



# Jewish Community News

The Publication of the Jewish Federation of the Desert

www.jfedps.org

Cheshvan/Kislev 5780 - December 2019

## Swastika Incident in Palm Springs Must Be a Call to Action Against Hate

By Bruce Landgarten, Jewish Federation CEO

On a Saturday morning in late October, Palm Springs police responded to reports of a swastika drawn outside the office of Weinstein and Associates.



A swastika drawn with a crayon was reported by Palm Springs attorney Robert Weinstein on a sign outside his office. While most people know something about the Holocaust, they have no idea how much horror, pain and fear is tied up with the swastika symbol.

Do people understand the links between the symbol and Nazi Germany? Nobody predicted the outrage, hurt and sadness this action has caused. There is an issue of intolerance in America today. It's disturbing that it has happened, but I'm not convinced it was planned or premeditated.

Swastika use is on the rise, but among those who understand it least. The swastika has morphed into a universal symbol of hate. People didn't give their lives fighting Hitler for Nazi ideas to go unchallenged here at home. Hitler's torch shows no sign of burning out.

In the recent past, swastikas have appeared across America. No place seems safe. The swastika has been etched on parked cars in Miami Beach, Cincinnati, and Port Washington, N.Y.,

and spray painted on a sidewalk at Florida State University, a tree in New City, N.Y., a Jewish couple's mailbox in Phoenix, and on it goes.

The swastika is the all-purpose hate symbol, the mother of all hate brands. There is no single explanation for the new omnipresence of this symbol. Law enforcement officers say bona fide neo-Nazis are growing bolder and more public, reflecting an increase in the influence of racist ideology in the political conversation. Police say that many of the crimes involve kids who are rebelling, aware that the swastika is bad, but perhaps ignorant to the fact that it symbolizes genocide.

The symbol is used so liberally that sometimes it's hard to know its point. Changes in the swastika's use reflect changes in the hate community. Its users can be divided into two broad categories: vandals — who are by far the more numerous — and ideologues.

Vandals mark the swastika anonymously and covertly; they don't display it at rallies in the town square. Some in this category are individuals, often adults, who don't care about ideology and use the swastika as a psychological weapon against someone because of a personal grudge or beef. Thanks to a combination of hate, ignorance and nihilism, the swastika has been painted, posted, scratched, chalked and inked on all manner of surfaces,



from a peak in High Tor State Park in New York to a picnic table outside the public library in Choctaw, Oklahoma.

I'm especially disgusted that this perpetrator, or group of perpetrators, crayoned a swastika, a historic and extreme emblem of hatred, in front

of Mr. Weinstein's building.

Let me be clear: Graffiti and vandalism will not be tolerated, and the Jewish community rejects the hatred these symbols represent. While this may be an isolated incident, we cannot allow this behavior to become routine. Everyone has a role to play in combating bigotry — we must advocate, educate and investigate until hate is no longer welcome in our society.

At the Jewish Federation of the Desert, our CAST initiative (Combatting Anti-Semitism Today) aims to prepare individuals to stand up and fight for social justice while faced with hostile behavior, aiming to spread a message of solidarity.

We call for action motivated by freedom and tolerance, rather than hatred and fear. To learn more, call 760-324-4737.

Jewish Federation wishes you a very



Happy Chanukah

## Masters at MG Dinner

Michael Masters, National Director and CEO of Secure Community Network, is joining Eric Fingerhut at our Major Gifts Dinner on February 10th to provide an update on recent increase in security issues facing Jewish communities throughout the United States.



### 2019-2020 JEWISH FEDERATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Roberta Nyman**, Board Chair

**Lori Fritz**, Campaign Chair

**Arnie Gillman**, Vice Campaign Chair

**Phil Glass**, Treasurer

**Stephanie Ross**, Secretary

**Allan Lehmann**, Past Co-Chair

**Celia Norian**, Past Co-Chair

**Bruce Landgarten**,  
Chief Executive Officer

Elliott Cohen

Margie Kulp

Jackie Cohen

Ron Langus

Judith Cohen

Bernard Reiter

Bobbi Holland

Gary Schahet

### Table of Contents

Vol. 46 • No. 5

Community Calendar	7, 12-13
Federation	1, 2
Lecture Series	9
Legacy	3, 24
Women's Philanthropy	3, 6
Have A Nosh	23
PJ Library	3, 18
Schools/School Listing	19
Simchas & Classifieds	22
Temples Listing	12
Tributes	16

An evening with  
**Eric D. Fingerhut**

Eric D. Fingerhut is the President and CEO of The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA). Prior to his appointment at JFNA, Mr. Fingerhut served as the President and CEO of Hillel International from 2013-19. At Hillel, he led the organization's Drive to Excellence, which resulted in doubling the number of students engaged by Hillel each year to over 130,000 and the total funds raised each year to nearly \$200M. His emphasis on recruiting, training and retaining top talent for the system, and on building a data and performance driven organization, have become models for the non-profit sector.

Mr. Fingerhut has also had a varied and distinguished career in public service and higher education. He served as Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents from early 2007 to 2011, leading Ohio's system of public universities and colleges; as Ohio state senator from 1997 to 2006; and represented Ohio's 19th congressional district in the U.S. Congress from 1993 to 1994. In 2004, he was the Democratic Party's candidate for U.S. Senate.

Mr. Fingerhut received a juris doctorate from Stanford University Law School and a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University. He and his wife Amy have two sons, Sam and Charlie, and beagles Pedro and Lulu.

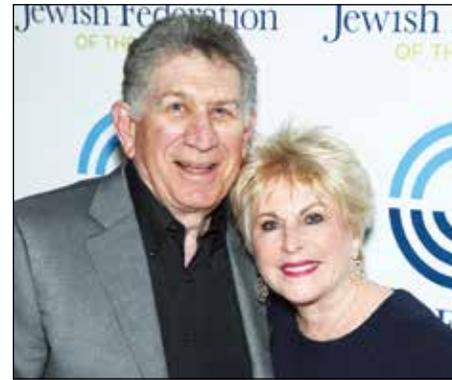
# A Jewish Legacy



"With a Jewish Federation legacy, you will be remembered for helping Jews in need today and building the community of tomorrow. This legacy ensures that you and your values live on." That mindset has been behind the Schahet family's decision

to endow a meaningful gift to our Jewish Federation. Gary and Phyllis Schahet understood the importance of safeguarding the work of the Federation to preserve and protect the future of the Jewish community here in the Coachella Valley and Jewish peoplehood around the world. As Gary states, "It is the right thing to do."

With their combined gift, Phyllis is an Endowed Lion of Judah. She



Gary and Phyllis Schahet

was drawn to the idea that the Jewish Federation of the Desert can continue its vital work of caring for the vulnerable and educating and engaging the future generation of Jewish leaders, as well as its impactful work in Israel, through the creation of their legacy.

We are grateful to the Schahet family and all those who have made the commitment of a Jewish Legacy.

## Herzlian Dinner

Federation is reinventing Jewish life here in the Desert. Every-time we use stock phrases as 'the Jewish community,' we make a mistake because we fail to acknowledge the complexity of Jewish community. That mistake can lead us to adopt a "one-size-fits-all approach to trying to reach different types of Jews...and one size fits all is not the case here. And that is the concept behind our Herzlian Dinners

The purpose of our version of the Herzlian is simple: to listen, learn, and inspire one another through meaningful dialogue around a

particular topic. As a result, vibrant networks and a host of passionate connections are being created around a variety of issues that affect Jewish continuity.

Network versus community... Instead of a community, we think of ourselves as a network—more transient, and able to shift as the needs of Jews here change. We know that as much as we plan programs or events, we need to build relationships. Instead of "affiliated" and "unaffiliated," we are trying "engagement" and "empowerment."



(L-r) Stewart Fleishman, Kevin Giser, Matt Friedman (ADL), Joanna Mendelson (ADL), Bruce Landgarten and Bruce Radler

Empowerment Jews are self-directed to seek out Jewish life. Engagement Jews feel just as Jewish, but they're looking for ways to connect outside of institutional membership or

affiliation.

The purpose of the Herzlian Dinner is to build a sense of community and partnership around a shared interest or theme. Jewish Federation's November Herzlian Dinner was arranged by Stewart Fleishman and Bruce Radler at Seven Lakes Country Club. Keynote speaker was Joanna Mendelson, Senior Executive Investigative Researcher and Director of special projects for the ADL Center on Extremism and her delivery was so engaging that people lost all track of time, making the evening truly memorable and meaningful.

**HEART to HEART**  
A Women's Journey to Israel  
*National Women's Philanthropy Mission*  
**FEBRUARY 2-6, 2020**  
For Mission Itinerary Highlights:  
[hearttoheartmission@jewishfederations.org](mailto:hearttoheartmission@jewishfederations.org)

Attention Families with Young Children!  
**Pj Library FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY**  
Sunday, December 22 - 4:30-6:00 PM  
(First night of Chanukah)  
at the Jewish Federation Office, 69-710 Hwy. 111, Rancho Mirage

Celebrate Chanukah with stories, songs, games and goodies to eat!

RSVP to Leslie Pepper,  
760-324-4737 or email  
[leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org)

# Deep-Learning Tech Reveals Personal ID of Cancer Cells

Technion's computerized pathologist decodes cancer signatures to improve personalized medicine.

By Brian Blum, Israel 21c

Just as every handwritten signature is unique, so is every cancerous tumor. Researchers at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology have now used artificial intelligence and big data to decode the unique signatures of certain cancer cells.

The resulting technology—dubbed a “computerized pathologist”—could significantly boost development of personalized cancer treatments.

The researchers worked with digital images from breast-cancer biopsy samples. The new technology, described earlier this summer in the medical journal JAMA, extracts molecular information from the cell shape (morphology) and its environment.

“Pathologists we spoke to said it was an impossible task,” explained doctoral student Gil Shamai, who worked with Prof. Ron Kimmel of the Technion's Faculty of Computer Science and fellow doctoral student Ron Slossberg.

“A human pathologist cannot infer the tumor features from its



**Technion's Professor Ron Kimmel**



**Technion Doctoral Student Gil Shamai**

shape because of the sheer number of variables. The good news is that artificial intelligence technologies, and especially deep learning, are capable of doing so. The computer, unlike even the most skilled pathologist, can characterize the cancer with a complex analysis of its morphology.”

With the help of image processing and AI tools, the researchers predicted the molecular profile of cancerous cells just by looking at the tissue as it appears on standard biopsy scans.

“We succeeded in identifying the ‘signature’ that the cancer leaves in the tissue,” Shamai added.

The team had to write its own software code to compare the biopsies it was analyzing with samples of more than 20,000 scans from 5,356 breast cancer patients. Such deep learning systems “require a huge amount of information and obtaining the kind of information required is not easy.”

The researchers were then able to map estrogen and progesterone receptors along with other molecular biomarkers. The study focused on breast cancer, but the technology will be relevant to all cancers.

“This is a feasibility study,” said Kimmel. “In the first phase, we believe it will be a tool to help doctors make decisions and will later be developed as a real clinical tool.”

The research was supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the National Science Foundation, the Lorry Lokey Interdisciplinary Center for Life Sciences and Engineering, and Schmidt Futures. Dr. Yoav Binenbaum of Tel Aviv Medical Center and Prof. Ziv Gil of Rambam Medical Center also participated in developing the technology.

## JEWISH COMMUNITY NEWS

A Publication of the  
Jewish Federation of the Desert  
VOL. 46, No. 5

### 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

**Miriam H. Bent**, Editor  
760-323-0255  
e-mail: 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.

The Community is invited to Temple Isaiah's  
joyful celebration of

**THE FIRST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH!**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019**

Join us at 4:30 PM (candle lighting 5 PM)  
Temple Isaiah, 332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs

**BYOC ... Bring your own Chanukiah (Menorah)**  
and come celebrate with us!

Chanukah BINGO, sing-along, raffle,  
dreidels, and lots of LATKES!

**\$12 PER PERSON**

RSVP: 760-325-2281 or online: [www.templeisiahps.com](http://www.templeisiahps.com)

**ADVERTISE  
IN THE JEWISH  
COMMUNITY NEWS.**

**Call Miriam Bent  
(760) 323-0255**

# New Route to Blocking Children's Bone Cancer

An Israeli study in mice showed that reducing a particular hormone signal keeps Ewing sarcoma tumors from growing and spreading.

By Israel 21c Staff

Ewing sarcoma is a bone cancer that mainly affects teenagers. Once it spreads to distant organs, it is hard to treat.

Researchers at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel have discovered molecular interactions underlying Ewing sarcomas and proposed a potential treatment, which showed promise in a study in mice published recently in *Cell Reports*.

The study focused on glucocorticoids, receptors for steroid hormones. These receptors convey hormonal messages related to stress, wakefulness and other important functions in virtually all human cells.

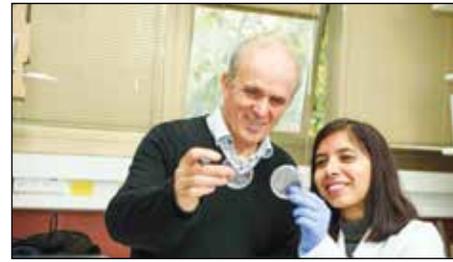
But sometimes glucocorticoid

receptors stimulate malignant growth by moving to the cell nucleus, where they interact and bind with molecules that turn genes on or off.

In the biological regulation laboratory of Prof. Yosef Yarden, postdoctoral fellow Swati Srivastava and colleagues revealed previously unknown interactions leading to the creation of an oncogene — a cancer-causing gene.

Physical binding between glucocorticoid receptors and the protein made by this oncogene significantly increased the growth and spread of human Ewing sarcoma cells in laboratory mice.

The tumors grew much more slowly when the mice received



Prof. Yosef Yarden and Dr. Swati Srivastava

metyrapone, a drug that reduces glucocorticoid synthesis. When they received a drug called mifepristone, which blocks the glucocorticoid receptor, Ewing sarcoma did not spread from the bone to the lungs.

The researchers saw that increasing the activity of glucocorticoid receptors made the sarcomas grow and spread much faster.

The researchers also identified

seven genes regulated by the glucocorticoid receptors that were expressed in high levels in Ewing sarcoma patients with lethal tumors. They believe these genes might serve as a genetic signature for identifying patients most likely to respond to treatment.

"Our findings provide the basis for a personalized approach to the treatment of Ewing sarcoma," Srivastava said.

The team included scientists from other departments at Weizmann and scientists from the University of Bologna, Institut Curie in Paris, and the Children's Cancer Research Institute of the Medical University of Vienna.



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 than to purchase a Tzedakah card.

Proceeds from the sale of the tribute cards benefit the TZEDAKAH FUND, which enables our Jewish Federation to respond to the emergency needs of Jews in our community. Call 760-324-4737 to order your cards, or go online to [jfedps.org](http://jfedps.org). Thank you.



**JASON**  
SUPERIOR SERVICE • SUPERIOR RESULTS  
**NOVACK**  
REALTOR®

DIRECT: 760•774•0633

jnovackrealtor@gmail.com





**Lights, Latkes and Hanukkah Fun!**  
Sunday, December 29, 2019  
Clubhouse at Mission Hills Country Club, Rancho Mirage  
6:00 pm Candle Lighting with Cantor Propis  
Followed by a Traditional Hanukkah Buffet Dinner  
(You're welcome to bring your own Menorahs and Candles and Join in)  
\$49.00++ Adults | \$24.50++ Children 6-14 | Children 5 & Under Free

Come and celebrate the Festival of Lights with friends and family at Mission Hills Country Club! We will be enjoying a Traditional Holiday Dinner. World Renowned Tenor & Cantor, David Propis, will lead us in Traditional Holiday song and games. Distinguished Scholar, Rabbi Moshe Cohen will lead us in a lively discussion over our special dessert.

RSVP Required | Must cancel 48 hours prior to event  
O.N.E. Discount Does Not Apply  
Not Eligible for Corkage Card

QUICK AND EASY ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE 24/7!

RSVP on your computer, tablet or on the ClubLife app on your phone.  
Visit your app store on your phone and search for ClubCorp to download the app.  
Or call 760-324-9400

*Open to the community. Join us!*

\*Pre-packaged Kosher Dinners are available by special request only.

# Jewish Federation Women's Philanthropy

## Lion of Judah



Keynote speaker Carly Gammill, LOJ Chair Carol Fragen & LOJ Co-chair Fran Kaufman.

The 2020 Lion of Judah Brunch is Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at Tamarisk Country Club in Rancho Mirage. Attendance requires a minimum gift to Jewish Federation of the Desert's Annual Campaign of \$5000 (\$1200 to our Federation annual campaign for out-of-town Lions giving their Lion gift in their home communities).

Keynote speaker is Carly Gammill, the Director of the StandWithUs Center for Combating Anti-Semitism. Carol Fragen, Lion of Judah chair, notes, "Carly is a seasoned constitutional litigator with extensive experience handling matters involving free speech and religious liberties. She has assisted an array of clients in vindicating their legal interests, including students and professors, nonprofit organizations, and private citizens seeking access to public forums. In her legal work, Carly has been active in fighting anti-Semitism, including the anti-Israel, anti-Semitic BDS campaigns, on campuses, in court, and at the United Nations."

In addition to her role as the Center's director, Carly also serves the StandWithUs Saidoff Legal Department as Counsel for Litigation Strategy, advising the Department and consulting with its network of

pro bono attorneys on matters that may require formal legal action.

As a non-Jew, Carly's work combating anti-Semitism also stems from a deep personal conviction that the world--including people of other races and religions--cannot afford to stand by silently while the Jewish people are once again targeted, marginalized, demonized, and harmed.

Speaking to the women in our community who can participate as Lions, Lion of Judah co-chair Fran Kaufman addresses the important role of women giving on this level. "As a Lion of Judah woman and strong supporter of Federation, your contributions are the backbone of our annual campaign. The Jewish community here and around the world depends upon us and our very meaningful gifts. Remember the Lion of Judah is not just a pin to wear proudly, it is a symbol of our dedication and commitment to the Jewish people."

For more information about attending this very special event contact Leslie Pepper, Women's Philanthropy Coordinator, at [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

Women's Philanthropy  
**5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
WOMEN'S CARD DAY**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2019  
10 AM - 4 PM  
The Springs Country Club, Rancho Mirage

As the JCN goes to press the Card Day is almost completely sold out. If you want to attend, call Lynn at the Jewish Federation, 760-324-4737, to see if there still is room.



## Women's Philanthropy Leadership Kick Off Season



On November 12th Carol Horwich Luber, past Women's Philanthropy Chair, hosted a reception at her home for Women's Philanthropy's leadership. The festive late afternoon event brought 25 women – and some spouses – together to kick off the season and hear about the exciting events being planned for our community.

# Community Chanukah Celebrations

## **PJ Library (Jewish Federation)**

*Chanukah Party for families with young children at the Jewish Federation*

Sunday, December 22 4:30-6:00 pm Celebrate Chanukah with stories, songs, games and goodies to eat. RSVP 760-324-4737. See ad page 3.

## **Beth Shalom**

*"Latkes & Babkas"*

Saturday, December 28 6:30 pm Hanukkah Party Latke "bar" and Dessert Buffet, Menorah lighting and gift auction. Members: \$20/person; Non-members: \$25/person. Reservation deadline: December 24. Information: 760-200-3636.

## **Chabad of Palm Springs:**

*From Socrates to Sufganiot*

Thursday, December 19, 7:00 pm. What's the story with Chanukah? Explore historical and rabbinic sources with Boz Werdiger, to learn the context and core theme of this inspirational festival. 250 E Palm Canyon. \$10 donation suggested, but not required. RSVP to 760-550-5793.

*Drinks & Dreidels – Game Night!*

Tuesday, December 24, 6 pm. Looking for something to do tonight? Chabad isn't closed! Join us for a Chinese buffet binner, Menorah Lighting, board games, cocktails and plenty of dreidels. 250 E Palm Canyon. \$12 per child, \$20 per adult, RSVP at chabadps.com.

*Village Fest Menorah Lighting*

Thursday, December 26, 7:30 pm. Experience this Chanukah at the Palm Springs Street Fair (corner of Tahquitz & Palm Canyon) with Live Music, Kids' Crafts, Donuts and Chocolate Coins.

*Musical Havdalah Service*

Saturday Night, December 28, 7:00 pm. Come sing, celebrate, and light the Menorah together with Rabbi Arik and Chaya Denebeim, in their home. RSVP to RABBI@JEWISHPS.COM

## **Chabad of Rancho Mirage:**

*"Light Up Rancho Mirage"* with the Parachuting Dreidels and The Great Gelt Drop at The River on Sunday, December 22 at 5 pm.

*Lights & Latkes on Friday Night December 27.*

*"Lights & Strikes" Chanukah Bowling on Saturday night, December 28.*

## **Chabad in Sun City:**

*A Klezmer Chanukah*

Sunday, December 22, 5 pm. Chanukah Party with a live Klezmer and Jazz band, with a Latke Bar. Lakeview Clubhouse, Sun City Palm Desert. \$18, to reserve call 760-848-8250.

## **Temple Isaiah**

*Celebrate the First Night of Chanukah*

Sunday, December 22, 4:30 pm. Chanukah bingo, sing-along, raffle, dreidels and lots of latkes. \$12 per person. RSVP 760-325-2281. See ad page 4.

## **"Lights, Latkes and Hanukkah Fun"**

Dinner at Mission Hills Clubhouse, arranged by Michael and Judy Saywitz with Cantor David Propis and Rabbi Moshe Cohen. See ad page 5.



# 9 out of 10 US Jews Worry About Anti-Semitism, and Most Think It's Getting Worse

Times of Israel

Some nine out of 10 Jews in the United States believe anti-Semitism is a problem in the country, with widespread fear that it is on the rise, according to a recent survey by the American Jewish Committee. The survey is the largest and most comprehensive conducted among Jews on the topic of Jew-hatred in the US to date.

Thirty-eight percent of respondents to the AJC poll said anti-Semitism was a "very serious problem" and 50% said it was "somewhat of a problem" — adding up to 88%. Eighty-four percent said that anti-Semitism has increased over the last five years; 43% said that it

increased a lot over that time span.

The results were consistent across age groups, religious denominations, and political affiliation, with 84% of ultra-Orthodox, 80% of Modern Orthodox, 91% of Conservative, 94% of Reform, 92% of Reconstructionist, and 87% of secular Jews saying that anti-Semitism is a very serious or somewhat of a problem in the US today.

The survey, which has a margin of error of 4.2%, polled 1,283 respondents of Jewish religion or background over the age of 18 via telephone between September 11 and October 6, 2019.

It was released just days before

the first anniversary of the deadly shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue, which claimed the lives of 11 people on October 27, 2018.

"After the tragedies in Pittsburgh and Poway [California], coupled with increasing assaults on Jews in New York and elsewhere, as well as a more general sense that anti-Semitism is on the rise in politics, social media, universities, and elsewhere, we felt it was high time to survey American Jews on their perceptions of the issue," AJC CEO David Harris told The Times of Israel. "It was the right call. The results show why."

"The concern is deep and widespread. No such intensive

survey of American Jews has been done before. Now, instead of just having feelings and instincts, we have solid facts and data for use by political leaders, law enforcement officials, Jewish community activists, and others," he said.

## A Spreading Fear

A report released by the Anti-Defamation League said that the massacre at the Pittsburgh synagogue set off a chain of similar plots against Jews, with 12 white supremacists and two Islamic extremists being arrested for plotting, threatening, or carrying out anti-Semitic attacks in the US over the last year.

The ADL report also showed record levels of anti-Semitic incidents, with 780 known instances occurring in the first six months of 2019.

Thirty-one percent of Jews polled by the AJC said that they have refrained from wearing, carrying, or displaying things that may identify them as Jewish in public, and 25% have avoided certain locations, events, or situations out of concern for their safety or comfort as Jews.

A third of respondents said that Jewish institutions they are affiliated with have been the target of attacks, graffiti, or threats within the last five years. While they agree that law enforcement has provided an effective response, few American Jews targeted by anti-Semitism have turned to the police.

The far-right is seen as the biggest threat to US Jewry, with 89% of respondents concerned about far-right extremism and 49% calling it a "serious threat." Sixty-four percent said that the extreme left is a threat, with 15% calling it serious, and 85% of respondents said that radical Islam poses a threat, with 27% saying it is serious.



## Daryl Davis' "Accidental Kindness" honoring Tim Jochen, M.D. and Lee Erwin

March 15, 2020 • 6 pm  
Sponsor and VIP reception begins at 4 pm

Annenberg Theater at Palm Springs Art Museum



**Daryl Davis** is a blues musician with an interesting hobby! He has befriended white supremacists and neo-nazis... after befriending them they learn their hate may be misguided. He is featured in the PBS documentary *Accidental Kindness*.

### You Can Support this Event

**Sponsorship:** Starting at \$1,000

**Attending:** VIP \$200 • Show only \$75

**Advertising:** Place an ad in the tribute book starting at \$100 • Honor Tim Jochen, M.D., Lee Erwin, and JFS Desert

### Honoring Tim Jochen, M.D. and Lee Erwin from Contour Dermatology

These extraordinary men have generously contributed to our community as both philanthropists and business visionaries.



For more information or to purchase, please call  
(760) 325-4088 ext. 107 or visit our website at [JFSDesert.org](http://JFSDesert.org)



# Movies Can Be Early Detection System for Autism

Israeli researchers indicate that tracking gaze patterns is measurable, reliable and offers great clinical potential.

By Daniel Ben Tal, Israel 21c

Researchers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev have discovered a way to accurately identify nearly half of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) cases – by measuring children's gaze patterns as they watch movies.

In a new study, just published in Autism Research, the researchers demonstrated that children with ASD watch scenes featuring social interactions with significantly more variable gaze patterns than control groups. Children with ASD fixate less on faces in comparison to typically developing children, who observe faces, gestures, body movements and objects that are relevant to the social interaction and its narrative.

While typically developing children usually agree on where and when to look at specific locations in a frame, children with ASD exhibit relatively idiosyncratic gaze patterns. Moreover, their gaze patterns are remarkably inconsistent not only between individuals, but also across movie presentations – when children with ASD watch the same movie repeatedly, they have more variable and inconsistent gaze patterns.

Abnormal, idiosyncratic gaze patterns were most pronounced when ASD children observed real-life unedited interactions of other children – making the findings particularly relevant to real-life social situations.

The largest differences across ASD and control groups were apparent when using a realistic video containing a social interaction between two sisters (two and five years-old) in a messy room with

everyday objects.

## Eye tracking for clinical use

"Eye tracking is likely to be one of the first technologies that will be incorporated into clinical use for assessment of ASD symptoms," explains Prof. Ilan Dinstein, of BGU's Departments of Psychology and Cognitive and Brain Sciences and director of Israel's National Autism Research Center, "but it needs to be optimized to identify and quantify specific ASD symptoms."

According to the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC), one in 59 children in the U.S. has ASD.

"Taken together, these results demonstrate that ASD children with more severe symptoms exhibit larger gaze idiosyncrasy," Dinstein says. "This can aid not only in early detection of autism, but also in assessing changes in ASD severity over time and in response to treatments. Such measures, which objectively measure symptoms directly from the child, are critically lacking in today's clinical trials of autism treatments."

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

VOTED #1 IN QUALITY  
SINCE 1987

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

**760-568-1673**

Bonded • Insured • Lic #764608



**AMERICAN ASSOCIATES**  
**Ben-Gurion University**  
*of the Negev*

**Prof. Amir Shapiro**  
Director, Robotics and Control Laboratory  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

*presents*

# THE FUTURE OF HOMELAND SECURITY RELIES ON ROBOTS

**February 5, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.**  
Palm Valley School  
35-525 Da Vall Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

RSVP by calling Jewish Federation at 760-324-4737 or  
email [Gloria.benavides@jfedps.org](mailto:Gloria.benavides@jfedps.org)



Jewish Federation  
OF THE DESERT



Part of the UCR Jewish Studies Lecture Series 2020

**NEXT LECTURE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26**

**Professor Dan Blumberg**

Vice President of Regional Development; Director, Homeland Security Institute  
Head, Earth and Planetary Image Facility - Ben Gurion University of the Negev

**'START-UP NEGEV: ISRAEL'S HIGH-TECH & CYPER SECURITY HUB'**

# Global Trends in Anti-Semitism: Left-Wing, Right-Wing, and Islamist Extremist Threats Around the World

Sponsored by the Helene and Melvin Berman Lecture Series

Susan Heller Pinto is Associate Director of ADL's International Affairs Division and Director of the Department of Middle Eastern Affairs. In this capacity, she evaluates and interprets international issues and events and develops ADL positions and programs on these matters. She serves as a liaison to the Jewish community, media and government on issues such as global anti-Semitism, Israeli-Arab relations, U.S.-Israel relations, the BDS campaign and other efforts to delegitimize Israel.

RSVP to [onagel@adl.org](mailto:onagel@adl.org)  
by December 2, 2019

For questions, contact Oriane at  
[onagel@adl.org](mailto:onagel@adl.org) or 310.446.4243

## Susan Heller Pinto,

*ADL Associate Director of International  
Affairs Division and Director of the  
Department of Middle Eastern Affairs*

2:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, December 3, 2019  
Temple Isaiah  
332 W Alejo Road  
Palm Springs, CA 92262



Jewish Federation  
OF THE DESERT



TEMPLE ISAIAH  
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

## DID YOU KNOW?

All monies received from Tribute Card purchases go into our SPECIAL MITZVAH FUND, which enables the Jewish Federation of the Desert to respond to emergency needs of Jews living in our community.

Sending Tribute Cards is a wonderful way to thank, extend good wishes, offer condolences or recognize a special occasion.



To send a Tribute Card, call the Jewish Federation: 760-324-4737.



SHOTTEKIRK  
DESERT LEXUS



### Let Us Earn Your Business

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

68-068 Kyle Rd. Cathedral City,  
CA 92234  
In The Cathedral City Auto Center  
(760) 321-5750 • [desertlexus.com](http://desertlexus.com)

# New Device Can Sniff Out Deadly Food Allergens in 30 Seconds

Food allergies are rising dramatically around the world. One startup thinks it may have the solution – a device that acts like a mini nose sniffing food for dangerous allergens.

By Brian Blum, Israel 21c

Food allergies are serious business. In the United States alone, 32 million people suffer from allergies from a variety of foods, with peanuts being the most common. This results in some 300,000 emergency visits a year – a new visit every three minutes. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that 6% of children under the age of 18 have food allergies, an increase of more than 50% in the last decade alone. Worldwide, around 250 million people have food allergies.

What's needed is a fast and inexpensive way to scan one's surroundings such as a plane, a school classroom or, when dining out, a plate of food served in a restaurant, for potentially fatal allergic triggers. That's what an Israeli startup, Allerguard, is doing.

## A virtual nose

The company is developing a small device, the size of a TV or air-conditioner remote control, that acts as a kind of virtual nose, sniffing the environment for specific allergens.

"We needed to invent something that people with food allergies will actually use. The user experience must be very good. Innovation by itself will not work."

Allerguard "smells" a dish, scanning for allergens in a gaseous form. "Allerguard analyzes the scent of the food, then alerts the user when a specific chemical signature is detected," Hershkovich explains.

## Russian Roulette

This gives Allerguard another important advantage: it can analyze an entire plate of food. "If there is

only a tiny crumb of peanut, a few drops of soy sauce or a small number of sesame seeds, the chance of a physical sample detecting it is less than one percent," Hershkovich says. "It's like Russian Roulette," playing with a food allergy sufferer's life.

Allerguard's device is meant to be waved over a plate of food; it delivers results (indicated by a green or red light) in 30 seconds. The design will have to be hip enough for even the most trend-sensitive teenager to use. "It's a medical device, but we don't want the user to be labeled as someone with a problem," Hershkovich explains. "We'll brand it as a fashion item."

Part of making it fashionable is price. Hershkovich says the Allerguard device's target price is \$150. You then have to buy single use "cards" to insert for each sensing event. There will be different cards for different food allergies and, ultimately, multi-allergen cards (some 20-30% of people with food allergies are sensitive to more than one food), although the company is starting with the biggest allergy category: peanuts.

Allerguard's cards will be priced under \$1. "We don't want people to worry, should I use it on this dish?" Hershkovich says. "We want everyone to use it every time." Ideally, users will be able to buy a pack of sensor cards in their local pharmacy. Allerguard is looking into online subscription models, as well.

The Allerguard device itself smells the gases but processing is done online – the device will need to send data on the molecular structure it's sniffed to the Allerguard cloud where

artificial intelligence algorithms will determine if it's safe to consume or not. (That means it won't work if you're hiking in a remote part of the Himalayas with no Internet connectivity). Only molecular data is shared, which has the added benefit of making the AI smarter); Allerguard won't collect any personally identifying information.

Founded in 2016, Allerguard's business headquarters is in Tel Aviv, although its main research facility is on Kibbutz Dalia, near Yokneam, in the lower Galilee.

"It's much cheaper than in the center and I prefer to spend money on R&D activities than on shiny floors," Hershkovich quips. The company has five employees and has raised a total of \$2.2 million, including a \$1.5 million round in October.

The most recent funding was led by Coshare with participation from the Israel Innovation Authority and eHealth Ventures, a consortium of medical organizations including pharmaceutical giant Amgen, the prestigious Cleveland Clinic, Medison Pharma in Israel and Shanghai Creation Investment in China. That investment got a boost when Allerguard won the eHealth Ventures Digital Health Innovation Award in 2017.

Hershkovich and the company's CTO Guy Ayal came to Allerguard



The Allerguard device is the size of a TV remote control.

from the semiconductor industry: both worked for TowerJazz, among other high-tech firms. It makes sense for a company building a commercial sensor that combines silicon with chemistry. Indeed, Allerguard's "cards" can be swapped out like a SIM card in a mobile phone.

Allerguard still has another 18 months of R&D ahead, with commercialization adding to the launch timeframe. "It's a very complex product with many challenges," Hershkovich admits, "combining hardware with advanced software, semiconductor materials and chemistry."

## Making allergy sufferers feel normal

Hershkovich envisions Allerguard going beyond questions of life, death and the ER. It's about allowing a person with food allergies to feel normal. Parents of children with food allergies share stories about restaurants refusing to serve them. "They don't want to get sued," Hershkovitz explains. On other occasions, children with allergies can be excluded from parties, events or trips. "Think about how that child feels."





# Shabbat Schedule - December 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.

**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 Avenida 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

**CHABAD OF SUN CITY PALM DESERT**  
Rabbi Yonason Denebeim.  
Weekly Shabbat services in homes.  
For information on location call 760-848-8250.  
Most Fridays: Shabbat Dinner with the Denebeims. Call to reserve 760-848-8250.

**CONGREGATION HAR-EL** (Member, Union for Reform Judaism)  
Rabbi Richard Zionts;  
Cantor Joseph Gole  
harelurjpd@gmail.com  
760-779-1691. Mailing address:  
P.O. Box 564, Palm Desert, CA 92261. Shabbat service at 5:00 pm, followed by oneg at 5:30 pm. December Services 6, 13, 20.

**CONGREGATION SHALOM BAYIT** (Reform)  
Rabbi Kenneth Milhandler,  
1320 W. Williams Ave.,  
Banning, CA 92220.  
Contact 951-392-5380.  
Shabbat Service 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday/  
Havdallah 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday evening.

**DESERT HOT SPRINGS**  
Monthly Shabbat evening service with Rabbi Faith Tessler October-May at Mission Lakes Country Club at 7:00 pm. Call Jewish Federation for service schedule.

**DESERT OUTREACH SYNAGOGUE**  
Rabbi Jules King; Cantor Lori Reisman Patterson. Meet at UC Riverside/Palm Desert Campus auditorium, 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive (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.

**OR HAMIDBAR**  
Rabbi David Lazar  
Kabbalat Shabbat services first, second and fourth Fridays of the month at 6:30 pm at the United Methodist Church of Palm Springs, 1555 E Alejo Rd. Shabbat Morning Study and Prayer every second and fourth Saturday at a private residence. Address provided on RSVP to info@orhamidbar.org.

**SUN CITY JEWISH SERVICES**  
Rabbi Kenneth Emert;  
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. Services held at St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church, 25525 Taquitz Drive, Idyllwild, CA.

**TEMPLE ISAIAH**  
Rabbi Steven Rosenberg;  
Cantorial Soloist Gerry Noriega.  
332 West Alejo Road, Palm Springs, CA 92262, 760-325-2281. www.templeisaiahps.com. Shabbat evening: 7:30 pm Shabbat Services, followed by oneg. Fourth Friday: Shabbat services around the dinner table, at 6:30 pm, followed by dairy potluck dinner. Saturday morning: 9:00 am "Nosh and Drash" torah study followed by services at 10:00 am. Kiddush follows services.

**TEMPLE SINAI** (Reform)  
Rabbi Andrew Bentley  
73-251 Hovley Lane West,  
Palm Desert, CA 92260.  
www.templesinaipd.org  
760-568-9699.  
Friday evening services: 5:30 pm.  
Saturdays: 8:45 am Torah study;  
10 am Shabbat services.

**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 - December 2019

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.

## Sundays

Chabad of Palm Springs: 8:45 am: **Sunday Breakfast Club.** Start off the Week with the ancient Jewish tradition of Bagels, Lox - and Tefillin! 250 E Palm Canyon, Palm Springs. RSVP 760-550-5793.

Chabad Rancho Mirage Children's programs: **CTeen** Global Teen network offering social educational and humanitarian program.

**CTeen Jr.** for 6-8 graders: Educational and social programming.

**C Kids** ages 3-12. Meets Sundays 10 am to 12:30 pm. Trips, art, cooking, teaching life skills. Check website: [www.chabadrm.com/kids](http://www.chabadrm.com/kids); or all 760-272-1923 or email [Chaya@chabadrm.com](mailto:Chaya@chabadrm.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. RSVP 760-636-2897 or [rabbibenny@chabadrm.com](mailto:rabbibenny@chabadrm.com).

**7:00 pm** Chabad of Palm Springs

## Monday Journey with the

**Prophets.** 250 E Palm Canyon, Palm Springs. Weekly Lessons for Life and Judaism Today. Presenter: Boz Werdiger, 760-550-5793 .

**7:00-8:00 pm** Chabad Palm Springs program: text based study on **Maimonide's Fundamentals of Judaism**, led by Rabbi Moishe Witkes. For location call or text 760-412-1005.

## Wednesdays:

**3:00 pm** Or Hamidbar **Torah Teachings** with Rabbi David Lazar at a private residence. Address provided with reservation. RSVP to [info@orhamidbar.org](mailto:info@orhamidbar.org).

**Saturdays, 1:00-3:00 pm** Temple Isaiah **Jewish University.** Series of Saturday afternoon study programs led by Rabbi Steven Rosenberg. Call 760-325-2281 for details and enrollment.

## December 2, December 9

**Evening** Aleph Academy Lecture Series: **Marriage and Time; The Split Jewish Identity; Why Pray?**

@ The Aleph Schoolhouse, Santa Rosa Way 73550. Presenter: Boz Werdiger, RSVP 760-550-5793.

## Tuesday, December 3

**2:00 pm ADL Lecture** At Temple Isaiah, Palm Springs. RSVP to [ADL: onagel@adl.org](mailto:onagel@adl.org) by December 2nd.

## Wednesday, December 4

**11:00 am Tolerance Education Center** Film Screening "And Now Love"

## Thursday, December 5

**9:30 am** Sabra Hadassah (program begins 10:00 am) meeting. Installation of Officers and Ken Hailpern telling the "real story" of Chanukah. \$18. Information: Call 760-360-8465.

## Thursday, December 5

**4:00 pm** Beth Shalom **Book Club Discussion** "The Cut Out Girl: A Story of War and Family, Lost and Found" by Bart Van Es. Discussion led by **Gwen Schall**. New members and guests welcome. Information: 760-200-3636.

## Tuesday, December 3

**4:00-6:00 pm** Jewish National Fund **Major Donor Reception** with "Mr. Basketball" – Tal Brody, at the Ritz Carlton, Rancho Mirage.

## Wednesday, December 4,

**3:30-5 PM** Har-El. "A Recent U.S. Supreme Court Case and Its Constitutionality" - A discussion on the constitutionality of religious symbols in public, tax-supported institutions. Presenters: Steve Moyer, J.D. and Phil Drucker, J.D.

## Monday, December 9

Jewish Family Service Patron Party

## Monday, December 16

**1:00 am Tolerance Education Center** Anthropologist Rosa Weinstein, "WWII Jewish Bragade"

*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.*

# 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](http://smile.amazon.com) 2. Register Jewish Federation of the Desert as your favorite charity 3. Shop! 4. Bookmark the [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) page and don't forget to only shop through this link! We earn .5% of each purchase.**



**Jewish Federation**  
OF THE DESERT

*We appreciate your support!*

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

# 10 Promising Developments That Can Help Alzheimer's Patients

By Abigail Klein Leichman, Israel 21c

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common cause of the 9.9 million new cases of dementia diagnosed each year worldwide. The disease primarily strikes the elderly population, affecting 30 percent of those over age of 85.

AD impacts memory, thinking and language skills, and even the ability to carry out simple tasks.

The disease occurs when a protein called amyloid beta aggregates in brain tissues. These protein clumps kill nerve cells, leading to damage in the brain-function mechanisms.

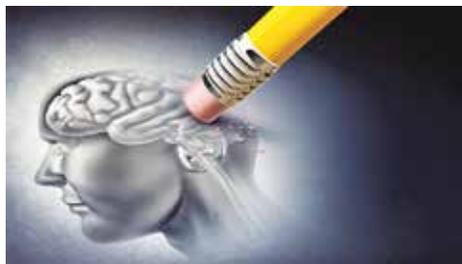
Here are 10 examples of promising Israeli approaches reported within the past two years designed to prevent, diagnose and treat the progressive and incurable brain disorder.

## PREVENTION

Various genetic, lifestyle and environmental factors can put a person at risk for AD. Among them are diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, smoking, depression, cognitive inactivity or low education, and physical inactivity.

Preventing the onset of AD is the focus of these approaches:

A potential **anti-Alzheimer's vaccine** is being developed in Prof. Eitan Okun's Paul E. Feder Alzheimer's Research Lab at Bar-Ilan University. Most vaccines work by mounting an immune response toward a weakened pathogen to boost the immune system's ability to fight the real pathogen. Okun's approach primes the body to attack amyloid beta protein clumps in the brain, the signature sign of AD.



Following experiments on mice, Okun is preparing for human trials on people at known risk of developing the disease in their 50s or younger: those genetically inclined toward Alzheimer's and people with Down syndrome.

"These critical trials will determine whether the vaccine actually works in humans," said Okun. "Depending on the success rate and side effects from [human] testing, we will be able to know how much more time is needed to make the vaccine available on a global scale."

Okun also is investigating new ways to diagnose AD earlier and more accurately using advanced MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) technologies to detect initial signs of amyloid protein aggregation in the brain.

**Combining two FDA-approved drugs** that protect the blood-brain barrier (BBB) could potentially prevent neurological disorders including stroke and Alzheimer's disease. Introduced by BGN Technologies of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, the novel therapy hinges on the fact that a malfunctioning BBB allows neurotoxic blood products to enter the brain and cause damage leading to neurological diseases.

The lab of Prof. Alon Friedman discovered that treating the BBB at early stages can protect the brain

and prevent disease development.

Their proposed treatment would combine Memantine and Losartan, which have been shown in preclinical studies to protect the integrity of the BBB when administered together. Partners are being sought to continue development.

Researchers at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and Bar-Ilan University have developed a novel delivery system for a protein known to inhibit the development of Alzheimer's disease. This approach was presented in a recent cover story of the journal *Small*. **Nanoscale silicon chips** invented in Prof. Ester Segal's lab allow for the direct insertion of neural growth factor protein into the brain and its gradual release into the target tissue, bypassing the BBB. Afterward delivering all the therapeutic protein loaded onto them, the chips safely dissolve.

"In a series of experiments, we showed in mice that the two ways of delivering the platform into the brain led to the desired result," said Technion doctoral student Michal Rosenberg. "Our technology has also been tested in a cellular model of Alzheimer's disease and indeed, the protein release has led to rescuing the nerve cells."

## DIAGNOSIS

PET scans and spinal taps are now the gold standard for diagnosing AD. They're both expensive and carry risks.

Cheaper, noninvasive tests being developed in Israel also could be critical in providing a much earlier

diagnosis, when treatment would be most effective.

**RetiSpec** was built on the premise that noninvasively and inexpensively scanning a person's retina can diagnose AD at an earlier stage. That's because the same beta-amyloid proteins that clump in the brain of AD patients appear in the retina of the eyes up to 15 years before the onset of AD symptoms.

RetiSpec developed the retinal scanner at the Ontario Brain Institute in Canada. Clinical studies are ongoing in Israel and Canada. In October, RetiSpec received the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation's Diagnostics Accelerator Award to fund continued development of its hyperspectral imaging technology.

A **new MRI technique** that records molecular changes in brain tissue could aid early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, researchers from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem recently reported in *Nature Communications*.

"This could allow doctors to compare brain scans taken over time from the same patient, and to differentiate between healthy and diseased brain tissue, without resorting to invasive or dangerous procedures such as brain tissue biopsies," explained lead researcher Dr. Aviv Mezer.

An artificially intelligent **chatbot named Clara** could help detect early signs of AD, says Dr. Shahar Arzy, director of the computational neuropsychiatry lab at Hadassah Hebrew University Medical Center

*continued on next page*

continued from previous page

in Jerusalem.

Clara is based on a relatively recent understanding that AD affects the brain's "orientation system" before it affects memory.

"The overlap between how the self is oriented to the world and the brain mechanisms that are disturbed by Alzheimer's disease is astonishing," Arzy told ISRAEL21c.

Clara asks patients questions about themselves and their relationships to people, places and events. It then compares that information to a baseline and generates a computer-based test tailored for the individual that can diagnose very early Alzheimer's.

According to a study Arzy's team published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and in the American Psychological Association's journal *Neuropsychology*, Clara is 95 percent accurate.

Clara is now in the midst of a five-year test at Harvard to compare data generated by the system with data from AD markers taken via amyloid PET scan, quantitative and functional MRI and other neuropsychological tests.

Dr. Efraim Jaul, director of geriatric skilled nursing at Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem, noticed that patients with dementia — especially those

with AD — seemed more prone to developing pressure ulcers (bedsores).

Jaul and Oded Meiron (a cognitive neuroscientist who heads the Electrophysiology and Neurocognition Lab in Herzog's Clinical Research Center for Brain Sciences) published an article in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease* outlining their discovery of the link between the two conditions.

The reason is that the abnormal changes in the brain that lead to dementia are happening in other parts of the body, including the skin. Skin tissue and brain tissue derive from the same embryonic stem cells.

Jaul and Meiron are working with an American company to develop a test to identify a biomarker for abnormal cell density in the skin of dementia patients. They hope that this skin test could pinpoint an individual's type and stage of dementia. The biomarkers show the most promise in identifying AD, they say.

### TREATMENT

A variety of approved medications for AD — including Exelon, developed in Israel — cannot cure or stop the progression of the disease. They only relieve or delay AD symptoms, such as

memory loss and confusion.

A few Israeli pharmaceuticals under development aim to improve Alzheimer treatment options.

**Hyperbaric oxygen therapy** may ease symptoms commonly experienced by people with AD, according to a Tel Aviv University study.

Breathing in pure oxygen in a pressurized room or chamber stimulates the release of growth factors and stem cells, which promote healing.

"This revolutionary treatment for Alzheimer's disease uses a hyperbaric oxygen chamber, which has been shown in the past to be extremely effective in treating wounds that were slow to heal," said lead researcher Prof. Uri Ashery.

Ashery's group tested the therapy on a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease. The treatment was found to reduce behavioral deficiencies compared to control mice.

Remarkably, the treatment also reduced plaque pathology and neuroinflammation in the test mice by about 40 percent.

Further research will investigate the underlying mechanisms of the therapy and evaluate its beneficial effects in Alzheimer patients.

**ProteKt Therapeutics** recently received \$3.6 million to further

develop a drug that could enhance long-term memory in cases of mild cognitive impairment, traumatic brain injury and neurological disorders such as AD.

Incubated at FutuRx in Ness Ziona, ProteKt was spun out of PKR kinase inhibitor research by University of Haifa Prof. Kobi Rosenblum. Inhibition of the enzyme PKR is a unique idea for improving memory consolidation.

Research from Tel Aviv University suggests it may be possible to reverse the protein clumping involved in neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

Protein aggregation tends to increase with age and can lead to neurodegeneration because proteins "can adopt an erroneous configuration, where they're misfolded," explains Prof. Martin Kupiec.

The paper he and his colleagues published in *Molecular Cell* describes how removing glucose from a particular aggregated protein made the blob dissolve.

If the results can be replicated in more complex proteins, scientists will have a new research avenue toward treatments that could reverse the neurodegenerative effect of protein aggregates, Kupiec says.

**החכם**  
**THE SAGE**



You look deep in thought.



I have difficult questions for these difficult times.

760-779-1691 • hareljrp@gmail.com



Come with me to Har-El on Friday, December 20 at 5 PM for Music Shabbat and a Borns Scholar Presentation by Dr. Steven Windmueller on "Some Tough Questions for Uncertain Times."



Let's go to the Service and Presentation. I will RSVP today by email. Should we plan to stay for the Potato Latke Reception?

YES! It is a date!



**HAR-EL**  
*An Institute for Study and Worship in the Reform Tradition*

Member, Union for Reform Judaism

For information about Services, Programs & Galen Har-El Courses, email hareljrp@gmail.com or call 760-779-1691. !



# 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:

- **Bobbi Block**, Belated birthday wishes from Barbara Platt.
- **Rabbi and Mrs. Yonason Denebeim**, Mazel tov to you and the new bride and groom, from Barbara Platt.
- **Wendy Hahn and John Whinnery**, Thank you from Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis.
- **Roberta Holland**, Thank you from Gloria and Michael Scoby.
- **Ruth and Mal Kaufman**, Best wishes for the forthcoming wedding of your grandson, from Eunice and Jerry Meister.
- **Roberta Nyman**, Belated birthday wishes from Barbara Platt.
- **Larry and Cathy Pitts**, Mazel tov for your family addition, from Ellen and Phil Glass.
- **Barbara Platt**, Happy birthday from Sandra and Bob Borns.
- **Mr. and Mrs. Peter Samuels**, Happy 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary from Loreen Jacobson, Arlene and Irwin Volk.
- **Myra and Mickie Sanderman**, Thank you from Marjorie Kulp.
- **Sherry and Howard Schor**, Thank you for giving us the opportunity to hear Kol Nidre, from Eunice and Jerry Meister.
- **Eskie Shepard**, Thank you from Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis.
- **Jane and Larry Sherman**, Thank you from Gloria and Michael Scoby.
- **Helen Weisberg**, Wishing you a joyful birthday, from Daniel Weisberg and David Klingenberg.

## Refuah Shleimah Get Well Wishes To:

- **Nancy Ditlove**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Cora Ginsberg
- **Peggy Greenbaum**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Cora Ginsberg, Margot and Jerry Halperin, Eunice and Jerry Meister, Barbara Platt and Norm Lewis.
- **Reva Levy**, Wishing you a speedy recovery, from Cora Ginsberg, Harold and Mimi Paley.

## Memoriam Tributes Condolences Sent To:

- **Marcio Baggio**, In memory of your beloved mother, from Harriet Goldberg and Michael Depper.
- **Rhonda Bland and Family**, Thinking of you at this difficult time, from Barbara and Bernie Fromm (Fromm Jewish Youth Enrichment Fund).
- **Hal Gershowitz**, Condolences on the loss of your writing partner and friend, from Harold and Mimi Paley.
- **Nancy Katz and Family**, In loving memory of our cousin, from Dr. and Mrs. Edward Kroll.
- In memory of **Edie Keller**, from Mark and Cindy Halperin and Barbara Platt.
- **Joan and Pat Kerns and Family**, In memory of your beloved brother Jim, from Margot and Jerry Halperin, Libby and Buddy Hoffman, Gail and Bob Scadron.
- **Celia Norian**, In loving memory of your beloved husband Sandy, from Bill Amplo and Bill Snellenberger, Judy Appelbaum, Lynda and Trevor Bailey, Gail and John Banigan, Nat and Miriam Bent, Rabbi Andrew & Beth Bentley, Patricia Blaszkowski, Robert and Sandra Borns, Michelle and Don Carafiol, Joanne and Bill Chunowitz, Chuck and Karen Cohen, Michelle Coneybear, Terry and Norm Dean, Roy and Karen Delay, Mary L. Field-Wirt, James L. Fisher, Barbara and Bernie Fromm

(donation to Fromm Jewish Youth Enrichment Fund), Cora Ginsberg, Carol Glickman, Harriet Goldberg and Michael Depper, Ken Hailpern, Mark and Cindy Hailpern, Libby and Buddy Hoffman, Carol Horwich Lubner, Jewish Federation Staff, Fran and Mark Kaufman, Rabbi Yankel and Rochel Kreiman, Stephen & Margie Kulp, Elaine Leib, Mary Levine, Barbara Linski and Elizabeth Moore, Betsy and John Maccarthy, Ayala Marks, Linn Menne, Douglas Morton, Alana Sue Nockenson, Roberta and Allan Nyman, Margie Orland, Leslie Pepper, Barbara Platt, Kathleen Reyes and Family, Dr. Paul and Stephanie Ross, Linda Sage, Gail and Bob Scadron, Phyllis and Gary Schahet, Sherry and Howard Schor, Mark and Maureen Schrader, Sandy Seplow, Pauline Trimarco, Daniel Weisberg and David Klingenberg, and Ellen Weiss.

- **David Pelzman**, In loving memory of your beloved husband Kirk, from Harriet Goldberg and Michael Depper.
- **Sherry Salzman and Family**, In memory of your beloved husband Alan, from Barbara and Bernie Fromm (Fromm Jewish Youth Enrichment Fund).
- **Sherri Shovers**, In memory of your dear father Sandy Norian, from the Russell Family and your Chavurah: Jody and David, Debbie and Sam, Lori and Joel and Frances.
- **Myra Taxman and Family**, In memory of your beloved husband Royal, from Dr. Leon Ampel and Bette Cooper, Barbara and Bernie Fromm (Fromm Jewish Youth Enrichment Fund), Ellen and Phil Glass, Libby and Buddy Hoffman, Loreen Jacobson, Eunice and Jerry Meister, Marnie Miller and Joe Noren, Gail and Bob Scadron, Sherry and Howard Schor.
- **Devorah Weinstein**, In memory of Ron Weinstein from Ron and Dani Cukier.
- In memory of **Harvey and Lucille Weisberg** by Barry Weisberg.
- **Debbie Wexelman**, in loving memory of your mother Rena, from Sharon and David Lyman.

# Norway Coalition Party Launches Action to Cut Funds to Palestinian Education

By IMPACT-se

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, Norway's most influential paper, Aftenposten, reported that following their exposé about the Palestinian curriculum in an interview with IMPACT-se and meetings with parliamentarians, legislators are taking action. They report the Progress Party has asked for a reserve on Norwegian aid to the Palestinian Ministry of Education until the textbooks are changed. In an editorial published November 14, Aftenposten demanded that Norway and other donors place financial pressure on the Palestinian Authority.

Palestinian Authority Deputy Minister of Education, Basri Saleh, in a follow-up interview with Aftenposten November 14<sup>th</sup>, was caught falsely claiming to a reporter that controversial examples from the textbooks were removed.



**Aftenposten Newspaper headline**

Aftenposten fact-checked the electronic editions available online, to find that they are still there. (This is a long-standing controversy, with IMPACT-se having briefed the Norwegian Consul-General to the PA about the contents of the textbooks two years ago, in December 2017).

In a radio interview Parliament Member Geir Toskedal remarked: "It was scary and shocking to see the content of the new schoolbooks. This is indoctrination and propaganda



**Faedrelandsvennen Newspaper editorial**

... The new schoolbooks are much more radical. We have tried with dialogue for 25 years. We have to evaluate if we should give aid money for this."

An editorial published November 13<sup>th</sup> in the influential Fædrelandsvennen newspaper also weighed in on the controversial schoolbooks. The

editorial concludes that Norway should stop giving aid money until schoolbooks are changed.

Norway is a major donor to the Palestinian Authority Ministry of Education, along with the European Union, Germany, and the UK. Norway contributes NOK 55 million a year in direct support to Palestinian education authorities. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs plans to provide NOK 220 million by 2022.

IMPACT-se researches school textbooks, teachers' guides, and curricula to assess whether young people are being educated to accept others—be it their neighbors, minorities and even their nation's enemies, and to solve conflicts through negotiation and compromise while rejecting hatred and violence.

## Seen Around Town



**ABOVE: Tennis at Tamarisk has begun**



**LEFT: Sunday schmooze over lox, bagels and coffee with Rabbi Baruch Werdiger**



**TOP RIGHT: Havdallah and S'mores for Sukkot at Rabbi Arik and Chaya Denebeim's home**

**ABOVE: Rosh Chodosh at Chabad of Sun City**

**RIGHT: Learning the Aleph Bet (for both kiddie's pics)**



# Israeli Appointed as Vice President of International Astronautical Federation

By Eytan Halon

For the first time, an Israeli citizen has been appointed as a vice president of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), a leading Paris-based space advocacy organization. The appointment of Dr. Deganit Paikowsky, an expert on international



**Dr. Deganit Paikowsky**

relations and space policy, as one of the body's 12 vice presidents was announced at the 70th International Astronautical Congress in Washington. Paikowsky will serve a three-year term.

Founded in 1951, the advocacy organization has 366 members

in 68 countries, including space agencies, companies, research institutions, universities, societies and museums. The body encourages the international development of astronautics for peaceful purposes and supports the sharing of space-related scientific and technical information.

"Your selection is a spectacular personal achievement," said Science and Technology Minister Ofir Akunis, "but also a huge accomplishment and a tremendous expression of the international community's confidence in the State of Israel, its impact on the space industry, and the State of Israel's achievements in state-of-the-art technology and research."

Paikowsky has previously served as the coordinator of several national committees for formulating Israel's national space policy, including the "President's Team" for formulating policies which serve as the basis for the Ministry of Science's Space Agency activities, and the committee to examine national space programs after the Amos-6 satellite exploded on takeoff in September 2016.

Today Paikowsky is a visiting researcher at the Space Policy Institute at The George Washington University and teaches at Tel Aviv University's master's program in Diplomacy and Security Studies.



There is no app to  
replace your lap

READ TO YOUR CHILDREN

A message brought to you by



Powered by

Jewish Federation of the Desert



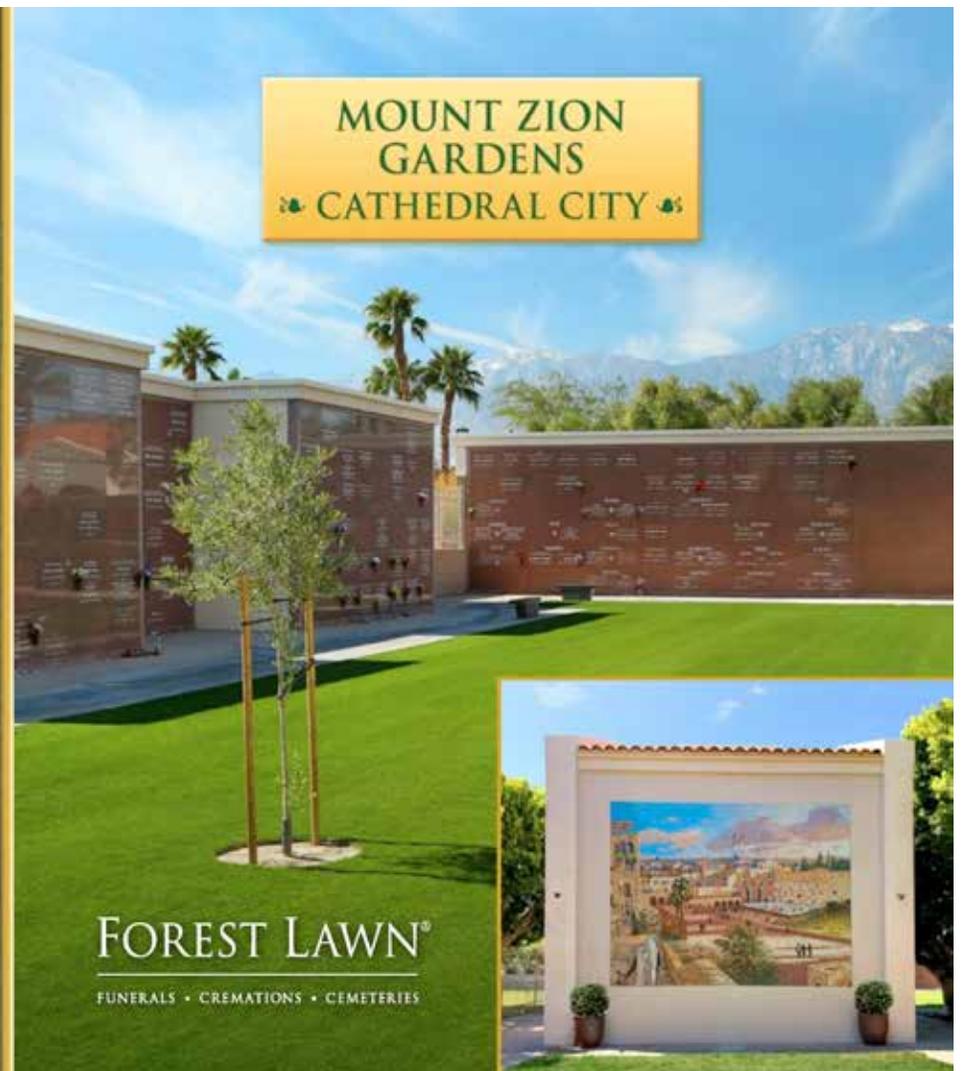
The PJ Library program offers the gift of free high-quality Jewish books and music each month the children ages 6 months through 8 years. PJ Library books celebrate important aspects of Jewish culture, values and tradition and become cherished bedtime stories. Sign up online at [www.pjlibrary.org](http://www.pjlibrary.org) today. For more information about PJ Library programs in our community contact Leslie Pepper at 760-324-4737 or email [leslie.pepper@jfedps.org](mailto:leslie.pepper@jfedps.org).

## NEW CEMETERY PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

- A special property dedicated to Jewish traditional burials
- In-ground "double depth" garden spaces
- And a beautiful mosaic of the Western Wall of Israel created by Italian artisans.

*Property Savings Available*

69855 E. RAMON ROAD  
CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92234  
**800-204-3131**



# Israeli Hospital Donates Equipment and Know-how to Nepal

Physicians from Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center came to Kathmandu to lead courses in neonatology, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology.

By Abigail Klein Leichman, Israel 21c

Five physicians from Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center recently brought medical equipment to Kathmandu and shared their expertise on women's and children's health with the medical staffs of two local hospitals.

Sponsored by the Embassy of Israel in Nepal, the Israeli team led a week of workshops and continuing medical education courses in neonatology, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology. They taught the Nepali medical professionals how to use the new lifesaving technologies they donated.

Senior gynecologist Dr. Ronit



Israeli and Indian doctors at Dhulikhel Hospital in Nepal, September 2019.

Almog said this was the fifth such past year.

foreign delegation sent out by Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center in the "Our aim is to reduce fetal and maternal morbidity and mortality in

developing nations," she said. "We met warm and welcoming medical teams and had a great cooperation. We saw a very good health level and system in Nepal and look forward to future mutual cooperation."

Dr. Shyam Sundar Dhaubhadel, founder and president of Siddhi Memorial Foundation – which provides accessible healthcare services for women and children through Siddhi Memorial Hospital– compared the two nations to siblings. "Nepal is a toddler; Israel is a grown-up sister that has to share her expertise."

# Faroe Islands Set to Recognize Jerusalem as Israel's Capital

By Algemeiner Staff

The Faroe Islands is planning to establish an official diplomatic mission in Jerusalem and recognize the long-contested city as Israel's capital, the Danish newspaper Politiken reported on November 15th.

The foreign minister of the self-governing archipelago in the North



Tórshavn, the capital of the Faroe Islands.

Atlantic Ocean – which is part of the

Kingdom of Denmark — was quoted as saying the goal was to open the Jerusalem office in September or October 2020.

In the nearly two years since US President Donald Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital and subsequently moved the American

embassy to there from Tel Aviv, several countries have made noises about following suit, but only Guatemala has turned word into deed.

**760.880.9987**  
**CARLOSKINGINTERIORDESIGN.COM**  
**"bold edge and sophisticated"**  
**CARLOS KING**  
**INTERIOR DESIGN**

## Community Schools

### Aleph Academy Religious School

A Project of Jewish Sunshine Circle  
 Director: Shaindy Friedman  
 73-550 Santa Rosa Way,  
 Palm Desert, CA 92260  
[alephacademy.org](http://alephacademy.org)  
 760-413-4425

### Aleph Schoolhouse

Director: Dina Pinson  
 73-550 Santa Rosa Way, Palm Desert  
 Children 18 months through  
 Elementary School  
[Alephschoolhouse.org](http://Alephschoolhouse.org)  
 347-721-8782

### Hebrew High

(High school foreign language credit)  
 Director: Rabbi Boz Werdiger  
 Classes held in Palm Desert.  
 Call 760-550-5793  
 for information

### Temple Sinai Religious School

Principal: Arava Talve  
 73-251 Hovley Lane West,  
 Palm Desert, CA 92260  
[www.temple sinaipd.org](http://www.temple sinaipd.org)  
 760-568-9699

# The Cantor Who Collaborated with Leonard Cohen

**Cohen's father and great grandfather both served as president the Orthodox synagogue which Zelermyer affectionately refers to as "The Shaar."**

*The Jerusalem Post*

"Hallelujah! I'm your man!"

That's how Cantor Gideon Zelermyer responded to Leonard Cohen when the famed Canadian singer/songwriter asked him in 2015 to collaborate with him on a song.

Zelermyer, cantor for the past 16 years of Montreal's Congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Westmount, Quebec, had a unique and unusual professional and personal relationship with the late Cohen. The two corresponded by email for 10 years before the request for a musical collaboration emerged, which wound up being "You Want it Darker," the title song of Cohen's Grammy Award-winning final album released in 2016.

"When I got the email from Cohen at six o'clock in the morning [to work on the album], I shouted, woke up my family and wrote him back: 'Hallelujah! I'm your man!'" recalled Zelermyer in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, marking the third anniversary of Cohen's death.

Cohen's father and great grandfather both served as president the Orthodox synagogue which Zelermyer affectionately refers to as "The Shaar."

Zelermyer and his Shaar musical team didn't know at first what Cohen expected of them. They received a rough track from Los Angeles of what would become "You Want it Darker" – with just Cohen's voice. They sent back a few options of how the track might sound, recorded with his music director, Roi Azoulay, and the synagogue's all-male choir. Zelermyer and Azoulay recorded different musical options to complement Cohen's vocal track. After the songs were produced, Cohen thoughtfully sent Zelermyer a thank you note – and a self-portrait.

The single "You Want It Darker" was released on September 21, 2016.

The album came out one month later. Sadly, Cohen died a few weeks later on November 7. Zelermyer officiated at a mainly secretive, private family funeral in Montreal. A month later, Cohen's family brought Zelermyer and the Shaar choir to Los Angeles to sing at a memorial service.

While Cohen never spoke of death with Zelermyer, or indicated a sense that death was imminent, the cantor noted "He was talking about it his whole life." Zelermyer felt the album "makes sense – to work through his feelings. The tone of the record didn't surprise me – with the echoes of kaddish, and the words of Hineni. You see he is placing his destiny in the hands of something higher."

Zelermyer did not have many in-person meetings with Cohen. The cantor reflects "I was physically in the same room with Leonard three times: once at a concert in Ottawa, in Los Angeles for the 2016 record release, and at his burial."

The cantor recalled having "very brief conversations." He fondly recalls their in person meeting in Los Angeles. "I brought him a gift – a Yom Kippur machzor [prayer book], which I found at Shaar, given to his late sister at her Hebrew school graduation."

Zelermyer was honored to attend the 2017 Grammy Awards Ceremony at Manhattan's Madison Square Garden, where Cohen, Zelermyer and the synagogue choir were awarded a Grammy Award posthumously. Perhaps somewhat ironically, Cohen's Grammy, and the accompanying "certificate of participation" awarded to the cantor and his team as vocal soloists, is in the Best Rock Performance category. The award is for "You Want It Darker," the first track on Cohen's 14th and final album of the same name.

"It's an amazing, loving, beautiful



tribute to an amazing life in music," observed Zelermyer. "It is such a bittersweet closure that the first solo acknowledgment of an artistic statement of his by the Academy and at the same time he's not around to enjoy it. But it's a tremendous honor to his legacy, and certainly, for our city."

At the 50th Grammy Awards in 2007, Cohen received his first career Grammy for Album Of The Year, as a featured artist on Herbie Hancock's *River: The Joni Letters*. In 2010, Cohen received a lifetime achievement award from the Grammy academy. In 2017, Cohen's *You Want It Darker* won the Canadian Juno Award for Album of the Year.

"It is still a tremendous source of honor for me and the Shaar, to play a small but significant role," explained Zelermyer. "It is wonderful validation of why we maintain the tradition." Zelermyer recalled an interview Cohen gave not long before his death where he explained why he wanted to work with a cantor and choir.

Cohen told the publication *Le Dernier Empereur* in an October 19, 2016, interview, "Even as a boy I loved their singing. It is what made compulsory synagogue attendance enjoyable. I've wanted to work with the cantor and the choir for a long time. The touring years interrupted this intention. On a secondary but still urgent note, there are times when you

want to show the flag, when you want to indicate that there is nourishment to be had from this culture, that it is not entirely irrelevant to the present situation, that it does not serve a nation's best interests to reject and despise it. This is more important in some countries than in others."

Zelermyer added, "This is really unbelievable. It is such a special statement of validation—that there is something to be gleaned from this tradition." He noted nostalgically that there are very few synagogue choirs in the world which meet weekly. The Shaar has proudly featured a weekly choir since 1887.

Zelermyer regularly shares Cohen's kind words about cantors and choirs with young cantors. "I tell young cantors – when you read something like Cohen's quote, it should be an inspiration to take what you do seriously – you never know how it will impact others."

The cantor reflected on Cohen's legacy, and on why he is loved and admired by people worldwide. "He appealed to the searcher. He appealed to the everyman type of dynamic." Zelermyer noted that Cohen went through many phases in his spiritual life – "he was interested in Scientology, Eastern religions, but he always gravitated to the religion of his childhood, he was always interested in Judaism."

His devoted fans continue to come to Montreal to get to know and experience Leonard Cohen. "There is a steady stream of people at Shaar on Saturdays—from Europe and all over – to see where he is from and what he is like. They want to see his house, and where he ate bagels. They are so respectful and so deferential. They want to understand. They continue to search, as Leonard did."

# Inland and Desert Hillel – At the Heart of Our Jewish Community

By Eran Vaisben, Inland and Desert Hillel Executive Director

Friday night, at the center of the largest dormitories at University of California, Riverside (UCR), a group of 27 students gather to celebrate Shabbat together. Twenty minutes away at the University of Redlands, a group of 18 students enjoy a similar Shabbat experience. These students are motivated to integrate Jewish life into their academic and social experiences during their university years. They are active members of Inland and Desert Hillel.

The local Hillel groups are governed by student boards that initiate and lead social, educational, cultural, and religious Jewish activities and experiences on campus. Ben Rozio, UCR Hillel Student Board President recaps his involvement: "I am proud to be part of an amazing team that offers fun and inclusive Jewish events on campus". Over the past few months, Inland and Desert Hillel students met with Israeli soldiers, celebrated High Holy Days, and studied together. Together, they created new opportunities for Jewish students to socialize and meet new friends.

Lauren Simon, who was the President of the University of Redlands Hillel student board last year, summarized her activity with Hillel: "I have made lifelong friends in my Hillel and have learned so many valuable lessons about friendship, leadership, and community." Two of Lauren's grandparents were killed in the Tree of Life Synagogue tragedy last year. She initiated a candlelight vigil



on campus and a Forum on Anti-Semitism with key leaders from our Jewish community. At Inland and Desert Hillel, we continue to provide many opportunities for students, such as Lauren, to



develop their leadership skills.

Our goal is to connect the local Jewish community with Hillel, and Hillel with the local Jewish community. In fulfilling our pledge to inspire students to become engaged with Jewish life and learning, the support of the Jewish Federation of the Desert, philanthropists, and community members allows us to strengthen Hillel student connections with Jewish life and ensure the future of our Jewish community."

**JAN  
13**

Monday, January 13, 2020  
**Women's Philanthropy  
Lion of Judah  
Luncheon**

**FEB  
10**

Monday, February 10, 2020  
**Major Gifts  
Dinner**

**MAR  
09**

Monday, March 9, 2020  
**Women's Philanthropy  
Pearl Society  
Luncheon**

**APR  
19**

Sunday, April 19, 2020  
**Community  
Yom HaShoah  
Observance**



**SAVE  
THESE  
DATES**

Please contact  
the Jewish  
Federation for  
further  
event details.



69-710 Highway 111  
Rancho Mirage CA 92770  
(760) 324-4737 • [www.jfedps.org](http://www.jfedps.org)



## Simchas

We have lovely simchas this month. **Moishe Muller** and **Hinda Ruchel Klagsbrun** were married on July 11 in Monsey, NY. His grandparents,



**Moishe Muller and Minda Ruchel Klagsbrun**

**Saul and Gail Jacobs** were able to join the family for this wonderful simcha ... Received the happy news from **Linda Sage** that her granddaughter **Nicole Najjar** married **Michael Weiss** on Mission Bay October 26. The couple live in Santee, California



**Alexis Ginsberg and Warren Engdahl**

...As we went to press, **Lynda and Trevor Bailey** announced the engagement of daughter **Alexis Ginsberg** to **Warren Engdahl**. They became engaged on her 24<sup>th</sup> birthday and plan to marry in 2020 ... Mazel tov to **Jessica Davidson, Linda Jacobs, Nancy Pierce** and **Stephanie Ross** on being called to the Torah as B'not Mitzvah at Temple Sinai on December 14<sup>th</sup>. It is wonderful to see adults choosing

to undertake the hours of study and preparation to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Two months ago Temple Isaiah had six B'nai Mitzvah (five men and a woman) and last year five women celebrated their B'not Mitzvah at Congregation Har-El ... Share your simchas with us. Email [mhbenntjcn@earthlink.net](mailto:mhbenntjcn@earthlink.net) or call 760-323-0255.



## Candle Lighting Times

Friday, December 6	Shabbat Vayetze	3:54 pm
Friday, December 13	Shabbat Vayishlach	3:55 pm
Friday, December 20	Shabbat Vayeshev	3:58 pm
Friday, December 27	Shabbat Miketz	4:01 pm



## We Mourn the Passing of...

**Leo Beck, Gina Crespin, Dalia Eldar, Lovey Greenberg, Edie Keller, Edward Levine, Milton Levinson, Sanford Norian, Leonard Osias, Robert Sachs, Nathan Shuman, Our deepest sympathies to their families and friends. May their memories endure as a blessing.**



## Classifieds

**VALLEY FOAM ROOFING** Cool foam roofing. We will install a new foam roof or repair and recoat your existing foam roof. California license 671610. Insured and bonded. References. Call Raymond: 760-333-3556.

**LAST CRYPT AVAILABLE in Forest Lawn's Courts of Jerusalem.** Jewish Section; 3G level/single crypt. Price: \$6,000. (New Cedars of Lebanon Section single crypts are selling for \$7360). Call 760-770-8790 or 503-314-4346 and leave message.

**JDB PRIVATE SECRETARY & RESUME SERVICE.** Secretarial, Bill Paying, Resumes & Personal Assistance. In the Desert since 1994. Reasonable rates. By appointment only. Tel: 760-322-7747; email: [jdbresumes@aol.com](mailto:jdbresumes@aol.com). Ask for Joy.

**JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 2020** is Sunday, March 22 through Wednesday, March 25 and will offer a compelling and diverse selection of films, including dramas, comedies, documentaries and shorts, that will stir emotion and inspire conversation. Mark your calendars now.

**Attention ladies: The fabulous MEGA-CHALLAH BAKE #4 is Sunday, January 26, 2020.** (Registration 12:15/program 1-3 pm - at Sun City Palm Desert). Make friends. Bring friends. Socialize. Engage. Be inspired. \$25. To send check call 760-323-4499. Pay by credit card online at [www.desertchallah.com](http://www.desertchallah.com).

**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE** Swedish, deep tissue, and foot reflexology modalities. Treat yourself or someone you love to a wonderful therapeutic massage. Jewish Massage Therapist with over 30 years experience; nine in the desert. Will come to your home or at my location. Call Leora at 760-778-0068.

**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](mailto:davidsconstruction@ymail.com) 760-671-4476.

**Har-El Galen Lecture** Wednesday, December 4, 3:30-5 PM at Tolerance Education Center. **"A Recent U.S. Supreme Court Case and Its Constitutionality"** - A discussion on the constitutionality of religious symbols in public, tax-supported institutions. Presenters: Steve Moyer, J.D. and Phil Drucker, J.D.

**Cemetery plot for sale** at Desert Memorial Park in Cathedral City, in the Jewish section Lot 25 in Section A-37. \$1400 plus a \$100 Transfer fee for a total of \$1500. Call 760 413-7671 or email [immnk@aol.com](mailto:immnk@aol.com).

**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.

**Temple Isaiah invites you to HOLD YOUR EVENT HERE!** We can accommodate 10 for a meeting or 300 for a party. Quinceaneras; birthdays; anniversaries; concerts; wedding venue/chapel to ballroom; classes, seminars, speakers, non-denominational life-cycle events and more. Come see our landmark building in the heart of Palm Springs. Plenty of parking. Call 760-325-2281 for details and inquiries.



## Classifieds

**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.

Friday, January 3, 2020 - 5 PM - **Har-El, member URJ, MUSIC SHABBAT SERVICE** led by Rabbi Richard Zions and Guest Rabbi Cantor Alison Wissot and **PRESENTATION BY CHIEF ARCHIVIST OF BERLIN JEWISH MUSEUM.** Information: Event hotline: 760-668-3219 or email harelurjpd@gmail.com. No fee. Oneg follows. RSVP requested. More than a Synagogue ... Har-El is a Celebration.

# 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.



## Have A Nosh With Miriam

### Lotsa Latkes

*Looking back on my recipes from the past couple years, I noticed I gave three sufganiyot (donut holes) recipes last year and three dessert latkes the year before.*

*Clearly it is time for a good basic latke recipe ... but I think you will enjoy these toppings as a change from the usual sour cream or applesauce. I remember a caterer calling me for ideas when he needed a savory topping to tie in with the rest of his party menu and I suggested guacamole, which has become a favorite ever since. The onion marmalade below is another delicious choice. And a dollop of sour cream with caviar is always a treat! Hag samayach! Happy Chanukah! Happy challah baking! MHB*



### Crispy Traditional Potato Latkes (Pareve)

2 lbs. Russet or Yukon Gold potatoes	2 large eggs, beaten
1 medium onion	Salt & pepper to taste
½ cup chopped scallions (green onions)	Vegetable oil for frying

Peel potatoes and drop in cold water until all are peeled. Using a grater or food processor, coarsely grate the potatoes and onion. Place together in a fine-mesh strainer and press out all the water over a bowl. The potato starch will settle to the bottom. Carefully pour off the water and retain the potato starch, adding it to the potato/onion mixture in a bowl. Add the scallions, eggs, salt and pepper. Mix well.

Heat a thin film of oil in a non-stick frying pan. Use about 2 tablespoons of the potato mixture per latke and add to pan, flattening the mixture out with the back of the spoon or spatula. Fry until golden then flip and brown second side. Drain on paper towels. Best if served immediately, traditionally with sour cream or applesauce. Makes 24-28 latkes.

### Onion Marmalade Topping

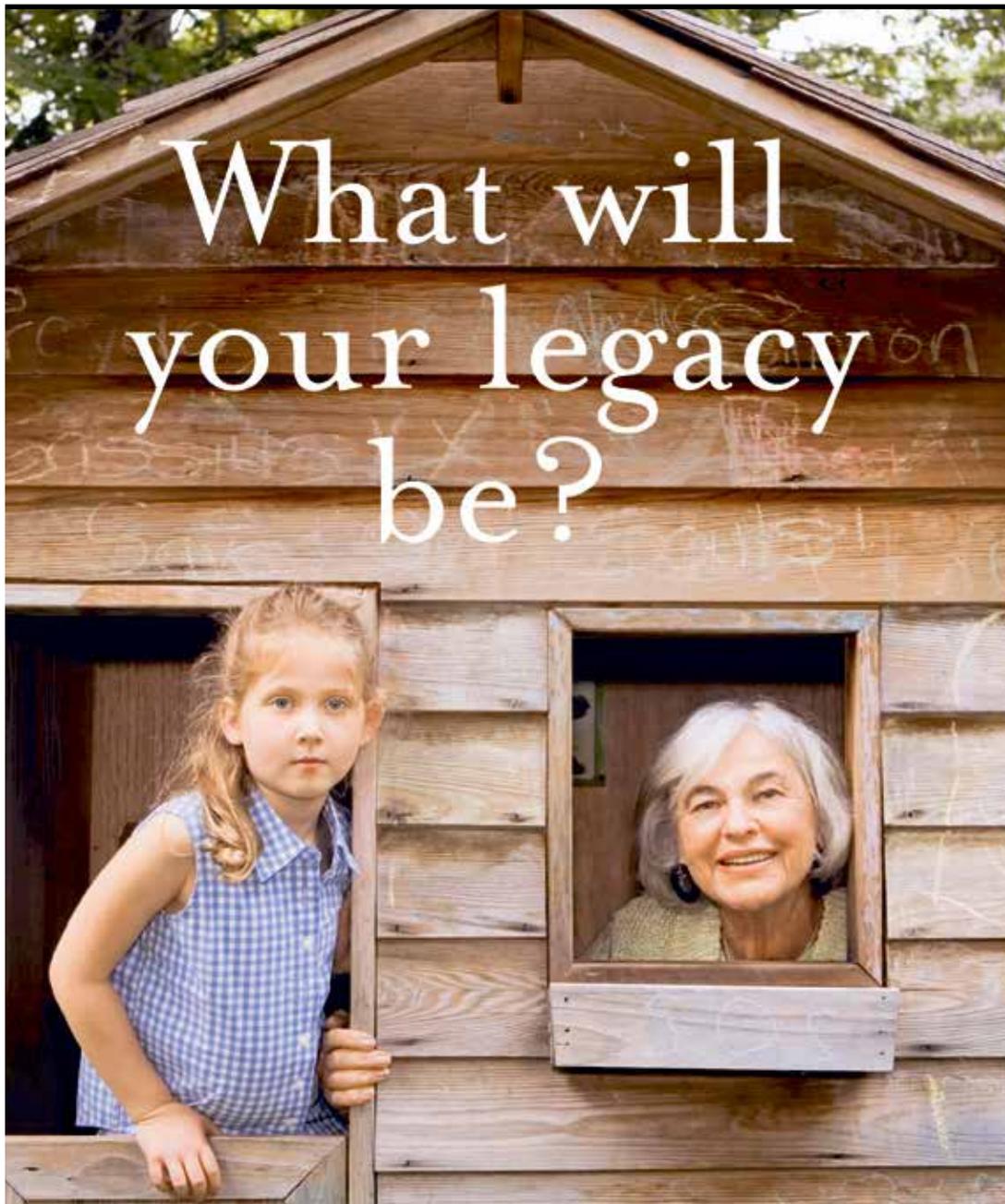
2 Tbsp. olive oil	1 to 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
2-1/2 lbs red or sweet onions, halved and sliced thin	1/3 cup red wine vinegar
Salt and fresh ground pepper to taste	2/3 cup dry red wine
	1/4 cup cranberry or cranberry apple juice

Heat oil in saute pan over medium heat. Add onions and cook, stirring often, for five minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and cook at medium-low heat for another five minutes, until golden brown, stirring often. Lower heat if onions are browning too quickly. Add 1 Tbsp. sugar. Stir until dissolved. Add vinegar and bring to boil, stirring. Add wine and again bring to boil. Cook over medium-high heat until most the liquid has evaporated, stirring often. Add cranberry juice, stirring, until it is absorbed, and onions are soft. Taste for seasoning and add last tablespoon of brown sugar, if needed, cooking for an additional minute for sugar to dissolve. Topping may be served warm or cold.

**JEWISH FEDERATION OF THE DESERT**

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

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit #113  
Santa Ana, CA



It's the time of year when we reflect on our actions and accomplishments, and we wonder what the future will bring, for our families and for our Jewish community. What challenges will our children and grandchildren face? What will be the fate of the State of Israel, of Jews around the world? There's something you can do right now that will make a difference.

Create a Jewish legacy, and provide financial resources to keep the Jewish community vibrant and strong for generations to come. Your permanent gift can help keep alive the traditions and values you cherish. We have the tools to help you.

For more information and to explore options, please contact Kevin Giser, Director of Community Impact, Jewish Federation of the Desert, at [kevin.giser@jfedps.org](mailto:kevin.giser@jfedps.org) or 760-324-4737.

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



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