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# the VOICE

your source for local and global Jewish news

## 2013 JEWISH HERITAGE FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING ISRAEL AT 65! (all month long!)

Holocaust Researcher Strikes  
**Academic Gold**

Terezin Child Survivor  
**Speaks at Yom HaShoah**

An Interview with  
**Ashkelon's Mayor**

A publication of The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region

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# the VOICE Israel and Us

your source for local and global Jewish news

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Israel has always been at the core of my Jewish identity. I didn't grow up in an observant home, was never Bat Mitzvahed, and never belonged to a synagogue, but Hebrew was a familiar language in my house. I heard its rhythms dance in my grandmother's mouth, and saw its ancient symbols in her handwriting. I heard stories of pre-1948 Israel and its pioneers. The right to be Jewish in a Jewish land is part of my personal heritage.

I was fortunate to live in a community where anti-Semitic and anti-Israel sentiments weren't in the forefront. Although I lived blocks from the proposed Nazi march in Skokie, Ill. more than 30 years ago, the Jewish community (40,000 of 70,000 Skokie residents) was just too strong. There were small incidents after this, but nothing like I faced after moving to Northern California.

Shortly after arriving, I experienced the pain and exhaustion of bigotry and hatred. It began with pro-BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) groups at Natural Foods Co-ops, and continued with hundreds of protesters speaking angry and often untruthful statements while we were trying to make Ashkelon, Israel, Sacramento's 10th Sister City. Most painful was seeing members of our own community on the other side. I felt overwhelmed and naïve. I didn't have the tools to remain unemotional.

One of the reasons I've worked in the Jewish Federation system for more than 15 years is the unequivocal support for Israel. While we offer a neutral home for all Jews, no matter what level of observance or non-observance, we are not neutral when it comes to Israel. I know this makes some people uncomfortable, but if we waiver in our support of Israel as a Jewish community, if we argue with each other and allow our differences to divide us, we open a dangerous door that doesn't lead to a strong future.

Not all of us agree on every policy or political practice that comes out of Israel. Nor do we agree on everything about the country in which we live. But what I think we can all agree on, is that we are thankful to have a place that is open as our home and available as our safety net— a place where people who have never met us are willing to risk their lives for us. A place where we can just be who we are.

This month marks the 65th anniversary of something remarkable— the birth of the State of Israel— part of our ancient and modern history. Many of us are lucky enough to never know a world without it. I don't know about you, but I'm going to celebrate in style and with a sense of great pride.



*Melissa Chapman is the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation.*

# The Ebb and Flow of Life

The ebb and flow of life. It's always interesting but perhaps especially interesting in the Jewish world and even more interesting during the month of April. While Passover "came early" this year and landed in March according to the secular calendar, it is always, for me, the start of a schizophrenic season.

First, I turn my house completely upside down by changing out dishes and cookware, lining my stove and refrigerator with foil, and pulling out the same yellow plastic bowl and gray basin my grandmother used to separate eggs in order to make her famous Passover sponge cake. I feel as if I am in the eye of the hurricane until I finally sit down and recline against pillows my children made when they were in preschool. I am ready to celebrate our freedom from slavery with family and friends but, of course, part of our joy is diminished as we recall the suffering of others.

I barely get the matzoh crumbs cleared and Passover boxed up until next year, when I am faced with Yom HaShoah, Holocaust

Memorial Day. As the child of a survivor, there is no day more solemn for me. The passing of years does not make it any less emotional, raw, or overwhelming. It is the one day that I allow myself to sit with my family's pain and loss, to wonder what my namesake looked like, to reflect upon who I would be if my father's fate was different. Very heavy stuff.

I barely come out of the fog when, a week later, Yom HaZikaron arrives. I honor this day as an outsider while hearing my Israeli friends recall the names of family members, friends, and other loved ones who gave their life in one war or another for the State of Israel. I listen as they tell the story their parents told them— that one day, a generation of children won't have to serve in the army. But not yet. In Israel, ceremonies are held throughout the country at schools, cemeteries, and memorial sites. Flags are flown at half mast and an air siren raid plays for one minute at precisely 8:00pm the evening before and for two minutes in the morning. The country comes to a standstill as everyone stands at attention.

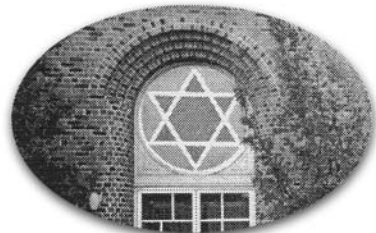
Then, of course, comes the dramatic switch from the sorrow of Yom HaZikaron to the joy of Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel's Independence Day. A month after it all begins with Passover, I will have remembered, wept, commemorated, and celebrated. That is the ebb and flow of Jewish life.



*Elissa Provance is the Director of Communications and Managing Editor of the VOICE for the Jewish Federation.*

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# Holocaust Researcher Strikes Academic Gold



Jennifer Craig-Norton

Jennifer Craig-Norton, a Museum Teacher Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.; a Fulbright scholar who studied in Poland; and a veteran high school history teacher in Jackson, Calif. who developed a Holocaust and Genocide Studies elective for Argonaut High School, struck academic gold recently after uncovering a cache of original correspondence about a group of Kindertransport children from Poland.

“It took me about five minutes to realize I had a comprehensive child’s file from Poland showing what happened through 1945,” said Craig-Norton, whose workshops about how to teach the Holocaust became the genesis for the Central Valley Holocaust Educators’ Network (CEEVEEHEN), which sponsored the March 20, 2013 community program, *New Discoveries About the Kindertransport*. CVHEN was founded by Sacramento resident, retired teacher, and Holocaust survivor, Liz Igra after she attended Craig-Norton’s workshops.

The researcher, who currently is working toward her Ph.D. at the University of Southampton in England, spent six weeks poring through a vast archive of Holocaust-related materials— 1,080 boxes with 1,000 papers per box— before locating approximately 100 files that included documentation from major stakeholders and organizations that brought the Kindertransport children to England, including hostel managers, foster parents, parents, and the children themselves.

Craig-Norton has always been interested in the Kindertransport, however, she noted that although much has been written about the subject, it is

limited in academic scope and primary resources, making her find especially valuable.

“I gravitated toward the Kindertransport because I was troubled by it,” she explained from her home in England. “Teaching teachers how to teach effectively, responsibly, and sensitively, it is natural to gravitate toward less depressing topics. The Kindertransport was seen as a good story and it is— 10,000 children rescued— but I thought it was weird that no one was talking about the horrible choices (families) had to make.”

The next natural next step following her discovery was to try and locate Kindertransport children and share what she had found.

“Because of my work with the Holocaust Memorial Museum and working with survivors, I know one big sorrow of their lives is the lack of material traces of their lives, for example, birth certificates and photos,” Craig-Norton explained. “I had to tell these people these precious documents existed. It was a huge motivation to unite people with records of their lives. I was desperate to know what happened to these people and their families to try to close the arc of the narrative of their lives.”

After sending letters explaining her research and requesting that recipients make contact with her, Craig-Norton has corresponded with about a dozen survivors whose files she located, the youngest of whom is 77 and the oldest, 90, and the families of about a dozen more.

“In almost every case, they are astonished that this material exists,” she said, sharing how one woman she found was an identical twin with an older sister who was supposed to come to England but didn’t make it. Craig-Norton visited 86-year old Rebecca who lives in Manchester and handed her a photograph of herself as a 2-year-old.

“She gasped,” Craig-Norton said, “and told me she remembered this day— where they were standing and how they were at an outing in town. These moments are priceless.”

The researcher will finish her studies at the end of 2014 and thinks, as do others, that her work has the possibility of becoming a book.

“People are generally interested because there are so many remarkable aspects,” she said. “It is a general human interest story.”

*For more information about CVHEN, contact Liz Igra at [liz@cvhen.com](mailto:liz@cvhen.com).*

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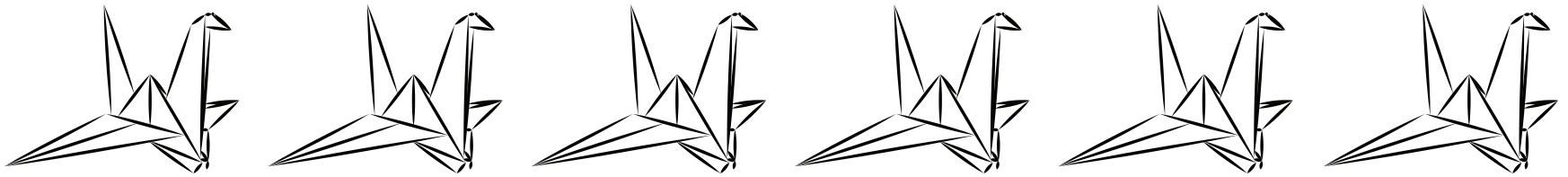
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# Ashkelon, Israel Becomes the Newest Recipient of Special Peace Cranes



A young Japanese girl's battle with leukemia became the impetus for a Sacramento-based non-profit organization, *Kids for Peace... and grownups too*, that sends paper cranes around the country and the world as a symbol of peace. Started in 2012 by Kazuyo Morishita, the organization will be featured at the Federation's *Jewish Heritage Festival: Celebrating Israel at 65!* on April 28, 2013, where Morishita and teen volunteers will teach community members how to make paper cranes that will be sent to Ashkelon, Israel, Sacramento's 10<sup>th</sup> and newest Sister City.

Using the ancient Japanese art of origami, Morishita has been traveling to schools and festivals teaching people how to make the paper cranes, which are a symbol of long life and happiness. She explained how when Sadako Sasaki lay dying from leukemia—a result of the atomic bomb dropping on Hiroshima— she began making cranes and wrote, "I will write peace on your wings and you will fly all over the world," giving new meaning to the tradition.

"People all over the world began sending cranes to Hiroshima," Morishita said. "There are now tons of cranes decorated there. We decided to send them to other places to spread the word of Sadako's wishes and teach other kids about peace."

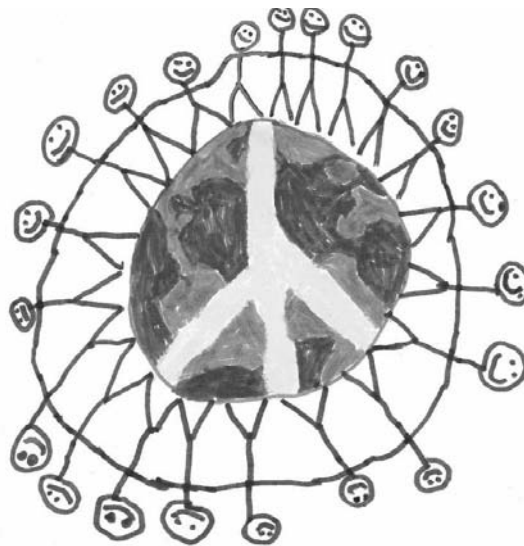
Among the recipients that *Kids for Peace*

has reached out to are new preschools in Laos villages; victims of the Aurora, Colo. movie theatre shooting; victims of the Sikh Temple shooting in Wisconsin; and Malala Yousufzai of Pakistan who was shot by the Taliban. The organization also recently hosted the 2nd Annual People for Peace Speaker Series and will host the International Day of Peace in September.

The *Kids for Peace* founder, whose day job is with the Department of Motor Vehicles, explained how Japanese children as young as 5 years old learn how to fold the delicate paper figures. She can create approximately 30 per hour.

"My name means 'peaceful world' so since I've been born, I've been thinking about peace," Morishita said. "I found a calling—to teach children about peace instead of hate."

For more information about *Kids for Peace... and grownups too*, visit [www.kidsforpeaceandgrownupstoo.com](http://www.kidsforpeaceandgrownupstoo.com).



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# Yom HaShoah Featured Speaker Among Theresienstadt's Child Survivors

*Never Again.* Two words that need no explanation to the Jewish people. Two words that we *never forget*, especially on Yom HaShoah.

Mark Rubin has not forgotten. He has not forgotten the triplex building in which he lived with his paternal grandparents and his aunt and uncle. He hasn't forgotten playing in the streets with his older brother in his hometown of Sabinov, Czechoslovakia, or his grandfather's hardware store. And he hasn't forgotten how it felt to be a young boy having to say goodbye to his grandparents at a train station as the Gestapo was taking them away.

"It was a sad day," said Rubin, one of approximately 100 child survivors of Theresienstadt concentration camp and the featured speaker at this year's Yom HaShoah Communitywide Commemoration on April 7, 2013. "I knew I would never see them again."

Although life went on, it was not as usual. Rubin's father, a traveling salesman before the war, sent his youngest son to live with a Gentile friend who was a police chief in a remote village.

"I remember I had on a pair of shoes with thin socks and was with the police chief and his wife at the train station," the now-Los Angeles resident recalled. "He recognized a plain clothes Gestapo officer. We had an hour to wait before the train came so I had



Mark Rubin, second from right, with, from left, his son Brian, daughter Caren, wife Pam, and daughter Michelle.

to go outside. It was so cold, I ended up with frostbite."

Rubin stayed with the couple for a few months, making friends and changing his given name of Maximilian to Thomas and Rubin to Rubon to conceal his identity. He returned to his family and in late 1943, when Rubin was 6 years old, the family headed west toward Bratislava, today the capital of Slovakia, where Rubin's mother rented a room on a family farm and lived as Gentiles, even attending church (Rubin's father hid elsewhere with another Gentile family). Unbeknownst to them, the family had a daughter who was working for the Gestapo and turned them in.

"The Gestapo asked if Jews lived here and we said, 'No,'" Rubin explained. "They pulled our pants down and that was that."

When he arrived at Gestapo headquarters, he was reunited with his father who was caught the day before. After being sent to the Sered camp for a few months, his family was sent to Theresienstadt. Rubin's father had bribed an officer, knowing that, in 1944, it was not yet an extermination camp.

"It was the trip from hell," Rubin recalled.

"It took us days to get there. There was not enough room for everyone to sleep on the floor so we took turns. And there were no toilets. I can still remember that stench. I remember getting off the train. They separated the men from the women and children. We went to take a shower and I thought for sure this was the end but it turned out to really be a shower."

In May 1945, just three days before they were scheduled to be executed, the entire Rubin family, including his aunt, uncle, and cousins, was liberated by the Russian army.

"The welcoming was subdued," Rubin noted. "There was not much to be happy about."

The family returned to Prague, Bratislava, and then Presov before arriving on the Queen Mary to New York in 1948, where Mark celebrated his Bar Mitzvah and where he and his brother sat in a kindergarten class to learn English. The family moved to Los Angeles in 1953.

March 18<sup>th</sup> was Rubin's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of arriving in America. Along with the sound of gunshots whistling above his head, the name of the Marshall who led the Russian army that liberated his family, and all of the schools he attended in the U.S. and Europe— 15 in all—he has not forgotten. And not only has he not forgotten, he will *never forget*.

*The Communitywide Yom HaShoah Commemoration, sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation, is April 7, 2013 at 7:00pm at Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Simone Monnier Clay at [simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com](mailto:simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com).*

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# An Exception to the Rule

by Shae Selix, Arava Institute  
for Environmental Studies



From left, Shae Selix with his friend, Asem, from Jordan

**Editor's Note:** *Sacramentan Shae Selix recently graduated from Brown University with a B.S. in Environmental Science. He is working and studying at the Arava Institute, an environmental program that brings together Jordanians, Palestinians, and Israelis to work on joint problems and projects and to learn about each other. The following originally appeared on Shae's blog, *Rhode to Damascus*. It is reprinted with permission.*

Through my Masa scholarship, I have had the privilege to work for the past 3½ months at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies in Kibbutz Ketura. Like many Masa students, I have been able to see the beauty of Israel, from the acacia trees in the Negev, to the mystical waters in the Dead Sea, to the Jerusalem stone in the capital. I feel that my experience may be particularly unique because I have had the opportunity to experience how Jews and Arabs have the

potential to not only live peacefully together in Israel, but also become great friends.

Of course, due to the timing of my stay, I have also seen that this is not always the case. [Months] ago, the State of Israel was in an armed conflict with Gaza. At the Institute, we all had to watch together as Israel was again in the spotlight of the world stage, and hopes of peace in the Middle East seemed even further set back. For many new residents of Israel, this surely represented a first opportunity to witness the tragedy of the conflict in person.

For me, this first eye-opening moment was quite different, and came only one day before the violence escalated. For my internship at the Arava Institute, I work under Dr. Clive Lipchin in the Center for Transboundary Water Management, and on that day, we were out in the field installing a hydrological monitor in the Hebron stream west of Be'er Sheva. A tractor was digging deep into the stream bed, revealing layer upon layer of grey muck. As Clive and I stood atop a pile of soil, observing the progress, he turned to me and said, "You see, this is all because there is no peace process."

The stream we were studying, the Nahal Hebron within the Besor Watershed, begins in the West Bank, flows into Israel through Be'er Sheva and multiple Bedouin villages, and out to the Mediterranean through Gaza. It is heavily polluted, and because it crosses multiple hostile borders and through so many varied administrative districts, no one wants to claim responsibility. We were installing monitors in the stream in multiple locations to try to get a sense of what kinds of pollution are in the stream and map the entire watershed to show how it is truly a regional issue that cannot be solved unless parties on both sides work together.

Another element of our project had been planning a conference where we would bring together stakeholders in wastewater management from Israel, the West Bank, Gaza, and Jordan to frankly discuss the latest innovations and challenges. It was meant to supplement our research and

bring home the idea that these issues must be worked out on a regional scale. Before Operation Pillar of Defense, the conference was only in its planning phases. We debated whether the timing would still be right or if we would need to cancel. Ultimately, we decided the issue was too important, and we would try our best to bring everyone together less than a month after the violence had ended. Amazingly, late into the night before the conference began, our guests from Gaza gained permission to come, allowing us to truly include all voices.

The conference commenced with a statement from the director of the Arava Institute, David Lehrer. He explained how what brought the group together was not that this region lacks water: "What we really lack is trust." Over the course of the conference, professionals from government, NGOs, and the private sector discussed an array of topics in Jordanian, Israeli, and Palestinian water management. At times, issues were hotly debated, as century-long conflicts revealed sharp differences in opinion about how to fairly distribute and treat water in the region. The conference truly showed how such a universally essential natural resource has become so political here. However, at the end of the day, everyone was exchanging cards and planning future transboundary projects, regardless of nationality.

This spirit of collaboration mirrors the experience at the Arava Institute, where students and interns from Israel, the Arab world, and the international community meet together as part of our curriculum each week to discuss the tough issues of the conflict through a personal lens. Like at the conference, it is often difficult to reach consensus. However, while the rest of the world is focused on the divisions that keep us apart, the Arava Institute brings everyone together, face-to-face. As a group, we can see that we all walk on the same land and drink the same water, regardless of how much we may fight about it. This is how we have built the trust in each other, so lacking everywhere else, that will be so necessary for finding peace in this region.



## Ashkelon Mayor Says **New Sister City Relationship is A “Positive Step”** and Looks Forward to Future Partnerships

In celebration of Israel's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Sacramento's new Sister City relationship with Ashkelon, *the VOICE* checked in with Ashkelon Mayor Benny Vaknin. He told us what he loves about his city, potential partnerships with our city, and plans for a visit in the future.

*the VOICE:* What would you like our community to know about your city?

**Mayor Benny Vaknin:** Ashkelon is a beautiful city where old and new meet. It has a beautiful 12 km stretch of breathtaking beaches and a comfortable climate during most seasons of the year. Ashkelon was one of the oldest cities in the world, and is replete with history. As mayor of Ashkelon I am very proud that the city absorbed over 40,000 new immigrants and young families in the last few years, and it was a very positive absorption. I am also very proud of our education system, which is very advanced— 98% of Ashkelon's children complete 12 grades, and many continue to study in academic frameworks.

The city enjoys a high quality of life and many advantages, including large land reserves, advanced industrial areas, modern city planning, a system of well-developed education, health and community services, and proximity and access to the center of the country.

*the VOICE:* How do you feel about Ashkelon becoming a Sister City with Sacramento?

**BV:** I was very happy that Ashkelon and Sacramento became Sister Cities. It is a very positive step on the national and international level. I see great importance in bringing communities close to each other and by this doing this, creating more people-to-people relationships, and developing understanding and tolerance.

*the VOICE:* What do these two cities have in common?

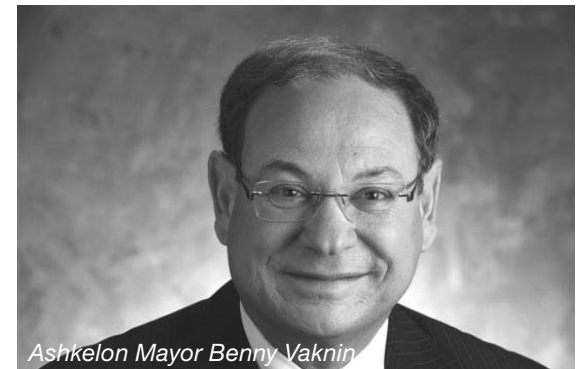
**BV:** I think that all cities in the world have common points due to the fact that they are cities where people live, and supply the needs of their residents. I think that both cities are cities where old and new meet, tourist cities, and cities that provide for the well-being of its citizens.

*the VOICE:* What meaningful partnerships do you hope to create with our city?

**BV:** We hope to create projects especially for the benefit of the residents of both communities, people-to-people projects, changes of delegations in many fields such as Commerce, Education, Culture, Sports and more. We would love for people from Sacramento to come and visit our city.

*the VOICE:* What plans do you have to visit?

**BV:** In a few months we will have elections in Ashkelon, and we hope that afterward, we will make plans to visit Sacramento and also host a delegation from Sacramento together with Mayor Kevin Johnson. We are really positive and happy about our new relationship with Sacramento and we think that we can do a lot for this relationship. We look forward to working together and creating a beautiful and warm relationship.



Ashkelon Mayor Benny Vaknin

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## Azerbaijan Delegation Expresses Friendship for the U.S. and Israel

An official delegation of government and business officials from Azerbaijan were guests of the Senate and the California International Relations Foundation (CIRF) on March 11, 2013. CIRF organizes and facilitates exchanges between the California Senate and foreign governments to strengthen the State's economic and cultural relations. Of significance to the Jewish community are Azerbaijan's close ties with Israel as an education, trade, and political partner.

"The Jewish culture is part of our national heritage because for centuries, we've been together with Jews in celebration and in difficult times," said Prof. Samad Seyidov, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign and Interparliamentary Relations of the Parliament of the Azerbaijan Republic, noting visits to his country by Israeli President Shimon Peres, the opening of a Jewish Studies program at a local university, and an Israel Center that is one of the biggest and most influential in the country. "I have always respected the Jewish people and they've respected me. They are part of my heart. We are a cocktail of cultures."

Azerbaijan, which gained independence in 1991 after the fall of the Soviet Union, is a secular country located between Russia and Iran with Christian and other religious roots, a factor Seyidov credits for the Republic's respect of multiple cultures. The predominantly Muslim country has a population of nearly 10 million with a Jewish population of 35,000 strong that has lived without persecution for centuries. Six new synagogues have been built recently, one of them being the biggest in the region.

"When there were pogroms in Europe, (Jews) came to Azerbaijan," explained Dr. Asim Mollazade, a Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Democratic Reforms

Party. "We protected Jews from Spain and have had a Jewish community for more than 2,000 years— one of the oldest Jewish communities in the world."

Azerbaijan also is an economic partner with the Jewish State, with \$4 billion in trade annually, including supplying 60% of Israel's oil products. Khalik Mammadov, Vice-President of the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan (SOCAR), the largest company in Azerbaijan and the largest Azerbaijani investor in other countries including Israel, Georgia, Turkey, Romania, Switzerland, and Ukraine, explained, "Our main goal is to study the local markets, promote the state oil companies, and study the investment environment."

Politically, Seyidov explained that being "sandwiched" between Russia and Iran presents its difficulties, but is part of the reason the delegation has reached out to California, other states, and Washington, D.C.

"Azerbaijan is far from California," he added, "but close because of our shared values: fighting for democracy; fighting against Islamic fundamentalists; and wanting to see a more secular state. We are two friends sharing the same values against the same evil. We should combine our efforts and show the rest of the world who we are."



From left, Azerbaijani businessman Khalik Mammadov and Members of Parliament, Dr. Asim Mollazade and Professor Samad Seyidov, during a visit to the State Capitol.

**NCJW** NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN  
SACRAMENTO SECTION

### SAVE THE DATE

Join NCJW Members from across  
California

#### NCJW California Lobby Day in Sacramento

**May 6** Afternoon panel and dinner with  
keynote speaker

**May 7** Lobby Day at the Capitol

- Learn from experts: how an idea becomes a bill and a bill becomes law
- Develop effective advocacy skills
- Meet with your elected representatives and advocate for NCJW-supported bills

For more information and registration, visit  
[www.ncjwsac.org](http://www.ncjwsac.org)

[www.ncjwsac.org](http://www.ncjwsac.org)    [infoncjwsac@gmail.com](mailto:infoncjwsac@gmail.com)

2013  
JEWISH  
HERITAGE **FESTIVAL**  
**CELEBRATING ISRAEL AT 65!**

**BE ENTERTAINED. BE PROUD. BE FED. BE THERE.**



**Sunday, April 28, 2013**  
**Capitol and 20th | 10am-2pm**

**SPONSORED BY: Touro University,  
Councilmember Steve Cohen, Inside Publications**



**The Jewish Federation**  
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION



# Your Guide 2013 Jewish Home Celebrating

**Show your community pride and spirit! Join us for one of the largest, most exciting events in the Sacramento region's Jewish community! This year, as we celebrate Israel's 65th birthday, we come together for one big day filled with music, family fun, and great food!**

## Schedule & Speakers

**9:30am**

Registration opens

**10:00am**

Welcome!

National anthems sung by the Shalom School Choir

Remarks from invited dignitaries Senate

President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg,

Consul General to Israel, Dr. Andy David, and Councilmember Steve Cohn

**10:30am**

Enjoy Live Music, Activity Booths, Bounce Houses, Shopping, and Food!

**2:00pm**

See You Next Year!

## Entertainment

Headline Performer: Sol Tevé!

Led by Israeli-born Lior Ben-Hur, Sol Tevé is a San Francisco-based band that focuses on connecting Hebrew roots while engaging world cultures.

They integrate sounds, rhythms, and multilingual lyrics from around the globe in order to advocate building a strong, conscious, and united community worldwide.

Featured acts: Lucy's Bones, Rio Americano High School Jazz Band members, and Sacramento's Israeli Dance Troupe.

## Eat

Kosher Catering by Yair Luria

Food Trucks: Four food trucks, including Wicked Wich and Rustic Grains

Live Entertainment

Bounce Houses

Shop  
Vendors

Food  
Vendors

# de to the eritage Festival Israel at 65!



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Activity Booths

20th St. Capitol Ave.

## Shop

Aida's Glass Beads  
Jewelry  
Bareket Design  
Beads by Vivian Leigh  
Claydays Studio  
Congregation Beth  
Shalom Judaica  
Doni Haliam Imports  
Fair Trade Judaica  
George Foxworth  
Photography  
Global Good Fair Trade  
Hip Pockit Metal Art  
Local Jewish Authors  
Love Your Body  
Essentials

M.L.A. Ent. Anything  
Glass Art  
Neckware Jewelry  
Collection  
Patricia Uchill Simons  
RR Ceramics: Sulpture  
and Pottery  
Sabra Jewelry Design  
Shofar So Great  
Smoke and Clay  
Trezhers Gift Shoppe  
Turners Toys  
Wendy Castro's  
Pampered Pets  
Wendy's Joy Art Delights

## Organizational Supporters

Congregation B'nai Israel  
Congregation Bet Haverim  
Congregation Beth Shalom  
Hillel at Davis and Sacramento  
Jewish Community Foundation of the West  
Keneset Israel Torah Center  
Mosaic Law Congregation  
Shalom School  
Temple Or Rishon  
The Israel Center, San Francisco

## Activity Booths

Local Jewish organizations are planning fun, Israel-related activities for your family!

\*All information current as of March 10, 2013

# REGISTER. VOLUNTEER. GIVE BACK.

[www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival](http://www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival)

## REGISTER

Pre-register for a chance to win a \$500 prize! Registration begins April 3rd at [www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival](http://www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival). Provides you with expedited entrance and a free entry in our raffle full of great giveaways from local restaurants and businesses! The raffle will be given away promptly at the beginning of the event. You must be present to win. The first 100 people to arrive receive a copy of Sol Tevé's new CD! Free Starbucks coffee from 9:30-10:30am.

## VOLUNTEER

Want an easy way to give back? Need community service hours? Volunteers are needed to fill a variety of positions, including set-up, registration, activity assistants, and clean-up crew. Check [www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival](http://www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival) for specific times.

## GIVE BACK

Your gift on Israel's 65th birthday can make a difference in so many lives. Just imagine what an afternoon at the zoo or Sunday brunch with the family would cost. For that same amount, you can make an impact in our local and global communities.

- \$18: Provides a year subscription to *the VOICE*, our community's only Jewish newspaper.
- \$50: Provides a week's worth of food for the Kasher Food Pantry.
- \$100: Provides a backpack full of school supplies for a child in our Partnership Region in Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon, Israel.
- \$180: Provides a year of book delivery and programming for two PJ Library families.
- \$360: Provides a year of entertainment and lunch for seniors at Leisure League.
- \$1,000: Provides 28 hours of critical support from our Social Worker.

I/We would like to donate the following amount in honor of Israel's 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

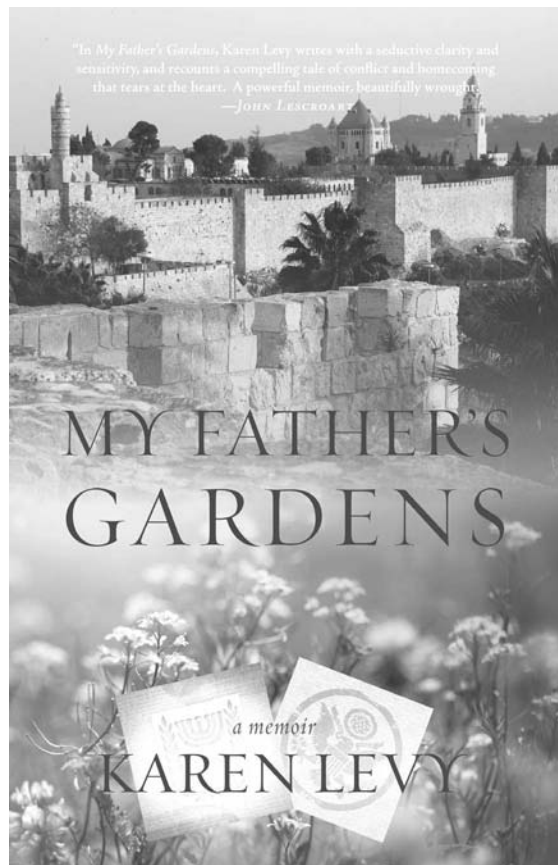
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.

2014 Capitol Ave., Suite 109, Sacramento, CA 95811 | Questions? Contact us at 916-486-0906.

# Finding Place(s) to Call Home



Over the years, Karen Levy has been submitting bits and pieces of her childhood story to literary journals and magazines. The completed work, *My Father's Gardens*, a collection of childhood memories about being born in Israel and traveling back and forth to California where her father was a visiting professor at the University of California, Davis (UCD), examines Levy's dual identity as well as questions about who she was as a result of speaking two languages in two different places with two different landscapes and two different cultures. It debuts April 6, 2013.

"I needed to establish an understanding for myself before considering an audience," said Levy, who was born in Jerusalem and moved to Kiryat Bialik, near Haifa. "Language is important because I had two of them. Once I saw the effect of my writing on an audience, I thought I could share my story with other people. It is an account of my personal experience but I noticed people relating to it. There is something universal about trying to understand and be understood. Your hopes and secrets need to belong somewhere."

Explaining the title of her book, the author, who holds a B.A. in Comparative Literature from UCD and an M.A. in English/Creative Writing from Sacramento State University where she teaches composition and interpretation of literature, said, "I'm notorious for smuggling plants across the border. My father is an avid gardener and I got my love of digging in the dirt from him. While traveling back and forth, I needed to transplant our

garden to a new place. I transplanted bits and pieces of Israel in California."

Friendship is one area of difference for the Sabra. Levy has retained Israeli childhood friendships over the years, noting how she returned to the same group of 35-40 kids who she met in preschool and who were like brothers and sisters to her, including her best friend who she met when they were 8.

"In the U.S., it's different," she explained. "I will be at the store and see a familiar face and know I went to kindergarten or 10th grade with that person but they have no idea who I am."

Describing her life as a "gypsy," Levy said when she was in Israel, she felt more American and when in America, more Israeli. Letting go of friendships also became harder as she got older and began feeling the need to figure out where she belonged. It took many trips over many years to realize she could have two homes.

"I had meaningful experiences in both cultures," she said. "The book ends in 2006, when I concluded that I didn't have to pick. I belonged to each in different ways."

*Levy is speaking at Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento, on April 24, 2013. My Father's Gardens is available at [homeboundpublications.com/my-fathers-gardens-bookstore/](http://homeboundpublications.com/my-fathers-gardens-bookstore/).*



## Yom HaZikaron - Israeli Memorial Day

Sunday, April 14, 2013

2:00-3:30pm

Kenesset Israel Torah Center  
1165 Morse Ave., Sacramento

Perhaps the most widely recognized commemoration in Israel, this day is observed as a Memorial Day for soldiers who lost their lives in battle defending Israel. The evening will include the traditional transition from Yom HaZikaron to Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel Independence Day.

RSVP to 916-486-0906 or [federation@jewishsac.org](mailto:federation@jewishsac.org)



The Jewish Federation  
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

# ADVICE: 10 WAYS TO SUPPORT ISRAEL

by Gail Rubin

Israel is the beating heart of the Jewish people worldwide. The connection is powerful and spiritual beyond words. You may ask, "What can I do from here to support the Jewish State?" The answer is: "A lot." The actions you can take are as simple as "ISRAEL CHAI."

**INVEST:** Buy Israel bonds, donate to an Israeli charity such as Magen David Adom; Jewish National Fund; Yad Sarah, just to name a few. You choose.

**SHOP: BIG** (Buy Israeli Goods) is a national campaign to push back against the BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) movement. Look for brands like Elite, Telma, Osem, and Ahava beauty products— even if you have to pay a little more for them. Ask the supermarket manager to order these items. Buy Israeli wine to bring as a gift. Choose Israeli feta cheese at Trader Joe's and buy a Soda Stream seltzer maker from Bed, Bath & Beyond or your local Ace Hardware store.

**REACH OUT:** Touch Israel personally. Instead of vacationing in Hawaii or taking that cruise, visit Israel. Volunteer in a hospital or army base. Tutor English in impoverished communities, or work in a soup kitchen.

**AMUSE & ALLURE:** Create opportunities to develop

positive feelings through song, dance, art, food, and theatre. Create a community Sukkah and invite your interfaith friends to experience Israeli fruits of the season. Use it as opportunity to teach about Israeli agriculture and water conservation, topics very near and dear to Northern Californians. Contact JIMENA (Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa) in San Francisco to display native dress, customs, and foods and learn how they brought these rich traditions to Israel.

**EXPOSURE:** Make use of your daily activities to expose Israel in the hearts and minds of those you touch. Display bumper stickers, Israeli flags on holidays, hang an Israeli travel poster on your office wall, or wear a baseball cap with a friendly Israeli theme. Expose positive messaging about Israeli's amazing accomplishments on social media.

**LEARN:** If you work in the medical field, invite a speaker from "Save the Heart" foundation to teach about the life-saving work Israeli doctors are performing, for free, to save the lives of children from poor regions around the world. If venture capital is your world, invite Israeli experts to your professional group to speak. If you work in the water/agricultural/agri-business field, arrange for a program with an Israeli expert. If you are an educator, have your students support Israeli soldiers by writing letters and sending gifts.

**COLLEGES:** Monitor your local community and state colleges and universities. Make sure Israel is not discriminatorily left out of international cultural festivals and that she is not targeted for abuse in ways which smack of anti-Semitic rhetoric and imagery. Contact our JCRC if you need help.

**HOST:** Host a film screening, a speaker, an Israeli dance troupe, an artist, a medical expert— whatever floats your boat! Plan an event for your local rotary club, business/professional club, educational associations, and chavurah.

**ANSWER THE MEDIA:** Write a Letter to the Editor when you read unbalanced reporting. Post your comments on the reporter's web page. You don't have to be an expert to point out reporting that delegitimizes and dehumanizes Israelis and Jews and where double standards prevail.

**I CAN:** Like the law of physics, if each of us takes a few steps each year and throws that pebble into the water, that action will have a cumulative ripple effect when combined with the actions of others. There is no "they" to fix the problem; there is only "us" acting as *klal Israel*.

*Gail Rubin is Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council's Israel Affairs Committee.*



**13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
WINE & FOOD  
FESTIVAL**

Congregation B'nai Israel

www.bnais.com

**Saturday  
May 4, 2013  
7pm - 10pm  
3600 Riverside Blvd  
Sacramento, CA**



# ISRAEL *BEYOND THE NEWS*

by Eddi Benjamini

*Israel Beyond the News follows The Israel Calendar, launched by the American-Israeli Cooperative. Each month, Temple Or Rishon member Eddi Benjamini highlights a different theme about a side of Israel that you won't see in the mainstream press. This month we look at Israel and the Environment.*

Since 1948, Israel's population has increased from 800,000 to 7.5 million with approximately 92% concentrated in the area from Be'er Sheva northward. It is anticipated that by 2020, the population will exceed 8 million, its built-up space will triple, and cars on the roads will increase three-fold reaching 3.6 million. It also is anticipated that in 30 years, this part of Israel will be the most densely populated area in the world.

Israel's highest priority has been on intensive development consisting of building new towns, constructing airports and roads, and establishing modern agricultural programs for which, at the time, all available water sources were tapped. The rapid growth of the population, industry, and agriculture led to environmental degradation, aggravated by the concentration of most of the industrial and urban activities being located along the narrow coastal strip where Israel's major underground water is located.

In 1973, a Master Plan for an environmental management program was formulated, concentrating on incorporating environmental considerations into the decision-making of all economic sectors.

## **Water**

Israel has suffered from a chronic water shortage for years. The water deficit also has led to the qualitative deterioration of underground water that has, in part, become brackish or polluted. The agricultural sector has suffered most because of the crisis. Due to the shortage, water allocations to agriculture have had to be reduced drastically, causing a reduction in crop productivity.

After drawing on nearly all of its readily available water resources and promoting vigorous conservation programs, Israel has made it a national mission to stretch existing sources by developing non-

conventional water sources such as wastewater reclamation and water desalination.

A major source of additional water is the Mediterranean Sea. Water and Energy Minister Uzi Landau says, "By the end of the decade the water we'll all drink will be desalinated." About half of Israel's consumed water will be from that source!

## **Solar Energy**

The major source of power in Israel has been imported oil and coal. Political, economic, and air pollution considerations have been reasons to concentrate on minimizing the use of oil and coal and replacing them with renewable and more available sources of energy.

The use of solar energy in Israel began in the 1950s. Solar water heaters addressed the energy shortages in the new country and by 1967, about 1 in 20 households heated their water with the sun. Now, solar water heaters are used in more than 90% of Israeli homes. Israeli engineers are on the cutting edge of solar energy technology and

Israel's solar companies work on projects from Africa to Europe, Asia, and the United States.

Solar technology has advanced to the point where it is almost cost-competitive with fossil fuels. The high annual incidence of sunshine in the Negev Desert has spurred an internationally renowned solar research and development industry in Israel. The country's goal is to produce 10% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020.

## **Natural Gas**

Recently, the first major fossil fuel reserves in Israel were found off Haifa's coast. Israel has depended on energy imports since its founding. Wars and political conflicts made oil almost unavailable on a regular basis. With these reserves, Israel hopes to build a less dependent energy future.

In 2009, the Tamar natural gas field, with an estimated nine trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves, was discovered 50 miles off Haifa's coast. This field is large enough to meet all of Israel's natural gas requirements for 20-30 years. This offshore bonanza expanded dramatically the following year when the Leviathan, with almost double the gas reserves of Tamar, was discovered. A year later Tanin, a smaller field, with about 1.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, was discovered.

The newly discovered natural gas will become a major source of energy for Israel replacing coal and oil, which today is the fuel used in the production of electricity. In the future, natural gas will replace a portion of refined oil as fuel for vehicles, and natural gas, together with solar energy, will power the fast expanding desalination plants.

All of this will contribute to a major reduction of air, soil, and water pollution caused by coal and oil that has threatened Israel's quality of life. In addition, the extra gas reserves could become a major source of income by selling a portion of the gas to countries in the vicinity.

Israel's energy and environmental future is bright!

*Stay tuned for Democracy in Israel in May.*





**David Lubin  
Lodge #37**

**Open Discussion**  
Second Thursday of the Month

**For membership information  
contact Bernie Marks, 916.363-0122**

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**OUT & ABOUT**



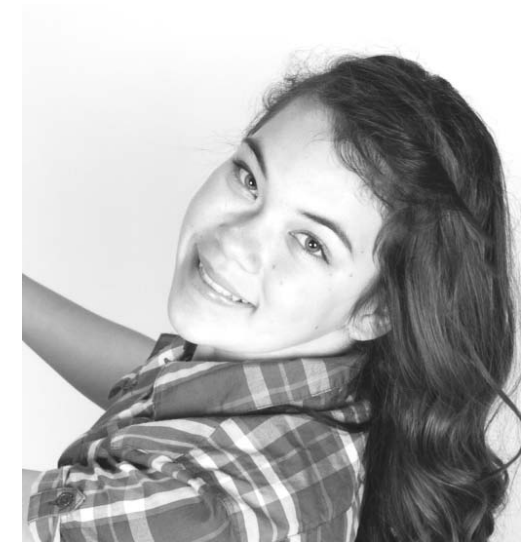
With a combined teaching career of more than five decades, Leslie Kuperstein, left, and Tamara Davidoff, were honored at the Shalom School Benefit in March.



Mazel tov to Leah Ezekiel who celebrates her Bat Mitzvah on April 20, 2013 at Congregation Beth Shalom. For her Bat Mitzvah project, Leah is selling original artwork for the SPCA and asking for sponsorships toward running and gymnastics.



From left, Senate President pro Tem, Darrell Steinberg, recipient of the Hannah G. Solomon Award, at the National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) Founder's Day event on March 10, 2013, with Claire Lipschultz, NCJW Policy Chair.



Grace Wallach becomes a Bat Mitzvah on April 6, 2013 at Congregation Beth Shalom. Grace is a 7th-grade student and a dedicated dancer who has performed with the Sacramento Ballet and at Mondavi and Three Stages in Folsom. She volunteered regularly at Sacramento Children's Receiving Home, spending time with children who are facing separation from parents and family due to abuse and neglect.

Congregation Bet Haverim, Davis, presents  
A Holocaust Commemoration Event  
**Lost, forgotten, looted, or destroyed:  
A great-granddaughter's art legacy**



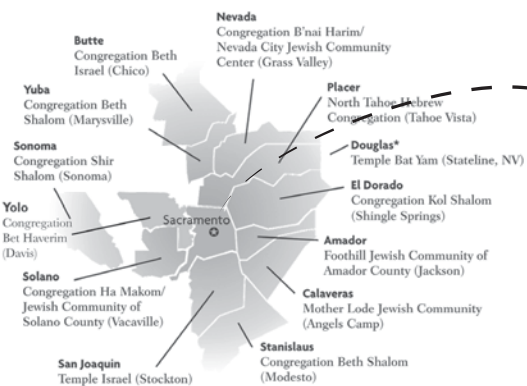
Moshe Rynecki, *Self Portrait* (November 1936)

Moshe Rynecki (1881-1943) painted the Polish-Jewish community in the 1920s and 1930s. Although he perished in the Holocaust, many of his 800 works survived, and the family has about 100. The artist's great-granddaughter will speak about her great-grandfather, her quest to find the missing pieces, and where the family's story rests within the larger story of Holocaust art restitution.

Sunday, April 7th, 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
Congregation Bet Haverim Social Hall  
1715 Anderson Road, Davis

This event is free and open to the public.  
Contact: Nancy Lazarus, nancyblazarus@gmail.com.  
Preview the art online: [www.rynecki.org](http://www.rynecki.org).

# ROAD TRIP!



The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region serves Sacramento and several outlying counties. We'd like to bring our community closer with Road Trip!, a monthly feature that highlights what makes the areas we serve so special. Our next stop is Ashkelon, Israel, Sacramento's newest Sister City, located along the southern coastal strip of Israel on the boundary between the coastal plain and the desert. With a population of 127,000 people and growing, the city is one of Israel's centers of economy, education, and culture.

## History

- + One of the oldest cities in the world
- + Initially called Migdal Gaza, Migdal Gad, and Migdal Ashkelon
- + For thousands of years, considered strategically important for culture and trade
- + New city founded approximately 60 years ago on the relics of ancient Ashkelon
- + Incorporated in 1956

## About the City

- + 127,000 people
- + 14,000 acres
- + 36,000 housing units
- + 12 kilometer of beaches
- + Among the largest industrial parks in Israel
- + Services, industry, and tourism economy
- + 450 acres of open, green parks
- + Port with a capacity of 600 vessels
- + Benny Vaknin, Mayor

## Education

- + 199 kindergartens



- + 30 elementary schools
- + 15 junior high schools
- + 5,500 students at Ashkelon College
- + 98% of school-age children complete 12 years of school
- + Harvard University operates an archaeological summer school program

## Culture & Leisure

- + Concert Hall
- + 10 Community Centers
- + Art Galleries
- + Ashkelon Khan and Museum contains archaeological finds, among them a replica of Ashkelon's Canaanite silver calf, a discovery reported on the front page of *The New York Times*
- + International sports arena
- + Soccer stadium
- + Nautical training center
- + One of the largest marinas in Israel
- + One of Israel's leading Tennis Centers
- + Israeli Beer Breweries operates in Ashkelon, brewing Carlsberg and Tuborg beer for the Israeli market

## Festivals

- + Water
- + Wine
- + Singing
- + Ecofest
- + Breeza Music Festival
- + The "Jewish Eye," an annual Jewish World Film Festival

## Shopping

- + Giron Mall
- + Hutzot Ashkelon Mall
- + Lev Ashkelon Mall

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6/24/13-8/2/13 | [www.CGISAC.org](http://www.CGISAC.org)

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FEATURING VIVIAN LEE

**April 13, 2013**

Doors open at:  
**6:30 p.m.**

Concert begins at:  
**7:15 p.m.**

**\$25/person**

**Tickets\* available online at:**  
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\*Limited tickets available. Must be 21 to attend.

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# SHALOM SCHOOL

## Jewish Community Day School

Infants . Toddlers . Preschool . Kindergarten—6th Grades



**Thursday, April 25th  
6:30—8:00 pm**

## SCHOOL-WIDE OPEN HOUSE

- **All Classrooms Open**
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- **Scholastic Book Fair**

**Educating & Nurturing Children Since 1978**

**2320 Sierra Boulevard . Sacramento, CA 95825**

**RSVP at 916-485-4151**

**[www.shalomschool.org](http://www.shalomschool.org)**



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# CALENDAR

## RECURRING EVENTS

### Sundays

**April 7, 2013.** Finding A Family Branch That Survived the Holocaust. Shlomo Rosenfeld of Berkeley talks about his family discovery, learning about some of the Rosenfelds who survived the Holocaust, living relatives his father did not know about. Free. Noon to 2:00pm. Congregation Bet Haverim, 1715 Anderson Rd., Davis. *For more information about the Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento, visit [www.jgss.org](http://www.jgss.org) or email [mortrumberg1@earthlink.net](mailto:mortrumberg1@earthlink.net).*

**April 14, 2013.** Return to Galicia, Land of My Ancestors. With the help of a local guide and researched, Sherri Venezia discovered the names linked with places through her research and also visited a local concentration camp, Janowska, and a former ghetto enclosure. 10:00am-Noon. Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information about the Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento, visit [www.jgss.org](http://www.jgss.org) or email [mortrumberg1@earthlink.net](mailto:mortrumberg1@earthlink.net).*

Introduction to the Torah Bookshelf weekly e-learning with Rabbi Joel Zeff explores the fundamental texts and authors that form the most important sources of Jewish Law. 7:00am. Visit [Noahidenations.com](http://Noahidenations.com), click on "Academy of Shem" in the Education section, select "Introduction to the Torah Bookshelf" (password is a12s, if asked). Open to all. Please sign on a few minutes before the class is scheduled to start. *For more information, contact 916-481-1159.*

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

### Mondays

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

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

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

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

### Tuesdays

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

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

**Rabbis' Monthly Lunch and Learn.** Rabbi Alfi explores issues in Contemporary Judaism. First Tuesday of the month. Join us with your lunch at Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. Noon-1:00pm. No RSVP required. *For more information, contact [Rabbialfi@bnais.com](mailto:Rabbialfi@bnais.com).*

### Wednesdays

**April 10, 2013.** Leisure League. Tai Chi with Showen. This gentle form of exercise can be done while sitting or standing. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the Trust Fund for the Jewish Elderly. \$5 includes lunch. Noon-2:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. *For more information and to RSVP, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or [federation@jewishsac.org](mailto:federation@jewishsac.org).*

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

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

### Thursdays

**April 25, 2012.** Leisure League. Great Jewish Artists of the Theater and Film by Sara and Cynthia Brideson. Includes video, art, clips of the famous entertainers, and original artwork. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the Trust Fund for the Jewish Elderly. \$5 includes lunch. Noon-2:00pm. Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. *For more information and to RSVP, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or [federation@jewishsac.org](mailto:federation@jewishsac.org).*

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

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

### Fridays

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

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

## Saturdays

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

## GENERAL EVENTS

**April 2, 2013.** Conversations with the Authors. *Everything's Possible: A Memoir of Assimilating, Chasing the American Dream, and Reclaiming Jewish Identity.* Tom Rosenberg, interviewed by Sacramento Bee columnist Dan Walters. Tom's family escaped from Nazi Germany in 1936, and adopted an anglicized name and a new way of life. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013.** Spiritual Direction: At the Core of Your Spiritual Practice with Deni Deutsch Marshall, LCSW. Limited to 15 participants. Includes guided meditation, group readings, and discussion. \$20 for B'nai Israel members/\$25 for non-members. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information and reservations, contact Deni at denimarshall@gmail.com or 916-684-5161.

**April 7, 2013.** Communitywide Yom HaShoah Commemoration featuring Mark Rubin, child survivor of Terezin. Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation. 7:00pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Simone Monnier Clay at simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com.

**April 9 and 23, 2013.** Religious Ethics in the 21st Century with Rabbi Mona Alfi. Tackles some of the toughest issues of Jewish ethics as applied to modern life. Noon-1:00pm. Law Offices of Greenberg Traurig, 1201 K St., Sacramento. Free. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 9, 2013.** Rosh Chodesh. Maggie Anton, author of *Rashi's Daughters*, discusses her new book, *Rav Hisda's*

*Daughter, Book 1: Apprentice: A Novel of Love, the Talmud, and Sorcery.* Women over 13 invited. Vegetarian potluck. Free. Potluck 6:15pm; Services 6:45pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 13, 2013.** Jews on the Front Line: The History of American Jewish Social Activism with Rabbi Lee Bycel. Focuses on the Jewish values that have informed the work of many activists. Supported by the Shirley Seave Scholar-in-Residence Fund. Dessert and coffee following lecture. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 14, 2013.** *Accomplices: Roosevelt, Churchill, and the Holocaust.* Alex Groth, emeritus Professor of Political Science at UC Davis, discusses his recent book which describes tacit cooperation by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt in the Nazi extermination of the Jewish population of Europe in World War II. Sponsored by the Israel Matters Committee. Congregation Bet Haverim Social Hall, 1715 Anderson Rd., Davis. 3:00-4:30pm. For more information, contact Al Sokolow at 530-758-3246 or ajsokolow@ucdavis.edu.

**April 14, 2013.** Yom HaZikaron/Israel Memorial Day. Day observed as a Memorial Day for soldiers who lost their lives in battle defending Israel. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation. 2:00-3:30pm. Keneset Israel Torah Center, 1165 Morse Ave., Sacramento. For more information or to RSVP, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or federation@jewishsac.org.

**April 14, 2013.** Achim: A Discussion Group for Men. Dr. Glenn Hammel. Sponsored by the Brotherhood. Insightful, educational and entertaining evening of discussion and camaraderie. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 16, 23, and 30, 2013.** Sticking Your Neck Out: Jews and Social Change with Professor Brian Landsberg, Distinguished Professor and Scholar at Pacific McGeorge School of Law. Examines the role Jews have played in such areas of

social change as labor rights, immigrant rights, and civil rights. \$15 for B'nai Israel members/\$20 for non-members. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information and to sign up, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 21, 2013.** The Annual Israel Matters Israel Independence Day BBQ and Falafel Fest. Sponsored by the Israel Matters Committee. Congregation Bet Haverim Redwood Grove, 1715 Anderson Rd., Davis. Noon-3:00pm. For more information, contact Al Sokolow at 530-758-3246 or ajsokolow@ucdavis.edu.

**April 24, 2013.** Conversations With the Authors. *My Father's Gardens* with Karen Levy. Story of a young girl who comes of age in two languages, and on two shores, between warring parents and rules that change depending on the landscape and the proximity to her mother. Levy was born in Israel and received her MA in English/Creative Writing from CSUS and currently teaches composition and interpretation of literature. Free. 7:00-8:30pm. Congregation B'nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact Marissa at 916-446-4861 or marissa@bnais.com.

**April 25, 2013.** Shalom School Schoolwide Open House & Book Fair. All classrooms, infant through 6th grade, are open for visitors to see and/or hear student presentations of cultural, scientific, historic, artistic, and culinary perspectives. A Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the School Library. Free. 6:30-8:00pm. Shalom School, 2320 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact 916-485-4151 or shalomdove@shalomschool.org, or visit www.shalomschool.org.

**April 28, 2013.** Jewish Heritage Festival: Celebrating Israel at 65! Join us for live entertainment, food, shopping, children's activities, and everything Israel, sponsored by the Jewish Federation! Preregistration encouraged at www.jewishsac.org/jewishheritagefestival (opens April 3rd). Free. 10:00am-2:00pm. Capitol at 20th & 21st Sts., Sacramento. For more information or to volunteer, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or federation@jewishsac.org.

# YOM HA'SHOAH—HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

*Please join us for a communitywide observance to honor the memories  
of the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust*

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:30pm  
Congregation B'nai Israel  
3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento**

**Guest Speaker  
Mark Rubin, Holocaust Survivor**

**Mark Rubin was born in Czechoslovakia to a prosperous family. When war broke out, young Mark was sent to hide with gentile friends of the family. In 1943, he, his mother and brother were reunited and moved to the farm of another gentile family, all the while pretending to be gentiles themselves. Sadly, one of the family members turned them in to the Gestapo agents and they were ultimately sent to Terezin. Miraculously, they all survived and eventually immigrated to the United States and finally to California where Mark became a successful real estate developer.**

Program includes a Candle Lighting Ceremony, the theme from "Schindler's List" performed by Emily and George Hayes, and the combined choirs from Congregation B'nai Israel, Temple Or Rishon and Congregation Beth Shalom.

**If you're a survivor, child of a survivor, or grandchild of a survivor and want to join the Candle Lighting Ceremony, please meet at 6:45pm at Congregation B'nai Israel.**

**Kosher refreshments immediately following the program hosted by Keneset Israel Torah Center.  
This program is free of charge and endorsed by the Sacramento Area Board of Rabbis.**

For more information, contact [simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com](mailto:simone.monnier.clay@gmail.com).

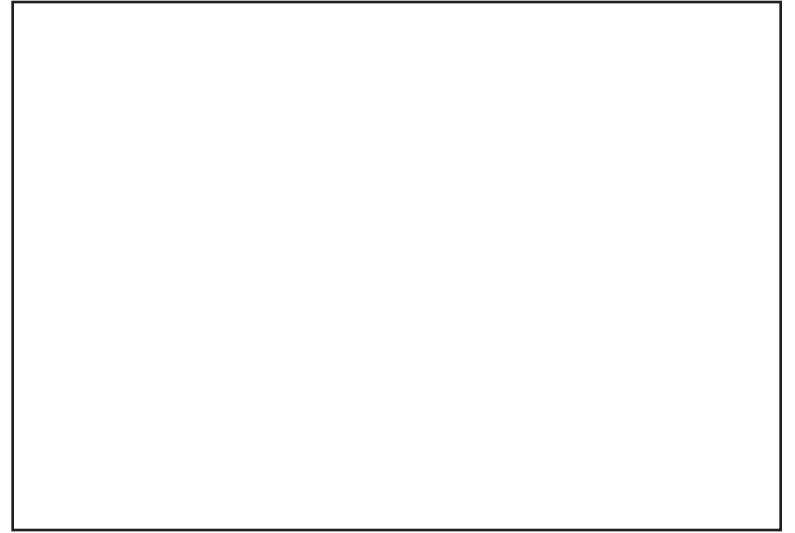


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