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Fall 2017



The Jewish Federation
OF THE SACRAMENTO REGION

the VOICE

your source for local Jewish news

*the VOICE is a publication of
The Jewish Federation of the
Sacramento Region*

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region

2130 21st Street
Sacramento, CA 95818
Phone: 916.486.0906
federation@jewishsac.org
www.jewishsac.org

Executive Director Willie Recht
wrecht@jewishsac.org
Managing Editor Melanie Flood
mflood@jewishsac.org
Designer Capital Graphics Inc.
www.capgraph.com

Board of Trustees Executive Committee

President Carol Loew
Treasurer Gil Allon
Campaign Chair Jack Mador
President Elect Deborah Hoffman
Gonzalez
JCRC Chair Bruce Pomer
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Table of Contents

President's Letter.....	3
A Night at the Museum.....	4
From Our Story To Yours.....	5
CID Inclusion - It's Working!.....	6
Life & Legacy: An Enduring Gift.....	7
Thank You Richard Robinson and Marjorie Swartz.....	7
Upcoming YAD Events.....	8
JCRC: Advocating Jewish Ethics of Social Justice.....	9
GA 2017 in Los Angeles.....	10
Forging Relationships, Connecting Community.....	11
Make Your 2017 Campaign Pledge.....	12

Home of Peace Cemetery

THE CEMETERY OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THE GREATER SACRAMENTO REGION
Established 1850



Home of Peace is our non-profit Jewish Community cemetery and mausoleum serving all Jewish people in the greater Sacramento area. Cared for perpetually with the sensitivity, sacredness, and dignity befitting consecrated ground enshrining the mortal remains of our loved ones, Home of Peace offers a variety of interment options. Individual and double gravesites are available in many different sections of the Cemetery. Sections of the Cemetery have also been set aside for people desiring strict adherence to halachic standards, for interfaith married families, and for cremains. Crypts and double crypts are available in the mausoleum.

Pre-need arrangements are encouraged to ensure that desired final wishes will be carried out, and to ease the burden on surviving family members.

For further information, or for pre-need, please contact
Lew Rosenberg, Executive Director
Ph: (916) 446-1409 E-m: homeofpeace@comcast.net
The Home of Peace Cemetery is a non-profit Jewish Community organization.

When A Door Closes, A Window Opens



Life is so interesting. We get so used to the everyday comfort of our daily activities. We make coffee, read the morning newspaper, walk the dog, get dressed for our day. We leave our family to spend the day with our work colleagues or volunteer family. Things are comfortable, easy and then something changes.

The changes I've mentioned have happened recently at Federation. Okay, it didn't happen all at once. It was a process. Now, we have a shift in our comfortable, familiar every day pattern. Yes, I am talking about our media/communications person for the past ten years, Elissa Einhorn.

Elissa has a unique history with our Jewish Federation. She has been the stabilizer of our ship throughout many changes. She has worked with multiple Executive Directors, watched many transitions of staff changes and has helped our organization move locations twice.

Through all of that, her amazing work ethic and creative writing skills kept our community informed of activities, produced our VOICE and reminded us of where to be when. As a busy organization with a small staff, we could always be assured that her charming presence would appear at each and every event in town.

Last August, Elissa made a change in her life. She followed her dream and we had to bid farewell to the anchor of our business world. We were blessed to have Elissa continue working with us, albeit, long distance for as long as she was able to help us. However, the time has come for her to end her affiliation with the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.

She is a missing piece in our daily lives but she has left a legacy of creativity, leadership, charm and grace. We were lucky to have her for so many years and she has been a wonderful role model. Our appreciation of her years with us cannot be expressed with mere words. We send her off with genuine thanks and well wishes.

As one door has now closed, another has opened. We are so proud to introduce our newest addition to our staff, Melanie Flood. Melanie comes to us with an amazing resume. While she is a California native, her communication and media work has taken her on a very exciting path that has included assignments in England and Ireland. Recently returning to be with her family in Sacramento, we are so fortunate that our ad for a media/communications person attracted her attention. We are anxious to have you meet her as she makes her way through our community. Please introduce yourself to her when you see her at your latest event.

As the Chairman of the Federation, I feel so proud and fortunate to have such an outstanding staff led by Willie Recht, our Executive Director. Our gifted team includes Adelita, Rikki, Rebecca and Deborah, as well as an amazing Board of Directors - and now, the addition of Melanie. You will want to stay tuned and join in our journey to make our Federation the central address of the Jewish community. A place to enjoy, visit and utilize for our many wonderful services.

See you at 2130 21st Street.

Carol Loew

President
president@jewishsac.org

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region
invites you to

“A Night at the California Museum”
Sunday, August 27, 2017
5 - 8 pm

Enjoy free admission to all current exhibits
including the Unity Center opening August 26th
and the traveling exhibit
“Light & Noir: Exiles & Émigrés in Hollywood, 1933 - 1950”
organized by the Skirball Cultural Center in association with
the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

Hosted by
The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region

with support from
Congregation B'nai Israel • Mosaic Law Congregation • Keneset Israel Torah Center
Congregation Beth Shalom • Congregation Bet Haverim

This is a private event. Annual campaign donations appreciated.
For details, contact federation@jewishsac.org or call 916.486.0906.

The California Museum is located at:
1020 O St, Sacramento, CA 95814



If you were going to compare the “story” of an individual, community, family or organization to the format of a novel, my guess is that rarely would one read the back of the book or the Amazon review and then go on to rave, and continue to tell, the “story”. One of my favorite books - or stories - of all time is *My Name is Asher Lev* by author and Rabbi Chaim Potok.

If I were to have read only the Amazon review, my understanding of the “story” would be this:

My Name Is Asher Lev is a novel by Chaim Potok, an American author and rabbi. The book's protagonist is Asher Lev, a Hasidic Jewish boy in New York City. Asher is a loner with artistic inclinations. His art, however, causes conflicts with his family and other members of his community.

Not much of a “story”, right? Of course not. That’s because the “story” is deep within the pages, in those delightful, or sometimes devastating, pieces of information that often get left out when one only understands the Amazon review of the narrative. One could not appreciate, or understand, the story of Asher Lev if they did not know about Yaakov, Asher’s Uncle who died in a car crash when Asher was six years old and whose death had a very profound effect on Asher’s mother which in turn was the pain behind Asher’s artistic expression. It is the details that help tell this “story”.

Let’s take this comparison and apply it to the story at hand, The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region. If one were to look at the Amazon review of the story they might find something like this:

The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region is a philanthropic, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides educational, cultural, and social services and programs within the Jewish community locally and around the world.

Again, not much of a story, right? Of course not. One must know more - the characters, the motives, the details. Dig a little further into our “story” and you might get a taste of some of our key characters, PJ Library, our Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), Leisure League or Jewish Family Service. But again - does that tell you the whole story? Where is the “Yaakov” of our story? The Yitzchok? The Anna Schaeffer? The Rebbe?

Having been in the role of Executive Director for almost 6 months, I have spent a tremendous amount of time going beyond the Amazon review of the Sacramento Jewish community and the Federation. I have devoted time to “reading” and studying the “story” - its chapters, pages, indexes - and yes reviews - of our community and the role that the Federation has played to the well-being, safety and enrichment of this delightful and devoted, but sometimes divided community.

Our goal in the coming months is to better share our story with you - our supporters and donors - so that you are better able to tell the story of Federation; of what the Federation does to sustain Jewish life and how our organization has been strengthening Jewish life - for the entire Jewish community - here in the Sacramento region for almost 70 years.

I would like to introduce you to a recent “character” in our story, one whose impact has been transformative across the community: The Teen Israel Fund started in 2006 by Dr. Larry and Sharon Saltzman. The Saltzmans believed that supporting our Jewish teenagers through an Israel experience would create lasting bonds between young Jews and Israel, which would set a precedent for a lifelong connection to our homeland, our culture and our community.

Thanks to the Saltzmans and other generous donors, as well as our partners at the Jewish Community Foundation of the West, The Teen Israel Fund (through the support of the Federation) have given out close to \$100,000. They have provided meaningful scholarships to 165 Jewish teens from across the region to go to Israel. This is what the Federation does and this is part of our story.

I very much look forward to continuing this story with all of you over the coming months and years.

Willie Recht
Executive Director
wrecht@jewishsac.org

Our thanks to the many wonderful people and organizations who are increasingly welcoming and encouraging children, teens and adults with disabilities, and their families, to more fully participate in Jewish educational, spiritual, communal, family, social and recreational activities throughout our region.

Because of the Federation's on-going support, and the hard work of many past and current committee members, the **Federation's Committee on Inclusion and Disabilities (CID)** is thriving and our region is filled with new possibilities!

Current committee co-chairs Patty Salcedo and Sheila Wolfe, close friends and a dynamic parent-professional team, are excited to be working with a great committee this year and pleased to announce the launch of several **new initiatives**:

- A CID Resource & Referral Network for speakers on disability and inclusion, peer-to peer and family-to-family support and other resource connections
- Materials and supports to assist Jewish families, organizations and community leaders to better understand and promote inclusion on a daily basis and for special events and programs

If you, or someone you know, might contribute to, and/or benefit from the work of CID, please contact federation@jewishsac.org or call 916.486.0906.



The Hessing Hagen Family from Citrus Heights worked with Congregation Bet Haverim during Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month to convey the message that "We Are All More Alike than Different"



CID Committee Seated: Sheri & Mickey Zeff, Deborah Gonzalez, Back row: Sheila Wolfe, Patty Salcedo, Susan Abrams, Upfront: Adelita Dizdarevic, Razi Zarchy

Please Join Us for this Worthwhile and Free Event!

The Sima Spector Health Conference HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY LIVES Wellness with Mindfulness II "Healthy Body, Heart and Mind"

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Place: Rancho Cordova City Hall
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova

Time: Check-in begins at 5 p.m. Attendees may visit exhibitors and enjoy a light vegetarian meal.

5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Must RSVP by Sept. 6th:
online asmdc.org/cooley or by telephone 916.464.1910

Presented by Sacramento Chapter of HADASSAH and NCJW, Sacramento Section

Co-Sponsored by Assemblyman Ken Cooley

For more information, contact Devorah Samuels, sacramento@hadassah.org

THE SIMA SPECTOR HEALTH CONFERENCE HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY LIVES

Wellness with Mindfulness II

Wednesday, Sept. 13
5:30-8:30 p.m. Free

Rancho Cordova City Hall
2729 Prospect Park Drive
Rancho Cordova

Doors and Exhibitors
open at 5:00 pm

A light meal will be served.

Must RSVP: asmdc.org/cooley
or 916 464-1910 by Sept. 6



When I first heard the term "legacy giving," it didn't take me long to wrap my head around the concept that I could support Federation or my synagogue in perpetuity. Being a planner and budget-minded person, I realized:

- a) there is no impact on my "daily operating budget";
- b) there is no impact on my retirement plan; and
- c) the organizations I support could potentially receive funding in perpetuity as a

result of a little advanced planning on my part.

I couldn't find a reason NOT to participate in the Harold Grinspoon Foundation's (HGF) Life & Legacy Program.

You may be familiar with the Grinspoon name from programs such as PJ Library, JCamp180, Foundation for Jewish Camps, BBYO, Hillel Israel Interns program, and (of course) Jewish Federations of North America. These are but a few of the many international organizations that HGF supports. So, I knew that when they came to Sacramento with the Life & Legacy Program more than 4 years ago, I could TRUST the program from the very beginning. Being the past president of a synagogue and serving on the executive committee for Federation, I understood the benefit of endowments. Many times during the budgeting process we would say to ourselves, "if only this program could have been endowed, we could offer so much more to our community"!

Participating in Life & Legacy gave my husband and I the impetus needed to review our estate plan, as so much had changed since the last time we visited it, which made adding just a few instructions a breeze. Seeing our decision to include the Jewish community in writing gave me a surprising sense of fulfillment! I had my family taken care of, and now my community. No time to sit down with an estate planner? No problem! A legacy gift can be as simple as changing the beneficiary distribution of a life insurance plan or even a CD. YOU get to choose where the funds go. YOU get to provide instructions for how you want the money spent. It's all incredibly transparent, and as I mentioned, surprisingly fulfilling.

I'm personally thrilled to have joined 50 donors who have already committed to making a legacy gift to the Life & Legacy Program. The choice is yours. Why wait? I am so proud to know that the Gonzalez family will continue to support the Jewish community and the Federation in Sacramento long after we're gone.

Deborah Hoffman Gonzalez
President Elect
Chair, Life & Legacy

Thank You Richard Robinson & Marjorie Swartz



Thank you to The Robinson-Swartz Philanthropic Fund at The Jewish Community Foundation of the West. Due to their generous donation and support of The Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region and PJ Library, our PJ community no longer has a wait list.

When Marjorie signed up her grandchildren for PJ Library and learned about the wait list, she reached out to our Federation to find out how she could help. Marjorie told us, "We were instantly attracted to the PJ Library program because of our love for books and our strong interest in ensuring the next generation has a strong identity with Judaism." They want to help not only their grandchildren but all of the children in the greater Sacramento PJ community.

On behalf of everyone you have helped, thank you Richard and Marjorie for all you have done. We could not make PJ Library a success without you.





LIVE. GIVE. LEAD. JEWISH.

JOIN US FOR UPCOMING YAD EVENTS!

PROGRAMMING & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN THE SACRAMENTO REGION

For more info, contact federation@jewishsac.org or call 916.486.0906

**Welcome to YADville!
UPCOMING EVENTS**



YAD Night at the Stadium
Thursday, July 20th
River Cats Game at Raley Field
7pm • Tickets \$15

YAD at the Old Sugar Mill
Sunday, September 10th
Getting Our Grape On!
3 – 5pm, details TBD



Inaugural YAD Shabbat
Friday, October 27th
At The Federation
Details TBD



The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) educates and advocates on issues of vital importance to the Jewish community, based on core American values and a living commitment to Jewish ethics of social justice. JCRC acts as the community relations and advocacy division of the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region.

JCRC seeks to combat anti-Semitism, maintain strong American support for Israel and promote multi-racial, multi-cultural and interfaith understanding.

Recently our membership has been very active in supporting immigrant and refugee communities threatened by recent presidential executive orders. In January of this year, JCRC joined a diverse group at the SALAM (Sacramento Area League of Associated Muslims) community center to express our strong opposition to the President's order banning Muslim refugees and his actions to increase deportation of undocumented immigrants.

We were proud to be co-founders with the Latino community of the Latino/

Jewish forum which had its first community convening in February and has since worked closely with the elected leadership of county and city government as well as school districts to develop programs to protect immigrant populations.

During the past month, I testified in front of the Sacramento City Council in support of their proposal which will provide funding to enhance legal assistance programs for undocumented populations. Support was also expressed for state legislation, SB 54, which prohibits the use of local law enforcement resources for immigration enforcement as well as SB 31 which would prevent the establishment of a religious registry.

In the past month, JCRC has lobbied the California legislature in support of state funding for security grants for nonprofits such as the Jewish Federation - who face potential hate crimes - and late last year sponsored a program on how to combat the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement which is designed to oppose the legitimacy of the State of Israel.

Bruce Pomer, Chair JCRC, JCRC@jewishsac.org



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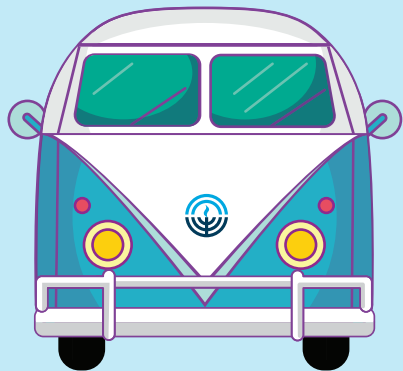
The General Assembly is coming to California!
Join 2,000 Federation Members for this annual event.



VENTURE FURTHER
NOV 12 - 14 | GENERALASSEMBLY.ORG

For more information, email
federation@jewishsac.org
or call 916.486.0906

To register, visit
generalassembly.org
today!



Summer has arrived (finally!) and activities are already underway - vacations, gardening, sports are all kicking off, including our Federation work. We are, you could say, springing into action with many events commencing.

Our signature programs PJ Library, Jewish Family Service, Life & Legacy, and our Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) all play a vital role in many people's lives. In addition, our outreach programs including the Committee on Inclusion & Disabilities (CID), our senior programs Leisure League and Shabbat Sacramento contribute greatly to the community. Federation is also proud to support students in the region through scholarship funds like the Teen Israel Fund and the Schwab-Rosenhouse Memorial Scholarship Fund. Lastly, Federation is proud to make annual allocations to Hillel at Davis in Sacramento and Chico Hillel which both serve over 5,000 students across six campuses in the region.

We hosted our first Young Adult Department (YAD) event on May 25th. The mission of YAD is to provide adults in their 20's and 30's with opportunities and on-ramps for engagement through programming, connections, and by making the Sacramento

region an inclusive, meaningful and vibrant place to be Jewish. Young adults are welcome to join, and we encourage you to bring a friend or two!

Women's Philanthropy, which includes our Pomegranate and Lion of Judah Giving Societies, is BACK. We have listened to your feedback that many dynamic women in our community want a meaningful place to come together to play a vital role in creating social justice, aiding the vulnerable, preserving human dignity and building Jewish identity - setting an exemplary standard of leadership and giving. Please stay tuned, we look forward to sharing engagement opportunities with this community.

Finally, we realize the best way to understand Federation is to have personal interactions, therefore we have dedicated a lot of time and energy to be out in the community connecting with our donors and supporters. Whether you are a member or someone we've not spoken to for some time - you are our priority. We're looking forward to developing stronger relationships that will lead to a stronger community for generations to come.

B'Shalom, **Jack Mador**, Campaign Chair



How do you express your Judaism?

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Mosaic Law Congregation's membership drive offers a complimentary first year and includes High Holiday tickets!

MLC is an egalitarian synagogue with a traditional service that welcomes interfaith couples.

Spread the word and bring a friend into our community!



Mosaic Law Congregation
Membership Drive
May 2017 thru April 2018

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TEACHER LISA RAPPAPORT BATES is a 40-year teaching veteran of both public and private Montessori schools and founder of Har Tzeon Montessori, in Silver Spring, MD.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Teacher Lisa Rappaport-Bates:
lisa.bates@att.net OR visit
www.kitcsacramento.org/montessori

Would you like to learn more?

Come to our Information Night Thursday, July 27 at 7pm! (Adults only please.)



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