

# Jewish Community News

The Publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert

www.jfedps.org

Adar I/Adar II 5782 - March 2022

## Alan Potash New CEO of our Jewish Federation

We are pleased to announce that the Jewish Federation of the Desert Board of Directors has appointed Alan Potash, a proven leader in the Jewish communal network, as our Federation's Chief Executive Officer (CEO).



Alan Potash

On a daily basis, "Social Justice, Community Development and Israel" have been the three pillars he has used as his guide to make a

difference. He brings a wide range of skills to our community, perhaps one of the most important being relationship building.

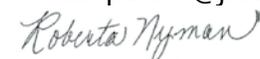
Prior to coming to the desert, he was the CEO for the Jewish Federation of Omaha. That Federation is known as an integrated Federation, and Alan oversaw the operation of all the agencies and oversight of the \$23 million annual operating budget. After seven years in Omaha, he decided it was time to move west. When he heard that his former colleague Bruce Landgarten was retiring, he decided

Palm Springs could be his next professional location.

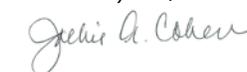
The mission of the Jewish Federation of the Desert is very much in line with Alan's own mission: to build and strengthen the Jewish community, provide for those in need, and support Jews in Israel and around the world. For the past 25 years his professional life has focused on those areas while working for Jewish Community Centers, Hillel, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and most recently the Jewish Federation of Omaha.

His role as the CEO will focus on

the day-to-day operations of the office, supervising the staff, working with the board, learning about our community, and getting to know us so that, together, we establish a pathway for the future. We welcome Alan to our community and he, in turn, welcomes your reaching out to him at [alan.potash@jfedps.org](mailto:alan.potash@jfedps.org).



Roberta Nyman, Co-President



Jackie Cohen, Co-President

## US Lawmakers Call to Implement Long-Delayed Measures to Combat Campus Antisemitism

*The World News*

A bipartisan group of American lawmakers has called on the US Department of Education to take steps to combat campus antisemitism that have been delayed for years.

In early February thirty-nine members of Congress sent the letter to the US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

House Representative Ted Lieu, a California Democrat, led the group.

The letter says the Biden administration has long put off codifying rules meant to protect American Jewish college students, including an executive order signed by former US president Donald Trump in 2019, and delayed investigations into antisemitic

complaints.

Trump's executive order from December 2019 would effectively force the US government to withhold funding from colleges and universities if they fail to confront discrimination against Jewish students, by including Jews in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The law prohibits

discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs that receive federal funding.

The lawmakers' February 4 letter called on the Department of Education to issue a rule on the executive order, which would formalize it as a regulation that would have the force of law. The

*continued on page 3*



**COMMUNITY OBSERVANCE OF YOM HASHOAH  
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY  
SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022 • 3:00 PM**

**UCR Palm Desert Campus  
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive (at Cook Street)  
Palm Desert, CA 92260**



**Keynote Speaker:  
JULIE KOHNER**  
Founder of  
Voices of the Generations,  
a project to preserve and  
share the memories of  
Holocaust survivor stories.

A program of the Jewish Federation of the Desert 

יום השואה



Follow the  
**Jewish Federation**  
on Facebook!

**2021-2022**

## JEWISH FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Roberta Nyman**, Co-President  
**Jackie Cohen**, Co-President  
**Stephanie Ross**, Secretary  
**Ron Langus**, Treasurer  
**Cora Ginsberg**, Campaign Chair

### BOARD:

Michelle Coneybeare  
Carol Fragen  
Lori Fritz  
Arnie Gillman  
Bobbi Holland  
Fran Kaufman  
Gary Schahet

### Alan Potash

Chief Executive Officer

## Table of Contents

Vol. 48 • No. 7

Community Calendar	17-19
Federation	1,2
Holocaust Writing Contest	12
Tamarisk Gold Day	4
Woman's Philanthropy	2, 22
Food	22
Jewish Family Service	11
Schools/School Listing	23
Simchas & Classifieds	23
Tributes	16

**Thank you for understanding as we found safer dates for our major events!**



Dear Lion of Judah Women,

Listen to our ROAR ... and hold onto your Lion pins! We have changed our in person Lion of Judah Brunch to Monday, March 28, 2022, at 10:30 AM at Tamarisk Country Club. Our speaker, Lisa Friedman Clark, will join us in person for the Brunch.

We will hold onto your previously returned RSVP Cards, but if you haven't sent yours in yet, you can use the same card.

For further information please contact [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or call 760-324-4737.

LOJ Co-chairs *Carol Fragen & Phyllis Eisenberg* Campaign Chair *Cora Ginsberg*



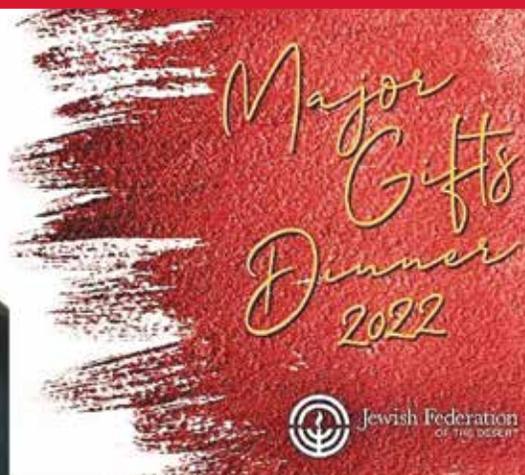
An evening with

**Ron Dermer**

From 2013–2021 Ron Dermer served as Israel's Ambassador to the United States.

Minimum gift to 2022 annual campaign: \$10,000 per couple (\$3,600 per out-of-town MG)

For information: 760-324-4737.



Ambassador Ron Dermer was able to rearrange his schedule and be with us on our new date for the Major Gifts Dinner ...

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30**  
at Tamarisk Country Club:

Reception at 6 PM

Dinner 7 PM.

Questions? Contact Leslie Pepper: 760-324-4737 or [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org)

## Major Events Now in March

When we see "Out of an abundance of caution" we know a change is coming, and that has been true as we have worked on our Major Gifts event. We feel good about our late March date and look forward to a spectacular evening, highlighted by hearing Ambassador Ron Dermer. In reaching out to our Major Gift donors, co-chair Carol Fragen writes, 'Please join Margie Kulp and me at our exciting dinner on March 30th featuring our former Ambassador from Israel to the United States. Our dinner will be his first major speaking engagement since he left his position. It should be a fabulous evening.'

Major Gifts co-chair Marjorie Kulp has focused on the importance of this event when she writes, "Federation

is the central address for Jewish philanthropy in the Valley! Please join us for a very special in-person, outdoor celebration of our Major Donors. You make it possible for our Federation to meet the needs of all those in need here, in Israel and across the world."

If you have sent in your reservation card and are able to attend on our March 30 date, you do not have to do anything more to confirm your reservation. Please notify the office if there are changes from you earlier RSVP. If you are a Major Giver in another community and didn't get an invitation but would like to attend, please call or email Leslie Pepper at 760-324-4737 or [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org).

Proof of vaccination against

COVID-19 is required to participate in any in-person activity sponsored by the Jewish Federation of the Desert, whether at the Federation offices or held in another venue.

## 2021 HONOR ROLL

The following names were inadvertently omitted from the 2021 Honor Roll listed in the February 2022 issue of the Jewish Community News. Thank you to everyone for your support of k'lal Yisroel.



**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

- Robert & Carol Friedman
- Bryan Isaacs
- Jewish Men's Outreach Group of the Desert



**Lion of Judah**

Charlene Helfand Lane

# Acclaimed Holocaust Novel 'Maus' Tops Best Seller Lists After Tennessee School District Ban

By Benjamin Kerstein, *The Algemeiner*

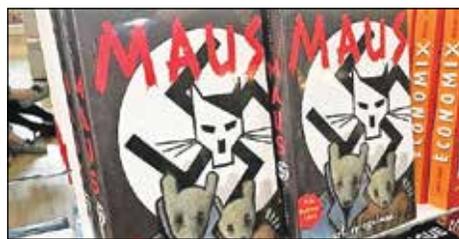
An acclaimed graphic novel about the Holocaust that was recently removed from the curriculum of a Tennessee school district has shot to the top of the best seller lists of the world's largest online booksellers.

Art Spiegelman's graphic novel "Maus" is based on interviews with his father, a Holocaust survivor, and explores both the horrors of the Nazi genocide and its traumatic aftereffects on survivors and their children. It has been widely acclaimed since it was first published in the 1980s and early 1990s and

won a Pulitzer Prize in 1992.

On Jan. 10, the McMinn County School Board voted unanimously to remove the book from its eighth-grade curriculum. Director of Schools Lee Parkison said that the issues were "rough objectionable language" and a nude depiction of a woman.

A hardback edition of "The Complete Maus," encompassing both volumes of Spiegelman's work, reached #1 on Amazon's Best Sellers list on Sunday. It remained in the #2 slot on Monday, with a paperback



Book jacket of "Maus"

edition of the first volume just behind it at #3. A paperback of the second volume was at #9.

The book also topped the categories of "Jewish Holocaust History," "Memoirs," and "Literary Graphic Novels."

A box set of both volumes was at #1 on Barnes and Noble's Top 100 and paperback best seller lists on Monday. Barnes and Noble's supply of the book has apparently been exhausted, with the book listed as "temporarily out of stock online."

In an interview with CNBC Spiegelman said of the book's removal, "I'm kind of baffled by this. It's leaving me with my jaw open, like, 'What?'"

He described the school board's decision as "Orwellian."

*continued from page 1*

process would codify the order, providing a stronger legal foundation for Title VI complaints, and give it more durability and permanence. Once formalized, the order would be less likely to be challenged in the future and would be automatically transferred between administrations.

Codifying the executive order would also send a message to college administrators that the Biden administration takes the issue seriously.

"During the previous administration, university administrators had a clear sense that the federal office for civil rights understood campus antisemitism and was focused on it," said Kenneth L. Marcus, head of the Brandeis Center, an advocacy group that combats antisemitism. "I don't think that university administrators have necessarily gotten the same impression yet from the Biden administration."

The Biden administration first

said it would issue the rulemaking in January 2022, then delayed the move until December 2022.

The Trump administration delayed issuing the regulations twice in 2020.

"After a year with historic levels of antisemitism, we ask that the administration re-prioritize the rulemaking process for Title VI and ensure it remains a priority," the letter said. RESPONSIBILITY! The congressional letter to the Department of Education also said the Office of Civil Rights has delayed investigations into Title VI antisemitic complaints in the higher education system, some dating back to 2018.

It asked the office to clarify the status of the older complaints, the reason they are unresolved and an estimated time frame for their resolution.

The slowed investigations "are delaying justice and potentially allowing discrimination to persist on campuses throughout the country," the letter said.

The letter also asked the office

to provide technical assistance for combating campus antisemitism through its nondiscrimination center, or directly to colleges and students.

Marcus said, "Now is not the time to hit pause on much-needed federal guidance.

"Members of Congress are right to be alarmed and to urge the Biden administration to give this issue equal priority to the other work they're doing."

Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt applauded the letter, calling it a "bipartisan effort to turn the 2019 Executive Order on antisemitism into law and ensure that the [US Department of Education] truly commits to combating it on college campuses."

The letter cited FBI statistics showing Jews were the religious group most targeted in hate crimes in 2020, and a survey by the Alums for Campus Fairness group that found a majority of respondents felt campus antisemitism was a serious problem and avoided certain places and events due to

their Jewish identity.

Jewish lawmakers Ted Deutch, Steve Cohen, Mike Levin, Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Josh Gottheimer also signed the letter.

Trump's 2019 executive order was controversial when he signed it because it effectively interprets Judaism as a race or nationality, not just a religion.

Critics also said it would chill free expression and suppress the speech rights of Israel critics. The order endorses the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition for antisemitism, which says some examples of Israel criticism amount to antisemitism.

A survey of campus antisemitism released on February 7 collated over 544 reported incidents on campuses in 2021.

The US Department of Education opened an investigation into alleged harassment of Jewish students at New York's Brooklyn College the first week in February 2022, following a Title VI complaint from the Brandeis Center.

# 2022 FEDERATION DAY of the Coachella Valley

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

Tamarisk Country Club

All are welcome to participate in this special, event-filled day. Whether you play golf, cards, pickle ball or tennis, we encourage you to make your donation to the Federation of the Desert and enjoy a day of fun while supporting the most vulnerable in our community. Over the past 20 years this event has raised over 2.5 million dollars.

- Women's Shotgun 8:30 am
  - Federation Day Luncheon to follow golf at 12:00 pm
- Men's Shotgun 1:00 pm
  - Federation Day Luncheon prior to golf at 12:00 pm  
(Choose your own foursome or we will pair you up for golf)
- Times for cards, tennis or pickle ball can be determined by your individual groups, but please plan to have your games either conclude before lunch or begin after lunch so everyone can be together on the patio to enjoy our speaker



#### COMPLETE ENTRY FORM AND RETURN TO TAMARISK

ATTN: KYLE KELLY - 70240 FRANK SINATRA DRIVE - RANCHO MIRAGE, CA 92270

DONATION CHECKS MUST BE SENT TO THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE DESERT

ATTN: ALBERTO TEJERO - 69710 HIGHWAY III - RANCHO MIRAGE, CA 92270

TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, CONTACT THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE DESERT TO  
PROCESS PAYMENT BY PHONE (760) 324.4737

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

___ Women's Minimum Gift:	\$300	___ Men's Minimum Gift:	\$550
___ Women's Sponsor Level Gift:	\$500	___ Men's Sponsor Level Gift:	\$750
		___ Men's Platinum Level Gift:	\$1000

*All donations include Lunch; I will be attending Lunch* YES / NO

\_\_\_ Golf      \_\_\_ Cards      \_\_\_ Tennis      \_\_\_ Pickle Ball

My Team \_\_\_\_\_ Pair me up \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Kyle Kelly at (760) 324. 6990 or by email at [kyle@tamariskcc.com](mailto:kyle@tamariskcc.com)

## JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication of the  
Jewish Federation of the Desert  
VOL. 48, No. 7

#### EDITORIAL

**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: [mhbentjcn@earthlink.net](mailto:mhbentjcn@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.

# Israel Appoints First Female Attorney General

*Jewish News Syndicate*

On February 7 the Israeli Cabinet approved the appointment of Gali Baharav-Miara as attorney general.

"This is one of the most important and sensitive appointments in the public service," said Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett at the start of the Cabinet meeting, during which Baharav-Miara's appointment was finalized.

"At this time, given the erosion of public confidence in law enforcement,

there is an important opportunity here to maintain what needs to be maintained and to correct what needs to be corrected," added Bennett, who, along with Justice Minister Gideon Sa'ar, recommended Baharav-Miara for the post. Hers had been among three names submitted by the selection committee, chaired by former Supreme Court president Asher Grunis.

"We need a good, strong and serious establishment that the public will

trust," continued Bennett. "Moreover, the basic role of the attorney general is to assist the government in implementing its policy in the framework of the confines of the law. The government is here to govern, to function, to work for the benefit of the citizens of the state and



*Gali Baharav-Miara*

to take the country forward."

Bennett also highlighted the fact that "for the first time, the State of Israel will have a female attorney general. Our government sees all citizens of Israel—women and men—as being able to achieve anything."

Baharav-Miara, formerly Tel Aviv District Attorney for Civil Affairs, replaces Avichai Mandelblit, whose term as attorney general ended on January 31.

# TikTok Adds New Features to Direct Users to Reliable Information on the Holocaust

*By Shira Hanau, JTA*

TikTok announced a slate of new features intended to reduce the spread of misinformation about the Holocaust shared on the platform and to direct users to trustworthy sources about the subject.

Beginning January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a banner pops up when users search for Holocaust-related terms and direct them to **aboutholocaust.org**, a website run by the World Jewish Congress and UNESCO, to offer

information about Holocaust history.

A link to the website will also pop up for users viewing hashtags related to the Holocaust like #Holocaust and #HolocaustSurvivor.

TikTok and other social media platforms have long been criticized for allowing Holocaust denial and antisemitism to spread unchecked on their platforms. Some Jewish content creators have also complained about being banned or censored from the platform for posting videos that

educate about Judaism or antisemitism.

The social media platform, which is made up of short user-produced videos, has pledged to crack down on hate speech shared on the platform in the past and has worked with the Anti-Defamation League to develop protocols for determining hate speech.



"Hateful behavior of any kind is incompatible with our values and the inclusive environment we are building at TikTok. We condemn antisemitism in all its forms and deploy a combination of technologies and moderation teams to remove antisemitic content and accounts from our platform, including Holocaust denial or any other form of hate speech directed at the Jewish community," the company said in an announcement.

# RFK Jr. Curbs His Enthusiasm for COVID Holocaust Analogies

*By Ron Kampeas, JTA*

Robert Kennedy Jr., a notorious vaccine skeptic, apologized January 25 for invoking Holocaust diarist Anne Frank at an anti-vaccine rally — shortly after his wife, "Curb Your Enthusiasm" actress Cheryl Hines, publicly took him to task.

Hines, the fictional ex of Jewish comedian Larry David on the HBO show, may have curbed her husband's enthusiasm for Holocaust analogies.

"Even in Hitler's Germany, you could cross the Alps into Switzerland, you could hide in the attic like Anne Frank did," Kennedy had said at the rally on Sunday, January 23, in Washington D.C.. "Today the mechanisms are being put in place that will make it

so none of us can run, none of us can hide."

The first statement from either of the couple about Kennedy's remarks came from Hines. The following day she tweeted, "My husband's opinions are not a reflection of my own," in response to a rebuke by the Auschwitz Memorial, which called Kennedy's remarks a "sad symptom of moral & intellectual decay."

"While we love each other, we differ on many current issues," Hines said.

By Tuesday morning, Kennedy was also dialing back his rhetoric.

"I apologize for my reference to Anne Frank, especially to families



*Robert Kennedy Jr. and wife, actress Cheryl Hines*

that suffered the Holocaust horrors," Kennedy said in a tweet Tuesday morning. "My intention was to use examples of past barbarism to show the perils from new technologies of control. To the extent my remarks caused hurt, I am truly and deeply sorry."

The Associated Press, reporting

the apology, noted that Kennedy has used Holocaust analogies multiple times in his crusade against vaccines.

If it wasn't already clear that Hines thought her husband's Holocaust analogies were pretty, pretty bad, she followed up Tuesday morning, barely 20 minutes after Kennedy tweeted his apology.

"My husband's reference to Anne Frank at a mandate rally in D.C. was reprehensible and insensitive," she said. "The atrocities that millions endured during the Holocaust should never be compared to anyone or anything. His opinions are not a reflection of my own."

# Lebanon to Buy Gas from Israel? Why This is a BIG Deal

Will indirect gas transfers via Jordan and Syria counterbalance Iran's influence over Lebanon?

By Pesach Benson, United With Israel

Israel has signed U.S.-brokered agreement to supply Lebanon with natural gas to reduce Iranian influence over Beirut, Israel's Channel 12 News reported January 8.

According to the report, gas from Israel's offshore Leviathan gas field will be transferred to Lebanon via Jordan and Syria. However, transfers may not begin for several years pending the repair and extension of an existing Syria-Lebanon gas line.

The unsourced Channel 12 report said the agreement was brokered by Amos Hochstein, Washington's Special Envoy and Coordinator for International Energy Affairs. Hochstein has been mediating Israel and Lebanon's maritime border dispute, and in November, he notified Jerusalem and Beirut

that he would cease his efforts if no agreement was reached by March 2022, when Lebanon is scheduled to hold elections.

The American mediation goes back through the presidencies of Barack Obama and Donald Trump. At stake is natural gas in a 856 sq km area of the Eastern Mediterranean.

It's not believed that this weekend's agreement addressed the border dispute.

The Lebanese pound has lost 90 percent of its value in the last two years. As a result, the government unable to provide fuel to power plants for the last six months, leaving the country with two hours of electricity a day. Filling up a gasoline tank now costs more than the monthly minimum wage.

The ruling class, which has run Lebanon into the ground, has

proved unwilling to reform and has done almost nothing to try to pull the country out of its meltdown, rooted in decades of corruption and mismanagement.

Amid the paralysis, Iran delivered one million gallons of diesel to Lebanon via Hezbollah in September. Lebanese state agencies that would normally oversee fuel imports were not involved in that transfer, raising criticism that Iran was undercutting Lebanese sovereignty. Since then, fuel deliveries reach Hezbollah over land through Syria, skirting Beirut's oversight.

Whether or not Israeli gas will pull counterbalance Iranian influence is open to debate. Sales may begin to crack longstanding Lebanese taboos on contacts with the Jewish state and Israel may

win the hearts and minds of some Lebanese. It may also undercut Iranian companies from drilling in Lebanese waters in sight of Israel's gas fields.

But propping up Beirut runs the risk of freeing up Hezbollah and Iran to simply use their resources elsewhere.

Channel 12 also reported that the agreement was coordinated with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Having the gas flow through Syria also gives Bashar Assad's regime a degree of unwarranted legitimacy. Jerusalem and Moscow may be calculating that this will lessen Tehran's influence on Damascus.

Time will tell.

Associated Press contributed to this report.

## First Permanent Holocaust Exhibit Comes to Muslim-Majority Indonesia

Jewish News Syndicate

(January 28, 2022 / JNS) In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yad Vashem opened the first permanent exhibition in Indonesia about the Nazi genocide of Jews during World War II, reported Ynet.

It is one of Yad Vashem's "Ready2Print" exhibitions aimed at promoting dialogue about the Holocaust in museums,

educational and community centers and places of worship around the world.

This particular exhibit, which opened on January 27 at Shaar HaShamayim Synagogue on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, is called **"The Holocaust: How Was It Humanly Possible?"**

According to the Yad Vashem website, the exhibit "deals with



Shaar HaShamayim Synagogue in Indonesia

major historical aspects of the Holocaust, beginning with Jewish life in pre-Holocaust Europe and ending with the liberation of Nazi concentration and extermination camps across the continent." It also documents the "remarkable return to life of the survivors."

Richelle Budd Caplan, a representative of the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad

Vashem, took part in the exhibit's opening ceremony via video.

Israel has no official diplomatic relations with Indonesia, which has the largest Muslim population in the world. Still, Yad Vashem chairman Dani Dayan said that "we will be happy to open an exhibition wherever there's interest in the memory of the Holocaust and its commemoration, and all the more so in the largest Muslim country in the world."

He added: "We see great importance in physically presenting Yad Vashem's knowledge and content outside ... Jerusalem, and we are happy to cover new grounds like Indonesia."

With our normal community activities on hold due to the pandemic, the Jewish Federation has been arranging for many interesting, compelling programs to offer to our community online. As we sent out notices for these programs we realized that we do not have email addresses for about half of our JCN readership. We'd love to add you to our list. You will not be overrun with emails (about half a dozen a month) and you'll get information about some terrific programs.

Email us your email to: [info@jfedps.org](mailto:info@jfedps.org)

# Israel to Return to Space with 35 Groundbreaking Experiments

Israel will soon be sending the Rakia mission into space, with astronaut Eitan Stibbe set to take an unprecedented 35 different experiments to the International Space Station.

By Aaron Reich, *The Jerusalem Post*

**Published:**

JANUARY 24, 2022 18:21

**Updated:**

JANUARY 25, 2022 03:32

Israel will soon be sending the Rakia mission into space, with astronaut Eitan Stibbe set to take an unprecedented 35 different experiments to the International Space Station.

The 35 experiments were chosen from 44 proposals. The mission is led by Israel's Science and Technology Ministry and the Ramon Foundation.

The experiments cover a wide variety of different fields of study, including testing or demonstrating the viability of certain technologies, observing scientific phenomena and studying mechanisms of theorized concepts.

Some of them focus on scientific studies and come from a variety of sources, including high-school students. One of them, an experiment developed by high schoolers from Tel Aviv, will attempt to test how a microgravity environment impacts the rate that the bacteria *Ideonella Sakaiensis* degrade plastic.

Other, more complex ones are developed by researchers from different companies and institutions.

One such project, known as ILAN-ES, was developed by Prof. Yoav Yair of Reichman University. This experiment will study transient luminous events, which are electrical phenomena that occur above thunderstorms.

These come in a few different varieties. At around 40 kilometers

up are blue jets that propagate from cloud top to the stratosphere. At around 90 km. are gigantic jets that head to the ionosphere. And between 50-90 km. in the mesosphere are elves (an acronym for Emissions of Light and Very low-frequency perturbations due to Electromagnetic pulse Sources), which appear as a flattened 400-km.-wide expanded glow that can last for just a millisecond, and red sprites (Stratospheric/mesospheric Perturbations Resulting from Intense Thunderstorm Electrification, which manifest as large-scale electrical discharges that cause strange visual shapes).

Also being tested is the AstroRad radiation vest. Made by Israeli company StemRad and proudly boasting the Israeli flag, it is designed to essentially shield astronauts from space radiation. This is especially important as interest grows in expanding humanity's presence in space and renewed missions to the Moon.

As a result, the Israel Space Agency, in partnership with NASA and the German Aerospace Center, has already worked to test this technology, which will also be sent as part of NASA's Artemis 1 Mission.

During the Rakia mission, Stibbe will test the AstroRad vest under microgravity conditions, assessing its comfort and range of motion and providing critical feedback on its viability for long space voyages.

THE RAKIA mission will also have experiments focusing on food and agriculture.

One experiment, by Alef Farms,



**Israeli Astronaut Eitan Stibbe**

seeks to solve a significant problem in space travel: food supply.

It is very difficult to provide astronauts with quality food and nutrition, with "space food" often seen as a poor substitute.

But Aleph Farms has another possible solution: a program that would allow for the production of beef steaks in space. Essentially, it would use a sort of 3D printing to grow the meat from cells, not an actual animal.

In 2019, the company successfully tested its "bio-printing" technology in space, and it has seen considerable progress on Earth. In 2021, it successfully produced a full slaughter-free steak.

In the Rakia mission, Aleph Farms hopes to see how gravity impacts the cells that make up the building blocks of the steak, which will allow them to see if their technology can lead to both an efficient food production method for long-term space missions and to further improve their own slaughter-free meat production on Earth.

A number of other experiments focus on medical testing. These include performing blood tests without a needle and improving the immune system. But arguably one of the most interesting tests is about leukemia in children.

In children, leukemia is the most common type of cancer. While current treatments are often effective, they come at a price that has punishing consequences in both the short and long term.

This experiment, led by the oncology department at Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva, will attempt to find a new type of treatment by studying how microgravity conditions affect cancer cells. The results of this experiment will be compared to similar ones done on Earth.

The Rakia mission does not just represent a major achievement of sending all these experiments to space, however. It is also the second time an Israeli astronaut has been sent to outer space.

The former fighter pilot and businessman served in the IAF under Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli astronaut, who died tragically in 2003 when the Columbia space shuttle exploded upon reentry. The Ramon Foundation set up in his honor is helping to lead this mission.

everyone  
counts  
can we count on you?  
DONATE  
Jewish Federation  
Annual Campaign  
2022

# Tufts University Unveils Plan on Antisemitism as More Than Half of Jewish Students Report Incidents

By Dion J. Pierre, *The Algemeiner*

Tufts University is taking new steps to address antisemitism based on a “troubling” survey showing that Jewish students are concealing their identity to join campus groups, President Tony Monaco revealed in late January.

“More than half of Jewish student respondents reported to have observed some form of antisemitism at Tufts,” Monaco said in a statement. “Disturbingly we also heard from some Jewish students who felt that, in order to be welcome in student organizations supporting social justice, they had to hide their Jewish

identities.”

Faculty and staff also reported that campus issues related to antisemitism, including those surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, had lately become more difficult.

High-profile campus incidents in recent years have included a student senate measure to boycott Israel passed on the eve of Passover in 2017, a 2020 resolution blaming Israel for racial tension in American policing, an attempt by Tufts Students for Justice in Palestine to remove a Jewish member of a student government body, and, most recently, the theft of a mezuzah from a student’s doorpost.

Last December, the university, working with Hillel International and a private consultancy, formed an ad hoc committee to study antisemitism on campus, Monaco

said. The committee recommended new training on antisemitism for students, faculty, and staff, and that university orientation for freshmen include feature programs on antisemitic bias.

Tufts has also joined the 2021-2022 Hillel International Campus Climate Initiative (CCI) cohort, an initiative in which universities respond to antisemitism based on the experiences of Jewish students, faculty, and staff.

“We are very encouraged by President Monaco’s leadership in undertaking this comprehensive survey on antisemitism and for his firm commitment to implementing its recommendations,” Rabbi Naftali Brawer, Executive Director of Tufts Hillel, told *The Algemeiner*. “We are fortunate to have in President Monaco a friend and partner, determined to ensure that Jewish

life can continue to flourish at Tufts University.”

The committee also proposed hosting more forums on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A university-wide advisory, Monaco added, will be commissioned to counsel senior school officials “on the best ways to approach the implementation process.”

“We are not immune from the rise in antisemitism across the nation, including the alarming incident in Texas just this past week,” Monaco continued, alluding to the antisemitic attack on a Reform synagogue in Colleyville, Texas. “It is incumbent that we take active steps to combat it on our campus. You have my commitment that we will work on these recommendations to improve the quality of Jewish life at Tufts and work to combat campus antisemitism in its various forms.”

*“To Compare is to Despair”*



**Harriet Rossetto,**  
LCSW

Do you compare yourself to others? Judging your insides by their outsides?

Do you need to be Perfect?

Validated by others? Do you look for love in all the wrong places?



**Let's Talk**  
310.384.1417  
[harrietrossetto@gmail.com](mailto:harrietrossetto@gmail.com)

## Barnes & Noble Removes ‘The Protocols of the Elders of Zion’ from its Website Following Social Media Outcry

By Caleb Guedes-Reed, *JTA*

Twitter users began tweeting about an online listing on January 25, which had been selling the famously fabricated antisemitic text for \$24.95 on the book retailer’s website. The retailer said in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the book was fed automatically to the website from “standard industry databases” and that the company would “take prompt action to remove” the title.

Twitter users also objected the description of the book on the site, which summarized at length the book’s fictional description of a Jewish plan for global domination

and justified its sale as “an interesting book which deserves to be studied in the same way the ‘War of the Worlds’ radio broadcast duped many thousands...We neither support nor deny its message, we simply make it available for those who wish a copy.”

In their statement to *JTA*, a representative for Barnes & Noble wrote that the bookseller does the “utmost to diligently monitor such submissions for violations of our content policy.” According to the statement, the book was never stocked in their bookstores.

“We regret that it was listed

inadvertently. As soon as we are made aware of any such offending titles, we take prompt action to remove the offending titles in accordance with our policy, as we did with this title,” said the representative.

While Barnes & Noble was the main focus of social media users’ outrage, it was reported in the *Jerusalem Post* yesterday that other top online booksellers such as Walmart, Book Depository, Thrift Books and Hudson Books were selling dozens of versions.

# Biden Yanks Trump Appointee Who Spoke to White Supremacists from Commission that Monitors Holocaust Sites

By Ron Kampeas, JTA

President Joe Biden removed from a commission that monitors Holocaust sites a Trump appointee with ties to white supremacists.



Darren Beattie

In a letter obtained by a reporter for Politico, on January 14 the White House asked Darren Beattie to resign from the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad by the end of the day or be removed.

The commission identifies and works to secure the preservation of historical sites in Europe, such as cemeteries, monuments and Holocaust killing sites, that are associated with the heritage of U.S. citizens.

Former President Donald Trump's appointment of Beattie to the commission in 2020 stirred controversy among Jewish groups and led to demands for his removal. It was one of several appointments of young loyalists to prestigious commissions that Trump made after he lost the election.

Beattie, who is Jewish, had been a speechwriter for Trump until it was revealed in 2018 that he had two years earlier attended a conference of the H.L. Mencken Club. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the conference "has hosted some of America's most prominent white nationalist ideologues in the past and serves as a safe space for professors to vent their racist views."

Beattie appeared at the conference on a panel with Peter Brimelow, a white nationalist who runs the anti-immigrant website VDare. Beattie has vociferously defended Trump's policies limiting the entry of Muslims into the United States.

The same day he sacked Beattie, Biden named seven new commissioners to the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, including two with ties to Jewish organizations.

Nancy Kaufman is a former longtime CEO of the National Council of Jewish Women and executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Boston.

C. Jonathan Greenwald, a former diplomat, is active with J Street, the liberal Jewish Middle East policy

group; has worked in negotiating Holocaust reparations; and, according to the White House statement, "directs and funds an

initiative to bring young Israelis and Palestinians to study together at leading university preparatory schools."

**17 OUTSTANDING MOVIES  
IN-PERSON SCREENINGS  
AT THE CAMELOT THEATRES!**

**Platinum Pass (all films) \$100  
Individual tickets \$12**

**View trailers and order passes/  
tickets online at [www.psiff.com](http://www.psiff.com)**  
Tickets also available at 760-325-2281

Sunday, March 6		
7:00 pm	<b>Tango Shalom</b>	(115 minutes)
	* Q&A with stars Lainie Kazan & Renee Taylor + Director Gabe Bologna	
Monday, March 7		
10:30 am	<b>When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit</b>	(119 minutes)
1:30 pm	<b>Syndrome K</b> * Discussion follows	(80 minutes)
3:45 pm	<b>Neighbors</b>	(122 minutes)
7:00 pm	<b>Plan A</b>	(109 minutes)
Tuesday, March 8		
10:30 am	<b>Ganef</b>	(13 minutes)
	<b>Rose</b> * Discussion follows	(82 minutes)
1:30 am	<b>Broken Candles</b>	(9 minutes)
	Premiere! <b>Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen</b>	(88 minutes)
4:00 pm	<b>Little Traitor</b>	(89 minutes)
7:00 pm	(At Oscars) <b>Sublet</b> (LGBT spotlight movie)	(89 minutes)
7:00 pm	<b>Persian Lessons</b>	(127 minutes)
Wednesday, March 9		
10:30 am	<b>Howie Mandel: But, Enough About Me</b>	(100 minutes)
	* Plus pre-recorded interview for our festival!	
1:00 pm	<b>Greener Pastures</b>	(90 minutes)
3:00 pm	<b>Outremont and the Hassidim</b>	(53 minutes)
	and <b>Xueta Island</b>	(63 minutes)
7:00 pm	Premiere! <b>Shepherd, The Story of a Jewish Dog</b>	(93 minutes)
	* Q&A with Producer/Director Lynn Roth	

All films screened at the Camelot Theatres, 2300 East Baristo Road, Palm Springs except "SUBLET" on Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00 pm, which will be shown at Oscars, 123 East Tahquitz, Palm Springs. Drinks/meal available.

## 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).**

# US Judge Orders Jewish Victims to Pay \$159,000 to Antisemites

Judge orders \$159K payday for antisemitic synagogue harassers, victims ordered to pay their legal fees. Case could go to Supreme Court

By Lauren Marcus, World Israel News

A Michigan district court judge ordered several synagogue members, including a Holocaust survivor, to pay some \$159,000 in legal fees for antisemitic protesters who regularly demonstrate outside the Jewish house of worship, ruling that a lawsuit filed by the congregants attempting to stop the ongoing harassment was meritless and frivolous.

Since 2003, antisemitic and anti-Israel protesters have gathered outside of the Beth Israel Congregation in Ann Arbor, intentionally timing their demonstrations to align with Shabbat services in order to disturb and accost worshippers on the Jewish day of rest.

In 2019, plaintiffs Marvin Gerber and Miriam Brysk, who is a Holocaust survivor, filed a lawsuit against the city and the protesters, arguing that the protests infringe upon their First Amendment right to worship freely.

Because protesters regularly confront congregants and hold signs bearing antisemitic messages, while yelling antisemitic phrases at worshippers, the plaintiffs said that the protests go beyond freedom of speech — amounting to intimidation and harassment, as individual Jews are targeted.

“One could colorably [sic] argue that signs that say ‘Jewish Power Corrupts’ and ‘No More Holocaust Movies’ directly outside a synagogue



attended by Holocaust survivors and timed to coincide with their service are more directed at the private congregants than designed to speak out about matters of public concern,” acknowledged Judge Victoria Roberts.

Despite this finding, Roberts said that because the protests take place on a public sidewalk, the plaintiffs have no basis for trying to stop them

and are therefore responsible for paying \$159,000 in legal fees for the demonstrators.

She categorized the lawsuit as a meritless, baseless attempt to “silence” the protesters, and in an unusual move, singled out the plaintiffs’ attorney, Marc Susselman, ordering that he also pay damages to the demonstrators.

Roberts wrote that as an attorney, Susselman should have known better than to pursue “frivolous” claims against the demonstrators and that he must also be held personally liable for financial damages.

Susselman said he is planning to appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.



**“THE VISION OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM:  
LIVING, LEARNING, COMMUNITY”**

**INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH RABBI DR. J.B. SACKS**

*SERIES FUNDED IN PART THANKS TO A GRANT FROM USCJ'S PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION*

**ENTIRE COMMUNITY WELCOME — FREE OF CHARGE ☆ RSVP REQUIRED**



**CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM**  
79733 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE  
BERMUDA DUNES, CA 92203  
[WWW.CONGREGATIONBETHSHALOM.NET](http://WWW.CONGREGATIONBETHSHALOM.NET)  
PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIRED 

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021 – 3:00 PM**      EVENT SPONSOR: DR. PAUL & STEPHANIE ROSS

**LIVING: A BRIDGE WITH G-D —** Afternoon High Tea

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022 – 7:00 PM**      EVENT SPONSOR: GENE & ANNIE NATHENSON

**COMMUNITY: A BRIDGE WITH OTHERS —**  
Havdalah with Wine & Cheese Reception

**FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022 – 7:45 PM**      EVENT SPONSOR: BILL AMPLO & BILL SNELLENBERGER

**LEARNING: A BRIDGE WITH TORAH —**  
Shabbat service followed by *Oneg Shabbat* dessert reception

**THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022 – 5:00 PM**      EVENT SPONSOR: JOEL & MARLENE WOLF

**VISION: A BRIDGE WITH THE FUTURE —**  
*Yom Ha'Atzmaut* celebration featuring Israeli food

**TO RSVP CALL (760) 200-3636 OR  
EMAIL [BETHSHALOM18@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BETHSHALOM18@GMAIL.COM)**

**JEWS IN AMERICA ARE THE TARGET OF 58% OF ALL RELIGIOUSLY MOTIVATED HATE CRIMES IN THE U.S. DESPITE CONSTITUTING A MERE 2% OF THE POPULATION.**



*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



Todd Gregory Young  
Owner



[www.reliableroofingbytgy.com](http://www.reliableroofingbytgy.com)

SINCE 1987

760-568-1673

Bonded • Insured • Lic #764608

# Jonathan Pollard's Wife Esther Passes Away at 68

Wife of convicted spy fought for his release, died in Jerusalem after long struggle with breast cancer and recent COVID-19 infection.

By World Israel News Staff

Esther Pollard, wife of Jonathan Pollard, who was convicted of spying on behalf of Israel and served more than three decades in an American prison, died in a Jerusalem hospital on January 31.

Born Elaine Zeitz in Toronto, Canada, she married Pollard in 1993 while he was in prison and worked as a tireless advocate for her husband's release.

The pair originally met as

teenagers during a trip to Israel. Esther began to write letters to him after she discovered he had been convicted and imprisoned of espionage in 1987.

Pollard, who has been ill with breast cancer for years, contracted COVID-19 in mid-January and was hospitalized over the weekend, with a family spokesman calling for prayers "following a deterioration in her condition."

Her husband confirmed to Hebrew-language media that her death was triggered by septic shock, stemming from her COVID infection.

"I did not imagine in my worst nightmares that I would lose Esther. After decades of fighting for my



Esther Pollard

release, I felt so helpless that I could not help her in her struggle for life," he said.

Jonathan Pollard was released from prison in 2015 but was subject to parole conditions, including an electronic tracking bracelet and a blanket ban on leaving New York.

Shortly after those conditions were removed in 2020, the pair immigrated to Israel, settling in Jerusalem.

# Tourist Arrested for Making Nazi Salute at Auschwitz 'As a Joke'

By Sophia Smith Galer, Vice World News

A 29-year-old woman from the Netherlands has been arrested for giving the Nazi salute at the site of the Auschwitz death camp.

The woman, who has not been named, made the gesture in front of the Arbeit Macht Frei (Work Sets You Free) gate as she posed for a photo taken by her husband on January 23.

Security at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum and Memorial in Poland saw her in the act, detained her, and contacted police.

She was charged by prosecutors with engaging in Nazi propaganda and was issued with a fine, which she accepted.

Poland's PAP news agency reports that the woman said the act was a

"bad joke".

Auschwitz-Birkenau was the largest of the German Nazi concentration camps in the Second World War. More than 1.1 million men, women

and children died at the camp, including 960,000 Jews.

Promoting Nazi propaganda in Poland can carry a sentence of up to two years in prison.

In 2013, two Turkish students were fined for making a Nazi salute at Auschwitz and given a suspended sentence of six months in jail.

We don't just place our faith in a better tomorrow – we build it!

Jewish Federation of the Desert  
**CAMPAIGN 2022**  
is happening now and your participation is important.

**DONATE NOW**

You make the difference!

**You Have Three Ways to Enjoy the Show**

Please let us know your choice by February 23, 2022

**Wednesday Matinée • March 9, 2022**  
1:30 pm • Doors open at 1:00 pm  
Includes popcorn, soda, candy, and of course an Eisenberg mini hot dog. Cost \$65.

**Wednesday VIP Evening • March 9, 2022**  
5:00 pm • Doors open at 4:30 pm  
Enjoy popcorn, soda, and candy. After the show, you are invited to a VIP mix and mingle with Sue Cameron and Phyllis Eisenberg, while enjoying a casual dinner of movie theater concessions (hotdogs, nachos, pizza, salad, dessert, and more), wine, beer, and soft drinks. Cost \$225.

**If you cannot attend either live event you will be provided a Zoom link to see the show.**

**Monday Zoom • March 14, 2022**  
12:00 pm and 5:00 pm  
Minimum donation \$65.

**PROOF OF VACCINATION AND MASKS REQUIRED**

Please consider placing a virtual program book ad

**Secrets of TV Legends**  
Sue Cameron • March 9, 2022  
Hollywood Reporter columnist shares insider secrets!

**Mary Pickford Theatre**  
36850 Pickfair Street, Cathedral City, CA 92234

Honoring Phyllis Eisenberg with the JFS Humanitarian Award

Tickets are available online at [JFSDesert.org](http://JFSDesert.org). Click on events.  
For questions call Cheryl at 760-325-4088, extension 107 or email [cscarlett@jfsdesert.org](mailto:cscarlett@jfsdesert.org).

## Stellar Group Volunteer to Review Holocaust Essays

In last month's Jewish Community News we included a short article asking for volunteers to review the 2022 Holocaust Essay Contest submissions. We were thrilled and overwhelmed with the outstanding individuals who responded. Below are, in alphabetical order, the seven individuals who called Leslie Pepper and volunteered, along with brief bios.

Todah rabbah. Thank you for volunteering and for the work you will be doing on this special project, which is held annually in conjunction with our community's Yom HaShoah observance.

**Sandi Danciger** - Taught at Amelia Earhart Elementary school for 19 years, has a GATE, CLAD, and GLAD credential, Used ECHOES and REFLECTIONS, a multimedia curriculum on the Holocaust from the ADL to educate her students. Two-time teacher of the Year for DSUSD, on the Board of the Tolerance Center where she took students to interface with Holocaust survivors etc,

**Dr. Errol Frank, PhD** - 4 years Assistant Principal, American International School in Kfar Sh'maryahu, Israel. 6 years Assistant Principal and Principal around Ohio, 15 years a School Superintendent in Harrison, Ohio and Skokie, Illinois, Director of the Principal's Workshop, University of Illinois, Consultant to the Nevada State Department of Education.

**David Klingenberg** - Composition teacher for over 30 years, Consultant for the College Board and Educational Services for 20 years, on the

committee that wrote the AP English Language exam and scoring both AP English and SAT writing exams. Active member of Beth Shalom.

**Susan Lippman**- BA in Education and Masters in Library Science from the University of Arizona. Taught in Arizona, Nevada and West Virginia as well at Eagle Mountain High School, College of the Desert, and in the Coachella Valley Unified School District. Served on the Palm Springs Library Board under Sonny Bono and supervised the "GATE "Potential" program. Became a Spanish language specialist as well.

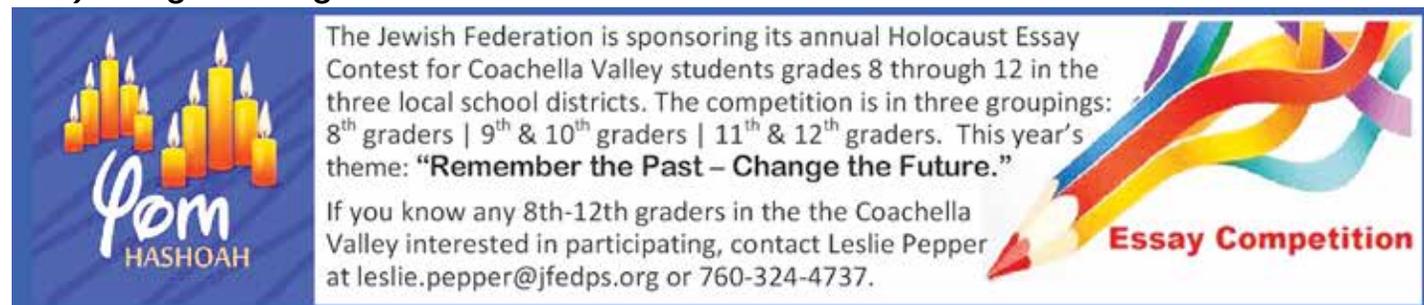
**Sheryl Livergant Shilling** - Canadian

snowbird here from Calgary, BA in Political Science and a law degree from the University of Alberta Faculty of Law. Was employed by B'nai B'rith Canada League for Human Rights as a National Hillel Coordinator. Active in the Calgary Jewish community and then carried on in private legal practice. Is passionate about her Jewish connections here in the desert and in Canada and holds the subject of the Holocaust close to her heart.

**Dr. Arlette Poland** - A self-described education junkie with a J.D. in law and a Masters in Religion with a specialty in Judaism, Buddhism and Science and Religion. She was adopted at one and at 36 found out her birth mother

was a German-Jew and thus began her quest to uncover her Jewishness. She lost most of her family during the Shoah and became a Bat Mitzvah at Desert Outreach Synagogue a year before the pandemic hit. Arlette also holds a Masters in Ethical Leadership. Dr. Poland is a professor at various colleges in the area for over 20 years and is a podcaster, painter and poet.

**Irene Tritel**- Legal secretary and office manager, Editor of local Brandeis Newsletter and author of a novel and short stories, part time secretary for an art studio, and manager of a strip mall in Oxnard.



The Jewish Federation is sponsoring its annual Holocaust Essay Contest for Coachella Valley students grades 8 through 12 in the three local school districts. The competition is in three groupings: 8<sup>th</sup> graders | 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> graders | 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders. This year's theme: "Remember the Past - Change the Future." If you know any 8th-12th graders in the the Coachella Valley interested in participating, contact Leslie Pepper at [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

## Laser Defense System Will Be Ready to Intercept Missiles in a Year - Bennett

The laser system will protect Israel from missiles, rockets, drones and other threats.

By Lahav Harkov, The Jerusalem Post

Israel will surround itself with a defensive "laser wall," with new missile interception technology to be ready within a year, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett announced in a speech at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv in early February.

The IDF will begin using the laser interception system in the next year, first experimentally and later operationally, starting in the South.

"This will allow us, in the medium-to long-term, to surround Israel with a laser wall that will defend us from missiles, rockets, UAVs and other

threats that will essentially take away the strongest card our enemies have against us," Bennett said.

The Defense Ministry successfully intercepted drones with the powerful airborne laser system installed on light aircraft in June. The system downed several UAVs at a range of one kilometer with a 100% success rate. The ministry intends to build a laser with a power of 100 kilowatts that will have an effective range of 20 km.

Bennett explained that today a terrorist in Gaza can launch a rocket

into Israel that costs hundreds of dollars to make, while the Iron Dome battery shooting down the rocket costs tens of thousands of dollars.

"This equation doesn't make sense," the prime minister stated. "It allows [the terrorists] to launch more and more Kassams and for us to shed many millions on a 'lightning strike' and billions during a campaign. We decided to break the equation, and it will be broken in only a few years."

At that point, Bennett said, Israel's enemies "will invest a lot, and we will [invest] a little. If you can intercept

a missile or rocket with an electric pulse that costs a few dollars, we are weakening the ring of fire that Iran has built on our borders."

Israel will offer the laser technology to its regional allies that are also facing threats from Iran and its proxies, the prime minister said.

Bennett repeated his comparison of Iran to an octopus, sending its tentacles - proxies - to wreak havoc throughout the Middle East, and growing stronger all the time.

"The campaign to weaken Iran has

*continued on page 14*

# Thousands of Rare Antiquities Recovered in Unique Pre-dawn Raid

Complex months-long joint operation leads to arrest of antiquities thief

By Judith Sudilovsky, *The Jerusalem Post*

Thousands of rare antiquities were confiscated and a Palestinian antiquities dealer and thief was arrested in a complex pre-dawn operation in the Nablus area on February 7 following a months-long undercover investigation and intelligence surveillance by the Civil Administration (COGAT).

Rare coins from among the oldest used in the Land of Israel, as well as relics from the Persian and Hellenistic periods and coins from the time of the Great Jewish Revolt were among the confiscated finds. They are estimated to have a value of hundreds of thousands of shekels.

The joint operation that took place in the village of Qalil near Nablus included forces from the Border Police, the Archaeology Unit of the Civil Administration, the Coordination and Liaison Administration for Nablus and the IDF.

The forces also confiscated equipment used by the suspect in the theft of the antiquities.

According to COGAT, the operation was part of the extensive efforts undertaken by the Civil Administration's Archaeology Unit over recent years to preserve archaeological finds and root out the theft of antiquities in the Judea and Samaria area with the help of advanced technology.

"The Civil Administration is pursuing many avenues, both public and confidential, in order to preserve the archaeology of Judea and Samaria," said Civil Administration head Brig.-Gen. Faris Atila. "Following a long and intricate operation, thousands of rare archaeological items that had been stolen by a specialist in



Rare antiquities confiscated

archaeological theft were located. The operation was important, with significance in breaking the chain of traffic in antiquities in Judea and Samaria. The Civil Administration



will continue working tirelessly against the shameful phenomenon of destruction and theft at the

archaeological sites of Judea and Samaria, protecting the cultural and historical assets of the area."

The antiquities dealer was arrested and transferred for further interrogation by investigators of the Civil Administration's Archaeology Unit. An indictment against him is currently being drawn up and will be submitted to the military prosecution.



## JEWISH NATIONAL FUND USA INVITES YOU TO THE GOULD LEGACY SOCIETY APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

PRESERVING THE PAST, ENSURING THE PRESENT, AND SECURING OUR FUTURE

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Omni Rancho Las Palmas

41000 Bob Hope Drive Rancho Mirage, CA 92270



Ambassador Dennis Ross  
American Diplomat & Author

FEATURING



Cynthia Hizami, Esq.  
Director of Planned Giving, West Coast

Please RSVP by March 2, 2022 at [jnf.org/PSPGLUNCHEON](http://jnf.org/PSPGLUNCHEON)

More Information

Tara Rosen, Administrative Assistant · [trosen@jnf.org](mailto:trosen@jnf.org) · 760.864.6208 x808

REGISTRATION REQUIRED NO COST TO ATTEND DIETARY LAWS OBSERVED IN-PERSON EVENT

JNF-USA requires all attendees, staff and vendors to provide proof of vaccination.  
Please visit [jnf.org/PSPGLuncheon](http://jnf.org/PSPGLuncheon) for full list of COVID-19 entry protocols.

continued from page 12

begun," he said. "This campaign is in all dimensions: nuclear, economic, cyber, open and secret actions, alone and in cooperation with others. The weaker Iran is, the weaker its proxies are. The hungrier the octopus is, the more its tentacles shrivel."

Bennett expressed hope that the nuclear talks between world powers and Iran "will end without an agreement, because that agreement is bad for Israel."

"Removing sanctions and flooding the [Iranian] regime with billions of dollars means more rockets, more UAVs, more terrorist cells, more cyberattacks and propaganda operations," he said.

The prime minister pointed out that the Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps and its proxies have been actively attacking the United Arab Emirates and other countries while the Vienna talks are ongoing.

"That is the definition of negotiations under fire. That's blackmail," he said.

Israel's strategy to fight back against Iran will stand regardless of the



**Israel becomes first country to shoot down hostile drones mid-air**

results in Vienna, because "even with an agreement, we think the Iranians will continue to be the Iranians," he added.

"If an agreement is signed and the flow of dollars is renewed, we all understand Iranian aggression will only increase in the region."

In addition, Bennett pointed

out that the sunset clauses in the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, which the delegations in Vienna are seeking to revive, expires in a short time, at the end of 2030.

With US Ambassador Tom Nides in the audience, Bennett said that Washington's interests and Jerusalem's "do not always overlap."

"Their interest in our region

is lessening," Bennett said of the Americans. "Their eyes are currently focused on the border of Russia and Ukraine, and in the long term, they are in a strategic conflict with China."

There is "no longer one global policeman," he said.

"There are no vacuums in the geopolitical arena," Bennett stated. "Any place that is cleared is immediately taken. The United States' place in the region can be filled – God forbid – by forces of terror and hate, and it could be filled by Israel."

Israel's allies in the region could be part of a "multidimensional alliance" against forces that seek to destabilize the Middle East, he said.

Anna Ahronheim contributed to this report.



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

*Chevra Kadisha Services Available*

**FOREST LAWN®**

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 Requa Avenue, Indio, CA 92201

FOREST LAWN MEMORIAL PARKS & MORTUARIES

Are you  
experiencing  
Post Pandemic  
Distress?

Uncertainty,  
Identity confusion,  
disconnection, and  
Isolation?



Let's Talk

Harriet Rossetto,  
LCSW

310.384.1417

[harrietrosetto@gmail.com](mailto:harrietrosetto@gmail.com)

# Israeli Arab Party Leader Mansour Abbas Dismisses Charge of 'Apartheid' State: 'Our Fate Here Is to Live Together'

By Sharon Wrobel *The Algemeiner*

Israeli Arab leader Mansour Abbas — head of the Islamic Ra'am party and a Member of the Knesset, who joined the country's governing coalition — said he would not use the word "apartheid" to describe relations between Arabs and Jews in Israel.

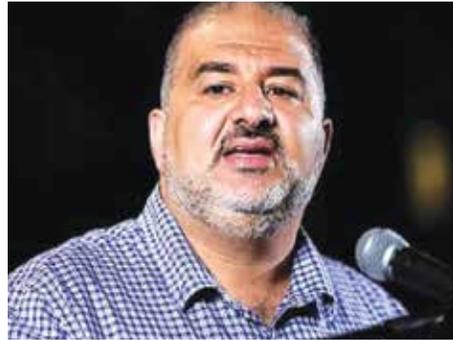
Asked at an online conversation organized by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy about hearing that label applied to the Jewish state, Abbas said: "I would not call it apartheid."

"I am in the coalition, and if I want to be inside the government, I could be in the government too," Abbas emphasized, according to comments translated from Hebrew.

"I usually try not to be judgmental. I'm not trying to say you are racist or the state is racist, or this is an apartheid state or not an apartheid state," he explained. "My role as a political leader is to try to bridge the gaps, improve the distortions and to create more justice not only between Jews and Arabs, but also among Arabs and among Jews."

Abbas' comments follow a report in early February by the NGO Amnesty International accusing Israel of practicing apartheid. The report claimed that "Israel imposes a system of oppression and domination against Palestinians across all areas under its control: in Israel and the OPT ('Occupied Palestinian Territories'), and against Palestinian refugees, in order to benefit Jewish Israelis."

Israeli leaders flatly rejected those charges, which Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid called "divorced from reality."



**MK Mansour Abbas, head of the Ra'am faction**

At the same time, Abbas said at the virtual event, he was not disregarding Amnesty's findings or those by other human rights organizations.

"This is an opportunity for us to look at what is happening, to be introspective, to see what we can fix and what we can change," he proposed.

A dentist by profession and an advocate for Israel's Arab community, Abbas made history last year when he led Ra'am to become the first Arab party ever to join Israel's governing coalition.

"Everything I am trying to do is historical," Abbas contended. "My role is to try and show Jews and Arabs a new way in which they can live together and in which each side will realize itself as the collective and as individuals within this framework which is called the State of Israel. I am not trying to please one group or another. I seek to show Arabs and Jews how to live together in the context of Israel."

Abbas described himself as an Arab, a Palestinian, a Muslim, and a citizen of the Israeli state — adding that when he was elected to the Knesset, he was looking for a partnership and to make change

from within.

"These identities, the national and religious, they can live together, they can connect each other, based on acceptance of the other," Abbas said. "I am not trying to find out who is guilty. I am trying

to find out who can be a partner, for us to work together as we all agree that in many fields, we may have disagreements."

Back in November, the Knesset member was criticized by the

*continued on page 22*

A colorful advertisement for the musical 'Little Shop of Horrors'. At the top, a wooden sign reads 'LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS' with red liquid dripping down. To the right, a red box contains the dates 'MARCH 18 - APRIL 10'. Below the sign is a large, green, carnivorous plant with sharp teeth and a red tongue, growing out of a brown pot. To the right of the plant, a large blue question mark is positioned above a black fork. Text on the right side reads 'DESERT THEATREWORKS PRESENTS GUESS Who's Coming to DINNER' and 'APRIL 22 - MAY 8'. At the bottom, a black banner contains the Desert Theatreworks logo, website 'WWW.DTWORKS.ORG', phone number '760-980-1455', and address '45175 FARGO ST., INDIO, CA 92201 INDIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER'. The logo also includes the tagline 'LIVE THEATRE AT ITS BEST'.



## 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:

- **Jerome Angel**, Thank you for your generosity, from Michelle's friend, Carol Woodward
- **Barbara and Bernie Fromm**, A donation has been made to the Jewish Federation's Fromm Youth Enrichment Fund in honor of your birthdays and anniversary, by your children and grandchildren, with love and admiration for your commitment to Jewish values, family and one another.
- **Libby and Buddy Hoffman**, Congratulations on your 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, from Barbara and Bernie Fromm, Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Mal and Ruth Kaufman**, Congratulations on the birth of your great grandchild, from Gail and Bobby Scadron.
- **Bob Paget**, Best wishes on your 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, from Bill and Hillary Friedman, Phil and Ellen Glass, Roger L. Kaplan, Marilyn and Art Noll, Linda and Richard Robin, Bob and Gail Scadron.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Evan Ribot**, In honor of your recent marriage, from Nonni (Marnie Miller) and Joe Noren.
- **Rabbi Faith Tessler**, Thank you for your support, kindness and guidance, from Yasmeen Mazer.

- **Jean Willens**, All good wishes for your special birthday, from Margot and Jerry Halperin.

### Refuah Shleimah Get Well:

- **Bob Chernetz**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Bernie and Barbara Fromm.
- **Libby Hoffman**, Get well wishes from Barbara Fremont.
- **Marcia Kaplan**, Wishing a complete and speedy recovery, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- **Linda Winick**, Sending best wishes for a speedy recovery, from Gail and Bobby Scadron.

### Memoriam Tributes Condolences Sent To:

- **Barbara Appelbaum**, Condolences on the loss of your brother Philip, from Barbara and Robert Paget.
- **Judy Appelbaum**, Condolences on the loss of your wonderful son, from Barbara and Robert Paget.
- **Mitchell Ferdman**, In memory of your beloved father, Bill Ferdman, from Ruth and Mal Kaufman.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Greene and Family**,

Condolences on the passing of your daughter Kelly, from Gail and Howard Stone.

- **David Linder**, In memory of Barbara, from Stuart Goldfine and Sandra Chickman.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Shelly Nissen**, With deepest sympathy on the loss of your beloved sister, from Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Ken Novack and Family**, With deepest sympathy on the loss of your beloved son, from Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Charlene Podolsky**, In memory of your beloved sister Lois Gordon, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- **Sheryl Porter**, In memory of your beloved mother Ruth, from Barbara Devinki and Jeff Louis.
- **Mrs. Jerry Rotblatt**, In memory of your beloved husband Jerry, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- **Family of Don Shagrin**, In memory of Don Shagrin on the second anniversary of his passing, from Gail K. Siegel.
- **Mary Siegel**, In memory of your beloved husband Sherwyn, from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren, Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Doreen Veiner and Family**, Sincerest sympathy on the loss of your beloved Sam, from Rhoda Brickell.

## Have you registered the Jewish Federation of the Desert with Amazon Smile as your nonprofit?



**It couldn't be easier to register: 1. Go to smile.amazon.com 2. Register Jewish Federation of the Desert as your favorite charity 3. Shop! 4. Bookmark the smile.amazon.com page and don't forget to only shop through this link! We earn .5% of each purchase.**

Purchases made through regular amazon.com will NOT lead to charitable contributions.



We appreciate  
your support!



## Shabbat Schedule - March 2022

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** (Member, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism)  
Ken Hailpern, Spiritual Leader  
79-733 Country Club Drive,  
Bermuda Dunes, CA 92203  
www.congregationbethshalom.net  
760-200-3636

Proof of vaccination required on first in-person return visit. Visitors welcome with proof of vaccination.  
**IN-PERSON** Shabbat Morning Services: 9:45 am, followed by light Kiddush lunch.

Friday, March 4, 6:30 pm: Shabbat Dinner celebrating "Shabbat Across America" with Rabbi Ira Helf. Paid reservations required by Thursday, February 24.

Friday, March 25, 7:45 pm: Erev Shabbat Service with Rabbi J.B. Sacks speaking on "The Vision of Conservative Judaism – Living: a Bridge with Torah." RSVP appreciated by Tuesday, March 22. See ad page 10. For information, email BethShalom18@gmail.com or call 760-200-3636.

### **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 when Shabbat services are held.

### **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  
72295 Via Marta, Rancho Mirage,  
CA 92270. www.chabadm.com  
760-770-7785

"Taste of Shul" available Fridays on Zoom and Facebook live.  
Shabbat morning services begin at 10 am, followed by Kiddush. We are gradually returning to our full pre-covid kiddush lunch. Call for more information.

### **CHABAD OF SUN CITY PALM DESERT**

Rabbi Yonason Denebeim.  
Thursday, March 17 –  
Annual Purim Dinner in the Oasis Room at 5:15 pm.  
Plans underway to resume regular services and programs in Sun City Palm Desert. Monthly dinners offered now. Contact Rebbetzin Sussie Denebeim to receive weekly "Chabad in Sun City Newsletter" with listing of all services and activities: sussiedenebeim@gmail.com.

### **CONGREGATION HAR-EL**

(Member, Union for Reform Judaism)  
Rabbi Richard Zions, Ph.D.; Cantor Joseph Gole, D.Mus. harelurjpd@gmail.com  
760-779-1691. New website: harelurjpd.org.  
Shabbat services offered online. Everyone welcome.  
Zoom Shabbat Evening Services 5 pm with Rabbi Richard Zions and Cantor Joseph Gole. Discussion with attendees before and after the Shabbat Services.  
Saturday 11 am—Zoom Torah

Study with Discussion conducted by Rabbi Zions. For Zoom invite email harelurjpd@gmail.com.

### **CONGREGATION SHALOM BAYIT** (Reform)

Rabbi Kenneth Milhandler, 1320 W. Williams Ave., Banning, CA 92220. Contact 951-392-5380.

### **DESERT OUTREACH SYNAGOGUE**

Rabbi Dr. Jules King; Rabbi Rachel Axelrad, Associate Rabbi. Cantor Lori Reisman Patterson. 760-449-0111. Mailing address: P.O. Box 982, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. www.Desert-Outreach-Synagogue.com. Desert Outreach Synagogue Services - In-person services on 2nd Friday of the month at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert, 72425 Via Vail, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270, with proof of vaccination or negative Covid test within 72 hours. Also, live-streamed on our DOS website: www.desert-outreach-synagogue.com.

Torah Study with Rabbi Rachel Axelrad - 2nd Saturday morning - 10:30 - 11:30 am - Lite nosh and learning together at the Unitarian Universalist Church.

### **OR HAMIDBAR**

Rabbi David Lazar rabbi@orhamidbar.org. Virtual Kabbalat Services Fridays at 6:30 pm and Shabbat morning services at 10:30 am. For information email info@orhamidbar.org.  
Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm - In person and Facebook live 2021 Pride Interfaith Kabbalat Shabbat



PURIM  
2022/5782  
MARCH 16/17

service at United Methodist Church of Palm Springs (1555 East Alejo). Must be fully vaccinated and wear mask in building.

### **SUN CITY JEWISH SERVICES**

Rabbi Dr. Kenneth Emert, Cantorial Soloist Alan Scott and Accompanist Brent Reynolds. In person services in Speaker's Hall in the Sunset View Clubhouse in Sun City Palm Desert have returned. Services are held the first and third Fridays at 7:15 pm. To attend participants must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask at services. Please bring your card. Information: Susan Katzman, 760-641-0411.

### **TEMPLE HAR SHALOM, Idyllwild**

(951) 468-0004. www.templeharshalomidyllwild.org Email: templeharshalomofidyllwild@gmail.com.

Virtual holiday services led by Rabbi David Lazar.

Erev Shabbat Services via Zoom the third Friday of each month with Rabbi David Lazar at 6:00 pm and Shabbat teaching with Rabbi Lazar the next morning at 9:30 am. Every other Friday of the month: Shabbat Candle Lighting with Rabbi Emerita Malka



## Shabbat Schedule Continued - March 2022

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.

Drucker at 5:45 pm. Contact templeharshalomofidyllwild@gmail.com for Zoom Address.

### TEMPLE ISAIAH

Rabbi Steven Rosenberg  
332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262, 760-325-2281. www.templeisaiahps.com.

Weekly in-person Shabbat services have returned. Friday evenings at 7:30 pm. Saturday morning begins with "Nosh and Drash" at 9:30 am,

followed by Shabbat morning services at 10:30 am. To attend in person services requires being fully vaccinated and masks are required when in the building. Also being 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. Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 pm: PURIM: Reading of Megillah

followed by ice cream social.

### TEMPLE SINAI (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 for access information. Shabbat services are in-person and online on Livestream at www.templesinaipd.org. Friday evening services 5:30 pm. Saturday

morning Torah study 8:45 am; Shabbat morning services 10 am. Proof of vaccination or negative covid test within 72 hours required. Masks must be worn in the building.

### BIKUR CHOLIM

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



## Community Calendar of Programs - March 2022

Email (preferred) Miriam Bent at [mhbentjcn@earthlink.net](mailto:mhbentjcn@earthlink.net) or call 760-323-0255 to have your events included in the community calendar.

### Mondays:

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.

### Tuesdays:

5:00-6:45 pm Chabad of Rancho Mirage **Weekly Community BBQ** is back offered in person. Place order by 2 PM Monday and save 15%. Pickup/drive through also available.

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

### Wednesdays:

2:00-4:00 pm Temple Sinai Mah Jongg

7:00 pm - Chabad of Palm Springs/

Sun City: 'Ask the Rabbi': A Weekly Open Q & A with Rabbi Denebeim.

7:30 pm - Temple Isaiah "Bereavement Group" with **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg**. Contact Rabbi directly for more information: rabbisteven.rosenberg@gmail.com.

### Thursdays:

1:00-2:00 pm Temple Sinai Tai Chi.

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:

**7:00 pm** Havurah of the Desert: **Havdalah** followed by film and webinar discussions. For information and Zoom link: info@havurahofthedesert.org.

### 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.

### Tuesday, March 1, 8

**7:00-8:30 pm** (following weekly community BBQ) Chabad of Rancho Mirage final two sessions of **Meditation from Sinai**, led by Rabbi Benny Lew. Fee: \$99 (textbook included). Available in person and Zoom. Call 760-770-7785.

### Wednesday, March 2

**3:30 pm Har-El Galen Book Course** will meet on Zoom. Steve Moyer will review Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead. A highly acclaimed book, Colson takes us back into the world of Harlem in New York City. Harlem Shuffle has been characterized as a crime

thriller and a family saga that takes place between 1959 and 1964. The National Book Review calls it "a fabulous novel you must read." Email harelurjpd@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation.

### Thursday, March 3

**6:30 pm** Sabra Hadassah of the Desert invites women and men to hear **Harvey Shoemack**, author, international business marketing specialist and college instructor. Doors open 6:30 pm/meeting begins 7:00 pm. Proof of COVID vaccination required. \$20 members; \$25 non-members. Questions? Call Debbie at 760-289-7987.

### Sunday, March 6 through Wednesday, March 9

Temple Isaiah presents the 9<sup>th</sup> annual **Jewish Film Festival** of 16 movies at the Camelot Theatres. See ad page 9.

### Wednesday, March 9

**11:00 am** Jewish Federation



# Community Calendar of Programs - March 2022

Women's Philanthropy **"Shmooze, Nosh and Help Plan Our Future"** get together, open to all women. RSVP/information: Call or email Leslie Pepper – [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

## Wednesday, March 9

**1:30 pm** Matinee / **5:00 pm**

VIP Evening: JFS of the Desert's fundraising event: **"Secrets of TV Legends with Sue Cameron"** See ad page 11.

## Wednesday, March 9

**3:30 pm** Har-El Galen Trimester

Course. Professor Penny Rivin will continue her discussion of contemporary events in Afghanistan with an exploration of "THE TALIBAN: Enemies, Allies, Civilians—A look under the headlines. It's just beginning..." Be

sure and attend this lecture on a captivating current topic presented by Prof. Rivin, who has served as a Middle East correspondent for CNN. Email [harelurjpd@gmail.com](mailto:harelurjpd@gmail.com) for a Zoom invitation.

## Monday, March 14

**12 Noon and 5:00 pm** JFS of the Desert Zoom option of "Secrets of TV Legends with Sue Cameron." See ad page 11.

## Tuesday, March 15

**All day.** Jewish Federation annual Golf Tournament at Tamarisk Country Club. See page 4 for details. For further information, please contact: **Kyle Kelly, Head Golf Pro** at 760-328-2141 or [Kyle@tamariskcc.com](mailto:Kyle@tamariskcc.com).

## Wednesday, March 16

**11:30 am** Jewish National Fund

**Gould Legacy Society Appreciation Luncheon** at the Omni Rancho Las Palmas in Rancho Mirage. No charge to attend but registration required. See ad page 13.

## Wednesday, March 16

**3:30 pm** Har-El Special Program: "Donkeyhead", a Canadian film on Netflix. A peek into the life of a Sikh family. Seemingly exotic and foreign, there are many similarities to our Jewish cultural and religious experience. Look for these similarities while watching this intriguing film. Rabbi Zionts will open the program with an overview of the Sikh religion. As a professor of World Religions at College of the Desert, Zionts will enable us to better appreciate this little-known community. Email [harelurjpd@gmail.com](mailto:harelurjpd@gmail.com) for a Zoom invitation.

## Monday, March 28

**10:30 am** Jewish Federation of the Desert Women's Philanthropy **Lion of Judah Brunch** at Tamarisk Country Club, Rancho Mirage. Must be vaccinated to participate. See page 2 for more information or contact Leslie Pepper at [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

## Wednesday, March 30

**6:00 pm** Jewish Federation of the Desert **Major Gifts Dinner**. Held outside on the patio of Tamarisk Country Club. Keynote speaker: **Ron Dermer**, former Israeli Ambassador to the United States. Must be vaccinated to participate. See information on page 2 or contact Leslie Pepper at [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

## Calling to Create Nazi party, Brazil Podcast Star Sparks Outrage, May Face Charges

**Bruno Aiub fired after interview on his show, one of the most listened to in Brazil; also said 'if someone wants to be anti-Jewish, I think they have the right to be'**

By AFP Today (printed in Times of Israel)

A Brazilian podcaster who said on air that the South American country should have its own Nazi party triggered outrage February 8, with prosecutors saying he could face charges.

"I think there should be a Nazi party recognized by law," said Bruno Aiub in an interview with lawmakers for his Flow Podcast show, one of the most listened to in Brazil, with 3.6 million subscribers on YouTube and one million on Twitch.

He said during the program that "the radical left has much more space than the radical right, both should have space," and called for

the creation of a Nazi party.

"If someone wants to be anti-Jewish, I think they have the right to be," added the presenter, who later apologized and claimed he was "totally drunk" when he made the comments.

The video of the show was taken down from social media and the production house, Estudio Flow, said it had fired the host.

Many Jewish associations, institutions and political figures condemned the statements.

"Hate speech and the defense of hate speech have terrible consequences for humanity, and



**Bruno Aiub during a podcast, February 2022**

Nazism is the greatest historical proof of this," said the Brazil Israelite Confederation.

"No, defending Nazism is not freedom of expression," the German Embassy in Brazil said on Twitter. To defend Nazism "is to disrespect the memory of the victims and survivors

of this regime and to ignore the horrors it caused," it added.

The public prosecutor's office announced in a press release that it was going to analyze "the content of the statements" as part of an investigation for "the alleged offense of apologizing for Nazism."

A centrist lawmaker, Kim Kataguiri of the Podemos party, who was taking part in the broadcast, was also a target of the prosecution's investigation for having "claimed that Germany had made a mistake by criminalizing the Nazi party," according to the press release.

## OP-ED

# Antisemitic or Not? Why it is Important to be Accurate on Antisemitism

By Sacha Stawski, *The Jerusalem Post*

It is essential to be accurate when using the term antisemitism. When one demonizes Jews or the Jewish State, applies double standards or delegitimizes either, it is absolutely appropriate to speak of antisemitism.

Thus, when the media covers Israel differently than any other country or conflict, critics correctly call this antisemitic. Nonetheless, it is important to differentiate between premeditated biases with a particular vengeance, such as is often the case with the New York Times, or when things stem from a lack of knowledge or unacceptable custom.

The list of factors to consider when speaking about the media is long and includes such things as what supposed experts are interviewed, what wording or terminology is used, etc. Frequently, the content of

articles may be accurate and include all information, while its headlines or photographs will nonetheless create a bias against the supposed aggressor, such as after an attack on Israel. Instead of truthful headlines, which state who initiated a conflict, such as "Palestinian terrorists kill..." typical headlines (which often do not necessarily come from the authors of the articles themselves, by the way) will focus on Israel's reaction, such as "Israel bombards..."; "kills..."; or "Israel this or that." Only the bylines might mention what instigated Israel's self-defense. Other times, one has to read an entire article to understand that Israel is not a brutal Goliath which attacks at will.

Thanks to the IHRA working definition of antisemitism, there is now a guideline to which the media

and others can be held accountable. The availability of such a widely accepted definition has also helped in narrowing down antisemitic hatred stemming from organizations like BDS, which have persistently been proven to be directed against not only Jews in all of Israel but against Jews all over the world. Likewise, there can no longer be talk of criticism of Israel when the Jewish State is being demonized or when hostile regimes seek to eliminate it. But where does this leave the aforementioned subtleties in the media? Is an organization, an individual, or an entire newspaper antisemitic, because of the publication of one questionable article, headline, or photograph?

A good example in this context is the recent list of the top

antisemitic incidents, which the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) published. While there can be no doubt that entities such as the Iranian regime or Hamas, which both seek to destroy Israel, belong on such a list, Katharina von Schnurbein, European Commission Coordinator on combatting Antisemitism, the Central Council of Jews in Germany, along with many prominent organizations and activists, rightfully questioned how the Antisemitism Commissioner of the State of Baden-Württemberg, Michael Blume, could be included in such a list. Not only do fellow German Antisemitism Commissioners and Jewish communities vouch for Blume, but he has also been praised by those closely working with him for his stand against BDS and all forms of antisemitism.

This is where the fine line comes into play. Naturally, there is a reason why the SWC criticized Blume, but should undiplomatic reactions or inappropriate likes on social media years ago justify him being on a list with the likes of Iran? His inclusion, which will hopefully be reversed, in fact, demeans the importance of the definition of antisemitism and highlights why it is so important to use the term 'antisemitic' judiciously.

Questioning, opposing, and reacting to things is an absolute necessity, but it is ever so important to be accurate and to make sure we do not fall into our inner trap of using the accusation of antisemitism in an inflationary manner. Our accuracy with using the term will keep it strong and effective.

Sacha Stawski is the President of **Honestly Concerned**, an initiative to fight biased media coverage of antisemitism in Germany and the conflict in the Middle East. Stawski also heads the pro-Israel German group "ILI - I Like Israel".



**"MOST PEOPLE GO TO  
THERAPIST FOR  
SPIRITUAL ISSUES"**

Rabbi Jonathan Omer-man

Are you experiencing the malaise of life without the joy? Do you have insecurities that are keeping you trapped? Are you searching for purpose, meaning and passion in life, in relationships, etc?

**I CAN HELP!**

Call me, **Mark Borovitz**, Advocate for the Soul, Living Well Coach, Spiritual Counselor, LifeCoach, Rabbi

**818-730-7405**

**rabbimark@rabbimark.com**

# Israel's Future Submarines Seen as Key Development Towards Regional Naval Ascendancy

By Yaakov Lappin, Jewish News Syndicate

JNS The announcement on Jan. 20 by the Israeli Defense Ministry and Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems of the procurement of three new advanced submarines for the Israeli Navy marks a key milestone in the evolution of Israel's fleet, which will consist of six submarines.

In a reality in which Israel's adversaries are armed with missiles that can strike any land point in the state, the strategic value of Israel's underwater long arm is on the ascent, even more so in light of the expected advanced capabilities that the new Dakar-class submarines are expected to carry onboard.

Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz noted that the new vessels "will upgrade the capabilities of the Israeli Navy and will contribute to Israel's security superiority in the region"—hinting at their multiple abilities, which will include the capacity to remain submerged for more extended periods, gather intelligence off enemy coastlines and strike targets deep in enemy territory or at sea.

The 3 billion euro (\$3.4 billion) deal will see the first Dakar-class submarine arrive in nine years, as well as the construction of a submarine simulator in Israel, and spare parts supplies. The German government will subsidize a portion of the agreement via a "unique grant," said the Defense Ministry, in accordance with an agreement signed between the countries in 2017.

The Defense Ministry declined to comment on a report by The Marker business daily published in recent days, which said that



Germany's ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems HDW dolphin submarine class in 2014.

ThyssenKrupp had significantly raised the procurement's price, from 1.8 billion (nearly \$2.1 billion) to 3 billion euros (\$3.4 billion). The report said that Israel will likely pay 2.4 billion euros (\$2.7 billion) out of the total price tag (with Germany subsidizing the rest).

Alongside the deal, the two sides signed an industrial-strategic cooperation agreement that will see Germany's Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology invest 850 million euros (\$973 million dollars) in Israeli industries, including defense companies.

## 'Most expensive military platform in IDF's inventory'

Past experience has shown that much time passes from the stage of formulating the specifications of new submarines to the production stage.

According to Professor Rear Adm. (Res.) Shaul Chorev, head of the Haifa Research Center for Maritime and Policy Strategy at the University of Haifa, and a former Israel Navy Submarine Flotilla commander, it took no less than 17 years for the 1980 specifications of the first-generation German-made Dolphin submarines to be turned into final vessels.

It is those three late 1990s-era vessels that will be replaced by

the Dakar series. They will join three new-generation Dolphin submarines—two of which, the INS Rahav and INS Tanin, are already in the Israeli Navy's possession—and the third, the INS Dragon, reportedly expected at Haifa Base's submarine terminal next year. These vessels are equipped with air-independent propulsion (AIP) systems that generate electricity from hydrogen and water.

These diesel-powered submarines can thus remain submerged for longer, and their quiet engines mean they can evade enemy sonar detection with efficiency.

The AIP submarines are equipped with technology that goes back to the early 1990s, so the Dakar submarines will require much newer technological capabilities. This will likely involve, among other things, new engine designs, generators and electronic-sensor systems rather than the older periscopes.

Past disputes over the correct size of the submarine fleet that serves Israel's needs have been a common feature between Israeli governments and the Israel Defense Forces.

It was former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who overruled the IDF's preference for five vessels in the past, opting for six instead, and his decision received the approval of an official ministerial acquisition committee.

It appears as if Netanyahu's call was the correct one to make in light of the dazzling contribution each such platform—the most expensive military platform in the IDF's inventory, pricier than fighter jets—

provides to state security.

"Five is the minimum; six is the optimal [number]. Six submarines will provide us with much flexibility, but we can make do with five," Col. L., then head of the Israeli Navy's Submarine Department, told Maariv in 2018.

Each submarine is able not only to travel covertly towards enemy states, gather intelligence and strike targets with great precision, but the platform also, according to international media reports, serves as a fundamental pillar of Israel's nuclear deterrent posture and second-strike capability.



**LEXUS**  
EXPERIENCE AMAZING

**SHOTTENKIRK  
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



The Jewish Federation of Palm Springs and Desert Area

Connecting, Supporting, and Uniting  
Our Community Through Philanthropy.

TOGETHER WE HAVE IMPACT!

For more information, or to make a donation, please contact the Jewish Federation at 760-324-4737.

Please Remember the Jewish Federation in Your Will and Estate Planning.

continued from page 15

Palestinian Authority and the Hamas terror group for telling a business conference in Tel Aviv that the "state of Israel was born a Jewish state and that's how it will remain."

"I tried to say to both Arab and Jewish society that the real discussion is not about the identity of the state — that exists, that has been accomplished. That's a fact," Abbas asserted. "But the real discussion should be within the state of Israel; the definition of it, in my view, it will not change. But what is the place of the Arab minority inside the State of Israel and inside of Israeli civic identity? That is the question that will decide what Israel is going to be like."

Abbas stated that he was "proud" to be able to create this partnership with the government.

"We brought a lot of budgets

to the Arab society to education, to integrate workers in high tech and to farmers," he said. "I'm very proud that we have been able to give people hope that Jews and Arabs can trust each other."

Abbas noted that in some public opinion polls, 60 percent of Arabs surveyed support his party agenda, and that he has been winning over voters from other Arab parties like the Joint List. The Ra'am leader is confident that if the party can demonstrate achievements, it will earn more than 85 percent of the Arab public's support in Israel.

"Our fate here is to live together and we can decide how we want to live together: With fights, conflict, hatred, or with those who have already offered peace, security and tolerance," he said. "I think we all inside ourselves know what the answer is."

women's PHILANTHROPY  
Shmooze, nosh and help plan our future!

Fran Kaufman  
Chair



JEWISH FEDERATION  
OF THE DESERT



Attention ladies! Join us for our next meeting on  
Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - 11:00 AM. All welcome!



## Have A Nosh With Miriam

... and nosh some hamantashen

Purim begins the evening of March 16 ... and Purim means Hamantashen. I always give you my mother-in-law's dough recipe. It is so easy to work with and is delicious! With it is a selection of fillings, as many as we can fit in this column. Happy Purim! Happy noshing! MHB



### GOLDIE'S HONEY DOUGH FOR HAMANTASHEN

1 cup Crisco	1/4 teaspoon salt
2 1/2 cups flour	2 eggs, beaten
1/2 cup sugar	1 Tablespoon lemon juice
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder	1/2 teaspoon grated lemon rind
1/4 cup honey	

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Thoroughly cream the Crisco and sugar together. Add honey. Beat in eggs, lemon juice and lemon rind. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt, then stir into the egg mixture and form into a soft dough. Toss lightly on a floured board. Roll out to 1/4 inch thickness and cut into circles. Fill with desired filling, pinch into triangles and bake for 18 to 20 minutes at 350 degrees until golden brown.

### POPPY SEED FILLING WITH RAISINS AND DATES (Milchig)

1 cup poppy seeds	1 cup chopped raisins
1/2 cup milk	1/4 cup finely chopped nuts
1/4 cup honey	1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup finely chopped dates	1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

Cook all ingredients over low heat and stir occasionally until almost all liquid is evaporated. Yields 2 1/2 cups.

### APRICOT-ORANGE-HONEY FILLING (Pareve)

2 cups finely chopped dried apricots	2/3 cup honey
1 cup orange juice	Zest of 1/2 orange

Bring to boil in saucepan. Reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes until soft and liquid is absorbed (Add water if needed). Cool before filling.

### FIG, PECAN & COCONUT FILLING (Pareve)

1/4 lb. small, dried figs (Mission figs a good choice), stems removed, halved	1/4 cup pecans
1/2 cup raisins	1/4 cup plum jam
	1/4 cup flaked coconut

Chop figs and raisins together in a food processor. Add pecans and chop for a few more seconds, then transfer to a mixing bowl and stir in remaining ingredients.

### CHOCOLATE-ALMOND-ORANGE FILLING (Pareve)

2 oz. semi-sweet chocolate	Scant 3 Tbsp. orange liqueur
1 cup blanched almonds	2 teaspoons grated orange rind
7 Tbsp. sugar	1 large egg, beaten

Melt chocolate in medium bowl over simmering water or microwave. Allow to cool. Grind almonds with 2 tablespoons sugar in food processor until fine powder (grinding with sugar lessens chance that almonds will process into almond butter! Add rest of sugar and the egg. Process till blended. Add chocolate and orange liqueur and blend together. Remove to a bowl and stir in orange rind.

### DATE-RAISIN-WALNUT FILLING (Pareve)

1/4 cup coarsely chopped walnuts	1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
2 cups pitted dates	1 teaspoon grated lemon rind (optional)
1/2 cup sultana raisins	

In food processor, with steel blade, process dates with raisins, rind and cinnamon until minced, about 15-20 seconds. Add nuts with one or two quick on/off turns. (Can prepare ahead of time and refrigerate).



## Simchas

Congratulations to **Phyllis Eisenberg** for being honored by JFS of the Desert, receiving their Humanitarian of the Year Award; a well-deserved honor ...



Phyllis Eisenberg

We're constantly impressed by Temple Isaiah's **Doug Morton's** ability to be upbeat and positive after the terrible accident where he was hit and his spinal cord severed. He is still in a North Carolina rehab facility, but he is on his computer



Douglas Morton

and overseeing this year's Jewish Film Festival! Amazing! (See the JFF ad on page XX for the list of great films being screened at this year's in-person event). *Share your simchas with us. Email (mhbentjcn@earthlink.net) or call Miriam Bent at 760-323-0255.*



**JEWS IN AMERICA ARE THE TARGET OF 58% OF ALL RELIGIOUSLY MOTIVATED HATE CRIMES IN THE U.S. DESPITE CONSTITUTING A MERE 2% OF THE POPULATION.**



## Candle Lighting Times

Friday, March 4	Shabbat Pekudei	5:02 pm
Friday, March 11	Shabbat Vayikra	5:08 pm
Friday, March 18	Shabbat Tzav	6:13 pm
Friday, March 25	Shabbat Shemini	6:19 pm



## Classifieds

**SEEKING LONG TERM TENANT** at two bedroom/two bath unfurnished luxury condo at Desert Island, Rancho Mirage. Call 619-435-8226.

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ PERSONAL AFFAIRS MANAGER

Excellent local references. Bill paying, reconcile bank statement, run errands, drive to appointment. Computer help: MS Office, QuickBooks, emails. Notary. 2 hours minimum. Trustworthy, discreet, dependable. 760-408-5260.

**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.

### EXPERIENCED EXECUTIVE PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Over 10 years of experience as a high-level executive assistant and office manager. Detail-orientated, dependable, highly organized, efficient and trustworthy. Excellent people skills and communication abilities. Full range administrative services: file management, bill processing, research, data compilation, calendar management. Private residence management, travel arrangements, personal errands. **Macintosh and PC.** Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Suite, Quick Books, Bill.com, Black Diamond, Salesforce, Word Press, DropBox, Social Media, Zoom. Resume and references provided on request. Contact: dianebinder2015@yahoo.com (c) 858.692.1623.



## We Mourn the Passing of...

**Arnold Baron, Scott Garver, Richard Kastenzholz, Norma Liepe and Sharon Stone.** Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. May their memories endure as a blessing.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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**

### 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

# Thank You For Donating To The Federation Campaign

**JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE DESERT**

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

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit #11  
Bullhead City, AZ

---

**FEED THE HUNGRY.  
GIVE HOPE TO THOUSANDS.  
SECURE THE FUTURE.**

**BEFORE  
YOUR FIRST  
CUP OF  
COFFEE.**

It only takes a few minutes to change lives in our community and around the world. Food banks for the needy, care for seniors, Israel experiences for the young – these are just some of the solutions Federation supports with heart, innovation and decades of knowing what works. Seize the moment. Donate. Volunteer. **Get involved.**  
**Your link to getting started: [jfedps.org](http://jfedps.org)**



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

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

---