



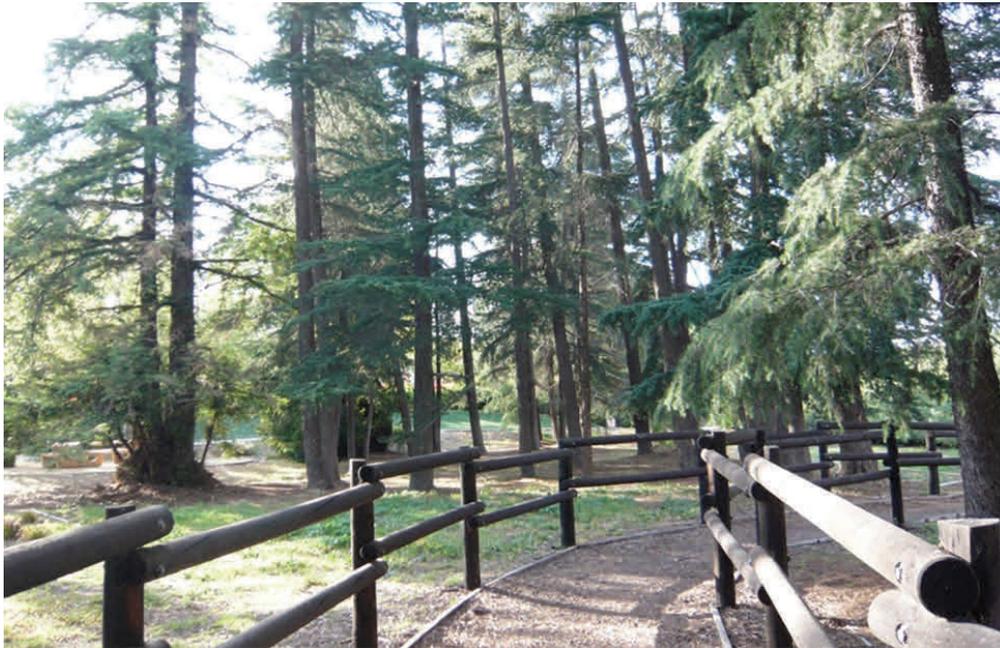
CHAT-LIGHTS

February 2020
Pacific Community of Cultural Jews

Orange County, CA 714-739-1366
PacifComm@aol.com www.pccjews.org

Pacific Community Annual Tu B'Shevat Walk Sunday February 9, 2020 11:00 a.m. Cedar Grove Park 11385 Pioneer Rd. Tustin

On Sunday February 9th please join us for a fresh air walk in Tustin. We will meet at 11:00 AM at Cedar Grove Park 11385 Pioneer Rd., Tustin. We will start by admiring a grove of tall deodar cedar trees. We will then walk up the street to the southern entrance of Peters Canyon Regional Park, loop around a flood-control basin, and return. This will be a fairly easy walk, with gentle grades and some unpaved sections. Hiking boots won't be needed. The full walk



is over 2 miles, but one can turn around sooner. Bring a water bottle, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Afterwards, those interested may go out to lunch together.

Please carpool with others-- to help save the environment, and also because the free parking is limited. If the parking lot is full, continue up Pioneer Rd. to the elementary school on left. RSVP to LeeJacobi123@gmail.com

The Pres Box

The following is excerpted from a letter by Rachel Laser, Pres./CEO of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. I heard the impressive Ms. Laser when she was invited to speak at the 50th Anniversary of the Society for Humanistic Judaism (SHJ). This letter was recently e-mailed to an SHJ leadership list. I thought it was important enough to share with you here.



“...Since our country’s founding, keeping religion and government separate has been the linchpin of true religious freedom— the right to practice your faith, or no faith at all— as long as you don’t hurt others. Not only did [Thomas] Jefferson [one of the “founding fathers”, author of the US Declaration of Independence] repeatedly make this clear, but so did the father of the First Amendment, James Madison.... the current Supreme Court has failed to uphold the separation of church and state in recent opinions.... We call on Americans to defend and protect church-state separation like their religious freedom depends on it— because it does.”

Lee Jacobi, President
Pacific Community of Cultural Jews



DINE OUT
February 8, 2020
6:30 p.m.



The Shawarma House
12531 Harbor
Garden Grove
714-462-6663

**Please RSVP to Knechtfour@aol.com no later than
Wed. Jan. 5, 2020, no exceptions**

Philosopher's Café

(Our Friendly Discussion Group)

February 22, 2020 2:00 p.m.

At the home of Eric & Isabelle Kaminsky
22381 Woodgrove Rd.
Lake Forrest

Please RSVP to them at eric.kaminsy@cox.net or
Isabelle.kam@cox.net or
714-292-7925 (Eric) or 714-290-4569 (Isabelle)

Please RSVP no later than Wed. February 19, 2020



Congratulations

Happy Birthday!

Frank Field - 2/02

Bryon Baron - 2/11

Isabelle Kaminsky - 2/22

Stan Shapin - 2/26



Jews to Know

by Lee Jacobi

Gerald Gold and the Pentagon Papers

Gerald Gold was born into a Jewish family in Brooklyn, NY in 1927.

Gold served in the US Navy in World War II. He then earned a BS in English literature from Long Island University.

Gold started as a correspondent, and rose to be the deputy foreign policy editor at the prestigious New York Times newspaper.

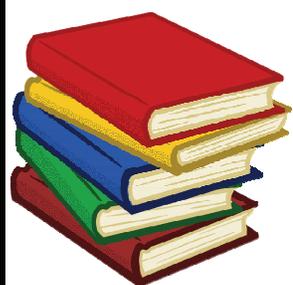
In 1971 a defense analyst named Daniel Ellsberg brought some 7,000 Xeroxed pages of Pentagon documents on the Vietnam “war” to the NY Times. This was before paper documents could be scanned into computers. Gold and his staff reporters began the arduous task of poring through the stacks of paper. They found that the Johnson administration had systematically lied to the American public about the progress of the Vietnam “war”, and that the Nixon administration had secretly-- without notifying Congress-- expanded the “war”, bombing Laos and Cambodia. Gold then directed his staff to prepared articles based on the “Pentagon Papers” for newspaper publication.

After the first 3 NY Times articles on the Pentagon Papers were published in June 1971, the Nixon administration obtained a federal court injunction to prevent the NY Times from publishing any further articles, claiming breach of national security. But, Ellsberg had also sent some of the documents to the Washington Post, who began publishing their own articles. The pressure the Nixon administration put on the Washington Post is described in the 2017 movie “The Post”. The case went to the Supreme Court, which ruled in favor of freedom of the press. Justice Hugo Black opined: “The press was protected [by the 1st Amendment of the Constitution] so that it could bare the secrets of government and inform the people. Only a free and unrestrained press can effectively expose deception in government.”

As a result of the publication of the Pentagon Papers, the US Congress in 1973 passed the War Powers Resolution; it became law only by Congress overriding a veto by then-President Nixon. Per the War Powers Resolution law, a President must notify Congress within 48 hours of the use of military force, and must request and obtain Congressional authorization to use military force beyond a 60-day limit.

Gerald Gold died in 2012 at age 85.

Sources: Jewdayo 01/11/2020; Wikipedia



BOOK REVIEW

By Jerry Zwick

The Fox Hunt: A Memoir of Yemen and My Odyssey to America

By Mohammed Al Samawi

This memoir answers the question: How can a Yemeni Shia Moslem who grew up being taught to hate Jews, Christians and Americans work with groups composed of these people to promote interfaith understanding and goodwill? You will learn the answer to this question and be totally amazed at how these three disparate groups can team up to work together to save the life of the author, who was threatened with death by his own people. Furthermore, it tells about the desperate situation that Yemenis face today, how it got that way, and how imperative it is that they get help from other countries or face extinction.

This book is at once a novel, a thriller, as well as a history of Yemen. It was totally compelling and extremely hard to put down. I would therefore highly recommend it.

SAVE THE DATE

**50TH ANNIVERSARY:
HONORING OUR LEGACY,
BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



MAY 22, 2020 - MAY 25, 2020

**URSULINE COLLEGE
PEPPER PIKE, OHIO 44124**

Please join us for our 50th Anniversary and reunion. Reconnect with friends you have made over the years. Share in the celebration!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Dine Out - February 8, 2020
 Tu B'Shvat Hike—February 9, 2020
 Philosopher's Café - February 22, 2020
 Purim Party - March 7, 2020
 Dine Out (Lunch) March 14, 2020
 Passover Seder - April 11, 2020

From Cheryl Cohen-

A BIG thank you to those members and guests who donated toys, gift certificates, and books at our Hanukkah party. Everything was delivered to the immigrant shelter sponsored by the San Diego Jewish Federation. The shelter, in an undisclosed location in San Diego, houses recently released immigrants, mostly families, and sends them on their way to relatives around the U.S. Our donations are very much appreciated! A good start to 2020!

2018 - 2020 PACIFIC COMMUNITY BOARD

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Webmaster	Marissa Jacobi	theMarissa@gmail.com

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Affiliated with
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 and
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Editor: Karen Knecht
 PCChaiLights@aol.com
 Phone: 714-739-1366
 Email: PacifComm@aol.com