness, parenting, relationships and more.

“We are looking forward to welcoming Jewish women from throughout the country as well as many local Jewish Women for what promises to be an inspiring and uplifting weekend,” said Rivkie Block, the local coordinator of the Retreat. There will be special local opportunities available.

Please go to www.chabadwomensconvention.com to view the full program, or call Rivkie Block at (210) 363-3210 or Malkie Marrus at (210) 313-2820 for more information.

Archeologist discusses the Riddle of the Exodus at Rodfei Sholom

Congregation Rodfei Sholom will welcome archaeologist Jim Long on for a special Shabbat Dinner and program on November 18-19. He will speak on Riddle of the Exodus - How Egyptian records actually can be used to identify the Exodus and Treasures of the Copper Scroll - The search for the Treasures from the Temple.

Reared on movies and films of the 1950s, Long became an avid reader, searching for depth on subjects he saw on the big screen, particularly the Bible, geology, and archaeology.

As program director at a radio station, he brought the legendary biblical archaeologist Vendyl Jones (upon whom Indiana Jones is loosely based) to the show. Riveted by the man, his knowledge and his value system, Jim became Vendyl’s right-hand man, joining him on his country-wide speaking tours, taking care of all the details, and mostly asking questions.

For more information, contact Rodfei Sholom’s office at (210) 493-3557.
For those who need help, for those who don’t feel safe, for those who don’t know where to go – **We Are Here.**

For Jews in Europe that are facing attacks on schools and businesses, and for Jewish students on college campuses that encounter toxic anti-Israel slogans – **We Are Here.**

Through Federation, we are here for our community – our children, our families, our fellow Jew in need of support, protection and solidarity.

Your gift to the Federation’s 2016 Annual Campaign enables us to accomplish all this and more. You are an integral part of all we do.

**We are Jewish San Antonio…We are STRONGER TOGETHER.**

**Visit us at www.jfsatx.org to donate and make a difference today.**
November Adult Education at Temple Beth-El

Acclaimed artist Archie Rand is Temple's Artist in Residence and will present two programs November 3-4. Rand's work as a painter and muralist is displayed around the world, and his graphic works and books are in over 400 public collections. His career as an artist spans five decades and myriad themes and genres. In his newest project, The 613, Rand transformed each one of the 613 commandments into its own painting, a series that took five years to complete. Rand will discuss his process on Thursday, Nov. 3 at a 7 p.m. presentation entitled The Evolutionary Arc of Archie Rand's The 613, and on Friday, Nov. 4 at noon at a Lunch and Learn. This program is brought to Temple Beth-El by the generosity of the Rabbi Samuel Stahl Lectureship Fund.

On November 19 at a Lunch and Learn at noon, Temple Beth-El will welcome Rabbi Andrea L. Weiss, the Associate Professor of Bible at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York and Associate Editor of The Torah: A Women's Commentary (URJ Press, 2008). Her current research interests include the book of Psalms and metaphors for God in the Bible. Her presentation will focus on the idea of God in the Biblical Imagination. This program is brought to Temple Beth-El by the generosity of the Jean and Jesse Wulfe Religious Enhancement Fund.

To RSVP to any of these events, please contact the temple education office at (210) 733-9135 or sara@beth-elsa.org.

Rodfei to thank First Responders

On Thanksgiving day, November 24, Congregation Rodfei Sholom volunteers will be preparing, delivering and serving meals to San Antonio’s first responders. “These people give and sacrifice so much for the greater community every day all year,” said Rabbi Avraham Scheinberg. “For them to be working and away from their families on Thanksgiving makes it that much harder for them. We want them to know that we are thinking of them and we are thankful for them. We want to take this opportunity to be able to give back.” Anyone interested in helping prepare and serve the meals should contact the synagogue office at (210) 493-3557 or by e-mail to rodfeisa@gmail.com by Monday, Nov. 21.

Agudas Achim Sisterhood rummage sale

Congregation Agudas Achim’s Sisterhood will host its annual Rummage Sale on Wednesday, Nov. 9, and Thursday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Items include gently used housewares, books, toys, furniture and clothes. A popular corner of the rummage sale, “Marguerite’s Boutique”, features designer clothing, hand bags and shoes. All sales are final; cash and carry only – no checks or credit cards.

Proceeds will benefit Agudas Achim scholarship funds, Inda Posner Religious School, Ross Family Kitchen, synagogue special events, the Tills Library and many more synagogue and community projects. The sale helps support Dress for Success, The Battered Women’s Shelter, Fisher House, Haven for Hope, Boysville, The Humane Society, and more. For information, contact Bernice Mazet at (210) 341-8226 or Sandra Shaenfield at (210) 492-9562.

Proceeds from November walk to help benefit Temple Beth-El’s Food & Fun Summer and Winter Day Camp

The 2016 San Antonio CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, Nov. 6. Registration is at 2 p.m. at Comanche Park #2, 2600 Rigsby Ave. A portion of the proceeds from this walk will go to Temple’s Beth-El Food & Fun Summer and Winter Day Camp.

There are many ways you can participate in the CROP Hunger Walk:
• Walk the 1 mile, 5K, 10K or any route under the beautiful trees along the Salado Creek in Comanche Park
• Support a Walker with a generous donation at http://tinyurl.com/BFF-CropWalk

• Sign up and create a team to walk together at http://tinyurl.com/BFF-CropWalk
• Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services has put together a team — if you are interested in joining GMJSS, call (210) 616-4811 for more info.
• Be a Spirit Walker – raise funds, though unable to walk at http://tinyurl.com/BFF-CropWalk

For more information, contact Kathi Kardon at kardon595@gmail.com or (210) 849-6082, or Robyn Rosen at snr711@aol.com or (210) 557-3251.

Silo

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Dr. Thomas M. McNish to speak at Temple Chai Veterans Day Shabbat

Temple Chai, San Antonio’s small Reform congregation, will commemorate Veterans Day with a presentation by Dr. Thomas M. McNish during Shabbat worship on Friday, Nov. 11 at 6:45 p.m.

McNish graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in June 1964 and entered pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, Arizona, and received his wings in September 1965. McNish was assigned to Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, in June 1966. He flew 45 combat missions over North Vietnam before being shot down and captured near Hanoi on September 4, 1966. In March 1973, he was repatriated after six and one-half years as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

During his long and distinguished Air Force career, he achieved awards and decorations including the Silver Star with two oak leaf clusters, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with “V” device for valor, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster, Prisoner of War Medal, Distinguished Unit Citation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, and Vietnam Service Medal with fifteen campaign stars.

Dr. McNish and his wife, Yona, are members of Temple Chai. For more information, visit www.templechaisa.org or call (210) 340-2090.

National authority on Catholic-Jewish Relations to speak at Hanukkah celebration

On Thursday, Dec. 15 at 11:30 a.m., members of the San Antonio-area Roman Catholic and Jewish communities will gather for an interfaith Hanukkah celebration. The event will be held at San Fernando Cathedral Hall, 231 West Commerce.

This marks the 15th year that San Antonio-area Catholics and Jews have jointly celebrated Hanukkah. The Jewish Federation of San Antonio and San Fernando Cathedral are the co-sponsors.

Featured speaker will be Father John Pawlikowski, OSM, a leading figure in the Christian-Jewish Dialogue. He is Professor of Social Ethics and the Director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies Program at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. He was the president and chair of the Theology Committee of the International Council of Christians and Jews. Fr. Pawlikowski is also the author/editor of more than 15 books, including The Challenge of the Holocaust for Christian Theology.

The Most Rev. Gustavo García-Siller, M.Sp.S, Archbishop of San Antonio, will be the presiding host for this unique interfaith observance this year. The Very Rev. Victor Valedez, Rector of San Fernando Cathedral, and Rabbi Samuel M. Stahl, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth-El, will lead the proceedings.

Included in the program will be a presentation by the choir of Providence High School and the kindling of Hanukkah lights by clergy and lay leaders of the Jewish and Catholic communities.

Reservations are required by December 9 to attend this program, which includes a catered lunch, at $36 per person. Table sponsorships are also available for $360. For further information, call San Fernando Cathedral, (210) 227-1297.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS CORNER

Thursday, Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. - Members of the local Jewish War Veterans post will serve to wounded military and their families at the Wounded Warriors Center at Ft Sam Houston. For further information, call Ken Ashworth, (210) 723-9766.

Sunday, Nov. 27 at 9:30 a.m. - The next regular post meeting will take place in room 277 at the Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community. A light breakfast is included.

Saturday, Dec. 24 at 9:30 a.m. - Post members are asked to attend the lighting of the Menorah at Shavano Park

Sunday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. - The election of 2017 officers will take place during the post’s regular meeting in room 277 at the Jewish Campus. A light breakfast to be served.

Sunday, Dec. 25 from 6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. – Post members will host a Bingo social at Audie Murphy VA, CTC Center, second floor Call Ken Ashworth at (210) 723-9766 or Herschel Sheiness (210) 494-8768 for further information.

For the first time ever, the San Antonio post has been selected to host the JWV National Convention scheduled for August 27 - 31, 2017. More details to follow as they become available.

Abelow, Samson
Alexander, Bennie
Alwais, Irwin
Brookman, William
Brooks, Bernard
Beown, Alexander Sr.
Buchanan, E
Cohan, Harry
Cohen, Ben
Colodny, Eugene
Costello, Elsie
Dubroff, John
Edlavitch, Julius
Eigenberg, Alfred
Feldman, Lawrence
Fried, Morris
Gelfer, Maurice
Greenfield, Thomas
Grossman, Ben
Hamm, Roy
Henkin, Edwin
Hunt, Michael
Jacobson, David
Johnston, William
Kagan, Joseph
Kanter, Israel
Kincaid, Norris
Kline, Leonard
Lane, Kay
Lewin, William
Lewit, Sol
Lewis Werner
Madorsky, David
Mandel, Edwin
Marcus, Alan
Mintz, Philip
Nitzberg, Phillip
Popper, Harry
Rosen, Theodore
Rosenzweig, Nathan
Sands, David
Seavey, Robert
Shulman, Edwin
Shwif, Gertrude
Slovak, Ronald
Smolons, Howard
Spector, Morris
Standley, David
Stein, Milton
Steuer, Joseph
Stool, Max
Tani, Jo
Teeler, Roy
Tobin, Michele
Tudzin, Isadore
Wedding, Paula
Weiner, Bernard
Wornser, Yesner
Wulf, Emanuel
Zeid, Jerrold
Zukerman, Seymour

Remembering deceased Jewish military veterans

Jewish War Veterans of America Post 753 asks you to remember these Jewish military veterans whose yahrzeit (anniversary of thdividual’s death) occurs in the month of November and who are buried in a local cemetery. (If you know of a name that is missing please contact Herschel at 210-468-5598).
Kids join in the fun at PJ Library Super Sunday event

For PJ Library children, Super Sunday brought a great buzz for the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, which marks the beginning of the year 5777.

The afternoon included a special Rosh Hashanah story time with guest reader Super Sunday chair Aliza Holzman Cantu, and B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (BBYO) teen volunteer Maggie Davis who buzzed in for the new year dressed as a bumble bee. Teens from BBYO also stepped up to help young children as they went around to the stations with their friends and family. The PJ readers also made their own tzedakah boxes, edible apple and honey bracelets, and bumble bee finger printed New Year’s cards.

Check out PJ Library San Antonio on Facebook for more information on upcoming events.

Last chance to take Precious Minds, New Connections class

Since 2002, the Barshop Jewish Community Center has offered Precious Minds, New Connections parenting classes thanks to generous grants from the Kronkosky Charitable Foundation.

“The Foundation is discontinuing funding for the citywide program,” stated Cindy Berman, program coordinator and educator.

“The JCC has been involved with this parenting initiative since the beginning. We have been fortunate to offer free parenting classes to over 1,600 participants over the last fourteen years.”

“The JCC is committed to parent education,” says Alissa Levey Baugh, Director of Early Childhood Services at the JCC’s Block and Dreeben School for Young Children.

“We look forward to continuing to provide quality parent education in the future at the JCC.”

The final Precious Minds, New Connections classes will begin Monday, Nov. 14 and run through January 23. Class times are either 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., or 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The class is free to parents and caregivers of children age birth to four years. Each session offers qualified childcare, a “gift” for participants each week, a light snack in the morning and dinner in the evening, and course material.

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

We hope all of our PJ Library friends have a Shana Tova! (Happy New Year!)

We hope all of our PJ Library friends have a Shana Tova! (Happy New Year!)

Hello my name is Available!

Available!

The Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community has space available to rent, ranging from intimate conference rooms for 10 to the perfect location for your wedding reception of 300.

Contact Aaron Morris, 210-302-6801 or morrisa@thecampustx.org, to inquire about facility rentals. Or visit www.thecampustx.org for more information.
J-Camp teaches importance of charity

JCC Summer J-Camp is not just about fun and games. Camp Director Lisa Guerrero says the hope is also to instill in the campers a sense of caring for others and making a positive change in the world.

During Summer J-Camp 2016, campers and JCC members donated personal-sized toiletries to the camp’s Mitzvah Mall. Campers, in turn, earned “mitzvah bucks” by doing good deeds and being kind to others, and then went shopping at the Mitzvah Mall. Each camper decorated a bag for a homeless person, filling it with their items, a personal message, and snacks.

The JCC’s Youth and Camping department delivered the more than 200 bags to Haven for Hope, which were given to people living at the shelter and on the streets of San Antonio.

Heintz Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School at Agudas Achim to host book fair

Congregation Agudas Achim will host a Scholastic Book Fair from November 13-18. The book fair will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. each day, and will stay open until 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18. All proceeds from the book fair benefit the Heintz Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School.

Hillel brings Jewish students together

Hillel San Antonio brought in the new year together at its Rosh Hashanah Annual Matzo Ball. Students gathered and celebrated with apples and honey, played Jewish Jeopardy, and participated in a balloon release where they looked back at their past year, and planned their changes on the upcoming year.

At Hillel’s first Lunch & Learn on campus, students learned about the only Jewish community in Uganda, the Abayudaya.

Hillel also had the opportunity to schmooze with parents on Sunday, October 9th over brunch. Parents learned about the work Hillel is doing on their college campuses and in their Jewish community around San Antonio.

Parents also met and connected with the student board and staff.

Hillel built a sukkah on Trinity University’s campus with the help of Rabbi Ashi Gluck from Rodfei Shalom. The sukkah was standing throughout the holiday of Sukkot. All students from the University had the opportunity to learn about Sukkot, as well as socialize with their peers in the sukkah.

Every week Hillel has a hotspot on the UTSA and Trinity campus where Jewish students can socialize with their friends in between classes.

If you know of a Jewish college student in town, contact Natalie Steiner, Jewish Student Life Coordinator, at (713) 628-9555 or at Natalie@HillelSA.org. Find Hillel on Facebook at Hillel San Antonio. For more information, contact Alan Yancelson, the Community Coordinator, at (210) 201-5397 or at AYancelson@HillelSA.org.

President, Sam Fisher and Vice President Moshe Krumholz at the Rosh Hashanah Matzo Ball
IN THE COMMUNITY: SENIORS

Seniors: Improve your strength and balance with a free class

If you do not have a regular exercise routine; but, want to improve your strength and balance, join us for an hour of movement and instruction on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016, at 11 a.m. at the Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) office, located at 13409 NW Military Hwy., Suite. 210. The class will be led by Anita Lemon, a Pilates Instructor, Yoga Teacher and Movement Specialist. Anita Lemon has more than 50 years of teaching experience in both dance and related movement fields. She is certified in Pilates through The Pilates Method Alliance and holds the Experienced Yoga Teacher Registration (E-RYT 500) from The Yoga Alliance. She is also a licensed practitioner of Buff Bones which is a medically endorsed practice to facilitate bone strengthening and balance.

In her current practice, based in Texas, she sees private clients for a variety of issues from conditioning to rehabilitation, and teaches in both the Pilates and Yoga Programs at the Barshop Jewish Community Center. This is not an aerobics class; but, please wear clothing that allows freedom of movement. To R.S.V.P., call GMJSS at (210) 616-4811.

Temple Beth-El Brotherhood to host 32nd Annual Beth-Elders Dinner

All those over age 55 are invited guests to the 32nd Annual Beth-Elders’ Dinner Friday Evening, Nov. 11, at 5:30 p.m., and seating will occur between 5–5:30 p.m. The Shabbat Service following at 6:30 p.m. will honor military veterans with guest speaker Bart Sherwood. Dinner, prepared by Temple’s own Brotherhood members, will feature “Andy’s special Meatloaf.” Dessert will be served at the Oneg Shabbat, after the service.

R.S.V.P. by Monday, Nov. 7, by calling Geri Gregory at (210) 733-9135, ext. 120.

There is no charge for Temple members over age 55. Non-Temple members may attend by remitting $6.50 per person, payable to the Temple Beth-El Brotherhood. Credit cards are accepted (please call Geri Gregory at Temple Beth-El if you wish to use your credit card.)

Senior Moments musical returns

Senior Moments, a series of musical vignettes that deal with growing older, as well as having aging parents, will soon be back on stage following recent sell out performances over the summer. The original musical by Linda Kaufman will run weekends from January 14 – January 29 with a total of nine day-time, evening and night-time performances.

The musical, directed by Mark A. Lit, with musical director by Dr. Aaron Prado, offers a poignant and hilarious view of aging in all its facets. The themes are sure to resonate to just about everyone, including seniors and adults of all ages who have parents or grandparents that are living their golden years.

All performances for Senior Moments will be held at the SASPA Theater, 11210 Disco Street, 78216. Show times are Saturdays (January 14, 21, and 28) at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays (January 15, 22, and 29) at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Tickets are $20 each; $18 each for group reservations of 10 or more. Call (210) 495-0129 for tickets or visit www.SASPA.org to order tickets online.

For sponsorships or theater buyouts, call (210) 326-8992.

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34 NOVEMBER 2016 A publication of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio THE JEWISH JOURNAL
GMJSS welcomes new program director

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services has welcomed Eva Laporte as the new Program Director. In addition to the current programming, she will be guiding the growth of E.D.G.E., the newest initiative that includes educational and social programs for seniors and caregivers in the Jewish community.

She brings many years of experience in non-profit administration, education, and community engagement. Her background is as an educator and theatre artist; locals may recognize her from her work with The Sheldon Vexler Theatre where she ran the box office, and directed and performed in many plays. She is currently directing The Diary of Anne Frank.

Laporte recently relocated to San Antonio from Chicago to work with The Playhouse in development and community engagement. She oversaw their successful Senior Theatre education program, sponsored in part by GMJSS, and worked closely with the non-profit community.

She may be reached at EvaL@goldenmanor.net or (210) 616-4811.

NCJW raising funds to provide Thanksgiving meals for those in need

The National Council of Jewish Women is aiming to raise a minimum of $500 to provide at least twenty Thanksgiving baskets to elderly and disabled residents of San Antonio. The baskets, costing approximately $25 each, contain all the fixings for a Thanksgiving dinner for a small family.

They are especially convenient for those who find it difficult to shop for the holiday. The baskets are prepared and delivered by Jewish Family Service, an organization NCJW is proud to work with on this venture. If you would like to help, send a check payable to “NCJW” to: NCJW Thank a Senior Project, P.O. Box 780506, 1295 Huebner Rd., San Antonio, TX 78230.

Assistance with Medicare open enrollment available

Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) is hosting Certified Benefits Counselors from AACOG’s Bexar Area Agency on Aging to help with Medicare open enrollment questions and concerns. These counselors can explain the options for prescription drug plans, health plans and supplements through free and impartial counseling.

Whether you have original Medicare, a Medicare Advantage plan, or a Part D prescription drug plan, you have one opportunity each year to make changes. This opportunity is Medicare’s annual enrollment period, which this year is October 15 – December 7, 2016.

Appointments can be made at several locations in the San Antonio area - including:

- November 17 at Congregation Agudas Achim, 16550 Huebner Rd., from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- December 1 & 2 - Congregation Rodfei Sholom, 3003 Sholom Dr., from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Call the Alamo Service Connection’s Health Information Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) at (210) 477-3275 to schedule an appointment at a location near you, or to speak to a certified benefits counselor to get more information and free local help.

You can also compare plans in your area or enroll in a new plan by visiting www.medicare.gov or by calling 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227).

Catholic & Jews Celebrate Hanukkah Luncheon

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016

SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL HALL
231 W. COMMERCE
LUNCHEON AT 11:30AM

Featuring Guest Speaker: Philip A. Cunningham, Ph.D.
Professor of Theology and Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations

Tickets: $36 Table of 10: $360

To reserve your seat, purchase tickets or for sponsorship information, please contact Louis Sanchez at (210) 227-1297 ext. 129 or by email at lsanchez@sfcathedral.org
Tips for healthy aging

Dr. Efraim Jaul, Head of the Geriatric Skilled Nursing Department at the Sarah Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem, Israel, spoke at the Campus of the Jewish Community on Tips for Healthy Aging. Sponsors of the lecture included Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Golden Manor Senior Services, Jewish Federation of San Antonio, and The Patient Institute.

NO MORE FALLS

At the No More Falls kickoff event in September, volunteers Iris Lieberman (left) and Fran Cohen (right) greeted attendees at the GMJSS table.

Rodfei Sholom’s L’Chayim Club features Sol Schwartz

The L’Chayim Club will have their monthly get-together on Wednesday, Nov. 16, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. The program for will be My Heritage Trip presented by Rodfei member, Sol Schwartz. For a glimpse into his meaningful journey, see page XX. There will be a D’Var Torah by Rabbi A. Scheinberg, followed by a traditional home-cooked meal. Seniors are invited to attend at no charge, thanks to a generous grant from Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services and co-sponsorship of Rodfei Sholom, and the cost for all others is $5/person. If attending, an RSVP would be appreciated by Monday, Nov. 14 to the synagogue office at (210) 493-3557 or rodfeisa@gmail.com.

IN MY VIEW

Our Community Came Together

By Elena Granofsky

Elena Granofsky and her son Joshua moved to San Antonio, Texas from Huntington Beach, California several years ago. Their move was precipitated by the sudden death of Barry Granofsky, Elena’s husband and Joshua’s father. They needed a fresh start. They researched Jewish communities across the country, heard great things about the one in San Antonio, and took a leap of faith. Upon their arrival, Elena contacted Temple Beth El and instantly felt a sense of belonging to the Jewish community of San Antonio. Here is her story in her own words:

“When we first arrived, we had a meeting with Geri Gregory, a beautiful and kind person, who informed Joshua and I to go see Kathie Jordan at Jewish Family Service. Because of Kathie Jordan, I was able to get help for my emotional and psychological mental state. It was because of her team that I felt that I was so connected to the Jewish community. “Not long after that, Joshua became ill. He was diagnosed with Hereditary Spastic Paraplegia and we needed the support of the Jewish community more than ever. I met with Rabbi Mara Nathan, Cantor Berlin, Rabbi Yergin, Iris Lieberman and Christina Weinfeld from Temple Beth El. I am grateful to them for all of their emotional, spiritual and moral support and kindness to Joshua and myself.

“I was introduced to Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services (GMJSS) and I was able to receive meals at home during Joshua’s long illness. All the meals that GMJSS provided were made with heart and soul and kindness. It means so much to me that someone cared for my well-being and again reminded me that I belong to the Jewish community.

“I met Margaret Gofman-Klein from the Ohr Lanu Foundation. The Ohr Lanu Foundation designated three volunteers for us: Susan Ghertner, Deb Feld and Annaele Nunez. Those volunteers were there when Joshua had doctors’ appointments, they were there for his major surgery, and they were there to give me support. Even if I would not speak, they knew what to bring for food, love and hugs. These volunteers went above and beyond and they are now included as members of my family.”

“Everyone should meet Margaret Gofman-Klein from Ohr Lanu Foundation, a beautiful, kind person who does not judge at all. You can be in the darkest moments, but just speaking to her and seeing her, the whole world would lighten up for Joshua and myself. She has been there for me through all of Joshua’s medical problems. Margaret and her group of angels never criticize you for how you look or how you live. Their expectations are just to be there for you. This is what it means to be involved in the Jewish community.”

My son died on Thursday, June 9, 2016 after a long and difficult battle with illness. He was my greatest hero of all heroes. He saw how Jewish Family Service, Golden Manor Jewish Senior Services, Ohr Lanu Foundation and Temple Beth El came together to help. He told me that he had never seen such a community that cares for each other and really follows the one basic rule: Love thy neighbor as yourself. I feel so fortunate to have found this community.”
**IN MY VIEW**

**My Heritage Trip**

By Sol Schwartz

As Jews we often hear stories of the “Old Country” or perhaps how things were living in Arabic countries. Sometimes we relate to stories from *Fiddler on the Roof* or have ancestors that lived in shetels. There is a lot of advertising today about tracing our ancestry and even can send saliva samples to learn where our ancestors came from.

I was fortunate to have parents that came to America in the early 1900’s and a father that loved to tell stories about growing up in what was then White Russia. In fact, his stories were so entertaining that we have a book on them. In the book, he tells about growing up in a shetel called Ivey and going to Vilna to study at a Yeshiva. The Jews who came from this area are called Litzvaks. Today it is Lithuania and Belarus.

So earlier this year I heard about an opportunity to go on a Litzvak Heritage Trip which would include places that my father talked about. What made it special were the two days I could go on a Roots Trip with a private guide to the shetels that my parents and grandparents came from.

While I was excited about going, I told myself not to expect to find anything since the Nazis destroyed most everything Jewish. To my surprise, there is a kernel of Judaism in Lithuania and it is growing. Even more surprising was the trip to my father’s shetel which resulted in an emotional experience that I will tell you about later.

First, what is happening now in Vilnius (Vilna, Lithuania). There are about 4000 Jews living there now. There are a few survivors, children of survivors, Israelis who have business there and even a Scotsman who wears a kilt. There is a Jewish Community Center, a Jewish School, a Jewish Cultural Center, several synagogues and a number of plaques and memorials marking where the Jews were and in some cases their contributions to the culture of that time. One of the most well-known Jews was the Vilna Gaon. He lived in the 18th century and known for his scholarly interpretation of the Torah and Jewish laws. Vilna was the center of Jewish learning up to the time of the war and was referred to as “the Jerusalem of Lithuania”.

The Holocaust Museum shows pictures of famous Jewish people of Lithuania and how people lived. In the museum is a small attic which gives you the emotional feeling of hiding there during the war. The Museum of Tolerance depicted what should be done in the future by commemorating the past. There are two remaining cemeteries; one that was not destroyed by the Nazis and one that was destroyed, but the remnants of the tombstones were recovered and made as a monument to the place where the cemetery was.

One story that is typically Jewish is about the synagogue that was not destroyed. It is a beautiful building and I was fortunate to daven there on Shabbat and Monday morning minyan. I put on my tefillin and let them know that “the Schwartz is back.” The story about this synagogue was that it was built when my father lived in Vilna. It was new then and it was more liberal than the Yeshiva he went to. In his book he described it as “the synagogue we didn’t go to.”

In addition to seeing the growth of the Jewish population, you also see where the Ghetto was and the place where the Nazis in 1941 took over 70,000 Jews to a pit to kill them. It is difficult to imagine how a beautiful culture that existed for over 500 years could be wiped out in just about one year. We were taken to the site of the pit called Ponery where the murders occurred. There had been stories about how a handful of Jews dug a tunnel in the pit to escape. Up to this time, it was merely a story, but excavations with sonar equipment discovered the tunnel while we were there. The excavation was filmed by NPR and may be seen as a documentary soon.

We also went to Kaunas which used to be known as Kovna. The main synagogue still remains and there are some Jews continuing the tradition. One cemetery remains intact. The monuments were unusual in that many had pictures of the deceased. Another cemetery was practically destroyed and it would take a lot of money to repair it. However, the burial places are still marked for many of the plots.

During the war, a Japanese Vice-Consul, Sugiharos Namai, saw what was happening to the Jews and tirelessly worked day and night to issue over 6000 visas for Jews to leave Kaunas for Japan. His home today is a museum to his efforts.

There are amazing stories of heroic efforts during the war. One involved a prison where Jews were taken that no one had ever escaped from. That is until 64 Jewish people devised a way and escaped on Christmas Day. An impressive memorial monument was erected next to this prison.

Two days during the trip were devoted to making individual side trips to places where our parents and grandparents came from. My first stop was Ivey where my father was born and raised. It is a small shetel in Belarus that once was a place of Jewish learning, but no Jews are there today. To my surprise, there is a small Jewish museum containing pictures of Jewish living before the war and remnants of Judaica memorabilia. My guide explained to the museum director that I had with me my father’s book which talked about growing up in Ivey and what the town was like at that time. The director requested a copy and I gave the book to her dedicating it to dad. It was a very emotional event that I will never forget.

The stories my father told in the book were so descriptive that some of the places still existed today and I could see them as he had. One was the site of the main synagogue which at his time was built of lumber. It burned down after he left and was replaced by a concrete structure. The Nazis failed to destroy this building even though it displayed the Ten Commandments on its upper part. While the cemetery was uprooted during the war, the place where it was has a monument dedicated to the Jews who died during that time.

See VIEW, page 38
My guide found a Jewish man living in a near-by city that works as an aeronautical engineer, but spends many hours maintaining the sites where Jews were killed during the war. He took us to three of the places known as the “Killing Fields” where families of survivors helped build meaningful memorials. Two of these places were in the forest, while another was on the side of a highway. We recited the memorial prayers at each site even with traffic zooming by.

We traveled to Novograduk which before the war was a city with a sizable Jewish population. In fact, my mother’s mother was born there and I can trace her heritage back to 1750. Today there are no cemeteries remaining and city records are not available. However, it is known today for the Bielsky brothers. A movie made several years ago called “The Defiance” depict how these brothers organized groups of people to live in the forest for over four years during the war. The ghetto where some Jews escaped from is maintained as a memorial museum to the Bielskys.

My mother was born in Luptcha, but left at age 3. Her father and a number of members of the Caplan family came to Houston in the early 1900s. Luptcha is another small shtetl that pre-war had many Jews. While no Jews are there today, there remains the building where the synagogue was, the school house and the mikvah building. The homes near the synagogue building were obviously part of the Jewish neighborhood. An elderly couple lived in the school house and invited us in to see it. There is a Jewish children’s song about a “pripechuk” in a school house which is a stove used to warm all the classrooms. I remembered the song and got to see a pripechuk.

This was a journey that can never be taken again. One can see that wherever Jews lived no matter how small the community there was a synagogue, a school, and some type of cultural activity. While there is some effort to bring back Jewishness to Lithuania, I wonder if there will ultimately be a similar result to these communities. The history of these places show that the Prussian, the Poles, the Russians and the Germans all had pogroms and murdered Jews over the centuries. In 1903 Theodore Herzl came to Vilna and lectured the Jews to go to Palestine. What should we be telling the people living there today?

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UNESCO board formally approves resolution denying Jewish holy sites

(JTA) — The executive board of the United Nations cultural agency voted to adopt a controversial resolution that denies a Jewish connection to the Old City of Jerusalem.

The board reportedly formally approved the resolution on October 18 in the final day of its meeting in Paris.

The approval came five days after the resolution passed in a preliminary vote of the executive board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. In that vote, there were 24 votes in favor and six against, with 26 countries abstaining. The United States, the United Kingdom and Germany were among those that voted against the resolution. They were joined by Lithuania, the Netherlands and Estonia. Other European countries abstained.

Mexico changed its vote from “in favor” to abstain, saying in a statement, “Changing the vote reiterates the recognition that the government of Mexico gives to the undeniable link of the Jewish people to cultural heritage located in East Jerusalem. It also reflects the deep appreciation that this government has for the Jewish community and in particular for their significant contributions to the welfare and economic, social and cultural development of Mexico.”

Mexico fired its Jewish ambassador to UNESCO, however, after Andre Roemer in a personal protest walked out of the October 18 vote in Paris, leaving his deputy to cast the country’s vote.

Discussion and a vote on the resolution were postponed from the board’s meeting in July.

The UNESCO resolution reportedly refers to the Temple Mount several times as Al Haram Al Sharif, the Islamic term for the Temple Mount, without mentioning that it is the holiest site in Judaism, according to UN Watch.
Jewish groups praise Shimon Peres as respected statesman and peacemaker

(ITA) — Jewish groups in Israel, the United States and around the world lauded former Israeli President Shimon Peres, who died September 28, as a respected leader and a warrior for peace.

"Peres was always driven by a deep sense of responsibility toward the entire Jewish people. He concerned himself with the fate and future of the entire nation, but also with each of its sons and daughters, both near and far," Natan Sharansky, chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency for Israel said.

Sharansky recalled that Peres was "the first Israeli" he saw when he arrived from Russia after his many years in prison and that he would always remember the then-prime minister as "the individual who started the Israeli chapter of my life."

Peres served as president of Israel from 2007 to 2014 and twice for short terms as prime minister.

Ellen Hershkin, the president of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, said her organization lost more than a powerful senior statesman and peacemaker.

“We have lost more than a strong defender of Israel, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and a father of the Oslo Accords, a past prime minister and president.” Her members, she said, have lost “a friend.”

European Jewish Council President Moshe Kantor said in a statement: "An important part of our people is no longer with us and our collective heart is aching."

American Jewish Committee CEO David Harris met with Peres many times, both in Israel and the United States.

“Peres had extraordinary energy, boundless optimism, and future-oriented vision, not only about the possibilities of peace and coexistence in the region, but also about the exciting pathways of new technologies for the benefit of humankind — from nano-science to mapping the brain," he said in a statement.

Peres reached the peak of his popularity while serving as the country's president, according to the AJC statement.

"Liberated from the constraints of partisan politics, he emerged as a revered symbol of national unity and a visionary spokesman for peace between Israel and its neighbors," it said.

The Anti-Defamation League called Peres "the diplomatic, political and social innovation face of Israel over a seven-decade career."

"His moderation and insight not..."
PERES continued from page 39

only drew world leaders and dignitaries to meet and consult with him, but also served Israel in its ongoing fight against delegitimization and other anti-Israel forces,” Marvin Nathan, the ADL’s national chair, and Jonathan Greenblatt, its CEO, said in a statement.

The ADL leaders marveled that Peres had recently taken up skydiving to "promote social innovation and new advanced technologies for international social change and the greater good."

B’nai B’rith International said in a statement: “The history of the State of Israel cannot be written without including Peres and his myriad accomplishments during a nearly 70-year career in public service.”

AIPAC called Peres “an indefatigable advocate for justice and human progress,” and said his legacy “will live on through the many good deeds he accomplished, the countless lives he enriched, and the commitment to the Jewish state he inspired in so many.”

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the New York-based Union for Reform Judaism, said Peres “was a tough-minded lover of peace who understood that Israel lives in a dangerous neighborhood and must have the deterrence it needs, but that in the end, the best deterrence is hope for a better tomorrow, and promoting the wisdom and creativity of the Israeli people on the world stage, while also ensuring that Israel engages significantly in a global arena.”

“We have truly lost a giant, but we have not lost the resolve to continue to dream and to continue to strive for an Israel that lives side by side with its neighbors, in peace and with justice,” Jacobs said.

The Orthodox Union called Peres “a beacon of light in times of darkness for our people.”

It added: “As someone who built lasting bridges across the secular-religious divide in Israeli society, Peres knew intimately the importance of Israel’s Jewish identity in the state’s vibrant character. His legacy inspires us to continue doing our work, ensuring a strong Jewish future with a strong Jewish state.”

British report says Twitter fails to properly address anti-Semitism

(JNS.org) A new report on anti-Semitism in the United Kingdom found that Twitter fails to properly handle abusive tweets from its users, especially anti-Semitic abuse on its platform, British daily the Independent reported.

The British Home Affairs Select Committee said it is "disgraceful" that Jewish Twitter users are continually dealing with “appalling” levels of anti-Semitic abuse online. The report also said it was “shocked” at the “viscerally anti-Semitic nature and volume” of tweets aimed at Jewish members of Parliament.

For example, one Jewish member of the Labour party, Luciana Berger, received 2,500 abusive messages over three days in 2014.

“It is disgraceful that any individual should have to tolerate such appalling levels of anti-Semitic abuse in order to use Twitter – a social media platform now regarded as a requirement for any public figure,” the report said.

“In the context of [its] global revenue of $2.2 billion, it is deplorable that Twitter continues to act as an inert host for vast swathes of anti-Semitic hate speech and abuse.”
Jewish Federations of North America board votes to allow some West Bank visits

(JTA) — The board of trustees of the Jewish Federations of North America voted to allow some of its missions to Israel to visit the West Bank.

“Today, the JFNA Board of Trustees approved a number of appropriate and necessary protocols to support the advocacy and education trips of the IAN [Israel Action Network],” JFNA said in a statement in October following a board meeting via conference call. “This vote ensures that IAN will continue to travel to Israel and the surrounding areas not historically visited by JFNA staff.”

The meeting was led by the JFNAs chairman, Richard Sandler, and was limited only to voting JFNA trustees, Haaretz reported.

At issue are missions to Israel and the West Bank of Partners for Peace, a program of the JFNA affiliate Israel Action Network, which takes its delegations to Palestinian towns under the control of the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. The Israel Action Network came under the management of JFNA six months ago and is set to leave Sunday on its first mission since the change in leadership. It was previously part of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs.

It is not yet clear whether the vote is specifically for Israel Action Network trips or a wholesale change to JFNA policy, according to the Forward.

In an email sent to trustees and obtained by the Jewish Journal of Los Angeles, which first reported the possible policy change, JFNA CEO Jerry Silverman said that JFNA believes “authorizing the entry of IAN missions into the PA is in the best interest of the federation system.”

The vote raises concerns that participants on trips that travel to the West Bank would be exposed to one side of the story if they visited Jewish settlements in the West Bank while avoiding Palestinian areas, according to the Jewish Journal.

Schindler’s Czech factory moves closer to becoming a museum

(JTA) — Oskar Schindler’s former factory in the Czech Republic will be declared a listed monument by the country, the Oskar-Schindler Foundation said.

The foundation took over the management of the dilapidated building in the village of Brnenec in August. It plans to restore the building and turn it into a Holocaust memorial by 2019, the German news agency dpa reported last week.

The listed monument status means the building cannot be sold or altered, and is earmarked for preservation.

Schindler, who died in 1974, was a German industrialist and Nazi spy whose story became famous through Steven Spielberg’s 1993 Oscar-winning film “Schindler’s List.” By saving Jews he employed in his ammunition factory, the businessman defied the Nazi regime and saved some 1,200 lives. He had written down the names of the people to be protected on a list.

The site of the factory, near the former concentration camp in Brnenec, has been open to visitors since 2010. As the only remaining Nazi concentration camp site in the country, it is one of the best-known buildings in the Czech Republic, said Jaroslav Novak, the head of the foundation.

The organization believes the memorial would attract more visitors to the region. Plans to turn the factory into a museum have been ongoing since at least 2012. Another former Schindler factory in Krakow has been turned into a museum and attracts tourists to the Polish city.
Netanyahu seeks to punish Israeli NGO for UN remarks

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he will act to amend the country’s national service law so that young Israelis will no longer be able to serve at B’Tselem.

The statement issued by the Prime Minister’s Office on October 15 came a day after the Israeli human rights organization B’Tselem, as well as Americans for Peace Now, slammed Israel’s expansion in the West Bank and the group called on the international community to take action against what they call the occupation of Palestinian lands during a United Nations Security Council forum debate on the topic of Illegal Israeli Settlements: Obstacles to Peace and the Two-State Solution.

Netanyahu and coalition chairman David Bitan discussed the issue during an evening meeting on October 15, according to the statement.

Netanyahu has previously contacted the country’s attorney general over the issue. The attorney general said that the law needs to be amended, the statement said.

B’Tselem currently is entitled to fill one national service slot, paid for in part by the government.

“What these organizations cannot achieve through democratic elections in Israel, they try to achieve by international coercion,” Netanyahu wrote in a post on his Facebook page.

“The truth is that the Palestinians attacked Israel for 50 years before there was even one settlement. They continue to attack Israel from the Gaza Strip even after we completely withdrew from there. They are attacking us from Judea and Samaria while they not only demand those territories, but also the right of return to Jaffa, Acre, and Haifa. They back up these demands with murderous attacks directed against us since the establishment of the state,” he also wrote. “These facts prove that the root of the conflict is not ’the occupation and the settlements,’ but the continuing refusal of the Palestinians to recognize the Jewish state in any borders.”

B’Tselem responded in a statement, calling the prime minister’s posts “slander.”

“(W)e believe that the Israeli public is worthy of meaningful discussion of the occupation. And, contrary to the complete overlap the Prime Minister establishes between the occupation and Israel, we insist on saying loud and clear: the occupation is not Israel, and resisting it is not anti-Israel,” the B’Tselem statement said.

“At the U.N. Security Council on October 14, criticism of the occupation and settlements was voiced by all: both Israel’s close allies such as the USA, France and Britain, as well as countries which Netanyahu boasts strengthening ties with, such as Russia and China. But the Prime Minister has no answers for the Israeli public, so instead he tries to go after B’Tselem. This will not deter us, nor the hundreds of thousands in Israel who oppose the occupation. We will continue saying the truth in Israel and abroad: the occupation must end,” the statement concluded.

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Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel “Gabe” Philip Grant Wolf

Gabriel “Gabe” Philip Grant Wolf will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with family and friends at Congregation Agudas Achim on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Gabe is the son of Helaine and Ken Wolf, and has three older brothers, Micky, Benny and Jordan Wolf. He is the grandson of Larry Golman and the late Gay Golman of Dallas, Texas and Lauretta Wolf and the late Bernard Wolf of Great Neck, New York. Gabe is an A honor roll 7th grade student in the Gifted and Talented program at Eisenhower Middle School.

He plays football, basketball and runs track. For his Mitzvah project Gabe is distributing bags filled with necessities for the homeless. He is collecting new and gently used backpacks, blankets, refillable water bottles, hats/caps and new toiletries. Donations may dropped off at a collection box set up at Congregation Agudas Achim.

Mitzvah Moments

Celebrating a Bar or Bat Mitzvah in the family? Let us know! We’re happy to print your announcement in the Jewish Journal at no charge.

Send short write up along with a high resolution image to jewishj@jfsatx.org.
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Saturday night, 7:30 – 11:00 pm
Food, live music & dancing, games!

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“We Back the Blue”
This event will help support the San Antonio Police Dept.

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