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Israeli Delegation of Women
Visits Northern California

IDF **Service Calls**

A publication of The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region

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The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region
2014 Capitol Ave., Suite 109 | Sacramento, CA 95811 | Phone: 916-486-0906 | Fax: 916-441-1662 | Email: federation@jewishsac.org | Website: jewishsac.org

Executive Director | Melissa Chapman | mchapman@jewishsac.org | ext. 301
Managing Editor | Elissa Provance | eprovince@jewishsac.org | ext. 304
Designer | Kyle Shine | k.shine916@gmail.com

Board of Trustees

Executive Committee: President, Lisa Kaplan | Treasurer, Jack Mador | Secretary, Alan Steinberg | Campaign Co-Chair, Carol Loew | Campaign Co-Chair, Robert Dresser | Leadership Development Chair, Lauren Zimmerman | President-Elect, Barry Broad

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Real Dollars, Real Responsibility, Real Impact

The concept of collective philanthropy is a very hard sell. The current culture of philanthropy shows that specific, directed causes have far greater success these days. Donors like instant, tangible results. The Federation system, which asks donors to believe in overarching principals of identity, social responsibility, and peoplehood, has been struggling with this phenomenon for years, as evidenced by a 50 percent decline in donors over the past 20 years. That's 400,000 less people participating in a system that links us to our global community while promoting collective accountability.

Should philanthropy start with the donor or the needs of the public? Effective philanthropy often involves both powerful private values and important public needs. The beauty of the Federation system is that it allows for a more strategic vehicle for impactful philanthropy. As the central address of our community, it is our job to assess the most critical needs and find possible solutions. We have the data to make decisions, as hard as they may be, about whether we should add more hours to our Social Worker's portfolio or enroll more children in PJ Library.

We understand that times have changed and donors want to feel the impact of their dollars immediately, which is why we also have designated gifts. If you have a particular connection to seniors, Israel, or PJ Library, you have the ability to direct your donation to these services. We have to stay current after all!

The Federation Annual Campaign, however, is our lifeblood. Without a robust, central funding system, we cannot continue to address the growing needs of our community. If all of our dollars were

designated to specific programs or services, we would not have the ability to make urgent decisions such as delivering holiday outreach baskets to homebound community members, shopping for the Kosher food pantry, sending emergency dollars to our Partnership 2Gether Region in Israel, centralizing and running Leisure League, or dealing with other critical needs as they arise. So when you give a gift to the Federation Annual Campaign, your dollars carry real responsibility and create real impact.



Melissa Chapman is the Executive Director of the Jewish Federation.

Help Build Our Community: ✓

I am a checklist kind of girl. I admit it. I like how it feels when I drag my pen through a group of interconnected words that separately mean nothing, but when strung together, indicate that something over the course of my day has been completed. Or putting a checkmark next to items as a positive affirmation that each day has a purpose, no matter how big or small.

I am actually a multi-list person. I have work lists, home lists, and children lists. I have 'to do' lists, 'to buy' lists, and 'to call' lists. Even my children know not to tell me what they need but rather, to put it on 'the list.'

So as June 30th quickly approaches and with it, the end of Federation's fiscal year, I decided to— you guessed it— make a list of new accomplishments. It went something like this:

- ◇ Hire a part-time community Social Worker: ✓
- ◇ Create a Kosher Food Pantry: ✓
- ◇ Centralize Senior Programming: ✓
- ◇ Reinstate holiday outreach baskets to homebound individuals: ✓

- ◇ Co-sponsor with The Crest Theatre the 16th Annual Jewish Film Festival: ✓
- ◇ Host communitywide programs such as with Gary Kenzer, CEO of Honest Reporting: ✓
- ◇ Co-sponsor with Lombard & Company the annual Memorial Day commemoration for Jewish veterans: ✓
- ◇ Introduce Part 2 of the Introduction to Judaism class: ✓
- ◇ Formalize the relationship with and continue to fund the Sacramento Area Jewish Educators: ✓
- ◇ Present a pre-eminent panel of experts via our Jewish Community Relations Council to discuss the Affordable Care Act: ✓
- ◇ Mobilize the community in support of Ashkelon, Israel as Sacramento's 10th Sister City: ✓
- ◇ Raise nearly \$15,000 during Operation Pillar of Defense: ✓
- ◇ Redesign a new website: ✓

This list does not include our ongoing support of PJ Library; Mitvah Week; Emerging Jewish Leaders; providing subsidies for post-B'nai Mitzvah teens for a trip to Israel; allocation of funds to Hillel and Shalom School; production and dissemination of the VOICE; and other efforts.

None of these new or ongoing programs and services could have been accomplished without your generosity and commitment so if you have made your pledge to the 2013 Annual Campaign, I hope you have crossed it off your list. If you haven't, I invite you to do so. It will leave you feeling not only accomplished, but positive about the difference you are making in our community and around the world.



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

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JCRC Sponsors Health Care Forum

The Affordable Care Act takes center stage at a June 5, 2013 program sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC).

"This is not something that comes out of context," noted Chuck Adelman, Chair of JCRC's Public Affairs Committee, citing a 2010 JCRC-sponsored program about health care reform. "This is a priority of tikkun olam in our community and nationally. The Public Affairs Committee needs to stay engaged with issues that affect the Jewish community and in terms of social justice and education, the community needs to be brought up to speed."

The 2010 forum, Adelman explained, covered the problems of treating people, health care delivery from an HMO's point of view, business perspectives, options for reforms, and opportunities for community involvement.

"Health care has always been a Jewish priority, beginning with Maimonides in the 16th century and as an issue monitored by the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, the umbrella group of Community Relations Councils, which adopted principles and resolutions related to health care coverage in 1993 and 2003," he said, adding, "Jews are about healing the world."

The June program, entitled *The Affordable Care Act: How It Will Affect You and the People You Care About*, focuses on implementation of the recently passed health care legislation. Issues such as incentives to stay in specific plans, impacts on small businesses, the responsibilities of HMOs, the effects on Medicare, and the response of State government will be presented. The panel will be facilitated by Capitol Public Radio Health Care reporter

Pauline Bartolone and includes:

- ◇ **Julie Bates**, Associate State Director for AARP in California, who was deeply involved in the writing and passage of the Affordable Care Act.
- ◇ **Ken DeVore**, Legislative Director from the National Federation of Independent Business, who served as a key advisor on legislative, policy, and communications issues to former Senators and Assemblymembers.
- ◇ **Patrick Johnston**, President & CEO of the California Association of Health Plans, who served in the Legislature, the Assembly, and the Senate, and also worked for Health Net in government relations and taught public policy.
- ◇ **Assemblymember Dr. Richard Pan**, Chair, Assembly Committee on Health, who is focusing on expanding transparency and oversight of government health programs, as well as ensuring federal health care reforms are implemented effectively and efficiently in California.
- ◇ **David Panush**, Director, Government Relations, California Health Benefit Exchange and the former Health Policy Advisor to Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg.

"We perceive anxiety over this big change," Adelman said. "We are trying to look at it less as policy and more personal to address anxieties and allay fears. We want to give people knowledge and have presenters who are equipped to address misinformation."

The Affordable Care Act: How It Will Affect You and the People You Care About is June 5, 2013 at 6:30pm at KOH Library and Cultural Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information or to RSVP, contact JCRC Director Jessica Birch at jbirch@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 308.



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Boston Marathon Tragedy Hits Home



Larry Saltzman, 15 miles from the finish line at the Boston marathon.

The text came in at 2:52pm. Two words: Stop running. For Mosaic Law Congregation member Larry Saltzman, 1 of 140 Team in Training runners at the prestigious Boston marathon, those words were the final piece of the puzzle he had pieced together in his head a half-mile from the finish line.

“We were stopped and my first inclination was there was a medical problem,” began Saltzman, himself a physician. “I heard sirens, then within 15 minutes, someone said there was an explosion at the finish line. They thought it was a gas line. When I heard ‘explosion,’ I thought, ‘It’s a bomb.’”

He called his wife Sharon, who was sitting in the grandstands with Sacramento friends Janie and Frank Gumpert.

“All I heard was ‘No cells available,’” Saltzman continued. “I just wanted to finish the race so I put the phone back and thought, ‘She’ll see me when I get there in another half mile.’ Then the text from Frank came through and I put two and two together.”

Rewind two days prior to the April 15th Boston marathon bombing and you would find Saltzman, who was diagnosed with Leukemia in 2010, as the “Mission Moment” presenter at the Team in Training Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Luncheon, an honor bestowed upon him for raising \$39,000 for the organization in 2012— the largest amount ever raised for a chapter. Remarkably, he received the go-ahead from his doctors to run again this year and surpassed his own record by \$20,000, raising \$59,000.

“This was the best keynote I’ve heard in my life,” said Sharon Saltzman of her husband’s remarks, which focused on personal stories of family and friends living with cancer and the music he listens to while running, including the song, “With Your Face to the Wind” by Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul, and Mary, in honor of his sister who succumbed to breast cancer in 2007. “It was so powerful, you could hear a pin drop. I looked over to our friends and there were tears in their eyes.”

In his remarks, Saltzman noted how many in the Mosaic Law community also were dealing



The finish line, five minutes before the bomb exploded.



The final photo taken by Sharon Saltzman prior to the blast.

with cancer and how supportive so many were of him, both emotionally and financially. The same held true following the tragedy. When cell service was finally restored, Saltzman had nearly 700 messages but it was hours before he had the chance to cull through them. In fact, it was hours before he saw Sharon, who was sitting directly across from the first explosion and witnessed glass shattering, people being blown away, and a fireball of smoke.

“I thought she was blown up,” Saltzman said. “She was in the grand stands with 1,000 people. That’s where the bulk of the people were.”

Borrowing a phone from a fellow runner whose cell phone service was restored, Saltzman was able to call Sharon but she couldn’t answer. He called his daughter, Jennifer, who lives in New York to tell her he was okay and she told him she had heard from her mother.

“I was not comfortable until we connected,” Sharon explained, noting that no one knew how many other bombs might be planted along the running route. “Until we were reunited, I couldn’t relax.”

Saltzman made his way to their hotel, accompanied by the sounds of sirens and ambulances. Police escorted him to the hotel’s freight elevator— armed guards were stationed at the entrances— and 3½ hours after it all began, the door opened and he was tearfully greeted by his wife and friends. The same has been true since they arrived home.

“We are such a community of caring people,” said Sharon. “Everywhere we go, on any given day, people ask how we are. We are blessed to be in this amazing community.”

Added Saltzman, “What’s the lesson? Spend more time with my kids and raise more money.”

And the runner already is looking toward the 2014 race.

“If my health allows, I will do it,” he said. “It’s not just that I need the last half-mile. I need to finish what I started. Not only will I go to run, but to make a statement.”

After returning home, Saltzman received a UPS package from a Sacramento friend whose husband recently died from blood cancer. Her son and his fiancé ran the Boston marathon and finished ahead of the bombing. The package contained a medal, with the following note: “Your 4½-hour marathon might not go down as an official PR, but you certainly earned this finisher’s medal. Unfortunately, our memories of that day will always have a dark cloud attached to them, but I hope this keepsake will serve to remind you of your tremendous personal accomplishment amidst your ongoing efforts to fight this terrible disease. We look forward to seeing you at the start line next year.”

In Memoriam: Susan Mogull



Photo Credit: Jose Luis Villegas, Sacramento Bee, 2001.

Sweet. Good sense of humor. Easygoing. These were but a few adjectives Bob Mogull used to describe his wife, Susan, who passed away from cancer on April 24, 2013 at the age of 72.

"It surprised me that she became such an activist," he said of his partner of 42 years. "She didn't express any strong feelings when we were dating or in the early years of our marriage."

The West Virginia-native's activism was awakened when her children began attending school and she discovered errors about Jews and Israel in state-mandated textbooks, unfair treatment of how Jews were portrayed, or blatant anti-Semitism.

"I was Director of the JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council) when Susan called me," recalled Anne Eisenberg. "She was not happy about how *The Merchant of Venice* was being taught at school."

Mogull recalled that as a turning point as well.

"She got upset because it portrayed Jews very unfairly and in a stereotypical light," he said. "She felt students had little contact with Jewish people so why should they be

exposed in this fictional novel to a Jew in such an unfair way."

The discussion with Eisenberg, which took place in the 1980s, led to Susan becoming the JCRC Education Committee Chair and along with Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools, Dave Gordon, she created an annual Superintendent's Luncheon that still stands today.

Carol Velarde, who met Susan as a fellow JCRC member, said of the Superintendent's Luncheon, "The program had been established to better acquaint school administrators with practices that negatively affected Jewish students. One positive outcome of this relationship building was a heightened sensitivity to the needs of religious minorities in public schools."

Eisenberg noted that under Susan's leadership, the JCRC Education Committee addressed a number of issues including the teaching of religion.

"She started seeing textbooks and was horrified at what she saw," Eisenberg said, citing examples such as the portrayal of the Christian God with a capital "G," but the Jewish G-d with a lower case 'g,' and Christianity as replacing Judaism as G-d's religion.

Susan began partnering with Jackie Berman at the San Francisco JCRC, who described her 20-year-plus relationship.

"Susan and I were determined to make classrooms more comfortable for Jewish students," Berman said. "We spent hours on the phone commiserating about some awful thing that had happened, or might happen, and strategizing about how to deal with problems."

The two spent countless hours poring over textbooks and in 2005 they co-founded with Rabbi Doug Kahn, San Francisco's JCRC Director, the Institute for Curriculum Services (ICS), a non-profit dedicated to promoting accurate instructional materials and instruction about Jews, Judaism, and Israel for American K-12 students. Susan diligently worked with textbook publishers to ensure accurate portrayals of the Holocaust, Israel, and Jews.

"She was extremely committed to the Jewish people," Mogull said. "She defended them in a very logical way— not by shouting, not by emotions. She would point out that the Jewish people and Israel were not being treated equally or fairly as were other people. She was very scholarly in her defense. Her strategy was not to attack but to point out errors and misleading comments. They thoroughly respected her and often called to ask her to examine something or give her opinion."

Susan's devotion, Eisenberg said, was so strong that three weeks before her passing, she still was reviewing textbooks.

"People find a passion in their life that gives them meaning," she said. "This gave her life meaning and she's left an incredible legacy of creating awareness among publishers that someone is watching. She was a pretty wonderful person who will be missed."

Mogull certainly agreed.

"She was one in a million," he said. "I wish there were more people like her."

In addition to her husband, Bob, Susan Mogull is survived by three children and three grandchildren.

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Serving the Community Since 5760

IDF SERVICE CALLS



From left, Hannah Broad, center, celebrating the end of boot camp and Lielle Ross, who will begin her IDF service during the summer.



Hannah Broad and Lielle Ross' decisions to make aliyah and serve in the IDF were not made overnight.

"The idea to join the IDF had been ruminating in my mind for quite awhile before I reached the final decision to commit," said 22-year-old Broad, who explained that her first encounter with the IDF was at Camp Tawonga, a Jewish summer camp in the Yosemite Valley. "To be clear, no one forms a connection to the Israeli Army; rather, we form bonds to the men and women of which the army is composed. The Israelis I met at camp were the channel that allowed me a window into Israeli culture and life. The bonds that I formed with the Israeli campers was strong and to this day, some of my closest friends in Israel are the same people who were my bunkmates and fellow campers six, seven, and 10 years ago."

Ross, a senior at Rio Americano High School who graduates this month, traces her desire to serve back to the year she spent in Israel in 9th grade.

"It is such a big part of the culture," she explained. "Everybody waits for that moment and I wanted to be a part of it."

Broad graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she majored in Jewish Studies in the school's newly established Jewish Studies Department. Currently, she is a Rabat, demarcated by two stripes and the equivalent of a Corporal, and acts as a liaison between the Army and volunteers who participate in Sar-El, an IDF program that brings people from abroad ranging in age from 15-80 to do volunteer work in the military.

"I take care of all of their needs and also lead them on trips around the country," she said. "I teach them about Israel, and its history and culture. Prior to this, I was in Army Ulpan, a program where the IDF invests time and manpower to teach new immigrants who are joining the army how to read, write, and speak Hebrew at a proficient level."

Ross, who holds dual citizenship with Israel, will leave Sacramento in August as part of Garin Tzabar, a program that brings young people from the U.S. and Canada together to live on a kibbutz and serve together in the IDF. Her group includes 30 peers from California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Vancouver who already have participated in three leadership seminars that focused on relationship building, what to expect while

living on a kibbutz and being drafted, and education about Israel. Ross is still awaiting word of where she will be living and the type of IDF service she will be performing.

"I know basic training will be the hardest part but I also know it will be a good experience, even in rough times," the 18-year-old said.

Broad already has a perspective about the demands of her service.

"The truth is that for Americans who join the Israeli Army, we are shocked when we experience the discrepancy between what we imagined and the reality of the IDF," she explained. "That is to say that inevitably, as Americans, we have a rose-tinted notion of the IDF because, let's be honest, it is pretty inconceivable to voluntarily leave everything behind to join the military of another country."

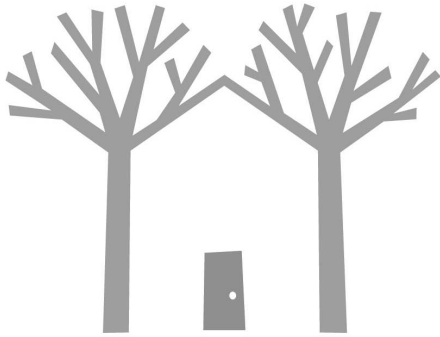
While she imagined her service might be similar to that of the Palmach, being on the front lines of battle, defending the country, "while the Israeli national anthem was playing an endless loop in our minds," she realized no army is like that. The majority of Broad's time is actually spent preparing, and participating in drills and demanding practice runs.

"In spite of everything, the people who make up the IDF are, without a doubt, the strongest people I have ever met," she said. "These people support each other when they feel like they cannot continue and care deeply for one another."

Both young women plan on returning home eventually— like many Israelis who complete their service, Ross hopes to travel to South America or India and then apply to college. Broad already has experienced pangs of homesickness but appreciates the opportunity to learn true independence.

"Service in the IDF is hard," she said. "Everyone struggles but it is an experience that I would never give up. It is a wonderful thing to witness people uniting for the same cause and forming connections that they will have for the rest of their lives."

Groundbreaking Study of Jewish Camps for Children with Disabilities and Special Needs



FOUNDATION FOR
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CAMP**

The Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC) unveiled research findings on May 1, 2013 focused on serving children with disabilities and special needs at summer camp. *Jewish Camp for Children with Disabilities and Special Needs*, the first-of-its-kind study in the Jewish community, was based on surveys and in-depth interviews mapping current, potential, and desired services available to children with emotional, intellectual, and physical disabilities at non-profit Jewish overnight camps in North America.

The impetus for the study, said Abby Knopp, FJC's Vice President of Program and Strategy, came after a review of the

customer base at camps throughout North America and looking broadly at who was being served and who was not showing up on the radar.

"One group that was not represented in proportion to their numbers in the general population," she said, "was children with disabilities and special needs. We began thinking about how to create more opportunities for these children."

Highlights of the research study that examined responses from 828 respondents including parents, campers, camp directors, and staff from 124 camps, included:

- ◇ More children with disabilities and special needs being served at overnight camps than anticipated— estimates are closer to 2,500 instead of the 1,200 it was thought to be.
- ◇ A vast majority of camps indicating that they want to do more to include children with disabilities and special needs.
- ◇ A 93% satisfaction rate among parents regarding their children's camp experience.

Of the study results, Knopp said, "There is plenty more to be done and we recognize there is more to be done, but we were gratified and happy to see how eager the camps were to do more."

Peggy Blincoe, Co-Chair with Deborah Gonzalez of Federation's Committee

on Inclusion and Disabilities (CID), agreed, saying, "The results of this study support CID's mission to create inclusive opportunities for children with disabilities and their families here in the Sacramento region. We are happy to see that Jewish camps are providing these opportunities at various levels and are committed to doing more to make sure all children have a positive Jewish experience."

Although a lack of financial resources was thought to be among the biggest barriers, the top slot actually was training and resources. Physical facilities that don't have special ramps or are built on an incline also present barriers for those with physical disabilities or who are in a wheelchair.

Knopp explained that of the 155 camps that are part of FJC, more than one-third offer a specially-designed program such as Tikvah at Camp Ramah or Mitzvah Corp run by the Union of Reform Judaism. The majority of children included, she added, are those on the Autism spectrum or those with Asperger's Syndrome. As a whole, parents of typical children, she noted, were pleased that camps were welcoming of children with disabilities and even want it to be front and center because it shows an important value.

"It is mandated in Jewish law that we take care of people with special needs," Knopp said, adding, "I think one of the things you hear about from families with children with disabilities is tremendous isolation from the community in general and the Jewish community in particular. When you are not able to include someone with a disability or special need, you are basically not including their entire family. You risk losing them to the Jewish community and that is a huge tragedy. We can't let that happen."

For more information about the Foundation for Jewish Camp, visit www.jewishcamp.org.

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Credit: JFNA



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Credit: JFNA



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Israeli Delegation of Women Leaders **Visits Northern California**



From left, Christina El Khazen, Enak Mawasse, interpreter Michal Cohen, Edna Friedman, and Tsega Melaku. The women were part of an Israel delegation to the U.S. entitled *Women as Political Leaders*.

Five women from Israel participated in a three-week tour of the U.S. with stops in Sacramento; San Francisco; Reno; Washington, D.C.; and New York. The delegation, entitled *Women as Political Leaders*, was organized by the Northern California World Trade Center (NCWTC), located in California's capital city.

"The mission of the World Trade Center is to help grow the prosperity of Northern California through international trade," said Renée Nunes Taylor, NCWTC's President and CEO. "We connect businesses that could grow their exporting or connect them to resources or educational services."

Part of an international network with more than 300 offices worldwide and headquartered in New York, one of NCWTC's programs is the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP), a professional exchange program coordinated with the U.S. Department of State that strives to build mutual understanding between the U.S. and other nations. In addition to Israel, participating nations in 2013 included Brazil, Algeria, United Kingdom, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, and Japan.

"*Women as Political Leaders* was designed to look at projects that empower women and how to work together," explained Jennifer Bailey, Director of International Services at NCWTC, who added that hosting international visitors has been NCWTC's focus for the past five years. "As a State capital we have a lot of groups who want to see how the system works. This is a diplomatic program to show

the potential of what's built here and what people can do in their own country."

For City Councilor for the Municipality of Jerusalem and Chair of the Committee on the Advancement of Women, Edna Friedman, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn about the work that is done in the U.S. with the advancement of women and to share her own experience. Friedman participated in the delegation with Christina El Khazen, an Accounting Department Manager in the Haifa Municipality; Enak Mawasse, a political and social activist; Tsega Melaku, a television anchor; and one additional member who preferred to remain anonymous. The five delegates represented different ethnic and religious backgrounds: one was Jewish, one was Muslim, one was Christian, and two were Ethiopian immigrants who were Jewish.

"My goal was to learn more about the U.S. system, learn from the experience others, and network," Friedman said. "If I was able to share my experience as well, it was a bonus."

The packed itinerary included stops at Rio Americano High School's International Relations class; a speaking engagement at California State University, Sacramento's Iranian and Middle Eastern Studies Center where the women addressed students in a Women of Color class; a tour of Hillel at Davis and Sacramento; meetings with non-profit organizations serving women such as WEAVE (Women Escaping a Violent Environment); and appointments with legislative leaders, including Senator Darrell Steinberg's Chief of Staff.

Friedman said the trip helped strengthen the relationship between the U.S. and Israel by introducing the U.S. system at all levels to future leaders from other countries who already hold meaningful positions and creating networking opportunities between the Israeli delegates and the people with whom they met.

"Knowledge is power," she said. "Learning from the experience of others can help both sides, even if what you learn is that your situation is not as bad as you thought or you learn how others overcame the same issues you're dealing with."

One visit that left a huge impact on the Jerusalem-based leader was a visit to a Sacramento center that helps homeless women get their life on track by teaching and empowering them. Another highlight was visiting the Senate.

"Having the Israeli flag in our honor, being introduced at the beginning of the session, and getting recognition from other State Senators— we felt very welcomed," Friedman noted. "Delegations like this are important because they encourage mutual learning; help us to understand that we are not so far behind in some ways and ahead in others; are a starting point for networking; and they break down stereotypes that lead to stronger relationships between our two nations."

For more information about NCWTC, visit www.norcalwtc.org.

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The Jewish Federation wishes

Ruthie Ofek, Efrat Guszbeskis, and Ari Steinberg



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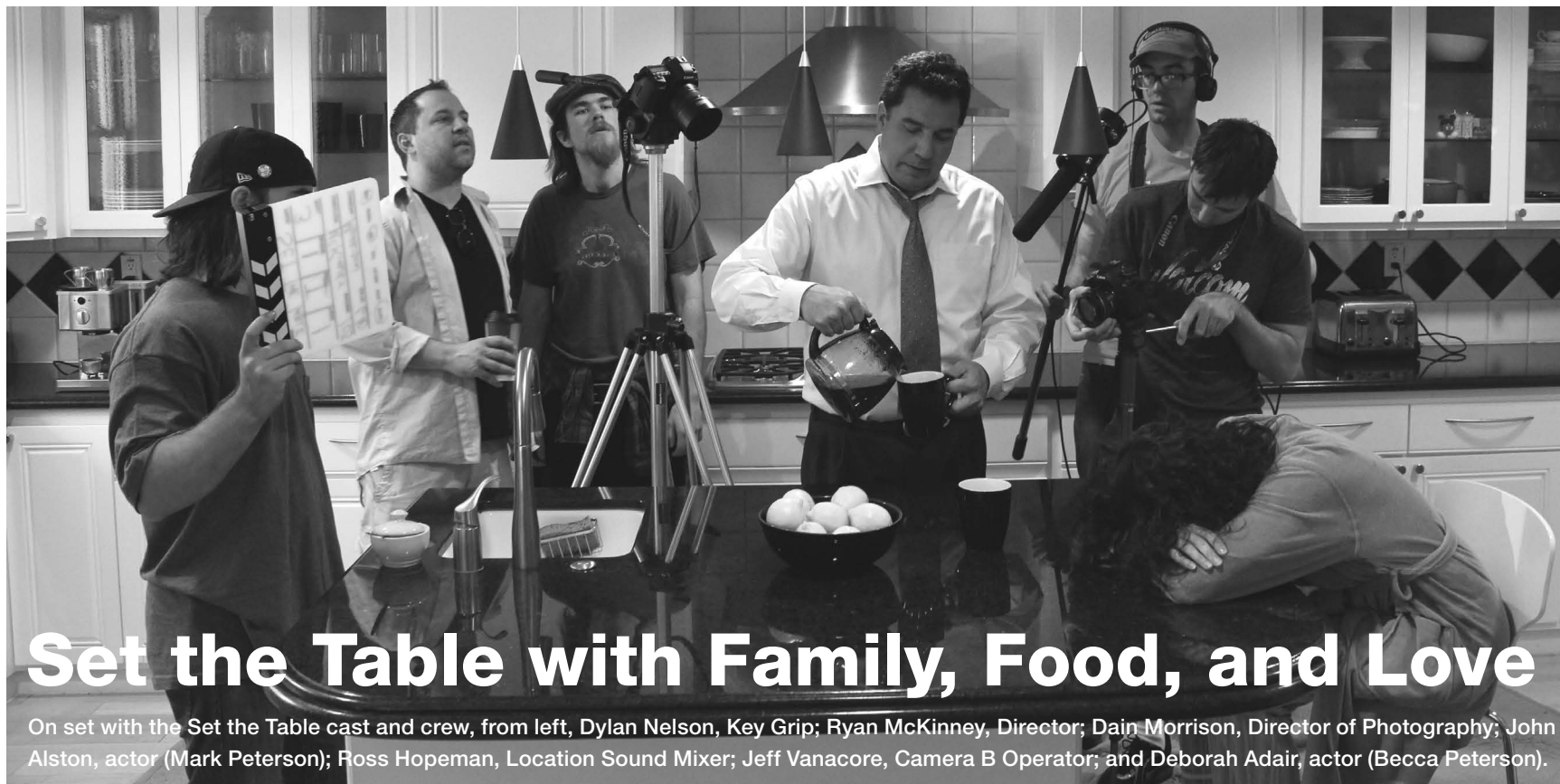
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a hearty mazel tov for being named
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Honorees will be recognized at Federation's Annual Meeting on
June 13, 2013 at 6:00pm at Federation's office,
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Come help us celebrate these remarkable teachers!

SAJE, a group of religious, day school, and community educators,
is a committee of The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.



Set the Table with Family, Food, and Love

On set with the *Set the Table* cast and crew, from left, Dylan Nelson, Key Grip; Ryan McKinney, Director; Dain Morrison, Director of Photography; John Alston, actor (Mark Peterson); Ross Hopeman, Location Sound Mixer; Jeff Vanacore, Camera B Operator; and Deborah Adair, actor (Becca Peterson).

Becca has a good heart. She is the glue that holds the family together. Her sister, Judy, is scattered, her husband, Mark, solid. Nephew Aaron is grounded and prodigal daughter, Maddy, is a free spirit, off in Europe. Helen, her mom, is a hippie, feeling lost in a changing world.

Meet the Petersons, characters in a new web-based series entitled *Set the Table*, a dramedy about a Jewish family centered around, what else? Food.

Produced and written by Sacramentan Deborah Adair and filmed literally in her own backyard, the series is focused on middle-aged couple Becca and Mark and their efforts to rekindle their relationship through cooking. The genesis of the show was Adair's observations around the lack of cooking and its ability to connect people.

"Years ago, I lived in a mixed neighborhood and this kid was holding a cookie in his hand," she explained. "He was 9 or 10 years old and he never had a homemade cookie before."

Using her Jewish heritage as a springboard, Adair created six episodes of the SAG/

AFTRA production, all less than 10 minutes in length and under the direction of Ryan McKinney, who has directed actors Lou Diamond Phillips and Pam Grier. The series has been selected for screening at two web series festivals, the LAweb Festival in March, and the Hollyweb Festival in April. Julia Smyth, who plays Becca's sister, Judy, received recognition at LAweb Festival as Outstanding Supporting Actress in a drama or dramedy.

"There have always been Jews in Hollywood behind the camera," noted Adair, "but not in front of the camera. You don't see Jews as Jews. Henry Winkler was Jewish but he played an Italian. You don't see a lot of Jewish families depicted."

In addition to the actors, El Dorado Hills native, musician, and Adair's childhood friend, Paul Mars Black (nee Paul Marmorstein), performed Hava Nagila with Bartt Warburton, aka Ukelele Bartt, on an episode featuring Becca and her nephew tackling the delicate art of making latkes.

"I grew up listening to that song," Black said. "My dad called square dancing and it was a standard. I heard it my whole life."

The grandson of a cantor whose paternal family was from Hungary and came to the United States via Poland, Black is a veteran musician who moved to Los Angeles in 1980. His career has included being the drummer for punk bands *The Mau Mau's* and *The Joneses*; he was a founding member of *L.A. Guns*; and he earned two gold records for his contributions as a singer and songwriter before forming *Black Cherry*. He's also worked extensively as a producer.

Pointing out that the show is a local affair, Adair also said that the director grew up in Folsom, the boy who plays her son lives in Grass Valley, the actor who plays her husband is a Northern California news reporter, and the daughter is her real-life daughter, Samantha.

"The message we're trying to drive home is, the simple things you do for each other make a difference," she said. "Take a few minutes and pay attention to each other. It's about food, family, and love."

For more information about *Set the Table*, visit www.watchsetthetable.com.

HEALTHY EMOTIONS

A key to a more tranquil life, is mastering control over our emotions, through deep insight from the Kaballah and other Jewish teachings, this course will equip you with tools to balance healthier emotions. A 3 part course by Rabbi Yossi Korik.

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Guilt: Reflecting on the past sometimes arouses feelings of guilt. Now guilt is a complex emotion. While it ignites a desire for change, it can also be a destructive force. Is there good and bad guilt? What does Kaballah say about guilt? What triggers it? How can one control it, and grow from it?

Fear: The most popular verse in the Torah is “Al Tirah” – Do not fear! Explore the tremendous wisdom the Torah shares, to successfully live a fearless life. Practical and helpful tools to overcome fear and worries which often times paralyze us from our full productive potential.

Sadness: Sadness, though it is not a sin, it can negatively affect a person, more than many a sin may. How can a person lift their spirits when feeling down? What about when things are not going well? Discover some G-d given techniques for overcoming sadness, and entering a true state of joy.

**For more information or to register visit
www.JewishRoseville.com or call 916.677.9960**

IDF Soldier Represents Partnership 2Gether in Sacramento



From left, Shalom School student Jacob Nalangan with Lt. Lavi Miednik.

Lt. Lavi Miednik, a representative of the Partnership 2Gether Region, was the recent guest of the Jewish Federation. Originally from Kibbutz Nitzanim, located near Ashkelon, Sacramento’s newest Sister City, and Ashdod in southern Israel, Miednik currently serves as a Military Police Commander in the IDF. A program of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Partnership 2Gether partners Jewish communities around the world with Israeli communities, the majority of which are in high priority areas. The Sacramento Federation partners with cities Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon.

“My first experience with Partnership 2Gether was in the 8th grade,” Miednik recalled. “We had a few meetings between the U.S. and Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon in a leadership program.”

The young man’s opportunity to visit the U.S. finally came in April, when he arrived in Sacramento.

“It’s really amazing,” he said. “You have Jewish communities all over the world that continue to observe holidays, have their own synagogues, and celebrate festivals. The wish to be Jewish all over the world is the same.”

Miednik’s father, who was part of a Zionist youth movement, decided to make aliyah from Uruguay with his wife in 1979 after

volunteering for a year on Kibbutz Nitzanim. The family, 1 of approximately 120 families, still lives there. The kibbutz, celebrating its 70th year this year, is responsible for one of the largest agricultural crops in the country. Miednik studied mechanical engineering at the Technion in Haifa before joining the IDF.

“It is part of our DNA,” he said. “We want to join the IDF. I want to protect my country and do my job as best as possible.”

The soldier, who served as a border guard between Judea and Samaria at age 19, visited with members of the Federation Board and the Jewish Community Relations Council; presented at Shalom School and religious school classes at Mosaic Law Congregation and Congregation Beth Shalom; addressed Temple Or Rishon and Mosaic Law on Shabbat; spoke at Sutter Middle School; and enjoyed the Jewish Heritage Festival.

The soldier discussed Operation Pillar of Defense, describing how 100 missiles would fall daily at the rate of four per hour.

“If you don’t live in that area, you can’t understand,” he said. “In Israel, if the Air Force comes to bomb a house and 10 seconds before knows that children or women are there, they will not bomb the house, even if there is a terrorist in there. The media takes the situation and doesn’t focus on the restraint used. It’s frustrating. You are fighting against an enemy whose main target is to make you look bad to the world. It doesn’t matter what we say. They always say we are the bad country. But that gives me energy to do my duty.”

The 21-year-old also asked, “Where in the Muslim world can women drive, vote, be elected to Parliament, or walk alone in the street? Only in Israel.”

And, of course, he talked of the one thing that everyone wants.

“The people in Israel want one thing,” he said. “Peace.”

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OUT & ABOUT

Native Sacramentan and UCLA senior Jonathan Gilbert, spoke at the UCLA Hillel Annual Gala on April 24, 2013 on behalf of Bruins for Israel. Gilbert is President of the campus Israel advocacy group, which was honored at the Gala as Student Group of the Year.



Mazel tov to Andrew Jeffrey, who celebrates his Bar Mitzvah on June 15, 2013. Jeffrey attends Arden Middle School and for his mitzvah project, he spent time with Family Promise, helped senior residents at the Albert Einstein Residence Center, and will help clean the American River during the summer.



Shalom School's Early Childhood Education program has earned an exclusive national accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation's leading organization of early childhood professionals. Shalom School's infant/toddler and preschool programs join an elite group of top-flight schools that have achieved the highest standards required for the accreditation. Shalom School is 1 of only 12 total Sacramento-area schools and a mere 8 percent of programs nationwide to achieve this distinction.



The Sacramento Israeli Dance Group gathered on April 21, 2013 for its Spring Workshop. Susanna Mullen, a volunteer teacher, led a lively and enthusiastic group in fast-paced contemporary Israeli dances and introduced the group to several new, cutting edge dances as well as a wide selection of popular and familiar selections. The group meets weekly at Congregation B'nai Israel. Teaching is from 7:00-8:00pm and advanced open dancing begins at 8:00pm. All levels of dancers are welcome.



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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 and JCRC Board Member Eddi Benjamini highlights a different theme about a side of Israel that you won't see in the mainstream press. This month he looks at the city of Tel Aviv.

Three and a half million tourists arrived in Israel in 2012. The country offers a wide variety of historical and religious sites, beach resorts, archaeological and heritage places of interest, and sports and family activities. In 2009, revenue from tourism was \$3.3 billion. In 2010, tourism constituted 6.4% of the country's Gross Domestic Product. Although the most famous and most visited place in Israel is Jerusalem, this is the story of Tel Aviv.

Situated on the Mediterranean coast of Israel, Tel Aviv was the first modern Jewish city. In 1909, Jewish residents founded the city in the sand dunes on the outskirts of the mostly Arab city of Jaffa. In 1950, Jaffa was merged with, by then, the much larger all Jewish city of Tel Aviv. Today metropolitan Tel Aviv is home to 3.4 million residents.

The city is an economic hub, home to the Stock Exchange, corporate offices, and R&D centers. It is the country's financial capital and business center. Tel Aviv has the second largest economy in the Middle East after Dubai. With 3.5 million international visitors annually, it is known as "the city that never sleeps" due to its thriving nightlife, young atmosphere, and famous "24/7 culture."

Israel has the highest number of museums per capita in the world with three of the largest located in Tel Aviv: The Eretz Israel Museum of archaeology and history of the Land of Israel, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, and Beth Hatfutsot, a museum of the diaspora. The history of the Jewish underground of pre-state Israel is shown in the Palmach, the Etzel, and the Hagana museums. Another historical journey is

the Independence Museum. Many art galleries and offbeat museums are located throughout the city.

Centers for the performing arts located in the city include five of the country's large theaters. The Performing Arts Center is home to the Israeli Opera and the well-known Cameri Theater. The Mann Auditorium is the city's largest theater, home to both the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Israel's national theater, Habima. Many smaller theaters, as well as the world famous Batsheva Dance Company, are part of the cultural scene. The city hosts pop and rock concerts in Hayarkon Park, the Israel Trade and Convention Center, and the Barby and Zappa Clubs.

The Tel Aviv Cinematheque screens art movies, premieres of Israeli films, and hosts a variety of film festivals like the "Festival of Animation," "Comics and Caricatures," "Icon Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival," the "Student Film Festival," the "Jazz, Film and Videotape Festival," and "Salute to Israeli Cinema."

Tel Aviv is a perfect city for tourists and people who love to have fun. It is a bustling city of lights, saturated with a vivacious passion for life offering every possible type of evening entertainment. The city has literally hundreds of street cafés, bars, and clubs that provide music and popular entertainment to suit all tastes. The city also is famous for its wide variety of world-class restaurants offering traditional Israeli dishes and international cuisine. Tel Aviv has more than 100 sushi restaurants and an Italian restaurant in the city that was called the best Italian restaurant outside of Italy by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture.

Notably, Tel Aviv has been named the third "hottest city for 2011" (behind only New York City and Tangier) by *Lonely Planet Magazine* and the ninth-best beach city in the world by *National Geographic*.

Stay tuned next month for Israeli Sports.

NCJW

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CALENDAR

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays

June 16, 2013. Breaking Down Brick Walls with the Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento. Many genealogists encounter “brick walls” when researching their family history. Clues disappear and records vanish. We will tackle some of these problems and try to come up with new avenues to research and break through the walls. 10:00am. Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. For more information, visit www.jgss.org, or e-mail mortrumberg1@earthlink.net.

June 23, 2013. Next Steps in Jewish Family Research with Victoria Fisch. 2:00-4:00pm. Davis Public Library. For more information, contact Fisch at victoriafisch@gmail.com.

Introduction to the Torah Bookshelf weekly e-learning with Rabbi Joel Zeff. 7:00am. Visit 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. 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.

Mondays

Monthly discussion group led by Rabbi Melamed on the second Monday of every month. 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.

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, select Programs for All Ages, then Book Club. For more information, contact Alison Braverman at 916-988-7110 or 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.

Tuesdays

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

Israeli Dancing. For more information about dates and venue, join Israelidancesac-subscribe@yahoo.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. Noon-1:00pm. Join us with your lunch at Congregation B’nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. No RSVP required. For more information, contact Rabbialfi@bnais.com.

Wednesdays

Shalom Gan K’ton. For children 18 months-5 years. 10:00am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. \$50/10 sessions with scholarships available. For more information, contact 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

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. Led 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.

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.

Tot Shabbat. Services, Singing, Storytelling, and Oneg for all children, including all who are young at heart. 6:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or 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. 10:30am. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. For more information, contact Marcia at 916-988-4100 or educator@orrishon.org.

GENERAL EVENTS

June 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2013. New Mom’s Group. Enjoy a hot breakfast and some alone time while your child is in preschool. Get to know each other, share tips, learn ways to make motherhood easier, and learn more about Judaism. First meeting is free. 9:30-11:00am. Chabad of Placer County, 4410 Douglas Blvd., Granite Bay. For more information, contact Nancy Stamp at nstamp20@yahoo.com or 916-717-6486.

June 5, 2013. The Affordable Care Act: How It Will Affect You and the People You Care About. 6:30pm. Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council. KOH Library and Cultural

Center, 2300 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information or to RSVP, contact JCRC Director Jessica Birch at jbirch@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 308.

June 6, 2013. Shalom School Class of 2013 Graduation. 7:00pm. 2320 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact 916-485-4151 or shalomdove@shalomschool.org.

June 9, 2013. Evening of Tribute Honoring Nancy & Dick Bernheimer for their contributions to B’nai Israel. \$150/person. 5:00-10:00pm. Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento. For more information, contact Mandy Greene at mgreene@bnais.com.

June 9, 2013. Evening in Eden. Keneset Israel Torah Center will host an evening of culinary delights with its annual major fundraising gala. Culinary tastings; a silent and live auction with an enormous variety of items, including fine art; and live music. \$75/person. 1165 Morse Ave., Sacramento. For more information, contact Laura Weisberg at 916-359-4623 or weisberg@winfirst.com.

June 12, 2013. Leisure League. TBDL Barbershop Quartet. The quartet has an impressive repertoire including romantic, nostalgic, novelty, ballads, and up-tempo music. \$5 includes lunch and entertainment. Noon-2:00pm. Temple Or Rishon, 7755 Hazel Ave., Orangevale. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the Trust Fund for the Jewish Elderly. For more information and to RSVP, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or federation@jewishsac.org.

June 13, 2013. Federation’s Annual Meeting. Welcoming the new Board and awards presented to SAJE honorees. Light nosh. 6:00-7:30pm. Federation office, 2014 Capitol Ave., Sacramento. For more information or to RSVP, contact Melissa Chapman at mchapman@jewishsac.org or 916-486-0906 ext. 301.

June 15, 2013. Registration deadline for Camp Shelanu. Camp dates are July 8-August 9, 2013. Jewish Day Camp for K-8th grade, CIT program for 9th and 10th grades. Sports, cooking, swimming, music, arts and crafts, Israeli dance, Israeli Shaliach, and field trips. Congregation B’nai Israel, 3600 Riverside Blvd., Sacramento. For more information and fees, contact Dana Schneider Penn at Danaspenn@bnais.com.

June 17-August 7, 2013. Shalom School Preschool Summer Art Camp. Designed for children 3.6-5 years of age and potty-trained. Kindergarten-bound children welcome. Flexible schedules. Fees vary. 2320 Sierra Blvd., Sacramento. For more information, contact 916-485-4151 or shalomdove@shalomschool.org.

June 27, 2013. Leisure League. Musical Entertainment. Enjoy a wonderful repertoire from tango to opera to golden oldies. \$5 includes lunch and entertainment. Noon-2:00pm. The Albert Einstein Residence Center, 1935 Wright St., Sacramento. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation and the Trust Fund for the Jewish Elderly. For more information and to RSVP, contact Federation at 916-486-0906 or federation@jewishsac.org.

June 30, 2013. Bubbles and Bites 2013. NCJW Member Appreciation, Election of Officers, and Installation. Free for members; prospective members may join at the door. 11:00am-1:00pm. For more information, to RSVP, and location, contact infoncjwsac@gmail.com.



THE JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO

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Ken DeVore: Legislative Director from the National Federation of Independent Business

Patrick Johnston: President & CEO of the California Association of Health Plans

Assemblymember Dr. Richard Pan: Chair, Assembly Committee on Health

David Panush: Director, Government Relations, California Health Benefit Exchange



RSVP to Jessica Birch, JCRC Director: 916-486-0906, ext. 308 or jbirch@jewishsac.org
The JCRC is a division of the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region



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*Grocery Shopping

*Balance Checkbook

*Attend Federation's
Annual Meeting

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013

6:00-7:30PM

2014 CAPITOL AVE.,

SACRAMENTO

Light refreshments
served. Easy street
parking available.

*Don't forget to bring
something for the
kosher food pantry!!

R.S.V.P.

Melissa Chapman

916-486-0906

mchapman@jewishsac.org

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region
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University Retirement Community

Building Bridges with Congregation Bet Haverim



Bringing people and faiths together to create a warm community is a hallmark of University Retirement Community (URC). It's also an important part of Rabbi Greg Wolfe's work at Congregation Bet Haverim.

This reform synagogue is just a mile from URC, and Rabbi Wolfe has been leading monthly Shabbat services and events there for more than 10 years. URC residents enjoy Mitzvah Day service projects, educational seminars, and holiday events at Bet Haverim and at URC.

Call (530) 747-7000 to arrange a tour of University Retirement Community.

Call (530) 758-0842 to learn about Congregation Bet Haverim.

URC is a very welcoming community, and it's been a wonderful partnership. I've enjoyed establishing friendships with the Jewish people who live there and getting to know people in the larger URC community. Reaching out to the local community is an important part of my work, and we're always looking for new ways to strengthen connections between our two places and the entire Davis community.—Rabbi Greg Wolfe, Congregation Bet Haverim



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