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Never Forget:

Savannah Observes Yom HaShoah April 21st



With dwindling numbers of Holocaust survivors, Savannah and the rest of the world are faced with the reality that it is vitally important to listen to their stories and learn from them so that we can pass the knowledge and the understanding of what happened to them to future generations. It is our duty to make sure that the world knows what happened and to see to it that it will never happen again.

Sherry Dolgoff, chair of the 2009 Yom HaShoah Observance Committee, along with the rest of the committee members,

have been very busy coordinating this year's program, which will take place on Tuesday, April 21, at the JEA at 7:00 pm. The program will feature local survivors, students and participants of all ages presenting special readings, poems and dialogues about the Holocaust, including original works. Our program this year strives to educate the community about brave resistance fighters and will highlight several individuals who fought back against oppression. We also will be honoring the survivors in our community and will hear stories and poetry from local teenagers, both originals and those written by victims of the Shoah. In addition the day will consist of several different events:

- We will begin this commemorative

day with our annual tradition of reading the names of Jews who died from 9:00 am through 7:00 pm. Anyone who is interested in reading throughout the day may contact Nancy Rosenthal at nrosent892@aol.com or 598.0411 or Ben Kweskin (ben@saj.org or 355.8111).

- We will be holding the annual Holocaust Book Fair from April 17th-22nd, featuring many different books about the Holocaust, so please stop by the JEA and support Holocaust education in this way.

- The American Red Cross will be manning a table throughout part of the day as in years past with information about its War Victims Tracing program.

- At 1:00 pm SCAD professor Sari

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Aaron Levy Retiring: the End of an Era

By Jane Kahn

After a glittering career in the jewelry business, where his table settings graced the finest homes in Savannah and his diamonds sparkled on the loveliest hands, Aaron Levy is turning in his loupe.



Aaron Levy

Looking back

over a lifetime at Levy Jewelers, Aaron's most poignant response is in praise of his dad, Jack Levy: "I wouldn't take anything for working with my father. For me, it was the most wonderful experience I ever had."

Second generation proprietor, Jack Levy was willing to listen to his son's ideas, prompting him to "go and try it. If it fails, that's how you learn." Jack was willing to give up his own authority for the chance for his son to succeed.

Levy Jewelers was founded in 1900 by watchmaker and Aaron's namesake

grandfather. It was continued in the next generation by Aaron's father Jack and his brothers and sisters, passed along to Aaron, and now has been acquired by a fourth generation, great grandson of the original Aaron Levy, Lowell Kronowitz, son of Aaron's first cousins, Bailee and Ronald Kronowitz. It was a clean business transaction, Aaron said, initiated when the family knew that Aaron was making plans for his own exit strategy.

Continued on Page 11



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JEA Pool Fundraising Tops \$50,000

Can You Help?

As this issue of the Savannah Jewish News went to press, fundraising for the repairs to the JEA's outdoor pool had topped \$50,000. "We are very gratified by the response from the community, and from JEA friends and family who may no longer live in Savannah but remember fondly their summers at the pool. We recognize that this is a difficult economy, but the JEA Board is committed to completing the task of raising the remaining funds needed to pay for the repairs and again I ask that

everyone do whatever they can when called upon so that our children, campers, swim team and families will be able to continue to enjoy this marvelous facility," said Marcy Konter, president of the JEA.



2009 Federation Campaign Achievement Update

\$1,082,036

Live Generously - Your Gift is Our Future



(FREEDOM)

This time of year, as you and your family gather around the Passover table to taste the foods of freedom and drink the wine of redemption, we celebrate your perseverance and faith.

Publix



Spring into Action

As this issue of the Savannah Jewish News arrives, spring should be arriving too. The astronomical equinox will have just passed. We will already be a full month into the new, improved daylight savings time. Baseball season will be starting and college hoops ending (the NBA inexplicably will continue until Father's Day). People with gardens and gardening skill will be planting. (I, unfortunately, have only the former and not the latter). And nothing says spring like paying your taxes.

Jews and Christians alike celebrate holidays of renewal. Whether your eggs are boiled and served with salt water or dipped and put into a basket is less important than the message of redemption. Surely it is not merely coincidental that these holidays occur just as the northern hemisphere emerges from winter...even in Israel.

So this should be a time of happiness and optimism and new possibilities. Yet that is not what I have been encountering much of the time. Maybe it is the bad news that comes with everyone's 401K statements or the plunging Dow. Maybe it's the constant stream of bad news we keep hearing on the TV and the ever growing list of businesses either failing or laying off workers. Maybe it's the way our newly elected President keeps telling us how tough the road to recovery is going to be and how much each of us will need to sacrifice. Maybe it is the ongoing irony that taxpayer dollars are going to pay bonuses to the corporate executives who created the credit crisis. Whatever the cause may be, the public mood seems less like Camelot and more like Mordor.

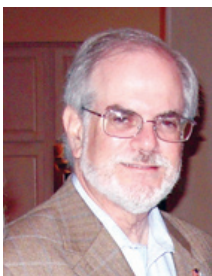
We Jews are very skilled at accentuating the negative. We can often see the cloud inside the silver lining before others. Certainly there is some reason for this. We have about 5,000 years of history teaching us that things can turn bad in a hurry, and that economic woes often serve as the substrate for burgeoning anti-Semitism. The uneasy ceasefire in Gaza has not stopped the rockets from falling in Sderot or the rise of anti-Semitic violence and anti-Zionist protests in much of the world. So maybe Jews have good reason to restrain their optimism.

Despite all this, and the warnings of impending doom from political pundits

and societal watchdogs, I submit that we should be optimistic. We have had, in the last month, a very successful film festival and Purim Carnival. The JEA has been able to not only keep our pool open, but to take steps to repair and improve it for the future. We continue to offer Jewish cultural programming at an unparalleled level. While there is no denying that this has been a tough year for fundraising, and there will be belt tightening in the future, we still raise a remarkable amount of money in this community for Jewish causes both at home and abroad. In the wider world, Israel remains secure and our new administration has clearly demonstrated its ongoing support of Israel and commitment to working for peace in the Middle East.

Times have been better; times have been worse. Jews have always thrived. Sometimes we have relied on "Tradition," and sometimes we have been forced to break with our old ways and innovate. Despite the hard lessons of the past, Jews have always believed in the future and its promise. Our tradition teaches us to repair the world and that acts are more important than intentions. There are ample opportunities for each of us to engage in repair work.

So I am optimistic: about our community, our religion and our world. I am optimistic about what our community can accomplish and what each of us can do to improve our small part of the world. I have faith that we can learn to do more with less. Being optimistic does not mean being unrealistic or wearing rose-colored glasses. One needs to see the world as it is – the good and the bad. The world is not all good, but it's also not all bad. Our job is to work for the good. "Therefore, choose life." Learn to accentuate the positive. Take the cue from the world around us and commit yourself to the potential of a new season and a better world. Tikkun Olam begins at home.



Dr. Joel Greenberg
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Building a Jewish Community

The trees are budding, I've already mowed the lawn three times and my back aches from cleaning up the pine straw. And as I was working around the house, I got to thinking about the oft-used term, "Jewish community." What makes it work? So many people feel that they have not found a Jewish community that they like. Often this means that they have not found a group that welcomes them, an organization that they can make a difference in, or a synagogue that suits them. They may come to a meeting or attend one service, but they complain that they just don't feel that they belong, and soon they "drop off the map" of Jewish affiliation altogether. In today's day and age, this seems to be commonplace ... and especially troublesome.

In thinking about community, I remember what brought me to where I am today. It was a simple invitation to a Young Leadership event in Springfield, MA. It was one of those mass mailings that offer a "taste" of organized Jewish life. I was a little intrigued and took the first step and went to the event. There I found many people just like me: looking for a connection based on one common attribute – we were all Jewish. I met a few people who introduced me to others. Five months later I found myself on a mission to Israel. It was life changing.

Why is it that so many of us feel unaffected and unconnected about our community built around an ostensibly shared identity? Savannah's history is longer than our country's. We love identity groups: golfing leagues, town newcomers' groups, historical societies, animal protection committees, political advocacy (all wonderful organizations!), yet, when it comes to Jewish organizational life, we are too busy. I am reminded of the Groucho Marx line about not wanting to belong to any group that would have him for a member.

Community is always based upon a shared identity of some sort. Oddly enough, it is not always entirely clear just what it is that is shared. Is it our memory of how awful afternoon Hebrew school was? Is it Shabbat dinner at our Grandparents'

house? Is it the memory of the Holocaust? Surely the unity of community does not come from any single source. Look at the Savannah Jewish community; there is not one congregation or organization united

by an absolute common faith or level of observance. Knowledge and observance range across a wide spectrum. What everyone shares are the familiar faces, the common history, and the common desire to make a difference in their lives and the lives of those around them. Some feel that it is a duty, others feel a vague nostalgic pull, and others participate because it is a book-learned edict: "thou shalt ..."

It turns out that the shared identity markers of being Jewish, attending synagogue, or sitting on a Federation committee, are not enough in themselves to create or sustain a sense of community.

Could it be that we keep missing the true nature of community by regarding it as a lifestyle accessory? Shouldn't the crucial question be, "What might we become through what we give to our community rather than what we take from it?"

Perhaps our "need" for community is primarily not one to have our own needs met. Maybe it is a "need" for a place where we can be of service to others: A place where we can share our challenges and successes, a place where we share our individual passions with others. It is this common experience that builds a community of the present and the future. Working together on common causes to create a connection binds us together despite different backgrounds and individual differences.

Come with your ideas, come with your passions. Get connected on a committee or start a new concept. Ask where you can be a part of the present and the future. Come help us build the Jewish community of Savannah.



Adam Solender

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SENDING 'EM PACKING SINCE 1928!



Faces of Israel

By Maia Koiller

*I am a Zionist.
I do not only hold on to the rights of our forefathers, but also to the duty of the sons. The people who established this state lived and worked under much worse conditions than I have to face, but they also attempted to establish a better, wiser, more humane, and more moral state here. They were willing to die for this cause, and I will try to live for its sake.*

Yair Lapid

Another month is beginning and it brings a lot of meaningful days with it. Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day), Yom Hazikaron- the Israeli Memorial Day for Army soldiers that were killed during the time they served and also is a Memorial Day for terror victims. Then we celebrate Yom Yom

ha ats'maut, Israel's Independence Day.

There is so much to remember. We remember on Passover in the Haggadah how our people suffered as slaves and were brought into freedom, in Israel.

Then as the days pass we remember and teach to our children how much we, the Jewish people, suffered at the hands of the Nazis, and then how we fought for having Israel, a Jewish state.

In Israel, Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron are the two hardest days in the year. The schools have ceremonies, the shops are closed, the television shows only programs relating to that day, the radio plays beautiful and painful quiet songs, a lot of soldiers get the opportunity to go to their high



Maia Koiller

schools in uniform in order to take part in the memorial services. And we all stop for a minute, and stand for a blast, to pay respect to our dead.

The Jewish Film Festival just ended, and I had a chance to see some very good and important films. Some of the films raised interesting and hard questions for me regarding the future. I really felt the need to talk with people from the community in order to process my feelings. We have so much to remember: our holidays and traditions from home tell us about a part of who we are, the stories of our parents and grandparents, tells us a part of who we are, and the environment we live in tells us a part of who we are. And then not less important, our community, and the people that we meet and share our lives with, can tell us a lot of about who we are.

Sometimes I get so overwhelmed with feelings that I feel grateful for this

opportunity to live it with you all. It is good to know I found here so many open, understanding arms. It is good to know you are a part of something bigger than only of your own life.

It is good to know that somewhere in a way we all had mutual stories, and in happy days and sad days I can find someone to tell my feelings to. I know that I will be comforted by the beautiful Yom HaShoah program we are working on here. And then, a few days later, 60 seconds after Yom Hazikaron ends, starts one of the happiest days in Israel, Yom Ha ats'maut, Israel's Independence Day, which celebrates the story of the foundation of Israel.

Thank you for letting me live these days with you, I hope you will come to celebrate Israel Independence Day, together with me on April 26.

We have a very special day planned.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation,
On behalf of the Board of Directors of National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association (NTSAD), we extend our sincere appreciation for the generous allocation from the Savannah Jewish Federation. As part of the fabric of our organization, you help us offer affected persons of all ages, their families and caregivers, and future parents an improved quality of life, hope for the future, and the prospect of healthy babies.

NTSAD is committed to a mission that has been in place for 50 years and remains focused on our members, our collaborators, and our outreach.

Still, with limited resources and no government funding, we must stress that NTSAD's partnership with the Savannah Jewish Federation and with Federation's across the

country is critical to the success of this organization. Thank you for valuing our work and for investing in what we do. We will keep you apprised of developments in public and professional education, genetic testing, advocacy, family services, and research. We look forward to a future ripe with promise and to your being a part of that future.

With many thanks,
Bradley L. Campbell
President

Susan R. Kahn.
Executive Director

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation,

Thank you for your gift in support of our efforts to help blind Israelis regain their lives through the use of

guide dogs. Your gift will help us to provide guide dogs and liberate those whose lives are impacted by blindness.

I recently returned from Israel where I observed a class of four students receiving instruction with their guide dogs, one of whom was Amit Bar-El. Amit, now 38, was a platoon leader in the last Lebanon war in 2006 against Hezbollah and sustained severe shrapnel injuries to his body and head resulting in his blindness and necessitating a year of rehabilitation. Determined not to be a burden to his family, Amit decided that a guide dog would offer him the best opportunity to regain his independence and mobility.

More important for Amit, who is truly an inspiration, was the prospect of having a faithful companion. He told me he is looking forward to the companionship of Dylan, a Black Lab — as well as being able to travel

independently wherever he has to go. His immediate plan after graduation from the guide dog center is to go to the University and study to become a social worker. He is married with two young daughters.

On behalf of the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind, I thank you again for your generous gift.

Sincerely,
Norman L. Leventhal
President

Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind

Identification Statement

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Joel Greenberg
President

Linda Zoller
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Jeffery Lasky
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Fran Kaminsky
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Adam Solender
adam@savj.org
Executive Director
Savannah Jewish Federation

Lynn Levine
lynn@savj.org
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Benjamin Kweskin
ben@savj.org
Programming Associate



Come and celebrate Israel's 61st Birthday at the JEA!

Yom Ha'atzmaut - Israel Independence Day

April 26, 2009

- Scavenger Hunt
- Story telling and theatre games!
- Enjoy delicious food in our Israel Café
 - Arts and Crafts
- "IDF Army" Obstacle Course
- Write letters to Israeli soldiers
- Klezmer live band 1:00-2:00 PM
- "Do you think you know Israel?" Quiz (win prizes)
 - Parachute games
- *Israel through Savannah's Eyes* photo exhibit
 - Games and prizes



Klezmer Music!



Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street




12:15-3:00 pm

Activities for all ages, from infants to 120 years!

Join us for this wonderful celebration!



Levy Retiring.....Cont. from page 1

Lowell knew what Aaron wanted, and an orderly transition began. Aaron's contract is up this year.

Truly a family affair, but it's not either of Aaron's two sons. Neither Philip, who lives in Israel, nor Richard, a music company executive in Atlanta, was interested in the family business. "I was fine with my kids not coming home," Aaron said. As did his father before him, "I wanted them to be successful in their own ways," he said. Short of his own children coming into the business...working with Lowell has been "more than I could have asked for. I don't want it to do anything but succeed." Aaron, a certified gemologist, has told Lowell he would always be available and Lowell has assured Aaron that he is always welcome.

Aaron's first "job" at Levy Jewelers was operating the *self-service* elevator. (It was, he says, creative babysitting for his parents, Jack and Miriam Levy, who both worked in the store.)

But, his first real job was operating the jewelry engraving machine. (Not very good at it, he admits.) His parents tried to encourage him at other pursuits, other options, but the family jewelry business was all that ever interested him. Summers, when he wasn't attending Camp Blue Star in Hendersonville, NC (where he first met Dayle) were spent in the store. He worked the switchboard, the addressograph machine and learned the art of selling at Ray Jewelers, a promotional outlet, several blocks down Broughton Street. A natural part of his life was to work on the sales floor on Saturdays and during the Christmas shopping season. He came back on a full-time basis in 1963, the year he and

Dayle were married.

He's never wanted to do anything else.

But, before he could come back home and settle into a career, he had a military commitment to fulfill. After graduation from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Aaron joined the Air National Guard and served eight weeks at Lackland Air Base in San Antonio, as well as six years in the Reserve. "It wasn't bad," he said – after summer camp experience, it was an easy transition to serve on KP and cleaning the latrines. Although he did not know how to cook, he became a "cook", making salad dressing for 300 people. At 102 degrees, San Antonio summers were generally too hot for much physical training, so the reservists spent many hours in the base pool.

A "gem" of a leader in the Savannah community, Aaron has served as president, first of the Savannah Jewish Federation, and then of the JEA. Once again, crediting his father, he said he learned "(1) how to run a business, and (2) if you're in a community where you make money, you have to give back to that community in time and in money."

No matter how much he has given in service, to the Jewish community and to the general Savannah community, it's come back to Aaron as "nothing but a financial benefit, and, of course, in personal satisfaction." Plans now are to travel – two cruises are in the works – and continue, perhaps as its Number One fan, to support University of North Carolina Tarheels basketball.

And to continue being a jewel in Savannah's crown.

Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES Boy Scout Troop 2

Contributed by Jane Kahn

Troop 2 – That's the JEA's Boy



JEA Boy Scouts Knot-tying Demonstration, February 1950 (JVM 003, no. 245)

Front row (left to right): Samuel Wilensky, Nathan Rabhan, Allan Wexler, Aron Weiner, Melvin Hirsch, and William Lasky, scoutmaster. Back row (left to right): Harold Black, Robert Roth, Herbert Goodman, Stanley "Spud" Karsman, Isser Gottlieb, Robert Hirsch, Warren Steinberg, Sanford Richman, Phillip Haysman, and Sol Ratner



JEA Boy Scouts, JEA Annual Meeting, 9 May 1959 (JVM 003, no. 297)

Front row (left to right): Mark Leibowitz, Louis Weinstein, Stephen Richman, Leonard Passink, and Paul Cranman. Back row (left to right): Irwin Giffen, Henry Shonfield, Herman Barnett, and Lawrence Konter.

Yom HaShoah.....Cont. from page 1

Gilbert will speak about her short interpretive film *Ready to Wear* and Savannah State University professor, Ellis Washington will speak on his recent book *The Nuremberg Trials: Last Tragedy of the Holocaust*, so be sure to come and listen to their insightful remarks.

• Special Yellow Candle memorial candles are on sale now at the JEA (\$9 each) and will be available for purchase until Yom HaShoah. Everyone is encouraged to purchase one to be lit at home as a *yahrtzeit* tribute to the six million. Proceeds from the sale of the

Yellow Candles will be used to help establish a lending library of books and videos about the Holocaust for local researchers and educators.

The Yom HaShoah observance is a program of the Savannah Jewish Federation's Community Relations Council, who invites everyone to participate in the program this year to honor the survivors who are part of our community and to honor the memory of the 6,000,000. We hope you all will join us in commemorating this day by remembering those who perished in the Holocaust. *Never Forget. Never Again.*



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JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

CENTER

The Miriam Slotin and Jack Malitz Levy Memorial Concert

Featuring

The Savannah Orchestra

William Keith, Conductor

Sunday, April 19, 2009
3:00 PM

Enjoy a program of classical music favorites!

Dessert buffet

Established in the summer of 2006, The Savannah Orchestra (formerly the Savannah Sinfonietta) is Savannah's resident professional orchestra. The Orchestra was founded with a mission to provide Savannah and surrounding communities with inspiring musical performances throughout the year, in addition to creating artistic educational opportunities for area youth. The Orchestra offers its Masterworks series in multiple venues, including the Landings on Skidaway Island, and in Savannah's Historic District at Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church. Now entering its third season, the Orchestra has revived several Savannah musical traditions including the beloved Picnic In Forsyth Park concert; The Annual Messiah Sing-Along, The Valentine's Week Diva/Divo Gala and the annual Mariam and Jack Slotin-Levy concert at the Jewish Educational Alliance. The Orchestra's artists and staff are excited to be an integral part of the return of a professional orchestra to Georgia's "Hostess City."



2009 Speaker's Series

Sunday, April 19, 2009
7:30 PM at the JEA

The History of Law Enforcement in Georgia and The Terrorist Threat to Our State!

featuring
Vernon M. Keenan



Vernon Keenan is the Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia's primary investigation and law enforcement agency.

Tickets: \$10 at the Door, \$5 for Students

FREE for Military

The 2009 Speakers Series is made possible with generous support from the JEA Phillip Hoffman Memorial Fund of the Savannah Jewish Community Foundation, The Savannah Jewish Federation and members of the community.

JEA Donations (as of 3/13/09)

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Sara Rigel

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In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Lowe
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rotkow
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Herb Sanders
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Russell Bridges & family
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Alex Raskin & family
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Mark Levine & family
In honor of Mrs. Sara Heyman
In honor of Dr. & Mrs. Joel Greenberg
Lynn Levine
In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy
Jeff & LeeAnn Kole; Don & Kaye Kole



Health Talk Series



MorningStar Cultural Arts Group, as part of their Teal Ribbon Project, is partnering with Savannah Jewish Federation Family Services to present a series of **Cancer Answers Health Talks** offered at the JEA. All presentations are free and open to the public. Save the following dates:

Sunday, March 29 at 12:00 p.m.—***Finding Out & Facing Up Luncheon*** presented by Dr. Venus Jolly Nabors, MD. Cervical and breast cancer prevention for the under 25 crowd (ages 12 to 25). Lunch and learn is **free** to the first 50 young people who sign up by web pre-registration or by phone to the JEA (912-355-8111). Parents are welcomed. Followed by:

Sunday, March 29 at 1:00 p.m.—***Cancer Answer Health Fair***. Everything you ever wanted to know about your health and then some as presented by local agencies, hospitals and treatment centers with free parking, medical screenings, physician talks, demonstrations and free materials from Anderson Cancer Institute, JC Lewis Research Center, Hadassah and American Cancer Society. Free and open to the public—all ages.

Events: (subject to change) Registration required for the lunch-n-learn. Under 18 year olds need parental consent. Space is limited to the first 50 people, so please RSVP as soon as possible (guys don't worry about RSVP, the luncheon is just for women, and the fair for men and women of all ages does not require RSVP). For more information visit www.morningstararts.org and click the Teal Ribbon.

Noon to 1:15 JEA Small Auditorium Lunch-n-Learn featuring **Venus Jolly Nabors, M.D.**

No RSVP required for the 1:00 pm program: Free and the public (male and female) is encouraged to come.

1 PM to 4 PM JEA Main auditorium

Speakers: **1:00 to 2:00** Cancer Care Talk
2:10 to 2:25 Yoga demo
2:30 to 3:30 Cancer RiskTalk

Nancy Johnson, Director of J.C. Lewis Pavilion
Katy Keyes, Strength for Survivors Coordinator ACI
Dr. Steven Brower, Head Anderson Cancer Institute

Art at the JEA

April Artist—Marsha Lipstiz



Marsha Lipsitz was born and educated in Savannah, where she attended Jenkins High School and Armstrong College. She later graduated from Adelphi University in New York with a Fine Arts degree, and Hunter College in Manhattan with a Masters in Art Education. For the next 32 years, Marsha taught art in the New York City public school system. She was a founder of Manhattan East, a highly regarded arts-based magnet school in Manhattan. Upon retirement in 1997, she returned to making art full time.

Her major medium is ceramic with glass, but also works in mixed media and encaustics (painting in wax). She often juxtaposes those non-traditional materials on the clay surfaces to stimulate visual tension and create surprise. Her sculptures have been exhibited in various galleries in The Hamptons on Long Island, and in New York City. Her works are in several collections on Long Island, New York City, Florida and Georgia.

Marsha has homes and studios in New York City and in East Hampton, NY. She still manages to spend several weeks each year in Savannah, where her sister Charlotte Black and family members live, and which she still calls "home."

Artwork available for viewing April 1-30, 2009

Artist Reception April 5th, 5:00-7:00 pm



We are collecting pictures of you and your family taken in Israel throughout the years for a special exhibit to be held during Yom Ha'atzma'ut - Israel Independence Day - April 26!

This exhibit will be a wonderful opportunity to see Israel growing up during the years and see the memories and experiences that the families in our community have had with Israel during the years. Have

a picture you want to share?

Write a short paragraph including the year the picture was taken, who is in the picture, where it was taken, or any memory or detail you can share with us. Add your address and contact number and drop it off at the JEA front desk. The pictures will be scanned and returned to you afterward. We will be happy to see Israel through your eyes!

For questions contact Maia Koiller - Community Shlichah, 912-355-8111 or maia@savj.org.

MorningStar Arts *Finding Oneself* Events:

Free Youth Workshops—Open to Ages 12 to 20 by pre-registration only by web <http://www.morningstararts.org/find3.htm> or paper application (call 912-652-3582 and ask to sign up for *Finding Oneself* Youth Workshops). All Thursdays 3:30 to 5:30 at different locations.

April 2 & May 7—*Be a Storykeeper* with Dottie Kluttz. Savannah Entrepreneurial Center (801 East Gwinnett Street)

April 23—*A Worldview w/Maia Koiller*—JEA—3:30 pm

May 21—*Meet, Talk & Dine* with Mimi Gan—JEA

Finding Oneself Adult Events—Also FREE and open to the general public:

May 21—*Mimi Gan's With Honors Denied*—JEA 7 pm. MStarArt's tribute to the Savannah Asian Festival.

A MOVIE & BEER!

Adults 21 and Over—Join us at the JEA for a movie & a beer!

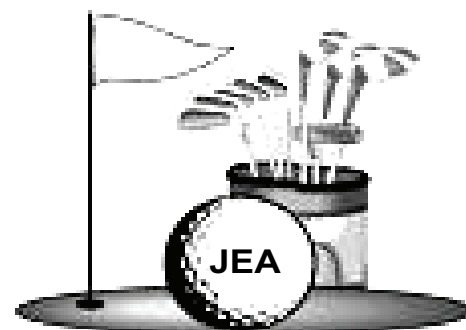
Apr. 23rd – *Ha-Kayitz Shel Aviya (The Summer of Aviya)* - Meet Aviya and her troubled and unstable mother, a Holocaust survivor. Both carry the scars of the mother's experiences during the Holocaust. Their relationship and Aviya's coming-of-age over the course of one particular summer, make for an intense and moving drama. This film touches on the issues experienced by the next generation after the Holocaust.

*This film is an adjunct to the Holocaust program being presented on April 21st.

All movies shown at 7:00 pm
FREE to Members with ID
FREE Beer, wine, beverages and popcorn

Movie & Beer Night at the JEA sponsored by Nancy and Lawrence Gutstein.

SAVE THE DATE!
JEA & Friends Golf Outing
June 1, 2009
Crosswinds Golf Club



For more info, contact Kim, 355-8111





Senior Page



Improve Your Memory with Exercise!

No matter what your age, it's not too late to take steps to prevent memory loss. Good health habits can reduce the risk of illnesses that might affect your memory as well as the likelihood that you'll need medications that could have adverse side effects. Preliminary studies have identified vitamins and at least one medication that may help ward off dementia.

Research shows that the exercise may help preserve your memory:

Physical fitness and mental fitness go together. People who engage in regular vigorous exercise also tend to stay mentally sharp into their 70s and 80s. A six-year study of 1740 adults ages 65 and older, reported in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* in 2006, found that people who exercised more than three times a week had a lower risk of dementia than their sedentary counterparts.

Exercise may help memory in several ways. First of all, it's good for the lungs, and people who have good lung function are sending a higher volume of oxygen through their blood vessels and into their brains. Second, exercise helps reduce the risk for diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and stroke — diseases that can lead to memory loss. There is also some evidence that exercise leads to increased connections between brain cells and enhances neurotransmitter function. In one small study, 59 healthy individuals ages 60 to 79 took part in either aerobic training or stretching and toning sessions for six months. The group that received regular aerobic training had significant increases in brain volume in both gray and white matter. There were no changes in brain volume in the stretching and toning group. Finally, animal research has shown that exercise increases the level of neurotrophins, substances that nourish brain cells and help protect them against damage from stroke and other injuries.

Researchers don't know precisely how much exercise is needed for good brain health. The available research suggests that the exercise needn't be extreme, but should be moderately vigorous and regular. The people in the MacArthur aging study whose mental functions remained strong were active almost daily. A study from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine concluded that individuals who exercised — by walking or by engaging in physically active hobbies, such as gardening — had a lower risk for Alzheimer's disease. The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the NIH recommends at least 30 minutes of moderately vigorous exercise most days of the week.

Experts recommend that you build physical activity into your daily routine and the JEA is the perfect place to begin! Here are some examples:

- When possible, walk instead of driving.
- Set aside time each day for exercise — for example, a brisk half-hour walk around the neighborhood.
- Use the stairs instead of the elevator.
- Exercise at home, possibly with an exercise video.
- Plant a garden.
- Take an exercise class or join a health club.
- Swim regularly, if you have access to a pool or beach.
- Learn a sport that requires modest physical exertion, such as tennis.



If you haven't been physically active recently, check with your doctor before starting any exercise program.

In upcoming months, we'll cover more ways you can improve your memory!

April 2009	April 2009						
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Daily Calendar Events  On-Going Programs	Aquasize -10 am Gentle Yoga -10:30 am Sr. Fitness -10:30 am Senior Lunch -12:30 pm Water Aerobics -6:30 pm	Kibitzers Kafe -10 am Aquasize -10 am Water Aerobics -6:30 pm Hebrew -6:30 pm	Sr. Fitness - 10:30 am Gentle Yoga -10:35 am Senior Lunch -12:30 pm Bridge -1pm Water Aerobics -6:30 pm Scrabble -6:30 pm	Aquasize - 10 am Mah Jongg - 10:30 am Senior Fitness - 10:30 am Senior Lunch -12:30 pm Senior Program -1:30 pm Evening Water Aerobics - 6:30 pm	Aquasize -10 am	JEA Closed
	March 29 Cancer Answer Health Fair— 1 pm FREE	30	31	1	2 -12:30-2:30 Senior Lunch & Program—Israel Update— Maia Koiller Grief Support Group— 1 pm	3	4
	5 Basketball Banquet— 4 pm Art Gallery Reception— Marsha Lipsitz- 5 pm	6 Rambam Pre-Pesach Dinner— 5:30 pm	7 Rambam Pre-Pesach Dinner— 5:30 pm	8 Erev Passover JEA closes at 5 pm	9 Passover JEA Closed	10 Passover JEA Closed	11
	12	13	14 Erev Passover JEA closes at 5 pm	15 Passover JEA Closed	16 Passover JEA Closed	17 Yom HaShoah Book Fair	18
	19 Levy Concert— 3 pm Speakers Series— 7:30 pm	20	21 Yom HaShoah Community Yom HaShoah Program - 7 pm	22	23 -12:30-2:30 Senior Lunch & Program—Torah Discussion— Rabbi Singer Grief Support Group— 1 pm A World View— 3:30 pm	24	25
	26 Yom Ha'atzma'ut program— 10 am	27	28 Yom Hazikaron Community Yom Hazikaron Program— 7 pm	29 Yom Ha'atzma'ut	30 -12:30-2:30 Senior Lunch & Program—Yom Ha'atzma'ut— Maia Koiller Grief Support Group— 1 pm	May 1	2



A Way of Saying Thank You: The Carol and Joel Greenberg Health Resource Fund

Carol and Joel Greenberg have established a new fund under the auspices of the Savannah Jewish Federation Community Foundation. The Carol and Joel Greenberg Health Resource Fund was created in order to provide financial resources for the development and implementation of various programs to raise awareness of screening programs and preventative measures for a host of illness, particularly (but not limited to) those affecting the Jewish community and to assist in providing funds for individuals whose physicians recommend such testing but who may not have the resources to pay for them.

"We have discussed establishing a fund serving community needs for some time," said Joel when asked why this particular fund was created. "Events in our own lives recently have made Carol and me aware of the lack of knowledge about health screening tests and the need for both the patients and their caregivers to be educated about their importance. We also recognize that

expense can be a major disincentive to taking advantage of health screening technologies that are currently available."

There already have been three programs of a free educational series, "Cancer Answers" at the JEA this year, featuring speakers discussing screening for breast and ovarian cancer, issues of advocacy and insurance and nutritional well-being. On March 29th there will be a health fair regarding BRCA gene testing with free health screenings and information preceded by a free luncheon focusing on cervical cancer screening and current effective immunizations available for teen-aged girls and young women. "These events sponsored by MorningStar Cultural Arts Group's Teal Ribbon Project and Jewish Family Services in cooperation with the Savannah Jewish Federation and the JEA, are the kind of programming we hope to encourage and support with this fund," said Carol. "We have had a remarkably good turn out for these events. There seems a real need to disseminate this kind of information."

Carol continued, "Being ill does not provide one with answers, but forces one to learn quickly about cures and prevention. With knowledge of available resources being offered earlier maybe we can keep this community healthier. This experience has led Joel and me to believe that a fund that could continue to provide these types of programs would be an asset to our community."

Joel explained the special focus in the Jewish community by noting that Jews, especially those of Ashkenazi descent, are overrepresented among patients with many illnesses having a genetic predisposition. "This is both a Jewish and a general medical problem," says Joel. "We all know we should get screening for Tay - Sachs disease, but how many of us know that a maternal history of breast cancer might increase a man's risk of prostate or colon cancer? The more we know, the better we do at being our own advocates and partnering with our doctors in preventing disease."

Cancer is not the only, or even the primary, focus of the Health Resources Fund. While it is obviously a high profile disease, the Greenbergs are hopeful that the Fund will be used to support a wide variety of programs where early screening and prevention can make a difference. "We feel that there will be a very positive response from both doctors and our local hospitals, as evidenced by their participation in our Teal Ribbon Project educational events so far," added Carol.



Carol and Joel Greenberg

The other component of the Fund's directive is to assist in providing financial support for medically indicated screening tests. Again, Carol and Joel draw on their own experience in this arena. Joel explains, "Unfortunately, insurers try to avoid paying for screening tests except the most widely used, like Pap Smears and PSAs. Even mammograms can be a fight in some cases. This has led some doctors to resist the use of these tests and many patients decline them. The irony is that better screening and early detection would ultimately help reduce the extraordinarily high cost of care for serious illness."

Ultimately, once the fund has enough contributions to provide for such services, these resources would be allocated confidentially through Jewish Family Services.

Contributions to the Carol and Joel Greenberg Health Resource Fund can be made directly to the Savannah Jewish Federation.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

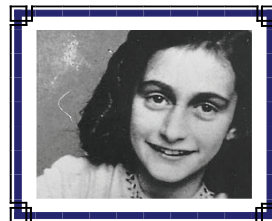


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For more information, please contact
Adam Solender at 355-8111
adam@savj.org
www.savj.org

Coming to Savannah Anne Frank— A History for Today Exhibit *A program conducted by the Georgia Commission on the Holocaust*



State and local elected officials,
including Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson,
invite you to a special reception at the
Jewish Educational Alliance
Tuesday, May 5, 2009, 5:30-7:30 pm
Admission \$18 at the door.

Tax-deductible sponsorship opportunities available (includes signage and recognition at the reception and during the exhibit's tenure in Savannah). Call 404-370-3013 for more info.

**Pat Conroy, best-selling author of
The Great Santini, Prince of Tides
and *Beach Music*,
will be the special guest speaker.**

This exhibit, featuring Anne's story, reminds us that racism and discrimination did not end with World War II. It challenges us to think about the significance of human rights and mutual respect. Savannah will also host the exhibit, "Witness to the Holocaust: William A. Scott at Buchenwald." Mr. Scott, a Georgia native, was a member of a segregated unit of the US Army during World War II and a photojournalist when he witnessed the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp.



Your Campaign Dollars At Work Discovering My Birthright

By Tarryn Sandler

Upon landing at the Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv, the overwhelming feeling of spirituality and the feeling of well, just *belonging* took over me. "This is home," I reflected. It was surreal – I had heard about this almost "mysterious" place for so long, and I was always told about my family and friends that live in this seemingly unreal place. It was difficult to comprehend that I was *finally here, finally home*.

As Jews, Israel is a part of our identity, and I feel that you can only fully grasp this notion once you actually go "home." My organized trip through Taglit, or Birthright, is called Mayanot, a program affiliated with Chabad. Therefore, I was gifted with a heightened spiritual experience. It didn't take long for the 35 other young Jewish adults and I to realize why this trip is termed "Birthright." Because we are Jewish, Israel is our *birthright*.

I just couldn't help but be astonished that this amazing trip cost us next to nothing. A free trip to my homeland? It was almost too good to be true. Every activity was unbelievable and led us to discover what Israel is all about. From spending New Years Eve in the Bedouin tents and

riding camels in the desert, to exploring the mysticism of Tzvat and jeeping in the Golan Heights. We also volunteered at an immigrant school, climbed the wondrous Masada, floated in the beautiful Dead Sea, discovered the ruins of the Old City of Jerusalem, and got to know eight incredible Israeli soldiers. All of this and more really made my ten days in Israel a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience. I hesitantly left this spectacular state with only one thought in mind, "I *have* to come back *as soon as possible*." Mayanot's slogan is the "Journey Has Just Begun." Only now do I truly comprehend this phrase.



Enjoying the amazing immigrant school in the North.

Tarryn Sandler is currently a sophomore at the College of Charleston, where she is majoring in Studio Art with a concentration in oil painting and minoring in Psychology. She is the daughter of Helese and Dan Sandler.

Gratefully We Thank Our Contributors

SJF FOUNDATION/FEDERATION FUNDS JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

In Honor of Carol Greenberg
In Memory of Alvin Slotin
In Memory of Frances S. Hirsh
In Memory of Delores Kaminsky
In Honor of Jerald & Sarah's Gottlieb's Grandson

Linda & Michael Zoller

In Honor of Nancy Feldman's Birthday
AM Goldkrand

In Honor of Chaim Melamed's Birthday
Anonymous

LISA & DANNY KAMINSKY HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL & EDUCATIONAL FUND

In Memory of Frances Hirsh
Dale & Jerry Kaminsky
Lisa & Danny Kaminsky

ISADORE SCHEER CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Do the Two-Step Toward your Philanthropic Goals

Did you know that you can arrange a gift to the Savannah Jewish Community Foundation now, but defer completion of the gift until later? For example, if you include the Foundation in your will, you make a "two-step" or deferred gift.

The first step occurs when you create your will. Here, you name the Foundation to receive a future bequest from your estate. It could be a percentage of your estate or a set amount. The second step takes place when your will "matures" and the Foundation receives the bequest.

Another two-step gift occurs when you name the Foundation as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy or when you designate the Foundation to receive what is left in your retirement fund.

The two-step gifts have one important thing in common: They can be cancelled or revoked, prior to completion. For example, a person can always write a new will or change the beneficiary designation on a policy or brokerage account. Because these deferred gifts can be reversed, they are called "revocable" gifts.

Since these gifts are "incomplete," they appeal to those who may not want to lock up a major gift at this time. They provide donors with the satisfaction that a gift plan is in place, while adding the assurance that the asset can be retrieved should an emergency occur. The trade off for this flexibility is that revocable gifts do not qualify for an income tax charitable deduction.



Such is not the case with "irrevocable" deferred gifts. Once initiated, these two-step gifts cannot be undone. Consequently, the IRS allows an immediate tax deduction in the year the gift is made.

An example of an irrevocable deferred gift is the charitable gift annuity. For example, For example Shalom Horowitz gives \$50,000 to the Foundation for an immediate payment gift annuity. Every year for the rest of the annuitant's life, he will receive a set amount from the Foundation, paid on a quarterly basis, semi-annually, or annually. Only when the annuitant dies are the residual funds available as a gift to the community.

There are other irrevocable, deferred gifts as well, such as charitable remainder trusts. Those these gift arrangements differ in various aspects, they each provide tax and other benefits to the donor and leave a legacy to the community.

To learn about giving opportunities at the Savannah Jewish Community Foundation for the benefit of your synagogue, the JEA, Federation, Rambam, or any other field of interest, please contact Adam Solender at 355-8111. The first step is up to you!

On the Personal Side

Faye Kirschner placed second in her age group in the 1st Annual Critz Tybee Five mile race.



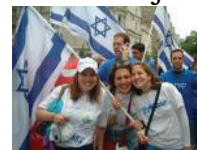
Teens — Are you Traveling to Israel this Summer?



The Savannah Jewish Federation has grants available for teenagers participating in approved peer travel & extended education experiences.

Applications & criteria are available at the front desk of the JEA or for downloading at www.savj.org

Applications must be submitted by
May 1, 2009



Hadassah Spring Conference Comes to Savannah May 1-3

The Hadassah Southeast Region's Spring Conference will be held in Savannah from May 1-3 at the Hilton Garden Inn Savannah Midtown located at 5711 Abercorn Street.



Hadassah

This will be a terrific opportunity to learn the latest news about Hadassah from our leaders and get to know many of the region's leaders and members.

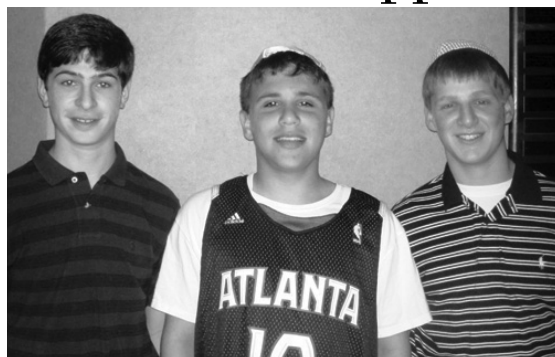
Discussions related to the Hadassah

projects, as well as the latest financial updates will take place. Our guest speaker for the weekend will be Annette Sondock of Houston, Texas. She serves as the National Hadassah Medical Organization Chair and is a National Vice President. She will be able to tell us about the new Tower and latest medical advances developed at Hadassah Hospitals. Registration fee for the conference is \$145.00. Please send your check and registration form to Terry Schuyler, 1669 Southport Dr., Charleston, SC by April 3, 2009. The registration form is available on the region website (see below). We look forward to having a wonderful turn out from the Savannah Chapter!

www.southeastern.hadassah.org

Maccabi Team Needs Your Support

Maccabi Team Savannah is sending 3 athletes to the 2009 games in the city by the bay! Yes, that's right...representing our JEA: Elliot Kooden, Matthew Freedman, and Jared Samuels will travel to San Francisco August 2nd to participate in the 2009 JCCA Maccabi games. Our team will proudly represent the Savannah community in the sport of their choice, will be taking part in several community service projects, and will be interacting with close to 2000 teens from around the world. It will certainly be an experience of a lifetime! Now we need help from all of you. Traveling to the games is an expensive undertaking, and we are asking the JEA community for your help. Team Maccabi will be having several fundraisers between now and August, and we hope that you will support our team. We are selling "sneakers" to help with our "March Madness trek from Savannah to San Francisco." For the low price of \$1.00, you can buy a sneaker and hang it on our banner near the fitness center. We are also selling raffle tickets for a chance to win cash prizes and assorted other surprises (to be announced later). We hope you will purchase a book of raffle tickets for \$25.00 from any of our Maccabi athletes, or from Dawn at the JEA. We thank you in advance for your support!



Maccabi Savannah: (L-R) Jared Samuels, Matthew Friedman, Elliot Kooden

Summer Service Opportunity for High School Students

Applications are now being accepted for participation in the 59th summer of service with The American Jewish Society for Service, a unique volunteer summer program of community service for Jewish teenagers.

The program, which has sent more than 2,500 teenagers to low income communities in 47 states since its first summer in 1951, works with local nonprofit agencies in helping to build or renovate housing and performing other acts of "tikkun olam."

Groups live together in donated space, and the students develop independence and leadership skills that will serve them in college and beyond. As part of the experience, the students meet with city and state officials and get immersed in the local culture and community. The participants come from across the spectrum of Jewish practice and observance, and from across the country. The program provides opportunities for discussion and learning about Jewish values and topical issues. Each group is supervised by staff with knowledge of experiential learning, teen education and Jewish values.

This summer AJSS will hold projects in Amarillo, Texas, and Kansas City, Kansas and will work with the local Habitat for Humanity affiliates. The Kansas group will keep strictly kosher and be Shabbat observant.



AJSS teens in Little Rock, AR, last summer building a house

The program runs from June 28 until August 7, 2009 and costs \$2,600.

"This is a very different summer experience than returning to camp or working, said Rena Convissor, executive director of AJSS who was a volunteer herself and later served as a counselor. "The experience of living in a new environment with 15 other teens and serving those less fortunate will have a tremendous impact on the participants as they prepare for college and their adult lives."

Information and applications are on the AJSS website at www.ajss.org.

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Rambam Happenings

February 11 in the early evening, our first graders were presented with their Rambam Day School sidder. The students had a procession to enter the auditorium and then as they took their places on the stage, parents, grandparents, teachers and friends looked on in pride. The students made a group presentation singing some of their favorite songs and then each student chose someone special to present them with their sidder along side the president of Rambam Day School, Judy Hirsch and their teacher, Rabbi Russ. As each presenter handed the sidder to the First grader they shared some special thoughts. Here are some of the thoughts that were shared; "I am so proud of you." "This sidder has been on the best seller list forever!" "I received my first sidder over 40 years ago." "Use your sidder always." "The whole family is proud of you." There were many tears, warm smiles and genuine hearts of pride as the first graders received their sidderim with excitement and pride. While their rebbe, Rabbi Russ expressed how proud he was of all that they have accomplished, many of the children were in their seats,

holding their new sidder and reading it!

On Friday, March 6th, the preschool had a circus come to town. Every single participant just happened to resemble one of our preschool students. There were clowns, lions, elephants, magicians and more! The audience was spellbound! The costumes were unbelievable and the acts and tricks were very professional. The circus had a special guest who has been a friend of Rambam's preschool for many, many years - Grandma Thelma Rosen. The program was dedicated to Grandma Thelma for her years of love, reading and entertaining the Rambam students.

And, last but not least, our boys' basketball team made it to the semi-finals this year! They put up a good fight with their skills and they had an excellent show of great sportsmanship!



Ester Y. Rabhan,
Rambam Principal



Rabbi Russ addresses the students who received their sidderim



Members of the Rambam boy's Basketball Team

From The Shalom School

During the last several issues of the *Savannah Jewish News*, it has been my pleasure to share with you the actual learning experiences of our children in their classrooms at Shalom School. For this issue, I am delighted to present the words of Deganit Ruben, our sixth grade Sunday school teacher. Deganit (Degi) grew up in Savannah, and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stein.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Columbia University and a Master of Arts in Writing from Northeastern University, where she taught for two years. This is her second year teaching with Shalom School. Degi is married to Jesse Ruben, a finance manager with NetJets, Inc., and they are the proud parents of Jordan, 4, and Elana, 7 months. Here are her words:

"Students in the sixth grade are using the Union for Reform Judaism's CHAI curriculum, which, for them, focuses on the concept of "revealing," and how, when, and in what form God's teachings and instructions were "revealed" to the Jewish people. The curriculum lends itself to discussion and debate on the topics and the students are encouraged to connect the material to their own lives in ways that are meaningful to them.

In the Torah section of the curriculum, we review *Ketuvim* or Writings, and analyze the different types of literature within, which include poetry, stories, and words of wisdom. As an example, when we discuss the Book of Proverbs, the students determine whether they agree or disagree with the text, and they apply these words of wisdom to what might be going on in the world or in their own lives, and what they can reveal to themselves by looking at these various proverbs. Specifically, the students were struck by proverbs such as "How much better it is to get wisdom than gold" (16:16), and enjoyed discussing the advantages and disadvantages of having money and material objects and whether these things make people happy.

The *Avodah* section of the curriculum focuses on the Torah service and how participation in the Torah service is the student's way of connecting with God the way the Jewish people did when they received the Torah. Students read portions of the Torah out loud and in the sanctuary, to further experience the communal nature of the Torah service. To help the students remember the details and vocabulary of the Torah service, we play a "Torah Team Challenge

Game," where the students form teams and see what each team remembers about the service. The students get quite competitive and enjoy testing each other on that knowledge. Finally, students learn about the *Haftarah* and what it contains, as well as the blessings before and after both the *Haftarah* and the Torah.

The third and final section, *G'milut Chasadim*, teaches the students about performing "acts of loving-kindness," as both a way of fulfilling our covenant with God, and as a way of feeling connected to God. We discuss numerous world issues, their connection to Jewish texts, and what can be done to help alleviate these problems. For example, when we talked about World Health Issues, we looked at specific statements from texts such as the Jerusalem Talmud and *Gates of Prayer* that make clear how Judaism views the role of the doctor and the ability to heal. The students brought in numerous examples of their own connection to health, illness, and healing.

Aside from CHAI, the sixth grade curriculum also comprises trends in modern Jewish history, beginning with the Great Migration out of Europe in the 1880's to the present. Specific topics include (among others) Zionism, World War I, the Holocaust, the birth of Israel, and American Jewry past and present. The students relate best to these topics when they are personalized so we often talk about how they would feel if they were living at this particular time and who some of these key characters were (Alfred Dreyfus, Theodore Herzl, and Anne Frank). Another way we addressed these topics was to communicate our personal family histories; the children shared what they knew of their ancestors' backgrounds and their countries of origin.

Revelation and Torah literature, connecting with God via the Torah service, acts of loving-kindness, and the recent history of our people – these are the pathways through which our sixth graders are learning and growing Jewishly this year."

Until next time,
B'Shalom,
Jules Kernes
Principal



Jules Kernes,
Shalom School
Principal



JFS Happenings

Jewish Family Services
Senior Adult Kosher Lunch

WHAT A MEAL-DEAL! Senior Adults aged 55 or better can join us for a nutritious lunch at the JEA each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for a mere \$5 (only \$8 if you haven't quite reached that golden age yet). The informative and entertaining program after Thursdays' lunch is on us. Free!

Every Thursday JFS offers culture, education and entertainment for lunch participants. Through this two-hour span of time every Thursday afternoon diners have made friends, discovered new interests, and created socialization opportunities that highlight a life-time of indispensable community connections.

Oh yeah. They learn stuff too! (It is not true that our motto is "Learn stuff

while you get stuffed")

And ... the last Thursday of each month come celebrate your birthday with us.

So, Please call us a couple days before you plan to dine with us so we know you are coming (355-8111). Remember, you are never too old or you are never too young. You are just the right age to join us for lunch!

- JFS serves kosher lunches three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

- Fun and informative programs are held after lunch on Thursdays

- The cost of the meal is \$5.00 to senior adults.

For more information or to make a donation to the Senior Adult Lunch Program, call 355-8111.

Interest-Free Loans Available
To Savannah Students

ATLANTA – Interest-free loans for post-secondary education (college, graduate school, vocational and professional courses) will be available to Jewish students in the Savannah area for the 2009-2010 school year from the Jewish Educational Loan Fund. The loans can also be used by those already in the workforce who need further education to update or change their careers. Since 1985, JELF has granted more than \$4.8 million in interest-free loans to nearly 2000 students throughout the southeast. Of that, nearly \$100,000 has been distributed to Savannah families. The JELF loans are need-based and offer

"last-dollar"

financing. JELF provides the final dollars that bridge the gap between a student's

total financial resources and the cost of attending school. Applicants must attend a recognized, accredited institution and be studying to receive a degree or certificate.

Applications for the interest-free loans, which are due April 15, 2009, can also be completed online on JELF's website at www.jelf.org.

There is Such a Thing as a
Free Lunch on March 29th

Sunday, March 29th from 1 to 4 will be a very special event at the JEA: a free health fair with representatives of the Anderson Cancer Institute, the JC Lewis Research Center, Hadassah and The American Cancer Society presenting speakers, free testing and information booths on the early detection and prevention of cancer in men and women. More importantly, youth ages 12 to 25, are encouraged to come to a free lunch at 12:15 for a special discussion by Venus Jolly Nabors, M.D. about prevention of cervical cancer and early detection of disease in young people. Though not a topic one normally associates with youth, Carol Greenberg the designer of these programs relates, "one of the hardest things to deal with during my chemotherapy treatments for ovarian cancer has been the number of young women getting treatment for what many believe is a dangerous, but a 95% avoidable cancer. Educating young people about prevention and detection should be our first priority as adults."

The luncheon is only free to the first fifty people who sign up, but others may attend to hear the information without reserving a lunch. Pre-register by calling the JEA at (912) 355-8111 as

late as 11:30 am on Sunday and we will accommodate as many people as we can. Adults are welcome to accompany their children.

Next May at the regional Hadassah meeting in Savannah Teal Ribbon Project is providing a BRCA gene cancer program (male and female breast, colon, ovarian and prostate among others) and next September for National Ovarian Cancer month is hosting a physician seminar about early detection of BRCA genes which are very prevalent in Jewish populations. In addition there is a fund raiser being planned to help people to pay for some of the expensive early diagnostic tests and medicines, but the March 29th event is the community's best opportunity to get their questions and concerns answered for free. For more information, to help sponsor the luncheon, or to donate to the project, please contact Carol Greenberg at 912-927-9922 or through the www.MorningStarArts.org website.



Jewish Family Services' Chametz Drive

The Seder begins with the call: "Let all who are hungry come and eat." This year, as your family readies your household for Pesach please consider donating any unopened chametz products to Jewish Family Services. Beginning April 1st, Food Barrels will be available at the JEA for you to drop off your food products.

Another idea might be, instead of giving money or a present to those who find the *afikoman*, let them choose a charity to which they will donate the money or gift, or have them keep half and donate the rest to charity. Or possibly

consider a chai donation of \$18 or more for the mitzvah of feeding the hungry in this Pesach season. (i.e. through Jewish Family Services).

And while you are thinking about tzdakah, we will also accept toiletry items including: soaps, shampoo, tissues, gum, lotions, tooth brushes, toothpaste and other related items that can be used at local homeless shelters and food kitchens.

Thanks from Jewish Family Services and I hope everyone has a happy and kosher Passover!

927-0700
Shop 24 hours at: www.southern-motors.com

2009 College Scholarship Applications Available

Applications for the Henry W. Center* and Jacob & Ida Ulman Scholarships are available at the front desk of the JEA or for downloading at www.savj.org

Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2009

*Available only to JEA members in good standing.

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SAVANNAH



Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Matilda “Minda” Rubnitz Brownstein

Who died February 24, 2009.

Preceded by her husband, Carl Brownstein. Surviving are her brother, Irvin “Sonny” Rubnitz, of Savannah, two nieces, six nephews, and her “adopted” daughter, Regena Dickson, of Pooler.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, Jewish Educational Alliance, Hospice Savannah.

Joyce Gewanter Bonder

Who died March 10, 2009.

Surviving is her husband, Dr. Michael Ian Bonder of Savannah; her daughter, Cherie Dennis of Savannah; her brother, Michael Gewanter of Woodmere, New York, and grandson. In addition to her parents she was

preceded in death by her son, Robert Andrew Bonder.

Remembrances: Robert A. Bonder Memorial Fund of Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity.

Adele Meddin Schneider

Who died March 13, 2009.

Preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Meyer M. Schneider. Surviving are her daughters, Ellen Schneider Goodrich, of Milledgeville and Susan Schneider McTeer of Savannah, son John Milton Schneider or Marietta, 11 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, sister Phyllis Meddin Fields of Savannah, brother David Meddin of Savannah, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Remembrances: Temple Mickve Israel

Thank you to all of the volunteers for the 2009 Savannah Jewish Film Festival!

Sophie Arkin	Anita Karnibad
BBYO	Nadav Kessous
Lynn Berkowitz	Darold Leto
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