



# Jewish Community News

The Publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert

www.jfedps.org

Nissan/Iyar 5783 - April 2023

## ISRAEL IS 75!

Israel is 75 and we are celebrating! We are thrilled to invite the Jewish community and our friends to join us on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on the grounds of Palm Valley School, 355-25 Da Vall Drive, Rancho Mirage as we honor Israel's birthday.

Chairs Debbie Orgen and Sheri Borax are excited to announce that it will be a fun-filled, activity-packed day, with music, booths, activities, mini "Ted Talks" by local clergy and leaders, Homemade jewelry, wine tasting, Israeli folk dancing throughout the day, a Kids Zone with Face Painting, PJ Library reading times, several performances by local Hebrew school students, and kosher food, under the supervision of Chabad of Rancho Mirage.

As this article is being written, we are seven weeks before the event and we already have over 30 vendors, including our local Jewish organizations. Israel 75 is free of charge to attend but bring your shekels for the wonderful Kosher food and other items for sale.



**Chairs Sheri Borax and Debbie Orgen**

Highlighting Israel 75 will be two 40-minute performances of Jewish music by ROK Duo, two Polish violinists who are supporters and promoters of Jewish Heritage in Poland. These accomplished violinists have performed all throughout Europe and the U.S. at Synagogues, festivals and Jewish gatherings.

Being cognizant of potential threats, security will be present.

The booths of the Jewish organizations of our community will be showcasing the various cities of Israel.

**As of today, the following commitments include:**

- Beth Shalom-(Be'ersheva)
- Bikkur Cholim (Hebron)
- Hadassah (Jerusalem)
- Congregation Har El- (Anu Museum at Tel Aviv University)
- Hillel (Tzfat)
- Temple Isaiah (Haifa)
- Jewish Family Services (Mo'di'in)
- Jewish Federation (complimentary tote bags for all your swag items)
- Jewish Men's outreach Group of the Desert (Ramat Ha Negev)
- Jewish National Fund (Sderot & Chalutza)
- Or Ha Midbar (Tel Aviv)
- Temple Sinai (Ne'ev'e Tzedek, Tel Aviv)
- Stand With Us (Tiberias)
- Sun City Jewish Services (Kiryat Shemona)

We are grateful for two Silver Sponsors helping underwrite this event, Town Real Estate and Private Asset Management. If you would like information regarding having a booth at the event contact Leslie Pepper at [Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or call 760-324-4737.

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!  
*Let Freedom Ring!*

Serving All of Greater Palm Springs  
**TownCA.com**  
760-250-1977

San Diego Indian Wells

## Israel Update



**Alan Potash**

Jewish Federation  
Chief Executive  
Officer

There is a Yiddish quote, "People (man) plans and G-d laughs." This is true as I am trying to write an article for this issue of the

JCN on current events in Israel. As I have alluded, on multiple occasions, to provide an update on what is going on in Israel, each time I sit down to write, by the time I finish writing, it is no longer relevant. That is the case today. The deadline to submit an article for the JCN is Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> so it can go to print on Monday and be in mailboxes the following week. Each event in Israel moves at a pace that makes it difficult to comply with the deadline because I know I might be wrong, and things will have changed dramatically.

Here I go. There is a new government in

Israel being led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu; and to form a government he needed to build a coalition to get to the 61-seat majority. As he created his coalition, he had to offer many things to get the parties to join him. At the last minute (literally) he was able to form a government.

The opposition's response to the new legislative changes in short was not well received. It is not uncommon for a new government's agenda to be in opposition to the previous government's agenda, hence we are where we are today. But a strong percentage of the country also

agrees with the opposition and has decided to take their feelings to the streets. For the past ten weeks thousands of Israelis have gathered to demonstrate against several of the key legislative changes being put forth. Primarily judicial reform. Look to my eblasts for more on this,

With all this being said, please join us as we celebrate Israel at 75 on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 am -2 pm, at Palm Valley School—it will be great!

Plus, join me on a once in a lifetime trip to Israel, September 4-12, 2023. Look for details or call me.



**everyone  
counts**  
can we count on you?

**DONATE**

**Jewish Federation  
of the Desert 2023  
Annual Campaign**

**2022-2023**

**JEWISH FEDERATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jackie Cohen, Co-Chair  
Cora Ginsberg, Co-Chair  
Arnie Gillman, Campaign Chair  
Stephanie Ross, Secretary  
Ron Langus, Treasurer  
Lori Fritz, Allocations Chair

**BOARD:**

Carol Fragen  
Bobbi Holland  
Dr. Robert Jacobs  
Barry Kaiman  
Fran Kaufman  
Marjorie Kulp  
Sheryl Livergant  
Gary Schahet

**Alan Potash**

Chief Executive Officer

**Table of Contents**

Vol. 49 • No. 8

Community Calendar	18-19
Federation	1, 6, 14, 21, 24
PJ Library	4
Women's Philanthropy	2, 12, 13
Have A Nosh	22
School Listing	23
Simchas & Classifieds	23
Temples	5, 11, 18
Tributes	20



*Join Us for An Affair to Remember*

**POMEGRANATE EVENT**  
Monday, March 27, 2023 2:00-4:00 PM

**“Chai” Tea**

**Le Vallauris Restaurant, Palm Springs**

Minimum Contribution: \$1800  
Couvert \$75

*Co-chairs: Lynda Zionts and Ana Landau*

Musical Entertainment by  
Violin Soloist Cindy Brogan



**Pomegranate Event will be “An Affair to Remember”**

2023 is a year of exciting new beginnings and reviving of wonderful traditions. The March 27<sup>th</sup> Pomegranate Event is the latter, with chairs Lynda Zionts and Ana Landau reestablishing this very special level of giving to our Federation. The setting for this “Affair to Remember Chai Tea” is the beautiful Le Vallauris in Palm Springs. Musical entertainment will be Violin Soloist Cindy Brogan.

Pomegranate requires a minimum gift of \$1,800 to our annual campaign, with a



**Ana Landau and Lynda Zionts**  
couvert of \$75. Commitment to this level of giving enables our Jewish Federation

to help more people who need our support, whether locally, nationally or overseas - in Israel and wherever Jews are in jeopardy around the world.

This “Chai Tea” takes place within days of the Jewish Community News arriving in homes, so it is important to call the Jewish Federation right away to confirm your reservation. Call Leslie Pepper, Director of Women’s Philanthropy and Community Engagement, at 760-324-4737.



Lion in our community.

A very special welcome to Lori Fritz on her becoming a Lion of Judah in our Desert Federation. However, this is only the latest in Lori’s commitment to our community. She has served on our Jewish Federation Board for many years, was Campaign Chair in 2019 and is currently Allocations Chair. We are truly fortunate to have Lori as part of our Desert Jewish community.

Our Lion of Judah ladies are a very special and important part of our annual campaign, with their minimum annual gift of \$5,000. Recognizing that we have a significant number winter residents who are Lions of Judah in their home communities, we have an “Out of Town Lions” rate of \$1200 for these ladies to be part of our Lion of Judah annual events, (and a similar double rate for Major Gifts’ donors).

At our recent Lion of Judah Brunch we recognized and welcomed five new Lions of Judah (See photo #1 of our photo array on page 12). There was a sixth ‘new Lion’ that we failed to recognize because she had been one of our Out-of-town Lions for many years. However this year she made the commitment to become a ‘local’





# Israel Guide Dog Center

By Alberto Tejero, CFO Jewish Federation of the Desert

This past February, Helen Varon (Chair) hosted a lunch at Wally's Desert Turtle to honor the Israel Guide Dog Center. Dan McGrath served as the Master of Ceremonies and Phyllis Eisenberg was in charge of the raffle. Noach Braun, CEO and co-founder of the Israel Guide Dog Center, was the speaker and Daniel Attal, program participant and volunteer, a special guest.

The Israel Guide Dog Center is one of the many organizations we proudly sponsor at the Jewish Federation of the Desert as part of our Israel, Overseas and World Jewry allocations program.

During the event, we had the opportunity to chat with Noach Braun and Daniel Attal who also shared his amazing story with the audience:

Daniel, a father of three daughters, completely lost his sight 20 years ago. Soon after his prognosis was confirmed; he fell into a deep depression that cost him his marriage and job. Daniel felt like he was wearing an "iron suit" that kept him from performing simple tasks. Some time later, a friend introduced him to the Guide Dog program and when he felt "ready," Daniel made the call that turned his life around and would finally liberate him from the heavy burden that was keeping him down. The actual turning point was when Daniel went for a "test" night walk in the city and, in his



Dan Attal with Yellow

words, "he felt free and human again." He could hear, taste and sense his surroundings. With every step he was shedding the heavy weight that had been chaining him to the ground.

Each guide dog is trained since very young and when ready "to work" will spend a minimum of three weeks (day and night)



Jewish Federation CEO Alan Potash and Phyllis Eisenberg



Helen Varon with Dan and Regina McGrath

adapting and training with his soon to be life companion. The working life of a guide dog is approximately ten years. After their guide

life is over, the dogs retire, and are usually adopted by a family, or work as emotional support dogs. "Yellow" is Daniel's second guide dog and has been his daily companion for the last four years. Together they have travelled the world, and even walked the busy streets of New York City.

Today, Daniel is fully employed and also works as a volunteer at the Center. He recently married Nadine, a successful designer, and they reside in the city of Netanya (northern central district of Israel). As everyone in the room, including myself, wiped our happy tears, Daniel's incredible journey reminded us how the Center has impacted the lives of so many.

Through the years, and thanks to your generous contributions, the Jewish Federation of the Desert has partnered with many local and overseas programs to provide hope and opportunities to thousands of children and adults. Please feel free to contact us at (760) 324 - 4737 if you would like more information.

## Drivers Harass Baltimore Jewish Residents on Shabbat

Jewish News Syndicate

A volunteer community patrol that protects Baltimore's Jewish community is urging people who were harassed on Shabbat en route to or from synagogue to contact the police.

Several antisemitic incidents occurred on March 4, per a Baltimore Shomrim community alert. "Witnesses indicate

that individuals operating a dark-colored Chevrolet Cruze were stopping members of the Jewish community, near houses of worship, making derogatory, antisemitic statements and demanding money," it stated.

Security camera footage captured some of the incidents and was turned

over to local law enforcement.

"If you or anyone you know is a victim of one of these or similar incidents, please contact Shomrim immediately," the alert added. "If you identify the vehicle in question, use extreme caution, do not approach the vehicle and contact Shomrim and 911 immediately.

## Temple Sinai Hosts Concert by Internationally Renowned Pianist

Temple Sinai is pleased to present internationally recognized concert pianist David Syme for a wonderful evening of entertainment. This special event is open to the entire community on Saturday evening, May 6, at Temple Sinai, at 7:30 pm. The concert will be preceded by an

optional dinner at 6:00 PM.

David Syme is a Juilliard alumnus who has performed in 17 European countries, and many venues in North America, including Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Mr. Syme has been artist in residence at University College Cork in Ireland since 2021,

where he developed a series of "living room concerts", performing for small groups. He has since resumed traveling internationally to perform.

More information and pricing can be found on the Temple Sinai website ([www.temple sinaipd.org](http://www.temple sinaipd.org)), or by calling the temple office (760-568-9699).

Internationally  
Renowned Pianist  
**David Syme**

In Concert, with  
Welcome Dinner  
**Saturday, May 6**

Dinner: 6:00 PM  
Concert: 7:30 PM

Concert Ticket Only	\$50
Concert & Dinner	\$100
Concert, Dinner & Reserved Seating	\$150
Concert, Dinner & Reserved Seating for two	\$250

Temple Sinai  
73251 Hovley Lane W.  
Palm Desert  
[www.temple sinaipd.org](http://www.temple sinaipd.org)  
760-568-9699

Vertical text on the right side of the concert advertisement.



# German Political Parties Split Over 'Antisemitism Test' for Prospective Immigrants

By Ben Cohen, *The Algemeiner*

Germany's main political parties are embroiled in a dispute over whether to include an "antisemitism test" in naturalization examinations for prospective citizens.

The debate comes amid fresh concern over rising antisemitism in Germany. Data released by the federal government last month revealed an increase of 40 percent in acts of antisemitic violence, with more than 2,600 antisemitic incidents registered overall.

While Germany has an active far right scene, many of the outrages have been perpetrated by Muslim immigrants, prompting a discussion over whether prospective citizens should be questioned on their attitudes towards Jews before being naturalized. A survey by the EU's Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) in 2018 showed that 30 percent of antisemitic incidents were perpetrated by Muslims, while more recently, demonstrations in May 2021 against the conflict in Gaza between Hamas and Israel descended into open antisemitism in several German cities.

On Thursday, Bijan Djir-Sarai — the leader of the center-right Free

Democratic Party (FDP), which occupies 92 of the 736 seats in the Bundestag, Germany's parliament — argued that reform of the country's naturalization laws should include questions to applicants over whether they had participated in antisemitic demonstrations or had been involved with organizations whose missions run counter to the democratic values in Germany's postwar constitution.

"Anyone who does not accept our values cannot be naturalized," Djir-Sarai said, in comments reported by the *Judische Allgemeine* news outlet.

The FDP leader's proposal was supported by Ahmad Mansour, an Israeli-Arab psychologist based in Berlin who has attempted to challenge antisemitic beliefs among Muslim immigrants.

"It's a shame that we don't even take into account the attitude towards sexual self-determination, freedom of expression and Israel's right to exist in naturalization — this doesn't create any incentives for integration, but on the contrary for disintegration and the development of parallel societies," Mansour said.

However, the FDP's proposal was roundly rejected by the center-left SPD Party and the left-wing Greens — both of whom have cooperated with the FDP in the past on initiatives to combat antisemitism, including legislation passed in 2019 targeting the campaign to subject Israel to "boycotts, divestment and sanctions" (BDS).

Marlene Schönberger, the Green Party's spokesperson for countering antisemitism, told the *Welt* news outlet that the proposed reform was unnecessary, arguing that it would focus attention on antisemitism among immigrants at the expense of the wider society.

"At least a quarter of all people living in Germany have openly or latently antisemitic attitudes," she said. "In any case, a commitment to the Basic Law and to the free democratic basic order is a prerequisite for naturalization."

Her equivalent in the SPD, Hakan Demir, agreed, saying that "a separate test is not required. Anyone who has already been sentenced for anti-Semitic or racist offenses can no longer be naturalized." He also pointed to the German Interior Ministry's commitment

to include insights about antisemitism, Judaism and Israel's right to exist in immigrant integration courses.

Germany's Jewish community refrained from taking a side in the debate.

"The idea is real food for thought," Josef Schuster, president of the Central Council of German Jews, told *Welt*. "We now have to examine how this can be implemented."

## JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication of the  
Jewish Federation of the Desert  
VOL. 49, No. 8

### EDITORIAL

**Alan Potash**, CEO  
**Miriam H. Bent**, Editor  
**Bailey Communications**,  
Layout & Design

### JCN STATEMENT

The Jewish Community News seeks to provide news and feature material of special interest to its readership, and to create a heightened sense of Jewish identity through the dissemination of information about people, events and issues at home and abroad. The JCN seeks to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and opinions in the Jewish community.

The JCN is published monthly, ten months a year by the Jewish Federation of the Desert, 69-710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, 760-324-4737, fax 760-324-3154.

**ARTICLES & ADVERTISING,**  
**Miriam H. Bent**, Editor  
760-323-0255  
e-mail: mh bentjcn@earthlink.net

### ADVERTISING

The JCN does not endorse the goods or services advertised in its pages and makes no representation as to the kashrut of food products and services in such advertising. The publisher shall not be liable for damages if, for any reason whatsoever, it fails to publish an advertisement or for any error in an advertisement. Acceptance of advertisers and of advertising copy is subject to the publisher's approval. The JCN is not responsible if ads violate applicable laws and the advertiser will indemnify, hold harmless and defend the JCN from all claims made by government agencies and consumers for any reason based on ads carried in the JCN.



## Enroll your Child or Grandchildren in PJ Library for Free Jewish Books



[www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org)

Powered by the Jewish Federation  
of the Desert

*Strengthening our community together*

# A Grammy for Jewish Music?

There's a Grammy for Christian Music. These Musicians Want Jewish Music to Get One, Too.

Andrew Einstein, J. The Jewish News of Northern California

There is a Grammy Award for just about every kind of music — from pop to metal to New Age to Contemporary Christian — but there's no Jewish category. Two Jewish musician friends hope to change that.

Joanie Leeds, a children's musician and Grammy winner in New York City, and Mikey Pauker, a self-described "devotional rock" artist from California, are working on a formal proposal to add "best Jewish music album" to the list of Grammys awarded each year. They plan to submit their proposal to the Recording Academy, the body that governs the Grammys, this month.

In the past, albums of what is traditionally considered to be Jewish music have been nominated in a variety of categories, including best contemporary world music. The Klezmatics' "Wonder Wheel" album won in that category in 2006, and some referred to the award as "the first Jewish Grammy."

But musicians who produce albums of Jewish music often find themselves caught between categories, Leeds said. The global category is not a fit for American musicians, and categories for religious music, even if expanded, are also not an easy fit, she said.

"Jewish' is complicated, because it's not just a religion like Christianity," Leeds said. "It's also a culture."

To strengthen their proposal, the pair consulted with rabbis and Jewish educators about what constitutes Jewish music.

"We're doing our best to be as clear as possible and as inclusive as possible, because not everybody knows that Jewish music is diverse," Pauker said. "It's transdenominational, it's based in spirituality, it's based in culture and it's not just Ashkenazi."

In their proposal, Pauker and Leeds make the case for a new category that will encompass Jewish religious music, such as cantorial music, niggunim and Mizrahi music, as well as secular music, such as klezmer, Yiddish, Ladino and Judeo-Arabic music. Albums with

Christian themes, including those produced by Messianic Jews, would not be eligible.

"It needs to have some sort of Jewish content in it to make it Jewish music," Leeds said. "If there's a song in Israel about some guy meeting a girl at a bar, or whatever it's about that has no grounds in text or liturgy or anything, then it wouldn't be considered Jewish music."

"Our goal is really to educate not just the Recording Academy about what Jewish music is, but also educating the public as to what Jewish music is," she said.

The Recording Academy regularly adds and modifies Grammy categories. This year, it added five new ones, including best score soundtrack for video games and other interactive media and best spoken-word poetry album.

Pauker said this is not the first time musicians have petitioned the Recording Academy to add a Jewish category. But this time, he said, he and Leeds can point to the consistent output of high-quality Jewish music in recent years. He noted that in the past two years alone, more than 100 albums were released that could have been nominated in such a category.

"We're at a point in music history where we're having a Jewish renaissance, and the market has arrived," he said. "We have enough artists where we can get this done." He added that the Recording Academy has been supportive of him and Leeds in their endeavor.

In an effort to raise awareness



Petition placed by Joanie Leeds

about their proposal, they have launched a petition on the Change.org website. By the end of the week it had more than 1,800 signatures, including from non-Jewish musicians.

Among the signers is Sephardic singer and activist Sarah A r o e s t e . She said she supports the push to add a Jewish category at the Grammys because her albums, including 2021's "Monastir," do not fit cleanly into the other categories.

"Jewish music crosses so many musical boundaries, yet we get lost, or are ineligible, in existing categories," she wrote. "As a Ladino musician specifically, I've always been put in the global music category. I am literally up against musical acts from all around the globe!"

She added: "Having our own category



Mikey Pauker



Joanie Leeds

— much like other ethnic or religious groups have them — would highlight the breadth and diversity of Jewish music as a genre and would allow those Academy members knowledgeable about the music to be able to vote."

Pauker, 37, lives in southern California and recently launched his own folk-rock-reggae-chant record label called Beautiful Way Records. He will help lead Shabbat services during Wilderness Torah's upcoming Passover in the Desert festival.

Leeds, who is based in New York City, won a 2021 Grammy in the Best Children's Music Album category for her ninth album, a compilation of secular children's music called "All the Ladies" that included a song about Jewish Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She has also released multiple albums of Jewish kids' music, including "Meshugana" and "Challah, Challah," as well as a Christmas record called "Oy Vey" in collaboration with the rapper Fyütch.

Pauker said the two became close friends during the pandemic, when they spent many hours on the social media app Clubhouse discussing Judaism and music.

As the Recording Academy considers their proposal in the coming weeks, Pauker said he and Leeds will hold community conversations about trends in Jewish music.

"One of our hopes is this will launch hundreds of new artists, new records and collaborations that can really help push this genre forward," he said.

**HAR-EL**  
An Institute for Study and Worship in the Hebrew Tradition  
Member, Union for Reform Judaism

**Har-El "BOOKS TO MOVIES" Series: Spring/Summer 2023**  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

**See Academy Award Movie 1961: "JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG"**  
**Discussion Leader: Professor Steve Moyer, Attorney-at-Law**

**For details of this event email [harelurjpd@gmail.com](mailto:harelurjpd@gmail.com)**  
**Suggested donation \$10, including concession treats**

**Future dates for "Books to Movies" Series: May 17, June 21 and July 19**



# Israeli Chemist Finds Alternative to Medical Injections, 'Works Even Better'

**Prof. Nissim Garti's liquid nano vehicles deliver oral or topical formulations of drugs usually delivered only by needle.**

By Abigail Klein Leichman, ISRAEL21c

Orly Shani, 68, has adult polyglucosan body disease (APBD) — a rare genetic neurodegenerative disease affecting muscles from the hips downward.

Several years ago, she located scientists in the United States and Spain who synthesized a bioactive molecule as a possible remedy. In experiments done in Israel, this novel powdered compound restored damaged neurons when injected twice a day in a mouse model of APBD.

To test it on humans, they needed a treatment regimen that would be easier on the body.

"My husband was talking about it with friends," Shani says, "and one of

them is a physician. He said he knows a professor at Hebrew University, Nissim Garti, who can turn a powder into a syrup in a patented process."

Garti's LDS (Lyotropic Delivery Systems) Biotech company develops shelf-stable liquid "nano-domain" vehicles ready to be loaded with oral or topical formulations of drugs that otherwise could be delivered only by injection or infusion.

"It is always difficult for a drug to cross any kind of membrane, whether from the stomach to the bloodstream or the front of the eye to the back of the eye, or across layers of skin or through the nails," Garti explains. "Our technology

can transfer FDA-approved bioactive drugs across these barriers."

The nano-domain "bus" parks itself on the target organ or muscle's membrane barrier with a sticking action that triggers the membrane to open and allow the "cargo" to flow through in a controlled manner — completely bypassing the liver, where meds can cause toxicity.

## A miracle

About a year and a half ago, Israel's Health Ministry permitted Shani to receive Garti's liquid reformulation of the powdered experimental drug, on a compassionate use basis, at Hadassah Hebrew University Medical Center in Jerusalem.

"It's a miracle," Shani tells ISRAEL21c.

"It works better even than an injection. When I started taking it, I couldn't stand or walk. Now I stand by myself and walk with a walker. I can swim and stand in a pool. I can get in and out of bed myself. And the improvement is continuing. I know someday I will be back on the dance floor."

Two more APBD patients are now showing progress on the formulation as well, Garti reports.

While this drug is not yet in clinical trials, many of Garti's other nano-domain formulations are being tested on patients for a variety of applications at medical centers in Israel and the United States.

## Hard as nails

The most advanced application of the LDS technology is a much more common condition — nail fungus.

"There is no cure today for nail fungus except an oral drug that can cause liver problems, so doctors don't like to use it," says Garti.

"Topical medications are available, but our delivery system gets the drug through the nail all the way to the basis of the fungus, killing it completely."

Garti believes this application, nearing the end of a Phase I/II trial at an Israeli hospital, could be a

gamechanger.

"We make all our formulations very safe so if someone makes a mistake in dosing it's no problem," says Garti, the award-winning previous director of Hebrew University's Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry.

A clinical trial is beginning at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Medical Center to test Garti's nano-domains in delivering a drug, which is normally injected, in the form of eye drops to treat a common eye disease.

## CBD via nanotech

LDS has two divisions, each working with multinational partners: one that develops nanotechnology drug-delivery systems for generic and innovative pharmaceuticals, and another for nutraceuticals and derma-cosmetics.

Innovative pharmaceuticals include combinations of cannabis components, such as CBD, embedded in nanodroplets to treat six different diseases.

"The idea is that it is easier to take because it's in liquid form with high bioavailability and high efficacy," says Garti. "We are now doing Phase I and II clinical trials in six hospitals in the United States and one in London."

Already, some over-the-counter CBD products developed by Garti are being sold in North America under the Hygia brand, including a transparent gel to relieve muscle pain that can be encapsulated for oral delivery.

The goal of delivering treatments without needles is a high priority across the world. Many Israeli nanotech entrepreneurs and researchers are attempting to design ultra-tiny vehicles — such as nanodiamonds, nanorobots or a nanoparticle nasal spray — to fill this need.

Garti says LDS is among the most advanced of these initiatives, with about 20 patents already granted and 37 more in the approval process.

## FROM DESERT TO DESERT: EXPERIENCE ISRAEL CELEBRATING ISRAEL AT 75 SEPTEMBER 4-12, 2023



Space is limited. Register now!

The dates are set for September 4-12, 2023, for the Jewish Federation of the Desert's Mission to Israel. This will be a full 8-day trip with 9 nights in hotels featuring the Negev, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Old Jaffe, Haifa and one of Alan's favorite places in Israel, Caesarea. Call the office at 760-324-4737 for more information.



# Desert Wine Shop

An interview by Alberto Tejero, CFO Jewish Federation of the Desert

This week we are interviewing **Katie Finn**, co-owner and “boots on the ground” manager of **Desert Wine Shop** in Palm Desert, which soon will relocate to a new and bigger space in Point Happy, La Quinta.

With a 20-year background as wine director in the restaurant & wine industry that includes working on the Hawaiian Islands and Napa Valley, Katie is a Canadian transplant who attended high school in the desert. Katie was certified as sommelier in 2003 and continued her oenology studies graduating with a Sommelier Masters.

## Do you sell only wine?

We also sell beer, dessert wines and vermouth, but we specialize in wines from basically all wine production regions in the world. We also offer regular wine tasting sessions from \$5 to \$20 per person (depending on the wine) from 4:30 to 7:30 PM. We provide “tasting class” events and of course personalized shopping assistance to make you always look good in front of your guests!

## I see that you also carry Kosher wines.

### Can you tell us about it?

Actually, we carry both red and white Kosher wines. We offer a fine variety of



**Katie Finn, Desert Wine Shop co-owner and manager**

Kosher wines from different countries and for all budgets. Besides Israel, South Africa has been offering Kosher wines for a long time. France, Italy and Germany are main producers, and also the United States. Argentina and Chile are the largest Latin producing countries.

## You sound passionate about Kosher wines...

Yes, the whole production process is



**Kosher red and white wines Selection**

fascinating and of course, the history behind Kosher wine is unique. The production of Kosher wine requires a lot of attention and it's manually intensive. It's basically handcrafted and organic. Few wines go through such thorough and “personalized” process. Wines are very romantic; you can taste the earthiness and the personality of its origin. Wines are also alive; you can feel the aromaticity depending on its age. So, imagine all this plus a millenary tradition!

## What about Kosher bubbly wines?

Remember that the production of Kosher wine is “artisanship” and depending on the region sometimes not reliable. We are at the moment looking for some Kosher bubbly wines – We have already contacted some distributors in the Champagne region of France.

## Is there a big local demand for Kosher wines?

Yes. We have regular customers – Actually, two members of our Club were the first ones to ask for Kosher wine and since then, they have been selling all year-round. Of course, we have many Holiday customers (by the way, we carry great choices to pair with both chicken and brisket, for your **PASSOVER** celebration), and we also have non-Jewish customers that like the “organic” and traditional element of the Kosher wine. With the opening of our new house in La Quinta, we will also be able to increase our inventory and offer more wine tasting events.

I also had the opportunity to ask Katie about her favorite region and brand but I'm saving that one for myself! Maybe one day we can discuss it ... over a glass of wine! **L'Chaim!**

# Knesset Ministerial Committee Votes in Favor of Death Penalty Law for Terrorists

**“There is nothing more symbolic than passing a death penalty for terrorists law,” National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir said.**

By World Israel News Staff

Israel's Ministerial Committee for Legislative Matters voted in favor of a bill calling for the death penalty over acts of terrorism on February 27, minutes after a shooting attack killed two Israeli brothers.

According to the law, which was part of a coalition agreement between the Likud and Otzma Yehudit, Israeli courts will be permitted to impose the death penalty on those who commit murder on nationalistic grounds against Israeli citizens.

“On this difficult day, when two Israeli citizens were killed in a Palestinian terror attack, there is nothing more symbolic than passing a death penalty for terrorists law,” National Security Minister and Otzma Yehudit head Itamar Ben Gvir said.

Noting that the death penalty exists in the U.S., he went on to call it “a moral and fair law” that should “certainly

also exist in a country where a wave of terrorism plagues the country's citizens.”

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that the government “will continue to act by all means at our disposal – security-wise, operationally, and legislatively – to deter terrorists and maintain the security of Israel. Our response to terror is to strike at terror with force and deepen our roots in our country.”

The committee decided that following a preliminary vote, and prior to a first reading in the Knesset, a discussion will be held in the security cabinet on the exact wording of the law.

Attorney General Gila Beharev-Miara expressed opposition to the bill, issuing an opinion saying it was constitutionally problematic. According to Beharev-Miara, increasing punishment in general, and the death penalty in particular, do not increase deterrence. This is even

more true when it comes to ideological criminals and terrorists, who are willing to die while carrying out attacks, the opinion said.

The clear trend in developed countries in the world is the abolition of the death penalty, the opinion said, with more than two-thirds no longer carrying it out. The only Western country where the death penalty is still carried out is the US, the opinion noted, and there, too, seven states in the past decade have abolished it and it remains legal in only 31 states.

MK Limor Son Har-Melech (Otzma Yehudit), who signed the law, dismissed Beharev-Miara's opinion.

“Time and again in recent times we see terrorists who go and turn themselves in. If they really wanted to die so much, they would not take a taxi and turn themselves in right after an attack,” Son Har-Melech told Ynet radio.

A poll published in November showed that a majority of Israelis – 71% – support the death penalty for terrorists convicted of killing Israelis.



For a meaningful way to express thanks or congratulations for a special occasion, extend condolences or wishes for recovery from illness, there is no better way than to purchase a Tzedakah card through the Jewish Federation of the Desert. Proceeds from the sale of the tribute cards benefit the TZEKAKAH FUND, which provides direct monetary intervention for the emergency needs of Jews in our community. To order your cards, call the Jewish Federation at 760-324-4737 or order online at [jfedps.org](http://jfedps.org). Thank you.



# Citing Alleged 'Apartheid,' South African Parliament Votes to Downgrade Diplomatic Relations with Israel

By Ben Cohen, *The Algemeiner*

South Africa's parliament voted on March 7 to approve the downgrading of diplomatic ties with Israel, in a move seen as having little legislative but important political significance.

The vote — endorsed by 208 MPs, with 94 voting against — places a symbolic seal on the motion approved by the ruling African National Congress (ANC) at its Dec. 2017 conference to downgrade South Africa's Embassy in Tel Aviv to the status of a liaison office. That decision, which was strongly condemned by South Africa's Jewish community, was taken in the presence of representatives of Hamas, the Islamist terror organization that rules Gaza.

The parliamentary vote meanwhile requires the South African government to inform Israel of the change if it is to be implemented. The government has made no statement so far regarding its intentions, South African news outlets reported the next day.

Tuesday's motion was submitted by the National Freedom Party (NFP), a tiny center-left party that holds two seats in South Africa's 400-seat parliament, with the backing of the ANC.

In a statement hailing the vote, the NFP claimed that "the State of Israel was built through the displacement, murder, and maiming of Palestinians."

It added: "And to maintain their grip on power, they have instituted apartheid to control and manage Palestinians. As South Africans, we refuse to stand by while apartheid is



**A South African Friends of Israel demonstration in Durban.**

being perpetrated again."

Israel meanwhile condemned Monday's vote. "At a time when many African and Muslim countries are strengthening and deepening ties with the State of Israel for the benefit of everyone's common interests, it is unfortunate that South Africa continues to adhere to anachronism and the deterioration of relations, a move that will only harm South Africa itself and its standing," a statement from the country's foreign ministry declared.

The South African Zionist Federation (SAZF) similarly slammed Tuesday's vote, accusing the ANC of having "created a foreign policy that aims to befriend dictatorships and bash democracies."

The ANC "obsesses over Israel, which is the size of our Kruger National Park, and at the same hosts navy war drills with Russia, responsible for horrific war

crimes and the deaths of thousands of innocent Ukrainian civilians over the past year," the SAZF pointed out in a statement.

Apartheid — the Afrikaner word for "separation" — was a legally-based system of racial segregation that prevailed in South Africa for most of the twentieth century, entrenching the rule of the white minority population of 10 percent over the Black majority of 90 percent. Black South Africans were severely restricted in their educational and job opportunities, were confined to overcrowded, unsanitary townships, were forbidden from entering into relationships with white people and were banned from voting. Despite the absence of similar legislation in Israel, the ANC and its allies have insisted on labeling the Jewish state as an "apartheid" state where Jews hold similar privileges to those enjoyed

by white South Africans prior to the abolition of apartheid in 1994.

The NFP statement also invoked the late, widely revered leader of the anti-apartheid struggle, Nelson Mandela, asserting: "This is a moment Madiba [Mandela's honorific title] would be proud of. He always said our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of Palestinians."

There is no record of Mandela, who died in 2013, expressing support for anti-Zionist ideology or advocating Israel's elimination as a sovereign state. In a speech delivered to the South African Jewish Board of Deputies on Aug. 21, 1993, Mandela expressed his deep sympathies with both Jewish and Palestinian national aspirations.

"As a movement we recognize the legitimacy of Palestinian nationalism just as we recognize the legitimacy of Zionism as a Jewish nationalism. We insist on the right of the state of Israel to exist within secure borders but with equal vigor support the Palestinian right to national self-determination," Mandela said at the time.

On a visit to Israel in Oct. 1999, Mandela reaffirmed his position at a joint press conference with then Israeli foreign minister David Levy. Lauding Israel as an "economic powerhouse" long before the country acquired its "start-up nation" reputation, Mandela opined, "I cannot conceive of Israel withdrawing if Arab states do not recognize Israel within secure borders."

## Gas for Jerusalem Recognition? Netanyahu Reveals Agenda for Italy Trip

"I believe the time has come for Rome to recognize Jerusalem as the ancestral capital of the Jewish people for 3,000 years," Netanyahu tells Italian newspaper.

By World Israel News Staff

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wants to strengthen ties between Israel and Italy, including providing the country with natural gas, according to a report published by Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* hours before the premier was scheduled to take off for a trip to Rome.

"Our relations are very solid, but I would like to see more economic cooperation. Israel is the home of innovation, and I believe closer interactions with your companies will

be good for both of us," Netanyahu told a *La Repubblica* journalist.

"We have natural gas... plenty of it, and I would like to talk about how to bring it to Italy to support its economic growth."

Netanyahu also hinted that he would ask Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni to move Italy's embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

"I believe the time has come for Rome to recognize Jerusalem as the ancestral capital of the Jewish people for 3,000

years, like the United States has done in a great gesture of friendship," he said.

Netanyahu added that changing Italy's voting patterns at the UN was a top priority for his trip. "Since 2015, Italy has voted against us 89 times at the UN," he noted.

"It [comes in contrast to] our excellent bilateral relations. Instead of dealing with nations like Syria and Iran, where the most basic rights are trampled on, at the UN, countries vote against Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East."

The premier also touched on the Iranian nuclear threat, referencing CIA Director William Burns' recent announcement that the Islamic Republic is just days away from enriching uranium to nuclear-grade levels.

"Iran should know we will do everything in our power to prevent it from becoming a nation on the threshold of nuclear power," Netanyahu said. "There is no way to stop a rogue regime from obtaining nuclear weapons without a credible military threat."



# Israel's Supreme Court Rules in Favor of 'Utah Zoom Weddings'

The decision paves the way for Israelis to have online civil ceremonies registered with the Interior Ministry.

*Jewish News Syndicate*

On March 7<sup>th</sup> Israel's Supreme Court rejected the state's appeal against registering civil marriages performed online through the U.S. state of Utah.

The ruling directs the Population and Immigration Authority within the Interior Ministry to register these marriages, which are generally conducted via Zoom or Skype as an alternative to a religious ceremony conducted through the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.

These "Utah marriages" became popular after a 2020 rule change in the U.S. state made marriages conducted

via videoconferencing software legal as long as at least one participant or the officiant was physically present in the state.

The COVID-19 pandemic made these marriages even more popular when Israelis could not travel abroad for civil marriages. Traditionally, many Israelis traveled to Cyprus for civil ceremonies. And the United Arab Emirates capital Abu Dhabi recently registered the first marriage of an Israeli couple.

Around 600 Israeli couples have gotten married in Utah Zoom weddings

in the past three years. They include members of the LGBT community, interfaith couples and others not recognized by the Chief Rabbinate.

The state's appeal followed a petition by the NGO Hiddush—For Religious Freedom and Equality along with eight couples who married online through Utah.

"We welcome the ruling of the Supreme Court, which opens another channel of marriage for the citizens and residents of Israel. The State of Israel is the only Western democracy

in the world that denies its citizens the freedom of marriage due to the demand of the religious parties," Rabbi Uri Regev, CEO of Hiddush, said.

MK Moshe Arbel of Shas slammed the decision. "The Supreme Court's recognition on Purim of civil marriages performed over the Zoom app is a sad joke at the expense of all of Israel's religious and traditional citizens and expresses more than anything the desire to advance the values of a 'state of all its citizens' and erase the Jewish identity of the state," said Arbel.

# Federal Grand Jury Indicts Los Angeles Gunman Who Shot Two Jewish Men

Authorities say that 28-year-old Jaime Tran intended to kill Jews as they were leaving their synagogues.

*Jewish News Syndicate*

On March 7 a federal grand jury indicted a man for hate crimes in the shooting last month of two Jewish men as they left synagogues in Los Angeles.

The four-count indictment charges Jaime Tran, 28, with hate crimes and firearms offenses, specifically two counts of "willfully causing bodily injury and attempting to kill his victims," according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California.

He is also charged with two counts of discharging a firearm in relation to a violent crime.

Authorities allege that on Feb. 15 at 9:45 a.m., Tran drove to the heavily Jewish Pico-Robertson area of Los Angeles. He singled out a man who was "wearing a black jacket and yarmulke and had just left religious services at a synagogue." Tran allegedly shot the man "in the back at close range, intending to kill him," but wounded the man instead.

The following day, at 8 a.m., authorities say Tran returned to the area "intending to kill another Jewish person." His second victim, also dressed in dark colors and wearing a yarmulke, was injured in the attack.

Tran acquired two guns before the February attacks and had done an Internet search for "kosher markets" to see where "Jewish people congregate," according to authorities.

A resident of Riverside County, about an hour east of Los Angeles, Tran has a

history of antisemitic beliefs. The indictment stated that Tran left dental school in 2018 "after making hate-filled statements about other students whom he perceived to be Jewish."



Jaime Tran

From August through December 2022, his rhetoric "escalated and used increasingly violent language," texting a former classmate, saying "I want you dead, Jew. Someone is going to kill you, Jew" and "Burn in an oven chamber," it added.

He also allegedly distributed fliers stating: "Every single aspect of the Covid agenda is Jewish."

If convicted of all charges, Tran faces a minimum mandatory sentence in federal prison of 10 years for each firearm count and a maximum life sentence for each hate crime.

Jaime Tran was arrested in the Coachella Valley, on the border of Palm Springs and Cathedral City. He apparently lives in Riverside County and was allowed to post bail, so is presumably somewhere in our county as he awaits trial. When Palm Springs Police Chief Andrew Mills spoke at Temple Isaiah on March 3 he indicated his department has now increased security at Temple Isaiah and Chabad of Palm Springs.

## TZEDAKAH



## FUND

For a meaningful way to say thank you for a special occasion, send wishes for recovery from illness or extend condolences, there is no better way to send your thoughts than to purchase a Tzedakah card from the Jewish Federation.

Proceeds from the sale of the tribute cards benefit the TZEDAKAH FUND, which enables our Jewish Federation to respond to the emergency needs of Jews in our community.

Call 760-324-4737 to order your cards, or go online to [jfedps.org](http://jfedps.org).



## SHOTTEKIRK DESERT LEXUS



## Let Us Earn Your Business

- Under New Ownership
- Over 300 Lexus Vehicles To Choose From
- A Pleasant And Convenient Shopping Experience

68-068 Kyle Rd. Cathedral City, CA 92234

In The Cathedral City Auto Center

(760) 321-5750 • [desertlexus.com](http://desertlexus.com)



# Pro-Palestinian Activist Who Bragged About Assaulting New York Jews Sentenced for Spree of Antisemitic Violence

**"His lawyer is essentially arguing, 'Beat a Jew, get two free.' This is beyond despicable."**

By Andrew Bernard, *Algemeiner*

A pro-Palestinian activist was sentenced to 18 months in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release for his multi-year spree of violence against Jews.

Saadah Masoud, 29, of Staten Island, New York, pled guilty in federal court in November 2022 to conspiring to commit hate crimes in connection with his attacks on Jewish victims. As part of the guilty plea, he admitted to three assaults in 2021 and 2022.

He was sentenced on March 3 by Judge Denise Cote in the Southern District of New York.

A sentencing document filed by prosecutors in February showcases the extent of Masoud's antisemitism and the brutality of his crimes.

"I beat the s\*\*\* out of three Zionist[s] yesterday and didn't even see a jail cell," Masoud told his associates in the messaging app Signal on May 19, 2021, according to court documents. "ONLY VIOLENCE," he exhorted, saying that they would only receive a minor ticket



Saadah Masoud

for attacking Jews.

The following day, May 20, Masoud arrived at a pro-Israel demonstration

where he approached a man wearing a Star of David necklace, shouted at him, "Are you a f\*\*\*\*\* Jew?" and then punched the man in the face. After the assault, Masoud texted his friends: "no videos of me anywhere lmaooo. I'm Gucci. No face no case."

Two weeks later on June 2, Masoud attacked his second victim, popular local Jewish radio host and city council candidate Heshy Tischler, outside of his home in Brooklyn. Masoud wrote in an Instagram direct message after the attack, "nah some jew politician said i assaulted him," and said his lawyer was able to get him released without bail.

Masoud's third assault was on 28-year-old Matt Greenman, who attended a pro-Palestinian demonstration draped in an Israeli flag in April 2022.

Greenman recounted the attack in an interview with New York broadcaster PIX 11. A group of men marching in a pro-Palestinian demonstration spotted him on the corner of Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street in midtown Manhattan.

Masoud's friends "started to make a little circle and he got me from behind, got me on the ground, and punched me in the face," said Greenman. "I got this black eye. He kicked me in the face a whole bunch."

Greenman was taken to the hospital and treated for a concussion.

Despite his efforts to conceal his actions, his guilty plea for the attacks, and what prosecutors described as "his awareness of hate crime statutes, and the severity of charges under hate crime statutes," Masoud's defense argued before Friday's hearing that he should receive only 6 months in prison despite sentencing guidelines recommending 18-24 months.

The defense argued that because New York District Attorney Alvin Bragg granted a six-month sentence plea deal to a man who attacked a yarmulke-wearing Jewish man at the same rally where Masoud committed one of his assaults, Masoud should therefore receive the same sentence.

Gerard Filitti, a lawyer representing Greenman and a Senior Counsel at the Lawfare Project, called that argument "disgusting."

"Masoud pled guilty to a conspiracy whose overt acts included three violent attacks on three separate occasions," Filitti told *The Algemeiner*. "His lawyer is essentially arguing, 'Beat a Jew, get two free.' This is beyond despicable."

Prosecutors describe Masoud's antisemitic tirades continuing even after his arrest on 14 June, 2022.

"When the defendant was brought to the courthouse following his arrest, he recognized the case detective and said to him, 'All this for one Jew?'" the prosecution's sentencing filing says. Speaking before the sentencing hearing, Filitti said this case demonstrated the need for more federal hate crimes prosecutions.

"While I fully expect the Court to see Masoud for what he is – an unrepentant Jew-hater – his submission showcases the very need for more federal prosecutions of antisemitic hate crimes, in order to deter violent attacks against the Jewish community," Filitti said. "Deterrence is only served by imposing consequences and holding perpetrators accountable for their hate-filled conduct."

## DESERT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL



The Desert Holocaust Memorial is located in the Palm Desert Civic Center Park at San Pablo Avenue & Fred Waring Drive. Residents and visitors are encouraged to visit this moving memorial, a place of remembrance and monument of hope.



# Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Center Named Global Leader in Several Fields

Jewish News Syndicate



Hadassah-Ein Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem

*Newsweek* has named Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Center a world leader in oncology, and for the fifth straight year one of the globe's top hospitals in both cardiology and smart technology.

The rankings appeared in the World's Best Hospitals 2023, the fifth annual assessment of 300 hospitals in 28 countries produced by *Newsweek*, in partnership with the global data firm Statista.

Hadassah was placed alongside world-renowned U.S. medical centers such as the Mayo Clinic, the Cleveland Clinic, New York City's Mount Sinai Hospital and The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

"Hadassah has gained a global reputation thanks to its groundbreaking research and advanced medical care," said Hadassah director Dr. Yoram Weiss.

"I am delighted to see that, for the fifth year in a row, we have been recognized for the uncompromising quality of our teams in the fields of oncology and cardiology and as a 'smart' hospital using the most advanced technologies."

The *Newsweek*-Statista results are based on more than 20,000 recommendations from thousands of medical experts and verified by a global committee of medical specialists.

## Community Events

**April 5**

First Seder, Pesach April 5-13

**April 30**

Yom Ha'atzmaut  
Community Celebration



**May 6**

Temple Sinai: David Symes in Concert

**May 25-27**

Shavuot

## TEMPLE ISAIAH INVITES YOU TO OUR 60<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL Community Seder

1<sup>ST</sup> NIGHT OF PASSOVER: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 PM  
led by Rabbi Steven Rosenberg, Dr. Sarah Sela & very special guests.

Join us for a joyous evening of friendship and lively participation, along with a delicious Seder meal, catered by Manhattan in the Desert



**\$75 members / \$85 guests**

Dinner Includes choice of gefilte fish or chopped liver; matzah ball soup or salad; beef brisket, roasted chicken or salmon; matzah, charoset, tzimmes, potato kugel, assorted desserts, Manischewitz wine & kosher grape juice.

Reserve your seat at our table! Deadline:  
March 23. To RSVP and select meal options, go  
online to [www.templeisaiahps.com](http://www.templeisaiahps.com) or call the  
Temple Office Tuesday-Friday: 760-325-2281.



Temple Isaiah, Jewish Community Center, 332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262.  
Palm Spring's Iconic Synagogue and JCC, proudly serving the Jewish Community since 1947.



CARING • COMMITTED • CONVENIENT

With more than 100 years of experience, you can count on Forest Lawn for superior service and only the highest degree of integrity. Our informative, well-trained staff is here to assist you with a full range of on-site services. Whether you would like to plan for the future or are in a time of need, Forest Lawn is here for you.

Call 800-204-3131 or visit [ForestLawn.com](http://ForestLawn.com) today and discover a new trusted resource.



SERVING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY  
WITH DIGNITY & UNDERSTANDING

*Chevrá Kadisha Services Available*

**FOREST LAWN**<sup>®</sup>

FUNERALS • CREMATIONS • CEMETERIES

CATHEDRAL CITY FD 1847

69855 E. Ramon Road, Cathedral City, CA 92234

COACHELLA FD 640

51990 Jackson Street, Coachella, CA 92236

INDIO FD 967

82975 Requia Avenue, Indio, CA 92201

FOREST LAWN MEMORIAL-PARKS & MORTUARIES



# Lion of Judah Luncheon

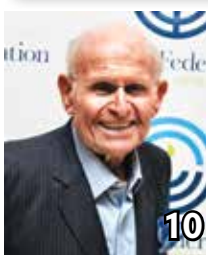


- |  |  |   |                      |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|----------------------|---|---|--|
| 1. Our 2023 New Lions: Debbie Lipsett, Amy Nachman, Nancy Polacheck, Toni Victor & Lisa Roth                                 | 4. Jackie Cohen presenting Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland certificate to Fran Kaufman | 12. Stephanie S. Ross                                     | 20. Susan Langus     | 30. Kim Shwachman                                   | 39. Maxine Kirshenbaum                          | 47. Susan Konheim & Nancy Siwak                                  |
| 2. Fran Kaufman, CEO Alan Potash, Speaker Lettie Cottin Pogrebin, Campaign Chair Arnie Gillman & Co-Board Chair Jackie Cohen | 5. Susan Diamond, Diane Cohen, Lori Fritz & Nancy Ditlove                      | 13. Helen Varon   | 21. Eileen Zoll      | 31. Lori Friend                                     | 40. Sherry Schor                                | 48. Barbara Applebaum & Judy Sontag                              |
| 3. Director of Women's Philanthropy & Community Engagement Leslie Pepper, Lettie Pogrebin, Patricia Kenner & CEO Alan Potash | 6. Bobbie Holland  | 14. Adrienne Garland                                      | 22. Ellen Glass      | 32. Lyn Chernis, Katie Small, Lisa Roth & Nina Zale | 41. Pat Hubbard                                 | 49. Fran Kaufman & Janet Korins                                  |
|  | 7. Carol Fragen* & Fran Kaufman*   | 15. Marilyn Roskam  | 23. Diane Gershowitz | 33. Sandra Borns                                    | 42. Carol Kaplan & Shelli Goodman               | 50. Stephanie L. Ross & Toby Berman                              |
|  | 8. Cydney Osterman   | 16. Carol Parsow  | 24. Jeanne Levitt    | 34. Marcia Stein*                                   | 43. Gail Siegel & Leslie Usow                   | 51. Julie Feldman & Patty Kinner                                 |
|  | 9. Celia Norian*   | 17. Fran Belzberg   | 25. Barbara Fromm    | 35. Joanne Mintz                                    | 44. Sheila Keeshin, Marilyn Malkin, & Alice Abt | 52. Gail Richards & Marjorie Kulp                                |
|  | 10. Phyllis Eisenberg  | 18. Carol Luber*, Frances Horwich & Marjorie Kulp         | 26. Barbara Platt*   | 36. Sheila Sloan                                    | 45. Lois Schnitzer & Gayle Romain               | 53. Ruth Kaufman, Gail Scadron, Marnie Miller & Joanne Chunowitz |
|  | 11. Loreen Jacobson  | 19. Joan Lehr, Tammy Birnberg, Alan Potash & Nancy Noddle | 27. Bertel Lewis     | 37. Fefe Passer                                     | 46. Nora Rado, Judy Heckman & Susan Karsen      |  |
|  |  |   | 28. Carol Resnick    | 38. Libby Hoffman                                   |   |  |
|  |  |   | 29. Sheri Borax*     |   |   |  |

\*Women's Philanthropy past chairs



# Major Gifts Dinner



1. Campaign chair Arnie Gillman, Speaker Ira Rosen & his wife Iris Schneider CEO Alan Potash
2. Arnie & Susan Gillman, Joel & Michaela Appell
3. Certificate presented to Ellen & Phil Glass for decades of service, by chairs Barry Kalman & Ron Langus

4. Major Gifts Chairs Barry Kalman & Ron Langus
5. Ira Rosen, Board Co-chair Jackie Cohen & Ed Cohen
6. Brad & Lori Fritz
7. Carol & Alan Parsow
8. Ron & Aviva Snow
9. Stephen & Marjorie Kulp & Frances Horwich
10. Sherwyn Turbow

11. Barry Kalman & Tobi Victor
12. Cydney Osterman & Ken Schoenfeld
13. Dr. Paul & Stephanie Ross
14. Gail & Bob Scadron
15. Arnie Gillman & Alan Potash with Alan Gitlin, who created the outstanding video of our community's Israel projects, shown at the event

16. Phyllis & Gary Schahet
17. Larry & Cathy Pitts
18. Sherry & Jim Borax
19. Susan & Ron Langus
20. Sherry Borax & Sandra Borns
21. Eileen & Larry Zoll
22. Sandra & Henry Friedman
23. Jane & Larry Sherman
24. Janet & Steven Anixter
25. Joanne & Bill Chunowitz\*

26. Scot & Lance Karp
27. Nancy & Dennis Ditlove
28. Kim Schwachman, Jane Sherman & Rachel Sternberg
29. Lori Fritz, Lois Johnson & Bobbi Holland
30. Melvin & Judy Hecktman
31. Marnie Miller & Joe Noren
32. Phyllis Eisenberg, Sandy Sepowitz

33. Myron & Joanne Mintz & Carol Fragen
34. Robin Angel, Jerome & Mary Angel, Michelle Coneybear
35. Lance and Scot Karp
36. Ellen & Phil Glass
37. Fran Kaufman

\* Past Federation Board Chairs



# United Arab Emirates Opens Synagogue in Abrahamic Family House Complex

By Andrew Bernard, *The Algemeiner*

The United Arab Emirates on Thursday inaugurated the Abrahamic Family House, a religious complex containing a synagogue, a mosque, and a church, in the UAE's capital Abu Dhabi.

The Moses Ben Maimon Synagogue held its first Shabbat services mid-February, while the complex as a whole opened to the public the beginning of March.

The UAE's President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed credited the opening of the first purpose-built synagogue in the UAE to the country's history of diversity.

"The UAE has a proud history of people from diverse communities working together to create new possibilities," Sheikh Mohammed said on Twitter. "As the [Abrahamic Family House] in Abu Dhabi is inaugurated,



**Opening ceremony of the Abrahamic Family House, Abu Dhabi, 16 February 2023**

we remain committed to harnessing the power of mutual respect, understanding and diversity to achieve shared progress."

Rabbi Yehuda Sarna, Chief Rabbi of the Jewish Council of the Emirates, has

previously described the UAE's Jewish community as "the first new Jewish community established in centuries on Arab soil."

Aside from the synagogue, the site will contain the Catholic St. Francis

Church, named in honor of both the eponymous saint and for Pope Francis, as well as the Imam al-Tayeb Mosque, named for the current Grand Imam of al-Azhar Mosque in Cairo, Ahmed al-Tayeb, one of the most senior figures in Sunni Islam.

The complex was designed by David Adjaye, an award winning Ghanaian-British architect who also designed the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

According to the Abrahamic Family House website, the complex "captures the values shared between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and serves as a powerful platform for inspiring and nurturing understanding and acceptance between people of goodwill."

## Papua New Guinea to Open Embassy in Jerusalem

**The island nation joins the U.S., Guatemala, Honduras and Kosovo in recognizing Israel's capital.**

*Jewish News Syndicate*

The Oceania nation of Papua New Guinea will open its first embassy in Israel in Jerusalem this year, Israel's Ministry for Foreign Affairs announced on February 27.

The Christian island nation of some 9 million inhabitants will become one of only a handful of countries to have embassies in the Israeli capital following the landmark move by the U.S. under

President Donald Trump.

The move was agreed upon during a phone conversation between Foreign Minister Eli Cohen and his Papua New Guinea counterpart Justin Tkatchenko. Bottom of Form

The two men also discussed expanding bilateral economic relations, especially in the field of advanced agriculture. Tkatchenko promised that

his government would continue its support for Israel in the international arena, the Foreign Ministry statement said.

"I would like to thank Papua New Guinea for the courageous ties, their overwhelming support in international institutions, and their decision to open an embassy in Jerusalem," Cohen said in a statement. "This is further evidence of

the warm and important relationship between the countries."

He pledged to work to encourage other countries to open or relocate their embassies in the capital.

The U.S., Guatemala, Honduras and Kosovo maintain their Israel embassies in Jerusalem.

## Frankfurt Cancels Concert by Roger Waters, 'One of the World's Best-Known Antisemites'

The German city of Frankfurt announced on February 24 the cancellation of a May 28 concert by former Pink Floyd member Roger Waters, citing his reputation as "one of the world's best-known antisemites."

A statement by the municipal government announcing the decision cited his support for the BDS movement, antisemitic imagery at his performances and past interviews with media affiliated with the Hamas terror group.

Waters has a long history of antisemitic

behavior, claiming in October that the Jewish state was attempting to manufacture a new intifada with the ultimate goal of killing as many Palestinians as possible.

"The Israelis seem now to have a policy of murdering so many of them, that they are absolutely trying to create another intifada, so they can make



**British musician Roger Waters**

it an armed conflict where they're a thousand times, 10,000 times more powerful than the Palestinian people ... so they can just kill them all," Waters said on *The Joe Rogan Experience*.

Waters also called the Hamas terrorist group the "democratically elected government of Gaza," acknowledging the existence of an "armed wing" of Hamas yet justifying the Palestinians' "absolute legal and moral right to resist the occupation" and then minimizing the impact of their rocket attacks against Israel. The rockets "almost never

do any damage because they're very ineffectual," he said.

Earlier in February, Pink Floyd member David Gilmour and his wife Polly Samson publicly accused Waters of antisemitism, setting off a widely publicized feud.

"Sadly @rogerwaters you are antisemitic to your rotten core. Also a Putin apologist and a lying, thieving, hypocritical, tax-avoiding, lip-synching, misogynistic, sick-with- envy, megalomaniac. Enough of your nonsense," wrote Samson.



# How Israel Became a Water Superpower

Seth M. Siegel, author of 'Let There Be Water,' hopes Israel's world-class water practices create a ripple effect of peace

By Simona Weinglass, *The Times of Israel*

When Seth M. Siegel, author of "Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World" began his book tour, he expected to get a lot of questions about Israel and the Palestinians. He didn't even rule out the possibility that pro-Palestinian activists, angered by the book's message that Israel is a world leader in water management and conservation, would demonstrate at his lectures.



Seth M. Siegel

But that didn't happen. Instead, "I have been dumbstruck by the response."

Siegel has been traveling around the United States speaking on university campuses, to Jewish groups, to policy groups, at the UN and to groups of business executives and water engineers. He estimates the number of interviews and lectures he has given since the book was published in September to be at least a hundred, and he is still touring, with dates being scheduled to next October. In addition, the book has appeared on the New York Times and Los Angeles Times' bestseller lists.

"People are excited by the message of the book — that there is a solution for the coming global water crisis — and they come up to me afterward, I don't mean one or two, but significant numbers of people. They tell me they want to come visit Israel and learn from Israel."

What they want to learn, explains Siegel, is how a country that is 60 percent desert and whose population increased tenfold since 1948 not only has enough water for itself, but in fact has a surplus and even exports water to its neighbors. In the 1930s British economists predicted that all of Palestine — including today's Gaza, Israel and the West Bank, had enough water to sustain 2 million people. Today, the area is home to more than 12 million people, a feat that Siegel attributes in large part to Israel's first-class water planning and management.

"In addition," Siegel writes, "Israel provides large amounts of water from its own supplies to both the Palestinians and the Kingdom of Jordan and even exports billions of dollars each year of peppers,



Hikers near the Sea of Galilee, Israel's largest freshwater lake

tomatoes, melons and other water-intensive produce."

"That the British economists were wrong," he sums up, "goes without saying."

How did Israel do this? Even before the establishment of the state, leaders like David Ben-Gurion and Levi Eshkol realized that Zionism would only succeed if there were enough water to fill the needs of masses of immigrants and expand the economy. Over the years, Israel has implemented centralized water planning and real pricing, appointed regulators, educated citizens to conserve water, desalinated sea water, used drip irrigation and treated nearly all of its sewage, recycling it for crops.

The result, Siegel tells *The Times of Israel*, is that while Israel has many problems, "in this one narrow area it's a world leader." Frequently faced with incredulity from Israelis who think this sounds too good to be true, he adds, "some Israelis won't take yes for an answer. Israel celebrates its army and immigrant absorption process. It should add to that a celebration of its water."

## From Startup Nation to Water Nation?

Siegel maintains that Israel's water accomplishment is more unique and more deeply part of what it means to be Israeli than its identity as a high-tech powerhouse.

Indeed, one could argue that the ancient nation of Israel was forged out of water insecurity. In Deuteronomy 11:10-12, God helpfully explains that there is no big river in the land of Israel for the nation to irrigate

its crops, and instead it will have to rely on rainfall.

"For the land that you are about to enter and possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come. There the grain you sowed had to be watered by your own labors, like a vegetable garden; but the land you are about to cross into and possess, a land of hills and valleys, soaks up its water from the rains of heaven."

Indeed, this water insecurity preoccupied rabbis throughout the Mishnaic and Talmudic periods, and they developed a detailed body of water law that specified ownership of wells, rules governing public water pipes, canals and reservoirs, the rights of travelers to waterholes, a ban on pollution of water sources and detailed rules for keeping sewage away from drinking water.

Siegel points out that Zionist settlers were overwhelmingly secular but arrived with a familiarity with the Bible and Jewish tradition. This no doubt contributed to their obsession with water security.

Siegel, 61, is the grandchild of Jewish immigrants to the United States, "none of whom were economically successful." His parents made a "decent, but hard, living." But Siegel got a break when he was accepted to Cornell University and later received a law degree there. He started a branding and trademark licensing business, which turned out to be phenomenally successful and counted Coca-Cola and celebrities like Paris Hilton among his clients. Siegel has also

produced Broadway shows, including a revival of "Man of La Mancha." Since selling his company more than a decade ago, he has been involved in community service and outreach, including serving on the board of AIPAC.

The idea for this book came about when Siegel attended a meeting at the Council on Foreign Relations. He heard a US government official tell members that the world was about to enter a period of prolonged water shortage.

"I came away with a feeling of, 'My God, why don't I know any of this?' I asked senators and congressmen who were my friends — and they didn't know about it either."

Siegel began to educate himself on the subject of water, quickly realizing that Israel, his other passion, was an outlier in water management. He interviewed over 220 people — mostly in some aspect of Israel's water sector but also heads of NGOs, Palestinians and others — to understand the story.

"Israel overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles. No other country with a growing population, growing economy and falling level of rainfall has been able to achieve anything remotely like what Israel has done," he says.

Dalia Tal, head of campaigns for Zalul, an environmental NGO in Israel, is somewhat less effusive.

"In terms of the dry facts, Israel is a leading water management country. We are a semi-arid country and we don't have a water crisis like our neighbors. We have a high percentage of sewage purification, water reuse, and desalination. We have water security and the quality of our water is good."

"But from an environmental point of view, most springs are appropriated for the use of agriculture and homes. Despite the fact that we have desalination and reuse of treated water, water doesn't get returned to nature the way it should. I was at Nahal Betzet yesterday — it was as dry as a stream in the desert. There are giant plane trees there and not a drop of water."

Another fear, says Tal, is that when the treated waste water is returned to the fields, it makes the earth saltier, and this can lower agricultural yields over time.

*continued on next page*



## Water diplomacy

Israel exports \$2.2 billion annually in water-related tech and know-how. Siegel quotes an industry source who predicts this amount will reach \$10 billion in a few years.

Not only is this good business, but it has enabled Israel to overcome some of its diplomatic isolation. For decades, China's communist regime refused to have contacts with Israel. But during the 1980s, the country realized it needed help combating massive water leaks and pollution. At first, Israeli water engineers were allowed into the country in secret. Then, China agreed to buy drip irrigation equipment and seeds from Israel but insisted that any "Made in Israel" labels be removed. In 1991, China invited Israel to send a renowned water expert to be resident in China and to train Chinese water people in best practices. A year later, the two countries established diplomatic relations.

Something similar happened in India, says Siegel, and water assistance also helped cement relations between Israel and Iran prior to the Islamic Revolution. In fact, according to Siegel, Israeli water technology is being used in over 150 countries, including some that have no formal ties with Israel.

In terms of the Palestinians, the Palestinian Authority signed water treaties with Israel under Oslo II, which Israel not only continues to honor but to which over time, Israel has added more water provided to Palestinians beyond the treaty obligations. Even so, many still claim that Israel takes more than its fair share.

Siegel indicates that in June 1967 only about 10 percent of the West Bank was connected to modern plumbing while today about 96 percent of Palestinians in the West Bank have clean and safe water piped to their homes, even if, as he points out in the book, more volume and better water is needed.

He laments what he calls the PA's "politicization" of water and its recent policy of not cooperating with Israel on water issues in an attempt to score political points.

In Gaza, controlled by Hamas, the water situation is much more dire, says Siegel. Gaza is only a few years away from a water crisis so severe that its people may have nothing to drink.

"Water problems are a proxy for bad governance," he claims, and since its takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, Hamas has mismanaged the area's water supply, allowing residents to dig too many wells, pollute their aquifer and dump untreated

sewage into the Mediterranean Sea.

Arab affairs analyst Pinhas Inbari tells *The Times of Israel* he believes Palestinians in Gaza are already dying from the bacteria-laden brackish water but that Hamas would sooner let their people die than ask for help from Israel.

At some point, Inbari believes, Israel will have to step in, but he hopes that Israel will make such assistance contingent on Hamas dismantling its missile infrastructure.

"Water is a strategic issue," says Inbari. "We can't give them water while they continue to shoot us."

## Beating Swords Into Water Pipes

Siegel is confident that water can build bridges. The most moving interview in the book, he says, was with retired executive Moshe Gablinger of the TAHAL water engineering and construction firm, who initiated water projects in underdeveloped countries.

"It was an honor that we could help poor people and poor nations and improve the quality of their lives," Gablinger says in Siegel's book. "It was almost like a commandment from the Bible, this feeling we had of wanting to help people all over the world."

Siegel says that sometimes, an angry pro-Israel questioner will get up at one of

his lectures and ask why Israel doesn't use water as a weapon.

"I say that Israel's origins and heritage are to be light unto the nations. The desire is to do justice is part of Israel's heritage. But pragmatically, Israel has seen time and again that its water smarts help open doors."

Siegel acknowledges his background as an American-Jewish success story may have influenced his writing of the book, conceding, "I'm a big believer that hard work, ethical behavior and a value-added service will over time pay off."

But "Let There Be Water," which tells the story of many hardworking, resourceful Israeli water planners, is "also a purely Israeli and Zionist story," he says.

"Look at these water engineers who went into careers not assuming anyone would know their names. Look at David Yogeve, who transformed Israel with his vision of re-using treated sewage. Or Simcha Blass, who gave the world drip irrigation. Or Sidney Loeb, who reconceived desalination. In my book, the reader meets a lot of people like these, people mostly without big egos, people unfairly forgotten to history. Their credo was 'I'm here to serve.' And Israel, and now the world, are both better for their vision and sacrifice."

## YIVO Will Digitize a Trove of Jewish Leftist History

By Andrew Silow-Carroll, JTA

YIVO has launched an eight-year project to digitize its Jewish Labor and Political Archives, widening access to some 3.5 million pages related to Jewish revolutionary, socialist and labor movements in Europe and America.

The project, the largest archival digitization project in the history of the Jewish research institute, will shine a light on the Jewish Labor Bund, whose archives survived the Nazis and form the core of the collection.

Founded in Vilna in 1897 by Jews influenced by Marxism, the Bund played a central role in organizing Jewish trade unions and aligned with various socialist parties in pre-World War II Europe. It administered a massive network of secular Yiddish schools, stood up against antisemitism and supported an underground network against the Nazi genocide — activities kept up by members who managed to flee to New York in the early 1940s.

That history is reflected in the



**Political exiles in Siberia, 1904, from the Jewish Labor and Political Archives. (YIVO)**

journey of the archives' materials, which were seized by the Nazis but were later rediscovered in France after the German army's retreat. In

1951, the Bund Archives was brought to New York, and transferred to YIVO in 1992.

"In addition to providing

fascinating material about Jewish political activity in pre-Revolutionary Russia and interwar Europe, these collections reveal the impact of an important aspect of the Jewish immigrant community on American politics and social life and deepen our understanding of the American Jewish experience," said Jonathan Brent, CEO and executive director at YIVO, in a statement.

Although the Bund was never able to regain its influence after the Holocaust, it has been fondly recalled in recent years by Jewish leftists captivated by its politics. In 2017, the City University of New York historian Daniel Katz argued that Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders' presidential candidacy drew on the "peculiar philosophy of Yiddish Socialism, or Yiddishism" that the Bund represented.





# Shabbat Schedule - April 2023

While more congregations are opening to in-person services if participants are fully vaccinated, it is wise to check with your chosen facility on Thursday or Friday to make sure there are no changes regarding attendance. Most continue to offer online services as well.

## BETH SHALOM, Palm Desert

(Member, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism)  
Ken Hailpern, Spiritual Leader  
42600 Cook Street, Second Floor,  
Palm Desert, CA 92211 760-200-3636.  
**IN-PERSON** Shabbat Morning Services:  
9:45 am, followed by light Kiddush lunch.  
**Thursday, April 6**, First Day of Passover,  
9:45 am  
**Wednesday, April 12**, Seventh day of  
Passover, 9:45 am  
**Thursday, April 13**, Eighth Day of  
Passover, including Yizkor Memorial  
Service, 9:45 am.  
For information, email info@  
congregationbethshalom.net or  
call (760) 200-3636. www.  
CongregationBethShalom.net

## CHABAD OF PALM SPRINGS & DESERT COMMUNITIES

Rabbi Yonason Denebeim &  
Rabbi Arik Denebeim  
250 East Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs,  
CA 92264 www.chabadpalmsprings.  
com 760-325-0774. Check website or  
call to confirm times Shabbat and holiday  
services are held. Call regarding their  
community Seder.

## CHABAD OF PALM DESERT

Rabbi Mendy Friedman  
Call for information: 760-651-2424.  
www.chabadpd.com 760-969-2153 /  
760-969-2158

## CHABAD OF RANCHO MIRAGE

Rabbi Shimon Posner; Rabbi Benny Lew.  
72295 Via Marta, Rancho Mirage, CA  
92270. www.chabadrm.com  
760-770-7785  
Friday night services: Check website for  
times.

Shabbat morning services begin at 10 am,  
followed by a sit-down Kiddush lunch.  
Children's program/service.

Daily Minyan: Shacharit (morning) Services  
7:00 am, Sundays 8:00 am. Check web for  
updated times for Mincha & Maariv.

**Seders:** First Seder Wednesday, April 5 at  
8:15 pm; Second Seder Thursday, April 6  
at 8:30 pm. Call for prices. No one turned  
away for lack of funds, however space  
limited. Check website for service times.

## CHABAD OF SUN CITY PALM DESERT

Rabbi Yonason Denebeim.  
Plans underway to resume regular services  
and programs in Sun City Palm Desert.

Monthly dinners and some classes offered  
now. Contact Rebbetzin Sussie Denebeim  
to receive weekly "Chabad in Sun City  
Newsletter" with listing of all services and  
activities: sussiedenebeim@gmail.com.

## CHABAD OF LA QUINTA

Rabbi Moshe Katz  
50620 Eisenhower Drive, Ste. G103, La  
Quinta, CA 92253. 760-709-2431. Email:  
chabadlaquinta@gmail.com.  
Chabad LQ offers weekly Torah studies,  
home visitations, Kosher meals, Shabbat  
Services, Women's Circle, Youth activities,  
Holiday programs and more.

## CONGREGATION HAR-EL (Member,

Union for Reform Judaism) Rabbi Richard  
Zionts, Ph.D.; Cantor Joseph Gole, D.Mus.  
harelurjpd@gmail.com 760-779-1691.  
Website: harelurjpd.org. Shabbat Eve  
Zoom Services are conducted weekly at  
5 PM. Rabbi Richard Zionts shares a D'var  
Torah on a timely topic based on our  
timeless tradition. Cantor Joseph Gole  
provides inspiring melodies and insights  
from our Shabbat Eve liturgy. Attendees  
are encouraged to click on the Zoom  
presentation early for a conversation with  
clergy and congregants. Har-El welcomes  
visitors from out of state as well as those in  
California and the Coachella Valley.

Seder held first night of Passover,  
Wednesday, April 5 at Chez Pierre Bistro.  
Call for more information and availability.

Rabbi Zionts holds Torah Study on Zoom  
every Saturday morning at 11 AM. For a  
Zoom link, contact harelurjpd@gmail.com.

## DESERT OUTREACH SYNAGOGUE, Rancho Mirage

Rabbi Dr. Jules King; Rabbi Rachel Axelrad,  
Rabbi Andrew Bentley, Cantor Lori  
Reisman Patterson. 760-449-0111. Mailing  
address: P.O. Box 982, Rancho Mirage,  
CA 92270. Shabbat services held on the  
second Fridays at Unitarian Universalist  
Church of the Desert, 72425 Via Vail,  
Rancho Mirage. On second Saturdays:  
10:30-11:30 am Torah study on Zoom  
with Rabbi Axelrad. Beit Sefer Religious  
School Saturday mornings (from 9:45 AM  
to noon. B'nei Mitzvah classes for Children  
with Arava Talve. "Talkin' Torah": See listing  
on Community Calendar.  
Check website for most current  
information: www.Desert-Outreach-  
Synagogue.com.



**PESACH: 1<sup>st</sup> Seder: Wednesday, April 5**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Seder: Thursday, April 6**

**Yizkor: Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**

## OR HAMIDBAR

Rabbi David Lazar rabbi@orhamidbar.  
org. Virtual Kabbalat Services first,  
second and fourth Fridays of the  
month, at 6:30 pm and Shabbat  
morning services at 10:30 am. Join  
Zoom meeting at [https://us02web.  
zoom.us/j/86202660636](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86202660636). For more  
information email info@orhamidbar.  
org.

February 3 & 4: Or Hamidbar presents  
a Shabbat Experience with Rabbi  
Sam Feldman. Limited seating. RSVP  
to [https://orhamidbar.org/shabbat-  
experience-with-rabbi-sam-feldman/](https://orhamidbar.org/shabbat-experience-with-rabbi-sam-feldman/)

## SUN CITY JEWISH SERVICES, Palm Desert

Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Emert, Cantorial  
Soloist Alan Scott and Accompanist  
Brent Reynolds. In person services  
in Speaker's Hall in the Sunset View  
Clubhouse (second clubhouse) in  
Sun City Palm Desert the first and  
third Fridays at 7:15 pm. To attend  
participants must be fully vaccinated.  
Please bring your card. Information:  
Nadine Brinhendler, 707- 332-3947.

## TEMPLE HAR SHALOM, Idyllwild (951) 468-0004.

www.templeharshalomidyllwild.org  
Email: templeharshalomofidyllwild@  
gmail.com.  
Erev Shabbat Services the 4th Friday  
of each month with Rabbi Ilana  
Grinblat at 6:00 pm with dinner to  
follow. Shabbat teaching with Rabbi  
Ilana the next morning at 9:30 am  
with bagels and coffee. On all other  
Fridays of the month Shabbat Candle  
Lighting at 6:00 pm on Zoom. 1st  
Friday with Rabbi Malka Drucker; 2nd  
Friday with Rabbi Ilana Grinblat; 3rd  
Friday with Board host.. Check website  
[templeharshalomofidyllwild.org](http://templeharshalomofidyllwild.org) for  
Zoom address.

## TEMPLE ISAIAH, Palm Springs

Rabbi Steven Rosenberg. (rabbisteven.  
rosenberg@gmail.com). Cantor Ken  
Cohen or Soloist Dr. Sarah Sela join  
Rabbi on the bima most weeks.

332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs,  
CA 92262, 760-325-2281. Email:  
temple@templeisaiahps.com; www.  
templeisaiahps.com.

Weekly in-person Shabbat services  
Friday evenings at 7:30 pm, preceded  
by Wine and Cheese 'Happy Hour'  
from 7:00-7:30 pm and Oneg  
following. Saturday morning torah  
study, "Nosh and Drash," begins at  
10:30 am. To attend in person services  
requires being fully vaccinated. Masks  
not required at this time, subject to  
change if mandated by city of Palm  
Springs or State of California directive.  
All services also streamed online.  
To access any activity, go to Temple  
Isaiah's website and click on link to  
desired service or program. "Jewish  
University" Saturdays from 1:30-3 PM  
on Zoom. No charge. RSVP requested.  
**PESACH:** Temple Isaiah's 60<sup>th</sup> annual  
Community Seder will be held the first  
night, Wednesday, April 5. See ad  
page 11 for reservation information.  
Pesach services the first, second and  
eighth days, April 6, 7 and 13 (Yizkor)  
at 10:00 am.

## TEMPLE SINAI, Palm Desert

(Member, Union for Reform Judaism)  
Rabbi David Novak  
73-251 Hovley Lane West,  
Palm Desert, CA 92260. www.  
templesinaipd.org 760-568-9699.  
Go to [templesinaipd.org](http://templesinaipd.org) for access  
information. Shabbat services are  
in-person and online on Livestream  
at [www.templesinaipd.org](http://www.templesinaipd.org). Friday  
evening services 5:30 pm, preceded  
by pre-service Oneg at 5:00 pm.  
Saturday morning Torah study 8:45  
am; Shabbat morning services 10 am.  
Proof of vaccination or negative covid  
test within 72 hours required.

## BIKUR CHOLIM

A project of Chabad of Palm Springs  
& Desert Communities (Community  
Outreach) [www.BikurCholimPS.com](http://www.BikurCholimPS.com)  
Rabbi Yankel Kreiman - 760-325-8076,  
and Rabbi Mendy Kreiman - 760-567-  
6726.





# Community Calendar of Programs - April 2023

**Note** several weekly programs will not be held during the week of Pesach, April 5-13. Check the websites or call regarding program(s) in which you are interested.

## **Mondays:**

**Har-El** offers three classes with Rabbi Zionts on Zoom on Mondays for residents and non-residents: 10:30 AM—Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class; 1:00 PM—Conversion to Judaism; 4:00 PM—Youth Bar/Bat Mitzvah Preparation. Individual Zoom Sessions will be offered for beginning students who require extra preparation for group study. For registration and additional information, email: harelurjpd@gmail.com or call Rabbi Zionts at (760) 668-9943.

**2:00 pm** - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: The Prayerbook, with **Sussie Denebeim**

**7:30 pm** - Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: "The Prophets: Stories that shaped our history" with **Rabbi Baruch (Boz) Werdiger**.

**7:30-8:30 pm** – "2B A Jew" – Or Hamidbar's introduction to Judaism. **Rabbi David Lazar** teaches about the holidays as they come up in the yearly calendar alongside foundations of Jewish practice and culture. Email info@orhamidbar.org for more information.

## **Tuesdays:**

**4:00 pm** Temple Sinai begins weekly class on ZOOM, "Torah in Translation" where participants join **Rabbi David Novak** in reading the Torah in various English translations. Contact rabbi for ZOOM information.

**5:00-6:45 pm** Chabad Rancho Mirage's popular and weekly **BBQ**. Reservations not required but helpful. Call 760-770-7785. Choose your own menu from steak to hot dogs to salmon, veggie burgers and salads. Orders can be placed online in advance. NOTE: Not held during Pesach.

**7:00 pm** – Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: Virtual class: "Insights for Daily Living, from the Torah" with **Sussie Denebeim**.

## **Wednesdays:**

**1:30 pm** Temple Isaiah Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class with **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg**. Interested in joining? Contact Rabbi at rabbisteven.rosenberg@gmail.com.

**8:00 pm** – Temple Isaiah "Reintroduction to Judaism" with **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg**. Online course on ZOOM. For those who want to learn more about their Jewish heritage or want to learn about Judaism for the first time. Email Rabbi at rabbisteven.rosenberg@gmail.com.

**7:00 pm** Chabad of Palm Springs/Sun City: 'Ask the Rabbi': A Weekly Open Q & A with **Rabbi Yonason Denebeim**.

**7:00 pm** Chabad of Rancho Mirage Tanya Class led by **Rabbi Shimon Posner**. For men and women. Hosted each week in Rancho Mirage and also available on Zoom.

## **Thursdays:**

**10:00 am – noon:** Or Hamidbar online course "Interfaith Study of the Acts of the Apostles" with **Rev. Dr. Stephen Kinney** and **Rabbi David Lazar**. For more information email info@orhamidbar.org.

**11:45 am Rabbi David Novak** of Temple Sinai hosts a weekly "Lunch 'n' Learn" in Temple Sinai's Goodman Chapel.

**8:00 pm** – Chabad of Palm Springs - Virtual class: "JLI Torah Studies Course led by **Rabbi Baruch (Boz) Werdiger**. RSVP to Boz Werdiger, boz@chabadps.com, or 760-550-5793.

**Saturdays:** Talkin' Torah with **Rabbi Andrew Bentley**. Hybrid class meeting both in person and during Shabbat school, with locations to be announced shortly, as well as online. Email Rabbi Andrew at rabbibentley@gmail.com for more information.

## **Youth and Teens:**

Chabad of Rancho Mirage offers programs for children 3 through High School. **Ckids Club** for children 3-13 offers monthly programs. **CTeen** is for teens in high school who meet weekly for events, discussion and participation in humanitarian projects. Contact Chaya at 760-272-1923 for more information.

## **Monday, March 27**

**2:00-4:00 pm** Jewish Federation Women's Philanthropy's **Pomegranate Event**, "An Affair to Remember" Chai Tea at Le Vallauris Restaurant, Palm Springs. Last minute reservations available by calling Leslie Pepper, Director of Women's Philanthropy and Community Engagement, at the Jewish Federation, 760-324-4737.

## **Monday, April 17**

**7:00 pm** Chabad of Rancho Mirage Women's Rosh Chodesh Society: **TO BELIEVE OR NOT TO BELIEVE In YOURSELF**, introduces the students to Tanya, a 225-year-old text whose portrayal of human psychology and of our inner spiritual composition: This session: Soul Secret: From Potential to Perpetual Positivity. Call to confirm date, 760-272-1923.

## **Wednesday, April 19**

**12:15 pm** Har-El Galen "Books to Movies" Series: See **Judgment at Nuremberg**, followed with discussion led by Professor Steve Moyer, Attorney-at-Law. For details of this event email harelurjpd@gmail.com. See ad page 5

## **Wednesday, April 26**

**4:00 pm** Beth Shalom **Yom Ha-atzma'ut Sing-Along** led by Rabbi J.B. Sacks, with Israeli-style 'nosh.' Community welcome! RSVP appreciated by Friday, April 21. For information or to RSVP email info@congregationbethshalom.net or call 760-200-3636.

## **Sunday, April 30**

**10:00 am – 2:00 pm** Community celebration of Yom Ha-atzmaut, Israel's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, held at Palm Valley School's campus, 25525 DaVall, Rancho Mirage. See article page 1 for more information.



Have memories of the history of our Jewish community to share?

Who knows the history of the Jewish community of the Palm Springs and the Desert? In order to plan for the future needs of the Jewish community I am interested in learning more about the History of the Jewish community. Let me know if you have memories or stories about the early days of the Jewish community, the synagogues, the Federation, and other Jewish organizations.

Alan Potash, CEO

(alan.potash@jfedps.org - 760-324-4737)





# Tribute Card Donations

Sending tributes and memorials is a meaningful way to honor loved ones.

All contributions received by the Jewish Federation for Tribute Cards are placed in our special Tzedakah Fund, which provides direct monetary intervention for needy Jews living in the Coachella Valley. Call 760-324-4737.

## Honorarium Tributes In Appreciation For:

- **Pam Adinoff**, In honor of your retirement, from Jan and Miles Gordon.
- **Phyllis Eisenberg**, Mazel tov on receiving this year's "Mensch Award," from Debra and Mickey Star.
- **Arnie and Sue Gillman**, In honor of your dedication to bettering Jewish communities around the world, from Kevin and Emma Giser.
- **Rosee Hertz**, For your special birthday, from Sherry Schor, Albert and Cecille Silverman, and Leslie Usow.
- **Margot Halperin**, Happy birthday on your very special birthday, from Libby and Buddy Hoffman.
- **Rabbi Yankel and Rochel Kreiman**, In honor of the birth of your grandson and granddaughter, from Dr. Paul and Stephanie Ross.
- **Ann Miller**, In celebration of your birthday, from Toni Victor and Barry Kaiman.
- **Lester Morris**, In honor of your special birthday, from Leslie and Barry Usow.
- **Shelly and Deanne Nissen**, Congratulations on your 65<sup>th</sup> milestone anniversary, and many more, from Debra and Mickey Star.
- **Trudy and Dan Pekarsky**, Mazel tov on your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, from Carlyn and Paul Blum, Nancy and Dennis Ditlove.
- **Phyllis Pepper**, Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday Bubby, from Rabbi Yankel and Rochel Kreiman.
- **Dr. Paul and Stephanie Ross**, In honor of your dedication to bettering Jewish communities around the world, from Kevin and Emma Giser.

- **Trudy Schwartz**, For your special birthday, from Margot and Jerry Halperin, Albert and Cecille Silverman.
- **Jerry Slipman and Chet Robachinski**, Thank you from Sanford and Rosemary Hertz.
- **Elaine Steinberger**, Happy birthday from Harlan Steinberger.
- **Eileen and Larry Zoll**, In honor of your 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, from Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Ehrlichman.

## Refuah Shleimah Get Well:

- **Cora Ginsberg**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Margot and Jerry Halperin, Rabbi Yankel and Rochel Kreiman, Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis.
- **Lois Johnson**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Margot and Jerry Halperin.
- **Sheldon Weisberg**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis.

## Memoriam Tributes Condolences Sent To:

- **Patricia Barton**, In memory of Dr. Stuart Barton from Frances Kaufman.
- **Arnold Brookstone**, In memory of your wonderful wife Adrienne, from Marnie Miller.
- **Sig Feiger**, In memory of your beloved brother Harry, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- **Bob Glast and Family**, In memory of your beloved wife and mother, Piccie (Celia), from Barbara and Bernie Fromm, Dr. Paul and Stephanie Ross.

- **Joel and Roberta Hirsch**, Condolences on the loss of Roberta's beloved sister Ellie Gorman, from Bob and Carol Friedman.
- **Gabriel and Julie Joanes**, In memory of your beloved father, Samuel Joanes, from Uncle Paul and Aunt Stephanie Ross.
- **Ellyn Joseph**, Condolences on the loss of your dear father, Ricky Haikin, from Jim Levitas.
- **Steve and Janet Kaller**, Our condolences on the loss of your mother, Pauline Kaplan, from Robert and Carol Friedman.
- **Mark Kannatt and Sandi Cohn**, In memory of your beloved father Irving Kannatt, from Ruth and Mal Kaufman.
- **Annette Lerner**, In memory of your beloved husband Ted, from Eddie and Jackie Cohen, Bernie and Barbara Fromm, Cora Ginsberg, Phil and Ellen Glass, Stuart Goldfine, Sanford and Rosemary Hertz, Loreen Jacobson, Carol and Bill Kaplan, Mary Levine and Alan Goldstein, Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis, Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Elaine Morgan**, Our condolences on the loss of your beloved husband Jerry, from Ed and Jackie Cohen.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Pernikoff**, In memory of your beloved grandmother, Mar, from Marnie Miller (Nonni) and Joe Noren.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Pernikoff**, In memory of your beloved Mar, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- Remembering **Don Shagrin** on his third Yahrzeit, from Gail Siegel.

## London Borough's Police Force 'Politely' Reminded Jews Not to Drink, Drive on Purim

Jewish News Syndicate

"We're proud of the close relationship we have with the Jewish communities of Hackney," a New Scotland Yard spokesman tells JNS.

"For those celebrating Purim, we politely remind all to never drink and drive, and to drive carefully in a way that is respectful to other road users, including complying with parking restrictions," Andy Port, neighborhood superintendent of the metropolitan police of Hackney, a London borough, stated the week prior

to the Jewish holiday.

"Please be mindful of your neighbors by limiting noise after 10 pm, and keeping the volume of music to a respectful level," added the statement, which the Hackney Police tweeted.

"The comments referred to in the tweet were based on community intelligence, and these comments and the others were aimed at keeping the Jewish communities and our wider communities safe during this celebration," Pete Davey, of the press

bureau of the New Scotland Yard, told JNS. "The crux of the message was to wish everyone a safe and happy Purim."

The Jewish Police Association "quality assured" the statement before it went out, said Davey. He added that police routinely issue advice prior to religious holidays, including about drunk driving on Christmas and "being aware of gold theft incidents during Diwali."

Two posts the Hackney police tweeted on Diwali—one on Nov. 4, 2021 and

the other Oct. 28, 2016—wished the public a happy, lovely and peaceful holiday without mentioning theft. "Don't find yourself on the Naughty List this Christmas," it tweeted Dec. 21, 2018. "Neighborhood Task Force officers will be increasing patrols to tackle violence, weapons, drugs, thefts, drunk driving." (The main Metropolitan Police handle has tweeted often about theft on Diwali and about drunk driving on Christmas.)



# 2023 HOLOCAUST POETRY AND ART CONTEST WINNERS

The annual contest for middle school and high school students held in conjunction with our community observance of Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance



(left to right) Nanette Kirchevel-Davis, teacher Palm Desert Charter Middle School; Danielle Faraci, teacher Palm Desert Charter Middle School; Suzy Zachik- teacher Palm Valley School; Riley Jorgenson - 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the High School Division: Poetry; Lilly Jones - Palm Valley School - 1<sup>st</sup> place in High School Division Poetry; Remmy Haring- 3<sup>rd</sup> place High School Division Poetry; Nicholas Carranza- Palm Desert Charter Middle School Division - 1<sup>st</sup> place Art; Kathy Tatum- teacher Sacred Heart; Levi stone- 3<sup>rd</sup> place Middle School Poetry; Sierra Miller- 2<sup>nd</sup> place



Art-Palm Desert Charter Middle School; Isabella Rice-2<sup>nd</sup> place Middle School Poetry; Mia Margolis- 1<sup>st</sup> place Middle School - Palm Desert Charter Middle School Poetry.

Holocaust survivor Henry Friedman spoke with the contest winners and their teachers; pictured with Leslie Pepper, Jewish Federation Director of Women's Philanthropy and Community Engagement.

*First place Poem in Middle School Division:*  
**Mia Margolis**; 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at Palm Desert Charter Middle School:

## FROZEN IN TIME

Mostly I remember  
the gunshots.  
Loud and sharp as  
people ran in all directions.  
Screaming, crying,  
Soldiers yelling.

And me,  
Holding my mother's hand,  
Rushing through the streets,  
Frightened like I had never been before.  
Heading toward I don't know where,  
Then Mama tripped, landing flat in the street,  
And I lost her hand...  
I stopped and turned,  
People around jostling me forward.  
I have never forgotten her face;  
White, panic-stricken, desperate.  
She cried out: "Run, my child, run!"  
And so I did.

That was the last time I saw my mother.  
All the love, tenderness, and care of her,  
Trapped forever in that moment.  
She told me to run, to survive, to remember,  
And so I did.

*First place Poem in the Senior High Division, Lily Jones,*  
*10<sup>th</sup> grade at Palm Valley School*

## THROUGH THE WINDOW

She gazes through the window.  
It is 1920.

Bright sun rays filter through the clear glass.  
A Star of David resting on her neck.  
The world peers back at her through the window  
with promises of opportunity.

It is 1933.  
The storm hits.  
She gazes through the window,  
wondering as despair creeps in.  
Where are the golden sun rays?  
Gray clouds obscure the horizon  
as the atmosphere shifts.  
She gazes through the window,  
dread crowding her mind.

Years crawl by as  
chaos and destruction echo  
throughout the country.  
This is Germany now.  
This is her life now.

She gazes through the window.  
It is cracked.  
The world's promise falling empty,  
as nothing good can come from this time.  
Cruelty stands in the way,  
strengthened by twisted minds.

She gazes through the window,  
her necklace is hidden.

It is 1938.  
The glass breaks, Kristallnacht.  
She can no longer gaze through the window,  
as she is pulled into the unforgiving world.  
There is nothing to shield her now.  
Her window is in shards.  
Her life is in shards.  
The peace is in shards.

The new reality.  
Brutal mistreatment,  
deadly living conditions, families torn apart.  
Civilians with shattered houses,  
shattered families, shattered bodies.  
How could the world let so many people suffer?

She cried.  
She asked the world why  
it had looked so promising  
when she had first gazed through the window.  
Now tears soak the grounds of the camps,  
innocent lives crushed.

Never forgotten,  
their essence still resides there today.  
The pain embedded in dust,  
suffering embedded in the walls.  
A community rattled.

Still they rose from the fragments.  
They have endured,  
bringing light to their heritage.

Never forget the fight for tolerance.  
Build a horizon with hope and equality.  
Make that our reality.

Let us see a world of good  
as we gaze through our window.



# US Authorities Arrest Israeli Accused of Defrauding \$47 Million from Orthodox Jews

Yossi Engel, who fled to Israel in 2021 when his alleged Ponzi scheme fell apart, is nabbed at Los Angeles airport

By Times of Israel Staff

An Israeli man charged by US authorities with defrauding investors, primarily Orthodox Jews, of at least \$47 million before fleeing the country in 2021 was arrested this week in Los Angeles, federal prosecutors announced March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Yossi Engel, 35, was indicted in January in absentia for allegedly using his company iWitness Tech to target potential investors from Orthodox Jewish communities in Los Angeles and New Jersey. The alleged offenses occurred between 2018 and 2021, when he fled to Israel.

In a statement, the US Attorney's Office for the Central District of California said Engel temporarily returned to the Los Angeles area last month and was arrested March 8 at Los Angeles International Airport while trying to leave the US.

The attorney's office said he faces one count of wire fraud and if convicted would face up to 20 years in prison.

According to the indictment filed by the US Securities and Exchange Commission, Engel defrauded investors by presenting himself as a businessman seeking capital to purchase and install security cameras in Los Angeles as antisemitic incidents climbed in the US. He also allegedly bilked investors by telling them he would use their funds to purchase property in Israel, which he promised to then renovate and sell for profit.

The indictment says he used the money to fund a lavish lifestyle, spending \$56,880 at casinos and flying on private jets at least twice. He also wired more than \$2.5 million to currency exchangers in Israel and withdrew over \$861,000 in cash.

A member of an Orthodox synagogue in Los Angeles, Engel met his victims at the synagogue or through introductions from other members of the community.

The indictment said he gradually

developed a reputation as a serious Torah scholar and a generous donor and even opened a small synagogue adjacent to his business.

This allowed Engel to exploit "the goodwill he engendered through his community activities to engage in a fraudulent securities offering scheme," the indictment said.

Toward the end of 2020, Engel was unable to find enough new investors to cover his expenses and began to run short on cash. Realizing that his scheme was about to collapse, he fled to Israel, the indictment said.

During his time in Israel, he apologized to investors in a number of emails for ruining their lives and blamed "sickness" for his actions. He then returned to the US for a short period, during which he met with some of the defrauded investors, confessed to running a Ponzi scheme and promised to pay back the stolen money.

However, he then fled to Israel again in March 2021, where he had apparently been living prior to the trip during which he was arrested.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

All monies donated to the **TZEDAKAH FUND** enables the Jewish Federation of the Desert to respond to emergency needs of Jews living in our community.

Donating to the **TZEDAKAH FUND** is a wonderful way to thank, extend good wishes, offer condolences or recognize an occasion.



Call the Jewish Federation at 760-324-4737 or go online to [jfedps.org/donate](http://jfedps.org/donate).



## Have A Nosh

I'm sharing some very good Pesachdik recipes that have been shared with me ... and they are worth passing on. I love the fine texture of Anna White's Pound Cake. And



Judy Gornbein's chocolate Banana Cake belies the dry texture of so much Passover baking. And I trust everyone likes chocolate chip cookies as much as I do. I wish you all a wonderful – and delicious - Pesach. MHB

### Tori's Passover Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 cup unsalted butter (2 sticks)	1/4 tsp kosher salt
(use pareve margarine for pareve version)	2 large eggs
1 1/2 cups brown sugar	1 1/2 cups matzo cake meal
2 tbsp honey	1/4 cup matzo meal
2 tsp vanilla	2 cups chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cream the butter with brown sugar, honey, vanilla and salt. Add eggs and mix well. Mix in cake meal and matzo meal. Stir in the chocolate chips. Drop by tablespoons onto ungreased cookie sheets 2 inches apart. Press down slightly to flatten. Bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes until slightly golden.

### Judy Gornbein's Pesachdik CHOCOLATE BANANA CAKE (Pareve)

3/4 cup grated bittersweet chocolate	1 1/2 cups sugar, sifted
3/4 cup matzah cake meal	1 cup ripe, mashed bananas
1/3 cup potato starch	Juice and grafted rind of 1/2 orange
9 eggs, separated	1 Tbsp. grated lemon rind
1/2 teaspoon salt	

Preheat oven to 325°. Grate chocolate (easy with a mouli grater). Sift cake meal and potato starch twice and combine with the grated chocolate. Beat egg whites with salt until foamy, then begin to add sugar gradually, beating until a meringue consistency. Beat yolks. Add banana, orange juice, orange and lemon rind. Fold into stiffly beaten whites. Gradually fold dry ingredients into batter. Pour into an ungreased 10" tube pan and bake for 1 hour, or until done. Invert until cool.

### Anna White's "POUND CAKE" FOR PESACH (Dairy or pareve)

6 eggs, separated	1 lemon, juice and grated rind
6 heaping tablespoons sugar	6 Tbsp. potato starch

Beat egg yolks and sugar until very thick. Mix in lemon rind and juice, then potato starch and, lastly, the beaten egg whites. Bake in a spring form pan at 325 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes. While cooling prepare the filling/frosting, then split cake in half and fill layers and top of cake with the mocha filling/frosting.

### MOCHA FILLING AND FROSTING

1/2 cup very strong coffee, cooled	1 heaping teaspoon potato starch, dissolved in a little water
2 egg yolks	1 cube unsalted butter or margarine
2 1/2 handfuls sugar	

Put coffee (suggest using 2 heaping tablespoons instant coffee) in small saucepan. Stir in egg yolks, sugar and diluted potato starch. Bring to a boil over a medium flame. Let it cool, stirring occasionally. In a small mixing bowl, cream one cube of unsalted butter or margarine, then add coffee mixture by spoonfuls, incorporating into a fluffy frosting.





## Simchas

Mazel tov to **Elaine and Mark Gershenson** on the marriage of their daughter **Chloe to Jake Bernstein**, son of **James Bernstein** and **Bonnie Bernstein** of Sea Cliff, NY, on January 15, 2023, in Palm Springs ... Mazel tov Mazel tov to **Rabbi Yankel and Rochel Kreiman** on the birth of twin grandchildren on March 14: grandson **Dovber** and granddaughter **Chana**, to **Zalmy**



Chloe and Jake Bernstein



Chana and Dovber Kreiman

and **Tzipporah Esther Kreiman** in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Zalmy & Tzipporah Esther moved to Scranton around 5 years ago, where he is a schochet ... Congratulations to **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg** of Temple Isaiah in Palm Springs on his appointment to the six member Rabbinical Advisory Board for **Rabbis United**, the Rabbinical component of **StandWithUs**, joining **Rabbi Aaron Braun** of Northbrook, Illinois; **Rabbi Martin Cohen** of Roslyn, New York; **Rabbi Pini Dunner** of Beverly Hills, California; **Rabbi Cantor Alison Wissot** of Tarzana, California; and **Rabbi Adam Wright** of Birmingham, Alabama ... *Share your Simchas with us. Email or call Miriam Bent at mhbtentjcn@earthlink.net or 760-323-0255.*



Rabbi Steven Rosenberg



## Candle Lighting Times

Wednesday, April 5	1 <sup>st</sup> night Passover	6:26 pm
Thursday, April 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> night Passover	After 7:48 pm
Friday, April 7	Shabbat Pesach	6:28 pm
Friday, April 14	Shabbat Shemini	6:33 pm
Friday, April 21	Shabbat Tazria/Metzora	6:38 pm
Friday, April 28	Shabbat Acharei/Kedoshim	6:44 pm



## We Mourn the Passing of...

**Renee Charney, Celia (Piccie) Glast, Paul Katz, Ted Lerner, Howard Schaeffer, and Anne Warsaw.** Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. *May their memories endure as a blessing.*



## Classifieds

**SEEKING SOULMATE:** Youthful 69 year active Hebrew-speaking fun-loving slim Jewish man seeking soulmate/life partner with 65-65 year athletic heimish Jewish woman in Palm Springs area. E-mail dhovev@yahoo.com.

**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE** Swedish, deep tissue and foot reflexology modalities. Treat yourself or someone you love to a wonderful therapeutic massage. Jewish Massage Therapist with over 35 years experience, fourteen in the desert. Will come to your home or at my location. Call Leora at 760-778-0068.

**JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE SUPPORTERS** welcomed. JFS has rewarding **volunteer opportunities** in its community programs and is now accepting applications for several positions. **Tribute cards** provide a unique way to celebrate a special occasion or honor a loved one, all while supporting JFS programs. If you're interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities or supporting JFS through the purchase of tribute cards, please contact 760-325-4088 ext. 101.

**DAVID'S CONSTRUCTION** Conscientious licensed, insured, bonded general contractor. Catering to all your home repair needs. No job too small or big. Room additions, remodeling, patio covers, decks, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, masonry, drywall, cement, wood floors, tile, fences, painting, sprinklers, landscaping, swamp coolers, custom homes and more. License #506-370. Davidsconstruction@ymail.com. 760-671-4476.

**ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A JEWISH DAY SCHOOL** in the Coachella Valley? Are you interested in a secular and inclusive school that weaves Jewish culture and ethical heritage into a child-centered and experiential curriculum? Please join us for a focus group to explore the potential for a new school in Palm Desert. We'd love to share our plans, as well as discuss your ideas and questions. Everyone is welcome... prospective parents, interested educators, potential philanthropists... Sunday, March 26th, 2023, 1:00 PM at the Jewish Federation of the Desert, 69710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage. RSVP to Gloria.Benavides@jfedps.org.

**CAEREGIVER.** Experienced. Dependable. Available to assist

with understanding and empathy. Full/part-time. References on request. 760-668-6764.

**SUN CITY FURNISHED RENTAL:** 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den. Open floor plan, large walled lot, no pool. New floors & upgrades! Available 04/23 through next winter season. Includes golf and facility access. No smoking. Pets maybe. Inquire for terms: 202-596-6070.

**DOUBLE NICHE IN TOWER OF DAVID** at Forest Lawn, Cathedral City for sale. (Note: double niches no longer available). \$5600. Call 760-325-6497.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Personal Ads**  
\$7.00 for 20 words  
& 20¢ for each additional word

**Business Ads**  
\$9.00 for 20 words  
& 25¢ for each additional word

**Call 323-0255**

Est. 1949  
**CHAFFIN AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING**  
Contractor's License # 661464 C20/C36  
Patrick Chaffin  
Info@chaffinair.com

36-365 Bankside Dr.  
Cathedral City, CA 92234  
Tel: (760) 328-3400  
Fax: (760) 770-4365  
www.chaffinair.com

## Community Schools

**Aleph Schoolhouse**  
Director: Dina Pinson  
73-550 Santa Rosa Way,  
Palm Desert  
Children 18 months through  
Elementary School  
**Alephschoolhouse.org**  
**347-721-8782**

Best Quality! Best Price Guaranteed!

**RELIABLE ROOFING**

**NO BULL!**  
Just 1<sup>st</sup> Class Roofing!  
Commercial • Residential  
**ALL TYPES • NEW ROOFS**  
**RE-ROOFS • REPAIRS**  
Shingles • Foam  
Torch Down • Tile

**VOTED #1 IN QUALITY**  
SINCE 1987

**760-568-1673**

Bonded • Insured • Lic #764608

Todd Gregory Young  
Owner

www.reliableroofingbytgy.com

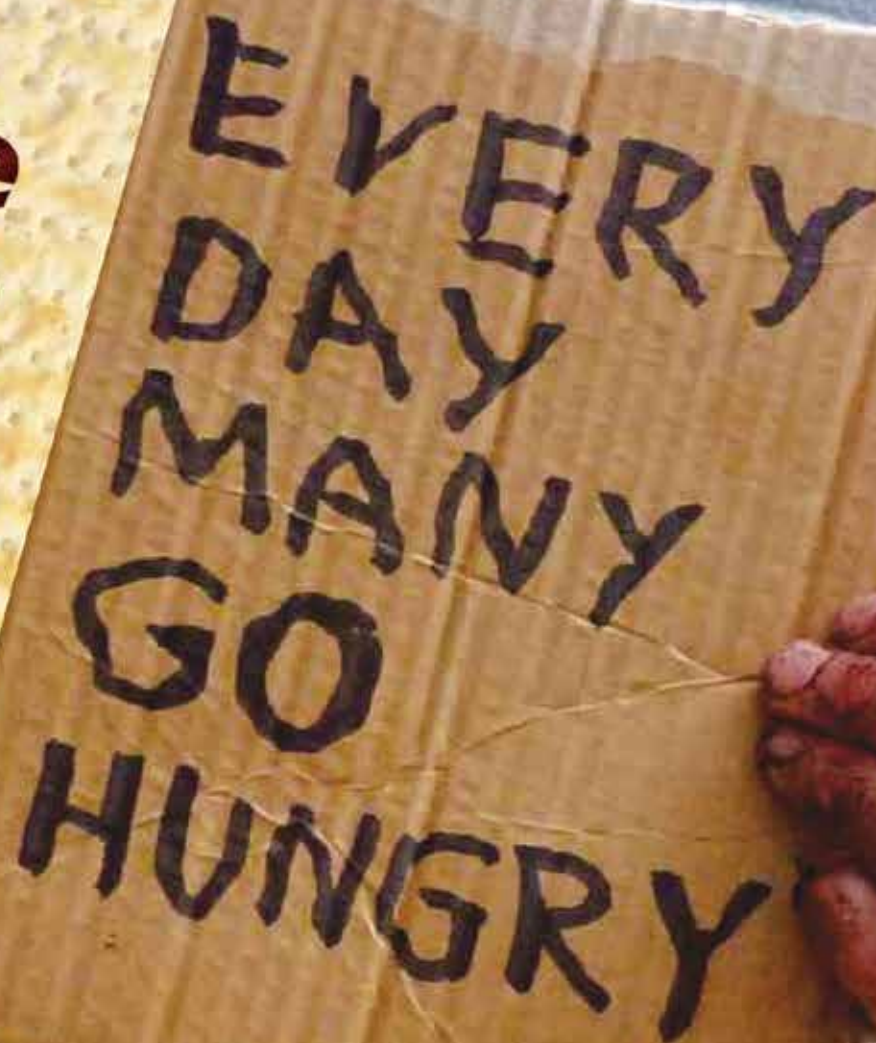


**JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE DESERT**

69-710 Highway 111  
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270  
(760) 324-4737



**For one  
week  
we go  
without  
bread.**



**EVERY  
DAY  
MANY  
GO  
HUNGRY**

The Jewish Federation is the safety net for our community here at home, in Israel and in over 70 countries around the world. Through our efforts and with your help, a hungry child in Kiev receives hot meals. Medicine gets delivered to a fragile Holocaust survivor in Haifa. Shelter is provided for a homeless family in the Coachella Valley. And much more. **Change hardship into hope today.** Our 2023 campaign is underway and we ask that you give generously. The needs are great. The time is now. **Your link to getting started: [www.jfedps.org](http://www.jfedps.org).**



**69-710 Highway 111,  
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270  
760-324-4737**

**The Strength of a People.  
The Power of Community.**