



UNIVERSITY
SYNAGOGUE
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THE TORCH

March 22, 2017 | 24 Adar 5777

This Week

Friday, 3/24

5:30 pm

ECLC Family Shabbat Dinner

8:00 pm [Special Time]

Sisterhood Creative Service followed by Oneg Shabbat

Saturday, 3/25

9 am

Hevrah Torah

9:30 am

Lunch Making for OPCC at Cloverfield Service Center

If you won auction items at our Heroes Among US Gala, please contact Emilie to pick up your winning items at ELeder@unisyn.org

Heroes Dinner

Dr. Barry Silverman by Howard Weg

I'm sure that there were some people who, when they saw that we were honoring Dr. Barry Silverman as our hero tonight, asked two questions. First, who is Dr. Barry Silverman and, second, what makes him a hero? My job tonight is to briefly answer both of these questions and to introduce Barry to you.

Barry Silverman is a friend of mine and a friend of our Synagogue. I will get to how that happened in a few minutes. Think "answering a call for help yet to be made." As for Barry's story, you can read the essential facts in the official biography that accompanies tonight's invitation.

How do we decide who are our heroes and how does Barry qualify? The Oxford Dictionary tells us that a hero is "A person who is admired for their courage, outstanding achievements, and noble qualities."

It was Barry's family that first proclaimed when he was young that Barry must have been put here to take care of other people. The path was not obvious, however. In the process, we find outstanding achievements along the way. [Click here to continue reading.](#)

Rabbi Joel Simonds by Rabbi Morley T. Feinstein

Just over a week ago, in a very quiet and off the record gathering, Rabbi Joel Simonds went to Whitefish, Montana to bring support and love to the beleaguered Jews of that community. In a nutshell, this exemplifies the passion, wisdom, and leadership of our rabbi. First, he decided to go into the maelstrom of antisemitism which is infecting our land, reaching out to the congregants of Whitefish, and especially to its rabbi and her family. Second, his understanding of social justice compelled him to leave his beautiful Noa, smiling Zev and amazing Ariella for two days because sometimes showing up is what we rabbis do. And third, he never tooted his own horn - he performed the mitzvah, quietly told a few people, and retained his humility. Rabbi Leo Baeck, who stayed with his people in the concentration camps, taught that more than the message the Rabbi delivers, the Rabbi is the message.

Joel has hallowed his ten years here, two as our intern and 8 as our assistant and associate Rabbi, by reaching our hearts and our minds. From his captivating smile, to his spiritual nature, he has led our congregation with dignity. He is the definition of a role model - his practice may be more traditional than yours, but it's never been "al ha'panim" - in your face - he acts as a Jew and as a rabbi because of his own study and commitments. His parents Ira and Sala reared him in the great Talmudic academy of Lancaster; he's brought his Torah, love of kids, camp, Israel, and education with him to our congregation. He's my sports texting buddy, especially for Cal, Go Bears! He has been like a dear younger brother to me, and I have learned from his courage and conviction. [Click here to continue reading.](#)

Mazal Tov

Lia Freehling, who became a Bat Mitzvah in Denver's Temple Emanu--El. She is the daughter of Hadar and Liza Freehling, the granddaughter of Shira Freehling, great-granddaughter of Lori and Rabbi Allen Freehling

UNITY members **Asher Bank** and **Ellie Ross**, who were elected to the NFTY SoCal Regional Board 5777-5778. Asher, son of Julie and Steve Bank, will be serving as President, and Ellie, daughter of Debbie and Ed Ross, will be serving as Membership Vice President!

Zichronam Livrachah

Barbara "Bobbi" Edson, mother of Cindy (John) Libby.

SILVER GENERATION presents:

The Search for Haman is Not Over: What Keeps Jews Awake at Night in Both Israel and the United States
A dialogue with Rabbi Stanley Davids

Monday, March 27th at 7:00 PM
University Synagogue

Dinner will be available for purchase until March 25th.
Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP.

OPEN TO ALL

THIS MONDAY

Join us for an analysis by Rabbi Stanley Davids on the impact of the Trump administration on the Jewish community in the United States, Israel and worldwide. Q&A to follow. This promises to be a highly informative and entertaining program. [Click here to RSVP.](#)



"Media In The Age Of President Trump"
with Scott Siegler

Friday, March 31 at 7:30 pm

"Media in the Age of President Trump" with Scott Siegler

Mr Siegler graduated, Phi Beta Kappa, from Union College with a BA degree in Philosophy and English Literature. He holds a MA degree from the University of Toronto and received an MFA at Brandeis in Theatre Arts and began to write and produce films. His career took him to NBC, then Vice President of drama at CBS, Director of Creative Affairs at Warner Brothers, founder of Tri Star Television which merged with the older, larger Columbia Pictures Television to become Sony Television. He is currently Chairman of the Washington, DC-based Center for Public Integrity (CPI) and its offshoot the International Consortium of Investigative Journalism (ICIJ).

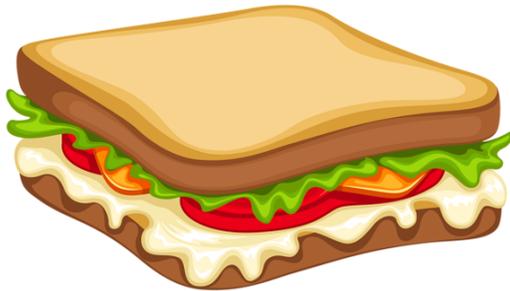
COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES

We are now booking for this upcoming date: **May 17th** from **5:30 to 7:30 pm**. (Cloverfield Service Center in Santa Monica)

Our theme is "5 Ingredients for \$5 Dollars Or Less", and the meals have been delicious. Email [Susan Corwin](#) or [Ellen Dorros](#) for more information and to secure a date.



Cooking Workshop



LUNCH MAKING FOR DAYBREAK WOMEN'S SHELTER OPPC

Lunch making for Daybreak Women's Homeless Shelter OPPC in Santa Monica continues this month. All are welcome to join this activity. Sisterhood is generously sponsoring this program. The next date is **Sunday, March 26 at 9:30 am** at the Cloverfield Service Center (1751 Cloverfield Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404) Please contact [Suzy](#) if you are interested in this Tikkun Olam activity. Hope to see you there!



Synagogue Calendar

UniSyn Calendar

Community Calendar

Monday, March 27, 7:00 pm

The Search for Haman is Not Over: What Keeps Jews Awake at Night in Both Israel and the United States

Join us for an analysis by Rabbi Stanley Davids on the impact of the Trump administration on the Jewish community in the United States, Israel and worldwide. Q&A to follow. This promises to be a highly informative and entertaining program.

RSVP by March 25th. [Click here to register.](#)

Sunday, April 2

The Jewish Federation Good Deeds Day

Join the Jewish Federation for an annual tradition that started in Israel with the simple idea that even the smallest of positive actions empowers each of us to change the world for the better.

[Click here to volunteer.](#)

Wednesday, April 5, 8 - 10 am

"Coffee With A Cop" Q&A Session

All are invited for a cup of coffee and Q&A session at Brentwood area's "Coffee With A Cop" at the Coral Tree Cafe with Police Officer Brian Espin.

Location: Coral Tree Cafe

Photos of the Week!



West Coast Party Jr. at Camp Newman: Allen Schultz Eliana Feinstein Francis Spencer-Shapiro and Renata Feinstein



Ladies night out at the Gala



Our ECLC teachers shine at the Gala



The Pixster photo booth was a hit



Well-deserved recognition for Rabbi Simonds and Dr. Barry Silverman from Rabbi Feinstein and Assemblyman Richard Bloom



Our Heroes

Thank you to everyone who made this evening such a fun and meaningful night.

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