

HOPE VILLAGE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

In response to a need for housing for mentally ill Jewish adults, a group of concerned family members and professionals from the San Diego Jewish community has come together to serve on the board of Hope Village San Diego. The mission of Hope Village is to provide structured, supervised, independent housing for adults with psychiatric disabilities.

Housing has been difficult to find for many of these clients, and the organization is seeking volunteers to assist in developing a house for this segment of the local Jewish population.

"It is my hope that we can develop and operate housing, but we need support from the Jewish community and community awareness so that more families step forward to help," said Fern Siegel, one of the project's organizers.

If interested in assisting with Hope Village, please e-mail organizers at fernsiegel@cox.net or hgreenstein@netscape.net.

UNION BANK AND KPBS HONOR SAN DIEGO JEWS AS LOCAL HEROES



MARJORY KAPLAN



ELLEN BECK

In celebration of Jewish Heritage Month, Union Bank and KPBS have named two exceptional San Diego Jews as 2010 Local Heroes for their outstanding community service. This year's Jewish Heritage honorees are Ellen Beck, founder of the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic Project (SRFCP), which serves more than 2,000 low-income patients each year; and Marjory Kaplan, president and chief executive officer of the Jewish Community Foundation.

View more information on the honorees at www.kpbs.org/heroes. To learn more about the Local Heroes Awards, please also visit www.unionbank.com/heroes.

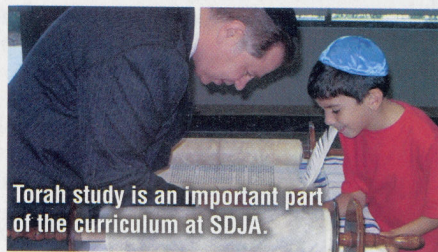
CELEBRATE ISRAEL



The San Diego Jewish community came out in large numbers to the San Diego Jewish Academy April 25 to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut, or Israeli Independence Day. The event, sponsored by UJF, included Israeli and kosher food vendors; informational tents from a number of community schools, shuls and organizations; vendors of jewelry, Judaica and Israeli wares; kids' activities; and an entertainment stage with performances throughout the day.

During one time slot, musicians from the Israel Defense Forces, decked out in their fatigues, performed upbeat Israeli music, causing audience members to clap, sing and even to get up and dance along to the beat.

SDJA AND LOCAL SYNAGOGUES UNITE JEWISH COMMUNITY



Torah study is an important part of the curriculum at SDJA.

On May 18, San Diego Jewish Academy and several local synagogues held a community-wide event, "Tikkun Leil Shavuot: An Evening of Learning," to unite the Jewish community.

Congregation Beth Am, Temple Beth El, Congregation Beth Israel, Temple Solel and Ohr Shalom Synagogue met on the SDJA campus to explore differences within the Jewish community by examining the topic of pluralism, which is also a core value at SDJA. The evening featured various study groups and discussion panels on the topic.

"San Diego's Jewish community is broad," said David Kornberg, rabbi at Congregation Beth Am. "An event like Tikkun Leil Shavuot gives us an opportunity to come together as a community, explore our differences and figure out how we can work together."

SOILLE HEBREW DAY STUDENT HONORED IN SACRAMENTO

Celia Benchetrit, a seventh grade student at Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School, was honored April 19 at the state capital for her essay that will appear in a book presented at part of the state assembly's annual Holocaust Memorial Project.

The book will be distributed to survivors and veterans, legislators, libraries and community organizations. Benchetrit joined Holocaust survivors and World War II veterans who helped liberate concentration camps in the Sacramento ceremony co-hosted by San Diego State Assembly member Marty Block of the 78th District. To learn more about Soille, visit www.hebrewday.org.