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Your Guide to Purim 5774!

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your source for local and global Jewish news

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Plant Trees, Not Lies

On a cool and blustery Sunday morning in January, a group of us gathered— Jews and non-Jews, young and old— at South Natomas Park to plant a tree to honor Sacramento's newest Sister City, Ashkelon, Israel. The City has developed a friendship garden and each of Sacramento's Sister Cities has planted trees native to their region. It was Tu B'Shvat, the Jewish New Year of Trees. There is something lovely and perhaps a touch quaint about a holiday that honors living things with which we share this world. It is a holiday that harkens back to a time, not so long ago, when we more clearly understood that the life cycle of plants and the life cycle of people were inextricably bound up with one another.

The tree we planted was a flowering almond, which is native to the Middle East and grows in the lowland valleys of Israel. Like many of the trees that are native to that part of the world, it is small and tough and lives a long time. It is lavishly covered with delicate pink blossoms in the spring and yet can endure the heat of the summer. With age it grows gnarled and thick, yet it continues to flower magnificently each spring.

Sadly, but not surprisingly, there were protesters from a shadowy anti-Israel group affiliated with the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) movement. Planting trees, they claimed, was an offense to the Palestinians. They wrote anonymous email messages to members of the City Council attacking the tree planting as a provocation against the rights of Arab people. They even denounced the fact that the tree was being planted on Tu B'Shvat as evidence that it was part of a broader Zionist conspiracy. That such an innocent and friendly act, fully in keeping with the peaceful mission of the Sister City Program, could be offensive to anyone would be laughable were it not for the fact that it revealed the deeper intentions of the BDS movement.

You see, the point of the BDS movement is to turn everything good about Israel into evil. Thus, planting a tree in a park in Sacramento is reminiscent of the massive

reforestation projects that Israel has undertaken since 1948 which, according to the BDS movement, are somehow just an effort to cover up crimes against Palestinians. Israel's selfless aid to countries— like Haiti— facing emergencies is just a cover-up for the secret harvesting of body parts. Israel's tolerance of gay rights is characterized as "pink washing." Even Israel's program to tag endangered migratory birds is described as an effort to send specially trained spy birds into Arab lands. And, of course, the greatest and most repugnant lie of all: Israelis are the "new" Nazis.

While these anti-Semitic statements are, indeed, quite absurd, we of all people should know that if you repeat a lie often enough, people begin to believe it. Millions of people around the world believe these things about Israel and the Jewish people because they are told it is the truth over and over and over again. Some of them live right here in Sacramento.

We need to fight these lies before they take hold. We need to plant more almond trees in more friendship gardens and make sure they grow old and stand as living proof of the simple good will of people and the enduring beauty of G-d's creation.



Barry Broad is the President of the Jewish Federation.

The **BIG** Event

NOT FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY

At the Federation's Big Event on February 1st, 80 community members came together for food, fun, and friends at the California Automobile Museum. What they left with was all of this coupled with a new understanding of what can be accomplished with commitment, determination, and dedication to the Jewish community.

For the past few years, we have been working steadily and diligently to lead the Federation down a new road. We have transformed our own landscape and it has started to impact the community. Children are provided Jewish connections and education; teens are given the opportunity to visit the Land of Israel; families are ensured food on their tables; individuals in need of support or an open ear can call on us; seniors are honored and celebrated. No one is left behind.

The truth is, Federation's "Big Event" wasn't just one night. The Big Event took place when we sent a check for membership dues to The Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, officially bringing back Jewish Family Service to our community. The Big Event took place this past November when we officially assumed ownership of our new home for the community at 21st and V Streets and seeing our first PJ Library Playgroup take place there.

On February 1st, The Big Event was hearing the reactions to the 2014 Annual Campaign video and seeing the results of sharing our story simply and profoundly. That night, we raised over \$75,000, bringing us to nearly half of our 2014 Annual Campaign goal. This sent a strong message that the work we do is good and the work we do is important.

Let's imagine what the next Big Event can be. Perhaps a full-time Social Worker? The creation of, dare I say, a mini-JCC on 21st Street? The ability to increase our allocations to Shalom School or Hillel? Bringing back this newspaper bimonthly or monthly?

We've proven that together we can accomplish the extraordinary and I'm excited to see what's down the road. With a few more leaders, volunteers, and dollars, I know we will have Big Event after Big Event.

To view our 2014 Annual Campaign video, visit www.jewishsac.org.

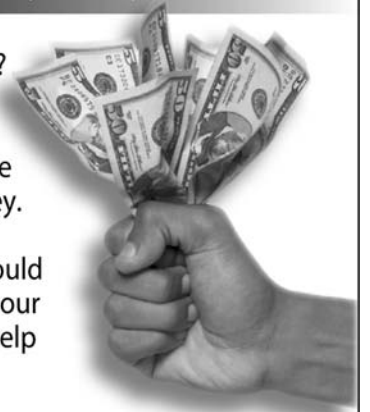


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Finding Our Way, No Matter How Long the Road

This month marks my four-year anniversary with Federation. The road to becoming a Jewish communal professional has been a long and winding one. But then again, every road I've travelled on has been long and winding because— full disclosure moment— I am directionally challenged. I'm not just talking about poor instincts; I'm talking about a lifetime of getting lost so often and in so many places that my mantra is, "I'm always on my way to getting lost."

We didn't have a family car until I was 16 and started driving myself. Those were the days when you wrote directions down in longhand: make a left at the Texaco gas station, go three blocks, then make a right at Chase Manhattan Bank, go under the "el" ("elevated" train), and your destination will be on your right.

When I moved back home after college, my friends lived in every New York City borough, which means I essentially did also. That's when I started keeping a Rolodex of sorts in my glove compartment for reference. No matter how many times I drove to Brooklyn or Staten Island or Queens— and trust me, it was often— I couldn't get there without my trusty,

albeit, dog-eared, 2x2" cheat sheet. (I will admit there was one time when getting lost really worked in my favor. I was driving to Brooklyn, ended up in Manhattan, and stumbled across Simon and Garfunkel's free concert in Central Park!)

My skill at getting lost was not confined to New York. I went to graduate school in Richmond, Virginia and worked as the Communications Director for a non-profit organization. I was scheduled to attend a conference in Washington so being that this was still pre-MapQuest and cell phones, I wrote down the directions, made sure I had a full tank of gas and plenty of change in the ashtray, and headed out like a soldier going into battle. The short story is, I drove around the Washington beltway (a roundabout) about 10 times unable to find my exit. All I could find was I-95 South and I knew that was my ticket home. Five hours after my departure, much of it going around in circles, I was finally home (and certainly marked "absent" from the conference).

When I moved out here, history repeated itself. I worked as the Communications Director for another non-profit and was heading to a conference in San Francisco. Let's just say I somehow racked up \$19 in tolls and leave it at that. The story was (and still is) legendary among my former colleagues.

These days, life is so easy. You see, there's this woman who talks to me (my children and I have named her Gertrude

or Gertie) and tells me with uncanny precision where I need to go, how long before I need to turn, whether there will be traffic, and— wait for it— if I mess up, she reroutes me! Now my mantra is, "Listen to Gertie— no matter what!"

All of this is to say that life— and being a Jewish communal professional— does not come with a GPS system. Deciding what is best for the community often is like travelling on a long and winding road. Sometimes we reach our destination without getting lost; other times we need to be rerouted. But as long as we keep our eyes on the prize (and the road), we will always arrive safely.



Elissa Provance is the Assistant Director of the Jewish Federation and Managing Editor of the VOICE.

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Volunteers Help Create a Caring Community

As we look forward to the next phase of work at Jewish Family Service (JFS), we find that one of our greatest needs lies with seniors, particularly isolated seniors within the greater community. As the Community Social Worker, I come into contact with many seniors who live alone and have few to no family or friends to help them with basic needs such as transportation to the grocery store or doctor visits. Many do not have anyone to talk to or to visit with them, leaving them without significant human interaction for days or weeks at a time. Many are unable to leave their homes to attend Shabbat services or for social interaction.

Recently, the number of referrals JFS has received for seniors in need has increased significantly. I have been fortunate enough to visit with a few individuals and couples, but recognize that a constant presence is what's needed in their lives. Whether it

is a friendly telephone call once or twice a week or having someone visit them regularly, these actions can go a long way in creating a caring community. The individuals I have had the pleasure to work with have brightened my day each time I speak to them or visit with them. It is also a satisfying feeling to see a smile on their face and to hear how grateful they are for a visit or telephone call.

To reach even more seniors, JFS is creating a Volunteer Corps. Some community members responded to our JFS survey several months ago and indicated their interest in volunteering. It really is a great way to get involved with the community in a meaningful way. Volunteers can be involved as much or as little as they want, and no matter the level of involvement, they can feel good about making a difference in a senior's life. We are currently recruiting to help with tasks such as making regular telephone calls to check in on individuals; visiting individuals in their homes; driving individuals to do errands, doctor appointments or to Leisure League senior programs; delivering food; and making

Shabbat with homebound individuals. JFS will provide training and support for interested volunteers.

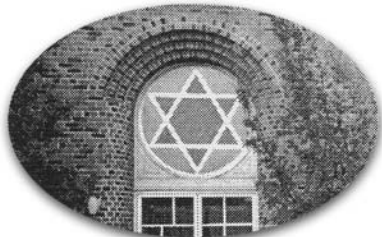
Trainings are at the Federation office, 2130 21st St., Sacramento, on March 26, 2014 at 10:00am or April 2, 2014 at 7:00pm. To sign up, or for more information, contact Elissa Provance at eprovince@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 304.



Alicia Mittleman, LCSW, is Federation's Community Social Worker.

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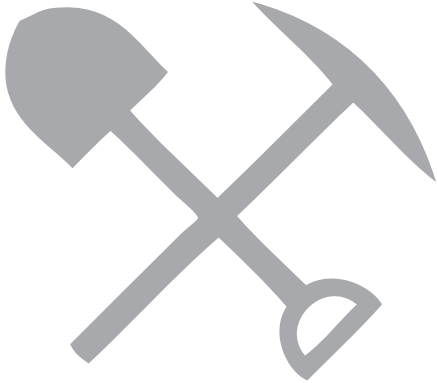
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Folsom Museum Features Jews of the Gold Rush



When genealogist Victoria Fisch moved to Folsom in 2004, she knew nothing about the Jewish pioneers who participated in the Gold Rush. Then Avotaynu, a publisher of genealogical materials, gave her an assignment to write a book chapter about that period.

“I went online and bought every book on the subject,” said Fisch, Northern California Editor of *Western States Jewish History* journal. “I was blown away when I realized the extent of a Jewish presence in the Gold Rush mining regions, and the eventual influence of these immigrants on the economic, social, and civic life of the region. Even native Sacramento Jews and non-Jews are not very aware of this history.”

Fisch became so captivated by the subject that she continued her research after completing her assignment, noting, “It became my mission to publicize this period.”

Well, mission accomplished. *Pioneer Jews of the Gold Rush* will be on display at the Folsom History Museum, where Fisch is the Assistant to the Director, from April 12-May 18, 2014.

While the history of successful Jews who came early to San Francisco has been

well-documented, this exhibit focuses on those whom Fisch calls, “the little guys,” who started by peddling in the outlying mining camps— as far north as Downieville, Yreka, and even Arcata on the Humboldt County coast— and were part of Jewish communities that helped to build California. Synagogue buildings were erected in two Gold Country towns in addition to Sacramento and Stockton, and in other areas, congregations met in homes or rented halls. Pioneer Jewish cemeteries established before 1865 include Mokelumne Hill, Jackson, Placerville, Marysville, Nevada City, Grass Valley, and Sonora, now under the trusteeship of the Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries and Landmarks of the West.

Also of significance to Fisch is where these Jews came from and why they succeeded. Although some histories emphasize German nativity, newspapers of the day seem to confirm that immigrants from what had been Poland and became Posen, a province of Prussia, outnumbered the German Jewish settlers during the earliest years of the Gold Rush. European Jews served the mining communities as merchants, tailors, butchers, retailers, and wholesalers. Fisch explained that Jewish ethics,

An 1856 advertisement for Goldstone, Friedlander & Co. The ad is framed and contains the following text:

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Shasta, May 3, 1856. my3H

An 1856 ad for Goldstone, Friedlander & Co. as it appeared in a Shasta newspaper.

which emphasize fair trading, honesty, benevolence, and contributing to society, did much to assure that for the most part, Jewish businessmen were well-respected within the greater population. Coupled with the lack of discrimination in those early days, Jewish entrepreneurs achieved great success.

Notable individuals include August Jacoby, who was instrumental in building roads in Arcata to help merchants transport goods and was active in the civic life of that northern coastal town, and Simon Foorman, who established the water system in Mokelumne Hill. Philip Cohn of Folsom became a State Senator and is the namesake of the city's Cohn Mansion, and Albert Abraham Michelson, whose childhood was spent in Murphys and later Nevada City, became the first American to win a Nobel Prize in Science, awarded for his measurement of the speed of light.

The exhibit, which Fisch is curating with the assistance of Susan Morris, past Director of the Judah L. Magnes Museum, will display artifacts from the permanent collection of the Folsom History Museum as well as items loaned by descendants of Jewish pioneers, in addition to many never-before-seen photographs from the archives of *Western States Jewish History* journal.

Fisch explained, “The history of Jews in the United States was markedly different in the western states and territories. While California was inventing itself, the pioneer immigrant Jews experienced new freedoms that allowed them to become integrated into society. We hope this exhibit will give an overview of how this minority flourished and contributed to the growth of California. I think people may be surprised.”

Pioneer Jews of the Gold Rush runs from April 12-May 18, 2014 at the Folsom History Museum, 823 Sutter St., Folsom. Museum hours are 11:00am-4:00pm Tuesday-Sunday. For more information, contact 916-365-6106 or folsomhistory@gmail.com.

Former Nevada Congresswoman, Shelley Berkley, Appointed Head of Touro University's Western Division



Shelley Berkley

Former Congresswoman Shelley Berkley has stepped out of the halls of Congress and into the halls of academia, having been appointed to the position of CEO and Senior Provost of Touro University's Western Division, a system of non-profit institutions of higher and professional education based on Jewish values and established to address the needs of health care and education. Touro's Western Division includes Touro University California and Touro University Nevada. Berkley's first official day on the job, January 13, 2014, included a press conference in front of a near standing-room-only crowd of students, faculty, Touro Board members, administrators, and staff.

"This is truly a significant day for Touro University California as well as the Touro College system overall," remarked Dr. Alan Kadish, President and CEO of the Touro College and University System, adding

praise from Senators and Congressmen who described Berkley as the "hardest working person in Congress" and "an extraordinarily, talented individual."

Her predecessor, Dr. Michael Harter, recalled how he met his successor on February 7, 1995.

"The fact that I can remember the exact date suggests she made an incredible impression on me," he said. "She is a tireless, brilliant leader who will take Touro to the next level."

Before achieving a string of accomplishments, including being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998; representing Nevada's first Congressional District from 1999-2013 (and the first woman to do so); serving on the Nevada State System of Higher Education's Board of Regents; serving in the Nevada State Legislature; and sponsoring 114 pieces of legislation related to health care, Berkley began her life as the granddaughter of immigrants from Russia and Greece and the daughter of a waiter who quit school in the 9th grade to work at a Las Vegas hotel. She was the first in her family to attend college, graduating from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with a degree in political science, and the University of San Diego, School of Law, where she earned her Juris Doctorate.

"The fact that I am now the Senior Provost and CEO at this institution of higher learning whose mission it is to educate the next generation of teacher, doctors, nurses, and pharmacists, is nothing short of extraordinary," she said. "I know the value of a quality education. I am living proof of it."

Berkley plans to transform Touro from a "well-kept" secret (despite being named one of the top 10 graduate schools that turned out the most primary care physicians in 2012, according to *U.S. News*

& *World Report*) to having everybody know "who we are and what we do, which is create young professionals to do a mission and a job that is essential to our communities."

Splitting her time between the Las Vegas and Mare Island campuses, which have a combined student body population of 2,700, Berkley's initial strategies include meeting with the organized Jewish community and institutions and to increase donor support and endowments for the campuses, which include programs in Medical Health Sciences; Osteopathic Medicine; Global Health; Pharmacy; Public Health; Nursing; School Administration; Education; and Occupational and Physical Therapy as well as a strategic community service program. She also aims to double the size of the medical clinic on the Nevada campus to address the growing needs of seniors.

"I am anxious to create opportunities for people to become part of Touro in a meaningful way," she said. "You can't do that until you know about the programs. I want to educate people and raise the level of interest. I have to work harder to introduce Touro as a remarkable institution."

That the Touro system is steeped in Jewish values and traditions of "social justice, the pursuit of knowledge, and service to humanity" is not lost on Berkley.

"There was never a question that I would do public service," she explained. "The conventional wisdom was to stay in the background. History demonstrated that doesn't work well. Rather than be quiet about the values of Judaism, I spoke out. Public service is a way of making sure if anything were to happen to our people, I would be in a position to stop it. We know how important education is. It changes individuals, families, and societies."

For more information about Touro University California, visit tu.edu. For more information about Touro University Nevada, visit tun.touro.edu.

Sacramento Gallery Features Work of Unknown Jewish Artist



Artist Meta Bryt, 1908-1981.

Photographs, love letters, passports, official documents, newspaper clippings— all decades old and showing their age. This is what was left of Meta Bryt.

“Her whole life fit into an envelope,” said Somboun Sayasane sadly, recalling the life of the woman his parents cared for until her death in 1981.

Luckily for art lovers, that is not entirely true. What does not fit into an envelope is a heretofore-unknown collection of art that also was bequeathed to Sayasane’s family, meaning Bryt might just achieve the notoriety that eluded her during her life as her collection goes on display and will be available for sale at Gallery 21Ten beginning April 9, 2014. The Gallery is owned by community member Thomas Roth.

Born in Berlin on March 10, 1908, the artist studied at the Berlin School of Arts from 1924-1927. When she immigrated to France in 1933, a professor told her, “Artists don’t amount to anything,” according to Art Aguilar, the Gallery’s Manager. “She lost her passion.”

The whereabouts of Bryt, whose parents were

killed by the Nazis, cannot be identified between 1941-1944 but it is known that she moved to New York in 1944 and studied under Leo Manso, one of the most influential artists and teachers of his generation. Unlike the French professor, Manso encouraged Bryt to exhibit her art, which she did in the early 1950s. She moved to Mexico in 1955, where she specialized in folk lore art and where her work was well-documented in the Mexican press.

Aguilar noted that approximately 60 percent of Bryt’s work is signed and that the exhibit is designed to help visitors feel connected to the artist.

“These are treasures that were hidden for 50 or 60 years,” he said, adding that the collection is made up of self-portraits, oils on canvas, collages, abstracts, and other types of media.

Sayasone, who, along with his family is from Laos, described how hundreds of finished pieces and sketches were kept in a trunk with instructions from Bryt not to open until her death.

“I was just stunned at all of this creation,” he said. “Her whole life was in her paintings. Truly, she was a real artist. She was born with it in her blood— even the last days of her life.”

Sayasone said Bryt would love that her works were being shown, describing her as someone “who had a dream inside of her.”

An artist himself, Sayasone came to the U.S. as a student to study at the Art Institute in Palo Alto. He has a studio at Gallery 21Ten and said, “Her pictures are a lesson to young artists. She was kind of a mystery. I wanted to do something and unlock all of this information. When people look at her work, they will know she was a very talented person.”

The opening of Meta Bryt’s collection at Gallery 21Ten is April 9, 2014, with a Second Saturday showing on April 12th, and runs through May 3rd. Selected proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Jewish Federation. For more information about Gallery 21Ten, visit www.gallery2110.com.

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Local Family Has Ties to Lacrosse in Sacramento's Sister City



Arielle Spring proudly wears her number 18 jersey while playing lacrosse in Ashkelon, Sacramento's Sister City in Israel.

When Mark Spring traveled to Israel with fellow members of Temple Or Rishon in 2011, he couldn't help himself— he just had to deviate from the approved itinerary. A shameless sports enthusiast, he managed to slip away from the group and Internet surf his way to a local lacrosse event.

"I like to watch sporting events when I travel to other countries," admitted Spring, who played high school and college lacrosse and who has two daughters who are following in his athletic footsteps.

What this Sacramento labor lawyer discovered was that lacrosse was the fastest growing sport in Israel, thanks to Israel Lacrosse, a non-profit organization dedicated to its development. Spring, who coaches high school boys' basketball and girls' lacrosse, ended up being invited to help the organization with its youth lacrosse clinics after Israel Lacrosse learned of his background. Spring returned to Israel in the summer of 2013 to watch his youngest daughter, Nicole, win a gold medal for the USA Maccabi girls' soccer team at the 19th Maccabiah games. While there, he visited Ashkelon and provided additional clinics at a local immigration absorption center and at an Ashkelon school.

Six months later, his oldest daughter, Arielle, who plays lacrosse at Oak Ridge High School, traveled to Israel and Poland on a lacrosse diplomacy trip sponsored by Israel Lacrosse.

While there, she suited up as a guest player for the Ashkelon Lacrosse Club in the first official women's full field lacrosse game on Israeli soil. Although Ashkelon lost the game, Arielle scored the first-ever goal for the Ashkelon Club in full field play and went on to score a second goal later in the game. Before returning home, she played on the Israeli U19 Women's Lacrosse team against Poland's National Team in Warsaw and also helped teach lacrosse to Ashkelon youth at a local clinic.

The father and daughter duo later realized that Ashkelon, the base of this growing sport, was a newly-minted Sacramento Sister City and that building a Sacramento-Ashkelon sports partnership would be a positive step in building people-to-people connections, a goal of the Sister City Program.

"I am proud to be one of the few Jewish lacrosse players to represent the Sacramento lacrosse community, and I am proud to be one of the few California players to represent the Ashkelon lacrosse community," Arielle said. "Hopefully lacrosse will continue to grow both here and in Ashkelon and I hope to play a continued role in the growth of one of my favorite sports in both cities."

Added her father, "It is neat to know that Israel Lacrosse has decided to focus on Ashkelon in promoting its youth lacrosse initiatives. It would be great if Sacramento could help support this."

Spring wants more people to enjoy the sport that he said has grown to national teams in 40 countries, a far cry from the four he remembers facing off in the World Lacrosse Games when he was young. Spring is also pleased that the promotion of lacrosse in Ashkelon is specifically targeting girls to develop their interest in sports.

"With the Israel-U.S. connection, this is a sport we can help take off," he said. "I am a big believer in sports diplomacy, having traveled to Israel and the Balkans on sports diplomacy projects. I love lacrosse and almost all sports. I'm proud of my Jewish background and support Israel. If lacrosse can be used to help connect our Sister City, my family and I are happy to lend our support."

For more information about the Sister City Program, contact Melissa Chapman at mchapman@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 301 or join Federation's Sister City Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ashkelonsacramento.



Michael Boussina Inclusion Project

KOH Library & Cultural Center
welcomes the entire community to the

MBIP Scholar-In-Residence Weekend on

Inclusion & Disabilities
with special guest speaker & author

Dr. Leonard Felder



February 28th, March 1st & 2nd

Topics will include "Mindfulness Methods for Being Less Stressed & More Effective with Special Needs Family Members", "Creating More Inclusive & Welcoming Gatherings", "How to Benefit from Being Different" & "Spiritual Tools for Dealing with Your Most Stressful Situations".

Visit www.kohlcc.org for exact
times & locations

Dr. Felder's 12 books have sold over a million copies. He has appeared on Oprah, The Today Show, CNN, Nat'l Public Radio, Canada AM, & BBC London.

For more information please contact



Sacramento resident Laura Spatz Weisberg is the only child of an only child of an only child on her mother's side of the family. As such, her family tree has been pretty bare, that is, until a couple of months ago when she was contacted by Magen David Adom's Tracing Service on behalf of two second cousins who she did not know and by extension, their 25 children and grandchildren, all of whom live in Israel.

The seeds of this new branch of her family tree were actually sown two generations ago in Poland, where Weisberg's grandparents were born— her grandmother, Fella Karniol, in 1910; her grandfather, Walter Lipschitz, in 1907— along with her paternal great uncle and aunt, Alfred and Theresa. Her mother, Barbara (nee Bessie), was born in 1934 in Vienna, where Walter and Fella met while he was traveling to buy goods for his family's store. The pair returned to Ustron, a Polish resort town, to care for Walter's parents and to take over the business.

Then in 1939, everything changed. The Lipschitzes were deported to Russia and ended up in several other cities, among them, Siberia, Dnipropetrovsk, Gorki, Engels, Caratow, and Czeljabsk. They arrived in Uzbekistan in 1942 but by this time, Walter had grown ill and on February

7, 1942, he died from typhoid fever. Fella survived by selling goods she had knitted and sewn, even sending Barbara to an orphanage before the pair went back to Poland in 1946.

Although first cousins, Barbara had not spent much time with her Uncle Alfred's daughters Elisheva and Hanna because, in addition to being more than a decade older than each of them, she and her mother had only returned to Ustron for a short time before moving to Sweden after Fella remarried— a marriage of convenience in order to get them to America, noted Weisberg— then to New York and eventually San Francisco in 1951 where Fella had a first cousin. All Fella knew of Alfred and her cousins was that they moved to Israel in 1950. (Theresa, unfortunately, perished in Auschwitz along with her husband and child.)

The story would have ended there had Elisheva not wanted to commemorate her father Alfred's family.

Enter Susan Edel, a Case Worker in the Tracing Department at Magen David Adom in Tel Aviv.

"She contacted the Swedish Red Cross, which was able to provide her with the arrival and departure dates from Stockholm," explained Weisberg, who is a member of both Keneset Israel Torah Center and Mosaic Law Congregation (MLC). "Edel found ship records and the ship manifest. She then wrote to the American Red Cross."

After hitting a wall, Edel began surfing the Internet and came across a story about Weisberg's father, Harry Spatz, and his wimple from Germany on the website of MLC member Bonnie Jean Kaplan. Kaplan passed along Edel's email to Weisberg and after exchanging correspondence, she verified that Elisheva and Hanna were, in fact, her mother's first cousins.

"After our father passed away (in 1958), mother showed us the family album and told us the story of father's side of the



Back row, Alfred, Theresa, and Walter Lipschitz; front row, Elizabeth and Simon Lipschitz, part of Sacramento resident Laura Weisberg's newly-discovered family.

family," Elisheva wrote from her home in Kiryat Bialik. "When in a nostalgic mood, our mother occasionally told us about the family."

Soon after being located, Weisberg was Skyping with Hanna and speaking with Elisheva via Google Voice. The cousins were curious about her mother and grandmother, while Weisberg was curious about her great uncle Alfred. They found they had similar photographs in their family albums and they helped each other fill in the blanks of their family's history.

"We talked about the past, now let's talk about the present and future," Hanna, a retired English teacher, told Weisberg, who continues to correspond with Edel, commenting to her that "the cousins" have such big families. In response, this only child of an only child of an only child heard a response she never thought she would hear: "They are all *your* family."

For more information about Magen David Adom's Tracing Service, visit www.mdais.com/tracing/IMDA_Red_Crystal/.

California Lawmakers Form Jewish Legislative Caucus



Senator Marty Block serves as Chair of the Legislative Jewish Caucus.

Senator Marty Block (D-San Diego) is leading a newly-formed Legislative Jewish Caucus that will take up matters of import for the Jewish community. Under discussion for more than a year with his Jewish colleagues and members of Capitol Knesset, a monthly discussion group with Jewish legislators, lobbyists, staffers, and community leaders, the timing of the Caucus' formation appears to be no accident. The group is co-led by Block and Ryan Pessah.

"We're seeing an increase in reports by students at CSUs (California State Universities) and UCs (Universities of California) who claim to be victims of anti-Semitic attacks and who do not feel comfortable in classes with certain professors who, in classrooms or on college or university websites, advocate divestment from companies doing business with Israel or boycotting products from the Jewish State." Block explained.

In response, Caucus members already have met with Janet Napolitano, President of the UC system, and Timothy White, Chancellor of the CSU system, both of whom expressed concerns about the current campus climate.

"If either one sees instances of State funding being used inappropriately, they will take action," Block said. "We have allies in both of them. Both of them are rightly concerned about protecting First Amendment rights and having campuses stay a free forum of ideas. It's a balance between campus climate and free speech concerns."

The bipartisan Caucus (currently all Democrats due to the lack of Republican Jewish legislators) is made up of nine members, including Vice-Chair Marc Levine (D-San Rafael), as well as a few non-Jewish members who are interested in Jewish issues, such as Assembly Speaker John Perez (D-Los Angeles). The only criteria for membership is self-identification, which, in and of itself, is a task that sometimes proves to be difficult.

"Who is a Jew?" asked Block. "Talmudically, you're Jewish if you have a Jewish mother but Hitler would say if you had a Jewish great-grandparent, you're Jewish enough to be killed.

The Caucus is more about ethnicity and feeling a part of the Jewish people than it is about religiosity."

The Senator, who, prior to entering the Legislature, was President of the American Jewish Committee in San Diego and active in the Jewish community, is a product of Skokie, Ill., where a sizeable portion of the population was Holocaust survivors and where Neo-Nazis threatened to march in 1980, an event that changed the dynamics in the city and helped shape this future California leader.

"Survivors were happy to stay quiet," Block said. "But that threat caused them to become united. They became a strong group in Skokie politics and Illinois politics. That is why I've become involved. That experience is what solidified my Jewish identity."

Ryan Pessah, Co-Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Campus Affairs Committee and member of Federation's Emerging Jewish Leaders, will serve as the Consultant to the Jewish Legislative Caucus.

PJ Library

The Magic of Purim

Kenesset Israel Torah Center and PJ Library are proud to present

Legendary Entertainer Al Skinner

Performing at a **FREE** Community Children's Event
at KITC, 1165 Morse Avenue, 95864

Sunday, March 16, 3 to 4:30 pm

Featuring a Children's Costume Contest!

Contest prizes include gift certificates to ToysRUs
with Snacks, Crafts and Fun for All!

- Stay for a **Purim Seudah Meal** at 5 pm*
RSVP to simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com by March 11. Separate fee required.
- All women welcome at the 3:30 pm
Annual Women's Megillah Reading
Visit www.kitcsacramento.org for event details.

KITC offers a unique and ongoing **Adult Education Program** including daily classes and periodic free **Shabbat Lunch & Learns**. Join us!
See our website for a schedule and event details: www.kitcsacramento.org

This ad is sponsored in part by The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.

Kenesset Israel Torah Center

Connecting the Shoah to All of Us



Lola and Michael Blatt with their baby daughter, Estelle, featured speaker at the upcoming Yom HaShoah Communitywide Commemoration.

Her name was Itka. She was 13 months old. And in a scene reminiscent of *Sophie's Choice*, she was taken from her mother's arms in an attempt to save her. But the odds were not in Itka's favor that day and she perished in Auschwitz. It is a story that Estelle Tansey did not know about until well into adulthood but one that still brings tears to her eyes. Itka, you see, was her mother Lola's first born.

"In the middle of this horror, she was being taken to Zyklon B without her mother," said Tansey, referring to the cyanide-based pesticide the Germans used in their gas chambers. "My mother never recovered and there was always a part of her that was a little crazy."

A member of the Central Valley Holocaust Educators' Network's (CVHEN) 2nd Gen group, Tansey is the featured speaker at the annual Yom HaShoah Communitywide Commemoration on April 27, 2014, sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council. The theme of this year's program is *The Holocaust: Sacramento Connections*. Both of her parents were Holocaust survivors but Tansey

emphasized that their story and hers extend beyond the individuals to those that became her family.

"This is not really a story about us," she said, reflecting on her life and that of her three sisters. "It's a story about our grandparents and our ancestors. I think Itka is my mother's story. If she had gone to the gas chamber with Itka, I wouldn't have a son who is a surgeon and has three little girls. My sister wouldn't have four daughters, one who is a pediatric dentist with two children; another sister who is a transactional international attorney with two children, one who works for HUD, and one who has a Master's in Social Work; and one sister who is an investment banker with two children. None of us would be born or have children. She made a terrible, terrible choice and never recovered but there were no good choices. Because of that fateful choice, all of these other people are alive."

Lola's story began in Benzin, near the Polish-German border, where she was born into an extremely poor family. While there wasn't blatant anti-Semitism, her mother knew if she walked toward Germans on

the sidewalk, she needed to step off. A skilled dressmaker, she entered into an arranged marriage at age 18 with a butcher so, according to her parents, she would "always eat well."

Rumors of a German invasion traveled through the town and once confirmed, Jews fled until the Germans caught up with them and brought them back to Benzin. The men, including Lola's husband, were killed in the middle of the village; everyone else was put into a ghetto (where Itka was born) and later transported to Auschwitz.

"When they arrived," explained Tansey, "they saw bright lights, dogs, and soldiers with whips yelling, 'shnell.' My mother went down a ramp with a friend and Itka. She could see lines forming with women and children and older people. She saw the iron gate with the words, *Arbeit Macht Frei (Work Makes You Free)*. It was a big fat lie."

Tansey's father, Michael, was born in Romania and before being captured and sent to Mauthausen, from where he was liberated, he hid with Gypsies. He met Lola in a displaced person's camp and fell hard for her, eventually tracking her down in Paris, where she was working at a fashion house. The two married and arrived in America in 1948 in part, Tansey said, because they believed the "streets were paved with gold" and because Lola "could not bear to have a baby on the graves of European Jews." Her father became board certified in psychiatry and cardiology and opened an office in Manhattan. Her mother found success as the president of a multinational corporation that manufactured aircraft engine parts, eventually buying out the owner.

"Our families have stories that, although horrible, are inspirational," she remarked. "I think it is important to let people know that we have a connection to violence that was horrible and close. It is not a connection to people you can step back from, like on TV. We live among you. What happened was real and your connection to the Holocaust becomes your connection to us."

The Yom HaShoah Communitywide Commemoration is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council and will be held April 27, 2014 at Mosaic Law Congregation, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento at 7:00pm. The evening is hosted by Congregation Bet Haverim. For more information, contact Simone Monnier Clay at simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com.

Shalom School Welcomes New Head of School



Dr. Nancy Leaderman, Shalom School's new Head of School.

Once you strip away the strengths, the challenges, the geography, and other ancillary details, Nancy Leaderman's decision to accept the position of Shalom School's Head of School came down to one thing: a gut feeling.

"When I first looked at California, I thought 'This is really far away,'" said Leaderman, whose most recent position was Principal of the Upper Middle and High School at Golda Och Academy in West Orange, New Jersey, which serves 275 6th-12th-grade students. "It was hard to picture myself moving across the country but (Shalom School) is a really special place."

Impressed by the school's "solid" academic program, teachers who are "caring and invested," and a "beautiful" sense of Jewish feeling and diversity, Leaderman explained that in addition to advancing the school's current mission, which is "to inspire learners to achieve excellence enriched by Jewish values and traditions," her vision of the school includes being "student-centered, rigorous, a place where every child is

challenged and supported, and a place that helps students make meaningful lives for themselves as Jews."

The educator, who begins her post on March 24th, has broad experience in administration, program management, curriculum development, faculty supervision, and teaching. She acknowledged that Shalom School, which is celebrating its 36th anniversary this year, has been impacted by change and that building stability is important.

"I'm here for the long haul," she noted, also acknowledging some of the challenges faced by Sacramento's only Jewish day school— the same, she pointed out, as every other day school across the country— the most critical of which is decreased enrollment.

"We have to work on ambassadorship," Leaderman said. "When people see the value of what we have here, they enroll here, and once they enroll here, they stay here."

The Baltimore native, whose husband, Matthew Bray, and 12-year-old daughter, Miri, will join her while her daughter, Eliana, continues her education at the University of Massachusetts, also is looking forward to cultivating an environment

focused on strategic forward momentum and known expectations, relying on collaborative partnerships with parents, teachers, the PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization), and the broader community.

"I have really good luck developing teacher leaders and encouraging professional development," she said. "I'm able to both see the big picture and figure out how the smaller pieces fit. That means scheduling and developing curriculum as well as knowing what's going on in the 2nd-grade classroom on a Tuesday morning. That means balancing the needs of a group with those of individual students and how do you make exceptions? How do you work with teachers and support and challenge them? How do you work with parents who need help sometimes?"

Regardless of the decisions that may be ahead of her, Leaderman is clear on one thing: "What is best for children drives everything."

For more information about Shalom School, visit www.shalomschool.org.



EMERGING JEWISH LEADERS
for 20 & 30 somethings

Do you ever wonder if there is life beyond Manishevitz?
Emerging Jewish Leaders invites you to explore the different tastes of Israeli wine as we gather at the Federation office for an **Israeli Wine Tasting!**

March 27, 2014

7:00-10:00pm

2130 21st St., Sacramento

Must be 21 years of age or older

RSVP required

Register at www.jewishsac.org/winetasting

\$18 per person

For more information, contact Melo Taylor at mtaylor@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 311.



2014
JEWISH
HERITAGE FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING ISRAEL!

May 4, 2014 | 11:00am-3:00pm

Midtown Sacramento | Capitol Ave. between 20th & 21st Sts.

Live Entertainment:

Sol Tevé! Sol Tevé integrates sounds, rhythms, and multi-lingual lyrics from around the globe in order to advocate building a strong, conscious and united community worldwide. Led by Israeli-born Lior Ben-Hur, Sol Tevé is a San Francisco-based band that focuses on connecting Hebrew roots while engaging world cultures.

Saul Kaye: After releasing 5 CDs of varying styles from the late 90s through 2008, Saul Kaye was pulled towards the natural marriage of Jewish history, characters, and liturgy with the Blues.

Lucy's Bones: Combine all-original rock, blues and funk. Season with English blues rock, 1960s R&B, soul and even a taste of country. Shake vigorously.

Features:

Activity Booths: Enjoy fun and educational activities offered by our local synagogues and organizations.

Art Ark from Crocker Art Museum: A mobile art education center designed for students in Pre-K-8th grades that brings original works of art and activities to schools throughout the region.

Food: Local food trucks will serve dairy and vegetarian menus along with kosher options from Yair Luria.

Shopping: Judaica, art, and more!

For more information or for sponsorship opportunities, contact Melissa Chapman at mchapman@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 301, or visit www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival.

Just in Time for Purim & Passover:

a Jewish fusion menu

Purim is here, which means Passover is not far behind. Better than any musical mash-up your grogger can play, this culinary mash-up will feed your stomach and your soul. Introducing Gefiltetaschen. Think of it as Jewish fusion. Our ancestors would have.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Place the fish stock in a large stockpot. Maintain a low simmer.
- Cut the fish into 1-1/2-inch pieces. Place half of it in the food processor and process until a ball has formed. Sprinkle the fish mixture with the matzo meal. Add the eggs, sugar, vanilla extract, chocolate, fruit preserves, and salt and pepper. Mix until combined. Form the fish mixture into triangles and pinch the edges to form three corners. Simmer until firm. Carefully remove the triangles from the stock and transfer to a baking sheet.
- Allow the stock to cool to room temperature. Place the cooled fish in a large container and refrigerate. When the stock is cool, pour it into the container. Refrigerate at least 1 hour.
- To serve, use a slotted spoon to transfer the fish from the stock to a serving platter. Serve with beet horseradish, dill-horseradish mayonnaise, or whipped cream.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 quarts (8 cups) fish stock
- 1/3 cup peeled and large-dice carrot, including the greens
- 2-1/2-pound mix of white cod or pike (be sure to soak in your bathtub overnight in salted water)
- 1/3 cup matzo meal (Kosher for Passover, of course)
- 3 large ostrich eggs, beaten
- 1 cup of soy milk
- 1 bar of unsweetened baking chocolate
- 3 sprigs of mint
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 cup fruit preserves, any flavor
- Beet Horseradish Dill-Horseradish Mayonnaise, or whipped cream for serving (optional)

The Jewish Federation OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

Donations accepted at Federation's office until March 14, 2014 | 7:00-10:00pm
2130 21st St., Sacramento
Closed Thursday

Federation will distribute costumes at the West Steps of the Capitol on March 17th between the hours of 2:00-5:00am. First 1,000 children receive a free bag of gefiltetaschen.

For more information, contact purim@jewishsac.org.

JFS

Holds Clothing Drive for Needy Children

Jewish Family Service, a program of the Jewish Federation, is holding a clothing drive for children in need of a Queen Esther costume or one for her cousin, Mordecai. Groggers also accepted, but please, not the kind that make noise.

Icons: ♻️, ♿, ♻️, ♻️



"Broad for taking home costume of the season! Oscar a whopping \$18 and include suits, a rubber life-size cat, which was actually rescinded (Sigh. Sorry, Oscar).

Mocha (aka 'Mokie') Loew, campaign Co-Chair Carol Loew, honor with pride, although he whole thing was rigged."

allegations will appear in the of the VOICE.

"41" is included in the spirit of Purim and, therefore, o illi Now go enjoy some Gefiltetaschen :)

Your Guide to

*Purim 5774!**



THE PURIM SUPER

Mazel tov to Oscar "Mordechai" the prize for best Purim costume will take home prizes worth lavender-flavored dog biscuits and unlimited tap water (well, because of the drought). Honorable mention goes to Mokie was not available for his handler, Federation's Carol Mokie accepts this great photo feels strongly that the water. A story investigating these dog June issue of

*Everything contained in "Your Guide to Purim 5774" is completely false! Chag Purim Sameach!



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TO HELP IMPROVE THE HEALTH
OF MY COMMUNITY

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You hold the key to our future...

All of us, regardless of age, wealth, or affiliation, have the ability to make a difference for future Jewish generations. When you **Create a Legacy**, you will not only fulfill a mitzvah, you will allow the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region to give strength and hope to the future of our community.

As the central address for Jewish Sacramento, we are proud to offer a variety of tools, with the help of The Jewish Community Foundation of the West, that will allow you to ensure a rich and vibrant future.

The choice—and the responsibility—is ours alone.



The Jewish Federation
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

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Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS

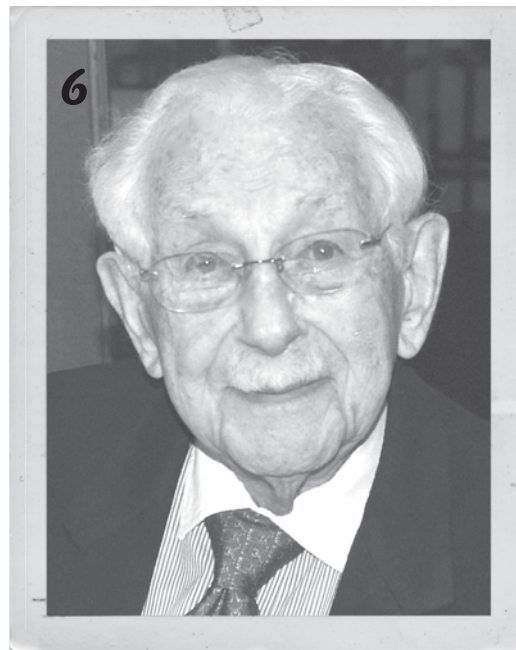
Out & About...

Federation's Big Event!

Thank you to all of the community members who came out to the California Automobile Museum on February 1st for the Federation's 2014 Annual Campaign Kickoff. It really was a Big Event! *Photo Credits: Talia Gonzalez.*



Out & About...



1. Jewish Federation President Barry Broad, left, is joined by Councilmembers Steve Cohn (right, with shovel) and Jay Schenirer (far right) and community members at the Sister City Friendship Garden, where a flowering almond tree was planted in honor of Sacramento's Sister City of Ashkelon, Israel and Tu B'Shvat.
2. Children with special needs and their family joined in Havdallah before roller skating at a special event sponsored by Federation's Committee on Inclusion and Disabilities.
3. On December 31, 2013, PJ Library taught attendees of Crocker Art Museum's "Noon Year's Eve" all about Rosh Hashanah. This annual event celebrates new year's traditions from different cultures and ethnic groups.
4. Federation's Emerging Jewish Leaders enjoyed an evening of bowling in January and

5. From left, top row, Charlie Dubin, Allen Kane, Rabbi Alan Rabishaw, and Saul Rapkin; middle row, Celia Dubin, Cecily Kane, and Donna Rapkin; and bottom row Linda and Jerry Carsman celebrate Temple Or Rishon's 30th Anniversary. The Dubins, Kanes, Rapkins, and Carsmans were founding members of the Temple. Not pictured, founding member Claire Sherman Rosenthal and Lee Sherman (z"l). *Photo Credit: Kimberly Olker.*
6. Mosaic Law Congregation member Lou Weintraub celebrated his 100th birthday in January. Mazel tov, Lou, and may you live to be 120! *Photo Credit: © Kamras 2013.*
7. Federation Board member Brian Uslan and his wife, Jana, were among the

- Lifetime Achievement Award honorees at Congregation Beth Shalom's 40th Anniversary celebration. Fellow honorees included Eugene Bagoon & Kathy Vaughn; Margaret Kane & Rick Frey; and Arnold & Mari Golub. *Photo Credit: Bruce Patt Photography.*
8. Mazel tov to Rabbi Julie Danan who celebrated 10 years as rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in Chico. *Photo Credit: Carla Resnick.*
9. 13 Women of Distinction were honored at Hadassah's annual fundraising event. From left, back row, Dorothy Anderson, Roberta Malkin, Michelle Ahronowitz, Barbara Kletzman, Jolan Rosenthal, Hannah Olson, Judy Lewis, Sharon Saltzman, Illene Carroll, and Sue Sperber. Front row, Carol Loew, Liz Igra, and Della Burnett.

TORAH WORDS



by Rabbi Seth Castleman

The name of parshat *Shmini* (Leviticus 9:1-12:8) means “eighth.” It took place in the wilderness of Sinai the day after Aaron and his sons completed seven days of purification and ritual preparing themselves to serve in the newly inaugurated *mishkan*, or traveling Temple. It seems odd that we have a parsha

named “eight” when seven is such an important number in Judaism. There are seven days of creation, seven days of the week, seven days of Pesach and Sukkot, seven days of *shiva*, and seven days of the wedding blessings.

So what happens on the eighth day? It is the day after Shabbat when we go back to work. The wedding is over, now the marriage. According to our tradition, it was on the eighth day that Adam and Eve ate the fruit and were kicked out of Eden.

Clearly these are examples of moving from a higher spiritual time to a more mundane, worldly existence. And this is exactly what the Torah is pointing us to. As the adage goes: “This is the first day of the rest of our lives.” As the Chassidic master, Sefat Emet, teaches, we need G-d to create the world, but then G-d needs us to fill this world with holiness and justice. On the eighth day it is up to Adam and Eve to continue what G-d started. And in the

wilderness, the *mishkan* has now been built. But as G-d tells us, “Build me a sanctuary and I will dwell among them.” G-d will be amongst us, but only if we live our eighth days with devotion and loving kindness.

As a rabbi and a new father, I spend my time at home with our 11-month-old daughter, Lilah, and at work, as a hospice chaplain, with people who are dying and their families. Both at home and at work, I am reminded again and again of how we bring G-d’s presence into the world through our actions, big and small. How do we respond when our child has a tantrum in the supermarket? How do we react when death is imminent? Do we look back and think it has been a good life of kindness and service, or do we have countless regrets? The Torah, again and again, reminds us that we are living in the eighth day, the time when it is up to us to continue the work of creation, bringing holiness and wholeness into our lives and in the world.

Rabbi Seth Castleman is a chaplain, writer, and Jewish meditation teacher. He works with Bristol Hospice starting a Jewish hospice project for the Sacramento area.

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KOH Film Club
proudly presents a special film screening
of the powerful documentary

"Ghosts of The Third Reich"
Sunday, March 30, 2014 at 2:00 PM
KOH Library & Cultural Center
2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95825

This film documents the poignant and anguished stories of descendants of the Nazis who confront their family's past and communicate their profound feelings of guilt by inheritance. The filmmaker, Claudia Sobral, will be joining us for the screening. Dr. Bernd Wollschlaeger, who is featured in this film, will participate in a Q & A session via Skype.

\$10 suggested donation
RSVPs are recommended . Seating is limited
Open to the entire community

For more information or to RSVP, contact
Jolie at (916) 485-4143 or library@kohlcc.org

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our new Head of School,

Nancy Leaderman

at our Annual Gala 2014

“BLACK & WHITE & **READ** ALL OVER”

Sunday, March 23, 2014

5:00 PM—9:00 PM

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Shalom School is a beneficiary of the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region



College Bound:
A Program for Jewish Teens
and Their Parents

April 6, 2014 | 1:30-3:00pm
Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region
2130 21st St., Sacramento (corner of 21st & V Sts.)

The Jewish Community Relations Council's Campus Affairs Committee presents an orientation program for college-bound high school students and their parents. This program provides 11th- and 12th-grade Jewish students the tools to:

- ✦ Research Jewish campus life
- ✦ Connect with Jewish life on the college campus
- ✦ Learn about campus resources or groups that deal with issues involving anti-Semitism and anti-Israel activities
- ✦ Locate Israel advocacy campus resources or groups

Invited Panelists:

Nancy Appel, Deputy Director, Anti-Defamation League
Eyal Naor, Deputy Consul General of Israel for the
Pacific Northwest Region

Aggies for Israel Members, University of California, Davis
Hadas Buskila, Israel Fellow, Hillel at Davis and California
Jewish students from California campuses

For more information, contact Jessica Braverman Birch, JCRC
Director, at jbirch@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 308.

**Yom HaShoah Communitywide
Commemoration**
The Holocaust: Sacramento Connections

April 27, 2014 | 7:00-8:30pm
Mosaic Law Congregation
2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento

Estelle Tansey, a child of Holocaust survivors, will tell her parents' extraordinary story of survival. Her mother escaped during the death march from Auschwitz and worked in the resistance. Her father was liberated from Mauthausen. Tansey is a member of the Central Valley Holocaust Educators' Network's (CVHEN) 2nd Gen Speakers' Bureau.

The commemoration includes:

- ✦ Candle Lighting Ceremony (if you are a survivor, child of a survivor, or grandchild of a survivor and want to join the candle lighting ceremony, meet at Mosaic Law Congregation at 6:45pm)
- ✦ Adult choirs from Congregations B'nai Israel and Beth Shalom and Temple Or Rishon, featuring a solo by Cantor Ben Rosner of Mosaic Law Congregation
 - ✦ A display from members of the CVHEN 2nd Gen Speakers' Bureau

Kosher refreshments following the program hosted by Congregation Bet Haverim. The evening is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council with support of the Sacramento Association of Rabbis. For more information, contact Simone Monnier Clay at simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com.



**THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF
THE SACRAMENTO REGION**



**WELCOMES THE COMMUNITY
TO OUR NEW HOME**

2130 21st St., Sacramento (21st & V Sts.)

OPEN HOUSES

March 12, 2014 | 5:30-7:00pm

March 14, 2014 | 10:00am-2:00pm

Please RSVP to federation@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906.



**COVERED
CALIFORNIA**

NCJ 
120 Years of Social Change



Get Covered

If you or a loved one needs affordable health insurance, free or low-cost health insurance is available through either CoveredCalifornia (California's new health exchange) or the new, expanded Medi-Cal program. For example:

- ▶ If you are self-supporting and make \$15,856 or less per year, you are eligible for free medical and dental care through Medi-Cal. (Or if you are a family of four making \$32,499 or less.)
- ▶ If you are self-supporting and make less than \$28,725 a year, you can get federal assistance for insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs.
- ▶ If you make a higher income and are not receiving affordable health insurance through your employer or Medicare, you can purchase affordable health insurance through the plans offered under Covered California.

Health insurance is not just good for your health. It can save you from financial disaster. Even a minor medical problem— like a broken arm— can cost thousands of dollars.

For your health, learn more and enroll at CoveredCa.com by March 31, 2014 because sometimes even Mom's chicken soup isn't enough. Visit ncjwsac.org.

This ad is sponsored by The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.



PJ Library is turning 5!



The Jewish Federation
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

To celebrate, we are adding another PJ Library Playgroup to our schedule!

Join us for our new Tuesday PJ Playgroup:

March 18, 2014
April 29, 2014
May 13, 2014
June 24, 2014
September 16, 2014
November 18, 2014
December 16, 2014

Friday Playgroups Continues!

March 7, 2014
April 4, 2014
May 23, 2014
June 13, 2014
August 29, 2014
September 12, 2014
October 24, 2014
November 7, 2014
December 5, 2014

Join us for fun-filled
mornings of stories,
songs, art, play, and
snack (and celebrating
Shabbat on Fridays!).

For more information, contact pjlibrary@jewishsac.org.



The Legacy of a Jewish Future Begins at Hillel!

Davis | Sacramento



As Hillel at Davis & Sacramento approaches its 50th anniversary, we are reflecting on the past, appreciating the present, and building for the future.



Announcing the Hillel Legacy Society

In Partnership with the

Jewish Community Foundation of the West's

Life & Legacy Program



The **Hillel Legacy Society** will ensure the continuity of a Jewish "home away from home" for the college students of our region for another 50 years — and beyond!

For more information, contact Hillel at 530-756-3708 or jcohan@hillelhouse.org

HOW WILL YOU ASSURE JEWISH TOMORROWS?



What aspects of Jewish life do you cherish most—learning, community, worship, caring for those in need or social justice? Whatever you care about most, by leaving a legacy you ensure the things you value are sustained for future generations.



To create your Jewish legacy contact: Hannah S. Olson, Director of Philanthropy
director@JCFWest.org • 916.441.1613 • www.JCFWest.org

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Yom HaShoah Book of Remembrance— Remember Our History, Honor Our Loved Ones

Plans are underway for the 2014 Sacramento Yom HaShoah remembrance. One way we remember and honor those who experienced the Holocaust directly is through the “Book of Remembrance.” The Book was first compiled and distributed as part of the 2003 Yom HaShoah program and is updated annually. The Book includes a listing of family, loved ones, and friends of Sacramento-area residents who perished in the Holocaust. It also includes names of survivors who are now deceased. Although the Book already commemorates many people remembered in past years, there are more that Sacramento could be commemorating.

Honor your loved ones by submitting their names on the form below. If you would like to expand or change a listing from the earlier Books, also please use the form below.

The names will be printed, along with the Kaddish, poems, readings, and other expressions of remembrance in the program booklet for the communitywide commemoration hosted by Congregation Bet Haverim and held April 27, 2014, at 7:00pm at Mosaic Law Congregation, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento.

Please e-mail the information using the format below to ssugerma@comcast.net or print all information clearly (use additional forms as needed) and mail by March 21, 2014 to:

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region
 Attention: Yom HaShoah
 2130 21st St.
 Sacramento, CA 95818

Include your contact information for questions and future updates.

Remembered by (your name) _____

Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____

Email: _____

In memory of those who did not survive

Person(s) to remember (List name if you know it— otherwise list only relationship)	Relationship to you (if known)

In memory of those who survived and are now deceased

Person(s) to remember	Relationship to you (if known)

The Communitywide Yom HaShoah Commemoration is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation. For more information, contact Simone Monnier Clay at simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays

March 16, 2014. Finding David Blumenfeld: A Family Reunited Through Discovery of a Diary. Frederic Hertz will speak about his great-grandfather, David Blumenfeld, who emigrated from Latvia to Minnesota in 1884. In 2009, a box of his papers, including a diary, was found, ultimately reuniting previously disconnected relatives and culminating in a visit to Blumenfeld's Latvia hometown. Hertz, an attorney and author, lives in Oakland. Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento. 10:00am. The Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information, contact mortrumberg1@earthlink.net.*

Introduction to the Torah Bookshelf weekly e-learning with Rabbi Joel Zeff. 7:00am. Visit Noahidenations.com, click on "Academy of Shem" in the Education section, select "Introduction to the Torah Bookshelf" (password is a12s, if asked). Open to all. *For more information, contact 916-481-1159.*

Men's Tefillin Club. Every second Sunday to lay Tefillin, learn Torah, and enjoy breakfast. 9:00-10:00am. Chabad Jewish Community Center, 302 B South Lexington Dr., Folsom. *For more information, contact 916-608-9811 or visit www.JewishFolsom.org.*

Mondays

Monthly discussion group led by Rabbi Melamed on the second Monday of every month. KOH Library and Cultural Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. 1:30-2:30pm. Free. *For more information, contact 916-484-7333 or jacks.dad@att.net.*

Derech L'Chaim JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons, and Significant Others). 10:30-11:30am. 2nd Floor Card Room, Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. JACS is based on the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous with a Jewish focus. Confidential and anonymous. *Please contact 916-591-8608 before attending for the first time.*

Jewish Book Club at Temple Or Rishon. Every fourth Monday at 7:00pm. 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. All are welcome. For our reading list, visit www.orrishon.org, select Programs for All Ages, then Book Club. *For more information, contact Alison Braverman at 916-988-7110 or alcinp1@aol.com.*

Loaves and Fishes. The third Monday of each month, the Jewish community serves lunch to the homeless at Loaves and Fishes. 1321 North C St., Sacramento. Volunteer at 7:30am to help prepare food or at 10:45am to help serve. *For more information, contact mary@mosaiclaw.org.*

Tuesdays

Baby and Me. Program for families with children birth to 2 years. Art, singing, movement, and fun! 10:30am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or educator@orrishon.org.*

Israeli Dancing. *For more information about dates and venue, join Israelidancesac-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or contact Jeanette at 916-799-7213.*

Wednesdays

Shalom Gan K'ton. For children 18 months-5 years. 10:00am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. \$50/10 sessions with scholarships available. *For more information, contact educator@orrishon.org.*

First and Third Wednesday. Jessie Yoshpe Hadassah Study Group. Exploring Judaism Through the Holidays and More. KOH Library and Cultural Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Soni Meyer at 916-383-5743.*

Thursdays

David Lubin Lodge, B'nai B'rith. Third Thursday of each month. 8:00pm. Albert Einstein Residence Center Eatery, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Bernie Marks at 916-363-0122.*

Jewish Women's Support Group. Led by Zalia Lipson. Chabad of Roseville, 3175 Sunset Blvd., Suite 104A, Roseville. 6:45pm. \$40 per session. *For more information or to register, contact 916-624-8626 or ZaliaL@aol.com.*

Fridays

Gan K'ton. For young children 18 months-5 years. Sing, play, create, listen to, and taste all the wonders of being Jewish, along with preparing for Shabbat. 10:00am. \$10/class. Enrollment and fees required. Scholarships available. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or educator@orrishon.org.*

Tot Shabbat. Services, Singing, Storytelling, and Oneg for all children, including all who are young at heart. 6:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or educator@orrishon.org.*

Saturdays

Taste of Torah. Second Saturday. Learn, laugh, sing, and "taste" the Torah. Free program for families with young children and children of all abilities. 10:30am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or educator@orrishon.org.*

GENERAL EVENTS

March 2, 2014. Parenting With Positive Discipline: A Free Introduction with Erin Naymark. Are you feeling challenged by your child's behavior? Join us for a fun and interactive free mini-workshop where you will find practical solutions to common parenting challenges.

Erin is a Certified Positive Discipline Parent & Classroom Educator. She is a credentialed teacher and mother. Free. 10:30-11:30am. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.*

March 4, 2014. Rabbis' Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Mona Alfi. The Rabbi introduces us to the practices of Reform Judaism. Learn about the holidays, family life, and synagogue practices. Bring a brown bag lunch. Free. Noon-1:00pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.*

March 4, 2014. Rosh Chodesh with Rabbi Mona Alfi and the Women of Reform Judaism. Rabbi Alfi welcomes Rabbi Ruth Sohn, the author of *Crossing Cairo: A Jewish Woman's Encounter with Egypt*. Men invited. Potluck vegetarian dinner begins at 6:15pm, followed by service, movie, and discussion. All women over 13 years are invited. No reservation necessary. Free. 6:15-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Deni Marshall at denimmarshall@gmail.com.*

March 6, 8 & 9, 2014. 17th Annual Sacramento Jewish Film Festival. From comedy in the Catskills to an epic journey to Jerusalem, laughter, tears, espionage, and drama all grace the big screen at this year's Festival. \$10.50 general admission; \$9.50 seniors, children and Friends of the Festival. Thursday, 7:30pm; Saturday 7:30pm; and Sunday at 1:00pm and 3:00pm. Crest Theatre, 1013 K St., Sacramento. *For more information, contact www.thecrest.com or 916-442-7378.*

March 7, 2014. Tzedek Shabbat: We Were Strangers in Egypt. Immigration Reform with Dorothy Landsberg. Discussion about the politics and the ethics of the recent drive for immigration reform. Dorothy is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and an Associate Professor of Lawyering Skills at McGeorge School of Law. Free. 7:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. *For more information, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.*

March 11 & 25, 2014. Religious Ethics in the 21st Century. Rabbi Alfi tackles some of the toughest issues of Jewish ethics as applied to modern life including politics, economics, Israel, Jewish communal relations, and others. Bring a brown bag lunch. Free. Noon-1:00pm. Law Offices of Greenberg Traurig, 1201 K St., 11th Floor, Sacramento. *For more information and to confirm, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.*

March 12, 2014. Leisure League Senior Program with Country Club Aires. "Oldies but goodies" with vocalists and musicians who have been performing since 1972. Temple Or Rishon,

7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. Noon-2:00pm. \$5 includes lunch and program. For more information or to RSVP, contact federation@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906.

March 11, 18 & 29, 2014. Our Poems-Our Prayers with Sandi Wasserman. Do you have poems tucked away that have helped you find a voice to or from G-d? Bring a few poems (by yourselves or others) for the first two sessions. Discussion group sessions to read, discuss, and learn from each other. Keep poems to less than a page. Community Reading on March 29th followed by an open mic and refreshments. \$15/B'nai Israel members, \$20/non-members. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information or to register, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

March 13, 2014. UC Davis Jewish Studies Program: Jews in Russia: From the Periphery to the Eye of the Storm with Professor Jenny Kaminer. Historical overview of Jews in Imperial Russia. It will touch upon the Jewish struggle for increased access to educational and professional opportunities, and the resulting intergenerational tensions that increasingly threatened traditional Jewish life, including the dominance of Yiddish. Focus on the first decade of the new Soviet state when Jews no longer encountered restrictions on residence or education. Supported by a donation from Ken and Linda Henderson. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

March 16, 2014. The Magic of Purim. Join us to celebrate Purim with a magic show featuring Lawrence Lemon, art projects, a costume contest, and snack. PJ Library partnership program. Free. 3:00-4:30pm. Keneset Israel Torah Center, 1165 Morse Ave., Sacramento. For more information contact pjlibrary@jewishsac.org.

March 16, 2014. 14th Annual Women's Megillah reading. Join us for our 14th Annual Women's Megillah Reading. A great way to fulfill the mitzvah with an intimate, friendly reading. 3:30pm. Keneset Israel Torah Center, 1159 Morse Ave., Sacramento. For more information, visit www.kitcsacramento.org.

March 22, 2014. Pesach Shabbaton: The Most Observed Jewish Holiday: What's the Fuss About Passover with Rabbi Michal Loving. The Beauty of the Haggadah with Cantor Julie Steinberg. Matzah-Making Workshop with Caryn Mizzi. The story of our Exodus from Egypt is powerful and rich in meaning. It has been a central part of our liturgy and has helped form the consciousness of the Jewish people. Potluck lunch at Noon, followed by an afternoon learning and doing. Free child care for B'nai Israel members. Free. Noon-4:00pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information or to RSVP, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

March 23, 2014. Achim: A Discussion Group for Men with Dr. Glenn Hammel and the Brotherhood. Monthly forum of education, facilitated discussion, contemplation, and camaraderie. Glenn Hammel, Ph.D., is the Rebbitzin. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

March 27, 2014. Leisure League Senior Program with Storyteller Lawrence Crason. Details TBD. Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. Noon-2:00pm. \$5 includes lunch and program. For more information or to RSVP, contact federation@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906.

March 27, 2014. Israeli Wine Tasting with Emerging Jewish Leaders. Do you ever wonder if there is life beyond Manishevitz? Emerging Jewish Leaders invites you to explore the different tastes of Israeli wine. Must be 21 or older to attend. \$18/person. 7:00-10:00pm. Reservation required. Register at www.jewishsac.org/winetasting. Federation office, 2130 21st St., Sacramento. For more information, contact Melo Taylor at mtaylor@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 311.


March 28, April 25, and May 23, 2014. Prayer Practice with Lisa Brodkey and other teachers who have designed special practice sessions to help build expertise in liturgy. Each month they will focus on a specific prayer and help you practice, practice, practice until it

becomes easy. Practice reading Hebrew or the transliteration. Free. 6:50-7:20pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa Hubbs at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

March 30, 2014. NCJW's Chico's at the Pavilions. Shop before the store opens. Chico's will donate 10% of our purchases to NCJW. Can't make it that day? Shop the previous week, mention NCJW, and we will still get the donation. Your clothes will be available for pick up after March 30th. Free. 9:00am. Chico's at the Pavilions Shopping Center. For more information, contact ncjwsacfund@gmail.com.

March 30, 2014. It's Time For Passover. Spend the morning enjoying Passover art, stories, and a rousing song session. PJ Library partnership program. Free. 11:00am-12:30pm. Mosaic Law Congregation, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information contact pjlibrary@jewishsac.org.

March 30, 2014. 2014 Women's Seder. Join Temple Or Rishon Women for the 13th annual Women's Seder as we look at the traditions of this holiday from the women's perspective. Carol Gunnerson will lead us in Debbie Friedman music coordinated with the Ma'yan Haggadah. Non-dairy potluck; "Kosher for Passover-style." Open to any woman, age 12 and up. \$20/members; \$25/non-members; Ma'yan Haggadahs available for \$10. 3:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. For more information, contact Janet Berman-Brooks at janetbb1981@comcast.net or Verde Richardson at 916-988-4100.



Mosaic Law Congregation
Proudly Presents
MONTHLY SHABBAT YOUTH SERVICES

Tot Shabbat Returns!
This weekly service is for children 5 years & under.

Perachim (Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade)
1st weekend of each month

Machar (5th - 7th Grade)
2nd weekend of each month

B'nai Mazel (3rd & 4th Grade)
4th weekend of each month

SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Night Live!
Come welcome the Sabbath together as Cantor Ben Rosner, the MLC Choir & Band lead us in prayer and song as we raise the ruach.

- ✧ February 28th 7:30 pm
- ✧ April 25th 7:30 pm
- ✧ May 30th 7:30 pm – Under the Stars!

Shabbat Shalom in the Home - Shabbat Dinner with You! A new quarterly Shabbat home hospitality program will premiere on Friday night, March 7th.

Afro Semitic Experience – Joint Fusion Friday Night Service with MLC & Beth Shalom, March 21st, 7:30 pm at Beth Shalom.

For more information regarding any or all of the programs, please contact the MLC office at 916-488-1122.

A Shabbat of Reflection
Conversation and Humor With
Rabbi Shelley Waldenberg
March 21 & 22, 2014
Temple Or Rishon
7755 Hazel Ave.
Orangevale, CA

Rabbi Shelley Waldenberg will share his wisdom, passion, and humor at a series of Shabbat programs, starting at out Friday Night Shabbat service at 6:45 pm, continuing at Shabbat morning Torah study at 9:00 am and Shabbat Morning service at 10:00 am followed by a special kiddish luncheon, plus a special Shabbat afternoon Havdallah. These gatherings will provide opportunities to share meals, and explore the topic, "It's All About Relationships: Transcending Philosophy, Theology and Politics."

Call 916-988-4100 or email office@orrishon.org for more information.

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the VOICE
your source for local and global Jewish news



The Jewish Federation
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION



BIG
DAY OF
GIVING →
MAY 6

24 HOURS
TO GIVE
WHERE YOUR
HEART IS

Support the Jewish Federation!

The Jewish Federation is participating in the **BIG Day of Giving**, a local initiative to increase philanthropy in the Greater Sacramento region. Presented by GiveLocalNow, along with local community foundations, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, Placer Community Foundation, and Yolo Community Foundation, the BIG Day of Giving **will take place during a 24-hour period on...**

May 6, 2014

Starting at midnight, donations will be accepted through givelocalnow.org.

- + 24 hours to give
- + 100% of every donation goes to charity
- + Donations made at givelocalnow.org on May 6th will be eligible for a boost from a pool of matching funds
- + BIG Day of Giving is a part of a National Day of Giving called Give Local America

Matching Funds

- + Only do nations made online at GiveLocalNow.org on May 6th are eligible for matching funds
- + Donations will be matched on a pro-rated basis, not a dollar-for-dollar match

For more information about the BIG Day of Giving, visit www.givelocalnow.org.
For more information about giving to the Federation, visit www.jewishsac.org/dayofgiving.