

Shabbat and Holiday Candle Lighting Times	
Monday, October 1	7:46pm
Friday, October 5	6:46pm
Sunday, October 7	6:43pm
Monday, October 8	7:38pm
Friday, October 12	6:37pm
Friday, October 19	6:29pm
Friday, October 26	6:22pm

Upcoming Events

Thursday, October 4th
Solicitor Training/
Campaign Rally
8:00am, 303 Lee Blvd.

Wednesday, Oct. 10th
Savannah Jewish Federation
Main Event/Annual Meeting
6:30pm, JEA
Must RSVP by October 3rd
Get all the details at
www.savj.org

Sunday, October 14th
Opinion Minyan
Election Preview with
Dem. & Rep. Party Chairs
10:00am, JEA

Sunday, November 18th
Campaign Super Sunday
One call does it all!

Say Yes to 2013 Campaign Events

As the holidays wind down, the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign goes into full swing. The schedule of events starts off on Thursday, October 4th, with a breakfast to rally and train the solicitors at the home of Phillipa (Bunny) Cohen. The following week, the entire community is invited to the JEA on Wednesday, October 10th, for the Federation's Main Event/Annual Meeting, where noted historian and Middle East expert Daniel Pipes will be the featured guest. November brings Super Sunday on November 18th and December will include some new events, including a special promotion with Barnes & Noble bookstore the week of December 6th – 14th and a unique Women's Division breakfast event — watch for more details on

these later.

As times change, many people ask, *why should I continue to make a gift to Federation?* Your gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation is the single most efficient way to ensure the future of the Savannah Jewish community's beloved institutions as well as the security of Jewish life in Israel and throughout the world.

Thanks to the generosity of the community, in 2012 the Savannah Jewish Federation made grants to local organizations such as Rambam Day School, Shalom School, the JEA, local Hillels and Jewish Family Services in amounts that exceeded funds they raised in any single fundraiser. The Federation also made grants to Birthright Israel, guaranteeing access for young adults to connect to their spiritual homeland;



to the Jewish Agency for Israel, which provides all-important social services in Israel; and to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), which sees to the concerns of needy

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Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival Oct. 28

Savannah's 24th annual Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival will be held from 11am- 4pm Sunday, October 28, in Forsyth Park.

Sponsored by Congregation Mickve Israel, the Shalom Y'all community event attracts some 10,000 people each year, the largest food festival of its kind in the country. It features 20 individual food booths highlighting traditional Jewish specialties spread along the center promenade of Savannah's ac-

claimed and beautiful "Big Park."

The Savannah Philharmonic Orchestra is generously donating music throughout the day as featured entertainment. Additionally, Maxine Patterson will provide Israeli dancing.

Food festival planners are anticipating sales of a variety of traditional Jewish foods – some 1,000 pounds of meats (deli, chopped liver, Sephardic lamb, and brisket); 1,200 hot dogs; 1,700 homemade blintzes; approximately 1,000 servings of homemade strudel and 500 stuffed cabbages.

Additionally, volunteers will bake 150 loaves of challahs and 60 honey cakes, as well as traditional cookies, Hamentashen and other Sisterhood Sweets. On site, they will fry an undetermined quantity of latkes and will serve some 50 pounds of hummus, along with traditional matzo ball soup, kugel, Israeli salads and New York egg creams. Back again this year will be a new take on an old theme: ShaLoMein, stir-fried as you watch. In addition to soft drinks, there will be a booth in-



cluding He'Brew Beer.

Throughout the year, Congregation Mickve Israel members volunteer hundreds of hours in food preparation, ongoing festival planning and staffing of all the booths.

Lauri Taylor, chairperson, said the festival is made possible each year through generous sponsorships from members of the congregation, vendors, national companies and the Savannah community. The 2012 planning committee includes Sue Ruby, Joan Levy, Cyndi Kohn and Kerry Rosen.

Tickets will be on sale at the entrance to Forsyth Park. Advance tickets are available at a discount through the Temple office.



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Savannah, Georgia 31405
www.savj.org

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SJF Main Event/Annual Meeting Oct. 10, 6:30
RSVP by Oct. 3 – www.savj.org or 355-8111.



Already Feels Like Home

Around this time of year in Israel, everyone is getting ready for the holidays. Last week all the children were asked to arrive to school wearing white shirts, a symbol for a clean and new beginning. They went back home with apples and honey and “shana tova” (happy new year) cards for their families. For parents, the days approaching the High Holidays are more similar to a military operation. They spend the whole day cleaning the house, deciding on the dishes they will serve, or looking for a gift that they can bring along to their hostess, making lists, grocery shopping and cooking. Mom

made a list and Dad was running around with it at the market. They moved furniture around the house so they can make some room and manage to open the dining table. You could see all different types of chairs around that table – crowded but warm and homey. And during all that the phone won’t stop ringing “shana tova!”, “tzom kal” That’s usually when



Dorin Elhadad,
Savannah Jewish
Community Shlichah

someone stops and says, “I’m not hosting ever again!”

When evening arrives there is almost no one on the streets, the markets are closed, the telephone stops ringing. It is simply people sharing their new year with their loved ones around the table.

This year was a little bit different for me. While everyone was running around making their preparations, I was unpacking my life from big boxes into a new apartment in a new place. Somehow, I felt like home. I guess it’s the southern hospitality, that is no longer a myth, from all the people from the Savannah community that surrounding me since I arrived.

As we passed Rosh Hashanah, I

thought about how many times we wish we could start over, that someone will give us a mysterious and magical way to a clean start. So we could repair all of our mistakes, so we won’t take for granted the people we love, the life that we have, or own happiness. Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur gives us opportunity to stop, and think about who we are, and who we want to be.

This time of year is about the future as much as it is about the past. That is where we can draw a line to it and make new goals, promises, and decisions and design our lives according to our own wishes. May this be a year of opportunities, joy, excitement and love. Shana tova u’metuka.

The Opinion Minyan is Back!

The JEA is proud to present the Opinion Minyan, an interactive, participatory discussion series which includes a buffet brunch.

Don’t Forget to Save the Dates!

Sunday, October 14, 2012 at 10 am

Election Preview with Tony Center - The Democratic Committee Chair of Chatham County and Carl Smith - The Republican Committee Chair of Chatham County. Moderator Kenneth Sadler.

Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 4 pm **NOTE TIME

Rabbi Saul Rubin - Georgia Jewish places and Influential faces: The Founding of Jewish communities in Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, St. Simons. Plus, unusual facts and influential Jewish people who have made major contributions to Georgia.

Admission is free for JEA members and \$8 for non-members which includes the meal and speaker.

“The food was great, the company was wonderful, and the speaker was very entertaining!”



Visit us at www.SavannahJEA.org!

Former SJN Editor Honored

Former editor of the *Savannah Jewish News* Maxine Schildkraut was honored at *Mentor to the MAX*: a Journalism Forum* last month, a program provided by



Midge Schildkraut

MorningStar Cultural Arts Group (MStarArts.org) at the Jewish Educational Alliance (JEA), featuring remarks from Tom Barton, editor of the *Savannah Morning News*.

The event was advertised as “a forum to speak to excellence in journalism and marketing, to define new strategies for educating the next generation of journalists, and to provide a fitting tribute to Maxine (Midge) Lasky Schildkraut (OBM) whose career in newspaper, magazine and marketing spanned more than 45 years, including many years as the editor of the *Savannah Jewish News* and the president of MorningStar Cultural Arts Group.” Friends and colleagues of Midge’s would like to make this an annual event with workshops on topics such as changes in journalism, and ultimately provide a scholarship for journalism students.

The multi-generational audience included representatives of area newspapers and magazines, and both students and professors of communication. Besides journalism questions posed to

Tom Barton, Larry Lasky spoke about his cousin Midge as “having journalism in her blood” as her father had been a typesetter for the area paper.

If you are interested in helping to expand this forum next year, please contact Carol Greenberg at MStarArts@gmail.com.

Savannah Jewish News

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Savannah Jewish Federation
5111 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31405
(912) 355-8111
www.savj.org

SJF President: **Jeffrey Lasky**
SJF President-elect: **Stephen Greenberg**
SJF President: **Amos Timna**
SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Allan Ratner**
SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**

The objectives of the Savannah Jewish News are to foster a sense of community among the Jewish people of Savannah by sharing ideas, information, experiences and opinions, and to promote the agencies, projects and mission of the Savannah Jewish Federation.

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 10th of the month before publication. There are no February or August issues. All articles for the Winter and Summer issues should be submitted by December 15th or June 15, respectively.

All submissions must be in MS Word format (articles) or pdf format with fonts embedded (advertisements). All color must be in the CMYK color format; all type in true black; photos in .jpg format.

Please send all SJN materials to:
sjnews@savj.org

Please send eNews submissions to:
adam@savj.org

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Savannah Morning News Editor Tom Barton and County Commission Chairman Pete Liakakis at the *Mentor to the Max* program

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HUNGRY POOR JEWISH PEOPLE IN NEED AT HOME AND OVERSEAS.
DESPERATE HUNGRY POOR JEWISH PEOPLE AT HOME AND OVERSEAS.**



Jeffrey Lasky.
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

**IF NOT US.....
WHO?
IF NOT NOW...
WHEN?**

**EVERY GIFT IS CRITICAL.
EVERY INCREASE IS IMPORTANT.
PLEASE GIVE UNTIL IT FEELS GOOD.**



Truly a Movement

"All it takes is one person... and another... and another... and another... to start a movement."

— Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Over the last year the JEA has been celebrating its 100th Anniversary. While 100 years pales in comparison to the overall history of our Jewish community, it is still quite an accomplishment.

At the Gala a few weeks ago, JEA President Bill Sand, spoke about the financial challenges that the JEA has faced over 100 years. *"It seems to be a part of our DNA."* Time after time, generous community members have "stepped up" to save the Alliance. They wrote very generous checks, used their influence, and took care of the day to day minutia that has kept the Alliance at the "center of the community." *All it takes is one person.*



"... and another."

Trace Weitz is another of these people. Throughout the entire celebration year, Trace was a driving force in making it happen. He generously volunteered his time for all these events – from the planning, purchasing and execution, Trace was a volunteer extraordinaire. We could not have done any of the events without him!



"... and another."

Anna Berwitz, the JEA Director of Fundraising (and Camp Registrar) was extraordinary throughout this celebration year. From the initial ideas to execution, from making lists to solicitations, from schlepping tables to decorating, Anna admirably ran three wonderful programs, raised essential funds, and supervised the publication of the 100 Year Journal.



"... and another."

For the past six months, Carol Greenberg has been working tirelessly to improve the JEA facilities – installing an herb garden, planting a daffodil garden in front of the building, and establishing building priorities for the coming years. Carol consistently spoke about needing to make the women's bathrooms more "user friendly." *And in*



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

came Sue Ruby. For those who know Sue, give her a project and get out of the way. You know that it will be done, and done well. And that is what happened. Sue came in, had the ideas and people and a timeline. She said it would be done before the Gala (I had my doubts). As if by magic, two weeks later (to the day), Sue had recreated both bathrooms. The only downside is that there was so much attention given to the bathrooms at the Gala. While not a "sexy project," we've received more compliments about the bathrooms than anything else in the last year. Thank you, Sue.



"... and another." Four

months ago we received a call from Laura Becker Blumberg. Laura grew up at the JEA and, for decades, watched her parents celebrate, exercise, compete and socialize at the JEA. At the Gala, it was announced that Laura and her husband, Richard, had created the Kay Becker JEA Israel Fund to help provide scholarships for teen travel to Israel. It was also announced that there would be another installment in the near future. Kay & Johnny Becker were a part of the family of the JEA for many years and the Blumbergs have created a permanent endowment that will honor their memory in perpetuity.



"... and another." Our

event Co Chairs, Don & Kaye Koler and Arlene & Allan Ratner worked like "four dogs" to make the event a success. They called, solicited, cajoled. They staffed the welcome table, organized the auction, and even put out the silverware. There was nothing they



wouldn't do (and haven't done, for decades).

There were dozens of others who made invaluable contributions to the evening and continue to do so every day to assure that the JEA will be here for the next 100 years, and another...and another...and another.... It truly is a movement.

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2013 Annual Campaign Leadership

The 2013 Campaign Leadership team is comprised almost entirely of the group who successfully led the 2012 Campaign over the \$1,000,000 mark last year. Allan Ratner joins the team this year as co-chair of the Men's Division.



Toby Hollenberg
Chair, 2013 Savannah Jewish Federation Campaign

Toby has lived in several places around the U.S. and in Savannah for more than six years. She is a dedicated volunteer in the Jewish community both at Congregation Mickve Israel and with the Savannah Jewish Federation. She has been instrumental in helping those interested in moving to Savannah or who have recently moved here through the Federation's Grow Savannah program. Toby also has sat on the Federation's Allocations Committee, Nominating Committee, Human Resource Committee and has been a chair of the Lion of Judah Campaign division.



Harvey Lebos
2013 Men's Division Co-Chair

Harvey originally is from Tampa, Florida, and has lived in Savannah for 38 years. He moved here with his family in 1974 and was inspired by the gracious welcome his family received from the Jewish community. The Federation, through its local programs, played an important role in the Jewish lives of his two sons and continues to do so now, a generation later, in the lives of his grandchildren. Harvey says that working with the Jewish Federation is the greatest investment he can make. He's served on Congregation Mickve Israel's board for five years and the Savannah Jewish Federation board for three years.



Allan Ratner
2013 Men's Division Co-Chair

Allan originally is from upstate New York but has

lived in Savannah for 50 years. He feels that the Jewish community is important to his family and to all of us and that the annual campaign is important to the entire Jewish community because it helps support those who need assistance for education and many other services. Allan has served in leadership on many Federation campaigns and currently is on the Federation's Executive Committee as the Secretary-Treasurer.



Arlene Ratner
2013 Women's Division Co-Chair

Arlene was born in Savannah and lived here most of her life. She was in the first Young Leadership group while living in Vidalia. She says continues to volunteer her leadership to the Savannah Jewish Federation because "someone provided for me when I was growing up here and now it's my responsibility to work

for the next generation." Arlene says she was taught that one stands on the shoulders of those who came before and you must continue the work that they began. She has always helped with campaign and previously served as co-chair of the Women's Division. Now that she's retired, Arlene has the time and energy to get more involved—she and Allan also just co-chaired the JEA's 100th Anniversary Gala celebration.



Vivian Slotin
2013 Women's Division Co-Chair

Vivian was born in Brooklyn, NY, and has lived in Savannah for more than eight years. She has been involved with the Savannah Jewish Federation since she moved here. Vivian says she is honored and excited to be able to give back to her community. While living in Augusta, GA, she worked for the Augusta Jewish Federation for 18 years. She has served as Telethon Chair, Women's Division co-chair and as a division head with the Savannah Jewish Federation.

Campaign Events.....from pg 1

Jews throughout the world.

All of this is accomplished with your single, annual gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation. You give the next generation a Jewish education, you see to it that our friends who are experiencing difficult times get a hand up with dignity, you provide for a community center for all to enjoy, you make sure a college student has a place to enjoy Shabbat or a holiday, you make sure a Jew in a faraway place has food and comfort — all by attending one event or answering one call.

The 2013 Annual Campaign Team hopes to see you at one of the upcoming Campaign events:

Solicitor Rally/Training — October 4th, 8am, 303 Lee Blvd. Come get energized for this year's campaign (as well as for your day with the breakfast to be served). If you haven't been asked yet but would like to help out, please contact Campaign Coordinator Robin Reineri at (912) 355-8111 or campaign@savj.org.

Main Event/Annual Meeting — October 10th, 6:30pm, JEA. Dr.

Daniel Pipes, a well-known American academic, writer and political blogger who founded and directs the Middle East Forum and also was founder of Campus Watch, an organization that critiques Middle East scholarship at American universities, will be the featured speaker. Dinner, \$18 per person, is at 6:30pm, the program begins at 7:30pm. Paid dinner RSVPs are required by October 3rd and may be made by credit card online at www.savj.org or to (912) 355-8111 or checks may be mailed to the Savannah Jewish Federation, 5111 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405.

Super Sunday — November 18th, 9:30am-1pm, JEA. Last year's co-chairs Sherry Dolgoff and Sally Krissman once again will take the helm for this day. Join them and rally our community to answer the call so that together we may do extraordinary things.

Barnes & Noble Event — December 6th – 14th. Watch for more details.

Women's Division Breakfast — December 13th. Watch for more details.

Todah Rabah to the Contributors to the 2012 Jewish Family Services Friends Campaign

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And we also thank the more than 20 donors who chose to make their contributions to this year's Friends Campaign anonymously.



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Higher Ground: An Etrog Grows in Savannah

By Carol Towbin Greenberg

To a child, all Jewish holidays — whether serious or celebratory—deal with food: the eating or not eating of it, the times at which you eat and special symbolic foods that are offered, even if they are not consumed.

As an adult the smells and tastes of special offerings made lovingly by a mother or that special relative resonate in one's memory. If I close my eyes I can smell my grandmother's honey cake or feel the sticky goodness of her tay-glaich (honey candy). The attempt to remake an old family recipe often falls short because the ingredients may be the same, but the experience of eating the food cannot be reproduced. At the most childlike level, my love of certain holidays is as much about the tradi-

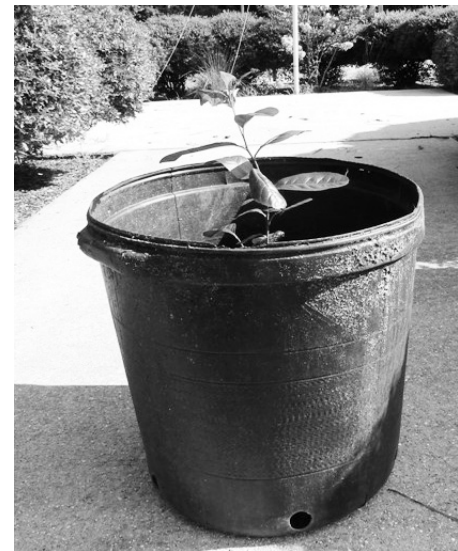
tions and the community with which I shared them, as it is about the history and rituals I dutifully learned in school. So this Sukkot story begins and ends with the Savannah Jewish community, people with whom I have shared my Jewish journey for over a quarter century.

Several years ago a small miracle occurred right here in Savannah: an etrog cutting —one of three given to me from a friend traveling back from Israel thirteen years before—actually grew to maturation and bore fruit. Not just any fruit, but the largest and most beautiful greenish-yellow etrog we had ever seen. As I knew full well that my gardening techniques had killed the other two cuttings and that this tree was spared by my inattention, I was hesitant to show too much pride in having produced such a magnificent citron, yet I couldn't help it. Friend after friend came to look at the two-story high tree and I wrestled with whether to cut the fruit from the tree or let it fall naturally. I consulted with several rabbis. Sukkot came along and people visited, performed the blessings in the sukkah with a special etrog we had purchased for this purpose, and marveled at the now bright

yellow fruit, still on our tree.

Regardless of religious affiliations, those seeing our fruit whether in person or by photo were amazed. Once off the tree, its appeal seemed almost transformative: those inhaling the strong lemony scent seemed curiously refreshed and some holding it offered whispers of near-silent prayers. The specialness of sharing that holiday blessing with my community was vital to my mental outlook as my family and I dealt with my ovarian cancer diagnosis. Oddly, my illness seemed to be mirrored by my tree, which in its bar mitzvah year also experienced some growing pains. It did not bear any other fruit and developed a systemic problem that caused us to make the decision to cut it to its very foundation—down to its root. Several years have passed, and this year my tree sprouted a shoot!

While the JEA Building and Grounds Committee, of which I am a member, often deals with the foundation—inner workings and hidden mechanisms and structures of the building, our Green Space Group has given me an opportunity to work with wonderful volunteers and project sponsors this past year to make small, but hopefully, noticeable improvements. Whether it is the new silk plants and planters, remodeled women's rooms, Children's



The new etrog plant shoot

Memorial Daffodil Garden and marker, cleaned front sign, playground safety improvements, replanted school and camp rotary, or the small community vegetable garden, each project could not have happened without member support. We meet twice monthly (Wednesdays 9am to 10:30am) and on occasional Sundays to weed and plant and plan. Volunteering is easy and much appreciated.

So on a Wednesday in September we presented Rambam Day School with a big pot to decorate and two weeks later we planted the shoot in the traffic rotary, so as everyone who drops off or picks up children can see our progress as a community working together to help good things grow.



Measuring the 'Miracle Etrog'

JELF Awards Record Loans For 2012-2013

The Jewish Educational Loan Fund (JELF) has awarded more than \$675,000 in interest-free loans to Jewish students throughout Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia for the 2012-2013 school year. A record number of applicants came to JELF seeking to fill the gap between the resources they assembled through grants, loans and scholarships and the real cost of their education. JELF responded to the rising need by loaning more than ever before in a single year. JELF loaned nearly \$13,000 to students in Savannah alone, a significant increase over the prior school year lending.

While JELF currently administers more than \$3.6 million in outstanding loans, it has maintained its impressive 99 percent repayment rate. As students repay their loans, JELF uses those payments to make new loans, creating a circle of *tzedakah*. JELF loans are need-based and can be used for full-time undergraduate and graduate degrees as well as vocational programs. As one loan recipient recently ex-



pressed to JELF, "I just wanted to say thank you to JELF for another generous loan for my next school year. I will use the support to its fullest capacity in my path to my career and life!"

For additional information, contact JELF Executive Director Lara Dorfman at 770-396-3080 or visit www.jelf.org. Applications for a JELF interest-free loan for the spring 2013 semester will be available September 2 – 30, 2012. Applications for the 2013-2014 academic year will be available on JELF's website at www.jelf.org in March 2013.

Reineri Joins Campaign Staff



Robin Reineri

The Savannah Jewish Federation is proud to welcome Robin Reineri to the staff. As Community Campaign Coordinator, Robin will be in charge of all phases of support for the SJF Annual Campaign including solicitor support services, working with donors, documentation, and event planning/support.

Robin, a mother of two girls, relocated here from Atlanta where she was most recently employed at The Temple for the past six years, providing administrative support for their highly regarded Early Learning Center.

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Four Questions for the Rest of the Year

Sheree Zaslavsky

Sheree and Larry Zaslavsky recently returned from a trip to Eastern Europe where they enjoyed Jewish culture and history in cities such as Prague, Budapest, Vienna, Krakow and Berlin. They spent a day immersed in the history of the Holocaust at the infamous concentration camps of Auschwitz-Birkenau, where Sheree's aunt, Frieda "Fritzie" Weiss Fritzshall was imprisoned. Fritzie, now 82, is one of the younger survivors of the Holocaust, having lied about her age when she arrived at the camp to be allowed to work. Fritzie's mother and two brothers died at Birkenau, but she and her father survived and were reunited in the U.S. after the war. Fritzie now is President of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie. She and Sheree spoke extensively about her experience when they took a cruise together last year, inspiring Sheree and Larry to make this journey. We spoke with Sheree about *her* experience.



Sleeping barracks at Birkenau

What made you decide to make this trip now?

We originally were supposed to do this trip last year, but had to return just after arriving in Krakow due to illness in the family. My aunt used her connections to set us up with an amazing guide of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the son of a non-Jewish survivor of the camps, which was very unusual. We spent 7-8 hours on a really in depth tour. All I kept imagining was my aunt as a 12 year old, living in these conditions, sleeping in these slabs of wood beds, crammed in with five or six others. And I remembered my aunt telling me the story of being separated from her mother and asking for her and a woman pointing up to the smoke and telling her that's where she is.

As we toured the showers where the people were taken when they first arrived, I remembered my aunt telling me about a woman appearing to her there, really thin and bald, who she didn't recognize and it turned out to be *her* aunt, who grabbed her and hid her among her friends and they continued to hide her like that and so my aunt was never tattooed. She fell through the cracks. I couldn't stop thinking about my aunt as a 12 year old, living through this.

What was the most surprising thing for you on the trip?

There were a few things. I thought these people were in the camps for



Larry and Sheree Zaslavsky in a lighter moment at a cafe in Krakow

years. But I learned that if you survived for three or four months, that was a long time. I saw photos of people taken when they arrived and then dated when they were killed and most only lived in the camps for a few months. When I talked about this with my aunt when I got back, my aunt said: "One day was a long time to survive."

Another thing that I never knew was how much they all fought with each other. It sounds harsh to talk about it now, but I guess I never thought about how everyone was trying to survive for themselves, so if they had to fight for an extra piece of bread, they did, all the time.

One more thing, they showed photos that jogged a story my aunt told. We heard how Dr. Mengele would stand there with a pointer stick deciding who should go where and suddenly I realized we were standing in the exact spot where he stood and it was very creepy. My aunt said she was in the line and was sixth from where you would be sent to be gassed when a

guard pushed her to the other line and she was separated from her aunt and she thought her aunt was gassed because she didn't see her for a long time, but actually her aunt had survived, only to die from a cut on her leg shortly after they were liberated.

What role did the Holocaust have in your life while you were growing up?

My aunt did not even talk about this until my cousin, her son, cornered her while he was in high school and had started to study something about it. She then started to open up about her experience and I became aware of it, but as a child I have no recollection.

Do you feel this experience has changed you in any way?

I'm really happy I went and I know a lot of people don't want to go, don't want to see it. I know the reason I went has a lot to do with my aunt, because she is such a hero to me and this has given me such a deep appreciation for her and all of these heroes who have survived this. I'm a big traveler, but this is the most moving experience I've ever had and I don't think you have to be Jewish to have this experience and to be shocked to learn what mankind can do to mankind. Going there almost puts you in the center of a war zone. You have no control over any part of your life. It really teaches you how precious each moment is. My aunt has a saying: "I'm in the world to change the world."

In 5773 Make a difference with Hadassah as we highlight community service opportunities

Hadassah Women...



Hard Acts to Follow!

Thelma Rosen is known for so many projects that each person we spoke to had a different mitzvah in mind. Years ago we remembered that she spearheaded a hands-on Senior Hadassah art bag project for the children's hospital where she volunteered. Whether it is serving Lunch Bunch at the JEA or reading a Rosh Hashana story about honey in her bees-in-hive sweater to the Rambam children, she is creative and performs service with a smile. Thelma can use some volunteers to help her deliver flowers on Thursdays to area nursing homes. She has been doing this for years by herself and would appreciate a few extra busy bees to help her. **Contact** MStarArts@gmail.com for details.

Catch someone in the act of random kindness or let us know about community service opportunities you would like us to advertise for you. October Op: Voter Registration **Contact:** MStarArts@gmail.com

HA
DAS
SAH

Educator takes Lead at Agudath Achim

By Jane G. Kahn

Rabbi Ruven Barkan, new spiritual leader at Congregation Agudath Achim, has wasted no time as he swept into Savannah and into the hearts and the lives of the people in his new home.

It's his first time in the South and his first pulpit. "I connect," he says.

Rabbi Barkan has sized up the community and has found a kinship with the double Southern Jewish heritage and its culture of "openness, kindness and gracious grace."

He glanced at blown-up photos from the Savannah Jewish Archives. "My sense is there are really strong generational strengths in Savannah," explaining that this is not the usual situation in many other communities. But, he added, Savannah is not unlike Chicago, where he lived the last 11 years. Children leave, but they return. For Rabbi Barkan, "Savannah is like coming home."

In Savannah—he has been here less than 2 months—he has found "a strong network of young people hungry for

Judaism." Excited to be "deepening the roots of the Jewish community through the synagogue," Rabbi Barkan is creating a "Shabbat community," a network of young families regularly participating in Friday night services geared toward children, as well as "family friendly" services every Saturday.

Additionally, Rabbi Barkan wants to focus on Judaic learning, meeting in homes, studying Torah, deepening conversations about life under the Torah. "Judaism has a lot to offer"—he wants to make its spiritual richness more accessible and open. He is planning on study groups after Shabbat services and a Wednesday morning breakfast studying prayers.

Believing that education is Judaism's strength, Rabbi Barkan is investing himself in both the Rambam and Shalom Schools, as well as in his congregation's youth group. He is collaborating at the Shalom School with Rabbi Robert Haas, of Congregation Mickve Israel, and will meet weekly at Rambam Day School. "It's through our children that I'm finding the opportunity to build the strongest bridges." And he

will do it within the Conservative context of study.

He also plans to lead a standing conversion class. Judaism has a lot to offer, Rabbi Barkan believes—he wants to make Judaism more accessible and open, to introduce its spiritual richness and its contributions to the world.

"We need to work with each other. In a small community (especially), the Conservative position is good (for developing good relationships). There's a lot more we can do and be if we unify. Klal Yisroel. We can disagree! We are a family."

Rabbi Barkan comes here from Chicago where he was Rabbi-in-Residence of the Chicagoland Jewish High School since its founding in 2001. His involvement in Chicago was extensive, within and outside of the school. He earned his undergraduate degree at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles, where he met Adina Weber, his wife of 15 years. She is completing her bachelor's degree in social work at Savannah State University, which, Rabbi



Rabbi Ruven Barkan and article author Jane Kahn

Barkan says, is "celebrating the diversity of her strong Jewish background." Adina's "passion", Rabbi Barkan says, is work with the elderly, with a special interest in Alzheimer's disease.

"My anchor is Judaism," Rabbi Barkan says, and Adina anchors his life.

On October 27, Rabbi Barkan will be officially installed at Agudath Achim by Rabbi Allan Kensky, dean of the rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Rabbi Kensky mentored Rabbi Barkan at Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah when he was Rabbi-in-Residence at the Chicago high school.



At last month's Bites & Bubbly Gala celebrating the JEA's first 100 years, all of the presidents in attendance helped cut the birthday cake. (l-r) Michael Karpf, Lloyd Goodman, Aaron Levy, Betty Melaver, Bill Sand, Don Kole, Jerry Konter, Marcy Konter, Jeffrey Lasky, Walter Lowe, Kenneth Sadler, Jodi Sadler, Paul Kulbersh, Steve Greenberg, Scott Samuels

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of

Denise Lynn Whittier

Who died August 27, 2012

Surviving are her mother, Gussie Weisberg Whittier of Savannah; sister, Tina Whittier of Savannah; an aunt and numerous cousins. She was preceded in death by her father, Alton Harry Whittier and sister, Cherie Whittier.

Remembrances: Hospice Savannah, P.O. Box 13190, Savannah 31416-0190.

David Victor Franco

Who died September 6, 2012

Surviving are his wife, Sara Israel Franco of Savannah; one daughter, Deborah Ellen Franco of Athens, Georgia; one son, Stuart Franco of Richmond Hill; one son-in-law, David Clodfelter of Centreville, VA; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Maureen Franco Clodfelter. Remembrances: American Cancer Society, Suite 206, 6600 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405.

Preferred Hotel Partners of



- Located in the heart of midtown near the corner of DeRenne and Abercorn
- Book your block of rooms today for Bar and BatMitzvah's
- Banquet Space accommodating up to 300 people
- Contact Melaina Jaudon at 912-721-5173/Melaina.jaudon@hilton.com

Hilton Garden Inn
Savannah Midtown





The 2013 Campaign is in full swing at the Savannah Jewish Federation! Please take a look at the events listed below and mark your calendar so you can attend!

October 4, 2012 - 8:00 am

Campaign Breakfast
Solicitor rally/training

Where? Bunny Cohen's home
303 Lee Road, Savannah

October 10, 2012

6:30 pm Dinner; 7:30 pm Presentation

SJF Annual Meeting & Campaign Main Event.
\$18.00 per person, Speaker: Daniel Pipes.
Make your paid dinner reservations online at www.savj.org, at the JEA front desk or call 355-8111.

Where? Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah

SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION CAMPAIGN EVENTS 2013

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

November 18, 2012 - 9:30 am-2:00 pm

Super Sunday Call-a-Thon

Co-Chairs Sherry Dolgoff and Sally Krissman.

Where? The Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah

December 6-14, 2012

Barnes & Noble Bookfair to benefit SJF Campaign (Up to 20% proceeds). Barnes & Noble online sale (Up to 10% proceeds). Bar Code sales number that must be used: 10879369.

Where? Barnes & Noble, Oglethorpe Mall
7804 Abercorn Street, Savannah

December 6th & 20th, 2012

6:00 pm-8:30 pm

Call-A-Thon at the JEA

Where? Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah

December 13, 2012 Time TBD

Women's Campaign Breakfast

Speaker: Dorin Elhadad.

Where? Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah

RSVP online at www.savj.org or at the JEA Front Desk or call 355-8111.



Savannah Jewish Federation

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

WWW.SAVJ.ORG
912-355-8111



Saturday Night Out
Returns!

November 17th, 2012 “Snapology” 6:30-10 pm
Join us as we kick off Saturday Night Out with a multi-sensory building extravaganza. You’ll rotate through four Lego stations including: Lego robots, computer animation, catapults and free build. Don’t miss this opportunity to

partake in one of the best Saturday Night Out’s to come!
December 1st, 2012 “The Great Cookie Caper” 6:30-10 pm
Professor Keebler has just invented the recipe for the world’s greatest cookies. Before he could introduce them to the world, however, everything was stolen! Help us solve the mystery of the “The Great Cookie Caper” and locate the ingredients so that we can help Professor Keebler unveil the world’s greatest cookie!

January 12th, 2013 “Wild and Crazy Angry Birds” 6:30-10 pm
A battle is brewing at the JEA as the popular children’s game “Angry Birds” comes to life. A combination of battle station building and crazy chants will lead to the final showdown in crowning “The Last Bird Standing!”

February 2nd, 2013 “Shiver Me Timbers” 7-10 pm
Ahoy mates! Saturday Night Out is taking to the high seas. Complete with enthusiastic pirates, plank-walks, and a treasure hunt, this will be an adventure you don’t want to miss! Bring your bathing suits and we’ll supply the eye patches.

March 2nd, 2013 “A blast from Camp Savannah’s past” 7-10 pm
We’ve saved the best for last as we say L’hitraot to another wonderful season of Saturday Night Out. Get a preview of what Camp Savannah has in store for the 2013 summer season. A night filled with camp games, songs and even a dance will leave each camper wanting more!

Dinner will be provided at no additional charge.

Ages: 4 years - 6th grade

Price:

Members:

\$15/a child \$35/a family of 3 or more

Non-Members:

\$20/a child \$45/ a family of 3 or more

Please RSVP and pay by the Thursday prior to the event! Only 30 spots available for each Saturday Night Out!

There will be an additional \$10.00 late fee applied for those who register after the Thursday deadline.

Please call (912) 355-8111 or email kids@savj.org for more information.

The Opinion Minyan Returns!
October 14th, at 10:00 am

Not sure how you’re going to vote this November? Want to learn more about the candidates and the issues at hand? Join us for a unique Election Preview Opinion Minyan featuring Tony Center, Democratic Committee Chair for Chatham County, and Carl Smith, Republican Committee Chair for Chatham County. Hear each gentleman’s perspective on the upcoming election, learn more about the candidates and the issues plus, you’ll be given the chance to ask questions. It will surely be a thought provoking and interesting morning you’ll want to attend! Moderator Kenneth Sadler.

Bring along engaging questions and your appetite for this special morning!

Free for JEA members
\$8 for non-members



JEA Aftercare Program

Aftercare Hours:

Mon-Thurs - 3-6 pm, Fridays - 3-5 pm

Open most days out of school

Cost: \$50/week \$12/day

Transportation from Jacob G. Smith,
Charles Ellis & Garrison

Transportation cost: \$30/month
\$3/per trip



- Homework Help
- Swimming
- Sports
- Fitness Fun
- Art
- Cooking
- Much more!!



Call DJ at 355-8111 for more information

New JEA Members

The JEA would like to thank our members. Without your membership and support, we would not be able to offer all the services that we do. Our members are our most important asset! (New Members as of 8/12/12- 9/14/12)

Rhonda Arntsen
Enid Blechman
Erika Brown
Caitlin Burban
Art & Kati Burdett
Cynthia Butler
Laura Garcia-Culler
Cheri Houle & Joan Etz
David Kennedy & Andrea Douglas
Jon & Michele Land
John Murphy & Kelly Vormelker
Brian Pischer & Sharonkin Betgevargiz
Nick & Tonya Rintye
George Roberts
Charles Slappey & Blanche Willoughby

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
CENTER

Should You Go Gluten Free?



Stephanie Johnson
Health & Wellness
Director

It's blamed for many ailments: headaches, digestive distress, weight gain, poor immune function, hormonal disruption, and even behavioral problems in children. But is gluten, the natural-occurring protein found in wheat, barley, rye and some oats, really the cause of all these health evils? Many health-conscious consumers believe so.

Grocery shoppers are seeing more food packages with “gluten-free” logos on their faces. Specialty stores like Whole Foods offer gluten-free shopping lists and place flags next to the gluten-free products on their shelves. That’s great for people who need to avoid gluten, but what about the rest of us?

We’re all getting the message that gluten must be bad for us. Gluten-free foods are all the rage these days, but **is gluten-free (or wheat-free, for that matter) the way to be or is it just another food trend?**

Here are the real facts about gluten-free diets and gluten sensitivities, starting with the basics.

What is Gluten?

Put simply, wheat (all types, including durum, einkorn, faro, kamut, semolina and spelt), barley, rye and certain processed oats all contain a protein called gluten, and all foods made from these grains (most flours, cereals, breads, pastas, crackers and cookies) contain gluten, too. Not all grains contain gluten, however: Amaranth,

arrowroot, buckwheat, cassava (manioc), corn, flax, indian rice grass (montina), Job’s tears, millet, finger millet (ragi), potatoes, quinoa, rice, sago, sorghum, soy, tapioca, tef (teff), wild rice and yucca are naturally gluten-free. Oats are gluten-free, but the processing of oats usually contaminates them with other gluten-containing foods, so only oats that are specially labeled as gluten-free are safe for people with sensitivities.

What makes foods that contain gluten so desirable is its texture. What makes bread so elastic and chewy? Gluten. What gives bread structure so it can rise before it is baked? Gluten again. This protein also helps bread retain its shape and acts as a binder, thickener, and stabilizer—not only in bread, but also in many processed foods, including ice cream, ketchup and salad dressing, and other products like toothpaste and medicines.

Because of all of these properties, gluten can often be found in meat analogs (vegetarian meat substitutes like seitan, veggie burgers and other faux meats) and specialty diet foods that are designed to be higher in protein. Because gluten is cheap, rich in protein and has so many great properties, it’s found in a plethora of processed, fast food and restaurant foods. That doesn’t mean that gluten itself is bad for you (it occurs naturally in many health-promoting whole grains), but it does mean that it’s hard to avoid.

Why Avoid Gluten?

Some people, from alternative health practitioners to some mainstream integrative doctors, blame gluten and wheat for a variety of health problems such as depression, fatigue, weight gain and behavioral problems. It’s true that people with

gluten intolerance and celiac disease (present in 1% of the American population) may experience a wide array of symptoms or nutritional deficiencies that could lead to these problems. But this is not the case for gluten in general, nor is it true for everyone else who eats it. None of the theories that gluten directly causes health problems in the other 99% of the population have ever been proven. Many people might feel better, experience less digestive distress or become healthier by giving up gluten-containing foods, but that doesn’t necessarily mean that *gluten itself* was causing those problems. In addition, **personal experience is not the same thing as a well-designed research study;** correlation does not prove causation.

It’s impossible to know whether giving up gluten itself may have improved one’s health or if those improvements resulted from a combination of factors. For example, a person who adopts a gluten-free diet will suddenly avoid most processed foods, fast foods and restaurant foods. These foods are also high in fat, sodium and calories, and low in nutrients. A gluten-free diet also involves cooking more meals at home and eating more unprocessed foods like fruits and vegetables. Certainly, these healthful dietary practices would result in many positive health outcomes. But can you attribute the health, weight, or mental improvements directly to gluten itself? Gluten-free diet or not, we could all benefit from eating more fresh, unprocessed foods, cooking more at home, and dining out less often.

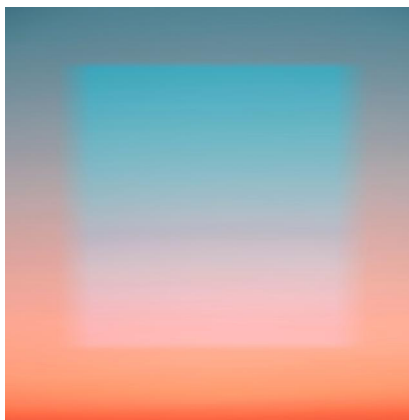
Next month, we’ll look at the downsides of a gluten-free diet.

JEA FITNESS CLASSES					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim
9:15-10:15 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up
10:15-11:15 am Total Body Blast	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am SilverSplash		10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize
	10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		
	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	
1:00-2:00 pm Extreme Toning					Noon-2:00 pm Noon Basketball
	5:30-7:30 pm Karate	5:45-6:30 pm Zumba	5:30-7:30 pm Karate		
	6:00-7:00 pm Zumba Toning	6:00-8:00 pm Savannah Kenpo	6:00-7:00 pm Boot Camp	6:00-8:00 pm Savannah Kenpo	
				6:30-7:30 pm Yoga Flow	
	6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics		6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics	6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics	
		6:00-8:30 pm Sav. Fencing Club		6:00-8:30 pm Sav. Fencing Club	

JEA Art Gallery



Tybee Island Pier



South Beach Opus 12

October Artist Steve Thurston

Steve Thurston was born in Chicago, then moved to New York City where his father and mother distinguished themselves in the furniture and design industries.

Steve won his first national award as an artist at age 8 and at that point began a lifelong commitment to the creative process. This commitment became deeply embedded when Steve shipped out to Vietnam as an infantryman in the U.S. Army, an M-16 in one hand and a camera in the other. On his return, he matriculated at Pratt Institute intending to study photography, but was soon re-directed into the Industrial Design Program by several of his professors.

As his studies progressed, so did his interest in furniture design and interior architecture. By the time Steve graduated from Pratt, he had co-designed, built and installed a major exhibit at the Whitney museum, "Two Hundred Years of North American Indian Art," that rapidly achieved worldwide acclaim.

By 1980, Steve was heading up his own design firm in Toronto specializing in product design with an emphasis on furniture. Eventually, he moved his practice to Boston where he began his teaching career. After several years of teaching design, academic administration and obtaining a Master of Industrial Design degree, again from Pratt, Steve moved to Idaho with his family to head up a design program at the University of Idaho.

After more than a decade of teaching and guiding students around Europe each summer, Steve and his family moved to Savannah where he continues to design furniture, direct a film production business and a photography studio.

Artwork Available for viewing Oct. 3-31, 2012
Art Gallery Reception October 7, 2012, 2:30-4:30 pm

Join the JEA Mid-Week Garden Group

Alternate Wednesday mornings (9 to 10:30AM)

Come join the JEA Mid-Week Garden Group as we prepare our community vegetable garden and school rotunda area for fall plantings and the opening of the school year. We meet twice monthly on alternate Wednesdays for no more than 90 minutes to tend our JEA gardens.

Feel free to bring your own garden gloves, tools, hat and water. Some tools are available. There is no charge and it is a great way to start your day with outdoor exercise for a good cause!

For more info or the full schedule contact
Carol Greenberg at MStarArts@gmail.com or 912-352-1238.
Upcoming dates, weather permitting are Oct. 3rd and Oct. 17th.

JEA Donations (8/13/12-9/14/12)

ALLAN ULLMAN PLAYGROUND FUND

In honor of Harriet Ullman's birthday
Sheila & Stanley Weiss

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Al Shayne
Sharon & Bill Sand

JEA BUILDING FUND

In memory of Albert Shayne
Sally Krissman
In honor of Hara & Rich Leavey
Doris & Arnie Goldstein
In memory of Ethyl Rosenzweig
Esther & Aaron Buchsbaum

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Albert Shayne
Sue & John Adler
Sharon & Murray Galin
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Bob Slagel's marriage
In honor of Dick Berkowitz's speedy recovery
Louise & Freddie Harkavy
In memory of Rupert Heller
Sylvia & Burton Udinsky
In honor of Louise Harkavy's birthday
In honor of Sue Robin Weinbauer's birthday
Sarabel & Ross Stemer

A GENEROUS DONATION TO THE GREAT GALA

In memory of Chaim Melamed
Milt Melamed

PEARL & JOSEPH GEFFEN ADULT EDUCATION SERIES FUND

In honor of Dr. Morris & Marla Geffen & Family
In honor of Drs. Ted & Adelle Geffen
Chrissie & Arnold Karp

RAYMOND & MORRIS ROSEN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Gail Rosenzweig's speedy recovery
Doris Klugman

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Elise Shernoff's birthday
Marsha & Chuck Bernstein

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Leonard Seloff
Suzanne & Michael Konter
Sally & Steve Greenberg
In memory of Stephen Traub
Sally & Steve Greenberg

Dates to Remember

- Hadassah Sukkah in the City - October 3rd, 10:30 am-8:30 pm
- JEA Art Gallery Reception - October 7th, 2:30-4:30 pm - Stephen Thurston
- SJF Annual Mtg. & Campaign Main Event - October 10th, 6:30 pm
- Opinion Minyan - October 14th, 10 am - "The Election Process"
- CMI Jewish Food Festival - October 28th, 11:30 am-4:30 pm - Forsyth Park
- JEA Art Gallery Reception - November 4th, 2-5 pm - Brad Hook



Jewish Educational Alliance Preschool Savannah

JEA Preschool Savannah will be a reality in ten short months (August 2013). The Steering Committee, under the leadership of Lynn Reeves and Marcy Konter, along with Director, Jodi Sadler, have been working on every aspect necessary to create a new, exciting, inclusive preschool program. The fifteen member Steering Committee has been subdivided into three sub committees which include Marketing and Finance, Operations, and Curriculum. In addition to developing budgets, analyzing room sizes and capacity, and formulating a mission statement, the enthusiastic members have committed to do whatever is necessary to create the premier preschool in Savannah.

As part of the due diligence process, our Steering Committee has created a site plan for the outdoor learning space, a floor plan for each classroom, and an age appropriate equipment list for each of the rooms. (see adjoining page)

JEA Preschool Savannah's leadership will be reaching out to community members to help make JEA Preschool Savannah a reality. Consider a gift to name the entire school, adopt a classroom, or sponsor the furnishings in a classroom. Our goal is to include all community members in our Fundraising Campaign to make our dream a reality. Engaging children in a nurturing, safe

The mission of JEA Preschool Savannah is "To provide for the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of the young child in a Judaic setting in order to develop productive citizens."

The mission of JEA Preschool Savannah is "To provide for the social, emotional, and cognitive growth of the young child in a Judaic setting in order to develop productive citizens."

JEA Preschool Savannah will be incorporating the Sheva Program from the Jewish Community Center Association. Sheva is an early learning framework which enumerates seven core elements which are deeply rooted in the latest research of child development.

Work is well underway to obtain the license required by the State of Georgia to operate a preschool program.

and inclusive environment, based in Jewish values is what JEA Preschool Savannah is all about. Join us on this exciting journey as we move from a dream to a reality. Jodi's door at the JEA (just off the Art Gallery) is always open. Please come and learn about this exciting new community opportunity.

Please contact JEA Preschool Director Jodi Sadler at (912) 355-8111 or by E-mail at jodi@savj.org for more information.



Our JEA Preschool Savannah logo incorporates the traditional Star of David along with the Tree of Life, its branches and leaves. The tree is a beloved Jewish symbol and our preschool is deeply rooted in Jewish values and ethics. Its branches represent the growth and learning of your child. The seven colorful leaves link us to the seven core elements of our Sheva program, the JCCA's early childhood education initiative.

(Right)Design renderings for our future 4 year old classrooms. (Blueprint and 3-D)

Opening August 2013



Need-to-knows about JEA Preschool Savannah

What?

A dynamic new Jewish preschool whose vision is, "To engage children in a nurturing, safe and inclusive environment, based in Jewish values."

Who?

All children from ages 16 months - 4 years old are invited to attend.

Where?

The JEA Preschool Savannah is located at 5111 Abercorn St.

When?

Our doors will be opening August of 2013.



The ECE Steering Committee Members

Michelle Allan
Kasey Berman
Robyn Carroll
Skye Cossio
Sherry Dolgoff
Sally Greenberg
Marcy Konter (Chair)
Suzanne Konter
Hilary Kronowitz

Eva Locker
Morgan McGhie
Lynn Reeves (Chair)
Jennifer Rich
Degi Ruben
Jodi Sadler
Bill Sand
Sharon Sand
Adam Solender

Rambam Happenings

The sounds and sights of Rosh Hashana certainly filled the hallways of Rambam for the past few weeks. A shofar being blown could be heard throughout the day either in pre-school or in elementary school or middle school. I spotted a tiny flower pot that was turned into a honey dish. A student shared with me what I am sure could have been used for the customary new fruit (if it had really been a fruit!); it looked like an apple, smelled sweet like an apple, however, it was made from Rice Krispies, tootsie rolls and licorice! The creative minds of Rambam teachers hard at work. One middle school class had an assignment to write down something they wanted to work on during the High Holiday season. They turned in their desired goal to their teacher who will give it back to them during Succos so they can be reminded what their aspiration was and evaluate if they made some progress.

Our Character Building Program, Sprouts is off to a great beginning. Bulletin boards around the school displayed the first trait of the year which was trustworthiness. Elementary classes discussed George Washington from the Children's Book of Virtues. They also used the word trustworthiness in various sentences to practice handwriting. Pre-school discussed what it means to trust their parents always being there for them; protecting them and caring for them. The children talked about how it feels to be tucked in at night by their parents and how that breeds trust. The children also discussed feeling safe in their classroom environment and how that too is trust.

The three year olds learned a poem about trust from the book, "The Lovables". Third graders drew pictures

of what trustworthiness means to them. They also wrote in their journals about trustworthiness.

Lots of messages about being trustworthy and trusting others have been heard around school through CDs playing various songs.

Rambam had the pleasure of meeting our community's two new Congregational Rabbis; Rabbi Barkan of Congregation Agudath Achim and Rabbi Haas of the Mickve Israel. We so much appreciated their visiting and allowing us to show them around Rambam. Rabbi Barkan joined us again as a guest speaker for our 9/11 program. Rabbi Barkan's message to the students was the importance of school being a safe environment for them; a place where they could feel protected and a place where they should feel they have adults they can turn to. Rabbi Barkan engaged the students in his address by asking them questions and incorporating their answers to express his message. Rabbi Barkan spoke about how we can make a difference by the good things we choose to do and how people with different ideals and even different religious beliefs can still get along.

At our 9/11 program RDS made a presentation to three Savannah Firefighters. It was in tribute of their dedication, service and courage. A power point of what took place on 9-11-2001 was shown with students narrating the events of that dreadful day. Our program concluded with the parents, the teachers, Rabbi Barkan, the firefighters and the students, all singing together - Proud to Be an American!



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

The Sukkot Miracle

Not a Sukkot will go by without my husband telling again the story of Sukkot at his grandparents'. And I am sure that lots of you have the same story:

Every year, Motti's grandfather would build a sukkah on their balcony; a balcony that could not hold more than four or five visitors any day of the year... but on Sukkot the parents would join, the aunts would join, the two cousins and their wives and another six grandchildren would be there. A real Sukkot Miracle, every year happening again even though the family kept growing. Like in the Holy Temple there was room for everyone in that sukkah. It seemed the walls expanded to fit family, neighbors and friends.

The holiday of Sukkot is characterized by a number of unique commandments intended to connect us to a specific period in our nation's history, when in the desert as a newly liberated nation we lived in Sukkot. Apart from the commandment of building a sukkah we also are commanded to celebrate this time with "Simcha", Joy. Maimonides explained that this Simcha is

not about an individual's emotion but rather a community-based experience that is achieved only when a family rejoices together and extends their celebration to include others in need.

A lot has changed since the time of Motti's grandparents' sukkah, but much stays the same: the sukkot are now "pop up" or made of "PVC frame" but it always ends up with elbow-to-elbow seating, the threat of rain and the laughs. Shalom School feels to me like a sukkah this year: as our community has welcomed so many new families, Shalom School is really growing. Like the Sukkah, the walls of our classrooms stretch, students might sit a little too close to each other but the excitement of a new day and the laughter are always there since teaching with "Simcha" is our mission.

Wishing you a crowded Sukkot.



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

A Family Fun Holiday

Succot is the perfect family holiday. It offers something for everyone, and gratifies both adults and children, on every level, nourishing our spirits and senses. When my own children were younger and living at home, I can remember the preparation for Succot, especially the activity surrounding the building of the Succah in our backyard. Kenneth would complain a bit and then gather the children to come hold a pole, throw the tarp, cut the string, or schlep the plywood. I would be responsible for climbing the ladder and hanging the fruit and lights. The children would decide where the grapes and bananas would look best and choose which of their pictures to tape to the walls of the succah.

Entertaining guests for dinner in our succah was always special. Creating the guest lists and the menus together were always fun. The house would smell of the yummy foods and the children would take turns setting the table, serving the food, and cleaning the dishes. It was a "family affair" that everyone enjoyed. Creating these Jewish memories for our family was so im-

portant to Kenneth and me.

As you consider how you will create your Jewish memories, here are some suggestions of songs and activities to celebrate the holiday of Succot. Build a model succah using a tissue or shoe box, make cranberry/popcorn or paper chains, or sing Debbie Friedman's song, "This is What We Need to Build a Succah". Sing the song "The Wheels on the Bus" and substitute, the shofar in the shul goes toot, toot, toot, on Rosh Hashanah morning! You can even create your own family song! However you decide to celebrate this perfect family holiday, I hope you have fun teaching and interacting with your loved ones.

Wishing you and your entire family a Chag Sameach, A Happy and Joyful Succot holiday!

Jodi Sadler,

Early Childhood Education, Director
JEA Preschool Savannah



Jodi Sadler

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Everyone loves a good story, especially Jewish people. After all, we are the People of the Book - The Torah, The Haggadah and The Megillah. Our sacred texts contain the most iconic stories ever told.

In every succeeding generation, we have contributed an honor roll of famous and influential authors. In modern times, we have been largely responsible for creating the Great American Dream Machine, the California movie industry. When TV arrived, we created a host of TV shows as well, most notably "the show about nothing", officially known as "Seinfeld". But while "Seinfeld" wasn't driven by a plot line, it was funny and fascinating because it held a mirror up to how we lived in the latter years of twentieth century. The social values and morals

"Regifting" by Annette Carnow

that Jerry Seinfeld mockingly portrayed will be used for better or for worse by future social historians when they go back to write the story of our age.

That is part of the reason your story is important. Everyone has a story, a story worth telling and preserving, even the most humble and unassuming of us. At Passover, when we read the Haggadah, we are reminded that every generation has a responsibility to tell the story of how we were slaves in Egypt and how we were freed by G-d, that this Supreme Act was not just a freeing of our ancestors but ourselves. By extension, we have a responsibility to our children and our grandchildren to tell them not only the story of the exodus but the story of our own lives. Where we came from, what we valued, how we led our lives, and the beliefs that



Young Peoples' Recreation Club, circa 1915.
(JVM 003, no. 0762)

helped us deal with life's periods of darkness.

The Savannah Jewish Archives is here to collect, to preserve, to protect YOUR UNIQUE STORY. So please contribute your words, your pictures, and memories, along with a monetary contribution so that THE STORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF SAVANNAH will live and survive for future generations.

This October experience the many

Hadassah coupon books comprised of promotions from our favorite area businesses are available for **free** for members at all our events this fall.



The new medical tower in Israel that Savannah helped build.

Places of Hadassah

Wednesday, Oct. 3 Celebrate Sukkot Savannah Style with Hadassah

Celebrate Sukkot around town including a Landings brunch (10:30am), Mickve Israel lunch (12:15PM), BBJ Midday Tea (2:00PM), Agudath Achim Wine & Cheese(5:00PM), and JEA Young Jewish Savannah Dinner (6:30 pm). Our community Rabbis and Israeli Emissary, Dorin Elhaddad will present greetings. All are welcome at all five events regardless of synagogue affiliation. **RSVP** to MStarArts@gmail.com

Livestream the Hadassah Convention in Israel October 15-18! Go to **Hadassah.org**

Wednesday, Oct. 24 Past Presidents Reunion and Appreciation Day for longstanding members. Make sure Joanna Rich has your email or address to receive your invitation. All members (& Hadassah "wannabees") are welcome

October Community Service Project: Voter Registration

"Chat Hadassah" Wed. Oct. 10 (4:15 at the JEA) Opinon Minyan Sunday, Oct. 14 10 AM

For info: **Yelena Chernyak**, Savannah Hadassah President, welcome12hadassah@gmail.com or **Joanna Rich**, joanna@chirphealth.com, 912-480-4686.

The Savannah Jewish Federation proudly provides space for a half-page ad to each local congregation in each issue of the Savannah Jewish News.



CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

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Congregation Agudath Achim is the conservative congregation of Savannah GA. At Agudath Achim we come “to praise, to labor and to love”. Every day is an opportunity for learning, *davening* and *hesed*.

At the AA, we believe that our best fundraising is family raising and that Judaism of the heart can also be Judaism of the mind. We try to intensify our Jewish involvement every day and we accept upon ourselves Jewish Law while living in the 21st century. AA is not only a shul its a *mishpacha*.

JOIN US FOR SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm, Tuesday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:30 am Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon

See you in Shul

Sunday, October 28, 2012 11 am to 4 pm



Don't miss this fun & food filled annual event in
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It's A Funny Thing

By Melinda Stein

Some High Holy Days humor to put you in the right frame of mind. Wishing all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Before the holidays, a non-involved member of the congregation had a change of heart, and approached the local Rabbi. "Rabbi, I'm making a resolution to be a good Jew. From now on I will attend synagogue services regularly," he promised.

"I'm glad to hear that," smiled the wise old Rabbi, "but remember – just going to a synagogue doesn't make you a Jew any more than going to a poultry farm makes you a chicken!"

Levi goes over to his friend Simon's house and they shmooze for hours. Levi says, "It's getting really late, must be way past midnight. What time is it?"

"Sorry, I don't have a clock," replies Simon with a shrug.

"You don't have a clock?!"

"Why should I? I have a shofar."

"A shofar? How can you tell time with a shofar?"

"Just watch," says Simon with a grin. He sticks his head out the window and blows a piercing, long blast with his

shofar.

All of a sudden windows in the street start opening. "What are you crazy? Blowing a shofar?? It's TWO OCLOCK IN THE MORNING!"

"See," says the host. "It works!"



Melinda Stein

Rabbi Landau decides to visit the Hebrew class just before Rosh Hashanah and give them a brief demonstration of blowing the shofar. So holding his shofar clearly in his hand, he enters the classroom.

"Good morning children," he says to them.

"Good morning, Rabbi," they reply.

"I have an easy question for you," says the Rabbi. "Can anyone tell me what they will see in our synagogue on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur but not at any other time?"

Little Lawrence immediately puts up his hand and replies, "Yes rabbi, I know the answer. My parents."

An Orthodox man was flying to spend the holidays with his son, when his seatmate asked what he did for a living.

"I'm a Rabbi."

"Well," said the man condescendingly, "I was born Jewish. I don't know much about it, but I presume you could sum it up in one sentence: 'Do unto others as you would have others

do unto you.'"

The Rabbi smiled, then said, "And what do you do for a living?"

"I'm an astrophysicist," he replied smugly.

Well," said the Rabbi, "I don't know much about it, but I presume I too, could sum it up in one sentence: 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star — how I wonder what you are.'"

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Art Exhibit Call for Participants

MorningStar Cultural Arts Group (MStarArts.org) is putting together a Jewish woman's art show (Feb. 27 to March 17 at the JEA) called *Jewish Journeys*. They are interested in how physical, historical and religious journeys often pivot on the spirituality of Jewish women. Personal journeys as depicted through life cycle Jewish events might also work well into this theme, just as long as they have a universal appeal. Each artist is asked to provide a headshot (jpeg) and brief artist statement (approximately 350 words or less) and then a unifying statement about their submitted work with at least one sentence that explains the submitted piece's connection to the theme of *Jewish Journeys*. Submissions must be sent to MStarArts@gmail.com by December 1, 2012.

MStarArts Creative Director Carol Greenberg explains, "The exhibit opens on the 101st anniversary party of Hadassah, just a few days after the celebration of another Hadassah, Ester of the Purim story, because it truly is not the end of their first century as a women's charity as much as the beginning of our collective future as Jewish women. We like that sense of continuity and forward movement." The opening and exhibit will be open to both



men and women, but the workshops are intended for women only.

Wednesday Feb. 27, 6 to 8pm
— Opening Reception

Sunday Workshops: March 3 (10 to noon or 2 to 4)

March 10 (10 to noon or 2 to 4)

Wednesday Workshop: March 6 (4 to 6)

Tentatively, artists are providing Jewish-themed workshops on book-binding, knitting yarmulkes, Jewish dance, ketubot, quilting, and Jewish art in healing. They have put out a call for workshops on the art of Jewish foods, music, and study on Jewish texts relating to art and creation.

As we are in the planning stages, we are open to suggestions to enhance this project. Sponsors, volunteers and artists are still needed. Please call 912-927-9922 or email MStararts@gmail.com. MorningStar has curated many exhibits over its almost twenty-four years including another eighteen day festival, *The Birth of Two Democracies*, that compared the Israeli and American Declaration of Independence documents.

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CREATE a Jewish Legacy



Think of the Future

We have just completed the Days of Awe. They are a joyous time spent in loving celebration with our families and they also are a time when we reflect on our lives — what we have done the past year, where things stand now, what we have planned for the future. In the High Holiday liturgy we read (more than once) that if we have sinned and had a judgment inscribed against us, *teshuvah* (repentance), *tefilah* (prayer) and *tzedakah* can alleviate the decree.

So as we now celebrate the *chaggim* of Succot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah and continue to contemplate the year ahead, please keep in mind the welfare of our Jewish community. You don't have to be a millionaire to create a Jewish legacy and have a lasting impact on future generations. Think about the institutions that you and your family

are a part of — the JEA, the Savannah Jewish Federation, your synagogue, Rambam Day School — and remember that just as you are planning for your loved ones' futures, you can help to secure the future of these institutions, too.

A gift of any size can make a difference for our community and help to provide a healthy, vibrant future for generations to come. Whether you're well into retirement or just starting a family of your own, it's never too late or too soon to make a legacy gift. Be it a life insurance policy, a gift of real estate, an endowed fund or a simple bequest, you and your family can help ensure the future of Jewish Savannah and at the same time achieve tax benefits for you or your estate. For more information on ways to create a Jewish legacy, please contact Adam Solender at the Jewish

Community Foundation of Savannah, (912) 355-8111, adam@savj.org.

The Trustees of the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah wish you all a *chag sameach*.

This information is intended as an educational tool. The information presented is to

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