

Jewish Community News

The Publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert

www.jfedps.org

Shevat/Adar 1 5779 -February 2019

'We Are One' Community Program

After a year that saw increased anti-Semitic activity throughout the world and the worst attack ever on a Jewish institution in the United States, the seven congregations of our greater Coachella Valley and Idyllwild are joining with representatives of the interfaith community on Thursday, February 7, to stand together against hate.



Joanna Mendelson

Our keynote speaker will be Joanna Mendelson, the Senior Investigative Researcher and Director of Special Projects for the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Center on Extremism, which combats extremism, terrorism and all forms of hate in the real world and online. Her topic: "From Charlottesville to Pittsburgh - Responding to Hate in America."

Mendelson, who has been with the ADL since 2000, evaluates the activity and tactics of extremist groups and movements, training the law enforcement community and publishing reports on a wide range of extremist topics. To date she has trained over 12,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers, prosecutors, military personnel, judges and public officials throughout the country.

She has testified in numerous court cases on the white supremacist and sovereign citizen movements. She has shared her expertise with national and international media outlets on topics related to domestic terrorism, include CNN's Headline News, CBS's 48 Hours, the BBC and many other media outlets.

There will be security at the event, but it is important that everyone RSVP that they will be attending by calling the Jewish Federation Offices at 760-324-4737.

WE ARE ONE

STANDING TOGETHER - UNAFRAID

Join together as a Jewish/Interfaith Community Against Hate

Keynote Speaker: Joanna Mendelson
Senior Investigative Researcher, ADL Center on Extremism

**"From Charlottesville to Pittsburgh -
Responding to Hate in America"**

Beth Shalom
Congregation Har-El
Desert Outreach Synagogue
Jewish Federation of the Desert
Sun City Jewish Services
Temple Har Shalom
Temple Isaiah
Temple Sinai

Joined by our Interfaith Partners

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019 - 5:30 PM

Palm Valley School Gymnasium - 35-525 Da Vall Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270



Jewish Federation
of the Desert

RSVP:
760-324-4737



JERUSALEM 2020
Beneath the Headlines

Rescheduled to February 10th - See page 4



LAUGH OUT LOUD is February 12

**THANK YOU
AGAIN TO
ALL OUR
WONDERFUL
LAUGH
OUT LOUD
SPONSORS!
SEE LIST ON
PAGE FIVE!**

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LAUGH OUT LOUD is February 12
7 PM – Galen Auditorium @ Eisenhower Med. Center

A NIGHT OF COMIC RELIEF



Gary Gulman



Carol Leifer



Elon Gold

with Miles Berger – Master of Ceremonies

\$50 ADMISSION

**RSVP Required. Call 760-324-4737
or buy tickets online on the
Jewish Federation website
www.jfedps.org**



**Jewish Federation
OF THE DESERT**

Changing Hate and Violence

From the CEO



Bruce Landgarten

*Jewish Federation
Chief Executive
Officer*

Is there anything we can do to change the hate and violence that permeates the news and impacts our lives? Our country suffered the deadliest attack against Jews in U.S. history, at a time when anti-Semitism is on the rise. We are not imagining it. Statistics confirm that anti-Semitic acts are on the increase. The good news is that all over the country people are fighting hate, standing up to promote tolerance and inclusion. More often than not, when hate flares

up, good people rise up against it — often in greater numbers and with stronger voices. But is it enough to keep us safe?

Many efforts have been launched since the Pittsburgh atrocity, here as well as across the country to keep Jewish communities safe. As we have reported in past months, our Federation is working with Secure Community Network (SCN) and local Law Enforcement to shore up security at synagogues and other local organizations.

These security measures address our immediate safety, but the lingering uneasiness isn't resolved by law enforcement and security at the entrances of our events. That uneasiness is mitigated when we come together as a Jewish community, as "Jewish congregation" in its most

inclusive sense. We gain strength and resolve when we come together in pursuit of a shared vision.

Our tradition compels us to work together to continually improve ourselves and the world around us. It calls us to serve others with kindness, to pursue justice, to welcome the stranger, to protect the vulnerable, and to instill our shared values in the next generation.

Our work is more important than ever. At a time when hate is taking a devastating and deadly toll on our country, we must strive to bring our highest ideals to life. This work is already underway here and around the country. Together, we are building a community that cares for one another, that stands with each other and for each other, that treats everyone with dignity and respect. We are building a community that welcomes people of all abilities and

backgrounds, that strengthens the bonds we have with each other, with Israel, and with the global Jewish people. We are building a community that honors Jewish tradition while receptive to changing expression.

Most important, we are building a community that acts as a force for good in the world. When we ask "where do we go from here?", the answer must be that we come together as a community to light the way forward. We have reached out to allies from other faith communities, public and private entities to join us in one collective voice, one cohesive community working for peace, respect and kindness ... for ourselves, our children and our future.

To this end, we urge you to join us on Thursday, February 7th at 5:30 pm at the Palm Valley School in Rancho Mirage.

Tamarisk Men's Jewish Federation Day Tournament Wednesday, March 20, 2019



Dear friends, For over 20 years Tamarisk Country Club has held a charity golf tournament to benefit the Jewish Federation of the Desert, raising over two million dollars to help meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. Until last year this tournament was for their members only. Now, for the second year, Tamarisk has opened the tournament to men in the Coachella Valley to donate and participate in this annual event. There will be

morning and afternoon shotguns, with the signature Federation Luncheon held in the dining room following morning golf and prior to afternoon golf (approximately 12 noon). You can make your own foursomes or the Tamarisk Golf professional will put groups together. There are three levels of contributing: \$550 (Contributor), \$750 (Sponsor) and \$1000 (Platinum

Sponsor). Last year \$92,000 was raised by the tournament. If unable to attend, we welcome and appreciate contributions in support of Federation's work in the community. Checks should be made payable to the Jewish Federation of the Desert, but mailed to Tamarisk Country Club, 70-240 Frank Sinatra

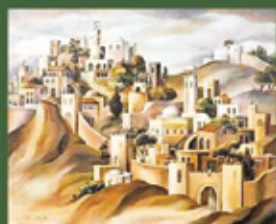
Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. For more information contact Kyle Kelly at 760-324-6990 or by email at kyle@tamariskcc.com.

Bruce A. Landgarten
Bruce Landgarten CEO,
Jewish Federation of the Desert



For a meaningful way to extend condolences, send wishes for recovery from illness or congratulations / thanks for a special occasion, there is no better way to than to purchase a Tzedakah card. Proceeds from the sale of the tribute cards benefit the TZEKAKAH FUND, which enables our Jewish Federation to respond to the emergency needs of Jews in our community. Call 760-324-4737 to order your cards, or go online to jfedps.org. Thank you.

Please join us on Sunday, February 10th at 11:00 AM
at the Jewish Federation Building, 69-710 Hwy. 111, Rancho Mirage



JERUSALEM 2020 Beneath the Headlines



Attend a special up-to-the-minute Israel election briefing and a discussion from three vantage points on Jerusalem beyond the tourist sites. We'll hear from a funder, a social activist/educator and a geopolitics expert ... and learn why and how Jerusalem has emerged as one of the most innovative and influential cities in the world.



Chaya Gilboa
Jerusalem social activist
and educator



Charlene Seidle
Executive Vice President,
Leichtag Foundation



Dr. Marik Shtern
Policy and Research Analyst,
Jerusalem Institute

❖ **TRENDS:**

Whither Jerusalem Goes, So Does Israel

❖ **NATIONAL ELECTIONS:**

What will happen in April when Israelis go to the polls to vote for their leadership?

❖ **INNOVATION:**

The Global Social Start Up City in the
"Start Up Nation"

RSVP 760.324.4737 or email gloria.benavides@jfedps.org

JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication of the
Jewish Federation of the Desert
VOL. 45, No. 7

EDITORIAL

Bruce Landgarten,
Chief Executive Officer
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,

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Congregation Beth Shalom Scholar-in-Residence Weekend February 15-17, 2019

By Ken Hailpern

Congregation Beth Shalom invites the entire community to participate in our Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles, February 15-17, 2019. This 8th annual event is made possible by a grant from Jewish Federation of the Desert. Rabbi Klein Miles has been the Senior Rabbi of Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles since 2007. Prior to that, she served as Associate Rabbi of Temple Isaiah and Assistant Rabbi of Temple Shalom in Norwalk, CT. A prolific author, her debut novel, *Drawing in the Dust*, was published in 2009. *Publisher's Weekly* wrote of the novel, "Insight into the world of biblical excavation in Israel raises Rabbi Klein's debut novel from a Jewish Da Vinci Code to an emotionally rich story of personal and historical discovery..." She has also written a companion novel; a children's book; and chapters, essays, and articles in numerous collections including *The Women's Torah Commentary*, *The Women's Haftorah Commentary*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Holy Ground: A Gathering of Voices on Caring for Creation*, and *the Jewish Journal*.

Rabbi Klein Miles received her Rabbinic Ordination and Master of Arts degree from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, and her Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandeis University.

Our scholar will present "Exploring the Hidden Beauty of Judaism" in three sessions over the course of the weekend at the synagogue located at 79733 Country Club Drive in Bermuda Dunes.

The Shabbaton will commence with a full Shabbat dinner open to the community on Friday at 6:00

pm., with a charge of \$36 per person. Services will follow at 7:45 pm, where our scholar will present "Making Time," why and how Judaism recognizes distinct days and hours. During Saturday morning services, she will speak on "Judaism: A Spectrum of Theologies," exploring the varied theologies that make up our faith. Services begin at 9:15 am. It is permissible to arrive at any time. The presentation will



Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles

take place sometime after 10:30 am. Shabbat morning services will be followed by a Kiddush Lunch open to the community.

On Sunday morning, at 10:30 am, Rabbi Klein Miles will conclude the weekend by discussing, "Judaism and the Power of Story," a defining aspect of Jewish life. This will be

followed by a brunch, open to the community, with a charge of \$25 per person. Cost of Friday dinner and Sunday brunch, purchased together, is \$55 per person. Reservations for the Friday dinner and/or Sunday brunch must be made no later than February 7, by calling the Beth Shalom office at 760-200-3636.



As of November 15, 2018)

Helene Galen & Jamie Kabler
Laugh Out Loud

Fremont Foundation:
Barbara Fremont
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Nancy & Dennis Ditlove
Punch Line

Peggy & Jim Greenbaum
Punch Line

The Malkin Family
Punch Line

Phyllis & Gary Schahet
Punch Line

Libby & Burt Hoffman
Tickle My Funny Bone

Edmund Ayoub, Jr. M.D.
Crack Me Up

Stephen & Marjorie Kulp
Crack Me Up

Dr. Paul M. & Stephanie Ross
Crack Me Up

Lois Zoller & Jim Mills
Crack Me Up



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The Coachella Valley's Conservative Synagogue
An extended Jewish family, caring for all its members

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USCJ

8th ANNUAL SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

ENTIRE COMMUNITY INVITED

Friday – Sunday, February 15 – 17, 2019

Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles

Senior Rabbi
Temple Isaiah, Los Angeles

☆ **Rabbi**
☆ **Novelist**
☆ **Poet**
☆ **Commentator**



"EXPLORING THE HIDDEN BEAUTY OF JUDAISM"
THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IS WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES AND SESSIONS

Friday services – 7:45 PM: "Making Time"
(PRECEDED BY SHABBAT DINNER AT 6:00 PM — PREPAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR DINNER)

Saturday services – 9:15 AM: "Judaism: A Spectrum of Theologies"
(FOLLOWED BY KIDDUSH LUNCH GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY HEIDI & NOAM ARZT — ALL WELCOME)

Sunday session – 10:30 AM: "Judaism and the Power of Story"
(FOLLOWED BY BRUNCH — PREPAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR BRUNCH)

RESERVATIONS FOR ALL MEALS REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 7, 2019

Friday Dinner \$36	Sunday Brunch \$25	Weekend Meal Package \$55
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(DONOR PACKAGES AVAILABLE — CALL FOR INFORMATION)

For information and reservations call the Beth Shalom office 760-200-3636
79-733 Country Club Drive, Bermuda Dunes, CA 92203 ☆ WWW.CONGREGATIONBETHSHALOM.NET

Women's Philanthropy



The Main Event

Thursday, February 28, 2019 - 11 AM



Jewish Federation
OF THE DESERT | WOMEN'S
PHILANTHROPY

Desert Willow Country Club
38-995 Desert Willow Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Minimum gift: \$180 to the 2019 campaign
Couvert: \$45

Guest Speaker: Erin Schrode
Activist, Social Entrepreneur & Writer

Co-chairs:
Jackie Cohen & Paula Klein

Committee:
Fran Kaufman
Annette Novack
Chickie Steinberger

WP Campaign Chair: Margie Kulp
WP Council Chair: Carol Horwich Lubert

Information/RSVP: 760-324-4737

Erin Schrode is Keynote Speaker at February 28 "Main Event"

Erin Schrode, an activist, social entrepreneur and writer, is a leading voice on sustainability, social impact and millennials, a vocal advocate for environmental action, public health and equal justice. She has been described as "a dynamic,

passionate and ambitious young woman committed to creating big change everywhere she goes." She writes for Glamour, Cosmopolitan and Refinery29, among others and is frequently tapped as an expert for and featured in the New York

Times, Vanity Fair, CNN, NBC, FOX, Seventeen, Forbes and other media.

To attend "The Main Event" requires a minimum gift of \$180 to the 2019 Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. Luncheon couvert is

\$45. Invitations have been mailed, however women are welcome to RSVP directly by calling Linn Menne at the Jewish Federation Office, 760-324-4737.

Rep Ilhan Omar appointed to House Foreign Affairs Committee

By Tal Polon, Arutz Sheva

Minnesota congresswoman Ilhan Omar was named last week to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The BDS-supporting rep, who accused Israel of 'evil doings,' announced excitement at appointment to committee that 'oversees all foreign assistance, national security affecting the country's foreign policy, treaties, peacekeeping and war powers.'

In a strongly-worded letter sent to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the Coalition for Jewish Values (CJV), representing over 1000 traditional rabbis in matters of public policy, called the appointment of Representative Ilhan Omar to the House Foreign Affairs Committee a "slap in the face" and "tantamount to saying that anti-Semitism is acceptable to the United States House of Representatives." The CJV called for Omar to be removed from the committee, and compared her situation to that of Representative Steve King, who was stripped of all committee assignments by Republican leaders despite denying an endorsement of white nationalism attributed to him and sharing in its condemnation.

As detailed in the CJV's letter, Omar declared that Israel "has hypnotized the world" and prayed that "Allah awaken the people and help them see the evil doings of Israel" when Israel defended itself against an unprovoked Hamas missile barrage aimed at civilians in 2012. On CNN this week, Omar defended these comments and said they were aimed only at the "Israeli regime."

FEBRUARY 15, 2019 @7 PM

D&K PRODUCTIONS in conjunction with... *PREMEDITATED PRODUCTIONS PALM SPRINGS*
Is Proud to Present our 2019 Production of...

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DUETS pairs the talents
and pizzazz of our
INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
TRIBUTE ARTISTS of
CHER, ELTON JOHN, LIZA MINNELLI
AND TOM JONES
singing their hit songs
and performing show stopping
DUETS for a complete night
of incredible impressions,
favorite songs,
laughs and memories!





Desert Outreach Synagogue announces ...

UC Riverside Palm Desert Auditorium
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

This DUETS performance will help benefit our
DOS music and programming!

TICKETS:

\$50 - Premier Seating Lower Level
Includes fabulous nosh with Rabbi in our home 3-10-19.
Details coming later - with Chris Lomelli performing
and live band, and - also a DOS Tote Bag

\$30 - General Seating Upper Level
and includes DOS Tote Bag.

You may purchase your tickets on our website:
www.desert-outreach-synagogue.com/donate
or call 760-449-0111



Machine Learning IDs Blood-Cancer Cells Earlier Than Ever

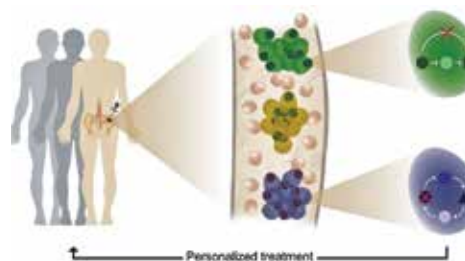
Discovery might help multiple myeloma patients receive earlier and more precise treatment and prevent relapse.

By Naama Barak ISRAEL 21C

Israeli researchers have developed a new technology that profiles the genetic makeup of cancerous cells, allowing for better diagnosis and treatment.

Multiple myeloma is the second most-common type of blood cancer. Multiple myeloma occurs when plasma cells in the bone marrow – the cells that produce antibodies – proliferate out of control and lead to organ failure and death.

A major stumbling block in diagnosing myeloma is that each patient is unique and current blood tests are incapable of identifying early disease onset and classifying which patient should receive which treatment.



Tumor heterogeneity, clonal evolution and therapy resistance revealed using single-cell profiling of multiple myeloma patients. Illustration by Noa Godin/ Weizmann Institute of Science

This is the problem researchers from the Weizmann Institute of Science and clinicians from Israeli hospitals wished to solve.

Using machine-learning approaches to automatically identify malignant cells out of tens of thousands of cells, their method sequences the RNA in thousands

of individual cells from patients' blood or bone marrow, capturing the specific gene program that is active in each individual cell.

Their research, recently published in *Nature Medicine*, found that while the plasma cells of healthy individuals are similar to each other, myeloma cancer cells are extremely heterogeneous.

This makes it possible to identify even a small number of malignant cells in the blood at an early, pre-cancer stage, allowing for more precise diagnosis and the ability to make better-informed choices about treatment.

In the future, the discovery might help multiple myeloma patients receive earlier and more

precise treatments, avoid relapses and be monitored with blood tests that are far less painful than today's painful bone marrow biopsies.

"We are entering an era in which measuring big data and using machine learning will provide clinicians new insights and understanding into devastating diseases like multiple myeloma," says Dr. Assaf Weiner of the Weizmann Institute of Science's Immunology Department.

Weiner was the lead author of the paper along with Guy Ledergor. The paper's 33 authors are mostly Israeli, along with several scientists from New York, Arizona and Spain.

Israel Ranks as World's Third Most Educated Country

Israel outranks US and South Korea for percentage of citizens aged 25-64 holding a degree in higher education, whether academic or vocational.

By Abigail Klein Leichman, Israel 21c

Israel is the third most educated country, according to 2017 data compiled by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). OECD calculated the percentage of each country's population between the ages of 25 and 64 who have completed a two- or four-year degree beyond high school – including both academic and vocational programs.

The data shows that 50.9 percent of Israelis in the target age bracket have a higher-education degree. The report noted that Jewish Israelis enter college at a later age than most Western counterparts because most serve in the military for at least two

years after high school.

The United States came in at No. 5, with only 46.4 percent of its population in the target age group having completed a higher-education program – even though half of the world's top-ranking universities are American.

South Korea came in at No. 4, with 47.7% having completed a higher-education program, but it tops the list of most educated people aged 25-34 (66.6%).

Japan is No. 2 (51.4%) and the most educated country in the world is Canada (56.7%) – although Canada faces an overeducation, underemployment problem.

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fashion show. Pucci to Gucci.
Guests enjoy a glass of bubbly,
refreshments and sweets to
tempt you. Vintage attire is
encouraged. Stylist Neil
Cohen will delight you as
Emcee. Shop before and after
at the Mitchells Pop-Up Shop**



WIESENTHAL, a Play About the Renowned Nazi-Hunter, Starring Award-winning Actor Tom Dugan

Theatrical producer, Jay Kholos, brings the critically acclaimed one-man play Wieselenthal to the UCR Palm Desert Campus stage on Saturday March 9, at 7:30 p.m. The internationally acclaimed actor and playwright Tom Dugan portrays Nazi hunter and concentration camp survivor who made it his life-long pursuit to bring over 1,100 Nazi war criminals to justice.

The 90-minute play relates the details of a few of Wieselenthal's investigations. Among them are the pursuit of Franz Stangl, the former commandant of the Treblinka death camp, arrested in Brazil in 1967 and sentenced to life imprisonment for the mass murder of 900,000 people; Adolf Eichmann, a major organizer of the Holocaust, arrested in Argentina and hanged in 1962 in Israel; and, when challenged by Austrian Holocaust deniers to prove that Anne Frank actually existed, he tracked down Karl Josef Silberbauer, the officer who arrested Anne Frank and her family sending them to concentration camps.

The play was written by and stars Tom Dugan, who researched Wieselenthal's character and conducted worldwide searches for war criminals for a year to write this play.

"While Wieselenthal is known for dedicating his life to memorializing the millions of Jews who were killed in concentration camps by hunting down their murderers, many people are still not so familiar with the justice he served," said Jay Kholos, Producer, with North American performances scheduled in over 150 venues for 2019. "This is a powerful

and compelling production that takes the audience beyond history books to better understand some of the complexities of the aftermath of the Holocaust." Wieselenthal died in his sleep at age 96 in Vienna on September 20, 2005.

Immediately following the performance, actor/writer Tom Dugan and a representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Foundation will conduct an engaging post show Q&A.

Tickets for the performance are


\$55. To purchase tickets visit www.wieselenthaltheshow.com, or call 1-866-811-4111. The theater is located on the UCR Palm Desert Campus at 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive (corner Cook), Palm Desert.

WIESENTHAL

(NAZI HUNTER)

Written by & Starring
TOM DUGAN
Produced by Jay Kholos
Directed by Jenny Sullivan

The award winning Off Broadway hit starring Tom Dugan as Simon Wiesenthal is coming to Palm Desert for one exclusive performance only!



SELL OUT EXPECTED

ONE EXCLUSIVE PERFORMANCE ONLY!
SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 7:30 PM
UCR CAMPUS
75080 FRANK SINATRA DRIVE
PALM DESERT, CA 92111

TOM DUGAN AS
SIMON WIESENTHAL

ON OUR STAGE...

The Off Broadway, award winning production of **WIESENTHAL (NAZI HUNTER)** the riveting true story of an ordinary man who did extraordinary things. Holocaust survivor, Simon Wiesenthal, was soon known to the world as the "Jewish James Bond"... dedicating his amazing life to bringing over 1100 Nazi War Criminals to justice, including aiding in the capture of Adolph Eichmann. Tom Dugan is Simon Wiesenthal as he recreates his tour de force New York role on our stage for one exclusive performance only.

Funny, flawed, intelligent and noble, Wiesenthal remains a universal hero. A must see for anyone who believes that "never again" means NEVER AGAIN!

TO ORDER TICKETS

By Phone: 1-866-811-4111

Online:
www.WieselenthalTheShow.com

FOR GROUP SALES DISCOUNT (12+)
Call: 1 (615)352-1989
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The Jewish Community News is the publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert, printed 10 times a year and mailed, at no charge, to every Jewish household in the greater Coachella Valley area. If you are not receiving the paper and would like it mailed to you, please call the Jewish Federation Office at 760-324-4737.

Israeli Drone Dome Rescues London Airport from Shutdown

Rafael's Drone Dome pinpoints a suspicious drone and jams the radio frequencies used by its operator to control it, rendering the UAV unable to move.

By ISRAEL21c Staff

After mysterious unmanned aerial vehicles caused 36 hours of paralysis at London's Gatwick Airport in late December, stranding more than 100,000 travelers, the British military saved the day with one of six Drone Domes it had purchased a few months earlier from Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems.



Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Drone Dome battery

Rafael's Drone Dome pinpoints

the suspicious drone and jams the radio frequencies used by its

operator to control it. The UAV then either flies out of control or crashes to the ground. The system incorporates cutting-edge technologies including electro-optics, radar and signal intelligence.

The Drone Dome system reportedly has been used to protect against hostile drones during battles against ISIS in Mosul and eastern Syria. Drone Dome can be operated

from a stationary or mobile position. The UK Ministry of Defence was its first foreign customer.

Friday night, two people were arrested in connection with the UAV incident, and by Saturday Gatwick began functioning again following the cancellation of 1,400 flights due to the drone disruption.

Report: In Letter to Pompeo, Palestinian Authority Forgoes All US Aid, Fearing New Anti-Terror Law

By Benjamin Kerstein, The Algemeiner.

The Palestinian Authority has reportedly informed the United States government that it is waiving all American financial aid due to a recent anti-terror law that could open PA officials to lawsuits.

According to Israeli daily Yediot Ahronot, Palestinian Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah informed the US of the decision in a letter sent to

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in December. The letter directly connected the PA's decision to the 2018 Anti-Terrorism Clarification Act (ATCA), which would expand the jurisdiction of American anti-terror laws, giving victims of terrorism the ability to sue any entity responsible for providing funds for terrorist activity.

The law applies in particular to countries that receive aid from the US, making the PA vulnerable to potentially huge financial damages.

A number of lawsuits against the PA brought by terror victims and their families are currently pending. Damages have not been claimed so far because the US lacked jurisdiction over the PA. The ATCA is deliberately

intended to change this.

According to Yediot, the withdrawal from receiving aid would likely have a significant impact on the Palestinian security services and their coordination with Israel, as much US aid to the Palestinians has already been cut. The primary remaining aid is for security, in the amount of \$61 million annually.

February Shabbat Lectures bring International Presenters!

ANTI-SEMITISM HERE AND ALSO THERE



Shabbat Scholar in Residence
Friday, February 1, 2019 6:00 PM

STEVEN WINDMUELLER, PhD.
Emeritus Professor, Hebrew Union College

"The New Anti-Semitism:
Why Here? Why Now?"



Lecture follows pre-service catered
reception at 5:30 pm and Music Shabbat
Services at 6:00 PM.

Linstone Shabbat Lecture
Friday, February 15, 2019 6:00 PM

STEFANIE SELTZER
Founder & President of the World Federation
of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust &
Descendants

"Anti-Semitism Rears its Head Abroad"

Guests are welcome. There is a pre-Oneg
Social at 5:30 pm, preceding 6 PM Shabbat
Services.



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Member, Union for Reform Judaism

760-779-1691

• GUESTS WELCOME! •

harelurj@gmail.com

Ohio Doctor Seeks Forgiveness from Jewish Community for Anti-Semitic Tweets

By Algemeiner Staff

The Ohio doctor, who came under scrutiny recently after a number of anti-Semitic tweets she wrote were unearthed, has issued an apology.

Lara Kollab — a graduate of the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine — has faced calls for the revocation of her medical license over dozens of tweets she made between 2011 and 2017, including a 2012 threat to “purposely give all the yahood the wrong meds.” The Arabic term “yahood” means Jews in English.

Other tweets from the same time period — which were documented by the anonymous website Canary Mission, before they were deleted — claimed that the Holocaust was “exaggerated,” alleged that “Zionists are the spawn of Hitler,” and expressed support for the Palestinian-led boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel.

In one 2013 tweet, Kollab wrote, “look, Haifa is sweet (nice), but it’s full of Jewish dogs, and it looks like

America, meaning, it wasn’t that special to me,” according to a translation by Canary Mission, which aims to expose anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist bigotry.

The Cleveland Clinic, where Kollab worked as a supervised, first-year medical resident starting this past July until September, confirmed that her “departure was related to those posts.”

In her apology Kollab wrote, “Several social media comments posted on my twitter account years ago have surfaced recently, causing pain, anguish, and a public outcry. I wish sincerely and unequivocally to apologize for the offensive and hurtful language contained in those posts. This statement is not intended to excuse the content of the posts, but rather to demonstrate that those words do not represent who I am and the principles I stand for today.



Dr. Laura Kollab

“I visited Israel and the Palestinian Territories every summer throughout my adolescent years. I became incensed at the suffering of the Palestinians under the Israeli occupation. The injustice and brutality of the occupation continues to concern me, and I believe every champion of human rights owes it to humanity to work towards a just and peaceful resolution of this crisis.

“As a girl in my teens and early twenties, I had difficulty constructively expressing my intense feelings about what I witnessed in my ancestral land. Like many young people lacking life experience, I expressed myself by making insensitive remarks and statements of passion devoid of thought, not realizing the harm and offense these words would cause.

UCR Jewish Studies Second Lecture:

Tuesday, January 15, 2019: Dr. Ya'akov 'Kobi' Gal

"Friend or Foe? Exploring the Artificial Intelligence Revolution"

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is often portrayed as the enemy for replacing humans, but Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Professor Ya'akov "Kobi" Gal believes computers have gotten a bad rap. In a lecture to over 250 fascinated attendees at UCR/Palm Desert on January 15th, Gal explained why he feels differently. "Although artificial intelligence is a young technology – it's only been around a few years – it has taken such a strong presence in our daily lives and it doesn't communicate very well with people. We are used to communicating with other people as team players," said Gal, who is head of BGU's Human Computer Decision-Making Lab and an associate in Harvard University's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. His work investigates representations and algorithms for making decisions in heterogeneous groups comprising both people and computational agents. He has worked on combining artificial intelligence algorithms with educational technology aimed at supporting students' educational efforts and teachers' understanding of students' learning strategies.



Bruce Landgarten,
Jewish Federation CEO;
Bob Fey, originating
liaison to UCR lectures;
Dr. Ya'akov 'Kobi' Gal,
presenter; **Dr. Michael
Alexander,** UCR Chair
of Jewish Studies.



UCR Jewish Studies and Jewish Federation of the Desert present 2018-2019 LECTURE SERIES



This four-part series is presented by UCR Jewish Studies and Jewish Federation of the Desert. Each free lecture is open to the public. RSVP at Jewish Federation of the Desert by calling 760-324-4737.

4 TO 6 P.M. SUN, FEB. 17

From Desert to Oasis: What Israel Can Teach the World About Water Renewal. Speaker: Dr. Edo Bar-Zeev

4 TO 6 P.M. TUES, APRIL 9

Jews of African Descent in America. Speaker: Dr. Bruce Haynes
This event will be held at Jewish Federation of the Desert, 69710 Hwy. 111, Rancho Mirage, (760) 324-4737

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75080 Frank Sinatra Dr. Palm Desert, CA. 92211 • palmdesert.ucr.edu • (760) 834-0800



Israeli Hope Prize Lauds NGOs Pursuing Inclusion, Coexistence

NGOs raising a new generation of Bedouin leaders and forming connections between young Jews and Arabs 'truly represent a chance for Israeli Hope.'

By Naama Barak ISRAEL 21C

Two nonprofits were awarded the new Israeli Hope Prize on December 24 for bringing together diverse parts of Israeli society.

Spearheaded by Israeli President Reuven Rivlin, the **Israeli Hope** initiative strives for the proper representation of all sectors in Israeli society and for the creation of partnership in social and economic fields. This was the first year the 10,000 ILS prize was awarded.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, a partner in the Israeli Hope initiative, awarded the prize to the **Tech2Peace** chosen from 38 nominees.

Tech2Peace's mission is to ensure greater future cooperation and coexistence between Israeli and Palestinian society by running joint IT and peace-building seminars for young Israelis and Palestinians.

Desert Stars aims to develop a new generation of leaders in Bedouin society by promoting young Bedouin with an interest in social engagement.

"Two unique groups were chosen out of a large field of candidates. Desert Stars is raising a new generation of leaders in the Bedouin community, while Tech2Peace forms connections between Jews and



BGU President Prof. Rivka Carmi and Prof. Jiwchar Ganor present Israeli Hope Prize to Desert Stars.

Arabs via the language of technology and joint study," said Rivlin.

"The vision of both these groups and their achievements truly represent a chance for Israeli hope," he said.

BGU President Prof. Rivka Carmi noted that "nanotechnology, electric cars and brain research are very important. But if there is one thing



BGU President Prof. Rivka Carmi (right) and Prof. Jiwchar Ganor (left) present prize to Tech2Peace

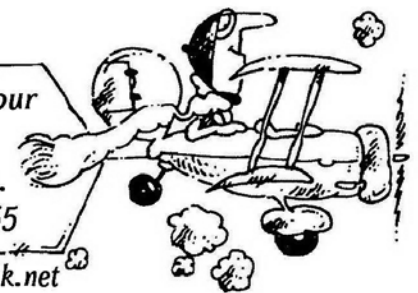
that could prevent our [continued status as a] startup nation it would be

to allow the gaps in our society and the disconnect between different elements of our society to continue to grow."

"BGU's contribution to this issue has been significant and noteworthy, and this prize recognizes, and will continue to recognize each year, individuals and groups that have worked to bring the disparate parts of our society together," she said.

Want your advertising to reach our Jewish community? Place ads in the Jewish Community News. Call Miriam Bent 760-323-0255

or email mhbentjcn@earthlink.net



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An Institute for Study and Worship in the Reform Tradition
Member, Union for Reform Judaism
760-779-1691 - hareljcn@gmail.com

CONGREGATION HAR-EL
Sherry Schor, President
Rabbi Richard A. Zions, Ph.D.
Cantor Joseph Gole, D.Mus.

Friday Evening, March 15, 2019: Shabbat Zachor
The Shabbat of Remembrance Preceding Purim and Pre-Purim Service

PRE-SERVICE HAMANTASHEN ONEG: 5:30 PM

SERVICES & SPEAKER: 6:00 PM

Visiting Scholar: DR. JOSHUA HOLO

Dean, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, LA.

*"Surprises & Opportunities
in the Story of Intermarriage"*

"A Topic of Interest to Every Family"



We recall that the Book of Esther narrates how Esther became a wife to King Ahasuerus, thus marrying a non-Jew. Living in a land of freedom, how should we, as American Jews, confront the reality of intermarriage, striving to include intermarried couples while striving to maintain our Jewish identity.



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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 760-324-4734.

Honorarium Tributes In Appreciation For:

- **Nancy Ditlove**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Jeff Feder**, In honor of your special birthday, from Judy Torodor.
- **Robert Fraiman**, Happy special birthday from Loreen Jacobson.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Alan Greene**, Happy anniversary from Loreen Jacobson.
- **Cora Ginsberg**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Kevin Giser**, In gratitude for your impact on today's youth, from William Amplo.
- **Libby Hoffman**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Margie Kulp**, Happy birthday from Phyllis and Gary Schahet.
- **Mendy and Lana Landa**, Thank you from Nancy and Dennis Ditlove.
- **Mark Levey**, Happy birthday from Loreen Jacobson.
- **Celia Norian**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Roberta Nyman**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Barbara Platt**, Thank you from Stephanie Ross.
- **Charlene Podolsky**, In honor of your first grandchild, Mazel tov from Marnie Miller and Joe Noren.
- **Sarah Scheideman**, In your honor, from Leslie and Gene Rothstein.

- **Bobbie Stern**, Happy New Year from Margot and Jerry Halperin.
- **Bobbie Stern**, Thank you from Libby and Buddy Hoffman, Sherry and Howard Schor.
- **Carole and Dick Sukman**, Happy 65th anniversary, from Cora Ginsberg and Loreen Jacobson.
- **Rabbi Faith Tessler**, In your honor, from Dianne Greenhouse.
- **Joel Thea**, Happy birthday from Cora Ginsberg.
- **Judy Torodor**, Thank you from Chickie and Claude Steinberger.
- **Joe Wilder and Phyllis Pollack**, Thank you from Nancy and Dennis Ditlove.

Refuah Shleimah Get Well Wishes To:

- **Nancy Altshuler**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Edith and Arnold Familian.
- **Sally Berger**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Ellen and Philip Glass.
- **Louise Fischer**, Gratified for your return to good health, from Daniel Weisberg.
- **Joan Lehr**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Loreen Jacobson, Robbie and Marvin Winick.
- **Carol Levine**, Hoping that you feel better soon, from Harold and Mimi Paley.
- **Bob Scadron**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Ellen and Philip Glass.
- **Jay Schiff**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Ellen and Philip Glass.

- **Claude Steinberger**, Hoping that you feel better soon, from Harold and Mimi Paley.

Memoriam Tributes Condolences Sent To:

- **Judy Appelbaum**, In memory of your beloved husband Bob, from Mary Levine and Alan Goldstein, and Cydney Osterman.
- **Audrey Bernstein**, In loving memory of your beloved husband Joe, from Jackie and Eddie Cohen, Susie and Bob Diamond, Ellen and Philip Glass, Carol Horwich Luber, Mary Levine and Alan Goldstein, Cydney Osterman, Cathy and Larry Pitts, Elaine and Claude Steinberger, Stan and Fern Weiss.
- **Dodie Cadiff**, In memory of your beloved husband Danny, from Chickie and Claude Steinberger.
- **Jackie Comras**, In memory of your beloved husband Richard, from Ellen S. Weiner.
- **Paula Golden**, Condolences on the passing of your husband, from Joe Noren.
- **Howard Hyman**, In memory of your beloved father Irving, from Cathy and Larry Pitts.
- In memory of **Micaela Lang**, by Sharon Lang.
- **Cydney Osterman**, In memory of your beloved husband Billy, from Cathy and Larry Pitts.
- **Mimi and Harold Paley**, In memory of your beloved sister Leah, from Jackie and Eddie Cohen.
- **Shelly Zucker**, In memory of your beloved husband Stephen, from Ellen and Philip Glass, Stan and Fern Weiss.



Shabbat Schedule - February 2019

Check the websites or call the synagogues for a full schedule of services.

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

9:30 am Saturday Shabbat morning services, followed by sit down Kiddush lunch.

Friday, February 15: 7:45 pm, preceded by Shabbat Dinner (paid reservations required for dinner - Members \$30; Non-members \$36).

Guest Scholar: **Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles**, Senior Rabbi, Temple Isaiah Los Angeles: "Making Time."

Saturday, February 16: 9:15 am, Guest Scholar: **Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles**, "Judaism: A Spectrum of Theologies;" followed by Kiddush Lunch. For more information and to reserve meals call 760-200-3636.

CENTRO CULTURAL HEBREO DE MEXICALI (Conservative)

Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico
Contact: Ron Cohen
www.judiosdemexicali.com
760-960-3392 US
(686) 216-7152 Mexico

CHABAD OF PALM SPRINGS & DESERT COMMUNITIES

Rabbi Yonason Denebeim & Rabbi Arik Denebeim
425 Ortega, Palm Springs, CA 92264
www.chabadpalmsprings.com
760-325-0774

Shabbat services Friday/Saturday; daily morning and evening minyan.

CHABAD OF PALM DESERT

Rabbi Mendy Friedman
Services in a private home.

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.chabadrm.com 760-770-7785
Shabbat services Friday: check website for service times. Saturday 10 am; children's program/service 11:15 am. Daily morning and evening minyan. M-F 7:00 am; Sundays 8:00 am/check website for mincha/maariv times.

CHABAD OF SUN CITY PALM DESERT

Rabbi Yonason Denebeim.
For information on services call 760-848-8250.

CONGREGATION HAR-EL

(Member, Union for Reform Judaism)
Rabbi Richard Zions; Cantor Joseph Gole www.harelurj.org / harelurj@gmail.com 760-779-1691.
Mailing address: P.O. Box 564, Palm Desert, CA 92261. For information about Shabbat services contact Har-El by email or phone. Friday evening Shabbat services 6:00 pm, preceded at 5:30 pm by a pre-service social. Music Shabbat first Friday of each month.

Friday, February 1: 5:30 wine and hors d'ouvres reception. 6 pm Music Shabbat Service followed by Shabbat Scholar in Residence Steven Windmueller, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, HUC. Topic: "The New Anti-Semitism—Why Here? Why Now?"

Friday, February 15: 6:30 pm following services: Linstone Shabbat Lecture: Stefanie Seltzer, International President, World Federation of

Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust: "Anti-Semitism Rears Its Head Abroad."

CONGREGATION SHALOM BAYIT (Reform)

Rabbi Kenneth Milhander, 1320 W. Williams Ave., Banning, CA 92220. Contact 951-769-3678/769-7514
Shabbat Service 3rd Friday/ Havdallah 1st Saturday evening.

DESERT HOT SPRINGS

Monthly Shabbat evening service with Rabbi Faith Tessler October-May at Mission Lakes Country Club at 7:00 pm. Confirm February date by calling Jewish Federation, 760-324-4737.

DESERT OUTREACH SYNAGOGUE

Rabbi Jules King. Note new location: Meet at UC Riverside/Palm Desert Campus, 75080 Frank Sinatra (at Cook), Palm Desert the second Friday of each month at 7:00 pm. Musical Shabbat service, followed by wine/light nosh oneg. Complimentary valet parking in Lot B. 760-449-0111. Mailing address: P.O. Box 982, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. www.Desert-Outreach-Synagogue.com.

SUN CITY JEWISH SERVICES

Rabbi Kenneth Emert and Cantor Alan Scott.
Services held at Sun City Del Webb, Palm Desert/Sunset View Clubhouse/ Speakers Hall, First and third Friday evenings at 7:15 pm.

TEMPLE HAR SHALOM, Idyllwild

Rabbi Malka Drucker.
(951) 468-0004. www.templeharshalomidyllwild.org Email:

templeharshalomofidyllwild@gmail.com.

Friday night services once a month and study with Rabbi the following Saturday morning. February dates: February 22 & 23. Services held at St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church, 25525 Taquitz Drive, Idyllwild, CA.

TEMPLE ISAIAH

Rabbi Steven Rosenberg.
332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262, 760-325-2281. www.templeisaiahps.com. Shabbat evening: 6:30 pm wine and cheese reception. 7:30 pm Shabbat Services, followed by oneg; Saturday morning: 9:00 am "Nosh and Drash" torah study followed by services at 10:00 am.

TEMPLE SINAI (Reform)

Rabbi Andrew Bentley
73-251 Hovley Lane West, Palm Desert, CA 92260.
www.templeisinaipd.org 760-568-9699.
Friday evening services: Call office for time. Temple Sinai is trying out 5:30 pm services for month of January and the JCN goes to press before decision is made for February. Services either at 5:30 or 7:30 pm. Saturdays: 8:45 am Torah study; 10 am Shabbat services.
Saturday, February 16:
Bar Mitzvah of Jerry Moses.

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 - February 2019

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

Sundays

Chabad Rancho Mirage Children's Programs

C Teen Global Teen network offering social, educational & humanitarian programming.

C Teen Jr. for 7-8 graders.

Educational and social programming.

C Kids ages 4-11. Meets Sundays

10:30-noon. Trips. Art. Cooking. Teaching Life Skills.

Call 760-272-1923 or email

Chaya@chabardrm.com for

information about the groups and meeting dates.

Mondays

6:30 pm Chabad of Rancho Mirage

Men's Talmud class, given by Rabbi Benny Lew at Chabad

of Rancho Mirage. RSVP

760-636-2897 or Rabbibenny@chabardrm.com.

7:30-8:30 pm Chabad Palm

Springs Program: **'A Journey**

Through the Era of the

Prophets': A class exploring

the Prophets, beginning with

Joshua. Held at home of Rabbi Arik and Chaya Denenbeim

410 Avenida Ortega, Palm Springs.

Instructor: Rabbi Boz Werdiger,

Email: bozwerdiger@googlegmail.com.

Tuesdays

10 am Temple Sinai **Yiddish Club**

Noon Temple Sinai **Introduction to Judaism**. Facilitator: Arava Talve.

1:15 pm Temple Sinai **Ten Paths to God**. Presenter: Rabbi Andrew Bentley

5:00-7:00 pm Chabad of Rancho Mirage **Weekly BBQ**. Affordable, fun and kosher. Reservations not required but helpful: 760-770-7785.

7:00-8:00 pm Chabad of Sun City **Women's Torah Study**. Contact sussiedenebeim@gmail.com.

7:00-8:00 pm Chabad Palm Springs Program: Text-based Study on Maimonides's fundamentals of Judaism. Instructor: **Rabbi Moishe Witkes**. For location, call or text 760-412-1005.

Wednesdays

4:00 pm Temple Sinai Mah Jongg

Thursdays

1:00 pm Temple Sinai Mah Jongg

Saturdays

Afternoon LGBT Shalom Group monthly Shabbat afternoon social. Check website for date and to RSVP: TheShalomGroupps.com

Sunday, February

9:30 am-12:30 pm Temple Sinai Confirmation Class Car Wash.

Tuesday, February 5

11:00 am Tolerance Education Center program for Black History Month: Screening of film **"Three Women"** followed by Q & A with film's producer.

Thursday, February 7

5:30 pm Local Congregations, Jewish Federation of the Desert and Interfaith Partners: **"WE ARE ONE"** community program of solidarity. Palm Valley School Gymnasium. RSVP to Jewish Federation. 760-324-4737. See page 1.

Thursday, February 7

6:30 pm Sabra Hadassah meeting, "An Antique Roadshow with Kathi Jablonsky." Sun City Palm Desert Sunset View Clubhouse. \$15. Questions? Call 805-630-2839.

Friday, February 8

11:00 am Tolerance Education Center program: 'Glass House' Traveling Exhibit closing event.

Sunday, February 10

11:00 pm Jewish Federation of the Desert and The Leichtag Foundation **Jerusalem 2020 "Beneath the Headlines"** panel discussion. Held at Jewish Federation Office. Space limited. RSVP 760-324-4737. See page 4.

Monday, February 11

10:30 AM, Har-El Galen Book Course: Television is the New Television by Michael Wolff. Reviewed by Stuart Schwartz, past producer for ABC Television. Moderator: Francie Schwartz, past director URJ Dept. of Lifelong Learning.

Tuesday, February 12

7:00 pm Jewish Federation of the Desert - A Night of Comic Relief: **"Laugh Out Loud"** with Gary Gulman, Carol Leiter and Elon Gold. At Galen Auditorium, Eisenhower Medical Center Campus, Rancho Mirage. Buy your tickets now! See page 2.

Friday, February 15 & 22

11:00 am and 2:00 pm Temple Isaiah. Four guided tours of Temple Isaiah for Modernism Week: "Architecture in Service of the Sacred and Spiritual - A Study in Contrasts." Tickets available at www.modernismweek.com.

Friday, February 15

7:00 pm Desert Outreach Synagogue fundraiser "Duets." UCR/ Palm Desert Auditorium. See ad page 7.

Sunday, February 17

10:30 am Beth Shalom **Scholar-in-Residence Weekend** with **Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles**, "Judaism and the Power of Story," followed by Brunch (paid reservations required for brunch) Members \$20; Non-members \$25. Information: 760-200-3636

Sunday, February 17

11:00 am Temple Sinai Film and Chinese Buffet. Film: **"Above the Drowning Sea"** The story of the Jewish refugees who escaped Nazi Germany and made it to Shanghai, China. Includes story of local resident Jerry Moses, then a 7-year-old child. \$18 for film and buffet. Space limited. RSVP to 760-568-9699.



Community Calendar Continued - February 2019

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

Sunday, February 17

1:00-4:00 pm Temple Isaiah
Modernism Week event: **Step into the Past Fashion Show.**
See ad page 8.

Sunday, February 17

4:00-6:00 pm UCR/Federation
Lecture. See page 12.

Tuesday, February 19

5:00-7:00 pm Tolerance Education
Center program: Exhibit Opening
'Zohar Meditation' by
Caron Rand.

Wednesday, February 20

11:00 am Tolerance Education
Center program: Film Screening re:
Rwanda Genocide: **'Komora: To Heal'**

Wednesday, February 20

3:30-5:00 PM: Har-El Stepping
Out Course: "The History and
Culture of the Black Church in
America." Presenter: Rabi Richard
Zionts. Visit to First Baptist Church
of North Palm Springs on following

Sunday morning, followed by a
no-host lunch in Palm Springs

Monday, February 25

11:00 am Tolerance Education
Center program: Lecture: **'Jewish Musicians'** by Anthropologist Rosa
Weinstein.

Wednesday, February 27

11:00 am Tolerance Education
Center program: Lecture: **'Music and the Holocaust'** by Law
Professor Eric Gertner.

Thursday, February 28

11:00 am Jewish Federation
Women's Philanthropy luncheon
The Main Event. Speaker: Erin
Schrode. Minimum contribution
to 2019 Federation campaign:
\$180 plus \$45 couvert. Questions?
Call Linn Menne at the Federation
Office, 760-324-4737. See page 6.

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

Former Women's March Leader Upbraids 'Anti-Semite' Linda Sarsour for Posting Article Claiming Jews Are Waging War on Black People

By Shiryn Ghermezian, *The Algemeiner*

Anti-Israel activist and Woman's March co-chair Linda Sarsour was excoriated as an "anti-Semite" on January 20th by a former ally who once headed the DC chapter of the popular political movement.

Mercy Morganfield, who is also the daughter of famed American blues singer-songwriter Muddy Waters, took to Facebook to upbraid Sarsour after the latter posted a link to an article that accused the Jewish community of waging a "profound war on black people."

Highlighting the offending paragraphs in a screenshot, Morganfield began, "This is How S**t Gets Started." She continued, "Linda Sarsour is an anti-Semite and even when she is apologizing to the Jewish community on the one hand, she is condemning it on the other. She can't help it. This is who she is and as long as the five board members are in power you will continue



Mercy Morganfield

to see these sharp divisions they themselves foster."

Alluding to the failure of Women's March leaders to fully repudiate infamous anti-Semite Louis Farrakhan, long a source of concern among mainstream Jewish groups, she added, "During this entire fiasco who has continually attacked whom? Jewish people asking you to condemn an anti-

Semite and anti-Semitism is not an attack. Writing that Jewish people are waging war on black people is an attack. It is vicious. It is vile. And it is not true. They are their own worst enemy. An appalling lack of judgment on Linda's part. On this day, during this ongoing controversy."

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- High School Training and Teen Volunteer programs

Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5:

"Whoever saves a life is considered if he has saved the entire world."

Alpha Radiation Startup Eliminates 70% of Cancerous Tumors

Now going into clinical trials for specific types of cancer, Alpha Tau's technology shows potential for treating any solid tumor.

By Brian Blum ISRAEL21C

A breakthrough Israeli technology that eliminates cancerous tumors in 70 percent of cases was nearly lost in bureaucracy and university politics.

Professors Yona Keisari and Itzhak Kelson of Tel Aviv University discovered a way to use alpha radiation to destroy tumors. Their approach was revolutionary – alpha radiation is so powerful it can snap both strands of a cancer cell's DNA, but it won't harm surrounding healthy tissue as other types of radiation do.

However, alpha radiation can't travel more than about 50 microns (1/20 of a millimeter) inside human tissue. Treating a tumor of, say, 5cm would require hundreds of thousands of short ranged alpha-emitting sources – a seeming impossibility.

Keisari and Kelson discovered that, when delivered via a particular isotope of the element radium, alpha radiation can travel as far as 3mm. The isotope, Radium 224, releases atoms that diffuse inside a tumor and then emit their own alpha particles. This approach enables the much farther distribution of alpha particles to kill entire tumors.

The professors and Tel Aviv University patented the technology in 2003. More research was conducted and 12 peer-reviewed papers were published. But squabbling between the various stakeholders over the intellectual property kept their breakthrough in limbo until 2015 when Uzi Sofer was recruited to sort things out.

Sofer had an impressive track record in medical technology. He previously co-founded and served as CEO of Brainsway, which develops treatments using transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) for depression, PTSD, OCD and other brain disorders and addictions. The company grew under his leadership from two to 70 employees.



Alpha Radiation Therapy on Malignant Tumor

Realizing what the professors had, Sofer formed a new company – Alpha Tau (the "Tau" stands for Tel Aviv University) – to further develop the technology. Earlier this year Alpha Tau raised \$29 million from Shavit Capital, Medison Ventures and Our Crowd.

Stimulates immune system

Alpha Tau is the only company to use alpha radiation to treat solid tumors. All other types of brachytherapy (where a sealed radiation source is placed inside or next to the area requiring treatment) use beta or gamma radiation.

"But that only causes a single-strand break in the DNA, from which the cell can recover," Sofer explains. "And it's not as focused. As a result, it causes a lot of side effects and destroys healthy tissue."

When the healthy tissue around the tumor is not destroyed along with the cancer, the immune system is stimulated to recognize and attack the same type of tumors elsewhere in the body. These kinds of metastases are the cause of death for 85% of cancer patients.

"We believe that DaRT technology has tremendous clinical value not only in destroying the tumor but preventing cancer from spreading to other organs," Sofer says.

Clinical trials

Thousands of animal studies have been done on the company's Alpha DaRT ("Diffusing Alpha-Emitters Radiation Therapy") technology.

The first human trials of Alpha DaRT have been taking place in Israel

and Italy for squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) tumors, a form of skin and head and neck cancer.

Further clinical trials of DaRT for all types of skin cancer (Cutaneous and Mucosal malignant Neoplasia – CMN) are planned for 2019 and will take place in Israel, Italy, France, New York and Montreal.

Trials for other indications are currently in process and expected to be initiated in the next 3-6 months in Montreal and New York, US (pancreatic and skin cancer), Obninsk, Russia (breast cancer), Cambridge, UK (vulvar) and Israel (prostate cancer). Additional trials will later be initiated for more than 20 other indications – such as cervical, renal and colon cancer – at medical centers in more than 25 countries.

"It's amazing to see patients who have been told their life expectancy is in weeks get treatment under local anesthesia and, 60 days out, they're clear, they have no evidence of any tumors."

"Once approved by the regulatory authorities, we can treat any kind of solid tumor," Sofer tells ISRAEL21C, "including cancers where there is no other chance and this is a patient's last chance to live."

Pancreatic cancer, for example, today has no cure; patients usually die within five years of diagnosis. Alpha Tau's DaRT "seeds" may be able to flip that prognosis.

"In our SCC studies, we were able to eliminate more than 70 percent of the tumors entirely and to cause shrinkage of 100 percent of the tumors," Sofer says. "Encouraged by these promising results, we hope to eliminate pancreatic tumors as well or to shrink them so that it will be possible to remove them surgically."

Personalized treatment kits

Despite the power of alpha

radiation, it's actually safer than conventional beta or gamma treatments.

"You don't need so much radioactivity to get the same effect," Sofer explains. "We can ship our treatment kit to hospitals almost in regular boxes. Patients can be treated in an outpatient setting with no radioactive shielding."

After less than a week, 50% of the alpha radiation will already be gone from the body. In two weeks, there will be no radioactivity left at all.

However, once a DaRT kit is assembled (for example, a patient with breast cancer might need 12 needle applicators with 6 DaRT seeds in each) it must be sent to the treatment facility fast.

"If for some reason a patient doesn't come on time, the next day you'll need to put the whole kit in the trash," Sofer says.

Because of DaRT's fast decay, Alpha Tau will need to build production facilities close to the main treatment centers. The first one is already working in Israel. The company has received approval to build a facility in Massachusetts. The third will be in Japan with a fourth in Europe, Sofer says.

Under Sofer's leadership, Alpha Tau now has 26 on staff in Israel, including the professors who invented the core technology. Following clinical testing, Sofer hopes Alpha DaRT will receive its European Union approval by 2020 with the US and Japan coming in 2022.

"We are already saving lives in the trials," he says. "It's amazing to see patients who have been told their life expectancy is in weeks get treatment under local anesthesia and, 60 days out, they're clear, they have no evidence of any tumors. I've been in this business for a while, but this is the best."

OpEd: Why the US Diaspora Misunderstands Israel

By Lyn Julius / JNS.org

Israel is meant to be the nation-state of the Jewish people. But for some time now, we have been hearing that the US community is distancing itself from Israel.

The links are becoming more tenuous because the assimilation rate is now more than 70 percent. Most Jews in the United States have even been called “non-Jewish Jews.” Many adhere to universal, not particularist values, that some claim will in the end destroy Judaism itself. The US Diaspora predominantly belongs to the Conservative and Reform streams of Judaism. The “Women of the Wall” controversy has only served to introduce more tension in the relationship between the United States and the Israeli government.

American Jews are well known for their overwhelming support for the Democratic Party. As the old adage goes, they earn like Episcopalians and vote like Puerto Ricans. This has already put them in conflict with Israel's interests. President Barack Obama's 2015 Iran deal did not seem to dent Jewish support for him. Similarly, so hostile do most Jews feel towards US President Donald Trump that when Trump has made pro-Israel decisions, such as moving the US embassy to Jerusalem, they have hesitated to support him. (The General Assembly of Jewish Federations of North America, when convening in Israel, always meets in Jerusalem, but this year moved the venue to Tel Aviv.)

As we saw with the tragic events at Pittsburgh, American Jewry has a problem with anti-Semitism, but it's a problem that it sees coming from the far-right, exacerbated by Trump's populism. However, there is also a pernicious anti-Semitic anti-Zionism

now penetrating the left. Jews in general are seen to enjoy power and “white privilege,” despite their history as an oppressed minority and ethnic origins in the Middle East. The new vogue for “intersectionality” pointedly excludes Jews.

What does the Diaspora find alienating about Israel? Eric Goldstein, CEO of UJA-Federation of New York, recently criticized the Israeli government for its treatment of the Palestinians, its attitude towards asylum-seekers, and the dominance of the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel.

But these concerns show a fundamental misunderstanding of Israel and of the conflict. Progressives (and not just in the United States) think that the two-state solution would fulfill Palestinian aspirations. In reality, the ultimate Palestinian objective is the “right of return” — overrunning Israel proper with Arab refugees. They believe that time is on their side.

The US Diaspora also misunderstands what makes Israelis tick. Israeli support for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is a response to rockets and terror tunnels. But many Israelis view the Palestinian jihad as just the latest chapter in a long story

of Arab and Muslim anti-Semitism predating anti-Zionism. Anti-Jewish hatred goes to the very heart of the conflict.

More than 50 percent of Israeli Jews have their roots in Arab and Muslim states. The American Diaspora, on the other hand, is overwhelmingly Ashkenazi: Their background is European anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. They project a Eurocentric world view and their own Western values on the Arab and Muslim world.

Most Jews are in Israel because of the Arabs, not the Nazis (although Arabs and Nazis were allied during World War II). They vote for

Netanyahu because of this legacy of bitterness and mistrust. Arabs will only respect a strong Israel, they believe. These Jews, their parents, and their grandparents left Arab countries due to pogroms, institutionalized inferiority, and state-sanctioned laws. Most left as destitute refugees with a single suitcase. Israel rescued them. Jews in the West may take their freedoms and rights for granted. Jews from the Middle East and North Africa do not.

When the United States — and indeed, the Western press and media — does focus on Mizrahi Jews, it is to promote the folklore that passes for Mizrahi history —



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2019 Lion of Judah International Conference

By Celia Norian and Barbara Platt

Fourteen hundred women, including five hundred first-timers, ranging in age from 25 to 93, participated in the Jewish Federation of North America's 2019 International Lion of Judah Conference in Hollywood, Florida January 13-15. "Women Repair the World" was the theme of this biennial event that brought together Lions of Judah from 6 countries.

Participants heard from such diverse speakers as Aly Raisman, Olympic gymnast and activist, Jessica Abo, author and journalist and Mark Wilf, Chair, JFNA Board of Trustees. The attendees learned about Federation programs that provide services and enrichment in the former Soviet Union, Africa and Israel. They heard from the survivors of the terrorist attack at the Pittsburgh

synagogue and the Malibu fires and support services provided by Federation. In workshops, grandparents were encouraged to share their stories and leave their legacy. Other breakout sessions on spirituality, wellness and investing for philanthropy were also presented.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE), the Rosalind Goodman Leadership Legacy Institute was



Stephanie S. Ross
recognized as our
community's Kipnis-
Wilson Friedland
honoree.



Attending from the Jewish Federation of the Desert (l-r) Bobbi Holland, Linda Noddle, Celia Norian, Marjorie Kulp, Stephanie S. Ross, Frances Horwich, Barbara Platt and Lori Fritz.
Missing from photo: Maddie Redstone and Jane Sherman.

introduced by her daughters, Debbie and Shauna, in her memory. Believing that the philanthropic gifts we give during our lives should continue after we are gone, this program will train professionals to help communities increase their current levels of endowed funds.

The highlight of the closing luncheon was the presentation of the Kipnis-Wilson Friedland awards to women from 75 communities,

including our honoree, Stephanie S. Ross. Presented by founder Norma Kipnis-Wilson, 90 years young, this award honors extraordinary women who have set a high standard for philanthropy and volunteerism.

A record \$35,929,169 was raised at the end of the two-day program. The women went home with their passions and energies renewed and revitalized.

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Czech President Disavows Two-State Solution, Calls for One State of Israel

Czech President Miloš Zeman also continues to support the Czech Republic moving its mission from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.



President of the Czech Republic Miloš Zeman Israeli President Reuven Rivlin hold a joint press conference at the president's residence in Jerusalem

On a visit to Israel, Czech President Miloš Zeman, expressed his doubts that the creation of a Palestinian state would be helpful in solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"I was inspired by your idea about one state with two nations. And I know this idea is provocative. Any big and great idea is provocative," Zeman told President Reuven Rivlin during an official meeting in Jerusalem.

"I wonder what will be your arguments for this idea because for many, many decades, there is a discussion about two independent states," he said. "But frankly, I do not see an independent state in Gaza because I understand Hamas as a terror organization and not as a state."

As part of his trip, Zeman inaugurated the "Czech House" in Jerusalem, which is generally accepted to be a first step before inaugurating an official Czech embassy in Jerusalem.

"In the current situation, our friendship is more important than ever," Rivlin told Zeman. "We welcome your support for the eventual move of the embassy of the Czech Republic to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is the city of peace. May peace begin in Jerusalem, and may it spread from Jerusalem to all the world."

In April, Zeman announced that the Czech Republic would begin the process of moving the Czech mission from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Zeman addressed Israel's Knesset and laid a wreath at the Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem. He also visited the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial museum and had lunch with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The Czech embassy has been located in Tel Aviv since 1949. Israel and the Czech Republic have enjoyed diplomatic relations except during the years of the Communist regime in Prague between 1967 and 1990.

4th Annual Women's Card Day a Great Success

It required several rooms at the Springs Clubhouse to accommodate this year's Women's Card Day participants at the fourth annual event on December 18, 2018, to the delight of event chair Lana Landa and her committee. Proceeds from the event were given to the Jewish Federation's Special Tzedakah Fund which covers emergency needs for Jews living in the Coachella Valley.



Card Day chair Lana Landa (middle) with Women's Philanthropy Administrative Assistant Linn Menne (left) and Kevin Giser, Director of Community Impact (right)



Number of Countries With Whom Israel Has Diplomatic Relations Reaches All-time High with Resumed Ties with Chad

By Raphael Ahren, *The Times of Israel*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chadian President Idriss Déby on January 20 announced the reestablishment of diplomatic relations, bringing the number of countries that Israel has formal ties with to a record of 161.

"Chad is a very important country, and very important for Israel," Netanyahu said during a joint appearance with Déby at the N'Djamena's presidential palace. "There is a lot that we can do together. We discussed ways to deepen our cooperation in every field, beginning with security, but also agriculture, food, water, energy, health and many more. We are being welcomed here respectfully, just as we welcomed



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, left, and Chad's President Idriss Déby at the presidential palace in N'Djamena, Chad

President Déby with great respect in Israel," he said. "Israel is breaking into the Muslim world. This is the result of a great effort during the last few years. We're making history, and we're turning Israel into a rising world power."

Chad severed ties with Israel in 1972 due to pressure from Libyan strongman Muammar Gaddafi.

Déby said his country and Israel had agreed not only to renew diplomatic ties but also to increase bilateral cooperation in a wide range of fields. "Chad will do everything it can to strengthen the ties between the two countries and the bilateral cooperation in various matters," he said. Déby also reiterated that Chad's renewed commitment to relations with Israel does not negate his support for the Palestinian cause. "Our friendship to Israel does not replace our concerns on the Palestinian issue. We are in favor of advancing a peace process between Israelis and

Palestinians. And therefore I renew my call on the State of Israel to engage in a peace process... based on previous agreements," he added. He concluded his remarks by wishing for Israel to "live in peace and security next to a Palestinian state."

The last country to renew diplomatic ties with Israel was Nicaragua, in March of 2017. The Central American country had severed diplomatic relations seven years earlier, in protest over an incident during which violent pro-Palestinian activists and IDF troops clashed aboard the Gaza-bound Mavi Marmara ship.

Before taking off for N'Djamena, the prime minister alleged that Iran and the Palestinians were trying to prevent Israel's diplomatic push. "This is very disturbing and even causes outrage in Iran and among the Palestinians who are trying to prevent this. They will not succeed," he told reporters. He called his half-day visit "another historic and

important breakthrough" that is part of a "revolution that we are doing in the Arab and Islamic worlds."

Netanyahu also indicated that additional Muslim countries in Africa would soon warm up to Israel. "There will be more major news. There will be more countries," he said, without elaborating.

Chad is located in a potentially strategically important place for Israel, as it could enable Israeli aircraft to shave off several hours in flight routes to Latin America (though for this to happen Israel would also need to get overfly rights from Sudan, which does not appear imminent).

Netanyahu's flight, which had to skirt Libya and Sudan, lasted nearly eight hours, despite N'Djamena being only 3,000 kilometers (1,800 miles) from Tel Aviv. Rather than flying directly, Netanyahu's Boeing 747 took a huge detour, flying over Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic.

Netanyahu has traveled three times to Africa in the last two years, visiting Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Liberia.

He regularly vows to expand ties with all countries on the continent, including those that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

In July 2016, the Republic of Guinea, a small, overwhelmingly Muslim country in West Africa, renewed diplomatic relations with Israel, after it had cut ties with the Jewish state in 1967.

Since then, Netanyahu has met with leaders of additional African Muslim-majority states, such as Mali and Somalia.



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170,000 Anti-Semitic Searches Made on Google Each Year in UK — Study

New report found sharp rise in number of searches after Labour head Corbyn met with Jewish leaders on anti-Semitism in his party, but some were result of Google autofill

By Times of Israel Staff

Some 170,000 searches containing anti-Semitic content are made each year in the United Kingdom, according to a new study published Friday.

The report, released by the Community Security Trust and Anti-Semitism Policy Trust, said some 10 percent of these searches included violent language or intentions, with "evil" and "racist" being the negative terms most commonly searched in connection to Jews.

However, the number of searches for "Are Jews evil?" dropped by 10% after Google removed the phrase from its autocomplete function, which the study said showed the search giant caused more people to make more anti-Semitic searches than would have otherwise.

Most of the anti-Semitic searches on Google were for jokes

about Jews and the report noted that those who looked up Jewish jokes were more likely to also search for racist jokes about other minority groups. Queries with the word "Jewish" were less likely to be anti-Semitic than those with "Jew."

The area of the UK with the highest number of anti-Semitic searches was Wales, according to the study, while such searches were just as common in cities which primarily vote for the opposition Labour Party as those that mainly support the Conservatives.

The report recorded a 79% jump in anti-Semitic searches in April, with most of these coming the day after Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn met with Jewish leaders to discuss rampant anti-Semitism in the party's ranks.

Labour has grappled with allegations of anti-Semitism under

the leadership of Corbyn, who himself has regularly come under fire for a series of incidents, including his remark about British Zionists not understanding irony, his attendance at a memorial for Palestinian terrorists, and Labour's reluctance to fully adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism — a move which, when finally adopted, he unsuccessfully attempted to undermine by seeking a caveat asserting that branding Israel a racist endeavor is not anti-Semitic.

He has also come under fire for his soft treatment of anti-Semitic statements made by party allies.

The study, which included data from 2004 to 2018, also recorded a 25% rise in searches for "Zionism" in April 2016 after former London

mayor and Corbyn supporter Ken Livingstone claimed Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler supported Zionism "before he went mad and ended up killing 6 million Jews." He was later suspended by Labour over the remarks and quit the party in May.

Other notable findings from the study was that searches for the Rothschilds, a Jewish banking family that is the subject of many conspiracy theories, were higher than for a number of contemporary Jewish celebrities, and that there was a 30% jump in anti-Semitic searches after Israel won last year's Eurovision Song Contest.

US Military Purchases Israeli Missile-Defense Systems

The Trophy consists of a radar-detection system that recognizes incoming missiles and projects their trajectories, with launchers that shoot metal pellets, causing the incoming missile or rocket to explode away from the tank.

The U.S. military has completed a nearly \$80 million purchase of the Israeli-developed missile-defense system Trophy to protect tanks and armored-personnel carriers. This development comes after the United States reached a similar \$200 million agreement last summer.

As part of the agreement, the



Merkava Mk 4m with the Trophy APS

United States is expected to pay an additional \$120 million for more defense systems, contingent on final approvals, bringing the sum of the two contracts to around \$400 million.

It was created by Rafael and the Israel Aircraft Industries' Elta Group, and became operational in 2009.

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Court Rules Ultra-Orthodox Party Must End Ban on Women within 21 Days

Though coalition's Agudath Israel agrees to change regulations, it stresses move is 'symbolic' and 'devoid of meaning,' as its rabbis won't allow women to run regardless

By Times of Israel Staff

The High Court of Justice instructed ultra-Orthodox party Agudath Israel on January 10 to change its party regulations within 21 days to allow women to run for office, in line with an agreement reached in September on the matter. Currently a clause in the regulations stipulates that only men may run on the platform.

Agudath Israel along with the Degel HaTorah party forms United Torah Judaism in the Knesset, and sits in the governing coalition. The two parties announced a split this week, though they called it a "procedural" move and said they may reunite before the upcoming April elections.

The party agreed in September to remove the clause, following a three-year legal battle over petitions filed by multiple women's groups, including some representing ultra-Orthodox women.

The party stressed at the time of the agreement that it was a

symbolic move only, as the Council of Torah Sages — which decides on the party's makeup and guides its actions — would not approve a female candidate for office.

However, the court in its ruling this week stressed that in future, women who claim to meet requirements and are barred from the party will be able to take legal action on the basis of the decision.

Following the ruling a senior source in Agudath Israel told Haaretz it was "largely populist and devoid of meaning."

"The party does not discriminate against women and represents them well. Not putting women on the list is based on a historic decision of leading rabbis since the state's foundation, and the High Court knows there is no plan to change this," he said.

"We will respect the High Court's instructions by changing the wording of the party regulations because these are semantics

without any real significance," he said, but stressed that "this isn't going to change in the next few decades."

The petition to the court was brought by Tamar ben-Porat, a secular woman, who was joined by attorneys Neta Ziv and Neta Levy of Itach Ma'akei — Women Lawyers for Social Justice, representing 10 women's organizations that wished to join the petition. The petition was also supported by Nivcharot, an ultra-Orthodox women's movement that likens itself to the suffragettes of the early 19th century.

Nivcharot representative Estee Rieder-Indursky told i24 news following the September agreement that symbolic victories were also important. "For us it is not 2018. It is 1918," she said. "We are in the middle of the suffragist fight."

Attorney Neta Levy disagreed that the ruling was insignificant, saying the court was "sending a

clear message that women cannot be discriminated against in Israeli parties."

Yesh Atid MK Aliza Lavie, former head of the Knesset's Committee on the Status of Women and Gender Equality, took issue with the claim the male ultra-Orthodox legislators gave proper representation to women, noting that "at Knesset deliberations on the health, well-being and personal security of ultra-Orthodox women, ultra-Orthodox MKs were usually absent."

Lavie called the court ruling "the beginning of a process" and expressed hope it would have "many implications on the daily lives of ultra-Orthodox women as well as the upcoming [female] ultra-Orthodox leaders."

About 11 percent of Israel's 8.5 million citizens are Haredi, or ultra-Orthodox.

Not only are women excluded from politics, but most of Israel's ultra-Orthodox media — which includes four daily newspapers, two main weeklies and two main websites — refuse to show images of women, claiming it would be a violation of modesty.



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EU Gives Nearly \$1 Million to Map Jewish Cemeteries

The European Union has awarded close to \$1 million to a project that aims to map and survey at least 1,500 Jewish cemeteries in Eastern Europe.

The European Jewish Cemeteries Initiative, or ESJF, announced its winning an EU tender affording it 800,000 euros, a sum equivalent to \$922,000. Since the group's establishment in 2015 with a German government grant, it has helped protect over 120 Jewish cemeteries in seven Central and



Eastern European countries.

The mapping process, to be undertaken using state-of-the-art technology specially designed for the project, involves engineering

drones surveying and photographing the sites from the air, following an in-depth historical research process of centuries-old records across many countries and languages, ESJF said.

Around the cemeteries that ESJF maps and demarcates, the organization typically sets up perimeter fences that it says dramatically reduce the risk facing the site. Eastern and Central Europe has well over 10,000 Jewish cemeteries in various degrees of risk.

"The aim of our unique and sacred mission is to rescue and preserve Jewish cemeteries, the resting place of our forefathers," said Rabbi Isaac Schapira, Founder and Chairman of the ESJF Board. "Today, there are many different threats to these cemeteries due to deterioration, vandalism and antisemitism, but also where they are threatened for financial reasons and expanding local city planning ordinances."



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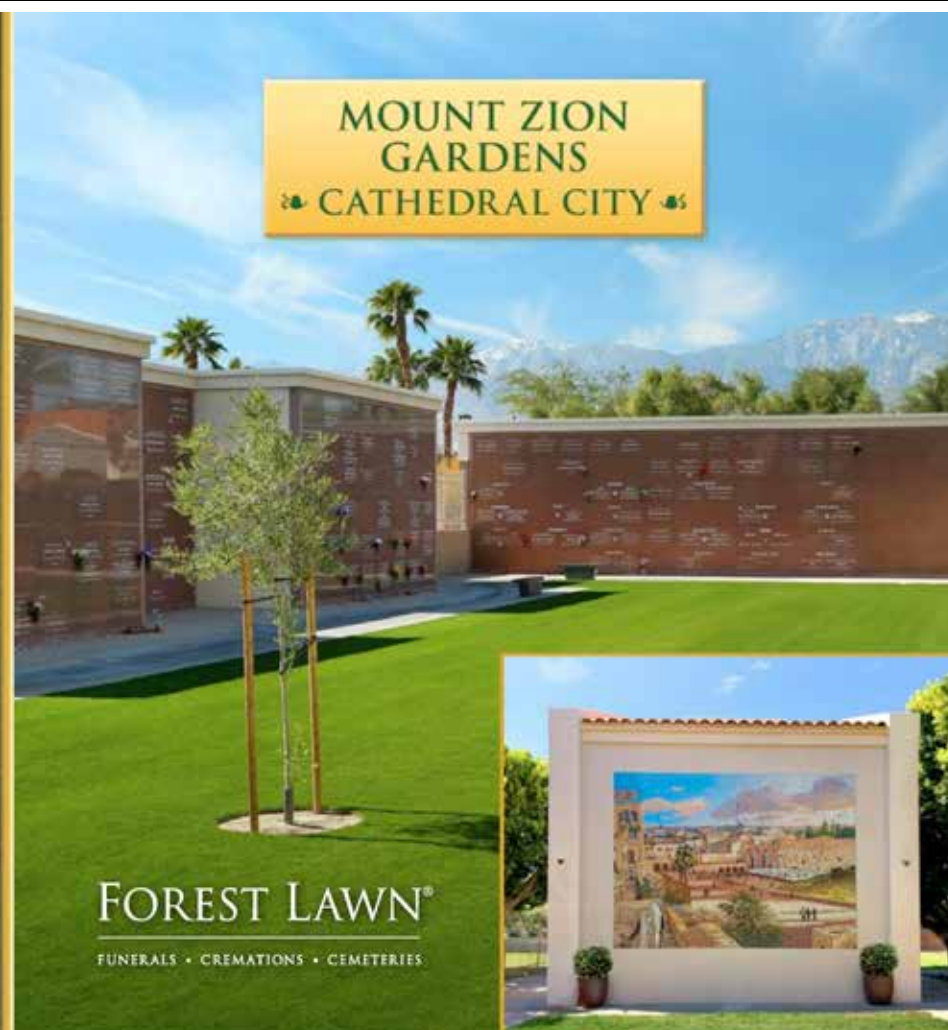
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Simchas

Welcome to **Rabbi Steven Rosenberg**, Temple Isaiah's interim Rabbi, whose warmth and positivity is creating instant fans ... Mazel tov to **Rabbi Arik** and **Chaya Denebeim** of Palm Springs, on the birth of their son, **Yosef** on December 14th. Delighted grandparents are **Rabbi Yonason** and **Sussie Denebeim**... and mazel tov to **Mendel** and **Chana Posner** on the birth of their son on January 22nd in New York. Thrilled grandparents are **Rabbi Shimon** and **Chaya Posner** of Rancho Mirage ... **Rivkie** (and Zalman)



Rabbi Steven Rosenberg

Lipskar (nee Denebeim) gave birth to a daughter on January 4th, two days before her mother, **Sussie Denebeim's** big event, MegaChallah Bake 3. Hours later Sussie was on the plane to Florida ... **Sharon Meyerhoff** shared that grandson **Joshua**, son of **Leslea Meyerhoff**, just returned from participating in Birthright Israel in December, pictured (second from left) with new IDF friends. (Joshua's older sister, **Rachel**, attended in Birthright in 2013) Just as we were getting ready to send the completed February JCN to the printer, an email arrived from **Sussie Denebeim** with the wonderful news that her daughter **Elkie** had just become engaged today(!) to **Noah Flinkman** of Los Angeles! Mazel tov to **Elkie**, **Noah** and the entire



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MegaChallah a MegaSuccess

Almost 250 Jewish women from the many organizations, temples, shuls and maj games around our desert came together on January 6 for the desert's third MegaChallah Bake at Sun City Palm Desert. It was an afternoon of sisterhood and friendship, with the wonderful bonus of taking home challahs to bake. For everyone who attended and want to come again, and for everyone who missed this year's event and want to be sure to attend next time, mark your calendars for MegaChallah 4 on Sunday, January 26, 2020.



DESERT HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL



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



We Mourn the Passing of...

Edward Barret, Robert Berens, Evrille Bortz, Vera Chernick, Ronald Cigelnick (passed away June 5), **Richard Comras, Bob Einstein, Jack Gordon, Jim Horvitz, William J. Kanter, Rhoda Kosslyn, Stanley Moss, Leila Pravorne, Suzie Reifer, Annette Roth, Dr. Sidney Sharzer and Abe Joe Wolf.** Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. May their memories endure as a blessing.

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