

KOL MEVASSER

Rabbi's Message

"Emotional support peacock" is not a phrase I ever expected to encounter. Nevertheless, this week's news was all ablaze with a United Airlines passenger who was denied the right to fly with just such a bird. The image of a full Indian male perched atop a luggage cart was memorable indeed.



As often seems to happen in personal disputes, each side declared itself to be in the moral right. Complete with angry emojis, Instagram user "dexterthepeacock" complained of having to waste six hours at the airport, several days of cross-country driving, and two unused airline tickets "after following all required protocol."

Yet according to a spokesperson for United, the airline had been in communication with the owner on multiple occasions before the flight. Three separate warnings were issued that the bird did not meet flying guidelines, making the whole story an unnecessary spectacle for all concerned.

At the heart of this case are two values that must be safeguarded: accommodating disability and maintaining public safety. On the one hand, emotional support animals can be core elements of care for specific impairments, and the fact that certain people require this assistance should not prevent them from flying. This is no different than installing ramps on curbs or braille in elevators, which public facilities now do as a matter of course. On the other hand, there has been a rise of cases in which support animals have made noise, mess, and even caused serious injury to passengers and crew. A ticketholder whose flight

quality and safety are compromised by animals has every right to expect recourse from the airline.

Added to this is the complication of fraud. The definition of what separates a "support animal" from a "pet" is unclear, and some people are trying to game the system. This casts doubt on legitimate users of support animals, who feel that the fakers make it harder for them to go about their daily lives.

How do we resolve such a problem? Whose needs should trump those of others? Reading through this story, I couldn't help but to think that Yitro had a good solution in the very parasha when the story went public. He pointed out that the old way of doing things was to give one side all the power while the complainants are judged without knowing how the final ruling was made. This not only disempowers the judged, but weighs down the judge with a huge case load. Yitro's suggested alternative is to invite many people to become stakeholders in the rule-making process. As the sides interact, they teach each other and learn more effectively how mediation should work. By the end, the judged feel part of the solution, and the judges are free to deal with more pressing matters.

In our case, the airlines could meet with regulators, leaders of groups that use support animals, and clients from their complaint line who could explain their real experiences of problems and failures. They could all agree in the beginning that after so many interchanges, a given group would be empowered to suggest and publicize new rules. Perhaps it is a naïve ideal, but I could really see this working much better than the public bickering for which Dexter the Peacock has become an unlikely poster child.

Parashat Yitro

Decalogue

Torah: Ex. 18:1–20:23, 75 Pesukim
Hertz 288–301*; Stone 394–415
Haftara (§): Is. 6:1–13
Hertz 302–304; Stone 1154–1155
Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah

**Reminder: The Sephardic aliyot divisions in the Hertz are for a different minhag*

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 2nd

Candle lighting 5:06 pm
Minha 5:00 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit 5:30 pm
Community Shabbat Dinner w/rsvp
Games & Tea 6:15 pm / Dinner 6:45 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, February 3rd

Shaharit 8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am
Musaf 11:40 am
Women's Tehillim *right after kiddush*
Minha 4:30 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet 5:15 pm
Arvit 5:55 pm
Havdala 6:10 pm

(Continued on page 2)

Sponsor a Kiddush or Seuda Shelisheet!

Celebrate a family milestone!
Honor the memory of a loved one!
Share a simha with the community!
**Celebrate and commemorate with
 your Kahal Joseph community by
 sponsoring a Kiddush or Seuda
 Shelisheet for all to enjoy**

**Contact Sarah in the office at
 310.474.0559 to reserve your date**

Membership Benefits Everyone!

You get . . .

- ♦ To be part of the Kahal family
- ♦ High Holy Days tickets
- ♦ Rabbi for lifecycle events
- ♦ Pastoral counseling
- ♦ Preferential rates for space rentals, Talmud Torah tuition, & children's programs

You support . . .

- ♦ Educational programs
- ♦ Social events
- ♦ Prayer minyanim
- ♦ Keeping KJ here for you when you need it!

**Contact the office at 310-474-0559
 or speak to Rabbi Melhado to join!**

Mazal Tov

Jessica Canterbury
 and Diel Flannigan
 on the birth of their baby girl

Besiman Tov to

Grandparents
 Vikki and Mark Canterbury

Great-Grandfather
 Mark E. Jonah
 beloved member of Kahal

and all the extended family

(Continued from page 1)

Sunday, February 4th

Shaharit 7:30 am
 Talmud Torah 9:45 am

Monday-Friday, February 5 - 9

Shaharit 6:25 am

Next Week Shabbat Shekalim

Friday-Saturday, February 9-10

Shabbat Candle lighting 5:13 pm
 Friday Minha 5:00 pm
 Shaharit 8:30 am
 Saturday Minha 4:30 pm
 Havdala 6:17 pm

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries from February 3 to 10, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

18 Shevat / Shabbat, February 3rd

Manachi Kemareh *Abraham ben Khatoon*
 Raphael Mizrahie *Raphael Hai ben Eliyahu*
Mordehai

19 Shevat / Sunday, February 4th

Doris Shemtov David *Doris bat Kahela*
 Sassoon Moshe Sassoon *Sassoon ben Moshe*

20 Shevat / Monday, February 5th

Edward David *Ezra ben Meir Shemtov*
 Nissim Moondani *Nissim ben Moondani*
 Georgette Solomon

23 Shevat / Thursday, February 8th

Victoria Elie *Victoria Elie bat Caden*
 Maurice Shamash *Menashe Hayim*
 Carl Zekaria *Katsuri ben Sion*

24 Shevat / Friday, February 9th

Rachel David *Rahel bat Regina*

25 Shevat / Shabbat, February 10th

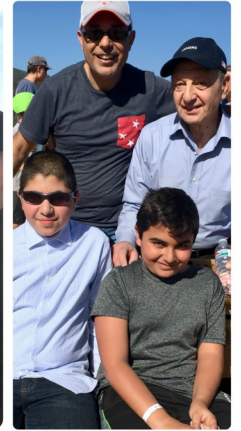
Norma Dabby *Naima bat Farha*
 Morton Raymond Einy *Mordecai ben Rahamim*
 Abraham Sales *Avraham ben Sassoon*

Refua Shelema

Sassoon Ezra • Moselle Amron • Sally Amron
 Haskell Avrahamy • Mordechai Cohen
 Sylvia Cohen • Esther Duke
 Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Tilda Levy
 Yvonne Moalim • Florice Newberry
 Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria
 Arlette bat Rashel • Chaya Chana bat Batya
 Katie bat Farha • Malka bat Rahel
 Miriam bat Yetta • Miryam bat Malka
 Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov • Simcha bat Rooha
 Moshe Hooman ben Sara • Habiba bat Farha
 Moshe Haim ben Sara • Meir Ezra ben Rahel

Tu Bishvat Community Hike!

On Sunday, January 28, the Talmud Torah and Kahal families enjoyed a beautiful day of hiking and community at Will Rogers State Park. Over 50 people hiked up to Inspiration Point, where they heard a few words of Torah from Rabbi Melhado. At the end, we joined together for a picnic, including dried fruits and nuts in honor of Tu Bishvat!



Community Shabbat Dinner in honor of Tu Bishvat

Friday, February 2

6:15pm - Tea & Games

6:45pm - Delicious Shabbat Dinner

\$18 for adults - Under 5 free

RSVP by Wed. January 31

www.kahaljoseph.org/tu-bishvat

or 310-474-0559

Sponsored in memory of Soleiman Mizrahi, who would have turned 99 this Tu Bishvat, by his children and their families

KAHAL'S Children's Shabbat



FIRST SHABBAT OF THE MONTH
FEB 3 - MAR 3 - APR 7 - MAY 5 - JUNE 2

PLAYROOM OPENS AT 10:00 - PROGRAM BEGINS AT 10:30

EXPLORE THE WEEKLY PARASHA WITH US!

START THE MORNING WITH PRAYER

PARTICIPATE IN GAMES & ACTIVITIES

ENJOY A PARASHA-THEMED SNACK

TORAH TOTS - 0 to 5

TORAH & ME - 6 to 12

Email Jessica at Jessica@kahaljoseph.org for more information or to volunteer!

FORGOTTEN YOUR HEBREW? NEVER HAD ANY?

HEBREW FOR BEGINNERS

WITH RABBI MELHADO

NEXT MEETING

WED. FEB. 7 AT 6:30PM

Adult Bat Mitzvah Class

Next Meeting

Wed. Feb. 7 at 7:30PM

Women with all levels of Hebrew &
Jewish knowledge welcome!

Contact Yvette Dabby at YvetteDabby@gmail.com
to sign up for either class or both!

Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner

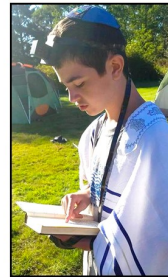
Friday, February 16 at 7:30 PM

RSVP to RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org

Members & friends in your 20s & 30s!

Join Rabbi Melhado at home for a
delicious Shabbat meal and an amazing discussion.

Bring your appetite! Bring your friends!
Bring your questions!



Info Night Open House Parties

Learn about SAC activities * Meet SAC families and staff * Enjoy a dairy meal * Parents and kids invited to join the fun!

SAC is a unique Sephardic overnight summer camp experience for third to eleventh graders located in Washington state.

Valley Village

**Saturday, February 3
7:30PM**

**at the Avrahamy Home
12136 Emelita St.,
Valley Village, CA 91607**

Los Angeles

**Monday, February 5
7:00PM**

**at the Owen Home
1134 Alfred,
Los Angeles, CA 90035**

**For more information email
office@sephardicadventurecamp.org**

**Visit our website at
www.sephardicadventurecamp.org**

Learning Circle LA Open House

Tuesday, February 6 at 8PM
Friendship Circle, 1952 S. Robertson Blvd

Learning Circle LA is the first Jewish Special Needs school in Los Angeles. We provide everything your child needs in one location - customized curriculum, Jewish studies, and IEP services & therapies.

Our current class is 5 to 7 year olds with moderate to severe special needs, with plans for expansion. See our beautiful facility, including accessible playground and sensory room. Meet our highly-qualified instructors and therapists and learn how we customize curriculum.

RSVP to Chana at LearningCircleLA@gmail.com

ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS WALK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 8:45AM

**BEVERLY HILLS CITY HALL
CRESCENT STREET DOOR**

**SPEECHES BY DR. STEVEN
KAMARA AND MAYOR LILY BOSSE**

Support this important cause!

*Free parking on Rexford Ave. at the
library building across from city hall*



H a p p y P u r i m

Wednesday, February 28

5:00 PM - Minha w/Birkat Cohanim

followed by

Raffle and Reading of Megilat Esther

and

A light dinner with Hamantashen

Sponsored by the Mizrahie & Jonah Families

Thursday, March 1

5:45 AM - Shaharit & Megila



Purim Baking!

Sunday, February 18
10AM until the dough is done

Bake traditional Iraqi treats for the KJ Purim baskets, which are distributed to members of our congregation.

Can't make it?

Make a dough-nation!

Send a check to the Kahal Joseph office, call 310-474-0559 or www.kahaljoseph.org/donate



KAHAL JOSEPH INVITES YOU TO

PURIM CARNIVAL

Games! Food! Fun! Prizes!

Sunday, Feb. 25

11 AM - 3 PM

**UNLIMITED RIDE &
GAME WRISTBAND - \$20**

**Delicious food, Iraqi treats,
great prizes and more!
All proceeds benefit Kahal!**

Event Chairs: Jonathan Kelly, Molly Jalali, & Jessica Melhado

