

Shabbat and Holiday Candle Lighting Times

Friday, October 4	6:48 pm
Friday, October 11	6:40 pm
Friday, October 18	6:32 pm
Friday, October 25	6:24 pm
Friday, November 1	6:17 pm

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2014 Federation Campaign Leadership Begins Work

by Robin Reineri, Campaign Coordinator

Autumn has arrived and our annual campaign season begins. The 2014 Campaign Team has been assembled and is already hard at work getting this huge fundraising effort off to a successful start. We recognize the following leaders and thank them for their commitment to our Federation and entire Jewish community.



Allan Ratner
Chair, 2014
Savannah Jewish
Federation Campaign

Having served as Men's Division Co-Chair for the 2013 Campaign, Allan graciously returns this year as General Chair of the Campaign. "It is my hope that we can come together to support the common goals we have as Jews. Through the Federation Campaign we support Jewish education, individuals and families in need in our community, as well as Israel and overseas charities." A New Yorker by birth, Allan has called Savannah home

for more than 51 years. He and his wife, Arlene, both work tirelessly for the Jewish community because they believe in its significance for their family and for all Jewish families.



Joel Greenberg
2014 Men's Division
Co-Chair

Back in the saddle after a hiatus of a few years, Joel is no stranger to Campaign, with experience as a former Men's Chair and General Campaign Chairman and SJF President. "Though the last few years have been turbulent for the community, and we are faced with changing demographics and priorities, the needs of our local Jewish community for support of social services, community activities, Jewish culture and all types of educational services remain, and have actually been increasing. Similarly, the needs of Jews around the world and those coming to Israel continue to require our attention. We hope that

every Jew realizes that helping ANY Jew actually helps EVERY Jew and will recognize their unique opportunity to help our Federation support every Jew."



Harvey Lebos
2014 Men's Division
Co-Chair

A campaign veteran, Harvey joins forces with Joel this year with plans to lead to the Men's Division to an all-time high. Harvey and his family have had strong ties to the Jewish Federation and this community for 39 years. His investment in the Federation is of primary importance to him, as the many programs it supports have influenced the lives of his wife, children and grandchildren. In addition to his tireless campaign work, his service to the Savannah Jewish community includes many years on the boards of The Savannah Jewish Federation and Congregation Mickve Israel.

continued on page 4

Jewish Food Festival Celebrates 25 Years

by Jane Kahn

Blintzes and latkes on rye. Oh, my! Make that corned beef on rye. With mustard. And a pickle. It's coming this month to Savannah!

The 25th annual Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival, sponsored by Congregation Mickve Israel, will be held from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, October 27 in Forsyth Park.

This year's festival will showcase ethnic Jewish delicacies, including

the always popular and inclusive deli booth, and booths with chopped liver, stuffed cabbage, matzo ball soup, Sephardic lamb, beef brisket, stuffed cabbage, cholent, various Israeli dishes, and, of course cakes and Sisterhood sweets. And dog biscuits!

The holiday booth will offer the broader Savannah community a chance to experience Jewish cuisine, the food traditions of the holidays, including Challah, Hamantaschen, honey cake, sugar cookies, apples and honey. Once again the Sisterhood will present its popular Baubles Booth.

Throughout the day will be continuous entertainment by the Savannah Philharmonic Orchestra trio and by the Velvet Caravan Klezmer group playing Gypsy Swing, both sponsored by Morningstar Cultural Arts Group.

It's grown so big and so popular in its 25 years that the Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival has become community-wide anticipated, community-wide supported and community-wide volunteered, attracting out-of-towners as a destination event.



Preparing for the rush at the Chopped Liver booth at the 2012 Jewish Food Festival

Last year, the Shalom Y'all Food Festival was awarded Connect Savannah's "Best of Savannah" food festival winner. Upwards of 10,000 noshers converge on the event each year. It is believed to be the largest food festival of its kind in the country.

It started 25 years ago as simply the Jewish Food Festival, brought here from New Orleans by Joan Levy when she moved back to Savannah. It was held in historic Monterey Square,

continued on page 7



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Stories

It is a somewhat challenging task to follow past presidents of the Savannah Jewish Federation in using this space to communicate with you. I will do my best to make it worthy of your time.

First, an introduction. While I have lived in Savannah for a while (numbers really don't count, right?), I think everyone should know a little bit about me. So, a short biography... and maybe you will spot something that we have in common.

I was born in Waycross, Georgia. My father, Marvin, was born in New York City and my mother, Geraldine, in Gordon, Georgia. They met during WWII in Augusta (a great story, ask my mother if you see her — she moved here a few years ago). I lived in a small town Jewish community (like fellow South Georgians such as Leon Aronson (Adel), Jerald and Carole Cohen (Alma), Alex Gilmore (Black-shear) and my good friend, Paul Kulbersh (Tifton) as well as many other fine people. I have one sister, Caryl, who is an attorney in Atlanta. My Bar Mitzvah was at the Waycross Hebrew Congregation (yes, Waycross actually had a synagogue). I graduated from the University of Georgia, both undergraduate and law school.

"I urge everyone to look for the internals, to find that commonality among us and allow that to flourish and grow step by small step. It is that commonality which is the thread and fabric that will knit together our community for a bright future."

I met Sally Konter at UGA (another great story, ask her) and we were married here at Bnai Brith Jacob in 1974. I am the proud, very proud, father of two sons, Greg and Matt, and, thanks to them, now two daughters, Susan and Karina. I've practiced law in Savannah since 1975 and work every day with wonderful people and attorneys such as Aron Weiner, Harvey Weitz, Edwin Byck and Bill Glass. But the best job I ever had? I was a radio announcer in Waycross! (There are days on the way home from work I wish I was still there.) The best decision I ever made? Very simple, marrying Sally!

Becoming president of the Federation is an honor. It is a privilege to be able to volunteer in our Jewish community and work to make our community one of which we all can be proud. Having been president of the JEA in the past (again, numbers don't count), I have learned volumes watching and listening to people of all ages

and backgrounds with varied opinions and ideas. But of everything I have absorbed in these years, one point stands out. That is, every person in our Jewish community has value, every person is important; every person is both a reflection of the past and the key to the future. Certainly, leadership in any organization has its share of policies, rules, challenges, personalities and surprises. But people are the bricks that hold a community together and that will always stay in the forefront of my mind as I undertake these responsibilities.

This column is entitled "Stories" because I believe that the stories of our lives (the true ones) are not only illustrative of the individuals we are, but also of the experiences we all share. It is interesting that for the food we buy, we can look at labels and determine where it came from, what it is made of and who made it in order to determine if we want to buy the product or not. But, as people, we often make decisions on what we see or what we hear without really knowing the "ingredients" of a person. If we all actually compared notes, we would find sports teams, or recipes, or movies, or aggravating traffic lights, or a host of other day to day occurrences where our humor, perspectives and reactions are all the same and that all of us can relate to. Common stories.

We are fortunate to have a Jewish community with so many advantages: Three vibrant congregations. An active community center. Jewish education and experiences for children through adults. Opportunities for Jewish culture. A continuing commitment to Israel. Organizations that reinforce our Judaic backgrounds in many different ways. We have all the external structure that has always served us well. I urge everyone to look for the internals, to find that commonality among us and allow that to flourish and grow step by small step. It is that commonality which is the thread and fabric that will knit together our community for a bright future.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Governors, I thank you for your support of the Savannah Jewish Federation and wish each and every one of you good health in the coming year. I look forward to sharing this space with you and our common goals and stories.



Steve Greenberg,
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Just an Expression?

Last month I wrote about the story of the "Returned iPad." I was amazed at how many people asked me, "Did that really happen?" My (truthful) response was "Of course... you can't make this stuff up."

It was on the very same trip to Atlanta when the three of us (Sarah, Aaron and I) got in the car in search of breakfast. We went by the Flying Biscuit Café — the line was out the door. We went to Rise-N-Dine — same story. As many of us do, we consulted an online directory to find a place that was somewhat near where we were. Our iPhone informed us that The Silver Skillet was a "classic Southern experience with great grits and fresh, hot biscuits." It sounded like just what we were looking for. We arrived to find a small line and an agreeable hostess: "Honey, we'll be able to seat y'all in just a moment."

"We spoke quietly about what we had heard. It would have been easy to let it go... But we could not do that... maybe this was an opportunity to change."

True to her word, we were seated in less than five minutes at a weathered Formica table. The walls were festooned with yellowed clippings of newspaper reviews, an ancient photo of Elvis, a plaque from the TV show *Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives* and dozens of hand-lettered signs featuring "down home Southern witticisms." Waitresses, who looked like they had been working at The Silver Skillet since 1969, made their way through the crowded restaurant as if in a choreographed dance, each balancing a line of plates up one arm with a basket of biscuits in the other hand.

After perusing the menu for five minutes, "Doris" approached our table, with three coffee cups in one hand and a pot of coffee in the other. "Y'all havin' coffee?" Sarah and I were happy to get some hot coffee. Our son, Aaron, with the proper upbringing said, "No thank you, Ma'am, I'd like a cup of chocolate milk." Without a moment of hesitation, Doris responded,

"Honey, y'all don't want to get Jewed by ordering a cup of chocolate milk; you want a glass of chocolate milk."

Our eyes opened wide, mouths fell open, and we knowingly looked at each other. We quickly placed our order and the second that Doris left our table, we all started talking at the same time.

"Did she really say that?"

"I can't believe what I heard."

We quietly spoke about what we had heard. It would have been easy to let it go, assuming that Doris meant no harm. It would have been simpler to assume that the woman was just ignorant and just didn't know better. It would have saved a lot of time and effort to just eat our breakfast and leave.

But we could not do that.

The word "Jew," used pejoratively means to be cheap, stingy and a cheater. The use of the word as a verb is a stereotype, born of ignorance, bigotry, and insensitivity.

When we finished our meal, we asked Doris if we could have a word with her. We suspected that she was not a bigot, someone who used words consciously and with intended malice. We asked her, "Do you realize that using the word 'Jew' as you did is offensive? Do you realize that it is a hateful stereotype about an entire group of people?"

Her response was what we expected, "Why honey, I didn't mean anything. I've been sayin' it my whole life; it's just an expression."

We briefly explained that what she said was hurtful to us and to others. It has no place in anyone's vocabulary. While we understood that she had been using the 'expression' her entire life, maybe this was an opportunity to change.

While we didn't think that Doris had an epiphany from our brief conversation, we hoped that it was a learning experience for her.

I know that we learned a lot.



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

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Campaign Leadership.....from pg 1



Bunny Cohen
2014 Women's Division
Co-Chair

Bunny has lived in Savannah all of her life and comes from a family that firmly believes in giving back to the community. Active in BBYO as a teenager, she was local chapter President and a regional officer of B'nai B'rith Girls as well as President of United Synagogue Youth (USY). As an adult, she has served as Mickve Israel Sisterhood President and board member, Congregation Agudath Achim Secretary and board member, Savannah Jewish Federation board member, Hadassah board member and officer, and was instrumental in creating the DOR L' DOR project, which includes the book DOR L' DOR – Generation to Generation; Savannah's Jewish Community 1733- , and the montage of archival pictures on the walls of the JEA. Bunny's lifetime of volunteerism and leadership has continued through the generations. Today, all

of her children and grandchildren are active in their communities. She asks everyone, "if we don't care for our fellow man, who will?" and shares this thought from Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? When I am for myself, what am I? If not now, when?" Bunny tells us: "It is my privilege and honor to serve as Co-Chair of the Women's Division of the Savannah Jewish Federation."



Nancy Rosenthal
2014 Women's Division
Co-Chair

Not only was Nancy born and raised in Savannah, she spent her childhood at the JEA and met her husband, Sanford (Sandy) at the JEA. Her adult involvement in Federation programs includes leading many JEA children's groups over the years, being very involved in the Anne Frank Exhibit and being a host to a Russian immigrant family, both back in the 80's. She is a past JEA board member, past chair

of the Yom Hashoah observance, and past member of the JEA Renovation Committee. She has worked for the Federation's Annual Campaign off and on for 30 years, and does it because of her childhood here. Nancy recognized then that the adults worked hard and gave so much funding to the Federation so that the children and families would have good programs and services. "It's been here forever and I want it to continue."



Steve Greenberg,
SJF President

Steve Greenberg, SJF President, shares his thoughts on the upcoming campaign: "The Savannah Jewish Federation campaign is truly a symbol of our community. It is a symbol of commitment to the community of all the people who volunteer their time and energy to create a successful campaign. It is also a symbol of our commitment to each other, to support each other, and partner with every organization that benefits from Federation funds. Together, we really

can and will make a difference in Jewish life."

This year's Main Event campaign kickoff dinner will be held at 7pm on Thursday, November 14th, and will feature keynote speaker Susan Jackson, Women's Philanthropy Director at UJA in Toronto. This event is open to the Savannah community; reservation information is available online at www.savj.org or by calling 912-355-8111.

As our campaign leaders and workers begin their outreach to you, the members of our Jewish community, please welcome their calls and make your generous pledge to support your Federation and its many programs and beneficiary agencies. Do it for today's Jews and tomorrow's Jews. To borrow a line from the first page of DOR L'DOR, "May the Savannah Jewish Community continue with pride from generation to generation."



Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

As an individual who has followed history and politics, as well as ethnic dynamics, since the 1950's, the "conflicts" or situations in the Middle East have been a source of significant interest. Also, as one of the Jewish faith I have been exposed to additional facts and factors.

However, during that entire era I have not encountered a factual commentary similar to *PEACE THROUGH PROFITS: Inside the partnership that may save the Middle East*, Forbes, August 12, 2013. (The complete text may be accessed on FORBES.COM.)

A very brief summary of the thesis of the lengthy commentary is the

revelation of an extensive interaction between citizens of both areas in high-tech enterprises, investments and other activities. There is total acknowledgment the "private-sector effort is not about charity." Israel has become "a high-tech juggernaut...." and Palestinians "are simply being sensible-taking advantage of being next door to one of the world's top high-tech countries." The interaction, cooperation and scope of the respective financial development are fantastic. Major participants, such as, Cisco, Intel and Google, as well as George Soros are involved.

Another significant development is, "Israel's ultra-orthodox ...are jumping

in... Intel takes great pains to work with the sect's rabbis to ensure traditions are respected, notably segregating *haredi* women...." These excerpts should invite further review of the content.

The significant aspect of this disclosure is why such cooperation and mutual benefit of two populations are avoided. All we hear about is the prominent political and ethnic conflict when there is this underlying resource which could lead to a settlement in that part of the world. We all know from our experience the most effective resource to reduce, if not eliminate, society's tensions is economic development.

Stanley Harris

Crohn's & IBD Event at JEA

The Savannah Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America is pleased to announce that Dr. Mark Murphy, Founding Physician of Savannah's Center for Liver and Digestive Health, and Mr. Peter Brodhead, Founder of Brighter Day Natural Foods Market, will be the featured speakers at this year's Annual CCFA Patient Education Program, Tuesday, October 8th. The event, free and open to the public, will be held at the JEA from 6-8pm.

Dr. Murphy and Mr. Brodhead will share exciting information about the latest Crohn's and Colitis research

and treatments including alternative and complementary treatments, managing symptoms with diet and herbal supplements, pain management, and more.

The announced topics for the event are:

"Food for Thought: Diet, Nutrition & Herbal Supplements for Crohn's & Colitis"; Presented by Peter Brodhead;

"Joint Pain, Fatigue and Other Conditions Associated with IBD"; Presented by Dr. Mark Murphy;

"Quality Care in IBD: What Your Doctor Should Be Doing For You"; Presented by Dr. Mark Nyce (The Center for Digestive and Liver Health).

Light appetizers, snacks and beverages will be served. Advance registration for this free event would be appreciated. Go to: <http://www.ccfa.org/chapters/georgia/events/savannah-patient-education.html>.

If you have Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis, or if you care about someone who does, CCFA invites you to join them for this special event.

For more information, call Mary Esna-Ashari at 404-982-0616.

Savannah Jewish News

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SJF Vice President: **Allan Ratner**
SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Margie Levy**
SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**
SJN Editor: **Lynn Levine**

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

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 3rd of the month before publication. There are no February or August issues. All articles for the Winter and Summer issues should be submitted by December 8th or June 8th, respectively.

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

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

Please send eNews submissions to:
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Four Questions for the Rest of the Year

Tom Glaser

Tom Glaser retired last month as president of the Southeast Region of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce (AICC), a position he held since the AICC's founding in 1992 after a trip to Russia. AICC is a private, not-for-profit association focused on increasing economic development by fostering understanding, cooperation, and business relationships between Israel and the Southeastern United States. AICC is supported by more than 500 business and individual members, Jewish Federations and economic development organizations in the region and Israel. Under Glaser's leadership, AICC has been involved in completed transactions between U.S. and Israeli companies valued at more than \$1 billion. These relationships resulted in thousands of jobs and powerful economic impact in the Southeastern U.S. and in Israel. In 2006, Glaser also became the Southeast representative for BIRD—the US-Israel Binational Industrial Research & Development Foundation. BIRD supports joint venture R&D projects between US and Israeli companies through a joint endowment made by the two governments and repayments from successful projects. Previously, Glaser was an administrative vice president for the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce and president of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce. A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, he and his wife Connie, an author and lecturer, live in

the Sandy Springs area of Atlanta.

You showed great foresight to understand the impact Russian emigration to Israel would have on the country's technological and economical future. What made you so confident about pairing that future with partners in the southeastern U.S.?

At the time (1991), I just believed that there was a huge need in Israel, and as the Southeast was the fastest growing region in the United States, I intuitively felt we could make good matches in a variety of fields including Agriculture, Telecommunications, Defense, and Aerospace among others. In retrospect, I was right, but it took a long time to develop the connections in our region and convince business decision makers that if it came from Israel, they needed to take a good look at the opportunity.

I'm sure you are aware that the Mayor of Savannah, Edna Jackson, has embarked on a number of initiatives to strengthen ties between the City of Savannah and Israel. As both a former Savannah Chamber of Commerce executive and as the past President of the Southeast Region of AICC, do you have some advice for her that you think would help her accomplish her goals in this mission?

Mayor Jackson is to be commended for her deep commitment to Israel and initiatives to strengthen the Savan-

nah economy through connectivity with the Jewish State. Israel is the "Start Up Nation" and the world's number one entrepreneurial innovation economy. As Savannah is now focusing more attention on start up creation than in the past, the local support network for Israeli companies can come into play. And major enterprises, such as the Port of Savannah, Gulfstream Aerospace, and the City itself can be attractive targets for Israeli technology companies with solutions for such enterprises. The mayor can help by opening the doors for Israeli companies to potential customers and partners in the community, and agencies such as SEDA can offer support to Israeli entrepreneurs.

As you look back on your years as President of the Southeast Region of AICC, is there a particular achievement that stands out in your memory of which you are especially proud or fond of talking about? Are there any lessons learned you care to share?

The most obvious is that I was involved in over \$1 billion in completed transactions that created many new jobs in Israel and the Southeast. But just as important are the ways we succeeded in legitimizing Israel to the



Opher Aviran, Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern United States, Tom Glaser and Connie Glaser at the AICC Eagle Star Awards Gala this past May where Glaser was honored for his years of service to the organization.

business community here and connected uninformed Jews with Israel in an entirely new way.

As you contemplate retirement, do you have any special plans for the future?

I started my Chamber professional career in Savannah, and have felt special about the community for almost 35 years. While we will be spending more time at our place in the north Georgia mountains, Connie and I are also thinking of reestablishing a second base in the Savannah area for our retirement years.

Don't Forget! Donations for Operation Isaiah Food Drive will be accepted until October 6th!

Help restock the shelves of Second Harvest Food Bank.

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

Local Girls Experience Jewish Camping

The Savannah Jewish Federation provided Grace and Lily Warmkessel, members of Congregation Mickve Israel and students at Shalom School, with a grant towards their tuition to attend URJ Camp Coleman this past summer.

Grace, age 11 ½, attends Coastal Middle School; she enjoyed her first one-month session at sleep-away camp in Coleman's Solelim unit. "I loved meeting Jewish counselors from Israel and the U.K. They taught me Israeli dancing and songs and made me want to travel to Israel. They were SO much fun! It was amazing to be among ALL Jewish people. I felt like a part of something bigger than me."

She continues to gush: "Shabbat at camp was really cool. Everyone came together as one big Kehila, dressed in white. We walked through the

woods singing, dancing and carrying our best friend, the Torah. The new music I learned really moved me deeply."

Grace said she learned much about herself and how to live away from home with others. She feels her new Coleman friends are like a second family.

Younger sister, Lily Rose, age 9, was more hesitant about her first two-week session at URJ Camp Coleman, but was surprised how quickly she adjusted to being away from home. "My counselors were really awesome. They were helpful, friendly and made everything we did a lot of fun. At first, I felt it would be hard to make friends, but once I got to camp I made friends after only a few minutes. In a few days, it felt like I knew everyone for a long time! This was the first

time I have ever had a big group of Jewish girlfriends. Living together for a few weeks at camp makes closer, better friendships than I have made at school."

Both girls enjoyed their final week at URJ Camp Coleman when Mickve Israel's own Rabbi Robert Haas joined them in the mountains. Lily's favorite moment with Rabbi Haas was during Super Sloppy Night when Rabbi participated in the field fight with shaving cream; he made sure Lily was covered from head to toe!

Grace and Lily hope to go back again next summer, and someday become counselors at Camp Coleman. Their mother, Gillian Warmkessel, appreciates the opportunity they were afforded: "Thank you to the Savannah Jewish Federation for helping to send them to URJ Camp Coleman. Camp gave them a stronger sense of their Jewish identity and the gift of their own wings."



Grace & Lily Rose Warmkessel, dressed in white, ready to greet the Shabbat at Camp Coleman

Grace and Lily Rose Warmkessel enjoyed URJ Camp Coleman this past summer with the assistance of a Jewish Youth Summer Experience grant from the Savannah Jewish Federation. They are the children of Gillian and Jeffrey Warmkessel of Savannah. For more information on Jewish camping, see the website of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, www.jewishcamp.org.

JEA Programs Center on History This Month

by Jennifer Rich

Genealogy is very popular these days. With websites such as Ancestry.com and Myfamily.com you can easily enter your name and a little data and almost instantly see leaves pop up on your family tree. Beneath the leaves of your family tree lie the true treasure; stories of your family history. The stories, memories and heirlooms passed down from generation to generation are valuable pieces to the puzzle that is you.

As human beings we seem to have an innate need to know where we came from and as we explore, the history that reveals itself (warts and all) helps us feel more grounded, more whole. Bruce Feiler, in his New York Times article, *The Stories That Bind Us*, suggests: "The single most important thing you can do for your family may be the simplest of all: develop a strong family narrative."

On October 10th at 7pm, the JEA is proud to present the JEA Journeys event, **Why Your Family History Matters** with author and speaker Marcia Fine. Marcia (the mother of our own Jessica Lebos) has a Masters degree in English Education

and a Certificate of Concentration in Women's Studies from Florida State University. As a young woman, she was fascinated by the stories her grandmother shared about her life in Poland before she immigrated to the United States. Marcia diligently recorded these stories and before her grandmother passed away, Marcia received dozens of onionskin letters that were written by her grandmother's relatives still living in Poland before and after World War II.

After writing two satires, Marcia revisited her grandmother's letters and was inspired to write her third novel, *Paper Children: An Immigrant's Legacy*. Through translations and personal recollections Marcia crafted a powerful immigrant's story of determination and passion. Join Marcia Fine as she leads you on a fascinating exploration of family history and learn why your family history matters.

From your personal family history, we transition to looking at our collective Jewish history as seen through the lens of the camera. On October 30th at 7:00 pm we present **Jews on Screen: Treasures from The National Center for Jewish Film**. This special film event, hosted by Sharon Pucker Rivo,

Executive Director of the National Center for Jewish Film, will give you a peek into the archive vaults to view clips of rare films from the National Center's collections, including: *Ghetto Fish Market* 1903, *Cohen's Advertising Scheme* 1904, home movies of pre-war Jewish communities, German-made Nazi propaganda, Yiddish feature film classics, and Harry Truman toasting Eddie Cantor at an Israeli Bonds dinner in 1957.

Sharon Pucker Rivo, also co-founder of the National Center for Jewish Film, is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Department at Brandeis University, where she teaches courses on "Jewish Film" and "Film and the Holocaust." Educated at Brandeis, Rivo also has a graduate degree in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley. She began her career in television at WGBH-TV, the noted Boston public TV station, where she became an award-winning film producer. She has worked in the field of film archiving and Jewish film for over thirty years. Join us as she shares her knowledge and enthusiasm for the history of Jewish film with us. This special evening is made possible by the Savannah Jewish Film Festival.



Marcia Fine



Sharon Pucker Rivo

JEA Journeys: Why Your Family History Matters

Thursday, Oct. 10th, 7:00 pm
Program & Dessert Reception
Price: \$10 per person
Member Value Price: \$8 per person
Please bring along 1 or 2 family heirlooms to discuss

Jews on Screen: Treasures from The National Center for Jewish Film

Wednesday, Oct. 30th, 7:00 pm
Price: \$10 per person
Member Value Price: \$8 per person

Popcorn, beer and sodas for sale

Beryl Bernstein—26 June 2001

Well, we lived on Perry Street there. They usually had the gangs there, but they weren't all over. I think they were just in certain areas. 'Course we had a maid. That was Margaret Street on the other side of Fahm, when you go around State Street, and you go across and you get to Fahm, the other side was called Margaret. We had a woman worked for us who lived in that area 'bout half a block from Fahm Street. When she came to work, I'd go outside to play, and the first thing, I was fighting with one of the fellows, and she come out and watch. If I was gettin' the best of him, she'd let me fight. Otherwise, she'd pull me in the house.



JOH 003, ORAL HISTORIES, #67



The Savannah Jewish Archives seeks an archival intern or volunteer to assist in creating oral histories, development of content for SJA's forthcoming website, and data entry. The unpaid internship offers opportunities for students to acquire skills and experience outside the traditional academic setting, and for volunteers to apply their experience to archival projects.

Ideal candidates include those with experience and/or interest in library and information science, history, public history, museum studies, or historic preservation.

To Apply:
Send cover letter and resume to:
Savannah Jewish Archives
501 Whitaker Street
Savannah, GA 31401
Email: rapkin@georgiahistory.com

Food Festival.....from pg 1

across the street from Mickve Israel, and its name soon became the Hard Lox Café. It gradually expanded to include the closing of Wayne Street.

The Hard Lox Cafe prospered, expanded its traditional Jewish menu and in 2000, with Carol Greenberg as its chair, relocated to Forsyth Park.

It was a short, two block move down Bull Street, but a giant step that dramatically impacted the event and the city. "It went from a congregational dinner and community convenience to a city-wide festival, one of Savannah's catalog of festivals that glorified an ethnic culture," Greenberg said. It began to offer more and better food, variety booths and live entertainment. When the international Hard Rock Café put a halt to the play on its trademarked name, the Savannah event was renamed the popular "Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival."

For the first few years, Dr. Barbara Bart was general chairman, and, from the beginning she was booth chairman for blintzes. This year Bart is passing the blintzes baton to Mires (Bubba) Rosenthal, teaching this long-time food festival volunteer how to set up and work the popular Jewish food table.

Bart was hard-put to estimate numbers at that first historic festival: "maybe 1,000, maybe 2,000. Way more than we expected. They filled the park." There were no tables to sit at—people just used the park benches. "We didn't know what we were doing. Start-up costs were tremendous." Bart said they had asked volunteers to bring their own cutting boards, but that was stopped short by an alert Health Department.

For many years, Marion Mendel and Libby Price were charged with preparing matzo ball soup, from an old family recipe. "We heated soup on stoves set up in Monterey Square, (on loan from the Savannah Gas Com-

pany). It was hot stuff," she laughed!

Now cooking sessions, which started in September with stuffed cabbage, will continue through October in the Mickve Israel kitchen under Health Department guidelines.

Savannah engineer Charlie VandenBulck, a food festival volunteer since its inception, recalls scrounging equipment—plywood, required to cover the city's sidewalks from hot cooking grease, was borrowed from a contractor contact at a nearby building site. Today, an advance committee of volunteers secures sponsorships from the community and the congregation now owns much of the equipment, kept in storage trailers during the year.

Congregation Mickve Israel member, the late Sylvan Byck, offered the use of refrigeration from his apartment rental business. Bart recalled ten refrigerators and freezers lined up in the social hall of the synagogue.

"It was a fund raiser from the get-go," Bart said. "Purely guessing, the festival may have cleared \$5,000 that first year. Originally, there were no sponsorships—today the festival depends on community support dollars.

"It's a lot of fun to see the energy in the congregation," Bart says. "When you work together on a volunteer project," not only is it a fund raiser, but it's a way to get to know people. "When you contribute in an organization, you become involved in congregational ownership," she said.

It's a community-wide endeavor. Ten people generally are involved in the planning, some 75 bake and cook at multiple events, and more than 200 volunteer on festival day.

Many of the booths feature the same faces year after year, a tribute to the commitment of the volunteers. Lauri Taylor, last year's chairman, said year after year the same volunteers have worked in the same jobs—from tickets to chopped liver to money-count-

ing. Those same faces, and hands, will be back again.

As it has since its move to Forsyth Park, the Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival will open and close with one long blast of the shofar, by Mickve Israel shofar blower, Herbert Victor.

"This is a major community event," said Mickve Israel President Toby Hollenberg. "We are appreciative of all who come out each year to enjoy and support it."

There is no entrance fee. Tickets for food purchase will be available at the Gaston Street entrance to Forsyth Park, with an additional ticket booth at the southern end of the Food Festival, (mid-park area near the playground.) Advance-sale discounted tickets are available. Contact Debbie Owen at 912 233-1547, ext. 303, or dowen@mickveisrael.org.

Shalom, Y'all!



Patrons enjoying the food and the always beautiful weather at the Festival

Get Energized for the 2014 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign

Solicitor Training
Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Choose to attend either a
Breakfast at 8:00 am
(location to be announced)

Or a
Dinner at 6:00 pm
At the JEA

Join us as we get fueled and revved for the campaign that sustains Savannah's Jewish life and commitments — Jewish Family Services, the JEA, Rambam Day School, Shalom School, BBYO, Hillel, Holocaust remembrance, Birthright Israel, our overseas partners the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee & the Jewish Agency for Israel, and so much more!

If you haven't been called yet and would like to join us in this vital mission, please call Robin at (912) 355-8111. Donate. Volunteer. Make a Difference.



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Savannah Jewish Federation

#1 *New York Times* bestseller

NICHOLAS SPARKS

returns with his most
unforgettable novel since
The Notebook

The Longest Ride

*The most difficult journeys
often take us where
we were meant to go*



PHOTOGRAPH ©EVA WROBIEC/ARCA/IMAGES PHOTO IMAGING BY ALAN AYERS

AN EVENING WITH NICHOLAS SPARKS

Nicholas Sparks will discuss
his new novel and main characters
Ruth and Ira Levinson.
Tuesday, October 8th at 6 pm
Trustees Theater
216 E. Broughton St.
Tickets: \$10

To purchase tickets, contact the Savannah Box Office at
912-525-5050 or visit tickets.savannahboxoffice.com

Available in hardcover, audio, large print, and e-book formats

NicholasSparks.com

 GRAND CENTRAL
PUBLISHING
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Plan to be There

The Main Event Savannah Jewish Federation 2014 Annual Campaign

Thursday, November 14th
Jewish Educational Alliance
7:00 pm – Dinner

With keynote speaker
Susan Jackson
*Executive Philanthropic Officer
Toronto UJA Federation*



Susan Jackson is an experienced leader in community engagement and outreach for one of the largest Jewish communities in North America. As the Executive Director of the Centre for Jewish Knowledge and Heritage, she oversaw the Holocaust Centre of Toronto, The Jewish Public Library, The Ontario Jewish Archives, The Centre for Yiddish, Jewish Information Services of Toronto, and the United Restitution Service, as well as many other educational and outreach programs. She is much in demand as a speaker throughout the U.S. and Canada for her knowledge of Israel, volunteerism, the Holocaust, and Jewish continuity, engagement and identity.

Watch your mail for your invitation!



Savannah Jewish Federation

5111 Abercorn Street | Savannah, GA 31405 | 912-355-8111



The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide:



CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance

October 2013



Children's Programming

Jewish Educational Alliance's DAYS @ THE JEA



Do you find it difficult to take days off of work when your child is out of school? The JEA offers year-round vacation programming for children Pre K – 8th grade. Your child will enjoy **Days at the JEA**, as they are packed with activities such as field trips, swimming, cooking, sports and crafts!

Upcoming Days!

October Days:

October 14th (Columbus Day)

November Days:

November 11th (Veteran's Day)

November 27th (Thanksgiving)

Days @ The JEA Prices: \$40.00 per day / \$180.00/week

Member Value Prices: \$30.00 per day / \$135 per week

Register in person, online at www.SavannahJEA.org, call us 355-8111, or e-mail DJ Horton at kids@savj.org

Jewish Educational Alliance's AFTER SCHOOL Enrichment Program

At the JEA, we believe that your child should have happy memories every day. We provide a foundation for their future, help shape their lives, and take part as your children grow and change.

At the JEA's After School program your Pre-K through 6th graders will participate in activities such as swimming, sports, homework help, daily snacks, cooking, fitness fun, art, and much more!

After School hours are Monday-Thursday 3:00-6:00 pm, Fridays 3:00-5:00 pm. We pick up from Garrison, Charles Ellis Elementary, and Jacob G. Smith Schools.



Aftercare Prices: \$18.00/day plus transportation
\$75.00/week plus transportation

Member Value Prices: \$12.00/day plus transportation
\$50.00/week plus transportation

Register in person at the JEA at 5111 Abercorn Street
Phone (912) 355-8111 E-mail DJ.Horton@savj.org

Mark Your Calendar

October 6

JEA Art Gallery Reception
Phyllis Tildes, 3:30 pm

October 8

Crohn's & Colitis Event, 6:00 pm

October 10

JEA Journeys: Why Your Family History Matters, 7:00 pm

October 20

JEA Great Gala
Moonlight & Martinis, 6:00 pm

October 30

Jews on Screen; Treasures from the National Center for Jewish Film, 7:00 pm

November 3

JEA Art Gallery Reception
Josh Yu, 3:00 pm

JEA Journeys:

Interactive Learning Series starts this month!

JEA Journeys: Why Your Family History Matters with Author and Speaker Marcia Fine

Thursday, October 10th, 7:00 pm
Program & Dessert Reception: \$10 per person
JEA Member Value Price: \$8 per person

Jews on Screen: Treasures from The National Center for Jewish Film with Sharon Pucker Rivo

Wednesday, October 30th, 7:00 pm
Price: \$10 per person
JEA Member Value Price: \$8 per person
Popcorn, Beer and Sodas for Sale

For more details on both programs, see article in
main body of the Savannah Jewish News.

Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street • Savannah, GA 31405 • 912-355-8111



Adult Programming



Bridge - Wednesdays 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Scrabble - Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Mah Jongg - Mondays 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Thursdays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm



JEA Mid-Week Garden Group - Wednesdays 9:00 am to 10:00 am
We meet twice monthly on alternate Wednesdays to tend our JEA gardens. Feel free to bring your own garden gloves, tools, hat and water. Some tools are available. Dates vary; call or email Carol for dates and current project lists. Contact Carol at MStarArts@gmail.com or 912-352-1238.



Lunch Bunch - Every Thursday 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
Join us for Thursday Lunch Bunch! Visit with old friends and meet new ones, enjoy lunch followed by an educational speaker or performer.



Community Garden
Love to garden, but just don't have the space? Be part of the JEA Garden Club and help work one of the 18 garden boxes at the new Midtown Miracle Community Garden, just three blocks north of the JEA. Excess produce and herbs will be donated to Second Harvest to aid them in their mission to feed 3600 to 6000 children daily. For more details, "like" **Midtown Miracle Community Garden** on Facebook or email Carol Greenberg MStarArts@gmail.com.

Turning Trash into Treasure



Justin Robertshaw
Facilities Director

Recently my wife and I visited yard sales just to see what was out there that we couldn't live without. My wife found a small entry table that had no finish, but was "distressed." ("Distressed" means that it has a lot of dings, nicks, chips and stains.) I liked the look of it, the price was right, so we bought it.

Once home I examined the table with an eye to refinishing it. I discovered it was a solid maple table and that made my eyes bug out. I really enjoy working with solid woods like maple. It looked like it just needed a quick sanding and a nice high-gloss finish to bring out the beauty of the wood grain.

Below are the steps I took to refinish my table. If you'd like to try refinishing your own piece of furniture, here's what to do:

The tools you'll need are:

- Extra fine steel wool
- 100 grit, 150 grit and 200 grit sand paper
- Three 16oz spray cans of high-clear gloss (I find Minwax works the best for me.)

Begin by sanding the table top with 100 grit sand paper. Be sure to get all surfaces, including the legs. This helps take off any heavy imperfections on the top surface of the wood.

Clean off the sanding dust to see how the surface looks and feels. The texture should feel like course fabric on an old parlor chair. Each person has their own ideas about what they're

looking for when sanding. Myself, I like almost all the bad items (nicks, cuts, etc.) taken off with the first round of sanding, but you should still be able to feel some texture.

Next use the 150 grit sandpaper. This will start to give the wood a smooth, but not too smooth, finish. At this point the texture should feel like a brand new couch fabric. Not the leathery kind.

Then use the 200 grit sand paper for a final sanding. I will sometimes use an "old school" woodworker's trick to make the grain of the wood get that very smooth-to-the-touch finish. Very lightly spray water on the surface, then sand right away to give your wood that extra edge of beauty.

Once your wood has the right look and feel, get the spray can of high-clear gloss and shake well for five minutes. This helps get all the particles mixed so when the material comes out of the can, it won't be blotchy. Please note: a little spray goes a long way.

Sand with extra fine steel wool between coats. Be sure each coat has had time to dry first. This will make each coat harder and shinier. Between sandings, use a dry cloth to help take off any sanding dust. I like to repeat this about four to six times. This really gives me that high gloss look. When finished, wait 48 hours before placing the piece in your home. This ensures the surface will dry completely.

For cleaning, use a dry cloth or furniture polish to keep it looking nice for years to come!

JEA Donations

(August 8, 2013-September 3, 2013)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy's anniversary
Nancie & Fred Clark
Sharon & Bill Sand
In memory of Anne Silberman
Nancie & Fred Clark

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy's anniversary
Jana & John Camerin
In memory of William Alpert
Beverly Alpern
In honor of Paul Kulbersh's speedy recovery
In memory of Anne Silberman
Sarabel & Ross Stemer
In memory of Belle Faust
Jan & Frank Katz

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS – ECE PROGRAM

In memory of Belle Faust
AM Goldkrand
In honor of Melinda Stein
Priscilla Sprunt
Robert Williamson
In honor of the opening of JEA Preschool Savannah
Toby Hollenberg
In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy's anniversary
Arnold Young
In honor of Paul Kulbersh's speedy recovery
Betty & Larry Lasky
In memory of Amos Timna
Ruth & David Naftaly

JACK & MIRIAM LEVY MEMORIAL CONCERT FUND

In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy's anniversary
Barbara & Leon Aronson
Charlotte & Harold Black
Fran Sussman
Suzanne & Michael Konter
Sally & Steve Greenberg
LeeAnn & Jeff Kole
Betty & Larry Lasky
Gail Robinson
Anne & Glenn Hagin
Susan Jarblum & Dennis Rinzler
Linda & David Cohen
Sheila & Stanley Weiss
Rhea Paul & family
Roberta Freedman
Sara & Howard Alexander & family
Rebekah & David Handshu & family
Gordon Sparber & Nathan Williams
Eileen & Phil Freedman & family
Judy & Sumner Bravman
Lori & Paul Robinson
Vickie & Richard Halperin
Susan & Frank Slotin
Sue & Ira Ruby
Gail Rosenzweig
Harriet & Paul Kulbersh
Thoroughbred Communications, Inc.

Donations continued on page 4



Health & Wellness

Are French Fries Good for Us?



Stephanie Johnson
Health & Wellness
Director

Can't you just smell them? There's something about french fries that makes you want them once you smell them. Even if you know they're not the healthiest option, do you feel driven to eat at least a small order, or nibble on your kids' fries when they are not looking? No matter how you slice the potato, french fries are indeed one of America's favorite foods.

Vegetable Oils

If you think that you are getting a freshly cut potato fried in "healthy" vegetable oil when you order your fast food fries, think again. Your vegetable oil contains trans fat. While it has taken years, it is finally being recognized that trans fat is very damaging to your health. Trans fat is made by adding hydrogen to vegetable oil. This is done to increase the melting point of the oil, to increase the resistance to rancidity and increase the frying life of the oil. But, trans fat has been implicated in such health conditions as:

- Coronary heart disease
- Stroke
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Obesity
- Infertility
- Premature aging



Although many fast food chains have stopped frying in hydrogenated oils, some continue to use them for french fries and other fried foods. Another concern is that the oil that these fries are being cooked in is likely to be derived from genetically modified corn, soy or cottonseed.

94% of soy, 90% of cotton and 88% of corn in the United States is GMO (genetically modified organism). It is surprising that one would even have to question the safety of a process that introduces genetic material from viruses and

bacteria into food crops.

Monsanto states on their website that GMO foods are plants and animals that have had their genetic makeup changed so that they demonstrate traits that are not natural.

GMO foods have not been tested in depth for safety, but tests on animals have indicated cause for concern. There have also been many studies conducted by the National Academy of Sciences that warn that genetically engineered foods have the potential to pollute the environment and our bodies with toxins.

Proponents of GMO foods say that we have eaten these foods for years without suffering any ill consequences; however, there has been no monitoring of these foods to determine their risk.

Acrylamides

If these reasons are not enough for you to give up your fries, perhaps knowing that starchy foods such as potatoes that are cooked above 245 degrees F release cancer-causing chemicals known as acrylamides. Animal studies have confirmed that acrylamides cause tumors to form.

The National Toxicology Program and the International Agency for Research on Cancer consider acrylamides to be a "probable human carcinogen," based on studies in laboratory animals given acrylamides in drinking water.

If, however, you really want the french fry experience, there are a couple of things you can do.

Make your own healthy fries by changing your oil – try coconut oil instead of vegetable oil. Coconut oil does not break down at high heats and gives fries a rich and tasty flavor. You can also make baked sweet potato fries in the oven, which are a nutritious alternative to traditional french fries.

The next time your nose gets a whiff of the intoxicating, chemically induced flavors of fast food fries, pinch it shut, walk on by and remind yourself that health comes first!

Fall Fitness Classes

Sunday

- 9:15 am - Pilates Basic
- 10:30 am - Total Body Blast
- 1:00 pm - Extreme Toning

Monday

- 5:00 am - Master Swim
- 8:30 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Aquasize
- 10:00 am - Vinyasa Yoga
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
- 6:00 pm - Evening Water Aerobics

Tuesday

- 8:30 am - Pilates
- 9:30 am - Pilates Barre
- 10:00 am - SilverSneakers Splash
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
- 5:45 pm - Zumba
- 6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
- 7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Wednesday

- 5:00 am - Master Swim
- 8:30 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Yoga Pilates Fusion
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
- 6:00 pm - Billy's Boot Camp
- 6:00 pm - Evening Water Aerobics

Thursday

- 8:30 am - Pilates
- 9:30 am - Pilates Barre
- 10:00 am - Aquasize
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
- 6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
- 6:00 pm - Evening Water Aerobics
- 6:30 pm - Yoga Flow
- 7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Friday

- 5:00 am - Master Swim
- 8:30 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Aquasize
- 12:00 pm - Noon Basketball

Join the JEA!

Join the JEA and you will be glad you did when you take advantage of our special member pricing, FREE classes and events! The JEA provides many different types of memberships to accommodate everyone.

Types of Membership include:

- Family Plans
- Couple Plans
- Individual Plans
- Military/Law Enforcement (active duty only)

Visit us at 5111 Abercorn Street or online at www.SavannahJEA.org for more information!

Plan to be at these events at the JEA in November:

- *The Main Event*, Savannah Jewish Federation Campaign Kick-off, Thursday, Nov. 14th, see p. 8
- *Preventing a Nuclear-Armed Iran*, with Bob Feferman of United Against Nuclear Iran, Tuesday, Nov. 19th, see p. 19



JEA Art Gallery



October Artist: Phyllis Tildes

Phyllis Tildes is an award-winning author and illustrator of eighteen children's books with subjects ranging from pets and wildlife to ethnic stories and childhood experiences. She has been a popular lecturer at schools, libraries, SCAD and the Telfair Museum.

She has a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design and was a European Honors Student chosen to study in Rome her senior year. While still a student, she was a designer for Hallmark. After graduating she became the assistant art director at Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth College.

Before her latest career in publishing, she had a graphic design business for many years in Hartford, CT. Phyllis had a one-woman exhibit in Hartford before moving to Savannah. She was a member of the Glastonbury Art Association and founding member of the Glastonbury Fine Arts Commission.

She has done many commissioned oil portraits, landscapes and pet portraits. Her oil, pastel and watercolor paintings are in private collections throughout the U.S. and England. In Savannah, she has exhibited at Cutter's Point Coffee House, The Emporium at Habersham, and at many LAA shows. More recently, Phyllis has tried her hand at sculpting in clay.

Recently, the North Royalton Branch of the Cuyahoga Public Library (suburban Cleveland, Ohio) proudly incorporated illustrations from Ms. Tildes' books, *Animals in Camouflage* and *Eye Guess*, in the Children's area of their new facility. A large mural and custom interactive play panels serve to delight and educate young people in this backyard wildlife-themed space.

Artwork available for viewing October 1-31, 2013
Art Gallery Reception October 6, 3:30-5:30 pm



Parents enjoy a night out and children age 4 years through 6th grade have a night of fun! RSVP's and advanced payment are a MUST by the Thursday prior to the event! Dinner is included! Space is limited to the first 30 children.

Our first event is Saturday, November 16th - "Krazy Kolors"
Join us as we kick off Saturday Night Out in a COLORTASTIC way! Enjoy a night filled with making tie-dye cupcakes, playing glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, glow stick gaga and, of course, dinner!

Price: \$25/child, \$50/family

Member Value Price: \$20/child, \$40/family

Call DJ, 912-355-8111 or camp@savj.org for additional dates and times.

New JEA Members

The JEA would like to thank our members. Without your membership and support, we would not be able to offer all the services that we do. Our members are our most important asset!
(New Members as of 8/10/13-8/31/13)

Carlos & Laura Celaya
Greg & Laura DeBacker
Stephen & Susan Gross
Noam Hellman
Debra Lively
Todd Martin
Horesh Soorma
Brad & Charlene Tipton
Gladys Walker

JEA Donations

continued from page 2

PEARL & JOSEPH GEFFEN ADULT EDUCATION SERIES FUND

In memory of May Ames
Adelle & Theodore Geffen

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

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

JEA FITNESS FUND

In memory of William Alpert
Arlene & Allan Ratner

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Belle Faust
Sally & Steve Greenberg

9 Great Reasons to Drink Water





JEA Preschool Savannah News

October 2013

Are you an empty nester
missing your children?

A grandparent missing your
grandchildren who live in
another city?

**We can help! Explore our
Volunteer Opportunities:**

- Our Parent Teacher Organization is beginning to form;
- We would love for you to read to the yeladim (children) on weekday mornings between 9:30 and 11:00.
- Be our Shabbat Guest/Orei-ach on Friday mornings at 9:00 am. Be a part of our Shabbat Celebration and lead a song or tell a story!!

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact JEA Preschool Savannah Director Jodi Sadler at (912) 355-8111 or by email, Jodi@savj.org.



Engaging children in a nurturing,
safe and inclusive environment,
based in Jewish values.

Enrollment is Open!

To schedule your introductory appointment, contact Jodi Sadler at (912) 355-8111, or email preschool@savj.org. Tuition information and registration forms are available for download online at www.savannahjea.org.

JEA Preschool Savannah offers convenient Core Program and Extended Hours:

Core Program: 8:30am – 12:30pm
Extended Hours: 7:00am – 8:30am
12:30pm – 6:00pm

Serving children ages 16 months to 4 years old.

Contact us about our 2 & 3 day-a-week Programs!

Celebrating the Holidays at JEA Preschool Savannah



Dipping the apples into honey and hearing the shofar blasts were just some of the activities happening in Ms. Penny's room!



We explored the color red and painted apple trees with the help of the fruit we dipped at Rosh Hashanah. The beautiful paintings then would hang in our Sukkah!

Check it Out!

Ms. Jodi Recommends One of her Favorites

"I love the Fred Rogers Center Early Learning Environment website to use for children between the ages of 0-5 years old. It includes activities for reading, music, art, writing, playing, science and math and what's really great is you can select by age group, by activity type and/or by media type! It's wonderful to use at home or even has tools for educators like us."
<http://ele.fredrogerscenter.org/activity>



It's Never Too Late

I realize that when this issue of the SJN arrives in your home, the High Holidays will have passed. However, as one year came to a close and a new year began, one of the thoughts which most disturbed us as we stood in synagogue and tapped our hearts during the part of our prayers where we said, "I have sinned...", is at that moment we really did feel bad and we really do desire to repent and mend our ways, however, we know some things never change.

Over the past few months, our Jewish community has been stricken with the grief of community leaders passing away and individuals beloved to our community being diagnosed with serious illnesses. In Rambam Day School we teach our students that they should not ignore when the Almighty is very clearly trying to get our attention. The more difficult we make it for Him to successfully have our attention, the more He may feel the need to make His calling out to us even louder. We teach our students that when Our Father in Heaven is trying to catch our attention, it is felt more directly by some than others, but none the less, whoever feels it is meant to be included in G-d's efforts. It is like dropping a pebble into a river; you have the point of contact and then you have the ripples that spread out from the point where the pebble was dropped.

Out of respect and love to those who have passed away, and out of respect and love for those who have been diagnosed with serious illnesses, we have a moral obligation to respond to G-d's call. In doing so, our friends will reap the merit of our efforts. Those who have passed away will have their precious souls lifted to even greater heights in the Heavens Above, and those who are ill will, G-d willing, in merit of our efforts, have a complete recovery. The big question is, I know G-d is calling out to me, what is He asking of me? What does He specifically want me to do? And, how do I rationalize having said I was sorry but knowing all along that I always go back to my old ways?

Firstly, as individuals we must de-

cide where within our character we can make changes and conduct ourselves in a manner that befits one honored with the responsibility to serve a King. As a community, this same self evaluation will serve us well. Ask ourselves what is driving us to make the decisions we make? What is influencing our decisions? We can't even begin to think about change before answering these questions. The answers will identify for us what the real areas of concern are.

As for being creatures of habit, we can and do change for a little while and during that time, we come closer to the Almighty. Any time spent closer to our Creator, imbues within us additional inner strength to keep trying to stretch the amount of time we preserve the change we've made.

Real change is when we more than before, act in the manner that we have dedicated ourselves to making a part of our character. True repentance is when we *identify the need for change, regret what we have done, apologize for what we have done to G-d and the person (if applicable) and make it up to G-d (or the person)*. One cannot just *move on* when trying to rectify a wrong. We have to address it. And sometimes, we need to step out of our comfort zone and go above and beyond to create what was for the purpose of repairing and mending.

The High Holidays have come and gone. We owe the Almighty a debt of gratitude that He presents us with an opportunity that imposes upon us the need to reflect because by nature we wouldn't on our own volition. We must also realize that our commitment to change, to improve, is always welcomed by our colleagues, our friends, those we have caused to distance themselves from us and G-d.

May our dear friends who have passed away and our dear friends who are ill benefit from the merit of our efforts.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

Every Day a New Day

The halls of JEA Preschool Savannah are filled with the sounds of children laughing, singing, and even a little crying as we continue to celebrate its new beginning. The teachers are loving the children, the children are learning through play, and the parents are satisfied and happy! Every day is a new day filled with opportunities and challenges for all of us.

It was early one afternoon after rest/nap time and a two-year-old child was still a bit fussy and crying. I calmly took his hand and we went for a walk down the hall. We went to see the other children, visited with Ms. Robin, and talked about going back into the room to play with the other children. He said he was ready to go back. Upon our return, he began to show his distress again and soon was crying even louder. Once again, I took his hand and we repeated the process. We walked down the hall, went to see Ms. Robin, and he again said yes, he was ready to return to the room. This time he remained calm and sat down to eat his snack.

At that point he looked at me with his big brown eyes and his *shayna pun-*

im (beautiful face) and said, "Ms. Jodi, you go to work now!" I knew that what he was really saying was: "I've had enough of your redirecting my behavior. Now, leave me alone!" I also

knew that what I did with him is the "work" I love — helping the children through their struggles, supporting the teachers and families, and enjoying those precious moments!

I invite you to come be an active player with our children at JEA Preschool Savannah. Volunteer your time to come read a story, sing a song or two, or be our special Shabbat Guest. You will enjoy the time you spend with our wonderful children!

As we continue our new journey at JEA Preschool Savannah, remember that every day is a new day filled with surprises! Come cherish those moments with us!



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director of
Early Childhood
Education



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Tuesday, November 19th
7:00 pm at the JEA

Bob Feferman, Outreach Coordinator for United Against Nuclear Iran

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Shalom School Scholarship Event November 3

by Lisa Elkin, Shalom School President

If you do not have a child or relative in Shalom School, you may not know what an exciting time this is for us. The joint religious school of Congregations Agudath Achim and Mickve Israel is growing by leaps and bounds! We have already enrolled approximately 120 students this year.

With our blossoming number of students, we naturally have a greater number in need of tuition assistance. On Sunday, November 3, from 12:00-3:00pm, the Shalom School will be hosting its annual scholarship event to be held at Congregation Mickve

Israel. We welcome all members of the community, the young and young at heart, to join us for an afternoon of fun.

Pizza lunch, silent auction and an all-ages magic show, featuring Magic Marc, are on tap. Last year's event also featured Magic Marc and was such a success that he will be returning again this year.

For those who haven't had the pleasure of seeing him perform, "he puts on a fantastic show, with lots of audience participation," said one parent of last year's performance. His son was equally excited by the show, chiming in "he even brought cool animals!"

With a passion for entertaining and a flair for illusion, his shows delight children and adults alike. Magic Marc, who is also the author of *The Magic of Giving* and owner of Magic Puppet Toys and Gifts located at 212 W. Broughton Street, brings a unique twist to the traditional magic show. His focus is on magication, his term for blending magic and education. We are excited for our annual event and fortunate to have him join us again.

Tickets are on sale now. And if you are not able to join us November 3 but would like to purchase and donate tickets, we would very much appreciate your help.

Please contact us at theshalom-school@gmail.com for more information.



Photograph - © 2009 Tim Johnson

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

B'shvil Hamachar

As part of the 2013 Campaign and Allocations process, the Savannah Jewish Federation approved a new Mini-Grant program whereby community members could recommend overseas agencies to receive \$500 mini-grants, with up to 20 being approved. Sixteen submissions were made this year and we will be introducing you to the grant recipients.

The Mini-Grant program allows people from all walks of our community to nominate for funding programs that serve all walks of the worldwide Jewish community: traditional to liberal Jewish organizations; programs with cutting edge ideas to classic initiatives; organizations in the wilds of Africa, Israel, Cuba and elsewhere.

The Mini-Grant program is a small way for Savannah to put a personal stamp on how we provide assistance to our Jewish brethren around the world. And these programs represent just a sample of the work that our Federation partners, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Israel, are doing on our behalf every day to make a difference in our Jewish world.

B'shvil Hamachar (for the sake of tomorrow) is a non-profit organization serving young veterans newly released from Israel's defense forces who are suffering from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other ailments often not readily diagnosed. The organization was established af-



ter the Second Lebanon War and its services are provided almost entirely by volunteers.

Recognizing that a failure to treat PTSD and other similar conditions early can lead to a lifetime of difficulty and adversity for its sufferers, B'shvil Hamachar seeks to provide early and significant therapeutic intervention using a team of skilled therapists and a variety of techniques. The treatments culminate in unique and challenging outdoor activities, such as kayak expeditions or treks, where the soldiers have a place and an opportunity to share experiences they have gone through and that are affecting their lives.

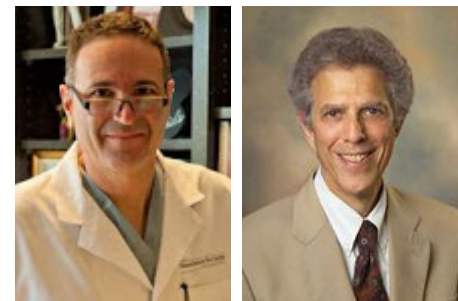
Ultimately, the B'shvil Hamachar experience provides the young soldiers with the confidence to reenter civilian life, ready to improve their own lives and contribute to Israeli society.

 Follow the JEA on Twitter



On the Personal Side

MISCELLANY: Mazel tov to... Barry Schlafstein, who became one of the first doctors in the country to get a sub-specialty board certification in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (UroGynecology). The new sub-specialty was established two years ago and the first certifications are just being issued... Julian Friedman, who was cited in the 2014 edition of *Best Lawyers in America* as "Lawyer of the Year for Trusts and Estates Law in Savannah." The honor is given to only one lawyer per practice area per community. Friedman also has been listed each of the past 26 years as a best lawyer in the fields of tax law, trusts & estates, and em-



Barry Schlafstein Julian Friedman

ployee benefits (ERISA) law in the peer-reviewed journal. Friedman is a past president of Congregation Mickve Israel and is Of Counsel with the Oliver Maner law firm.

Vital Statistics

BIRTH: Noah Aaron Bernstein, born July 28, 2013 (8 lbs., 12.5 oz.; 21 inches). Mazel tov to great-grandmother Bernice Elman and proud parents Andrew and Kim Bernstein; grandparents Marsha and Chuck Bernstein.

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912-354-7721 www.bbjsynagogue.com bbjacoboffice@gmail.com

Sunday, October 27, 2013

11 am to 3 pm



Don't miss this fun & food filled annual event in Forsyth Park!

www.mickveisrael.org/food-festival.html

It's A Funny Thing

by Melinda Stein

There's an old stereotype regarding the Jewish people and athletics (for example – "Want some light reading? Try this pamphlet, Jews and Sports.") The truth is that there is a long legacy of Jewish involvement in sporting events. Enjoy these jokes on the topic!

There's been a long-standing debate among Rabbis ever since the advent of baseball. Is it or is it not permissible, in light of the 8th commandment, for a player to steal a base?

Eating cholent mid-week is like watching the Super Bowl on tape when you already know the score. The ingredients are there, but it really has no flavor!

Where is baseball actually mentioned in the Bible?

Right there in the first verse of Genesis, "In the big inning . . ."

Where is tennis mentioned in the Torah?

In the book of Exodus, " . . . and Joseph served in the court of Pharaoh . . ."

Who played hockey in the Torah?
"Moses raised his hand and smacked the rock with his stick."

Where does the Torah instruct us

on hoops?

In Deuteronomy, "You shall take it... and you shall put it in the basket..."

And it appears that the great Dodger pitcher Sandy Koufax, (who refused to play on Yom Kippur) must have been a descendant of the long-lost tribe of Benjamin, whose members are described in the Torah this way:

" . . . left-handed, each could sling a stone at a hair and not miss."

One year, Abraham, the fastest slalom-skier in the world, had great expectations for a Winter Olympics gold medal. On the day of the final, the French champion sped down the slalom course, laced with gates to ski through and around, in 58 seconds. The Swiss made it in 58.7 seconds, the German in 1:02 seconds, the Italian in 1:04 - and Abraham in 4:20.

"What happened?" his coach demanded.

"Some wise guy affixed a mezuzah to each gate," Abraham replied.

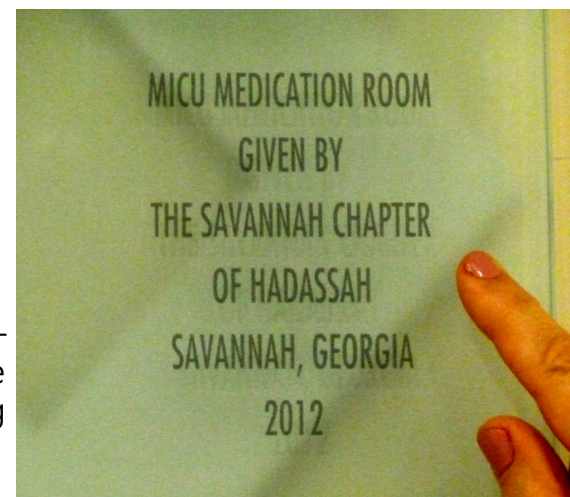


Melinda Stein

The Savannah Chapter of Hadassah

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(President Yelena Chernyak points to our plaque at the new hospital wing dedicated last October)



Last year with your help Savannah Hadassah donated a room at Hadassah Medical Hospital in Israel, this year may we be just as proud—



Join us socially 4:15 to 5:30PM*
Alternate Wednesday afternoons
for "Chat Hadassah"
In our own archive room at the JEA
See what's old—
But learn what's new!
It's free, it's fun, it's empowering!

www.hadassah.org/southeastern Go to **Savannah** Chapter for calendar updates.
*Usually the 2 & 4th Wednesday: this month October 9 and 23rd

A Gala Tribute to

Barbra Streisand



Simply Streisand

*Sunday, November 3, 2013 at 7 PM at
Congregation Agudath Achim
9 Lee Blvd, Savannah, GA 31405*

912-352-4737

Followed by a splendid dessert reception

*Cost: \$40 per ticket
agudatha@aol.com*

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Prayer

Twice a day, everyday. Make your day count!

Friday 6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday 9:15 am - Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon

Saturday Evening (times vary based on sunset) - Mincha/Maariv & Havdalah

Sunday - 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

Monday, Thursday & Friday - 7:00 am & 6:00 pm

Tuesday - 7:30 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday - 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

עבודה

For further information contact us at 912-352-4737, or email us at agudatha@aol.com

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Renate Jacobs

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Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Herbert "Herbie" Blumenthal
Who died September 11, 2013

He is survived by his wife, Esther (April) Blumenthal; his son, Harvey (Susan Goldberg) Blumenthal of Potomac, MD; his daughters, Sarah (Jerald) Gottlieb of Savannah and Debbie (William) Schrag of New Rochelle, NY; seven grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Remembrances: Congregation B'nai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405 or Rambam Day School, 111 Atlas St., Savannah 31405 or a charity of the donor's choice

Julian Herman Good, Sr.
Who died August 18, 2013

He is survived by his wife, Peggy Greenwald Good; his son, Julian H. Good, Jr. of New Orleans (Wendy Schornstein Good); his daughters, Lisa Good (Donald) Dissinger of Philadelphia, PA, and Danyse Good (Steve) Skelton of Longmont, CO; and five grandchildren.

Remembrances: Congregation Mickve Israel, P.O. Box 816, Savan-

nah 31402-0816 or Second Harvest Food Bank, 2501 E. Presidents St., Savannah 31404 or Union Mission, 120 Fahm St., Savannah 31401.

Anne Copeland Silberman
Who died August 14, 2013

She is survived by her partner, David Meddin; her daughters, Clair Silberman (Stuart Leaf) of Brooklyn, NY, and Connie (Jerry) Slotkin of Evanston, IL; her sister, Joan Copeland Keller of Safety Harbor, FL; and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Silberman.

Remembrances: Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Research Fund at Massachusetts Eye & Ear, c/o Development Office, 243 Charles St., Boston, MA 02114.



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Upcoming Events at the JEA!

Visit us online at www.SavannahJEA.org

Oct. 10th, 7:00 pm

Dessert Reception

\$10 per person

JEA Member Value Price:

\$8 per person

JEA Journeys: Why Your Family History Matters with Author and Speaker Marcia Fine

Genealogy is a very popular pursuit these days but beneath the leaves of your family tree are the true treasure - stories of your family history. The stories, memories and heirlooms passed down from generation to generation are valuable pieces to the puzzle that is you. Join Marcia Fine as she leads you on a fascinating exploration of your family history and learn why your family history matters.

Oct. 20th, 6:00 pm

3 course meal, martinis & music, live & silent auction

\$100 per person

Moonlight & Martinis JEA Annual Gala

Featuring some of Savannah's Finest chefs - Laurence Gottlieb, Robert Leoci, Kirk Blaine and Bryan Graves - join us for a magical night of wonderful food, dancing to the music of Jeremy Davis and the Fabulous Equinox Orchestra Quintet, and tasty Martinis. It'll be a night to remember!

Oct. 30th, 7:00 pm

Popcorn, Beer and Sodas for Sale

Price: \$10 per person

JEA Member Value Price:

\$8 per person

Jews on Screen: Treasures from The National Center for Jewish Film

with Sharon Pucker Rivo

Join NCJF director Sharon Pucker Rivo for a peek into the archive vaults and view clips of rare films from the Center's collections, including: Ghetto Fish Market 1903, Cohen's Advertising Scheme 1904, home movies of pre-war Jewish communities, German-made Nazi propaganda, Yiddish feature film classics, and Harry Truman toasting Eddie Cantor at an Israeli Bonds dinner in 1957. *This special evening is made possible by the Savannah Jewish Film Festival.*

Nov. 19th, 7:00 pm

FREE and Open to the Public

United Against Nuclear Iran: Preventing a nuclear-armed Iran with Bob Feferman

In this briefing, Bob Feferman - Outreach Coordinator for UANI, a non-partisan advocacy group - will provide information and tools to take action to increase the economic pressure on Iranian regime in order to provide more leverage for a diplomatic solution to this issue. Through their campaigns, UANI has been successful in persuading dozens of major multi-national companies to end or curtail their business in Iran. For more information about UANI, visit www.UANI.com



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