Mitzvah Day International was founded in 2005 by Laura Marks, who, upon returning to her native United Kingdom from a period spent in Los Angeles, decided to bring the “Mitzvah Day” concept she experienced through Temple Israel of Hollywood, California, back to the UK. Though the Mitzvah Day she was familiar with (and most Mitzvah Days in the United States) was based around a single community or congregation, her concept for Mitzvah Day in the UK was to unite the Jewish community and other groups around a single coordinated day of social action across the country. Mitzvah Day became registered as an independent charity in the UK in 2008.

According to Mitzvah Day International, in 2015, over 40,000 people participated in Mitzvah Day around the world. In many communities, Mitzvah Day has expanded to include participants from other faith communities as well.

On Sunday, November 27, 2016, thousands of Jews, representing hundreds of organizations around the world, will gather in synagogues and community centers to perform acts of lovingkindness. An individual’s obligation to engage in tikkun olam—Hebrew for healing the world—is one of the central messages of Judaism and the main mission of Mitzvah Day International, which encourages people to give their time to worthwhile local causes, while also creating deeper links within communities and supporting charities.

This year the Gainesville Jewish community will hold our Mitzvah Day on November 20. The event will kick off at 9 am at Temple ShirShalom with registration, breakfast, and opening remarks from Jayne Moraski with Family Promise. Mitzvah Day in North Central Florida is a collaboration between the Jewish Council and our community partners in Gainesville. Many thanks to Temple ShirShalom for hosting registration and breakfast. Thanks also to Congregation B’nai Israel and the Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center for hosting Mitzvah Day projects at their facilities and out in the community.

(More information on pages 6 & 7)
Submissions Policy

News and announcements of events that are of interest and open to the entire Jewish community will be included as space allows. The times and places of regular and special Jewish religious events, as well as Jewish organizational events, will be placed in the Chronicle’s monthly community calendar.

Please submit original material of 500 words or less, not published or to be published elsewhere, along with photos of interest to the community. Submissions may be e-mailed in Word document format to chronicle@jcncf.org; or dropped off at the Jewish Council of North Central Florida office. Please submit photos in high resolution with a caption identifying the subject and all people depicted. JCNCF reserves the right to edit all submissions. The Chronicle does not publish letters to the editor.

All submissions are due on or before the 10th of the month prior to publication.

I am/We are pleased to pledge/donate the following amount to support Jewish life in North Central Florida while also maintaining support for international Jewish needs. To make your donation securely online with a credit card, go to www.jcncf.org. Please call or email the JCNCF office for instructions on how to donate stock or to make your gift directly to The Jewish Federations of North America. Contact us at 352.371.3846 or at office@jcncf.org.

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Drawn by family, UF’s educational opportunities, and the vibrant Jewish community, the Storches returned to Gainesville about five years ago. They plunged into a full schedule of volunteering and community leadership. Marcia can be found most Mondays at the Pineridge afterschool center, bringing the patient heart of a teacher to a wonderful and challenging group of elementary students. She is a leader in the Temple Shir Shalom Social Action Committee and the New Sisterhood, and enjoys her involvement in Rosh Chodesh, Hadassah, and the League of Women Voters. She has also been a dedicated volunteer for JCNCF activities, helping with the Jewish Film Festival and serving as a team leader for multiple Mitzvah Day projects.

Hank believes that while a degree makes a doctor, it is a passion for healing that makes a physician. He lives this passion on a daily basis, volunteering his time at the UF Mobile Health Clinic, the Acorn Clinic in Brooker, and Volunteers in Medicine in Jacksonville. He is dedicated to bringing compassion and quality care to people who don’t often receive them. Hank also finds time to serve on the Temple Shir Shalom Board of Trustees, support JCNCF activities, and curate a collection of more than 1,000 baseball hats given by grateful former patients.

Marcia explains that her childhood experiences led her to see the Jewish community as something valuable and worth working for, something to never be taken for granted. As they continue their work of healing the world and nurturing the Jewish community, we offer our heartfelt thanks to the Storches for their generosity, enthusiasm, and powerful example.

Marcia Cohen Storch (right) and her daughter, Deborah Katz (left) “baked it forward” at Ronald McDonald House on Mitzvah Day 2015.


By Virginia Hirshik  
Executive Director

On Sunday, December 4 at 7 pm, the Jewish Council of North Central Florida welcomes Israel’s Deputy Consul General in Miami, Mr. Guy Gilady for a community talk at Temple Shir Shalom of Gainesville. TSS President, Mark Werner and his wife, Yanna Banks will co-host the event with Congregation B’nai Israel’s President, Connie Stern and her husband, Robert.

Mr. Gilady has been Deputy Consul General at the Consulate General of Israel in Miami since August 2016. Prior to his appointment in Miami, Mr. Gilady served as Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Israel in Kiev, Ukraine and served as Head of the Political Section at the Embassy.

Mr. Gilady joined the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in late 2011, and before assuming office in Kiev, served as a desk officer in the South & South East Asia Department. He also served as the desk officer in the Euro-Asia Department, as well as, Assistant to the Deputy Consul General for Strategic Affairs.

Before joining the MFA, Mr. Gilady worked as a corporate attorney for Eitan, Mehulal & Sadot, a law firm based in Herzliya, Israel, where he specialized in the fields of securities, private and public companies, high-tech, and corporate law. Between 2000 and 2007, Mr. Gilady served as a Sergeant Major in a Special Intelligence Unit of the Israeli Defense Forces.

Mr. Gilady holds degrees in Law (L.L.B.) and Business Administration (B.A.) from the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Israel, and in Political Science, Diplomacy and Security Studies (M.A.) from the Tel Aviv University, Israel. He was born in Tel-Aviv, and raised in Israel, the USA and Germany. Mr. Gilady is married to Shani, a speech therapist and they have two sons. Mr. Gilady speaks English, Hebrew, German and basic Russian.

In addition to the Consulate General in Miami, Israel has 8 other representations in the United States, including an embassy in Washington, D.C. and consulates in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco.

Mr. Gilady’s talk is open to the community, however, space will be limited and RSVPs are strongly encouraged. Please reply by Wednesday, November 30 to the JCNCF office at 352.371.3846 or office@jcncf.org.

Traveled to Israel? Share your favorite photos!

If you’ve traveled to Israel, then you most likely took pictures of the wonderful country while you were there! Join the Jewish Council in showcasing and promoting the land and people of Israel by sending us your favorite photo of your visit to Israel! Photos collected will be part of a presentation to the Deputy Consul General of Israel, who will be visiting Gainesville on Sunday, December 4.

Please submit the largest size and highest resolution photo possible to office@jcncf.org by Wednesday, November 30. Include your name, phone number, and email address. Be sure to identify everyone shown in the photo (first and last names) and only submit photos that you have taken. If you wish to include a statement about the photo, such as why it is your favorite, please feel free to do so. Any photos submitted remain the property of the original creator.
Israel in Brief: News and Developments

By Ralph Lowenstein

Three-Day Weekend Looms in Israel

Although not yet approved by Knesset, Israel seems to be moving toward a three-day weekend. Essentially, Israel already has a one-and-a-half day weekend, which begins at noon Friday, to accommodate Muslim prayer, and ends at midnight Saturday. Many Israelis do not work at all on Friday. Observant Jews are prevented from driving on Friday night, and well into Saturday night, are prevented from driving to entertainment venues on both nights. An experimental full three-day weekend for 2017 will probably be voted on by the Knesset later this year. (JTA)

Jerusalem Synagogue Will Be Rebuilt

In 1948, the Jordanians shelled the Tiferet Yisrael synagogue and its “twin,” the Hurva synagogue, in the Old City of Jerusalem to rubble. The Hurva was rebuilt six years ago. The Israeli government is now in the process of reconstructing the Tiferet Yisrael.

U.S. Military Aid to Provide F-35s

The bulk of the recent 10-year $38 million U.S. aid project for Israel will go toward purchase of F-35 fighter aircraft, all built in the United States. The Israeli government has already ordered 33, eight of which will be delivered to Israel by the end of this year. Israel is considering purchasing 17 additional F-35s, for a total of 40.

Rare Gold Coin Found

A rare gold coin bearing the image of Roman Emperor Nero has been found at archaeological excavations on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem. The coin was struck in 56/57 CE. Titus and the Roman legions razed Jerusalem to the ground in 70 CE. (EurekAlert-AAAS)

Shimon Peres, a Personal Memory

The former prime minister and former president of Israel, who died at the end of September at the age of 93, provided a memorable experience for the Lowenstein family 52 years ago.

In May 1964, Levi Eshkol, the prime minister of Israel, was invited to make a state visit to the United States. As part of his U.S. trip, he visited 100 Israeli officers and enlisted men who were then stationed at Ft. Bliss, in El Paso, Texas, for a two-year course to learn to maintain and operate the Hawk anti-aircraft missile system. The Hawk represented the first major military weapon ever sold by the U.S. to Israel.

I was then teaching at the University of Texas at Austin. I was the only El Paso family invited to the ceremonies involving Eshkol’s visit to the army base. In the Eshkol party was Shimon Peres, 40, then Deputy Minister of Defense.

As the Israeli soldiers marched in review past the seated civilians, with TV cameras aimed at both groups, Peres, always the politician, reached for one of the Israeli children to place on his lap. That “Israel” child, happened to be our daughter, Joan. Some genetic magic must have been transferred in her brief association with Shimon Peres. She attended the Hebrew University in Jerusalem for her first year of college. Like Peres, she is an inveterate politician. She is fluent in Hebrew and French, served on the Ann Arbor, Michigan, city council for seven years, and is a past president of the Ann Arbor Jewish Federation. She travelled to Iowa and Detroit to work on the Hillary Clinton campaign. Her husband, Jonathan Trobe, is a neuro-ophthalmologist at the University of Michigan medical center.
Projects Sponsored by Congregation B’nai Israel
3835 NW 16th Blvd, 32605

Food Drive for Bread of the Mighty

Casserole Brigade
St. Francis House
Helping Hands Clinic
Fisher House

Critical Items Needed:
Egg noodles, elbow macaroni, frozen vegetables, shredded cheese, cans of tuna fish.

Food4Kids
The Food4Kids Backpack Program fills backpacks with nonperishable food and distributes them to students in need from kindergarten through high school.

Critical Items Needed:
canned sweet potatoes, black beans, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned fruit, canned vegetables, dessert mixes, cereal, oatmeal, grits, instant milk, rice, mac and cheese, pasta, hamburger helper, peanut butter, jelly, canned soup.

Winter Wear Drive
Dignity Village and Grace Market Place

Critical Items Needed:
Coats, sweaters, sweat shirts, scarves, warm hats, mittens, gloves, jackets and outer wear

Care Packages to Send to Israeli Lone Soldiers

Critical Items Needed
T-shirts, socks, travel sized toiletries

Grounds Clean Up

Family Promise, Thanksgiving Around the World
This program is designed for the children of Family Promise. Through hands-on activities children will learn the ways in which different cultures express gratitude, even when times are lean.

Projects Sponsored by Temple Shir Shalom
3855 NW 8th Ave, 32605

Food Drive for Bread of the Mighty

Habitat for Humanity Renovation
Sponsored by The Social Action Committee at Temple Shir Shalom

Pet Care Supply Project
St. Francis House Pet Clinic
Food and Supply Drive

Critical Items Needed:
Dog & cat food, treats, bowls, leashes, gallon and quart sized ziplock bags

Projects Sponsored by The Jewish Council
Hosted at Temple Shir Shalom

PJ Library Family Mitzvah Project Circuit

Make cards and write notes to Israeli Lone Soldiers.

Decorate holiday place mats for seniors and families in need.

Make Snack Bags for Meals on Wheels and the Pine Ridge After School Program.

Make dog toys for Saint Francis House Pet Clinic.

Eighth Annual Community Mitzvah Day
Sunday, November 20
Registration, Breakfast and Opening Program
9 am at Temple Shir Shalom

Special Guest speaker
Executive Director of Family Promise of Gainesville

For the complete list of volunteer opportunities and to pre-register for projects, go to www.jcncf.org/mitzvah
Are you and your family attending this year’s Community Mitzvah Day?

How can you support Mitzvah Day?

Support Mitzvah Day with a cash gift:

- $10 is a lunch and toiletry bag for a homeless person
- $18 for a casserole
- $36 for one Lone Solider care package with shipping

A gift of any amount helps!

Support Mitzvah Day by donating supplies needed for our many service projects

Take advantage of BOGO offers. Buy one and donate the free one!

If this is not your first Mitzvah Day and there is a project that you feel passionate about, you can volunteer to be a team leader. Contact the JCNCF office for more details.

352.371.3846
office@jcncf.org

Projects Sponsored by The Jewish Council
3835 NW 8th Ave, 32605
At the JCNCF office

Food Drive for Bread of the Mighty:
Non perishable food items are needed for Bread of the Mighty. Canned chicken or other meats, peanut butter, baked beans, etc. Canned veggies and fruit, dried pasta and cereals. Personal hygiene items.

Baskets of Hope
Peaceful Paths

Critical Items Needed:
New and gently used household goods: cooking and dining utensils, bedroom, and bathroom linens.

Hosted at Temple Shir Shalom

Clothing Collection and Sorting
Tacachale, Pace, Dignity Village, Helping Hands Clinic, Reichert House, Displaced Homemakers and ARC of Alachua County.

Critical Items Needed:
New and used men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing, socks, shoes

Off-Site Projects

Adopt a Street Clean Up
NW 8th Ave, between 13th and 22nd Streets.

Cooking Breakfast at Ronald McDonald House
1600 SW 14th St, 32608

Cleaning Project at Ronald McDonald House

Senior Project at The Village
8000 NW 27 Blvd, 32606

Projects Sponsored by the Lubavitch-Chabad
Jewish Student & Community Center
2021 NW 5th Avenue, 32603

Feeding the Homeless:
Volunteers will make nutritious bagged lunches that will be distributed at Grace Market Place.

Tishrei - Cheshvan 5777

Annual JCNCF Mitzvah Day
November 20

and Opening Program
at Shir Shalom

Speaker, Jayne Moraski
Family Promise of Gainesville
Volunteer opportunities and
to www.jcncf.org/mitzvah-day

Eighth Annual JCNCF Community Mitzvah Day
Sunday, November 20
Registration, Breakfast and Opening Program
9 am at Temple Shir Shalom
Special Guest speaker, Jayne Moraski
Executive Director of Family Promise of Gainesville

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352.371.3846
office@jcncf.org

Projects Sponsored by the Lubavitch-Chabad
Jewish Student & Community Center
2021 NW 5th Avenue, 32603

Feeding the Homeless:
Volunteers will make nutritious bagged lunches that will be distributed at Grace Market Place.
Sam Glaser Rocked with Area Synagogues

The Sam Glaser Shabbaton held over the weekend of Friday, September 23 through Sunday, September 25 offered musical experiences for all ages. Two hundred and forty people attended 3 events over the course of the weekend and a good time was had by all. Nearly 90 children and their parents rocked out at the pre-Shabbat session held in the sanctuary of Congregation B’nai Israel on Friday. Over 60 people enjoyed a sweet Havdalah service and song session complete with desserts on Saturday night, also at Congregation B’nai Israel. Almost 100 children and adults attended Sam’s community concert on Sunday morning at Temple Shir Shalom.

Students from the religious schools of Temple Shir Shalom and Congregation B’nai Israel sing, dance and socialize at the Sunday morning concert held at Temple Shir Shalom.

Families from across the community came together to dance and sing along with Sam Glaser at Congregation B’nai Israel on Friday, September 23.

The Sam Glaser Shabbaton Weekend was made possible by the generous support the following:

Community Partners
Congregation B’nai Israel, B’nai Israel Community Day School, Temple Shir Shalom, PJ Library Gainesville.

Sponsors
Gary & Anita Altschuler, Michael & Allison Haller, Jack Hurov, Sonya Salkin, Adam & Tammy Smith, Daniel & Hannah Sokol and Daniel & Keri Wemecke.
Transitions: Community Life Events

Do you have a life cycle event you would like to share with our JCNCF community? Please submit items to chronicle@jcncf.org. Submissions may be edited as space allows. Pictures are welcome and encouraged! Transitions may include birth, engagement and wedding announcements, bar and bat mitzvah, graduations, promotions and honors, and memorials.

Mazel Tov Rena Cohen!

East Side High junior Rena Cohen, daughter of Jonathan and Karen Cohen, earned a perfect score on her AP Statistics exam. While a perfect score on any exam is cause enough for celebration, this score puts Rena in very select company. Only three students out of 200,000 who took this exam in May received a perfect score.

In Memoriam

Our community mourns the passing of these beloved friends and family members:

- Ann Dipsiner Bernard, Grandmother of Sarah Bernard
- Margaret Elliot, sister of Jerry Elliot
- Leonard Hodes, brother of Beverly Gilbert
- Regina Plutzky, Wife of Max Plutzky, z”l. Mother of Jorge and Belinda.

Mazel Tov!

Jaina Wald and Mike Baver and grandparents Robing West and Ken Wald on the birth of Gavin Hayes Wald Baver, born September 15 in Cherry Hill, NJ.

Mazel Tov Rena Cohen!
North Central Florida Congregations & Organizations

**Gainesville**

**B’nai Israel Community Day School (DS)**
Debby Kinman-Ford, Director
www.bnaiisraelcds.org
352.376.1508, ext 101

**Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida (CJS)**
Dr. Jack Kugelmass, Director
Sandra James, Office Assistant
web.jst.ufl.edu
PO Box 118020, Gainesville, FL 32611
352.392.9247

**Congregation B’nai Israel (CBI)**
Rabbi David Kaiman
Jenifer Petrescu, Executive Director
Shauna Sikron, Coordinator of Jewish Learning
Casey Leopold, Programs
Denise Thompson, Administrative Assistant
www.bnaigainesville.com
3830 NW 16th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.376.1508

**Gainesville Chapter of Hadassah (HAD)**
Meredith Bacharach, President
mbacharach@gmail.com
352.256.7631

**Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica at the University of Florida (LIB)**
Dr. Rebecca Jefferson, Director
cms.uflib.ufl.edu/Judaica/Index.aspx
George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
352.273.2865

**The Tabacinic Lubavitch-Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center (LCJC)**
Rabbi Berl & Chanie Goldman, Directors
Rabbi Aharon Chaim & Pessie Notik, Co-Directors
www.jewishgator.com
2021 NW 5th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.336.5877

**Temple Shir Shalom (TSS)**
Rabbi Michael Joseph
Ross Van Boven, Director of Religious School
Ann Eisenstadt, Office Manager
www.shirshalom.net
3855 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32605
352.371.6399

**UF Hillel (HLL)**
Rabbi Adam Grossman
www.ufhillel.org
2020 W University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32603
352.372.2900

**Ocala and Surrounding Locations**

**Chabad Lubavitch Jewish Center of Marion County & The Villages (CLJC)**
Rabbi Yossi & Chanie Hecht, Directors
www.jewishmarion.org
13030 CR 103, Oxford, FL 34484
352.291.2218

**Congregation Beth Israel (CBI-O)**
Rabbi Karen Allen
www.bethisraelocala.org
7171 SW Hwy 200, 34476
352.450.2056

**Congregation Beth Sholom (CBS)**
Hazzan Mordecai Kamlot
www.bethsholomcitrus.org
102 Civic Circle
Beverly Hills, FL 34464
352.746.5303

**Temple Beth Shalom (TBS)**
Rabbi Ze’ev Harari
www.jewishocala.com
1109 NE 8th Avenue, 34470
352.629.5837

**Temple B’nai Darom (TBD)**
Rabbi Harold Jaye
www.facebook.com/TempleBnaiDarom
49 Banyan Course, 34472
352.624.0380

**Temple Shalom of Central Florida (TSCF)**
Sheldon Skurow, Spiritual Leader
www.templeshalomcentralfl.org
13563 County Road 101, Oxford, FL 34484
352.748.1800
Tuesday, November 1
- Torah Study with Rabbi Joseph at TSS, 9:30 am (Repeated Nov 1, 15, 22 & 29 NO Torah Study on Nov 8)
- Torah on Tuesday Rabbi Kaiman at CBI, 12pm (Repeated Nov 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29)
- Buffet Night at Café Chabad, 6 to 7:30 pm (each Tue night)

Wednesday, November 2
- Friendship Circle at CBI, 10:30 am to 1 pm
- CBI Lev Tov at St. Francis House, 5:30 pm (also Nov 16)
- Hebrew with Yossi at B’nai Israel, 6:30 pm (Repeated every Wednesday)
- Featured speaker Rebecca Shimoni-Stoil, Correspondent for the Times of Israel, Israel, The Challenges and Triumphs in the 21st Century, Temple Shalom of Central Florida 6:30 pm.
- JCNCF Caregivers’ Support Group, 7 pm; Contact Lori Waxenberg at loribwax@gmail.com prior to attending.

Friday, November 4
- Yiddish Chavurah at CBI, 9:30 am (Repeated every Friday).
- Blessing for the Pets with Rabbi Kaiman, under the B’nai Israel Sukkah area, 5 pm. Pets must be on leash.

Sunday, November 6
- Jewish Youth Zone: Monthly Enrichment Program, at Lubavitch-Chabad Student & Community Center 2 to 3:30 pm
- Fiddler’s Fall Festival, Cong. B’nai Israel Day School, 5 to 7 pm
- Cong. B’nai Israel Daisy/ Brownie Meeting Troop Meeting 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Tuesday, November 8
- Temple Shir Shalom Board Meeting, 7 to 9 pm

Wednesday, November 9
- Cooking Class with Alice Robar at CBI, 6 to 8 pm
  A four week course for $72 per person.
  To RSVP please email casey@bnaigainesville.com

Thursday, November 10
- Temple Shir Shalom’s New Sisterhood Program, A Liberal Jewish Perspective on Contemporary Sexuality and Gender Choices. Temple Shir Shalom 7 pm

Tuesday, November 15
- Hadassah Rosh Chodesh: America’s Oskar Shindler: Varian Fry, The Man Who Saved Mark Chagall, At talk by Barbara Oberlander. Cong. B’nai Israel, 10 am

Wednesday, November 16
- Thanksgiving Program and Feast, Cong. B’nai Israel Day School, 11 am to 1 pm

Thursday, November 17
- UF’s Jewish Law Students Association presents a talk by Holocaust Survivor, Irene Weisberg Zisblatt, author of The Fifth Diamond, UF’s Levin College of Law Room 285C, 5 pm

Sunday, November 20
- Eighth Annual Community Mitzvah Day, 9 am to 12 pm

Sunday, November 27
- Religious School at Temple Shir Shalom Canceled

A Note From Mitzvah Makers
The women in Mitzvah Makers were touched by The Chronicle article which shared with our community what we have been able to do over the many years. We want to emphasize that we are an open organization. The next Mitzvah Makers meeting will be held on Monday, November 14. Women interested in learning more about this women’s philanthropy group may contact Charna Cohn at charna@hotmail.com or Barbara Oberlander at historybug@cox.net.

 Corrections
The following donors were omitted from the JCNCF Annual Campaign Roll of Honor:
Sandy & Jerry Berger
Steve & Nancy Vogel
A photo credit to Daisy Moffit Photography was omitted from the photo of Avigail Ruth Bacharach and Brad Short in the L’dor vador article in the October edition.
The Chronicle editors apologize for these unintentional omissions.
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Save These Dates

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<td>Caregivers Support Group</td>
<td>Temple Shir Shalom</td>
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<td>November 24, 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Helping Hands Clinic Dinner</td>
<td>First United Methodist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20, 9 to 12 pm</td>
<td>Mitzvah Day</td>
<td>TSS, CBI &amp; Chabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4, 7 pm</td>
<td>Israeli Consul Deputy General Visit</td>
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