

# Federation Focus

Winter 2022

Vol.12 Issue 2

Federation Focus is published four times a year by the Jewish Federation of Central California.  
"All Jews are responsible for one another." (Talmud:Shavuot 39a)



**F** i r s t  
**C** a n d l e  
**S** u n d a y  
**N** o v e m b e r  
**28**



*Message  
from the  
Director*

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Hanukkah. May the lights of the season brighten our world and may we all have a healthy and peaceful year ahead of us.

It is very hard to plan our events right now and we encourage everyone to refer to emails that are sent out every Friday listing weekly events. If you are not receiving them, please visit our website to sign up at <https://jewishfederationcentralcalifornia.org>

The Board of Directors of the JFCC held its 2022 Annual Allocation Meeting and thanks to your continued support we were able to meet all requests. (see page 8)

**If you have not made your pledge yet, remember our community is counting on you and we have many ways you can to do it:**

- \* call our office at 559- 432-2162
- \* email me at [fedfresno@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fedfresno@sbcglobal.net)
- \* Click on link from our Friday emails
- \* Send in form on last page

*(continued on page 6)*

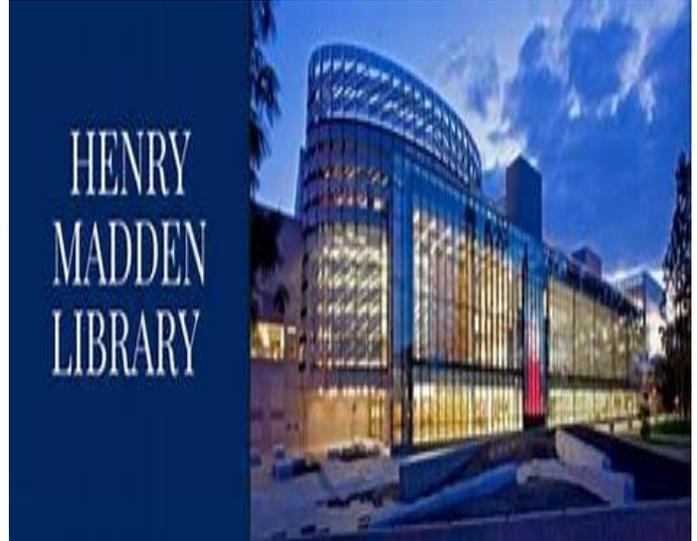
*As the FOCUS went to press:*

## **Fresno State to rename Henry Madden Library after his shocking anti-Semitism is exposed**

*Letter below received November 24, 2021  
from Fresno State President Dr. Saul  
Jimenez-Sandoval.*

*The letter was sent to Jerry Mann , head of  
the Jewish Leadership Council which meets  
regularly with Dr. Sandoval, and then to the  
Council's other members*

“A faculty member from the history department contacted me this morning about Henry Madden, the dean of the Library after whom the Library was named. Evidently he participated in Nazi activities as a student at Stanford and Columbia. The documents supporting that activity are in our archive in the Henry Madden collection. A history faculty member went to the Special Collections archive on Friday and found a significant number of documents supporting it, including rounding up Jews on Jewish holidays and shooting them.



“This is obviously very serious and we’re taking all necessary steps to fully document the facts and chart our next steps, which include the re-naming of the Library.

“I’m sorry to send this news, but wanted you to know from me, and wanted you to know that we’re taking this in a very serious manner.”

---

*Although Dr. Madden’s biography was not immediately available as the FOCUS went to press, here are a few related facts:*

- 1911 The Library was established
- 1949 Dr .Madden arrives as the University Librarian
- 1979 Dr. Madden retires
- 1981 The Library is named in his honor.
- 1985 Friends of the Madden Library is formed

**In 2009, the library underwent a \$105 million renovation that was largely financed by a multimillion-dollar endowment from Table Mountain Rancheria, a Casino operated byThe Chukchansi tribes. When the new Library was opened in 2010, it was an immediate success, with over 1,000,000 people visiting before its first birthday.**

*Dr. Sandoval is forming a committee to review the validity of this information and to see whether Madden’s views changed over time.*

### Fall Donations

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#### Jewish Family Services

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#### JFS in honor of Murray Farber's 90th birthday

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### Fresno Jewish Day School - Preschool, Child Care, Play-Based



Hello and Happy Hanukkah from the Fresno Jewish Day School! We are doing great things in our new location on Barstow. We are fully open, with care available from 7:30 a.m. to -5:00 p.m. We have spaces available at our play-based preschool, so give us a call (559-447-1984) or visit our website, [fresnojewishdayschool.org](http://fresnojewishdayschool.org), for more information or to schedule a tour to see our fantastic little school.

*Sarah Page, Teacher/Director*



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## LETTER FROM ISRAEL

by Vic Rosenthal



As usual, there is good news and bad news.

The good news is that Israel managed to cut short the fourth wave of Covid, which is now battering Europe, by the administration of booster shots starting in June. During the last week, there have only been a few hundred new cases daily. It looks like the vaccine's protection only lasts six months, so yet another booster may be needed in a month or so if a fifth wave is to be prevented. The government has also decided to start vaccinating children from 5-12 years of age starting next week. I know many people are hesitant about Covid vaccinations, but they certainly have worked here.

### Billions available

The bad news – well, where to start? The governing coalition exists by virtue of having bought the votes of a small Arab Islamist party with 30 *billion* shekels (almost \$10 billion). The money is supposed to be used to improve the condition of Arab citizens, but it will be allocated at the discretion of the party's leader, Mansour Abbas (not to be confused with Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas). His party's platform opposes the definition of Israel as a Jewish state and calls for a right of return for millions of the descendants of Arab refugees of 1948 to Israel. He and his party have connections to the Muslim Brotherhood and Hamas.

The government has just handed him a massive amount of patronage and power. This can't possibly end well. The relationship between Israel and the U.S. has lately become strained. The Biden Administration wants to reopen the consulate in western Jerusalem as a mission to the Palestinians. The consulate was closed when the U.S. moved its embassy to Jerusalem in 2018, because it is universally accepted that a country maintains only one official presence in any city.

Opening what is in effect an "embassy" to the Palestinians in Israel's capital implies that Israel does not have full sovereignty over Jerusalem. Israel does not object to

the US putting a mission to the Palestinians in, for example, Ramallah, where the PA is seated – just not in Jerusalem. International law

requires that the host nation give its permission for the establishment of a consulate, and both Prime Minister Bennett and Foreign Minister Lapid have said that Israel will not agree.

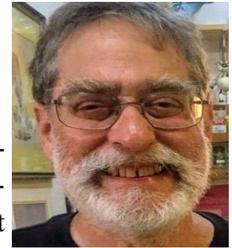
There is also the question of the Iranian nuclear project. The U.S. wants to return to the nuclear deal that was signed with Iran in 2015. The result would be that remaining sanctions on Iran would be lifted, Iran's progress toward nuclear weapons would not be significantly impacted, and Israel would be constrained from taking action against Iran. The probability of obtaining a "better" deal is negligible. Israel wants the US to come up with a "plan b" if (as is certain) diplomacy fails to halt Iran's progress.

### Is confrontation inevitable?

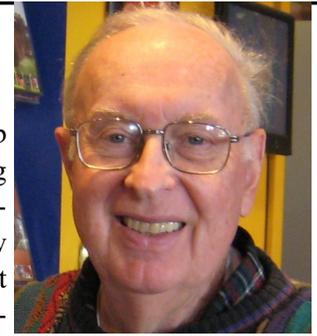
The feeling in Israel (both officially and on the street) is that a military confrontation between Israel and Iran and her proxies is inevitable. The U.S. will not or cannot stop Iran, and Israel cannot live under a nuclear threat from the enemy that has promised to destroy her countless times. The IDF has publicly announced that plans are being developed for a preemptive attack on Iran's nuclear facilities. It is a question of when, rather than if. My personal opinion, which I'm sure many will dispute, is that if the previous U.S. administration's policy of "maximum pressure" on Iran had been continued, then the war that will certainly result could have been avoided.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all my friends in Fresno a very happy Hanukkah.

Comments? [K2vco.vc@gmail.com](mailto:K2vco.vc@gmail.com)



## Federation Profiles: Murray Farber



**A** 90-year-old who defies his age by keeping active and in touch with the world, Murray Farber has been a positive force in the Federation for more than a decade, as chair of the Jewish Community Relations Council, president of the Federation for six years, and today remains a Federation board member.

Born in Brooklyn, NY to an immigrant family that operated a small corner grocery store, Murray was the first in his immediate family to attend college. After graduating from the Talmudical Academy, “where I was better at being captain of the basketball team than studying Talmud,” he said, he attended City College of New York. It was there that he joined the college newspaper and in his junior year met his wife, Francine, also a member of the newspaper staff. A history major who decided he wanted a career in journalism, Murray attended the University of Missouri Journalism School for a year until he was drafted into the army.

He and Francine were married during his two week leave after finishing basic training; they will celebrate their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary next month.

Murray’s first newspaper job was as a reporter for the Long Branch NJ Daily Record. Having grown up traveling the New York subways, he hadn’t yet learned how to drive, so to cover his suburban beat he had the cooperation of local police departments that ferried him to neighboring towns. His next job was as a copy editor with the New Haven Register, a leading Connecticut daily. Over the years he held various positions, rising to Managing Editor for Administration, the first Jewish person in a management position there. He is especially proud of hiring the newspaper’s first Black reporters and its first woman sports reporter.

After leaving the newspaper and serving a year as managing editor of a New Haven television station, he was sought out for the position of Director of Public Relations at Fairfield University in Fairfield, CT, a Jesuit institution. “But I’m not Catholic nor a PR person,” he insisted. They were impressed by his knowledge of religion and his journalistic skills and hired him anyway. Proving them correct, he stayed for 18 years until retirement in 1998.

The Farbers decided to relocate to Fresno to be near their daughter and her family after the untimely deaths of their two young adult sons. They immediately became immersed in community organizations.

In Murray’s tenure on the Federation board he has specialized in outreach to enrich the lives of the Jewish community as well as other Fresno residents. He helped organize celebrations for Jewish Independence Day which

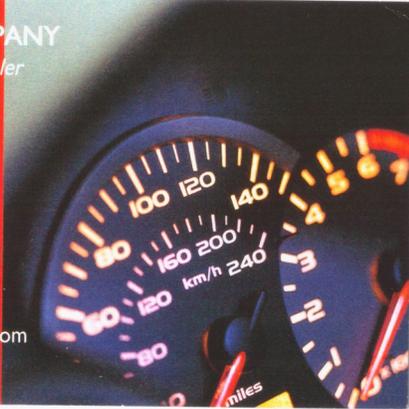
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## BUTTONS ALMOST FASTENED . .

The California Holocaust Education & Resource Center is proud to announce that we have found a permanent home and building site for the Holocaust Button Memorial. This project, began nearly 10 years ago, has steadily progressed toward the goal of acquiring/collecting six million buttons in order to build a memorial to the victims of the Holocaust: 6 six million Jewish men, women, and children.

Rabbi Shmuley Schlanger of the Chabad Jewish Community Center in Bakersfield has offered to provide long term sponsorship of the Memorial, help raise funds toward the costs of construction, and supervise the building of the Memorial. The cost is roughly \$300,000. Construction begins in January 2022 and completion of the project is expected to take 10 weeks.

Your financial assistance will be critical in establishing stronger bonds of identity that promote tolerance, acceptance, and awareness throughout the Central Valley. The Center will continue to offer programming about genocide prevention and offer Holocaust education via the arts in order to promote knowledge of history as well as strengthen awareness of the evils of racism and division

We need your help. Please make your donation payable to CHERC at the address below;

*Cynthia Fischer* \   
 Executive Director

**CALIFORNIA HOLOCAUST EDUCATION  
& RESOURCE CENTER  
1100 W. Center Street Visalia, California 93291**

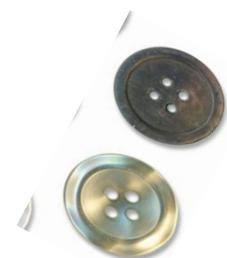


## Chassidus Corner

The Kabbalah of food caught my attention after learning about Jacob and Esau. Bread apparently has a higher spiritual source and while it nourishes your animal soul, its primary impact is on your Godly soul, as well as your mental capacity. As you know this spiritual power requires it to have its own blessing, creating a state of love in you. That's why when Jacob bought the birthright from Esau he fed him bread, separate from the red lentils in order to expand his consciousness. The lesson is, what you eat matters.

Stay safe and test negative!

*David ben Hirsch HaCohen*



## Federation Profile

*(continued from page 4)*

involved representatives of other religions. He supported sponsoring performances from theater groups and presentations from prominent speakers, including from the Israeli Consulate in San Francisco, which were open to the community at large. He publicized and supported the successful Jewish Studies program at Fresno State and helped initiate its scholarship program. Most of those students are not Jewish but are interested in studying our history and political background. Murray spoke annually at TBI and Congregation Bnai Jacob to help raise funds to support the Federation's work. He is especially proud of intervening in an anti-Semitic incident with an area college teacher that was resolved by an apology from that school.

What lies ahead? Murray continues his involvement with the Federation as a catalyst for good relations with the community and a respected elder statesman on the board.

*—Francine Farber*  
*Focus Editor*

*I have been able to explore Judaism through multiple angles and lenses...*

**Jewish Studies Student**



**Alea Droker**

As an English major and Jewish Studies minor in my senior year, the Jewish Studies Program at Fresno State has given me the exciting opportunity to discover and engage in valuable conversations surrounding the embodiment of Judaism in communities around the world.

I have been able to explore Judaism through multiple angles and lenses. Each class offered in the Program offers important insight about different subjects within Judaism, ranging from analyzing Biblical literature, to investigating and enjoying Jewish pop culture, to tracing the narratives of Holocaust survivors and the loved ones they lost.

Since there are so many classes offered, I have been able to take at least one Jewish studies class each semester. One particular class that has stood out to me this semester is Philosophy 158, "Judaism," taught by Dr. Aldea Mulhern, an assistant professor in the philosophy department. Dr. Mulhern as a scholar and educator has gone out of her way to create a classroom setting that encourages all people to learn and contribute what they know in a seminar-like discussion. As a Jewish person, I have often felt a lot of hesitancy to become educated about aspects of Judaism by others because our communities are small.

The curriculum within the Program is so valuable because all students are welcomed to participate and even identify with Judaism.

## Director's Message

*(continued from page 1)*

As well as pledges, we gratefully accept donations in honor of, or in remembrance. We notify the associates or family of those being honored or remembered. We also accept advertisements for \$100 annually that will be included in the FOCUS. We hope you will consider placing an ad; we encourage our community to support our advertisers.

We have two additional ways to help with our fundraising. The next time you order from Amazon please go to smile.amazon.com and select Jewish Federation of Central California under the supporting icon at top of page. The other is through Car Donations; if you have a vehicle to donate, please use the information below and select Jewish Federation of Central California to make your donation.

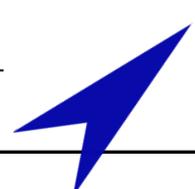
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You don't have to be a member to view our Facebook page. Just click the link on the bottom of our Friday emails and it will open to our page.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at 432-2162 or fedfresno@sbcglobal.net.

*Lehitraot, Phyllis Farrow*

I personally have seen the students in my classes go from knowing little-to-nothing about Judaism, to having such a deep passion for the topic that they want to take up a minor in Jewish Studies. Our classes aren't simply lectures of cold, hard factoids about Judaism that students memorize for a test. As a result, Fresno State is fostering a safer space for Jewish people and a more fruitful learning environment for all students.





By the time this edition of the FOCUS is received, we will be celebrating Hanukkah. Our clients received Hanukkah bags consisting of Trader Joe's potato pancakes, applesauce, chocolate gelt, candles, and a jelly donut. "The gift of love, the gift of peace, the gift of happiness....May be yours at Hanukkah."

Our family for many years has used the Hanukkah Home Service by Dore Schary in which each candle represents the following high qualities: One, Faith; Two, Freedom; Three, Courage; Four, Love; Five, Charity; Six, Integrity;



Seven, Knowledge; and Eight, Peace.

The Vision Statement of the Jewish Family Services of Fresno describes our organization as a strong Jewish

community where all Jews are **"responsible for each other, where there is true compassion, where one's father and mother are honored, where acts of love and kindness are abundant, where hospitality is shown for strangers, where the sick are visited with regularity, and where the bereaved are consoled"**.

Every one of these attributes is displayed by you - our supporters, our staff, board, committee members, and volunteers. We are very proud of the work we do here. It wouldn't be possible without the donations received from our parent organization, the Jewish Federation of Central California.

As things around us are getting back to our "new normal", we are looking for volunteers to become friendly visitors to our clients and community members. Please contact me at [jfsfederation@gmail.com](mailto:jfsfederation@gmail.com) if you know of those in need. We are constantly updating our referrals and resources list.

May this New Year be filled with good health and happiness for you and your family.

*Jeri Michner Horwitz*

**JFS/JFCC Community Outreach Coordinator**

## Join Caring Calls!



If you're interested and want more information, please send an email to Jeri Horwitz [jfsfederation@gmail.com](mailto:jfsfederation@gmail.com) or call her directly at (559) 281-1104. **You can change a life!**



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## JFCC ALLOCATIONS 2022

### Israel Overseas

Jewish Federation North America	\$5,000
Jewish Distribution Committee	\$10,000
Magen David Adom	\$2,000
Akim Israel	\$2,000

### Local

Jewish Family Services	\$20,000
Israel Independence Day	\$3,500
Interest Free Loans	\$3,000
TBI Yom HaShoah	\$1,000
Jewish Community Relations Council	\$10,000
Camperships	\$2,500
TBI Cemetery	\$9,000
TBI Cemetery Water Project	\$12,400
Jewish Studies Program, Fresno State	\$5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 85,400</b>

## VISALIA VOICES

**Congregation B'nai David \* 559-732-3139**  
**[www.congregationbnaidavid.com](http://www.congregationbnaidavid.com)**

We are looking forward to seeing our friends at our Hanukkah lunch on December 5, enjoying our freshly made latkes and jelly donuts. Our attendance will be on the smaller side as we maintain our safety. We will still have lots of fun with games, prizes and our Hanukkah lights!

Our Student Rabbi, Aria, will be celebrating with us. She has been coming up to be with us once a month. Our lay leaders have been filling in when she is not in residence. Her Lunch and Learn programs have been interesting.

We are working on a survey for our congregants to help us plan for the future. We wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah and send warm wishes for the new year. Please stay healthy and safe.

Anyone wishing to join us for services or Jewish education, please call us at (559)732-3139.

*—Marsha Brooks-Smith*

## ALLOCATION DESCRIPTIONS

**Jewish Federation of North America** Umbrella organization to help support and sustain worldwide Jewry. Our community is focusing helping refugees from around the world rebuild their lives.

**Jewish Distribution Committee** The world's leading Jewish humanitarian organization that works to lift lives and strengthen communities, by providing life-saving care to those in desperate need.

**Magen David Adom** With Israel under attack, MDA provides first responders, vehicles, and training, as well as transportation to hospitals to save lives.

**Akim Israel** The Israeli national organization to help people with intellectual disabilities and their families, using legal, community, and self-advocacy.

**Jewish Family Services** Provides services and support for the Central Valley Jewish Community (Visalia to Merced) regardless of age, income, or synagogue affiliation, and to strengthen Jewish identity, build community, and fortify family life.

**Israel Independence Day** Yearly Yom Ha'atzmaut community celebration, marking the establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948.

**Interest Free Loans** Promotes financial assistance to Jewish families in need by offering them a NO interest loan.

**Yom HaShoah** A day set aside for Jews to remember the Holocaust.

**Jewish Community Relations Council** Liaison between the Jewish community and our non-Jewish neighbors, engaging in dialogue and clarifying misunderstandings, as well as sponsoring pro-Israel speakers and arts events.

**Camperships** Provides financial assistance to Jewish students wishing to attend a Jewish camp.

**TBI Cemetery** Pays part of annual maintenance costs.

**TBI Cemetery Water Project** Pays part of the new water pump and pipes.

**Jewish Studies** To endow a Jewish studies scholarship fund, for Fresno State students in the Jewish Studies Program who have completed at least two courses toward earning either the Jewish Studies Certificate or the new Jewish Studies Minor.

# Violins of Hope



**Saturday, December 4, 8 p.m.**  
**Fresno State Concert Hall**

**Fresno State Symphony Orchestra**  
**Thomas Loewenheim, Conductor**  
**Limor Immerman, violin**  
**Susanne Reyto, speaker**

## Program

**Fanfare**

**Paul Ben-Haim**

**Baal-Shem: Three Pictures of Chassidic Life** Ernest Bloch

**Three Pieces from Schindler's List**

**John Williams**

**Mathis der Maler Symphony**

**Paul Hindemith**

*Violins of Hope is based on a collection of violins, violas and cellos, all collected privately since the end of World War II. All instruments belonged to Jews before and during the war and have a common denominator: they had to do with death or survival during the Holocaust — and Hope. All instruments were symbols of hope and a way to say "Remember me, remember us. Life is good. Celebrate it for those who perished, for those who survived,. For all people.*

**Tickets: General, \$15 Employees and Seniors: \$12 Students \$8 at box office or**

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**Audience members must show proof of vaccination or recent negative test and wear a mask during the concert.**

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YOUR 2021 PLEDGE?**

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his wisdom will be enduring.”*

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**Federation Focus**

**The publication of the  
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**Jewish Federations of North America** protects and enhances the well-being of Jews and Jewish communities in North America, Israel and around the world. We strive to realize our core values of *chesed* (caring and compassion), *Torah* (Jewish Learning), *tikkun olam* (repair of the world) and *tzedakah* (social justice). As the focus of the federations, JFNA acts upon these values through philanthropy, strategic initiatives, and collective leadership—in partnership with local communities, national and international agencies.

# PLEDGES FOR JFCC 2021



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