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One Call Does It All

If your telephone rings on Super Sunday or during the following week and the caller says they are calling for the Federation 2009 Annual Campaign, it's not just another solicitor you've never met calling for a cause you've never heard of.

It will be someone like you, who is Jewish, who lives in Savannah, asking for your help, asking you to sustain and build our local and global Jewish community.

That's what the Savannah Jewish Federation is all about. The caller will be asking you to help maintain a program you've likely attended in the past, to support a community center that you frequent, a school where you've sent your children or grandchildren, the State of Israel that you've watched and loved since its inception.

The reality is that the gift you're being asked to make means counsel-

ing and other services for a victim of a homicide bombing; providing food for the hungry whether it's a single mom or a retiree unable to make ends meet, no matter if they are here, in the former Soviet Union, Israel or Cuba. It means job training for refugees arriving in Israel with no means of support. It means social services and aid for Jewish men, women, and children in need — here at home, in Israel, or in one of 58 countries around the world where the funds we raise here in Savannah provide relief and support.

It means helping to make sure there are a wide array of Jewish programs and services available to our community — whether it's our shaliach sharing the wonders of Israel with our neighbors in local schools and churches or teaching Hebrew at the JEA; it means grants to our local religious schools and continuing Jewish educa-

tion for teenagers; it means new initiatives like The PJ Library and community traditions like Trading Places, the Yom HaShoah Observance and participating in the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance; it means a week-long Jewish Film Festival and a single night of Jewish comedy.

It means making sure that as a Jewish community we have a way to stay connected. The Federation funds the home delivery of the Savannah Jewish News, the weekly e-News, and our website, www.savj.org. And sometimes staying connected means more than that, as in times of crises such as hurri-



Continued on Page 14

Jewish Family Services

Gearing Up for Economic Down Turn

Larry Dane-Kellogg,
Jewish Family Services Director

In the Broadway musical (and movie), *Fiddler on the Roof*, a farmer spurns Nachum, the beggar, with the excuse that he (the farmer) had a bad week and therefore can give Nachum only one coin instead of two. Nachum asks him: "Why should I suffer just because you had a bad week?"

No one can argue that the economy

has begun to take a nose dive and it has affected many of us in one way or another.

Jewish Family Services, a subsidiary agency of the Savannah Jewish Federation, is the primary safety net for those in Savannah's Jewish community struggling to make ends meet. When the economy suffers a down turn, the ability of Jewish Family Services to respond to the charitable needs of the

Jewish community is impacted twofold: (1) the number of clients requesting financial assistance increases, and (2) the amount of charitable donations to fund that assistance decrease.

In the recently completed fiscal year, JFS witnessed a sizeable increase in both the number of clients requesting assistance and in the dollar amount of assistance required (and not by just a little bit!). Requests overwhelmingly went toward payments of rent/mortgage but the funds also went to pay-

Continued on Page 13



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חנוכה שמח

HAPPY CHANUKAH



Changing Perspectives

Here in the midst of the UJC/ Federation campaign, I should be using this space to be a cheerleader. I should tell you that giving to the annual campaign helps Jews in need throughout the world and in our community, supports our schools and keeps the doors of the JEA open. I should tell you that contributing to the campaign is one of the most important obligations you have as a Jew fortunate enough to live in America, and that there is nothing you can do that will better serve your fellow Jews. So please forgive me if, just this one time, I don't.

Over the last twenty-three years or so I have often had the opportunity to brag about the friendliness, generosity and cohesiveness of the Savannah Jewish community. I tell people how easily and completely a couple of Yankees were welcomed here by people with roots over 200 years old. Over the last few weeks Carol and I have experienced tangible proof that all I have ever said is true. The concern and support we have received from all quarters has been heartfelt and sincere and beyond all expectations. It will take us a long time to individually thank all of you who have called, written, visited or nourished us recently.

It is human nature that we tend to focus on our differences and concentrate on problems. We spend a lot of time and energy dealing with those things on which we disagree and tend

to dwell on them and embellish them until we begin to believe that these things really matter. Sometimes they do matter, especially when our perceived differences lead to acrimony and intolerance and when we are so focused on them that we lose sight of what we have in common. So I won't pretend that our differences don't matter. But I will say that they are less important than we think.

It is easy to say that we should all take stock of those things which are truly important and stop focusing on trivia, but that is not our nature. When life throws us a curve we resolve to change, but then fall back into our bad habits. I'm sure that in the not-too-distant future I will be drawn back into some contentious issue between segments of our community full of high drama and perceived risk. But I have been forcefully reminded of how cohesive, generous and empathetic our Jewish community is, and I will try to keep that reality foremost in my thoughts and in shaping my perception of what our community can be like. One Jew helping another Jew—sort of sounds like a campaign slogan, doesn't it?



Dr. Joel Greenberg
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Thankful

Savannah's Jews—we are an opinionated bunch. Put two of us in a room together and you'll get three opinions, maybe four.

There is one thing about which we can all agree; our Jewish community needs to be united, as one people, regardless of our political beliefs, religious affiliation, Jewish activities, or level of Jewish activism.

We have so many important reasons to work together: raising the next generation of Jews, caring for our people in need, and working for Israel's continued survival. Who will care for us if we don't care for each other?

In his book, "A People Divided," Dr. Jack Wertheimer, the former Provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, wrote about how "belligerence and intolerance have become the hallmarks of American Judaism."

Wertheimer claims, "it is no longer possible or wise to dismiss religious polarization as peripheral to Jewish life. The divided world of Judaism imperils the unity of the Jewish people in America...In addition, name-calling and invective are now routinely injected into Jewish public discourse."

Unfortunately, gossip, divisiveness, and finger-pointing have become all too common. Maybe it is my naivety, my positive outlook, or my hope for the Savannah Jewish community: I believe it is possible to have fundamental disagreement but that we can disagree in a civil manner.

I write this a week before Thanksgiving and am reflective of all the things we have to be thankful for in the Savannah Jewish community: I remain very positive about the course

of our community. I am thankful (thanks to the support of the Slotin family) to be able to provide a new program like The PJ Library. I am very thankful for Young Jewish Savannah—in only a few months, many young adults have stepped forward to work with the group, but also in other projects throughout the community—talk about future leaders! I am thankful to have such great lay leadership: the officers of the JEA and Federation work tirelessly on all of our behalf. I am thankful that thus far our solicitors are having very positive responses for this year's campaign. Despite a very difficult economic climate, people are digging deep, people are making our Jewish community a priority. I am thankful for the response we get from the weekly community e-mails—hopefully there is something for everyone; hopefully they make you think. I learn from you all each and every week. I am thankful for the cultural and identity events that are taking place every day at the JEA. I am thankful that I have colleagues at the Federation and JEA who give so much of themselves—all in an attempt to make the Jewish community even more vibrant and welcoming.

And, I am thankful-Thankful for your support, your confidence, and your participation. Whatever the dispute, we can work it out; whatever the challenge, we can overcome; whatever the concern, we have the will to make things better.



Adam Solender



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Dear Friends,

Make no mistake about it, it's the holiday season. Open any newspaper, go online or watch TV and you're immediately bombarded with ads about products that are designed to make our lives easier. Or, about the perfect gift for the perfect someone in your life. Each at an incredible price and incredible value but only if you act right now. Sound familiar?

In any event, all of this started us thinking about other things as well. We started thinking about the current economic cycle that we're all in, the challenges it is posing and how we define 'value' not just in our personal lives, but also in terms of membership at the JEA.

The reality is that we are not alone. The majority of us are making real changes in our daily lives. We are constantly making choices about things that used to be inconsequential like whether or not we have an evening out, or make an 'extra' trip to the store. Perhaps even re-defining what a 'need' is versus a 'want.' We are looking for more value in our investments, in our time, and in our lives. Everyone is more concerned about keeping everything balanced in the present and having a solid financial future. In general, we are just more concerned.

So the value of being part of the JEA is in being part of the Savannah Jewish community. It's the community of friends who come to work out, to have a Senior lunch, to enrich their lives and the lives of others through sharing. It's a network of people, young and not as young, enjoying Jewish cultural activities, meetings, and events. It's in the outreach programs that provide assistance and resources to all. It's the youngsters who have a safe and fun place to go after school. It's the life-long experiences gained at the JEA Summer and Vacation Camps. It's the friendships that are made sitting in the lobby, or swimming in water aerobics. It's in the Auditorium for a concert, speaker, or a B'nai Mitzvah. It's in the heart, mind and soul of everyone who enters our doors. It's the value we put into the JEA and the value that the JEA offers each member.

So during these tough economic times, please remember the value of the 'Alliance.' If you haven't been in for a while, come in soon. Stay a little longer. This is your 'JEA.' It's here for you and it's here because of you.

Marcy Konter, President
Scott Samuels, VP/President-Elect
Tony Center, Treasurer
Adam Solender, Executive Director



Together We Are a Strong Light

What a month we just had. The elections are over, and, like many Israelis, I was curios to see who will be elected President of the United States. We also had elections for counsels and mayors in Israel, and a lot of people were very interested to know who is going to be the Mayor in different cities. A date was set for the election for Prime Minister in Israel, February 10, and the results will be significant for us as a society. Times are changing, and we are looking for political leaders to help lead our country in to better days.

This month gave me a lot of material to think about. My parents sent me an article published in one of the bigger newspapers in Israel. It was about how the world economy is creating negative action against Jewish people. Neo Nazis broke synagogue windows and assaulted Jewish people in the streets in Europe. In Germany, a pig's head was hanging on the Magen David of a gate in the entrance to

a Jewish cemetery. Jewish organizations in Eastern Europe are worried about the increase in violent actions against Jewish people. The fear is that when the world economy is bad more anti-Semitic actions will occur. I think that we, the Jewish people, always stuck and helped each other in times of trouble. But I know we can change experiences and good days as well.

Being a shlichah and being able to share holidays, happy events and tell about Israel; not only the problems and struggles people deal with but also the culture, achievements and celebrations, (and at the same time learn more about my self and different communities), for me, this is a door to a strong connection with Jewish people around the world and this bond is important always.

In November 1995, Yitzhak Rabin, who was Israel's Prime Minister, was



Maia Koiller

murdered in Tel Aviv, during a demonstration about the peace process. The murderer, Igal Amir, was a Jewish citizen who disagreed with Rabin's political opinions and thought that the results of them will be dangerous for Israel. Many Israeli citizens were terrified after the murder. And I was too. I was 10 years old that year and I remember the hard feelings in the streets in Israel. I was so overwhelmed that I made an album with articles published that time. I thought to my self that no matter how people disagree, we should all be able to understand in the end that we all love Israel.

But one wonderful thing happened as a result of Rabin's assassination: We now have a pre-army year called "Mechina" where young people from different streams of the society learn together and do community work together, and study each others experiences and opinions. Mechina is not required, but more and more people choose to do it each year, and along with other parts of army training that

deal with these issues, we are confronting the problems that led to Rabin's death. That way, in times of joy and sorrow, we still remember to hold hands and understand each other.

We will celebrate Chanukah soon, a holiday of light. Jews all around the world will light candles; every day we light more candles until on the last day of the holiday we have a shining Chanukiah full of lights. We say during the holiday that each one of us is a small candle but together we are a strong light, and I believe that is true in every aspect of life.

I would like to end with a translation of one Yehuda Amichai's beautiful songs; he is one of Israel's most important writers:

*All the generations before me
Donated me, bit by bit, so that I'd be
Erected all at once
Here in Jerusalem, like a house of prayer
Or charitable institution.
It binds. My name's
my donor's name
It binds.*

Letters to the Editor

Dear Friends,

I have been so overwhelmed by the warm wishes and prayers sent my way as Joel and I navigate through the world of cancer. From the people taking over my volunteer responsibilities at a moment's notice, to the offers and delivery of services, food and drivers for not only me but my father as well, and the mitzvahs, prayers and donations to worthy causes made in merit of my healing, I have found it difficult to catch everyone to thank personally. So please hear in my words how sincerely blessed I feel to being living

in this community and among people like all of you.

Thank you all so much for your continued thoughts and prayers—

Carol M. Towbin Greenberg

Dear Mr. Solender:

The GILEE Program for the 14th Israel Police delegation has ended and I am writing to thank you for your help in making it such a success. The eight members commented very favorably

on how professional they found Georgia law enforcement, on how much they learned about its multi-jurisdictional structure and on how warmly they were received throughout Georgia during their visit.

The session with the high school students went very well and I am pleased with the positive feedback. Your kind introduction at Friday's dinner and the community forum on October 31st is greatly appreciated. I was pleased with the attendance at the community forum. The interaction and exchange that took place were timely and showed the strong connection and care between Jews and Israelis. We also appreciated the assistance that Federation gave us with hotel rooms. On behalf of the IP delegation and GILEE, I thank you for the kind assistance you provided and the hospitality accorded to us.

I hope that we will be able to generate the much needed support for the program in Savannah.

Your assistance to GILEE and Georgia State University is greatly appreciated. Thank you for everything you have done and I am looking forward to our continued cooperation on GILEE projects.

*Robert R. Friedmann, Ph.D.
Distinguished Chair of
Public Safety Partnerships
GILEE Founding Director*

Identification Statement

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Community to ‘Trade Places’ Again on Dec. 24 & 25; Volunteers Needed

For many of us, the holiday season elicits vivid imagery of families spending time together, office parties and other social get-togethers, the increasingly wintry weather, and, of course, gift giving and receiving. For more than fifteen years, the Savannah Jewish Community has been giving a very important gift to the larger Savannah community: a gift of their personal commitment to help others with the Savannah Jewish Federation’s annual community service project known as Trading Places.

Co-chaired this year by program veterans Vivian Slotin, Barbara Kooden and Rhoda Weiland, Trading Places is rewarding in many ways. Through this mitzvah, the Jewish community provides volunteers to organizations throughout Savannah, allowing their regular employees and volunteers a chance to be home with their families and loved ones for Christmas.

Co-chair Vivian Slotin explained: “Trading Places has always afforded families an opportunity to share the joy of tikkun olam together. This year, we are seeking to expand on the already popular sites we visit. In addition to providing comfort and hot meals at Old Savannah City Mission and Union Mission, we will be doing some really different things like helping to take care of abandoned dogs at Coastal Pet Rescue. If you love animals, then this will be a great opportunity for a family with young and old members alike! But in expanding our services, we’ve also expanded the number of volunteers we need, so I hope everyone reading this will ‘answer the call.’”

Young Jewish Savannah, the nascent group for 21-40 year olds, will be volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, as they blend the mission of

being a social organization with social justice. Michelle Russo, of YJS, is coordinating their plans for the day. Volunteers also will be preparing and delivering breakfast platters for area police precincts and firehouses, to thank them for all the hard work they do throughout the year.

The Interfaith Hospitality Network also has provided us with an opportunity to help those less fortunate at Wesley Monumental Church where we will help serve a holiday meal. Safe Shelter, an organization dedicated to helping victims of domestic abuse will be opening its doors to our volunteers so we can assist those who have been

traumatized by unfortunate events. In addition, there will be the traditional volunteering opportunities at Buckingham South and of course at the JEA, so we can make sure that Sharon, Chelsea,

and all of the others who keep our community center open every day can be with their families on their holiday.

Whether it is a chance to serve a homeless family a hot meal, feeding and caring for an animal, or providing other sources of comfort to those less fortunate in our city, Trading Places is a wonderful chance to express our support and love for our community during this special time of the year.

To volunteer for Trading Places, please fill out the coupon below and fax it back to us (355-8116) or drop it off at the JEA or go to the Savannah Jewish Federation website, www.savj.org, and use the online registration form or stop by the JEA and fill out a registration form at the front desk. For more information, please contact Ben Kweskin (ben@savj.org, or 355.8111 x. 206) or Vivian Slotin at alvin.slotin@comcast.net.

Deeds of loving kindness are equal in weight to all the commandments.”

Talmud Yerushalmi, Peah 1:1

We have limitless opportunities for volunteers! Won’t you answer the call?

Name _____

Persons Volunteering _____

Are you available **Christmas Eve**?

Morning _____ Afternoon _____ Evening _____

Are you available **Christmas Day**?

Morning _____ Afternoon _____ Evening _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Address: _____

Please respond by December 15, 2008
Fax to 355-8116 or drop this form at the JEA front desk

For more information, contact:

Vivian Slotin - 303.0551; alvin.slotin@comcast.net
Barbara Kooden - 355.3682; brkoo@comcast.net
Rhoda Weiland - 354.6672; rhodabw@yahoo.com
Ben Kweskin -355.8111 ex. 206; ben@savj.org



Charitable IRA Rollover Extended

As part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, Congress extended for two years a provision in the tax code allowing individuals to take distributions from their IRAs and give them tax-free directly to charitable organizations. Taxpayers age 70½ and older are required to make annual distributions from their retirement accounts. Normally, the distributions are included in the taxpayers’ adjusted gross income (AGI), and are taxable. The Charitable IRA Rollover allows taxpayers to make donations totaling not more than \$100,000 directly from their IRAs to charitable organizations, without counting those donations as part of their AGI and, consequently, without paying taxes on them.

The Charitable IRA Rollover is a wonderful way to start a Jewish legacy for your family and a wonderful way to make a difference for the Jewish community. A Charitable IRA Rollover can be used to start a fund within the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah that will provide resources for programs or causes or scholarships that are dear to you that also help to ensure the future of our community. Whether it is to provide for social services for the needy or to provide scholarships for Jewish camping experiences or to perpetuate your annual gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation after you’re gone, a fund established with a Charitable IRA Rollover is a beautiful way to fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah,

and it’s smart tax planning, too!

Things to know about the IRA Rollover:

- Only contributions made by December 31, 2009 qualify.
- You must be 70½ or older at the time of the distribution.
- Your total combined rollover contributions cannot exceed \$100,000 in one year.
- Contributions must go directly to a public charity. Before making an IRA rollover contribution, contact the recipient charity to confirm that it is eligible to receive tax-free gifts from IRAs. Distributions can be made only from traditional or Roth IRAs.
- You cannot receive any goods or services in return for these contributions and you must receive a written receipt from the recipient charity.

Please contact Lynn Levine (355-8111 or lynn@savj.org) to discuss how to use the Charitable IRA Rollover or for more information on establishing a fund within the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah.

This information is intended only to provide general guidance and is not a substitute for professional counsel. Consult your tax or legal adviser for professional guidance.

The first deliveries of The PJ Library will be arriving in January.
Have YOU registered? www.savj.org

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Psychotronic Film Society Brings Screening to JEA



For the past six years, local non-profit organization The Psychotronic Film Society has screened hundreds of rare, independent, foreign, underrated or simply little-known gems at a variety of venues throughout the area.

On Thursday, December 18 at 7:30 pm, the society is proud to host their first-ever screening in the JEA's auditorium. It is the critically praised documentary *THE LIFE OF REILLY*, an irreverent, humorous and touching look at the life and career of the late stage, film and television actor (and famed 1970s TV game show icon) CHARLES NELSON REILLY.

Shot not long before his untimely death, the film captures the final performance of Tony Award-winner Reilly's smash one-man show, in which he takes us through his bizarre, star-studded, tragic, hilarious and ultimately amazing life with a potent blend of tenderness and quick one-liners. It's a must-see for anyone who remembers Reilly's risqué wit, deadpan timing and flamboyant demeanor.

Advance tickets for this PG-rated film are only \$7 for the general public,

or half-price (\$3.50) for JEA members, and will be available at the JEA front desk starting Dec. 3rd. However, the discounted price applies only to tickets purchased in advance. If bought at the door the night of the film, all tickets will be \$7.

The Psychotronic Film Society specializes in presenting either first-run features that would otherwise never be shown by Savannah's corporate-owned movie theaters, as well as unearthing "lost" films that are not currently available in the USA, and that likely have never been seen by anyone in this area in a public setting. In addition to their weekly Wednesday night screenings at the Sentient Bean Coffeehouse on Forsyth Park, they also have shown films at the historic Lucas Theatre and the Jepson Center for The Arts.

Once a year, they host Savannah's "other film festival," a two-week long showcase of strange and wonderful films from around the world. Their next Psychotronic Film Fest takes place from January 26, 2009 through February 6, 2009 at the Sentient Bean.

You can view the Psychotronic Film Society's full upcoming schedule, and watch previews for this and other films online at www.myspace.com/psychotronicfilms.

When: Thurs., December 18 at 7:30 pm

What: The Psychotronic Film Society of Savannah presents: THE LIFE OF REILLY

Where: JEA; 5111 Abercorn St.

Cost: \$7 gen. public / \$3.50 for JEA Members (discount in advance only)

Your Campaign Dollars At Work The TALI Educational Fund

Editor's Note: As part of the 2008 allocations process, the Savannah Jewish Federation included some overseas allocations targeted directly to organizations that reflected the passions and interests of the Savannah Jewish community. We are highlighting some of these organizations in the Savannah Jewish News. This month we are featuring the TALI Educational Fund.

Currently in 120 schools across Israel and growing, the TALI network (a Hebrew acronym for *enriched Jewish Studies*) reaches 22,000 school children giving them varying opportunities to learn about their rich Jewish heritage from kindergarten through high school. TALI aims to give students a Jewish, Zionist, and democratic education in a pluralistic and contemporary environment while soliciting cooperation among teachers and parents alike. It brings Jewish education into otherwise secular Israeli public schools where previously there had been none.

The TALI Educational Fund (TEF) develops, promotes, and enriches Jewish studies programs within the general Israeli educational system in accordance with the principles of the Israeli Ministry of Education, thus serving as a unique organization that contributes to Israeli society by reaching Israeli youth through their religion and heritage. Schools that join TALI receive educational support and consulting from the Educational Fund for TALI schools, which lies under the auspices of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, approved by the Ministry of Education as well as the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI).



Children Greet Visitors to a TALI School in Tel Aviv

In 1998, TALI opened an Early Childhood Division which would become responsible for Jewish Educational programming for this age group. Over 2,000 children are currently served by this program in twenty-one communities located all over Israel.

In order to receive support from the Israeli government, TEF must follow and abide by these guidelines:

1. Provide ongoing support and services to schools and kindergartens that identify with the principles of TALI education, and have created a serious working plan for their subsequent implementation.



Passover Seder at a TALI school program

2. Develop "educational tracks" in the spirit of TALI principles beginning in kindergarten and continuing through high school.
3. Enrich the Judaic knowledge of TALI educators and develop in them skills for implementing TALI education.
4. Create educational materials, making them available to schools for the advancement and enrichment of pupils in the area of Judaic Studies.
5. Stimulate the interest of TALI teachers and pupils in their Jewish heritage in all its forms and expressions, and deepen their knowledge of it.
6. Nurture awareness of each TALI school community concerning the varieties of Jewish expression, and encourage the community to define its own Jewish identity and approach to Judaism.
7. Make available to the general school system the cumulative knowledge, resources and experience of TEF in the area of Jewish studies.

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Community Strategic Planning Underway

The Savannah Jewish Federation (SJF) and the Jewish Educational Alliance (JEA) have embarked on an extensive strategic planning process for the Savannah Jewish community. This current strategic planning process was undertaken because the Jewish community has changed significantly from when the most recent planning process was completed almost seven years ago.

The Planning Committee, co-chaired by Jeffrey Lasky and Dr. Ken Tannenbaum, includes a broad cross-section of the Jewish community; it has been meeting since June of this year. The Vision Statement approved by the Planning Committee is that "Savannah's Jewish community is dynamic, viable and united."

In addition to adopting the Vision Statement, the Planning Committee has identified the strengths and weaknesses of the Jewish community, and is now in the process of developing recommendations for addressing the weaknesses while building upon the strengths. Those recommendations will be forwarded to the Boards of the SJF and the JEA, as may be appropriate, for consideration and possible implementation by the relevant organizations.

The key strengths of the Savannah Jewish community include:

A strong and vibrant Jewish Community. Savannah, for more than 200 years and continuing through today, has a respected and unique history of maintaining a strong and vibrant Jewish Community, even though it has a relatively small Jewish population. This is demonstrated by:

A diverse array of services and programs through three synagogues, two schools, the JEA, a Jewish Family Services and other community organizations;

A large percentage of families within the Jewish community who have been connected to the community for multiple generations;

An expansive commitment from and involvement of volunteers;

Enormous pride and respect from the Jewish community and the general Savannah community for its Jewish Community.

The Savannah Jewish Federation. Savannah has an incredible history, through the Federation, of providing extraordinary financial support to its Jewish organizations and for Jewish causes. This is evidenced especially in times of great need, coupled with a high per-capita giving to the Federation Campaign.

The Jewish Educational Alliance. The JEA, approaching its centennial anniversary, has been the social and cultural home-away-from-home and common meeting place for many generations of Savannah Jews. The United Way-funded JEA, which serves as the "face" of the Jewish community to the city, provides:

A large health and fitness facility with many physical and health programs for people of all ages;

Meals and programs for older seniors; Day camp and many activities for children and youth;

Speakers, movies and a broad range of other events and programs for the entire community.

The Jewish community is growing. While it is difficult to quantify the magnitude of the growth, the Savannah economy, its location and its lifestyle are a very attractive magnet for people.

The population of Savannah is predicted to continue to grow. As the general population increases so too will Jewish newcomers, as well as new generations of long-term Savannah Jewish families.

For a number of reasons, many people come to Savannah and remain; it does not see the level of transience as do many other cities.

The current leadership of the Federation and the JEA share a common vision, mutual respect, work well together and are well-organized.

The key weaknesses of the Jewish community that have been identified include:

The JEA must reflect the current and expected changes in the community. Fundraising is inadequate for the SJF and the JEA to meet the community's programming and charitable needs.

There is a lack of new leadership and leadership development.

Open communications within the different elements of the Jewish community are sometimes problematic.

The Planning Committee expects to complete the strategic planning process before the middle of next year. At that point, it is anticipated that recommendations will be made to the governing Boards of the SJF and the JEA for their further action.

Lady Lions Capture SPAL Trophy

By Judy Hirsch

For the second year in a row, the Rambam Day School Lady Lions varsity volleyball team captured SPAL's (Savannah Parochial Athletic League) second place trophy. Rambam's varsity team went into the double-elimination tournament with an 11-1 regular season. SPAL is a 17 team league. In the fall, Rambam fields teams in volleyball for the girls and flag football for the boys. The winter season brings basketball for both boys and girls; spring means the return of co-ed soccer. Although small in number, Rambam's teams are highly respected and mighty in effort and other teams approach games against the Lions with a healthy dose of trepidation!

Coach Katherine Robinson (a St. Vincent's junior who volunteers to coach the varsity volleyball team with the help of her mother, Diane Robinson, a pre- and middle-school teacher at Rambam) was somewhat concerned with the fact that, due to an injured player, the team entered the tourney with no subs on the bench! This did not hold back the Lady Lions as they dominated in the semi-final round shutting out St. Andrew's School in the best-of-five series to advance to



Standing (l-r): Bassie Gold, Marissa Levine, Helen Giffen, Sara'la Gold, Coach Diane Robinson, Sophie Longwater, and Charlotte Jung. Seated: Coach Katherine Robinson and Lena Hirsch who proudly displays the Lady Lions' trophy

the finals where they lost to St. Peter's to take the second place trophy.

The varsity team, comprised of seventh and eighth grade girls, was just one of two teams who represented Rambam in the volleyball league this year. Rambam's fourth - sixth grade girls fielded a junior varsity team who competed strongly and whose members certainly show promise for next year's varsity team. Rambam's sports teams' schedules are posted on the school web site, www.rambamday-school.org. Visit the site to view the dates and times of upcoming games during the year and come cheer our day school's students.

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2009 Campaign Events

Main Event,
November 5th



Diane Kahn and Sally Greenberg



Marion Mendel stands to be recognized in honor of her father, Edmund Abrahams, the first president of the Savannah Jewish Council



Mike Leven, CEO of the Georgia Aquarium and Vice Chair of the Marcus Foundation, gives the keynote address



Sarah and Jerald Gottlieb



Federation President Joel Greenberg introduces the keynote speaker



Paul Todtfeld and Eric Meyerhoff



Vivian Slotin, Betty Lasky and Barbara Kooden

Women's Division Luncheon,
November 11th



2009 Women's Division Co-Chair Peggy Yellin, Chair Carole Cohen, Keynote Speaker Bizu Riki Mullu and Campaign Chair Sharon Galin



Dick Berkowitz helps get the tables ready



Event co-chair Stacey Schlafstein with Amy Trestman who designed the beautiful centerpieces for the tables



The women shop for some of the speaker's jewelry and Judaica.



Lauri Waldman, Allison Konter, Skye Cossio and Dayle Levy share a laugh during lunch



(l-r) Jerry Montana, Mike Bonder, Bucky Bloom, Dick Hochman, Gary McGuffin, Arnie Ram, Freddie Harkavy, Norm Hirsch, Larry Lasky and Gerald Cohen take time off from their jobs at Smith & Wollensky to serve the ladies enjoying the annual Women's Division Campaign Luncheon



Wendy Cohen, Jessica Lebos, Joan Pritzker, Linda Zoller, Meredith Gaunce and Peggy Yellin



Luncheon co-chair Joan Bloom welcomes the attendees





2008
Speaker's Series

Sunday, December 7, 2008
7:30 PM at the JEA

**Michael Berkow, Savannah Chief of Police
Demery Bishop, Director of CrimeStoppers**

Chief Berkow will be giving an update on his department's accomplishments in turning the tide against crime in Savannah.

The CrimeStoppers program has been in Savannah since 1983 with the primary objective of community, media and law enforcement.

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

The 2008 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.

11th Annual Musical Salute To MLK
Featuring

**The Savannah Jazz Orchestra &
Savannah Arts Academy Skyelite Band**

Tuesday, January 13th—7 pm

The JEA will host the 11th Annual, *A Musical Salute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* This year's event is being co-presented by the Jewish Educational Alliance, the Savannah Jewish Federation Community Relations Council, the Martin Luther



King, Jr. Observance Day Association, the Coastal Jazz Association, through a grant from the City of Savannah's Department of Cultural Affairs and the Southeast Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Portman's Music Superstore, Hands On Savannah and MorningStar Cultural Arts are the event's sponsors. There will be a dessert reception at intermission.

This very powerful event, which will feature the Savannah Jazz Orchestra, co-led by Teddy Adams and Randall Reese, & The Savannah Arts Academy Skyelite Jazz Band, under the baton of Michael Hutchinson, is part of the official Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Celebration which pays tribute to the birth and life of one of America's great men of freedom, justice and equality. The Savannah Jazz Orchestra is comprised of the areas best musicians and has backed some of the biggest names in jazz. They have performed at most of the Savannah Jazz Festivals and their annual Tribute to the Duke Ellington Concert is a favorite among local jazz fans. The Skyelite Jazz Band has traveled the globe representing Savannah and has won many awards and accolades.

The concert is free and open to the community



JEA Donations (as of 11/13/08)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Elizabeth Bernstein
In memory of Albert Ullman
In memory of David Rosenzweig
In memory of Hershel W. Harris
In memory of Susan W. Karpf
Fred & Nancie Clark

JEA BUILDING FUND

In memory of Susan Waggoner Karpf
Sara Heyman
Marcy & Jerry Konter
Fran Sussman
Bouhen, Williams & Levy, LLP
Clio E. Murphy
Lois Wooten
Matiel Leffler
In memory of Elizabeth Bernstein
Marcy & Jerry Konter
In honor of Chuck & Lynn Sussman
Marcy & Jerry Konter
Allison & Mark Konter
Sally & Steve Greenberg

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Elizabeth Bernstein
Nathan & Martha Coleman
Rosalind & Melvin Center
Martin S. Jackel
Floyd & Karen Viel
Jeffrey Applebaum
Mel & Les Birken
Marilyn & James Farley
Robert W. Schiviera
For the speedy recovery of Aaron Solender
Paul & Harriet Kulbersh
Harriet & Eric Meyerhoff
In honor of Larry Dane-Kellogg's recovery
Sara Heyman
In honor of Thelma Rosen's grandson's Bar Mitzvah
Anita Schlossberg

JACK & MIRIAM LEVY CONCERT FUND

In memory of Susan Karpf
Bubba Horovitz

RAYMOND & MORRIS ROSEN MEMORIAL FUND

For the speedy recovery of Bailee Kronowitz
Barbara T. Hacken
In honor of Betty Melaver's birthday
Gail Rosenzweig

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Eva Sadler
Madeline Rubin
In honor of Madeline Rubin's birthday
Charles, Marsha, Andy, Larry, Michelle,
Nathan & Morgan Bernstein

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

For the recovery of Betty Lasky
For the recovery of Naomi Bosson
Sally & Steve Greenberg
In memory of Elizabeth Bernstein
Sally & Steve Greenberg

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Lee Meyer
In memory of Buddy Joselove
In memory of Audrey Levin
In memory of Albert Ullman
The recovery of Matt Cohen
The recovery of Don Kole
Simone & Leo Center
In memory of Susan Karpf
Sara K. Rigel

JEA TREE OF LIFE

In memory of Audrey Levin
Workman's Circle Credit Union
In memory of Susan Waggoner Karpf
June & Murray Arkin; Esta Asher; Sybil & Herman Barnett; Pam Eichholz; Sherry & Eddie Gold; Sandy & Skippy Goodman; Eva Odrezin; Ethyl Rosenzweig; Marilyn Seeman; Lena Solomon and Ruth Stein

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

CELEBRATE

Jewish Family Services And The Clinical Social Work Association of Savannah Present An Educational Opportunity For Parents:

The College Admissions Process

**Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m.
Free and Open to the Public**

Presented By Helese S. Sandler

Learn About:

- Applying To Colleges In Today's Climate
- The College Application Process
- Making Your Child's College Application Stand Out



Ms. Sandler has had 20 years experience working with and counseling children, adolescents and families in a variety of settings focusing specifically on educational and emotional needs.

She received her Social Work degree from University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa in 1981 and subsequently worked as a social worker with Children, Adolescents and Families, offering treatment for a wide range of behavioral and educational issues. For 10 years she was the tutoring coordinator of the Tutoring Center at Royce Learning Center where she was involved in educational consulting, testing and working with students with special needs.

Ms. Sandler is currently a partner is Savannah Educational Consultants working as an Educational Consultant focusing on college counseling and all aspects of educational consulting. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the National Association Of College Admission Counselors and the Southern Association for College Admission Counseling.

Contact Larry Dane-Kellogg, 355-8111, for more information.



The JEA, as a fundraiser, has obtained from the NFL, **two (2) tickets to Super Bowl XLIII on February 1, 2009.**

This year's game is close to home—Tampa, Florida.

We are asking a minimum of \$3000 per ticket—tickets must be sold together.

This is an unbelievable price for a once-in-a-lifetime event! We have researched all ticket outlets to compare prices.

Give Kim Thebo a call at the JEA (355-8111) if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested in these tickets. Once the tickets are sold, we will provide information for the Tampa Super Bowl Host Committee to see what other events they are holding and where.

COACHES!

Are you interested in becoming involved in Youth Sports at the JEA?

We are currently looking for volunteer basketball coaches for kids ages 5 – 12 for the winter season (Dec – Mar).

Please contact Coach Dawn for more information at 355-8111 or by email dawn@savj.org.

Put the "J" in Mah Jongg at the JEA

Most people think of mah-jongg as "that Chinese game with the noisy tiles." And they're right! Also known as mah-jongg, ma-diao, mah-cheuck, baak-ling, and pung-chow, playing mah-jongg can be as complicated as figuring out what to call it, but it's also exciting, challenging, and a great gambling alternative to poker. But just because mah-jongg can be intense doesn't make it impossible.

What is Mah Jongg ?

Mah-jongg dates back 4000 years to a time when Chinese aristocrats were the only people on the planet to play the game. The ruling class was so snobby about keeping the game to themselves, that they kept the rules a secret from the Chinese peasants. Mah-jongg only became public knowledge when China became a republic in 1911.

Mah Jongg is your relaxing get-away from a stressful day.



Mah Jongg: Mondays at 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Free for JEA members.

Movie Night—In the Afternoon!

December 16th—1:30 FREE to Members

Join us for a new treat—an afternoon movie! Join us at the JEA in the Large Auditorium for a movie, cokes and popcorn. We'll be showing the comedy film, ***The Policeman***. This is the story of Constable Azulai, a policeman with a soft heart. When word gets around that they are about to retire him, an emergency meeting of the Jaffa criminals is called to save his job!

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Want a break?

Bring your kids to the JEA for these fun theme nights!



**Saturday, December 20th
7:30-10pm**

Chanukah Party

Make presents for your parents, sing songs, and enjoy traditional holiday food!

**Saturday, January 24th
8-10 pm**

Sports and a Scavenger Hunt
Play sports with Coach Dawn and go on the hunt to win prizes!



**Saturday, February 28th
8-10pm**

Swimming and a Movie

Beat the winter blues by splashing around in the pool with your friends, then relax with a movie and popcorn!



All kids ages 4 yrs - 5th grade welcome!

Teens are welcome to come and help out
By Reservation Only---No Drop Ins
\$5.00 a kid, \$15.00 a family

2009 JEWISH COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

**Update, Change, or Place your household information for the
2009 Jewish Directory
ONLINE
www.savj.org**

**Or stop by the JEA front desk and complete the short form.
We will not be mailing update forms this year, please make sure
you complete your information online or at the JEA.**

DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

**ALL updates, changes, or placements must be received by
January 3, 2009 to be included in the 2009 Jewish Directory
For more information contact Kim Thebo @ kim@savj.org**



WINTER CAMP

It's time to sign your child up for Winter Camp at the JEA. Look at what we have scheduled!

Mon., Dec. 22—Iron Chef
Tues., Dec. 23—Sport Spectacular
Wed., Dec. 24—Ice Skating*
Thurs., Dec. 25—Closed
Fri., Dec. 26—PJ/Movie Day

Mon., Dec. 29—Aquarium at Skidaway/Lunch on the beach*
Tues., Dec. 30—Hot Chocolate in the Park
Wed., Dec. 31—Israeli Games & Cooking with Maia
Thurs., Jan. 1—PF/Movie Day
Fri., Jan. 2—Ice Skating*

WE WILL GO SWIMMING EVERYDAY!

- Ages 4 years—5th Grade
- Time: 9 am—5 pm (Rise and Shine/Stay and Play are available upon request for \$5/day)
- Each day is \$25 except days with an asterisk—Those days are \$30
- If you sign up for every day, you will receive a 10% discount
- Please bring a dairy Kosher lunch

For more information, contact Ashley, 355-8111.

What’s New in the Fitness Center?

Pilates Rings & Things—Mondays at 7 pm. Pilates specialist, Helena Maslansky, has joined our team to help you strengthen your core, trim your abs, and improve your posture. Class is held in the Sr. Lounge. Bring a mat. Free to members, \$8 drop-in.

New Spa Services—Our Aesthetician, Delores, has added **Naturally Nails** nail care to her menu of services. Classic manicure, pedicure, polish update, callus and paraffin treatments, and French Style polish are available with Jamie Alls Thursday and Friday any time the Center is open. Other days by appointment, 856-6881.

Fitness Schedule

Activity	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Adult						
Indoor Pool	9 AM-5 PM	7 AM-9 PM	7 AM-9PM	7 AM-9 PM	7 AM-9 PM	7 AM-4 PM
Spin Class			8:30 AM		8:30 AM	
Firm It Up		8:30 AM		8:30 AM		8:30 AM
Zumba	10 AM			7 PM		
Pilates		7 PM	8:30 AM		8:30 AM	
Open Basketball		12-2 PM		12-2 PM		12-2 PM
Aquasize		10 AM	10 AM		10 AM	10 AM
Gentle Yoga		10:30 AM		10:30 AM		
Yoga for a Healthy Back					7 PM	
Sr. Aerobics		10:30 AM			10:30 AM	
Fencing			6 PM		6 PM	
Eve. Water Aerobics		6:30 PM		6:30 PM	6:30 PM	
Women’s Self Defense			6 PM		6 PM	
Karate		5:30 PM		5:30 PM		
Wallyball			6:30 PM	7:30 PM Men Only	6:30 PM	
Open Court Racquetball		4-6 PM	4-6 PM	4-6 PM	4-6 PM	4-5 PM
Kids						
Coach Wayne Gymnastics				2:30 PM		
Jr. Swim League		4:15 PM		4:15 PM		
Basketball Clinic	2:30-4 PM		4-5 PM			

Learn to Swim at the JEA

Swimming is a basic skill everyone should learn and enjoy!!



Indoor Heated Pool

Learn everything from pool safety to stroke development
Ages 3 years to Adult
Individual, Semi-Private, and Group Lessons Available

Mommy and Me
Classes Available
(6 months to
3 years)



WSI Certified
Instructors
Open to Members
and Nonmembers

Contact Ashley Frankel for more information
912.355.8111 ext#225

Check Your Blood Pressure

By Elaine Fox, Health & Wellness Director



Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. Sure, you’ve heard that by now. You are at risk if you have parents who died of this major health problem, you smoke, have high blood pressure, and do not exercise.

High blood pressure is one of the symptoms that you may be developing Cardiovascular disease. Exercise, keeping your weight under control, and not smoking, can all reduce the risk of raising your blood pressure.

You can check your blood pressure at the JEA Fitness Center. We have one of the easiest to use blood pressure cuffs for your use. When you come in to workout, simply ask the Fitness Desk Clerk for the “cuff,” sit down at the table and press “Start.” If you’d like, we will even do it for you. Making note of it will give you an idea of your trends, so that when your next doctor’s visit rolls around, you can go with a record of your readings.

So, get to the Fitness Center, workout, and check your BP!



A MOVIE & BEER!

Adults — Join us for a movie & a beer!

Dec. 4th - Zohar - This movie follows the struggles that Zohar faced in becoming the legend that he has become while breaking boundaries and paving new roads to Mizrahit artists. Although Zohar rose to the top and had financial wealth, he managed to lose it all due to drug abuse. Despite his success and fame, this man never seemed to receive the love and respect needed.

Nominated for 2 Israeli Film Academy Awards!

All movies begin at 7:00 pm—FREE to Members FREE beer, wine, beverages, popcorn & peanuts Adults 21 and over, please

Movie & Beer Night sponsored by Nancy & Lawrence Gutstein



Interested in Adult Hebrew classes??

אוהב לדבר בעברית? רוצה לדעת יותר?
The JEA is starting spoken Hebrew classes for adults!

Contact Maia Koiller to
reserve a spot! 912.355.8111 or
maia@savj.org

Gym Etiquette

Elaine Fox, Health & Wellness Director

You’ve decided to trim off those extra High Holiday pounds or get in shape for the winter cruise and you’re back at the JEA Fitness Center. Good for you! You realize, of course, that you are not alone. Some simple rules that we all learned when we were very young still apply in the social setting of the “gym.” Easy things like: Share. Clean up after yourself. Keep your voice down. Be modest in your dress and actions.

Share - Don’t hog your favorite cardio machine during the busiest times. We have a 30-minute limit on machines, so keep others in mind and plan your time well. Between sets of reps let someone else use the weights if you see someone waiting. If another member is watching you on a machine, it may be because he or she is waiting for you to finish. Take your rests off the machine.

Clean up - When you leave a machine wipe your sweat off. There are spritzer bottles around the gym for that purpose. Leave the machine in a way that you would want to use it. Your good healthy sweat is unhealthy to the next user.

Re-rack your weights. If you drop them to the floor it may mean either that you don’t care about the way the gym looks, others’ safety, or the weights are too much for you and you’ve lost control. Loud clanking disturbs other folks, can damage the weights, or may mean that they are too heavy for you.

Keep your voice down - Please leave your cell phone in your car. Phone conversations should be private. If a phone call is really important, please take it outside the gym. No one needs to listen to what you have to say to your honey or your client.

Effort in the gym is encouraged and expected. But, when you are grunting to the max, it makes others within earshot uncomfortable. Please be mindful of how you express yourself in the fitness room, and that includes expletives.

Be modest - Our gym is a family place, even if you need to be at least 15 to be there. Please dress in a shirt that covers your torso, pants that cover your underwear, and shoes that are tied. Yes, shirt and shoes are required. Modesty extends to the locker room, too. Please cover up. You may be proud of your newly acquired six pack, but as one member once said told me in regard to locker rooms, “There are some things that children should never see.” That applies to other adults, too.

So, dear friends, please be mindful of others when using the gym. Common courtesy should guide you. Leave your gym the way you’d want to find it, don’t be a hog, respect your own limits and others’ personal space. We will ALL enjoy our facilities more if we ALL cooperate. Thanks.



December 2008	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 1 pm <u>Pilates</u> – 7 pm	2 Voting—Election Run-Off <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> -8:30 am <u>Kibitzers Club</u> - 10 am	3 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Bridge</u> - 1 pm <u>Zumba</u> – 7 pm	4 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> - 8:30 am <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Lunch/Program</u> – 12:30 pm <u>Evening Water Aerobics</u> - 6:30 pm <u>Movie & Beer Night</u> – 7 pm	5 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-4 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am	6 <u>BBYO Annual Dance</u> – 7:30 pm
	7 <u>BBYO Gathering</u> – 10:30 am <u>Speaker’s Series</u> — Michael Berkow & Demery Bishop– 7:30 pm	8 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 1 pm <u>Water Aerobics</u> - 6:30 pm <u>Pilates</u> – 7 pm	9 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> -8:30 am <u>Kibitzers Club</u> - 10 am <u>Yiddish</u> – 3 pm <u>JFS Parenting Class</u> – 7 pm	10 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Bridge</u> - 1 pm <u>Zumba</u> – 7 pm	11 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> - 8:30 am <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Lunch/Program</u> – 12:30 pm <u>Evening Water Aerobics</u> - 6:30 pm	12 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-4 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am	13
	14	15 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 1 pm <u>Pilates</u> – 7 pm	16 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> -8:30 am <u>Kibitzers Club</u> - 10 am <u>Movie Event</u> – 1:30 pm	17 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Bridge</u> - 1 pm <u>Zumba</u> – 7 pm	18 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> - 8:30 am <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Evening Water Aerobics</u> - 6:30 pm <u>Sr. Lunch/Program</u> – 12:30 pm	19 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-4 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am	20 <u>Parent’s Night Out</u> – 7:30 pm
	21	22 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 1 pm <u>Rambam Hanukkah Program</u> – 6:30 pm <u>Pilates</u> – 7 pm	23 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> -8:30 am <u>Yiddish</u> – 3 pm <u>Kibitzers Club</u> - 10 am	24 JEA Closes at 6 pm <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Bridge</u> - 1 pm <u>Zumba</u> – 7 pm	25 JEA Offices Closed	26 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-4 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am	27
	28	29 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Aquasize</u> - 10 am <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Sr. Fitness</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Mah-Jongg</u> - 1 pm <u>Pilates</u> – 7 pm	30 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Pilates</u> -8:30 am <u>Kibitzers Club</u> - 10 am	31 <u>Indoor Pool</u> - 7 am-9 pm <u>Gentle Yoga</u> - 10:30 am <u>Senior Lunch</u> - 12:30 pm <u>Bridge</u> - 1 pm <u>Zumba</u> – 7 pm	Jan. 1 New Years Day JEA Offices Closed Fitness Center Open 10 am-5 pm		



Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES

Happy Chanukah from the Archives!



Chanukah Candlelighting, JEA Boy Scout Troop 2, 17 December 1957 (JVM 003, no. 275). Left to right: Lloyd "Skippy" Goodman, Stuart Rudikoff, Alan Tanenbaum, Barry Stoller, and Edward Goodove.



Chanukah Contest, Brownies #115 Children's Winners, 17 December 1957 (JVM 003, no. 553). Sitting (left to right): Sharon (Birnbbaum) Gold, Marcia Gatlin, and Marsha (Elman) Bernstein. Standing (left to right): Ilene (Levin) Friedman, Carla Kramer, Nancy (Asher) Bracker, Lynn (Rudikoff) Berkowitz, Jean Kramer, and Susan Blumberg.

Picturing Savannah's Jewish Community - Erratum

Our printer made an error in the new book and printed one photograph twice, but left another photograph out. Those of you who have already

purchased the book may pick up an erratum sheet with a copy of the missing image at the JEA.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Herschel William Harris
Who died November 8, 2008

He is survived by his two sons, both of Atlanta, Armand (Sara) Harris and Dr. Paul (Amy) Harris; one sister, Annette Karp of Savannah; three grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Remembrances may be made to the Eric Nathan Karp Fund of Congregation Agudath Achim.

Susan Waggoner Karpf
Who died November 8, 2008

She is survived by her husband, Judge Michael L. Karpf; son Benjamin

(Suzy) Karpf, of Washington, DC; her parents, Lawrence and Frances Waggoner of Savannah, and her sister, Marjorie of New Mexico.

Remembrances may be made to the Jewish Educational Alliance or a charity of the donor's choice.

Charles "Buster" White
Who died November 8, 2008

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Dillard White; his son, Charles J. (Martha) White III of Columbia, South Carolina; his grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and his sister Elizabeth White Monsees of Florida.

Remembrances: The Greater Savannah Athletic Hall of Fame or Congregation Agudath Achim.

Vital Statistics

WED
Dolgoff-Alter

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dolgoff announce the marriage of their daughter, Marcey Lynn, to Howard Alter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Alter of Canton, GA. The wedding took place November 15, 2008, at Congregation B'nai Brith Jacob. The wedding party included Howard's daughters, Sarah and Julie Alter, and eight nieces and nephews. The bride and groom will honeymoon in Aruba. The couple will live in Atlanta, GA.

The bride and groom were thrilled to share their wedding ceremony with Marcey's grandmother, Lillian Roth, in



Houston, TX, via webcam. Relatives attending from California, Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia, New Jersey and Texas helped make the weekend memorable.

dinner.....lunch.....weekend brunch

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Chanukah Fun

A CHANUKAH QUIZ

1. Chanukah is known as

a. The Festival of Lights

b. The Holiday of Rededication

c. The Jewish Christmas

d. The Yiddish Ramadan
2. The heroes of the holiday of Chanukah lived in

a. Brooklyn

b. Ancient Israel

c. Richmond Hill

d. Babylon

e. A three floor walk-up in Jerusalem
3. The Jews of the time of the first Chanukah worshipped

a. At the Holy Temple in Jerusalem

b. At a less holy temple about ten miles west of Jerusalem

c. Wherever they could get High Holiday tickets

d. All of the above
4. Suddenly, a new, cruel leader (what else is new?) came to power in Syria, whose name was

a. Hafiz al-Assad

b. Marge Schott

c. Antiochus

d. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
5. This evil leader abruptly commanded the Jews of his kingdom to

a. Eat pig

b. Eat at McDonald's

c. Eat everything on their plates

d. Become idol worshippers

e. Become idle
6. There arose a brave elder among the Jewish people who helped to lead a revolt against the Syrians, whose name was

a. Mattathias

b. Mattityahu

c. Merwin

d. Mud

e. His name would have been Mud had he lost
7. The last name of this glorious family was

a. Einstein

b. Obama

c. McCain

d. Maccabee
8. The town in which the heroic family lived was

a. Modi'in

b. Crown Heights

c. Ardsley Park

d. Passaic Park
9. The name "Maccabee" translates as

a. "May the Lord be with us, 'caus, if He's not, we're in big trouble"

b. "Son of a Star"

c. "Son of a Gun"

d. "Nails," because the Maccabees nailed the Syrian army
10. Where did the Jews fight the Syrians?

a. At Entebbe

b. At Netanya

c. Through thick and thin

d. With blood, sweat and tears

e. On the streets

f. On the beaches
11. After many long and agonizing battles, the Jews defeated their oppressors. The final score of the war was

a. Maccabees 9, Syrians 2

b. Maccabees 613, Syrians 0

c. Maccabees 11, Maccabees 1
12. In order to purify the Holy Temple, the Jews had to

a. Get a good cleaning person who would do floors

b. Get a good cleaning person who would do walls and windows too (now that's a miracle!)

c. Get rid of the chazar-fleisch

d. Get some oil
13. The oil the Maccabees found was sufficient for only

a. One day

b. Seven days

c. Seven days in Israel, eight in the Diaspora (go figure)
14. But there was a great miracle, as the oil used for re-sanctifying the Temple ended up lasting

a. Until it needed an oil change

b. Twelve days

c. Twelve days, but for you, eight days
15. Hannah was a heroine of the first Chanukah, who had

a. Five daughters

b. No, it was Tevye the Dairyman who had five daughters

c. Seven sons

d. Six sons

e. Five sons

f. Four sons
16. Among the Talmudic rulings on this holiday is that

a. The lamp must be lit at sunset

b. The lamp should be placed outside the entrance of one's house

c. The lamp should be set on a window nearest the street

d. Your fire insurance should be paid up every year by the beginning of Kislev

e. Chanukah used to be the day before Tu B'Shvat but the rabbis moved it to avoid forest fires
17. Because Chanukah is considered such a joyous holiday, Jews are

a. Forbidden to eulogize the dead

b. Forbidden to fast

c. Forbidden to cover their neighbor's Christmas lights, especially since the concept was stolen from the holiday of Chanukah, anyway
18. A long-accepted tradition of Jews around the world is for the parents to give their children

a. Chanukah gelt (money), over the eight days of the holiday

b. Jewish guilt (often over money), over the twelve months until the next Chanukah
19. On the holiday of Chanukah, millions of Jews all over the world

a. Spin the dreidel

b. Hang the mistletoe

c. Stuff the stocking

d. Decorate the tree

e. We really have to do something about assimilation (which was what the Maccabean revolt was all about)

CHANUKAH RECIPES

Bunuelos: Sephardic/Turkish Fritters
with Sweet Syrup (Serves 6)
2 russet potatoes, peeled, boiled, and mashed
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1/2 cup grated Parmesan or Romano cheese
1 cup matzo meal
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Olive oil for frying

For sugar syrup:
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup water
2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lemon juice

Allow the potatoes to cool slightly. Place them in a bowl with the eggs, cheese, matzo meal, salt, and pepper. Stir the ingredients until smooth.
In a large, deep sauté pan, heat 1/2 inch of olive oil till hot but not smoking. Drop 2 tablespoons of batter at a time into the hot oil, and fry on all sides until golden brown. Place on a baking sheet lined with brown paper. While still hot drizzle Bunuelos with the sugar syrup (recipe follows), honey, or cinnamon-sugar. Serve at once.
Place the sugar, water, and lemon juice in a saucepan and bring to a boil. Stir to dissolve the sugar. Turn the heat to low and simmer for 15 minutes.

Traditional Latkes

1 pound potatoes
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
1 large egg, lightly beaten
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 to 3/4 cup olive oil
Accompaniments: sour cream and apple sauce



Delicious latkes

Preheat oven to 250°F.
Peel potatoes and coarsely grate by hand, transferring to a large bowl of cold water as grated. Soak potatoes 1 to 2 minutes after last batch is added to water then drain well in a colander.
Spread grated potatoes and onion on a kitchen towel and roll up jelly-roll style. Twist towel tightly to wring out as much liquid as possible.
Transfer potato mixture to a bowl and stir in egg and salt.
Heat 1/4 cup oil in a 12-inch nonstick skillet over moderately high heat until hot but not smoking. Spoon 2 tablespoons of potato mixture per latke into the skillet, spreading into 3-inch rounds with a fork, working 4 latkes at a time. Reduce heat to moderate and cook until under-

sides are browned, about 5 minutes. Turn latkes over and cook until undersides are browned, about 5 minutes more. Transfer to paper towels to drain and season with salt. Add more oil to skillet as needed. Keep latkes warm on a wire rack set in a shallow baking pan in oven.

Sufganiyot (Israeli Donuts) — A Recipe to make with children

Ingredients
1 scant tablespoon (1 package) dry yeast
4 tablespoons sugar
3/4 cup lukewarm milk or warm water*
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
2 eggs, separated
2 tablespoons (1/4 stick) butter or pareve margarine, softened*
Apricot or strawberry preserves
Sugar
Vegetable oil for deep-frying
*Use butter and milk if serving at a milk meal, and water and pareve margarine for a meat meal
Equipment
Measuring spoons
Measuring cups
Mixing bowls
Spoon
Sifter
Clean dish towel
Rolling pin
Juice glass
Deep fryer or heavy pot
Slotted spoon
Paper towels
Tiny spoon
Preparation with your children
Child: Mix together the yeast, 2 tablespoons of the sugar, and the milk. Let sit to make sure it bubbles.
Child: Sift the flour and mix it with the remaining sugar, salt, cinnamon, egg yolks, and the yeast mixture.
Adult with Child: Knead the dough until it forms a ball. Add the butter or margarine. Knead some more, until the butter is well absorbed. Cover with a towel and let rise overnight in the refrigerator.
Adult: Roll out the dough to a thickness of 1/8 inch.
Child: Cut out the dough into 24 rounds with a juice glass, or any object about 2 inches in diameter. Take 1/2 teaspoon of preserves and place in center of 12 rounds. Top with the other 12. Press down at edges, sealing with egg whites. Crimping with the thumb and second finger is best. Let rise for about 30 minutes.
Adult: Heat 2 inches of oil to about 375°. Drop the doughnuts into the hot oil, about 5 at a time. Turn to brown on both sides. Drain on paper towels.
Child: Roll the doughnuts in sugar.



Children lighting the JEA menorah during Chanukah last year



An Evening with Richard Lewis



**Saturday
January 3rd, 2009**

- Tickets are free to those who are
 - either JEA members in good standing (limit of 2 tickets for family memberships) or
 - contributors to the 2009 Savannah Jewish Federation campaign (\$50 per person minimum contribution).
- You must be 18 or older to attend.
- Tickets will be available for pickup at the JEA during normal business hours beginning December 1, 2008. You may pick up tickets for your immediate family only. We are unable to take telephone RSVPs.
- Tickets are not transferable. If you find that you are not able to attend, please return your tickets to the JEA so that we may accommodate as many people as possible.
- Tickets must be picked up in advance of the performance. No tickets will be available at the door.



8:00 pm
Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn St.

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Jewish Film Festival Ready for the Opening Scene

By Benjamin Kweskin

Where can one go to see foreign films in Savannah, filmed in such exotic places as France, Britain, Ethiopia, Israel, and Philadelphia (maybe not so exotic) to name but a few? Where can one see films in Hebrew, Spanish, German, Amharic, Arabic, and French? The 2009 Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial Savannah Jewish Film Festival! The Festival, which will run from February 28 through March 7, 2009, will showcase approximately 12 to 15 films comprising a variety of documentaries,



touching dramas, and several comedies.

Steered by co-chairs Beth Vantosh and Miriam Hodesh, the Festival's dedicated and diligent volunteer com-

mittee — Lynn Berkowitz, Robyn Joffe, Anita Karnibad, and Karen McGuffin — has been navigating its way through uncharted territory, pouring much time and energy into making this Film Festival the best one yet! Much like modeling, as these women will attest, screening and judging dozens of movies is just not as easy as it looks. If they look a little bleary-eyed the next time you see them, it's understandable.

This year's Festival will open with *Praying with Lior*, a documentary that has received Best Picture and Audience

Favorite Awards at numerous Jewish Film Festivals throughout the US. It is the poignant story of a boy with Down syndrome who loves the action of prayer and of the struggles and commitment of his family and Day School to prepare him for his bar mitzvah. Also to be featured is *Strang-*

ers, a Sundance Film Festival favorite. With political and religious undertones, this story is about an Israeli man and Palestinian woman who accidentally meet in Berlin against the back-

drop of the World Cup and (spoiler alert) — fall in love. *Sixty-Six*, a comedy starring Helena Bonham Carter, is about a Bar Mitzvah boy in 1966 whose family is seemingly concerned with everything but his big day becoming a man, whether it's their failing busi-



Scene from *Praying with Lior*

ness, their other son, or the World Cup which has taken Britain by storm as the national team has qualified.

Among the other noteworthy films to be screened at varied venues throughout Savannah is *Black over White*, a documentary about the two Ethiopian members of the famous Israeli music group the Idan Raichel Project and the band's performance in Ethiopia. Ladies, join us for tea when we screen *Powder* and the *Glory*, the story of Helena Rubenstein and Elizabeth Arden, two American Jewish entrepreneurs who became the founding mothers of the modern health and beauty industry. These original 'mavericks' rebelled against the male establishment and are truly an inspir-



ing rags-to-riches story. First Basket recollects and documents the Jewish men who were the original stars of the hardwood — that is, the basketball court!

Sponsorships Available

Corporate or individual sponsorships are available: Producer's Circle (\$360) includes four Full Festival passes, name and/or logo in sponsorship video; listing in program and all printed promotional materials; Director's Circle level (\$180) includes two Full Festival passes; listing in program and all printed promotional materials. If you're interested in becoming a Festival sponsor, please contact Benjamin Kweskin at 355.8111 or ben@savj.org.

More movies and festival fun are being planned, but we can't divulge all of our secrets just yet! Ticket sales information and the full schedule will be in the mail soon, so keep a close eye on your mailbox! Also look for additional information in the E-news, on www.savj.org, and in the next issue of the Savannah Jewish News. See you at the movies; we've already started popping the popcorn!

Jewish Communities United in Israel

From Linda Zoller

It was a hectic 3 days at the United Jewish Communities General Assembly, November 16-18, packed with speakers, break out sessions, visits to UJC programs, fabulous Israeli entertainment and over 4,000 Jews from the U.S. and Canada. It's always a

whirlwind, but even more so this year because of its location in the heart of Jerusalem. If there was an over-riding theme, it had to be outreach to the next generation. The meeting brought together over 900 young North Americans from various programs in Israel and the United States. I was amazed at how many American youth spend a year in Israel between high school and college and at what a spirited group they are. The message to me was that we are on the right track here in Savannah with our efforts to reach out to our next generation.

Speakers were the best of the best. Prime Minister Ehud Olmert spoke on Iran's nuclear ambitions and called for a U.S.-led coalition to push economic

sanctions on Iran and increase its "isolation." Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Israel's future lies in developing alternative energy sources such as solar power and water desalination to help the Jewish State and the world become independent from the uses of petroleum. Bank of Israel Governor Stanley Fischer addressed the global economic downturn and Israel's stake in the crisis, saying Israel remains well-positioned to counter economic challenges. Israel's economy is not as vulnerable to the housing crisis hitting the United States, in part because banks remained more conservative about lending practices and because the government has produced a budget surplus and narrowed the trade gap between imports and exports.



Your Campaign Dollars at Work — Newly-elected UGA TEP President and active Hillel member Jonathan Arogeti of Atlanta, seen here with SJF Director Lynn Levine, dropped by last week to fill us in on some of their activities, including Dawgs for Israel

The entertainment ranged from classical to folk, was performed by young Israeli artists, and had all of us on our feet demanding more. From the violin prodigies, to the twin brothers playing dueling clarinets, to the Ethiopian children's folk dances, to the female chorus, we couldn't get enough. Israel amazed us for three days with its wealth of talent, intellect, spirit, and hope and inspired us to continue the work we do at home.

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 9:30-6:00
Sun. 12:30-5:00

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Time to Order Mah Jongg Cards!

Attention Mah Jongg Players! It's time to order your 2009 Mah Jongg cards. The standard card is \$7.00; the large card is \$8.00. The deadline for placing orders is February 2, 2009. Make checks payable to the AA Sisterhood and send to:

Betty Lasky
402 Wheeler St
Savannah, GA 31405



Jewish Family Services..... cont. from page 1
for: Child care, utilities, car payments, necessary household furniture (such as beds), car repairs, gasoline, vehicle registration, moving expenses, medical-dental expenses, and health insurance. And as winter approaches, utilities increase and so do requests for assistance. A recent article I read lamented about how individuals who were one time donors now need to access the same agencies and services that they were, until just recently, helping to support.

The financial crisis now impacting the United States has many charitable organizations worried about how they are going to manage their finances, raise money, and keep up with the growing demand for services. And of course, it is not only JFS that is impacted during these difficult times: Food-banks, services for the homeless, drug and alcohol treatment programs, domestic abuse centers, Veterans organizations as well as many other community response programs are all affected.

But the effect of the economy on these other organizations even further impacts JFS. Community resources that JFS has historically been able to depend on to collaboratively and collaterally help clients, have less to offer. Therefore, many times, Jewish Family Services must pick up where these agencies leave off.

As the calendar year ends, please consider helping those who have (some just recently) become less fortunate than many of us through your donations to the Savannah Jewish Federation and Jewish Family Services.

MYTHS AND FACTS

A Guide to the Arab – Israeli Conflict

By Mitchell G. Bard

MYTH

“The Arabs were willing to accept the internationalization of Jerusalem. The Jews opposed the idea. Because of their intransigence, Israel illegally occupies the entire city today.”

FACT

When the United Nations took up the Palestine question in 1947, it recommended that all of Jerusalem be internationalized. The Vatican and many predominantly Catholic delegations pushed for this status, but a key reason for the UN decision was the Soviet Bloc's desire to embarrass Transjordan's King Abdullah and his British patrons by denying Abdullah control of the city.

The Jewish Agency, after much soul-searching, agreed to accept internationalization in the hope that in the short-run it would protect the city from bloodshed and the new state from conflict. Since the partition resolution called for a referendum on the city's status after 10 years, and Jews comprised a substantial majority, the expectation was that the city would later be incorporated into Israel. The Arab states were as bitterly opposed to the internationalization of Jerusalem as they were to the rest of the partition plan.

In May 1948, Jordan invaded and occupied East Jerusalem, dividing the city for the first time in its history, and driving thousands of Jews — whose families had lived in the city for centuries — into exile. The UN partition plan, including its proposal that Jerusalem be internationalized, had been overtaken by events.

After the Arab states' rejection of UN Resolution 181 and, on December 11, 1948, UN Resolution 194, establishing the UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion declared that Israel would no longer accept the internationalization of Jerusalem.

From 1948-67, the city was divided between Israel and Jordan. Israel made western Jerusalem its capital; Jordan occupied the eastern section. Because Jordan — like all the Arab states at the time — maintained a state of war with Israel, the city became, in essence, two armed camps, replete with concrete walls and bunkers, barbed-wire fences, minefields and other military fortifications.

In 1967, Jordan ignored Israeli pleas to stay out of the Six-Day War and attacked the western part of the city. The Jordanians were routed by Israeli forces and driven out of East Jerusalem, allowing the city's unity to be restored. Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem's mayor for 28 years, called the reunification of the city "the practical realization of the Zionist movement's goals."

Because Israel was defending itself from aggression in the 1948 and 1967 wars, international legal scholar Steven Schwebel wrote, it has a better claim to sovereignty over Jerusalem than its Arab neighbors.

Myths and Facts is brought to you as a service of the
Community Relations Council of the Savannah Jewish Federation.

The Name's The Same

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The first three people to drop off this puzzle at the JEA properly completed will each win a free massage!

ACROSS

3 Incoming JEA Prez
6 JEA Masseur of old
7 JEA 1st, 15th, 25th, 37th & SJF 5th, 19th
9 Held at Civic Center annually
11 Jane Kahn's hangout
13 SJF 25th & JEA 13th
14 SJF 28th, 33rd & JEA 20th
15 SJF 9th & JEA 22nd
18 JEA 47th & SJF 29th
19 Incoming SJF Prez
20 Savannah's 1st Shaliach
21 JEA 16th & SJF 2nd, 8th, 13th
24 ____ Jewish Communities
25 JEA 29th, 41st, 49th
29 JEA 3rd, 6th, 9th
30 Jewish Young Group
31 SJF 11th & JEA 19th

DOWN

1 SJF 4th & JEA 21st
2 SJF 21st & 30th
3 Front desk fave
4 JEA 27th, 39th & SJF 15th & 23rd
5 The J in JCCA
8 Savannah's Jewish historian
10 SJF 34th & JEA 40th
12 Jewish Pugilist
16 CMI longest serving rabbi
17 SJF 3rd & JEA 4th
22 Great ____ Gala
23 JEA 31st, 36th & SJF 16th
25 JEA 26th, 42nd
26 JEA 23rd & SJF 6th, 24th
27 JEA 32nd, 43rd, 48th
28 JEA 33rd, 45th & JEA 14th

Thoughts from Rambam

Our Rambam students just experienced their Thrilling Thursday (the third week of every month our staff does a specialty with the students) instructed by the Judaic Staff. There were quite a few groups, all doing different things. We had a group learning how to make tzitzis, a group learning to juggle, students competed in the game Rumique, a group made mezuzah covers and the elementary classes made menorahs. The children love the fun and the interaction with their teachers. As well, they are really enjoying the variety of activities that have been presented to them.

November 11, was the memorial of Yitzchak Rabin. Our shaliach and good friend, Maia spoke with the middle school grades about Yitzchak Rabin; what he represented and his assassination. Maia engaged the students in a challenging conversation as to whether it was appropriate for Yigal Amir to murder Yitzchak Rabin because of his desire to give land to the Arabs. This decision would entitle them to live side by side with Jews. In the minds of many Jews, this treaty would be endangering their lives. The children worked their way through understanding and supporting that

while the Jews have a right to protect themselves from harm, the murder of an individual was not the appropriate action to take.

Maia spoke with the third and fourth grades about the elections in Israel and how everyone has a right to choose.

When you read this article, Thanksgiving would have come and gone. Rambam sponsors a lunch for k through 8th grade to be accompanied by two guests per family. It is our way of thanking our parents for entrusting Rambam with their most precious jewels. While Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to seize the opportunity to give thanks, Rambam students are well aware that in reality, every day is a blessing from the almighty and there is too much to be thankful for and only have one specific day to express it.

In the near future, the pre-school will be sponsoring a day where they too can bring guests and share some special Rambam time with someone important to them.



Ester Y. Rabhan,
Rambam Day
School Principal

From The Shalom School

Music and Dance form an integral part of the Judaic studies program at Shalom School, reinforcing and complementing the dynamic learning that goes on in the classroom.

I have always regarded synagogue music as an entry way for the Jewish soul to find the divine. To quote Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi (1745 - 1812): "Words are the pen of the heart; melody is the pen of the soul." And for us at Shalom School, we have the added blessing of having Julie Hirsch as our children's music teacher. Julie is a renowned Jewish educator, cantorial soloist and currently Para-Rabbi at Congregation Mickve Israel, who brings to our children the vibrant melodies of the synagogue, not only the "traditional" ones that we have all sung for many years, but also those coming from Israel, our cantorial schools, Jews in other lands, and the many contemporary musicians who now grace the Jewish scene in America.

Shalom School's music program complements our dynamic CHAI Curriculum, which has Avodah (Jewish worship) as one of its cornerstones. During each of our music classes, as Julie says, "We teach our children not just the words and the melodies but also the meanings of the words. As the children know, we must understand what it is we're singing and why these words are important to us as Jews and to how we live and act. They enjoy learning more than one melody for the same words, too; there isn't only one tune for them sung by every Jew around the world. In past years, we concentrated more on holidays and other varied music including personali-

ties, mitzvot, Hebrew alphabet and vocabulary, and Israel. This year we're concentrating on learning to sing prayers and songs of the Shabbat liturgy."

Moving on to Dance at Shalom School, we are particularly fortunate to have as our instructor, Maxine Patterson, a member of Congregation Agudath Achim and the director of the Maxine Patterson School of Dance here in Savannah. Maxine's dance programs have benefited the children of Savannah for more than 35 years and she is delighted with the addition to her repertoire of Israeli dancing at Shalom School, as well as with the special dance enrichment she has gleaned from her attendance at the summer conference of the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE). Our children at Shalom School really enjoy their dance classes, using it as a way to release some of their boundless weekend "energy." Maxine teaches dances/exercises to portray and celebrate the Jewish holidays as well as more traditional Israeli dances (circle and pattern dances to the tunes of Mayim, Od Y'Shamah, Niggun Atik and many others). Under Maxine's tutelage, our Shalom School students did stellar performances at last year's Israel @60 Festival in Forsyth Park as well as this fall's Jewish Food Festival.

You may be certain to see them again in the future.

L'Shalom.



Jules Kerness,
Shalom School
Principal

Do we nurture our students' minds, bodies, or souls?

Yes.

As a parent, you don't have to choose between providing your child with a strong academic background or a positive personal identity.

Rambam Day School strives for excellence through a well-rounded curriculum in both secular and Jewish studies. Our experienced faculty emphasizes mathematics, English, science, art, and social studies while enriching each child's education with Jewish history, laws and customs, language and values.



ATTEND OUR OPEN HOUSE!

Friday, December 19th or Friday, January 9th

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. • Grades 2 years – 8th grade

Please call the school office to schedule your open house appointment.

RDS
Rambam Day School

5111 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31405
(912) 352-7994 Fax: 352-1920
www.rambamdayschool.org

Campaign 2009

canes, when Federation's Jewish Family Services makes sure that our frail senior population is safe and properly situated.

Sometimes, it means "just" making sure that every Jew has the chance to be part of a Jewish community if they choose.

And the list goes on and on.

It all takes money. Or all it takes is money. Either way you look at it, with a single gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation, you can touch thousands

of lives. And every single gift will make a difference in peoples' lives, especially this year.

So if your telephone rings on Super Sunday, answer the call. It will be someone you know asking you to give for something you know and care about.

If you don't get a call, don't feel left out. Super Sunday is a large undertaking. You can take the opportunity to cut out the coupon on the back page of the paper and remember, Every Gift Matters.



Rhythm In Blue, the US Air Force Jazz Combo, plays to an afternoon full house at the JEA on Nov. 13



Gratefully We Thank Our Contributors

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Milton Towbin, Beezy Forstot and Morris
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SUPERSUNDAY Checklist:

- ☐ Change Channels
- ☐ Change Oil
- ☒ Change the World

On Sunday, December 7th, you can do more than just change channels or change your oil.

You can help change the world.

Funds raised by Super Sunday volunteers support humanitarian, social, and educational programs in Savannah, Israel, and around the world. The Federation Campaign is the lifeline of our local and worldwide Jewish community.

Answer One Call and You Can do it All!

Sunday, December 7, 2008

2009 Campaign of the
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\$ _____
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☐ Check Enclosed ☐ I wish to be billed ____ Quarterly ____ Semi-Annually ____ Annually
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Sunday, December 7

