SA welcomes delegates from Budapest

By Lauren Abraham, Jewish Federation of San Antonio

During the week of January 7-10, the San Antonio Jewish community will welcome a young adult delegation from Budapest, Hungary.

Budapest is one of the newest cities to join our Western Galilee Partnership consortium and we look forward to welcoming this delegation during their American tour. This group will include two leaders, Marton Tordai and Hedi Pusztai, who have both rediscovered their Jewish heritage through travel to Israel on birthright. They have become leaders in the Jewish community in Budapest.

Jewish women gather to Shower the Community with Love

On Monday, Dec. 11, The Jewish Federation of San Antonio’s Women’s Division hosted the 3rd annual Shower the Community with Love, benefiting seventeen local Jewish families in need. Shower Co-

Area women journey on JWRP trip to Israel

For the third year in a row, and with a generous grant from the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, Congregation Rodfei Sholom partnered with the Jewish Women’s Renaissance Project to take ten community women on the trip of a lifetime to Israel, led by Rodfei Sholom’s Michal Scheinberg.

Participant Dalia Rosenberg describes the trip, “During my JWRP trip, every moment was part of a whole experience that brought me closer to our land, our roots and our people. I have grown richer from deeply valuing the Jewish Journal of San Antonio

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM JEWISH FEDERATION OF SAN ANTONIO!

Published by The Jewish Federation of San Antonio

JANUARY 2018
TEVET - SH’VAT 5778

JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS
The Barshop JCC’s Annual Film Festival begins February 17 with the award-winning Hungarian film, 1945. SEE FULL SCHEDULE, PAGE 23

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HANUKKAH HAPPENINGS AND MORE!
See what’s happening in the San Antonio Jewish Community, STARTS ON PAGE 13

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YAD HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF
Community service is only one aspect of Federation’s Young Adult Division. Learn more and get involved, PAGE 4

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Also read the Journal online at: www.jfsatx.org

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Interfaith observances

As part of the Martin Luther King events, the community is welcome and encouraged to attend a series of interfaith services across the city.

A Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Shabbat Service will be held at Temple Beth-El on Friday, Jan. 5, at 6:30 p.m. in the Wulfe Sanctuary. Antioch Baptist Church’s Rev. Dr. See MLK, page 9

Area women journey on JWRP trip to Israel

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See JWRP, page 27

A JFSA grant helped fund the recent JWRP trip to Israel.
CANDLE LIGHTING

Friday, Jan. 5, 2018
Light Candles at: 5:31 p.m.
Shabbat, Jan. 6, 2018
Shabbat Ends: 6:28 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 12, 2018
Light Candles at: 5:37 p.m.
Shabbat, Jan. 13, 2018
Shabbat Ends: 6:34 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 19, 2018
Light Candles at: 5:43 p.m.
Shabbat, Jan. 20, 2018
Shabbat Ends: 6:39 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 26, 2018
Light Candles at: 5:49 p.m.
Shabbat, Jan. 27, 2018
Shabbat Ends: 6:45 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 2, 2018
Light Candles at: 5:55 p.m.
Shabbat, Feb. 3, 2018
Shabbat Ends: 6:50 p.m.

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS

The submission deadline for the February 2018 issue of the Jewish Journal is January 10, 2018 at noon. All materials submitted after this date will be considered for the following issue.

How to submit: Email submissions to jewishj@jfsatx.org
- Articles & Announcements - Email as word documents. Articles submitted for consideration are subject to editing.
- Photos - Email high resolution images (300 dpi) in jpg attachments only.

ADVERTISING:

To place an advertisement or request ad rates, contact Leslie Komet Ausburn at advertising@jfsatx.org or (210) 326-8992.

Ad deadlines for February 2018 ISSUE:
- Ad space reservations due no later than January 10, 2018 by noon
Please include a contact name and phone number with all submissions.

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

Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio
Jacob Kluger | YAD Board Chair

Come schmooze with friends and meet young adults from Budapest, guests of the JFSA Partnership.

@ LOST BAR & GRILL
12730 NW Military Hwy
Tuesday, January 9 @ 7:30
RSVP to LaporteE@jfsatx.org

EVENT FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
What’s in store for 2018

2018!!! It seems crazy to me that we are now in 2018. I must be getting older, as I now find myself saying things like “time sure flies by quickly!” At the same time, I am very excited for 2018, as we have some fantastic things happening in our Jewish community.

We begin 2018 with our annual MLK celebrations on Sunday and Monday January 14th and 15th. The Jewish community will once again be represented in the interfaith service on Sunday and also in the city-wide march on Monday. Please join us in representing the Jewish community in honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and all that he represented and accomplished for civil rights in our country.

We have two special events taking place in 2018 as well. The Jewish Federation will be sponsoring our second For Hope for Humanity benefit for the Holocaust Memorial Museum on March 7, 2018 at the Mays Family Pavilion at the Witte. We are thrilled to have Linda and Phil Hardberger and Rene and Marty Wender as our honorary event chairs. Our guest speaker, Jennifer Teege, will be joining us from Germany to share her story of identity and conflict as it relates to her family’s Nazi past. We are also excited to be launching the Maxine Cohen Educator award in honor of the great Maxine Cohen, life-long educator and role model to many in our community.

And in April the excitement continues with the coinciding of Tricentennial events in the city of San Antonio and the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel. The Jewish community will host Shindig SA on Sunday April 15th, a Jewish cultural street fair that celebrates the rich history of the San Antonio Jewish community in light of the 300th anniversary of the city. There will be food, entertainment, a special appearance by Mayor Ron Nirenberg and guests from our Partnership region of the Western Galilee in Israel.

We have so much to look forward to in 2018, as well as so much to be proud of as a Jewish community. We also have much that unites us as one people and as one community. I wish for us, the Jewish community of San Antonio, that we can focus on unity in 2018 and appreciate what brings us together.

**Your Federation Dollars at Work**

**IN LOVING MEMORY**
Shirley Kanter
Idelle Abramson
Judah Cohen
Steve Cole
Elvira Real Downing
Jeanne Holley
LTC John W. Gilboux
Raz Fisher
Garrett Kaufman
Sondra Lotman
Rosenthal
Frances Winokur
The Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio joined volunteers from across the state on Sunday, Nov. 19 to join Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in the Houston community. Young Adult Board Chair Jacob Kluger, along with board members Jeremy Rosen, Riley Greenberg, and Director of Women’s Philanthropy & YAD, Eva Laporte, joined teams from Austin, Ft. Worth/Tarrant County, and Houston to work on homes hit by the hurricane. The new Chief Executive Officer of Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Avital Ingber, met with volunteers to cheer them on as well.

Upcoming events in the Young Adult Division include monthly happy hours, the Purim Bash on February 28, and Tikkun for Troops on July 8. To learn more and get involved in YAD events, follow @YADSanAntonio on Instagram, Young Adult Division of San Antonio on Facebook, or contact Eva Laporte at laportee@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6965.

(1 to r) Jeremy Rosen, YAD Board Chair Jacob Kluger, Riley Greenberg, Eva Laporte.
We are Jewish San Antonio!

We are Stronger Together!

Through the Annual Campaign we build community and we reach people when they need us most—whether they live in San Antonio, Israel or around the world. Together we create a better world for all of us!

Together... We Give. We care.

Having grown up in this unique and wonderful Jewish community, contributing my time and a meaningful financial donation to the Jewish Federation of San Antonio makes me feel proud of doing my part to ensure the longevity and continuity of our great community! —Riley Greenberg

I contribute to the Jewish Federation’s Annual Campaign to sustain our local Jewish agencies, support Israel, and provide continuity to the Jewish people of San Antonio and Klat Yisrael. —Mike Ozer, MD

The Jewish Federation supports our community and is able to reach out and facilitate many programs and help those in need. —Marty Wender

I give because I believe my donation to the Federation’s Annual Campaign dramatically improves the lives of Jews in San Antonio and abroad. —Amy Benedikt, MD

We are the future of our people and it’s our obligation to continue building community, helping those in need here, locally and all over the world. I’m proud to support our Annual Campaign and make a difference in our community! —Samantha Mazuz

The Jewish Federation brings together different Jews with different interests—it is the bonding DNA of our community. Through its meaningful and engaging programs, I’ve met people who have really changed my life. With old friends and new, the Federation brings us closer together. That’s community. That’s Federation. That’s why I give. —Jacob Kluger

Thank you for your donation to the 2017 Annual Campaign. If you haven’t made your gift, it’s not too late! Dollars raised will be allocated to our agencies & programs this spring. Call Ronit Sherwin, at 210.302.6961 to make your donation today!

EveryONE Counts!

Jewish Federation of San Antonio

JewishFederation@jfsatx.org
210.302.6960 | JFSATX.ORG

Lauren Stanley, Chair, 2017 Annual Campaign | Jonathan Gurwitz, Board Chair
YOUR FEDERATION DOLLARS AT WORK

Beldon Library News

There are great books for all ages here at the Beldon Library. Beldon Library hours are: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The Beldon Library will begin a Music Appreciation class with the Charlie Pearl Senior Adults on Jan. 15, 2018. This class will take place on the third Monday of each month from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. in the Senior Activity Room.

Local author, Madeline Bradley, will be at the Beldon Library on Sunday, February 11th, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. She will be promoting her children’s books, Please Take Us Home! and Please Don’t Sneeze on My CHEESE!!!

The Mitzvah Project that the Beldon Library has with the Vilna/Vilnius Jewish Public Library in Lithuania is ongoing. They are building up their children’s section.

Donations of new or gently used children’s books with Jewish content are being accepted. Contact Beldon librarian Lynn Waghalter at waghalterl@jfsatx.org for more information on this humanitarian project.

Painting survivors of the Shoah from around the world

Ellen Ollervidez

David Kassan is an award-winning artist whose work has hung in the National Portrait Gallery (London) and the Smithsonian (Washington DC), to name a few. Kassan is also the founder of the Edut Project, an initiative to creatively bring a personal face to the Holocaust through life-sized figurative paintings and videotaped conversation. The Edut project has partnered with the USC Shoah Foundation in Los Angeles and the Fisher Museum of Art to exhibit his paintings all together and will debut in the fall of 2019. The exhibition will then travel to other museums nationally. A book of these portraits will eventually be published.

Kassan will be visiting San Antonio in January with his videographer to film, interview, and eventually paint portraits of local Survivors in San Antonio and Austin for this national art exhibition.

During his stay in San Antonio, Kassan will be hosting a drawing demonstration at The Coppini Academy of Fine Art on Sunday, Jan. 14 where he will draw a local survivor. Students and other attendees will hear survivor testimony while he draws.

When Kassan received the William Draper Grand Prize at the 19th annual The Art of Portrait awards ceremony, he stated “…I share this award with the Survivors, whom have all shared their sometimes painful, but mostly glorious and inspiring lives with me.”

He will be discussing the Edut Project in San Antonio on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 7 pm in the Holzman Auditorium at the Jewish Campus of San Antonio. To learn more about Kassan’s work, visit www.davidkassan.com. To reserve a ticket for his lecture, The Journey to Paint Resilience, visit hmmmsa.org, call Amber at (210) 302-6807, or email info@hmmmsa.org.

The Journey to Paint Resilience is made possible through the generous donation to the Holocaust Memorial Museum of San Antonio by Francine Garza-Vale and the Light One Candle/Dr. Gregorio M. Canales Memorial Education Fund.

Hispanic & Jewish leaders gather for One Table, Two Families

One Table, Two Families, a special event to gather Hispanic and Jewish leaders around the table to strengthen old friendships and make new ones, was recently held in San Antonio.

The evening was sponsored by the Community Relations Council (CRC) of Jewish Federation and the Israel Consulate in Houston. Present were Israel Consul General Gilad Katz and Mexican Consul General Reyna Torres Mendivil.

During the event, participants enjoyed a wonderful meal, learned about each other’s culture and history, and shared stories of the importance of hospitality and welcoming each other into their homes.

The event was cosponsored by the National Hispanic Media Coalition, the American Jewish Committee, the National Constituency Network, and the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

The goal of One Table, Two Families is to foster understanding, respect, and cooperation between Hispanics and Jews. The event is part of a larger initiative called the Circle of Understanding, which brings together leaders from different communities to address common challenges and build bridges of understanding.

The event was co-sponsored by The Foundation for Jewish Culture (FJC) and the National Hispanic Media Coalition (NHMC). The Circle of Understanding is a project of the FJC and the NHMC, with support from the Annenberg Foundation.

The evening was hosted by The Federation of Jewish Communities in the South Region (FJCS) and the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

The event was held at the Sheraton Hill Country Resort in San Antonio and was attended by more than 60 leaders from the Hispanic and Jewish communities.

The evening included a keynote address by Gilad Katz, Israel’s Consul General to the South Region, who discussed the importance of interfaith dialogue and understanding.

There were also several panel discussions on topics such as race, religion, and politics. The panelists included leaders from the Hispanic and Jewish communities, as well as experts in the fields of academia, politics, and the media.

The event concluded with a dinner and a dance, where attendees learned traditional dances from both the Hispanic and Jewish communities.

The event was a great success and provided an opportunity for Hispanic and Jewish leaders to come together and build bridges of understanding.

(Photos courtesy of The Federation of Jewish Communities in the South Region)
Emerging Leadership Course for Young Adults

The goal of the Emerging Leadership Course, a program of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio’s Young Adult Division, is to identify future leaders in the San Antonio Jewish community and share knowledge and tools to prepare them for their future successes.

The 2017-18 ELC class includes Allison Abelow, Garrett Boroda, Hannah Cramer, Avi Cohen, Jordan Davis, Amanda Hernandez, Zachary Levin, Maxwell Massey, Max Wolk, and Brette and Jeff Wurzburg.

The participants applied, or were nominated by community leadership, in the summer of 2017, and eleven students were selected to start the year-long program. Each month, the ELC meets with leadership in Federation and community agencies along with experts in leadership development. In June 2018, the students will graduate and share a capstone project of their choosing: the project will include a design challenge to identify areas of need in community’s agencies and a planned solution.

Riley Greenberg, this year’s ELC Chair, participated in the program last year and sits on the YAD Board of the JFSA. “This year we redesigned the curriculum to give participants a robust leadership development experience in addition to detailed, diverse insight into the Jewish Federation of San Antonio,” she says about the course. “Through this approach, we’re hoping to empower the participants with tools and resources they need to become the next great leaders of our great community.”

Ronit Sherwin, CEO of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, believes a course like the ELC is integral to our community’s future. “Leadership development courses like the ELC are critical to building a strong Jewish community,” she says. “These participants will be guiding the decisions of our community and determining the priorities of the Jewish community in the future. We need to invest in our leaders. They are the future!”

To learn more about the ELC or to find out how to apply for the 18-19 cohort, contact Eva Laporte, Director of Women’s Philanthropy & Young Adult Division at laportee@jfsatx.org or (210) 302-6965.

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PARTNERSHIP
continued from page 1

The delegation, along
with representatives from
our Israel partnership, will
meet with San Antonio
Religious School students,
they will present at the
Community Relations
Council luncheon, and
explore the historic Pearl
and have lunch with the
women of Hadassah.
A highlight of their trip
to San Antonio will be their
teaching of the Educational
Leadership Class (ELC) of
the Jewish Federation, and
a night out to schmooze
and bond with local Jewish
young adults.

The goal of this visit and
connection will be to share
the current state of Judaism
in Eastern Europe and for
both Tordai and Pusztai to
showcase what they are
doing to lead the Jewish
community of today and to
secure a better future for the
Jews of Budapest.

If you have questions, or
would like to learn more
about this delegation and/
or the Jewish community in
Budapest, Hungary, please
contact Lauren Abraham at
AbrahamL@jfsatx.org.

The Jewish Journal is
available online at
www.jfsatx.org
Your Federation Dollars at Work

Spotlight On... Stevie Weissman

Stevie Weissman has lived in San Antonio for over 45 years, following a journey from Kansas City, to Chicago, before settling in San Antonio. She made a name for herself professionally through What’s In A Name, a shop that specialized in personalized gifts. “The store was a gathering place, “more like a party in itself.” Stevie’s customers became friends, and today many are her current clients, along with their now grown children. Stevie has now been in the party planning business for about 35 years. She plans Bar Mitzvahs, weddings, and more, all over the city. Currently, Stevie is a co-chair, along with Tina Alvarado and Rikko Ollervidez, of the 2018 Shindig Tricentennial 300 event of the Jewish community which will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018.

What is her strongest Jewish memory? Stevie’s mind instantly took her back to Kansas City where she had such an amazing Jewish family connection. Her favorite part of this was the “cousins club,” four generations celebrating Jewish holiday together. Although not everyone lives in the same city anymore, she remembers the Hanukkah celebrations with latkes, and the great aunts and uncles that rented out party rooms for the festivities. All of this fun and festivity has inspired her love for celebrations today.

What volunteer activities does she find the most rewarding? Stevie is very passionate about children’s charities and generally tries to commit her giving to help children have a better life, with clean water, school desks and nourishing meals. She is very thankful for her four healthy children and thirteen grandchildren, one of whom is a cancer survivor. Instead of giving her grandchildren Chanukah presents, she makes donations in their honor to various children’s charities. She looks forward to watching the next generation grow.

What is her favorite Jewish holiday and why? Stevie loves all of the Jewish holidays, and especially enjoys the Fall season and Sukkot. Hanukkah is also ranked among her favorite Jewish holidays. Hanukkah is her favorite, not because of the gifts, but rather the beauty of the light and the light that it brings into your home. During the darkest time of the year, Hanukkah brings light and passion to us all.

A hope or aspiration for the SA Jewish community? Stevie hopes that young people from all of the congregations will come together in unity. The idea of division troubles her the most. Her dream would be to see teenagers attend more city-wide mixers. She wants all young people to join together and make friendships that develop into adulthood, and to keep the idea of community moving forward. Stevie is proud of the current Jewish community of San Antonio and strives to see us make even more improvements for the future.

David Kassan

Tuesday, January 16th at 7pm
Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Campus of the Jewish Community
12500 NW Military Hwy, Holzman Auditoriums

Award winning portrait artist David Kassan will be discussing his collaborative work on The Shoah Foundation’s, Edut Project. This project is an initiative that showcases the life journeys of Holocaust survivors and was created to protect, promote and defend human rights today. Kassan believes the painting of these survivors offers viewers a more personal connection to the Holocaust. For more information or to make a reservation, please visit hmmsa.org.

David Kassan, Self Portrait
MLK
continued from page 1

Kenneth R. Kemp will speak, and the Antioch Baptist Church Choir will join Temple’s Kol Simcha choir and lift all of our spirits in song.

On Sunday, Jan. 14 at 11 a.m. Antioch Baptist Church will host its Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Worship Service at the church, located at 1001 N. Walters. Temple Beth-El Rabbi Mara Nathan will speak, and the Temple volunteer choir, Kol Simcha, will sing with the Antioch Baptist Church Choir.

The 31st Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Citywide Interfaith Service will take place on Sunday, Jan. 14, at 4 p.m. at San Fernando Cathedral, 115 Main Plaza. The service includes members of the Muslim, Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, Sikh, Buddhist, Hindu, and Baha’i communities.

The 31st Annual Martin Luther King Jr. March takes place on Monday, Jan. 15. The march will begin at 10 a.m. at the MLK Academy located at 1801 MLK Drive and end at Pittman-Sullivan Park, 1101 Iowa.

Buses sponsored by Temple Beth-El and Temple Chai will be leaving from the Jewish Campus and Temple Beth El at 8:30 a.m. You must reserve a spot in advance to ride the bus. Reservations may be made by calling (210) 302-6960 or online at jfsatx.org.

Free park and ride services are also available from the Freeman Coliseum parking lot. Participants should meet at the Eastside Boys and Girls Club under the bright blue banner.

Civil Rights Shabbat at Temple Chai

Temple Chai will begin the Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend with a Civil Rights Shabbat service on Friday, Jan. 12 at 6:45 p.m. at its Lockhill Selma location.

“Reform Judaism has a strong and vibrant history with the Civil Rights Movement, and our congregation will kick off the weekend’s activities with a service highlighting Jewish responsibility for universal rights,” said Rabbi David Komerofsky. “The message that Dr. King brought to the American consciousness, and the sacrifice that he made to ensure that message’s future, is a fulfillment of the best of the visions of the Hebrew prophets.”

All are welcome to participate in this interfaith service and to bring their friends. The congregation is sponsoring a bus to the MLK March on January 15. To RSVP for the bus, visit www.templechaisa.org/mlk.

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Temple Beth-El celebrates Cantor Berlin’s 10 years of service

Temple Beth-El will celebrate Cantor Julie Berlin’s 10 years of sacred service on Shabbat Shirah, January 26 and 27. On Friday, Jan. 26, 6:30 p.m. Shabbat Shirah, the Sabbath of Song Service, will include music by musician in residence, Israeli flutist and composer Mattan Klein. On Saturday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. the community is invited to Havdalah, a Mattan Klein concert, and a special celebratory reception.

If you would like to be a Supporter of this event, go online to https://tinyurl.com/CantorBerlin10. If you would like to be a Sponsor of this event, go online to https://tinyurl.com/CantorBerlin.

After studying voice and piano as a teenager, Berlin studied at the University of Illinois where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education. During her undergraduate studies, she also served as a student teacher in music at several elementary and Jr. High schools in the Chicago area.

Berlin began her studies at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Jerusalem in 1992 and continued at the New York campus in the fall of 1993. She earned a Master’s of Arts in Sacred Music and was ordained as Cantor in 1996, and earned a Master’s of Arts in Religious Education in 1997.

AIPAC and Rodfei Sholom to host Rabbi Steven Weil at a Shabbat dinner

Rabbi Steven Weil, Senior Manager Director of the Orthodox Union and Congregation Rodfei Sholom’s Scholar in Residence, will speak about The Greatest Challenges Facing the Jewish Community in the 21st Century during a special Shabbat dinner co-sponsored by AIPAC and Rodfei Sholom on Friday, January 12.

Prior to Rabbi Weil’s talk, AIPAC leaders will give an update about the current developments in Israel and the Middle East.

Reservations are required for the dinner. Babysitting is available.

Saturday night after Shabbat there will be a Malaveh Malka program (accompanying/escorting the Shabbat) with Havdalah service and a lecture by Rabbi Weil. He will speak about Hidden Miracles and Open Heroism.

Rabbi Weil is a popular teacher and lecturer, having delivered invocations for former President Bush, Governor Schwarzenegger as well as Speaker John Boehner and the House of Representatives, among others. He has served internationally as scholar-in-residence on land and on sea, and is a passionate advocate for Israel and for Jewish education.

Cost of the dinner Adults: $18. College Students & Ages 0-3: No charge. Ages 4-18: $12. Seniors: $12. Family Maximum: $60. For more information and to RSVP, contact Rodfei Sholom at rodfeisa@gmail.com or (210) 493-3557.

Help us uncover Jewish History for our TRICENTENNIAL SHINDIG!

As part of the Jewish Community’s involvement in the city’s 300th anniversary, we want to recognize businesses run by Jewish families. These businesses should be at least 50 years old, or were in existence more than 50 years ago. If you know of a business that fits this category, please let us know the name of business and the name of owner, if they are not the same. Most important, if you have any photos of the business could you please send a copy of those to Geri Gregory at GERI@BETH-ELSA.ORG

Temple Chai to explore Zionism today

Temple Chai, San Antonio’s small Reform congregation, will offer a two-week class on Zionism Today on Wednesdays, Jan. 17 and 24. Taught by Rabbi David Komorofsky, the class will meet at 2121 Lockhill Selma and is free and open to the public.

More than a century since the birth of modern Zionism and almost seventy years since the creation of the State of Israel, Jewish identity and its connection to the Jewish state and homeland is increasingly complex. As politics and religion continue to polarize, there are fewer spaces in which Jews can ask questions without being judged for being too pro-Israel or anti-Israel. Old assumptions are driving Jews away, and new realities are frustrating established Jewish organizations.

This course will help participants understand why we can no longer take Zionism for granted amongst all quarters of the Jewish community, how to talk civilly and openly about questions, and how to engage or re-engage disenfranchised Jews in conversation about the centrality of Israel to the Jewish people.

All are welcome to come with an open mind. To register, visit www.templechaisa.org/zionismtoday or call (210) 340-2090.
New adult education program: Agudas Achim University

Congregation Agudas Achim is ready to kick off its new Adult Education opportunity beginning Jan. 28. The classes will be led by five different college professors and each class will be two sessions, meeting on consecutive Sundays.

The professor line up includes: Brad Root, Assistant Professor of History from St. Mary’s University teaching about “Revolutionary Movements”, Chad Spigel, Associate Professor of Religion from Trinity University leading his classes on “Visions of Jerusalem”, Betsy Tonitplaphol, Associate Professor of English at Trinity University teaching a class called “Judaism & Judgement in Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice”, Sara Ronis, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at St. Mary’s University leading her sessions about “Who Tells Our Story? Narrating Jewish History in Text and Tradition”, and finally Orit Eylon, Associate Professor of Music from the University of the Incarnate Word teaching “Israeli Folk Songs and Songs in Hebrew”. The classes are open to the public and are $36 for each 2 week session.

Registration for all meetings costs $162. The classes will meet on Sunday mornings at Congregation Agudas Achim from 10am-11am. To register or for more information, please contact the Director of Congregational Learning, Samantha Mazuz at s.mazuz@agudas-achim.org or call (210) 479-3558.

JLI Course to explore Communication: Its Art and Soul at Chabad

Can you express yourself effectively in 140 characters or less? Should you? The rise of the internet, email, mobile phones, and social media has completely changed the way we relate, interact, and communicate with one another—and its high time we reclaim this lost art.

The Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning will offer a new six-session course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) called Communication: It’s Art & Soul at three different times:
• Six Sunday mornings Starting January 21, 2018 • 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd.
• Six Tuesday afternoons Starting January 23, 2018 • 12 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Law Office of Jackson Walker Weston Center, 112 E. Pecan Suite #2400
Weston Center, 112 E. Pecan Suite #2400
• Six Wednesday evenings Starting January 24, 2018 • 7:30-9 p.m. Chabad Center, 14535 Blanco Rd.

“In Jewish philosophy, communication is more than just a tool: it is who we are. Humans are defined as communicative beings with a communicative soul, and aligning ourselves with this soul is our raison d’être,” explains Rabbi Levi Teldon. “The course distills ancient Jewish wisdom and couples it with the latest developments in psychological research in the quest to find the secrets behind healthy and effective communication.”

Interested students may call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and a course overview.

Congregation Rodfei Sholom to host Scholar in Residence

Sarah Fineman, an educator who teaches and lectures on a wide variety of Jewish topics, will be the Scholar in residence for Shabbat at Congregation Rodfei Sholom on January 26-27. Fineman has become known as a speaker that leaves her audience feeling inspired and yearning for more knowledge and spiritual connection.

In addition to lecturing, Fineman teaches the laws and philosophy of family purity to both brides and married women of all religious backgrounds. She has written for several Jewish publications including aish.com and Binah magazine. Fineman and her family live in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

For more information, please contact the Rodfei Sholom office at (210) 493-3558.
Jewish Family Service Executive Director Levine retires; Interim director announced

M.H. Levine, who has served as Executive Director of Jewish Family Service (JFS) for 13 years, announced his retirement in December. Levine guided the organization through sustained growth, positioning JFS as an effective and highly regarded mental health organization. Levine cared very deeply about the people in our community. Under his leadership, JFS has grown into an effective agency serving thousands of clients in need of vital counseling and social services, expanded its programs and increased community awareness.

A nationwide executive search is underway to fill the Executive Director position.

During this time of transition, JFS has named Tim Plant, LCSW, MBA, as Interim Executive Director. Plant brings over 25 years of successful experience as a CEO/Executive Director in a variety of human services and health care settings. He has guided the strategic growth and stabilization of a number of leading non-profit organizations.

Plant, who holds master’s degrees in both social work and business, recently led Rise Recovery, home of the Palmer Drug Abuse Program in San Antonio, through a successful executive transition.

He previously directed HealthStar Home Health’s diversification through the addition of Medicare accreditation and the development of mental health services for children and adults, and led St. David’s Center for Child and Family Development through a challenging financial turnaround and strategic re-positioning.

Earlier in his career he led the expansion of Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation’s continuum of chemical dependency recovery services.

Mah Jongg Tournament in support of senior programs at JFS

Jewish Family Service (JFS) will host its annual Mah Jongg Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Campus of the San Antonio Jewish Community, 12500 NW Military Hwy.

The entry fee is $75 for individual competitive play, or $275 for a social table. The event includes a continental breakfast, lunch, and a full day of Maj Jongg with the chance to win cash prizes, and door prizes.

The funds raised at the event will help JFS continue to provide vital services to hundreds of seniors who may be having medical crises, financial difficulties, the loss of a loved one, or the need to relocate to another residence.

For reservations or more information on event sponsorship opportunities, and rules go to https://jfs-sa.org/mahjongg. Space is limited.

The deadline to register is January 22. For more information, contact Marie Angelicchio at JFS angelicchiom@jfs-sa.org or (210) 302-6954.
WEHAT’S HAPPENING

PJ LIBRARY DELIVERS THANKSGIVING CHEER
On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, San Antonio Jewish Senior Services, PJ Library, and the Jewish Federation of San Antonio teamed up to deliver an early morning of giving thanks to the seniors at Adante Senior Living. The intergenerational program included craft tables and edible treats. Musician Allie Braley led the group in Thanksgiving songs in Hebrew and English, and Director of Congregational Learning at Agudas Achim, Samantha Mazuz, read a new PJ Library Thanksgiving book. The children and seniors bonded and enjoyed a morning full of gratitude and fun, a perfect prelude to the Thanksgiving week.

WINTER WONDERLAND SA STYLE
TASA Students weren’t about to let a rare “snow” day on December 8 pass them by.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND CEO VISITS AGUDAS ACHIM
Congregation Agudas Achim was honored to host Russell Robinson, CEO of the Jewish National Fund, and rated one of the top 50 Most Influential Jews by the Jerusalem Post, for an informative and inspirational night. Robinson taught those who attended about the work JNF is doing throughout Israel today to make a positive impact and difference in the Jewish Homeland.

RODFEI GIVES BACK ON THANKSGIVING DAY
Congregation Rodfei Sholom continued its annual tradition of providing Thanksgiving meals to our community’s first responders. For more information on Congregation Rodfei Sholom community service projects and other programs, call (210) 493-3558.

TEMPLE BETH-EL HONORED AT URJ BIENNIAL FOR INCLUSION PROGRAMS
At the Union for Reform Judaism's Biennial Convention in Boston in December, Temple Beth-El was recognized as a URJ Disabilities Inclusion Exemplar Congregation. The URJ and the Ruderman Family Foundation held an Exemplar Congregation Breakfast at the Biennial, in which the Temple Beth-El delegation was presented with a certificate.

Suzanne Karfiol (above) is Temple Beth-El Religious School’s Inclusion Specialist, and a key member of the school staff.

BETH-EL CONFIRMATION RETREAT
Temple Beth-El confirmation students, pictured with Rabbi Marina Yergin, held their Confirmation Class retreat at Camp Young Judaea from December 1-3.

MULTI-GENERATIONAL THANKSGIVING AT HEINTZ PRESCHOOL
Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim celebrated Thanksgiving with all generations through their Yad B’Yad Intergenerational Program thanks to a generous grant from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. The entire school hosted a Thanksgiving themed morning for Jewish seniors that started with celebrating Shabbat and then included, yoga, arts and crafts, and snacks.

RODFEI GUEST LECTURER DISCUSSES COUNTER TERRORISM
Steve Gar (pictured on right with Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg) was the latest speaker from the Congregation Rodfei Sholom Lecture Series, Gar gave an insightful talk on Counter Terrorism and understanding the Israeli Counter terrorism from a personal perspective as well as challenging the media perception of the Israeli Military. Contact Rodfei Sholom for more information on upcoming speakers from the Lecture Series.

MEN’S NIGHT OUT
Agudas Achim Men’s Club & Jew Boys Night Out watched the Cowboys vs Redskins football game while enjoying hamburgers, hotdogs, beer and lots of great schmoozing and bonding together.
WHAT’S HAPPENING: HANUKKAH

HANUKKAH AT CHABAD HEBREW SCHOOL

Students at Chabad Hebrew School enjoyed wiring electric Menorahs, peeling potatoes and frying latkes, Hanukkah games and decorating their own Menorahs. For more information please visit www.ChabadSA.com/HebrewSchool or call Rochel Teldon at (210) 764-0300.

AGUDAS ACHIM HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS

Congregation Agudas Achim celebrated Hanukkah in full force throughout the holiday. Agudas began with Story Time at Barnes & Noble led by Rabbi Abraham, Hands on Hanukkah at Vineyard Whole Foods, Hanukkah Hullabaloo with a circus themed evening which included balloon artists, face painters and a stilts walker, and a performance by the Heintz Preschool and Inda Posner Religious School, sponsored by Camp Young Judea, and as well as Donuts and Dreidels at Shipley Do-Nuts to round out the holiday.

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FOR HOPE FOR HUMANITY
Holocaust Memorial Museum Benefit

MARCH 7, 2018
6:00 P.M.

Witte Museum – The Mays Family Center
Honorary Event Chairs
Linda & Phil Hardberger | Rene & Marty Woodler

Keynote Speaker
Jennifer Teege
“A Black Woman Discovers Her Family’s Nazi Past”

For Sponsorship Opportunities
Ronit Sherwin: 210-302-6961

For More Information
Ellen Olicrudez: 210-302-6962

“One Spring” (1964) Robert Bodek and Kurt Conrad Loew
WHAT'S HAPPENING: HANUKKAH

CHOCOLATE GELT DROP
Close to 120 children enjoyed an afternoon with a Chocolate Gelt Factory & Chanukah Gelt Drop with help from the San Antonio Fire Department on Dec. 3 at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. The next cKids event is on Sunday, Feb. 4 and will feature a Junior Babkallah Bake. For more information, visit www.ChabadSA.com/cKids.

HANUKKAH TIME FOR LITTLEST LEARNERS
Children from the JCC Block and Dreeben School for Young Children learning about Hanukkah.

MAX & LOUIE'S NEW YORK DINER
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Big Salads. Stacked Sandwiches.
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(Next to the Embassy Movie Theater)
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WHAT’S HAPPENING: HANUKKAH

HANDS ON CHANUKAH AT BARSHOP JCC WITH PJ LIBRARY

The Barshop JCC presented their annual Hands on Chanukah event partnering with PJ Library. The event was free with support from the Jewish Federation of San Antonio. Over 200 community members had the opportunity to begin celebrating Hanukkah early as they indulged in their first potato latke. Children of all ages participated in a variety of activities including dying wax Hanukkah candles, bean bag latke flipping, edible dreidel making, several games including Hanukkah Memory, and making cards for families and Jewish Family Service. New to the event this year was an interactive game of Pin the Flame on the Menorah (pictured above) and a giant menorah that was decorated with loose parts and art supplies and placed on display at the Jewish Campus.

*Editor’s Note: In Hebrew, the word for Hanukkah is not easily transliterated into English. That’s why there are so many spelling variations. The Jewish Journal uses the spelling “Hanukkah” unless official events use a different spelling in their titles.

TELL ME A STORY!

Gan Gani Preschool students are treated to an interactive Hanukkah drama experience with Miss Jesse. For more information, call Rivkie Block at (210) 492-1085 or visit www.GanGani.org.

SUNSHINE CLUB HANUKKAH

Fifty seniors enjoyed the December Sunshine Club luncheon at the Chabad Center for Jewish Life & Learning. The Sunshine Club is a grant recipient of San Antonio Jewish Senior Services. For upcoming luncheons, call (210) 764-0300 or visit www.ChabadSA.com/SunshineClub.

“THE ULTIMATE MISSION TO ISRAEL” SPECIAL MOSSAD EDITION

Presentation by: Anita Kegley

Trip Dec 4-11, 2017
Hosted by Shurat Hadin, Israel Law Center

Construction Zone Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Dominion Country Club
January 18th, 2017, 7:30am

Reservation Required
210 349-4994, KEGLEY, Inc.
Temple Chai welcomes third Torah scroll

Temple Chai, now in its thirteenth year, has received the long-term loan of another Torah scroll from San Antonio Jewish Senior Services, formerly Golden Manor. This Torah scroll joins two others in the congregation’s ark, one of which was an earlier loan from SAJSS. SAJSS is a deeply-rooted organization with a new name and focus, directing resources to aid Jewish people in San Antonio who can look back with pride on what they’ve achieved and rely on SAJSS to bring aid and comfort during their second-half. Temple Chai is a reform congregation, now coming of age as a Bar/Bat Mitzvah and growing into adulthood, taking on bigger responsibilities and projects. “Like a grandchild who is nurtured by a loving grandparent, Temple Chai is indebted to San Antonio Jewish Senior Services for standing with it through its earliest years and helping it to become self-sufficient,” said Temple Chai Rabbi David Komorofsky.

Temple Chai and SAJSS share several past presidents, including Temple Chai founders Jimmy Toubin and Dr. Elliot Weser. Temple Chai unrolled the new scroll as part of its Simchat Torah celebration, and is using it this year for the weekly Torah reading.

NCJW gives party dresses — and hope — to young women

With support from National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), 30 young women attended a Christmas party on December 14 decked out in beautiful party dresses, high heels, satin evening bags and sparkly jewelry. In November, the teens from Seton Home, George Gervin Center and the Hector Garza residential treatment program “shopped” at the NCJW Christmas Party Closet, where members helped them select the perfect outfit for the holiday event. “In addition to generous clothing donations from our members, we were able to purchase a wonderful variety of evening wear and accessories at the Agudas Achim sisterhood rummage sale. We are grateful to sisterhood for setting aside a wonderful variety of evening wear for us to purchase for this event” said Lee Markman, who chairs the NCJW Transitions project. NCJW volunteers Danna Halff, Courtney Silver, Janet Neunschwander, Dee Carduner, Linda Nevelow, Joyce Sheiness and Lee Markman helped the teens choose their dresses and accessories. Cindy Rodriguez and her daughters helped the young women with their make-up for the Christmas party at Sunset Station, while stylists from Julie and Company hair salon did the girls’ hair.

The Christmas Party Closet is an annual event of the NCJW Transitions Project, which involves members mentoring and offering practical information and guidance to young people aging out of foster care. Anyone interested in this project or any other NCJW activities can contact membership chair Linda Levy at (210) 340-5174 or llevy@satx.rr.com.
Temple Beth-El will host a Mystical Tu B’Shevat seder on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m.

Tu B’Shevat is the New Year of the Trees, the moment of ascent from the depth of winter into a new life of spring time renewal and growth. It is a celebration of the gifts of nature, our responsibility to the earth, and to sustainability. A Tu B’Shevat seder, like a Passover seder, follows a specific order. It is divided into four parts, representing the four worlds of the mystics.

As in the Passover seder, we drink four cups of wine, each cup here changing color to correspond to the changing seasons. Unique to the Tu B’Shevat seder is the ritual consumption of fifteen types of fruits and nuts, with special significance for the first three of the four worlds. According to the Jewish mystical tradition of kabbalah, the four worlds are: Assiyah (action—our world of physical reality), Y’etzirah (formation), Bri’ah (creation), and Atzilut (emanation).

The cost for the seder is $5 per person; your payment is your reservation. Reserve online at tinyurl.com/y8d4lurx or by calling Dollie Closna at (210) 733-9135, ext. 126.

BBYO brings teens together for Hanukkah/Global Shabbat celebration

By Kelsey Bradshaw, Advisor to San Antonio BBYO’s girls Chapter, Sababa

Latkes, brisket, and Shabbat candles brought dozens of Jewish teens from San Antonio’s BBYO chapters together December 8 for a mega-event, combining Hanukkah, Shabbat, and a gift exchange. The night marked BBYO’S Global Shabbat event where Jewish teens all over the planet celebrated Shabbat together. Although Hanukkah was a few days away, the event served as a potluck for the holiday and everyone exchanged fun gifts.

“It was amazing to come together as a whole community with my Jewish brothers and sisters to celebrate the holiday that is typically overshadowed by Christmas, but is at least eight times more fun!” said Neely Kasanoff, who helped plan the event. “The Hanukkah party was a fantastic bonding experience and way to kick off the holiday season!”

If you would like to find out more about BBYO or other citywide Jewish Teen programs, contact Devin Billstein, BBYO City Director, at (210) 302-6869 or billstein@jcc-sa.org.

B E F O R E  T H E  L O N E  S T A R  S T A T E!

Join Hadassah’s Aviva Group & the women of Jewish Federation for lunch as we welcome young leaders from Budapest to San Antonio!

Thursday, January 11, 2018
Green Vegetarian at the Pearl
12-1pm

For more information contact Eva Laporte, Director of Women’s Philanthropy & Young Adult Division laportee@jfsatx.org | 210.302.6965
Heintz Preschool’s 15th Annual Movie Night

Heintz Preschool of Congregation Agudas Achim will be hosting its 15th annual Movie Night on Sunday, Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. with a viewing of Disney’s Moana. The movie night, where all are encouraged to wear pajamas will also include arts and crafts related to the film. This is on top of pizza, popcorn, cotton candy and other snacks which are also included. Dairy free or gluten free options are available with advance notice. The cost is $10 for individuals 12 and up and $5 for those 11 and under.

“We are so excited to host not only Heintz Preschool students and their families, but the entire community for this fun filled movie night extravaganza!” said Heintz Preschool Director Taryn Bretado.

For more information on Heintz Preschool’s programming, including Winter Camp and Movie Night, contact Preschool Director Taryn Bretado at (210) 479-0429 or t.bretado@agudas-achim.org.

CAA raises funds for SAUSY youth group at Brews & Schmooze event

Congregation Agudas Achim will host a Brews and Schmooze for all ages at Big’z Burger Joint on January 11, from 5 to 8 p.m. This event is open to the entire Jewish Community. A portion of the proceeds from each meal will benefit SAUSY, San Antonio’s United Synagogue Youth chapter (pictured). In addition to beef burgers, fish sandwiches and veggie burgers will be available.

United Synagogue Youth (USY) is an International Conservative Movement Youth Group for teenagers from 6th through 12th grades. The local chapter in San Antonio recently won the Regional Chapter of the Year for the Southwest Region.

Funds raised from this event will help the local San Antonio chapter with events and scholarships for members to attend conferences. No reservations are required. For more information on the fundraiser or joining USY, Contact Youth Director Eric Steitz at usy.advisor@agudas-achim.org or Youth Advisor Jessica Peden at j.peden@agudas-achim.org.

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

el Jarro de Arturo / 2x2 units (4 units)
Jewish Journal - January 2010 - v.1

IN THE COMMUNITY: YOUTH

Tu B’Shevat at Barshop JCC

As a continuation of the holiday-inspired Hands On series, the Barshop Jewish Community Center will host Hands on Tu B’Shevat Tuesday, Jan. 30 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The event will feature arts and crafts activities, story time, holiday-specific snacks, and an opportunity for families to celebrate Tu B’Shevat, (commonly referred to as the birthday of the trees) together.

Families with children of all ages are welcome to attend. The event is free and open to the community, although reservations are appreciated. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Rachel Rustin at rustinr@jcc-sa.org or (210) 302-6969.

Additional information about holiday and family events taking place at the JCC may be found online at www.jccsanantonio.org/family.

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A neighborhood tradition for over 30 years.

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Jewish Journal - January 2010 - v.1
TASA presents Living Historical Museum at Thanksgiving Breakfast

Torah Academy of San Antonio held their second annual Pancake Breakfast for grandparents & special friends in honor of Thanksgiving. Together with other grade level performances, third and fourth grade students presented a Living Museum, featuring modern and historic famous Jewish men and women. The third and fourth graders served as “living museum” exhibits, presenting the stories, achievements and contributions of notable Jews -- both from recent and historical times. The roving exhibits were a high point of the day’s program.

Other presentations included poetry perspectives on the original Thanksgiving meal, and a multilingual multimedia presentation by the middle school students on Thanksgiving and “Hakarat HaTov”, thankfulness.

TASA MIDDLE SCHOOL & HEINTZ PRESCHOOL CELEBRATION HANUKKAH TOGETHER

Torah Academy of San Antonio 7th and 8th grade students joined the Redbird and Bluebird classes at Heintz Preschool for some pre-Hanukkah activities including a morning of PJ Library Hanukkah stories. The children and their Book Buddies also decorated PJ Library picture frames with Hanukkah stickers, and made a Shamash candle snack, dipping giant pretzel sticks in white chocolate and sprinkles topped with a candy corn “flame” for an edible shamash treat.
Barshop JCC Jewish Film Festival returns February

The Barshop JCC’s 17th annual Jewish Film Festival returns February 17-21 at Santikos Palladium IMAX. The line-up includes fourteen films at eleven screenings.

“The Festival is book-ended with two extraordinary films,” said Alan Petlin, Co-chair of the event along with Susan Blumenthal. The Hungarian drama 1945 will open the Festival Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m., and the Festival will close with the drama A Quiet Heart Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

In between, the Festival will present a variety of documentaries, short films, and feature length films, including Alone in Berlin, starring Emma Thompson and Brendan Gleeson, Sunday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Two films appropriate for children ages ten and up will also be featured Sunday and Monday at 2 p.m. both days. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning Thursday, Jan. 4 online or by calling the JCC at (210) 302-6820. Individual tickets are $15 for opening night, $10 for all other screenings, and $5 for children under 18. A Film Pack for $105, which includes one admission to each screening, will also be available. All tickets will include reserved seating.

Complete information with links to online purchasing is available at jccsanantonio.org/filmfestival.

Texas Jewish Historical Society to meet in Gonzales

One might ask, “Where is Gonzales, Texas?” Also, “Why would a society of Texas Jews want to meet there?” Gonzales is located along Hwy. 90 near Interstate 10. It is perhaps best known as the site where in 1835, the “first shot for Texas liberty was fired.” There is also a significant amount of early Jewish history here, with two Jewish cemeteries, one dating from 1861, although there was no synagogue. A couple of the most colorful and well-known characters of the Texas Revolution were here, and happened to be Jewish.

The community is invited to join members of the TJHS from January 12-14, as Jewish history is presented in interesting and sometimes surprising ways, including cemetery visits where ghostly “inhabitants” might appear. Participants will also hear about the Jewish man who escaped the fighting at the Alamo, not generally considered a hero, but perhaps the smartest man there, who could predict the outcome based on previous battle experience in Europe. Learn about another Jew from Holland who started the fledgling Texas Navy and wrote of his miraculous battle survivals.

Meet former Jewish residents who grew up in Gonzales and hear about their formative years here. There are also hints of Crypto-Jewish families who were inhabitants, perhaps drawn to the area because of the Portuguese-spelled name of the town. Tour the history museum, the unique jail museum, and see homes of former Jewish residents.

For more information, contact Barbara Rosenberg at bcr219@aol.com or fill out the membership registration form, accessible online at the TJHS website, www.txjhs.org.

Texas Jewish Historical Society

For more information, contact Barbara Rosenberg at bcr219@aol.com or fill out the membership registration form, accessible online at the TJHS website, www.txjhs.org.
Steampunk Hamlet coming to Vex Theatre

A steampunk adaptation of William Shakespeare’s Hamlet, directed by Ken Frazier, opens next month at The Sheldon Vexler Theatre.

Patrons have pondered what is meant by a “steampunk version” of the Middle Ages-set piece. Steampunk is a genre, artistic endeavor, or inspired movement of creativity and imagination with its foundation in Victorian England or America’s Wild West. It is, however, an “alternative-world” or “alternative-history.” Simply put, it re-invents a possible history. The “steam” portion of the term comes from the technology and aesthetic designs inspired by 19th-century industrial steam-powered machinery. The “punk” portion comes from going against convention.

The story remains the same – Hamlet’s father has died. Learning of his family’s tragedy, the prince comes home to find his uncle married to his mother and installed on the Danish throne. Consumed by grief, Hamlet struggles aboard the airship Elsinore to exact revenge with devastating consequences.

The show runs February 10 to March 4, with performances Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $23-15, and may be purchased beginning January 10 online at www.vexler.org/hamlet, by calling the Vex Box Office at (210) 302-6835, or in person at the Barshop JCC.

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services names new Executive Director

The Board of Directors of San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS) has hired Stacey Kline Schwartz as the agency’s new Executive Director. Schwartz and her family have deep roots in San Antonio. She comes to SAJSS from LiftFund, the largest nonprofit micro lender in the country, where she was Executive Vice President for Advancement. Her professional experience includes key positions in both for-profit and nonprofit organizations, including Director of Women’s Philanthropy at the Jewish Federation of San Antonio, Director of Development for KIPP San Antonio Public Schools, Regional Marketing Manager for the Medical Education Network in New York City, a medical sales rep for MURO Pharmaceutical, and Communications Associate for the Jewish Community Federation in Cleveland, OH.

“We are extremely confident in Stacey’s ability to expand on programs and services that enrich the lives of San Antonio Jewish seniors,” said Suzanne Huber, president of SAJSS’ Board of Directors. “The Board thanks Mike Kelne, who has been SAJSS’ interim executive director since July 1,” Huber said. “He has made several significant contributions to the agency’s growth and well-being, and we’re glad that he will be assisting Stacey as she steps into her new role.”

Jewish kids music now available on PJ Library Radio

PJ Library now has an app featuring musical artists for kids. To download the app on your smart phone, visit the app store and look for PJ Library Radio. You can also log on by visiting www.pjlibraryradio.com.
SAJSS welcomes Information & Referral Program Manager

San Antonio Jewish Senior Services has hired Danielle Roberts as its new Compass Information & Referral Program Manager. Roberts joins SAJSS with over 20 years of experience in business administration, data and project management, and event coordination. Her non-profit experience began in 2007 working with the Medicare population and CMS compliance in New York City. This experience enabled her to learn more about senior health care and the struggles that seniors, their families, and caregivers face due to various gaps in the system.

Danielle gained additional non-profit experience and a strong connection to our San Antonio Jewish community through her service with the Jewish Federation of San Antonio over the past 6 years. She says she has a passion for learning and for working to ensure that people have access to resources they need to maintain a good quality of life.

Her role will be to develop and grow the Compass I & R Program as a resource for San Antonio Jewish seniors.

A Great (Tu B’Shevat) Day at the Garden

The San Antonio Jewish community is invited to a free intergenerational program at the San Antonio Botanical Garden on January 21, from 12:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m. Activities and art stations, a taste & smell station, and interactive entertainment will take place in the new Discovery Complex. Guests can have lunch with a view, and also explore the brand new 8-acre addition to the garden as part of their free admission.

San Antonio Jewish Senior Service’s Caring Community committee, a collaboration of area congregations and organizations that includes San Antonio Jewish Senior Services (SAJSS), Congregation Agudas Achim, Chabad Center for Jewish Life and Learning, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Temple Beth-El, Congregation Beth Am, PJ Library, Heintz Preschool and Hebrew Free Loan of San Antonio, is organizing the event to tie into Tu B’Shevat celebrations.

The number of free admissions is limited, so an RSVP is a must to reserve your entry. Register at: gardengreatday.paperform.co.

For more information, call Mindy Cohen, SAJSS Program Director, at (210) 616-4811.

TRIBUTE BOOK ADVERTISING

Full Page - $500 1/4 Page - $180
5” wide by 8” tall 2.3” wide by 4” tall

Half Page - $300 1/8 Page - $100
5” wide by 4” tall 2.5” wide by 2” tall

Press ready ads must be submitted as a high quality PDF to hmmsattribution@jfsatx.org

For $36 you may purchase a tribute that honors the memory of a victim and/or survivor of the Holocaust.

Make a tribute honoring, Maxine Cohen as we launch the first, Maxine Cohen Educator Award.

Please consider a tribute to our Honorary Event Chairs, Linda & Phil Hardberger, Rene & Marty Wender.

The deadline to submit ad artwork is Friday, February 2nd, 2018.

Ads that are unpaid will not be published.

The Holocaust Museum is a special program of: 210.302.6960 | HMMSA.ORG

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THE JEWISH JOURNAL  A publication of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio  JANUARY 2018 25
Chairs Margaret Gofman Klein and Elisa Reinsmith welcomed the crowd to the event at the Campus of the Jewish Community and shared a message of the impact women make in San Antonio.

Families in need were nominated by Chabad, Congregation Agudas Achim, Congregation Rodfei Sholom, Jewish Family Service, Ohr Lanu Foundation, San Antonio Jewish Senior Services, Temple Beth-El, and Temple Chai. Women purchased gifts, supplies, and gift cards for the families.

At the event, guests mingled and enjoyed food and wine while they shopped vendors in the Holiday Market. Women bid in an auction worth more than $10,000, all proceeds benefiting the families. The Women’s Philanthropy Board, 2017 Shower Committee, and volunteers helped distribute the gifts to families through the congregations and agencies.

Another Women’s Philanthropy volunteer event will take place in February in collaboration with Morgan’s Wonderland and Academy. For more information on the Women’s Division and volunteer opportunities, contact Eva Laporte, Director of Women’s Philanthropy & Young Adult Division laporte@jfsatx.org (or (210) 302-6965).

Gary S. Gossen, M.D., F.A.C.G.
Diplomate of the Board of Internal Medicine
Diplomate of the Board of Gastroenterology
Fellow of The American College of Gastroenterology

Gastroenterology Clinic of San Antonio, P.A.
8550 Datapoint Dr. Suite 200
San Antonio, TX 78229
210-615-8308
Fax: 210-615-8313

Practice limited to Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Please visit our website at drgossen.com

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FROM THE COVER
the treasure we have in our Jewish heritage, wiser by connecting with amazing teachers and bonding with women who have opened their hearts and became special friends; and stronger by stepping outside of my comfort zone to discover unknown courage that flourished and allowed me to face life from a new perspective.”

Dubbed as Birth Right for Moms, JWRP trips aim to educate and inspire mothers to reinvigorate their families and communities with a renewed sense of their Judaism and love of Israel. Traveling through Tsfat, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and visiting Masada and the Dead Sea, every stop on the itinerary came with a seminar on developing Jewish identity, Jewish parenting or Israel advocacy. Participant Elizabeth Glazier describes “The JWRP trip was more than an opportunity to meet amazing women from all over the world, or was more than a sightseeing trip, it was more than any of us could have imagined. It was a mission to remind us that as Jewish women have done for thousands of years before us, we have the power to inspire others, to enhance our lives of those around us by instilling Jewish values in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and in our communities. It was also a trip to reestablish our love of Israel and to be touched by the spirit and optimism of the Israeli people.”

“The JWRP Momentum trip was an incredible gift to myself and my family. Through my first trip to Israel, I received the gift of connection; connection to a deeper understanding of Judaism, connection to amazing women from San Antonio and all over the world, and connection to the land of Israel itself” Temple Beth-El member Cindy Berman explains.

United with four hundred Jewish women from around the world, the San Antonio group spent Shabbat singing, dancing and praying at the Kotel, enjoyed home hospitality with an Israeli family and singing Havdala on a beautiful rooftop overlooking the old city of Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. Even with the gorgeous scenery and touring, Temple Beth El member Tory Richmond says, “what may have been most impactful for me was how women from all over the world knew and sang the same Hebrew songs. Many of us spoke different languages and weren’t able to communicate, but we were able to connect through Hebrew song and dance.

JWRP also offers men’s trips. For more information on upcoming trips for men and women, or to hear more from any of this year’s participants or group leader Michal Scheinberg, please contact the Rodfei office at (210) 439-3558.
Help us celebrate the deep impact that the Jewish community has had on the city of San Antonio throughout the years!

Join us as we mark the 70th Anniversary of the State of Israel with an Israeli shuk style street fair, live entertainment, kids activities, kosher food vendors and displays highlighting the rich history of the San Antonio Jewish community!

Mayor Ron Nirenberg, Shindig Grand Marshal

For more information contact Tricentennial@jfsatx.org

Shindig Partner Organizations
Alamo Brandeis Lodge B’nai B’rith
Barshop Jewish Community Center
Chabad Center
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Congregation Rodfei Sholom
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