



Shabbat & Holiday Candle

Lighting Times

Friday, November 4	6:15pm
Friday, November 11	5:10pm
Friday, November 18	5:06pm
Friday, November 25	5:03pm

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Neither Rain nor Early Hour Could Dampen Campaign Enthusiasm

By Lynn Levine

On Monday, October 10th, several dozen enthusiastic volunteers braved a driving early morning rain storm to help kick off the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign. Campaign co-chair Toby Hollenberg 'revving up the troops' hosted a



Campaign co-chair Toby Hollenberg 'revving up the troops'

delightful, 8am breakfast where, despite the dark skies outside, campaign co-chairs Merry Bodziner and Toby Hollenberg set a bright, upbeat mood for the workers on the upcoming drive. Some in the room were experienced solicitors, having participated in many previous campaigns, and some were rookies, but all left prepared and excited for the mission ahead.

The workers were reminded that a gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation represents a donation to the entire Savannah Jewish community, as well as to Jews in Israel and throughout the world. The Federation has the re-

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2012 Women's Division Co-Chairs Arlene Ratner and Vivian Slotin preparing pledge cards for distribution

JEA 100th Year Celebration

Honoring our past. Living in the moment. Building our future. 2012 marks the 100th year of Savannah's Jewish Educational Alliance—a milestone of which our community should be very proud. The concept of Savannah's JEA was born 100 years ago when the



Council of Jewish Women proposed to Jewish community leaders that an institution was needed to meet the needs of Jews of all ages in Savannah. Since then, the JEA has been growing and evolving with every generation that has walked through its doors. The JEA moved to its current Abercorn Street location in 1955, welcoming families (Jewish and non-Jewish) from Savannah and neighboring communities. As Savannah's Jewish community continues to grow, we remain energized and proud of our 100-year milestone. We are focused on the future, creating new programming, events and classes to meet the needs of our community.

2012 will commence a year-long celebration of the past, present and future of the JEA. We welcome you, your family and friends to join us at one of our three signature 100-year events listed below. Full-Access 100-Year Celebration passes are being sold now for \$200, affording you admission to all three events. For more information or to get involved, please contact Anna Berwitz at 912-355-8111 or via e-mail at anna@savj.org.

Sunday, January 15, 2012
1950's Style Sock Hop Party
\$36 per person

Let's twist again like we did at the JEA's 50th year at the Abercorn St. location anniversary! This fun-filled evening will feature music, small bites and sweet treats, beer, wine, community artist art auction and Cake Walk raffle. Come dance the night away dressed in your poodle skirt or coolest leather jacket.

Sunday, April 29, 2012
Billy Joel Dinner Theatre featuring "The Stranger" Billy Joel Tribute band
\$72 per person

The complete premiere tribute to the music of the Piano Man himself, Billy Joel. Fronted by accomplished pianist & vocalist Mike Santoro, and



backed by some of the finest seasoned musicians in the business, this 6 piece band brings together an authentic replication of Billy's

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"Just Say Yes" to Savannah Jewish Federation's
Super Sunday – November 20th



Lessons From Rabin's Memorial Day

During this month of November will mark the 15th Memorial Day for Yitzhak Rabin in Israel. Yitzhak Rabin was Israel's prime minister between the years 1974- 1977, 1992- 1995, and was assassinated by Yigal Amir, a radical right-wing Orthodox Jew who opposed the signing of the agreement of principles between Israel and the PLO known as the Oslo Accord. The agreement was signed during the month of September in 1993 with the prospect of a self-ruled Palestinian territory for the next five years.

Sixteen years ago, we were in the midst of a turning point in the Israeli society. A peace process started to take place with the sign-

ing of the Oslo agreements in 1993. In 1994 Rabin was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. That same year the peace agreement was signed between Israel and Jordan. At that time, terrorist attacks by opponents of the Oslo signing (Hamas and Islamic jihad) increased and so did the bitterness between parties opposed to the peace process among Israelis. In 1995, the opposition arranged protests that tried to delegitimize and incite the public against Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, with most attacks directed against the Prime Minister with the purpose of hurting his personality and accusing him of being a traitor.

On Saturday November 4, 1995, Yitzhak Rabin arrived at the "Malchey Yisrael" Square in Tel Aviv to attend a mass rally under the slogan "Yes to Peace - No to Violence". After the rally, Rabin was shot on his way to his car and was mortally wounded by the assassin Yigal Amir. A short time later he died of his wounds.

At that time I was only 7 years old but, I already understood that something gravely serious took place. The day after I remember my parents look-

ing very somber, some of the teachers at my school were crying when they explained to us what happened, that year, all the attention was centered on the murder, people were gathered in the square, mourning and crying the loss of our prime minister and our hope for peace. But it was more than that, the Israeli society was in shock, the murderer was one of our own, it was not a terrorist that we can unite against, it was a member of the Jewish Israeli society.

The following weeks the separation in our society turned into unity against the incitement and the violence. The incitement the weeks before the murder that caused this was condemned, and the violence that was part of the discourse was noticed and shunned. The murder made an immediate impact on our society. It changed the dialogue and changed our point of view; we became more aware of the public discussion taking place.

This situation lasted for a few years,



Tal Bratman,
Savannah Jewish
Community Shlichah

but now, years later, I better understand the impact of this murder. We lost our trust in ourselves as a society. Too quickly did we return to the separation and the hate. We do not trust the democratic system as before. We still want peace but now less people are willing to fight for it. Just a year ago a book called "The Teachings of The King" was published by Rabbi Yitzhak Shapira from "Od Yosef Chai" Yeshiva in Yitzhar, which deals with the killing laws during peace and war. Some argued that the book incites violence and it was drove the people in Israel into a wide public discussion. The mere fact that there is a debate on the matter shows that we did learn something. In Israel the Rabin Memorial Day is used to discuss democracy, pluralism and peace, so even though the Israeli society is not perfect and there is a lot more that we can do to promote peace over violence, we are heading in the right direction.

To discuss this article or any other Israel topic or idea please contact Tal at tal@savj.org or (912) 355-8111 ext. 219.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

MorningStar's Helping Our Troops (HOT) committee would like to thank our supporters for providing helping hands to our brave servicemen and their families. The event held in September at the Old Sears Building on Henry Street was fun, but more importantly through your efforts and donations to MorningStar the following organizations benefitted: Hunter Spouse Club Educational Fund, Hunter Thrift Shop, Old Savannah City Mission, Children's Theater, the St. Patrick's Day Committee, Boy Scouts of America, Help the Hoohahs Ovarian Cancer Fund, and the Teal Ribbon Project.

Thank you for your gently used goodies. Thank you for your time, your advice, your pick-ups and drop offs! Thank you to Agudath Achim Synagogue and Motti Locker, Thank you to Leslie Westmoreland, Naomi Lingard, Marcia Boucher, Lester Lamhut, Gail Siegel, the staff and members of Congregation Mickve Israel, B B Jacob Sisterhood, Angela Brown, Angela VanAman, Legare Nadelman, Zeno Moore, Richard DeYoung, John Davis Florists, the JEA, Lanny Rhodes, John Petrillo, and the incredible Hunter Boy Scouts and a few dozen wonderful friends and supporters.

The value of your treasures and your time is yours to assess, but we are, as always, grateful for your support. Tax deductible donations are still being accepted made out to MStarArts and earmarked for HOT.

MStarArts (Tweet, FB, @gmail.com or .org)

Thank you,
Carol M. Towbin Greenberg

A sincere Thank You to those who have
made a donation the
Jewish Family Services
Friends Campaign.
Your contribution will help many

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Interested in making a donation to support
Jewish Family Services, please contact, Adam Solender,
Executive Director of the JEA and Savannah Jewish
Federation by email, adam@savj.org or
by phone, 912-355-8111.

Savannah Jewish News

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SJF President: **Amos Timna**
SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Allan Ratner**

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.

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Please send all materials to:
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Just Say Yes

As many of you know, "Ride the Wave of our Community's Success", is the Federation's theme which was introduced at the Annual Meeting. It will be our theme for the next two years.

What you may not have thought about is that all waves start with a ripple in the water. A ripple usually starts when a rock or some other object drops into a body of water. The small ripple begins to spread and gain energy and strength until it grows enough to become a beautiful powerful wave. I want to share with you how you can be a part of a wonderful ripple in our community that has been gaining energy and strength since early September. By the time you read this article we will be close to the ripple becoming another full blown wave of our community's success - The Federation's 2012 Annual Campaign.

This year's campaign is unlike many others of the past few years. In September, our Campaign Management Team and officers made their personal commitments to the campaign and each one of them increased their gift. Then the team made a strategic decision that they were going to begin to make the ripple in the water by soliciting some of our donors before the campaign's official start on October 27th. The Board of Directors of both the Federation and the JEA were solicited at their October Board meetings. A large number of our major donors were asked to make their commitment to the community before the campaign kickoff.

During those solicitations, we shared with all of them the importance of not only being a part of the ripple but explained how they could help that ripple grow into a wave of success by increasing their gift. They listened to the stories of how some of our own elderly Jewish couples in Savannah have to decide whether to buy food or medicine on a monthly basis and how the Federation sent grocery gift cards to these families so they could have enough food on their tables for a Rosh Hashanah meal. They listened to the fact that our local agencies and Jewish Family services give out over \$500,000 in scholarships and direct aid to those in need.

They not only listened, but they responded in a remarkable way. Many increased their gifts and before we get to the Main event, we expect to more than half way to our overall campaign goal of \$1,111,111.

You should also know that the other message that has resonated is that every increase in a gift, no matter how large or small, is significant. The only way we can increase the campaign and reach a point where we have enough money to fully fund all of the requests we get from our local and overseas agencies is if a significant percentage of our donors increase their individual gifts. We talked about leadership's obligation to step up and lead in the campaign and to give that ripple a strong start.

The fact that the campaign is up at this point in time is a wonderful reflection on your community and campaign leadership and on all of those who have already made their commitment. Now it is up to each of you to continue to help grow the ripple into a wave. If you can move up to the next division..... **Just Say Yes.** If you can increase your gift by 10%..... **Just Say Yes.** If you can increase any amount..... **Just Say Yes.**

I want to finish up with one more thought about the importance of giving Tzedakah. During Yom Kippur, we read that Hashem has instructed us that there are three things we, as human beings, can do to change the world around us: Teshuvah (Repentance), Tefilah (Prayer), and Tzedakah (Charity). What more needs to be said?

When someone from Campaign calls you and asks you for your gift, search your heart, think about all of that in need and less fortunate than you that your campaign contributions help every day and remember the importance of Tzedakah. Help turn our ripple into another Wave of our Community's Success and **JUST SAY YES.**



Jeffrey Lasky.
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

A Six-Pound Salami

At the end of this month I will be participating in a two week trip to Poland and Israel with the Jewish Community Center Association. It is a rare opportunity for professional and personal exploration as the JCCA features two new initiatives: March of the Living and Israel travel for JCC members. The trip is designed to get to know "contemporary Israel" through a rich variety of methods and themes. Like the "quilt of personalities" at the JEA, the trip seeks to explore different aspects of Israeli life and culture-nature, food, the arts, wine, politics, and more. It will be an opportunity to meet with other JCC leaders from throughout the world, to reflect and share experiences and opportunities.

The itinerary is like none I have experienced before in my many trips. The trip begins with four days in Poland: Warsaw-the center of Jewish secular, political, artistic and intellectual life in Poland before the Holocaust, a trip to Lublin for a study session at the largest Yeshiva in the world, Krakow-to see the famous synagogues Tama and Temple Isaac, tour Schindler's factory and a tour of the ghetto, and finally Auschwitz/Birkenau to pay our respects to the millions murdered by the Nazis.

The Israel portion of the trip begins in Tel Aviv and features tracks to explore business, high tech or medicine, urban eco projects, GLBT community in Tel Aviv, a tour of architecture on bicycle, and a class on Israeli cooking. The trip continues to the desert with a fireside round table discussion with representatives of two sides of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, a "behind the scenes" tour of the Israel Museum, and a meeting with current authors to get a lecture on Israel's literature.

It is a trip that shows the many sides of Israel, a trip to bridge the gap between the Diaspora and Israel, a trip to share experiences and opportunities.

Building a bridge with the Diaspora has been a focus since the creation of the State of Israel. JCCs and Federations make it a daily priority. You just never know what experience will build an-

other meaningful relationship.

It makes me think back to a trip I led ten or so years ago when a group of us from NH traveled to Jerusalem to take part in the General Assembly. We took a bus to Kennedy Airport (a four hour trip). Since we had an extra hour on the way, one of the members of the group suggested that we go to a "Classic Kosher deli" near the airport for a bite before the long journey. True to its buildup, the deli was a "classic." Cole slaw and pickles on the table, hand cut pastrami and corned beef, matzah balls the size of a softball, and potato latkes so large that five people shared one order.

We ate until we were full (actually a little more than full) and got up to return to the bus and on to JFK. When I went to the counter to pay for the group, the owner casually asked me, "What kind of group are you?" I responded, "We are a Jewish group on the way to Jerusalem." "Jerusalem?" he responded, "Don't move, I'll be right back." A short three minutes later he returned with a long package wrapped in white butcher paper. Seeing my inquisitive face he said, "It's a six-pound salami. When I heard you were going to Jerusalem, I wrapped this up. Take it with you and give it to someone who is hungry in Eretz Yisroel. We are all mishpocha."

I thanked the deli owner profusely and smiled as I returned to the van with the six pound salami under my arm. You can't imagine what I had to go through with security, but that's a story for another day.

Building bridges with our brethren in Israel and throughout the world is a core part of our mission in the Savannah Jewish community. I look forward to my return when I can share new ideas and a refreshed view of Israel and its challenges and opportunities.



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

Reason to Say "Yes"

When you say "Yes" to the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, you are helping those in our Jewish community who are in need of the services of a social worker or mental health provider but are unable to afford or have other limited access reasons to these services through Savannah's Jewish Family Services.



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The Koles Travel with Purpose

By Jane Kahn

Kaye and Don Kole have traveled extensively throughout their almost 57 years of married life. Three times they have traveled around the world, often revisiting places they visited before. They've been on some 30 cruises. They've seen the world's great churches, cathedrals, mosques and temples. Recently, in Cairo, Egypt, they visited Ben Ezra, the oldest synagogue in the world, built during the Third century, now restored as a museum.

But, always, always they agree, the guiding principle is their Judaism and their respect and awe at the history. They've seen major synagogues of the world; many destroyed and revived as Jewish museums, but sites that have been preserved to restore hundreds and hundreds of years of Jewish heritage.

"No matter where we've gone in the world," (Don, speaking for both of them) "we've always found Judaism and the elements of Judaism...Jews learning, religious observances, past histories, ancient and old...a continuum of Judaism."

Generally they seek out a Jewish connection—and in a city of 22 million, such as Mumbai, (Bombay) India; they have to look for it. Otherwise, it's not to be found. In Poland they once had an anti-Semitic tour guide, which made for an uncomfortable tour. They've had help from a rabbi seeking family on one trip, from other Jewish tourists on others.

They chose to start their *Savannah Jewish News* discussion with England's oldest synagogue, Bevis Marks, which

they've visited three times. It is that London synagogue that marks the beginning in 1733 of their own Congregation Mickve Israel. Influential trustees of Bevis Marks sponsored the 42 original Jewish settlers to Savannah. Hidden in a former Jewish section of London, Bevis Marks, founded in 1656, is still active as a Sephardic synagogue. Its rich dark mahogany interior has a central bima, with seating surrounding it and the ark at the east end.

And another connection: Bevis Marks serves as a model for an Orthodox synagogue the Koles visited in Hong Kong, with an entire Jewish community of schools, residences and shopping behind its gate. Its security today is unbelievable.

Kaye is a former certified genealogist, and author of *The Minis Family*, a history of one of the first Jewish families to settle Georgia in 1733. Don is a committed reader of history. The research that goes into their travels, the journals they keep, the photographs they accumulate, elevate their trips far beyond those of the conventional traveler.

Early in their travels, the Koles went to Uffenheim, Germany, researching Kaye's family. City Hall records went back only to 1876, but Kaye knew the family was there in the late 1700s and early 1800s. There was no longer a cemetery in town, but they found one nearby, which, while not destroyed, had not been kept up. With help from a German speaking Armstrong professor, they walked the overgrown fields and found "Zuckers", Kaye's ancestors (one side of the tombstones written in German, the other in Hebrew).

In Berlin, they visited a new museum, built into the "New" 1850 synagogue, partially destroyed in 1938 during World War II's Kristallnacht. Visiting the Beer Hall in Munich in 1983, they felt "very uncomfortable", more comfortable on a return visit after the Berlin Wall was torn down.

In Warsaw in 1998, they were hard-pressed to find a synagogue: there were a total of 500 Jews remaining in the one synagogue. One-third of Poland had been Jewish before World War II. The Koles were traveling with a cousin, who spoke Yiddish and was able to converse with the locals. Away from town, the large plain cemetery triggered an emotional and devastating experience. Still intact the stones marked graves of Jews killed by Hitler. In the old Jewish quarter of Krakow very few Jews were left, but a synagogue there had been converted to the Jewish museum, not for worship anymore. Their non-Jewish guide wore a yarmulke. "There was so much Judaism in the background, but hardly any Jews left there anymore."

In Budapest, Hungary, is the world's second largest synagogue, an exquisite Moorish building among 115,000 Jews (as of 1998) and one of 33 synagogues in a city where anti-Semitism remains a concern.

And in Prague, the Czech Republic, in the old Jewish Quarter, the narrow crowded cemetery has some 12,000 tombstones—Jews are buried five to seven deep. Prague is where Hitler chose to preserve relics in a museum of "extinct" races. There are several synagogues open as museums now. A former synagogue, now a Holocaust museum, has thousands of names of Holocaust victims inscribed on its walls. The "Old-New Synagogue", from the 13th century, is still in use.

In Amsterdam, across the street from the famous 17th Century Portuguese Synagogue, a Jewish museum has been created by linking four synagogues together.

In the 1970s, the Koles spent the high holy days at synagogue in Paris, where the men wore top hats. Unable to speak Hebrew or French, the service was lost on them.

In Montevideo, Uruguay, they were able to attend Ladino (Sephardic) worship services and to visit the only Holocaust museum in South America. An active Jewish community in Cape



Inside the Warsaw Synagogue

Town, South Africa, maintains a huge and wonderful museum in the oldest synagogue. They've traveled to Cochin, India, three times to visit the Padres synagogue built in 1568 by a very large Jewish population who arrived with the Portuguese immigrants. Most of these left in 1948 for Israel. In 1992, there were 19 Jews left. By their last trip earlier this year, the Koles were unable to get near the synagogue, overrun by tourists from all over the world because of an increase in cruise travel.

In a very far eastern country, Rangoon, Burma (now Yangon Myanmar) with a nice synagogue, most of the Jews are gone. In St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1992 no one spoke English, but there was a beautiful synagogue in terrible condition. By 2003 it had been restored by a Jewish philanthropist, and was served by an Orthodox rabbi from New York. In Shanghai, a young Chinese guide told them about a Jewish colony there during World War II. Shanghai historically has been very protective of the Jews. During the war, the Japanese always regarded the Jews well and left them alone. The synagogue has been restored in recent years by the Chinese as a museum.

Back in this country for maybe eight months, what's next for the traveling Koles? Kaye looks at Don. They've never been to the Black Sea!



At the Warsaw Jewish Cemetery

Countdown of the Century: In 5772 Make History with Hadassah

Wanna-be no more: Life membership is on sale for \$100 until 12/31/11! This is the year to enjoy **Hadassah** events as President Joanna Rich and her board implement programs locally that cover all interests and ages based on members' requests, the national office has reduced lifetime membership to only \$100 until December 31, 2011, and the membership is planning to go to Israel as a group to celebrate the centennial in October, 2012! Join Hadassah for lunch at the JEA for two special personal financial planning events, one in November & one in January. See *Faces of Hadassah SJN Ad* to learn more.

HADASSAH	1912	1933	1948	2011: Tuesday, Nov. 15	2011: Sunday, Dec. 4	2012: Oct. 15 - 17	
	Hadassah started by sending two nurses to provide health care for the people of Jerusalem.	Ms. Isaac Meddin is Savannah Chapter President when the cornerstone of the Mt Scopus hospital is laid and the nursing school expands	Mildred Rosen advances Hadassah's new life membership category in Savannah giving fledgling Israel needed support	Women & Wealth Luncheon Series Guest speaker Barbara Bart, CRPC JEA noon to 1:30 Program free Lunch \$10	Croissants & Cappuccino Gourmet Baking with guest chef Nina Finkelman 2 to 4 At the home of President Rich	Next year in Jerusalem with Hadassah: hadassah.org or call Joanna Rich at 912-480-4686	

Super Sunday November 20th

Super Sunday is a great way to help our community help itself. On Sunday November 20th beginning at 9:30am, the Savannah Jewish Federation will conduct its annual Super Sunday call-a-thon and Fun Day. This is your opportunity to reach out to your friends and family to tell them that you support the Savannah Jewish Federation and you would like them to join you by, "Just Saying 'Yes'", to the annual appeal this year.

The Super Sunday call-a-thon event is how the Savannah Jewish Federation raises essential dollars needed to support Jewish education, social services, identity programs, the JEA, and the many local programs that define our special community. The Campaign provides the funds to support Jews in need throughout the world and Israel.

This Super Sunday is being led by a dedicated and excited duo, Sherry Dolgoff and Sally Krissman. "It's going to be a remarkable and productive day; something for all to experience, not just for kids during the Fun Day. It's going to be great to see old friends and make new ones too through coming together for our community," said Dolgoff. Dolgoff and Krissman have many years of experience and leadership in our community and are always looking for volunteers to help; if you are able to make calls please email Sally Krissman, sallykrissman@yahoo.com or Sherry



Sally Krissman and Sherry Dolgoff, Co-Chairs for SJF Super Sunday.

Dolgoff, Sdolgoff@aol.com.

At Noon, Super Sunday becomes Super Funday at the JEA. This year's theme is carrying on the Ride the Wave theme laid out by Federation President, Jeffrey Lasky. The afternoon event (from 12-2) will include a JEA Luau for kids including; ocean and beach related games, beach themed foods for purchase, and some fun beach music. Volunteers are needed, if you are able to assist, please contact Anna Berwitz, anna@savj.org or, Benjamin Bloom, programming@savj.org.

It's A Funny Thing

By Melinda Stein

This time of year I recall being in Israel during the Yom Kippur War, which took place 38 years ago. As tragic as the conflict was, there also were humorous moments, as there usually are in Israeli life in general.

- On the fifth day of the War, a huge headline in the Israeli newspapers announced: "Women of Israel! When you send packages to soldiers in the Sinai Desert, please stop including things like gefilte fish, roast chicken, or cheesecakes. These items are spoiling en route due to the heat, but the men are eating them anyway – the health of our Defense Forces is in jeopardy!"

- When then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger met with Golda Meir, the first thing he said was, "Madame Prime Minister, I want you to know that I consider myself an American first and a Jew second."

Golda immediately replied, "Mr. Secretary of State, don't you know that in this country, we read from right to left?"

- In the early days of El Al Israel

Airlines, the service was not as polished as it is today. On an overseas flight, a sleeping passenger was jostled awake by the flight attendant.

She said: "Hey, Mister, wake up! It's dinner time!"

Passenger: "Uh, okay, that's fine, I'm pretty hungry. What are the dinner choices?"

Flight Attendant: "Yes or no?"

- A tourist in Tel Aviv was shown around the world-famous Mann Cultural Center. After admiring the incredible lobby, stage, and acoustics, he asked his guide,

"Who is this building named after?"

"After Mann, the great writer."

"You mean, Thomas Mann?"

"No, Frederic Mann."

The tourist pondered, then said, "I don't recall any of his works – what did he write?"

The guide replied, "A check."



Melinda Stein

Make New Friends But Keep The Old Celebrating 100 Years of Jewish Girl Scouting

By Carol Greenberg

You know the words—or at least the tunes and each note brings back a girl scout or camping memory. That is the way it is for generations of girls who participated in scouting—an organization that from its inception, accepted girls of different faiths to participate equally. Jewish girls thrived in scouting whose laws and codes of conduct fit well into Jewish ethical practices, but unique to Savannah, the birthplace of scouting's founder Julia Gordon Lowe, is that our community members participated in or lead the very first troops in existence.

Marking the 100th year of Jewish participation in scouting, the recently formed Girl Scout Exhibit Committee has been meeting at Congregation Mickve Israel and the Girl Scout First Headquarters to plan an exhibit and events for visitors to Savannah for the centennial in 2012. Already in response to the *Savannah Jewish News* and eblast ads, people have loaned uniforms, books and memorabilia to use in the exhibit and a few have video-taped their stories as part of a documentation project. There are many ways to get involved particularly if you or a family member were a

scout or leader in Savannah, or if you have memories from a different state that connect your scouting experience to your Jewish identity.

A choir of scouting alums is also forming for fun and to lead at least one Girl Scout SING event in 2012. The first one hour meeting at the JEA on Wednesday, November 2nd at 5:30pm will focus on song suggestions and ideas and the second on Sunday Nov 6th from 1-3pm is to practice from the list of songs we have created. Julie Hirsch will teach the Hebrew version of Girl Scout Taps, just as she did for the JEA Troops in the 1990's. If anyone has a copy of *The Ditty Bag* or other GS songbooks, please offer them for our use or bring them to one of these events.

To volunteer for the committee, the choir or to loan memorabilia, donate resources or time to the effort, please contact Lauree San Juan at 912-233-1574 or Lauree@mickveisrael.org. For video memories or photos please contact Carol Greenberg at MStarArts.org.



Girl Scout Museum Committee members Ellen Byck, Lauree San Juan, Eileen Lobel and Marion Levy Mendel research early Jewish Scout leaders.

LEVY Jewelers

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My BBYO Summer Experience at ILTC

By Elliot Kooden

For the past nine summers, I have attended Camp Barney Medintz in Cleveland, Georgia, and was hoping to work there as a counselor this past summer. I had already filled out my application when one of the best things happened to me; I was elected BBYO Dixie Council Godol [President]. One of the requirements of serving as Godol, is to attend a BBYO Summer Program. I had to decide between working at camp and being with all the friends I've known for nine summers, or fulfilling my obligation and spending my summer meeting all new friends at a BBYO leadership conference. Sometimes doing the "right" thing is not the easiest thing to do, but attending ILTC (International Leadership Training Conference), and Kallah this past summer was absolutely the right thing for me to do!

My mom told me I would meet so many new friends, but I was skeptical. How in the world can a shy kid like me make so many new friends? I was thinking she was crazy! But the old saying "moms know everything" was

right. I made hundreds of new friends from all over the world this summer, including the U.S., Canada, and even Bulgaria. The best part is, these new friends are just as passionate and involved in BBYO as I am!

ILTC was a great experience that taught me valuable leadership skills not only to lead Dixie, but also to help me in school and in my extracurricular activities. Sharing program ideas, building the confidence to lead, and interacting with over 200 Jewish teen leaders was so awesome. Kallah was also a great learning experience, and offered a deeper Jewish spirituality focus. We explored and learned about our own Jewish identity, and also felt a strong sense of community while interacting with each other. One of the things I wanted to accomplish this summer was to be less shy about meeting people. I am proud to say I feel I have accomplished that goal. There are kids in Dixie Council, as well as at my school that say they have seen that change in me. Both programs were incredible, and combined gave me one of the best summers of my life.

I want to thank the Savannah Jewish

Federation for helping me attend ILTC and Kallah this summer. I know I am fortunate to have been able to go to two BBYO summer programs, and I know that without the scholarship they awarded me, it would have made it very difficult. We are lucky to have these scholarships, and I hope that other kids will want to go to BBYO summer programs because they know they can get help from our Federation.

Your generous gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign makes it

possible for local Jewish youth in Savannah to attend leadership and identity development programs. For more information about BBYO, visit www.bbyo.org.



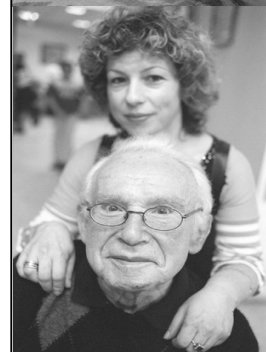
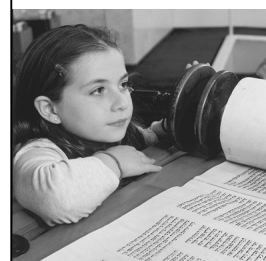
Elliot Kooden and others from the Southern Region, Dixie Council and Atlanta Council who were at ILTC together.



COHEN DENTAL CENTER
Scott A. Cohen, DDS, PC
912-353-9533

We need you now.

SUPERSUNDAY



SAVE A CALL!

Call the Federation to make your gift now and you will not be called on Super Sunday.
Call 355-8111

Just Say Yes



SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION

Community Campaign 2012
Donate. Volunteer. Make a difference today.

SUPERSUNDAY Checklist:

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

On Sunday, November 20th, 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.

Please give generously on Super Sunday!

Sunday, November 20, 2011

Jewish Educational Alliance

5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah

Volunteers Needed!

Join old and new friends when you volunteer.

Telephone shifts: 9:30-11:00, 10:30-12:00, 11:30-1:00

Contact: Benjamin Bloom at 355-8111

programming@savj.org

Sunday, November 2011

Celebration.....from pg 1

timeless music, crowning it with soulful, spot on vocals that makes a Billy Joel song what it is. So much so that you will find yourself taking a second look. Join us for an evening of music, delicious Italian food, beer and wine.

Sunday, September 9, 2012

Great Gala 100 Year Celebration

\$100 per person

This spectacular evening event is one that must not be missed. More information to come as our planning committee diligently works on creating an evening that you will not forget!



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**We're gonna
rock around
the clock
tonight...**

*Full Access 100 Year
Celebration Pass —\$200
(includes admission to Sock Hop, Dinner
Theatre and Gala)*

*Dietary laws
observed



SAVE THE DATE!

JEA 100 Year Celebration

**1950's Style
Sock Hop Party**
Sunday
January 15, 2012

- ♦ Music, Dancing, 1950's themed contests & more Signature 1950's drinks, beer & wine, small bites and sweet treats
- ♦ *Cake Walk* raffle, JEA community artist silent auction

Please RSVP by January 9, 2012
912-355-8111

*Childcare for event
attendees available



**One Gift to Jewish Family Services,
A Lifetime of Support for the
Savannah Jewish Community**

A community supporter who chooses to remain anonymous
has established

The Tikvah Fund

in support of the Savannah Jewish Federation's
Jewish Family Services efforts.

Tikvah, meaning Hope, will provide funding in perpetuity for the social service needs of the community including rent/mortgage assistance, Kosher meals, case management, prescription medicines, clothing and other daily necessities for those who are unable to attend to themselves in times of need.

The Challenge

The fund's creators have generously issued a challenge to the community to participate in the creation of the Tikvah Fund. For every dollar donated to the fund by members of the community (up to a total of \$20,000), the fund's creators will match the donations *dollar for dollar!*

Campaign.....from pg 1

sponsibility and power to respond to crises, the efficiency of multiplying the effect of donor dollars through matching funds, and the ability to do more with one gift than any person could do alone.

DID YOU KNOW?

SJF provides the most comprehensive funding for vulnerable Jews in Savannah, Israel and throughout the world. It may seem hard to believe, but in the last 24 months alone, SJF's Jewish Family Services has administered the distribution of more than \$200,000 of direct assistance for food, housing and utilities, medical necessities, etc., to members of our community in need of support. Together with our partners, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, we offer a hand up with the aim of leading people everywhere to self-sufficiency.

SJF funds Jewish education and identity programs from the crib through college. Whether it's The PJ Library (a free, Jewish-themed book each month to children six-months through 8-years old), significant funding for Shalom School and Rambam Day School, grants for teen leadership programs and travel to Israel, or support for BBYO and area Hillels, the Federation is at the

center of providing not only financial support, but advice and programming, too, for programs designed for all community youth.

SJF is the single most effective Jewish and Israel advocacy organization in Savannah. We advocate to our Congressional delegation on a wide range of issues important to the Savannah Jewish community, including aid to Israel, the peace process and social issues affecting our community. In addition, part of our commitment to building Israel awareness is our annual funding of the *Shaliach* (Israeli emissary) program and support of Birthright Israel, through which almost 100 young Savannahians have traveled to Israel.

SJF insures the next generation of Jewish leadership. Through our partners, Shalom School and Rambam Day School, Young Jewish Savannah, and direct Federation programs, SJF continues to invest in the next generation. Whether it is a partnership use of the Shaliach program, a special Jewish Film Festival screening or some other use of programming, funding or expertise, SJF will continue to partner with others to foster Jewish community and leadership.

SJF is Savannah's most important

partner with the people of Israel and the Jews of the world. Through our affiliation with the national Federation movement and our partners, the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Savannah has been a big part of the success story that is modern day Israel. In the last 63 years, WE have helped more than 3 million Jews immigrate successfully to Israel. And when necessary, we have mobilized the resources needed for relief in times of conflict or war in Israel or elsewhere. At the same time, we feed and provide other necessities for the Jewish elderly living in poverty in the former Soviet Union and help to rebuild Jewish communities all over the world.

SJF provides the resources and expertise to prioritize, advocate and organize OUR community. For almost 70 years, SJF has been the local engine organizing and prioritizing community resources. From providing new lives to Jewish individuals and families who were victims of the Holocaust (and later resettling Russian emigrants), to prioritizing and allocating funds to worthy organizations, the Federation is the central address for the Savannah Jewish community. Some current initiatives include: the Presidents Council; the *Savannah Jewish News*; Community Calendar; eNews, Yom HaShoah Observance; Budget and



Stacy Lasky and Sarah Denmark, Co-Chairs of the SJF Main Event

Allocations; Jewish Family Services; Annual Campaign, and much more.

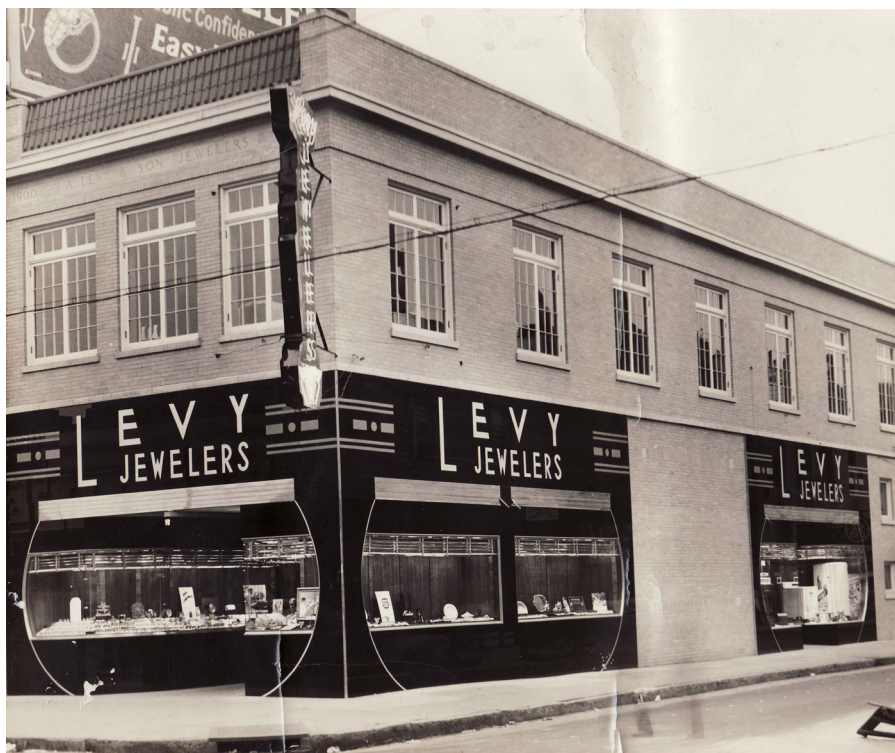
So when you are called upon by one of this year's volunteers to make a gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign, *Just Say Yes* to talking with this person who has so eagerly and generously offered their time (and who hopefully has dried out by now) and then *Just Say Yes* to our community appeal, where your one gift will touch so many lives.

Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES

Life with Father

The following is an excerpt from a piece written on February 6, 1948, by Ida Levy Barnett, of her experiences with her father who ran Levy Jewelers in the early 1900s. Her father was the head of an immigrant family of ten who worked 10-13 hours a day to feed and clothe his family.

"With the advent of World War I, business increased a little but did not warrant much easier living. . . . By that time [my brother] Mat was growing up. Dad wanted him in the store but Mat's interests lay in an entirely different field - the practice of law. . . . When Mat went off to the University of Ga, a new struggle began. The little money Mat had saved had served to dress him warmly for the Athens cold weather and to pay part of his first quarterly installment. Money had to be paid in to the Beanery for his food. Books had to be bought. Room rent had to be paid. Mat did a little teaching and also made a small loan. But even all that was not enough. A small check had to be sent every month. For the first time in my life with father, I saw him deeply worried. How would he with his large family be able to send Mat his small monthly



Levy Jewelers storefront in the late 1930s at the corner of Broughton and Drayton Streets. Image courtesy of the Savannah Jewish Archives: Levy Jewelers Scrapbook and Photographs, 1928-1948 (JMS 036).

pittance? Finally one day dad said to me, 'You know Ida, you can help Mat if you'd do the engraving for the store.' I looked at my dad in astonishment and wondered what was on his mind. Engraving was the thing at that time."

"Dad had already worked out a plan. I was to take lessons from the engraver that did our work. And dad with his constant faith, love and devotion, just knew that I could not fail. 'Why,' he said, with your artistic designing hands it will take you

no time to learn the work. I will wager you that in two lessons you will do better than the old grouchy engraver. I never liked his work anyway.' Far was it from me to refuse in face of such encouraging remarks. When I agreed to father's proposal, he became full of happy excitement."

"After my second lesson, my teacher took sick and had to go away. What to do now? There were no other teachers in town and no text books to learn from.

I just had to go on by myself. . . . At night when the doors were closed, after business hours, dad would sit at his bench doing his watch and jewelry repair work while I sat at the desk in the rear practicing on my copper plates. At times when I'd find a particular piece of work not going so well, I'd involuntarily let out a protracted sigh. Upon hearing it, dad would call out to me, 'Put your work away for a while, stretch your legs and close your eyes. And you will feel better and when you start again you will be much relaxed and work easier.' With that, he would start out with his favorite aria from "Pagliaci" and insist that I sing along with him. Before long I actually felt better and while our singing was going on we worked until the wee hours of morning til dad called a halt and we went home."

"Every time dad passed by and saw me work on the old gold, he'd nod his head in approval and smack his lips and say loudly, 'Wonderful, wonderful. You will soon be doing all the work for the store.' To me it was terribly far fetched for I had only been doing this work one month and had only two lessons as a starter. But to dad's vivid imagination and tremendous faith in the capabilities of his children, everything was possible. However, I was soon to find out he meant what he said that I would soon be doing all the engraving for the store. . . . He knew that with the first pressure of some incident, that my own instincts to please him would make me do the almost impossible."

Excerpted by Jane Ginsberg Rosenblum.



JEA 100 Year Celebration

*Honoring our past.
Living in the moment.
Building our future.*

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, January 15, 2012
1950's Style Sock Hop Party
\$36



Sunday, April 29, 2012
Billy Joel Dinner Theatre
\$72 per person



Sunday, September 9, 2012
Great Gala 100 Year Celebration
\$100 per person

Full Access 100 Year Celebration Pass
(Includes admission to all three events)
\$200 per person

What's Your Signature Sweet Dish?

Calling all bakers out there—do you have a baked sweet treat that is renowned in our Jewish Community? We are looking for volunteers to assist with our Cake Walk fundraiser that will be held at the 1950's Style Sock Hop Party on January 15, 2012. Please be a sweetie pie and call Anna Berwitz for more information on how to support this great event! 912-355-8111, ext. 211.



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 9/13/11-10/11/11)

Larry Appel
Christopher Bellerue
Christine Comas
Carolyn Cullen
Seth McSwain
Michele Musto

Holley Newkirk
Stanley & Agnes Pinckney
Brian Rogers
Max & Mary Schreiber
Frank Vinh

JEA Speakers Series 2011

Sunday, November 13th - 7:30 pm
Jonathan Rabb

Jonathan Rabb is the author of the novels *The Overseer*, *The Book of Q*, *Rosa*, *Shadow and Light* and the third book of a trilogy, *The Second Son*. *Rosa* was awarded Best Novel at the 2006 Semana Negra Festival in Spain, and also was chosen as one of the Best in Crime Fiction novels of 2005. His books have been translated into over ten languages. He has also written non-fiction essays, articles and reviews for *Opera News*, *American Biography*, and the collection *I Wish I'd Been There* (Doubleday, 2006). He has taught courses on the novel at the 92nd St Y and also in private workshop. Jonathan and his wife Andra Reeve Rabb (on faculty at SCAD) are the parents of twins and have made Savannah their home. Jonathan is currently at work on a new novel set in Savannah in the 1940's.



2011 Tickets	\$10	Non Members At the Door
	\$6	JEA Members At the Door
	FREE	Active Military - Students

Proof of membership, military status, or school ID must be presented at the door.

JEA Donations (as of 9/11/11-10/7/11)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND
In honor of Nancy Slotin's speedy recovery
Marilyn Seeman

JEA BUILDING FUND
In honor of Jeff Kole's speedy recovery
Sally & Steve Greenberg

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS
In honor of Adam Solender
Amy & Jonah Pine
In honor of the marriage of Richard Levy & Michelle Krebs
Rebekah & David Handshu

JACK & MIRIAM LEVY CONCERT FUND
In honor of the marriage of Dayle & Aaron Levy's son
Harriet & Paul Kulbersh
In honor of Jack Levy's speedy recovery
Arlene & Allan Ratner

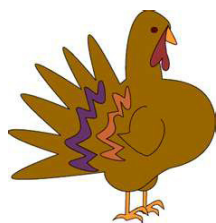
HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND
In honor of Matt Greenberg's engagement
Elise & Victor Shernoff

JEA FITNESS FUND
In honor of Ava Gottlieb's birthday
Arlene Steinfeldt, Arlene Ratner,
Doris Goldstein & Nancy Rosenthal
In honor Lynn Berkowitz's speedy recovery
In honor of Syd Entel's special birthday
Sarabel & Ross Sterner

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND
In memory of Larry Zaslavsky's father
Sally & Steve Greenberg

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In memory of Harris Slotin
In memory of Esta Asher
In honor of Jeff Kole's speedy recovery
In honor of Carole Cohen's speedy recovery
Simone & Leo Center

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
CENTER

Camp Savannah presents..**Thanksgiving Camp 2011**

When: November 21-23, 2011

Time: 8 am-6 pm

Cost: Members \$30/day Non-Members \$40/day

Also includes: Daily snacks, swimming in the indoor pool, sports, arts & crafts, Wii play

November 21st - "Picnic in the Park" - Lunch at Forsyth Park**November 22nd** - "Happily Ever After" - A trip to see "Puss-n-Boots"**November 23rd** - "Under the Sea" - Pool Games

Space is limited, sign your child up today!

For more information, contact DJ at 355-8111 or camp@savj.org.

**Ages: 4 years - 6th Grade****Crafts, Sports, Swimming & more!****DAILY RATE:**

MEMBER	\$30
NON-MEMBER	\$40

WEEKLY RATE**(all 5 days in either week)**

MEMBER	\$135
NON-MEMBER	\$180

**Winter Camp
2011-2012****December 19th, 2011 -
January 3rd, 2012****Winter Camp Themes****Dec. 19th** - Star Wars and the Princess**Dec. 20th** - Military Appreciation (Trip to Might 8th)**Dec. 21st** - Knights at the Round Table**Dec. 22nd** - Winter Wonderland (Ice Skating trip)**Dec. 23rd** - Passport: Next Stop Israel**Dec. 26th** - Wild About Art**Dec. 27th** - Bowl-O-Rama (Trip to Frames and Games)**Dec. 28th** - Weekend Remix**Dec. 29th** - Monkey Joes (Trip to Monkey Joes)**Dec. 30th** - Jerusalem**Jan. 2nd** - Hot Choloate at Hull Park**Jan. 3rd** - Pizza at the J**Saturday Night Out**

Children
4 years - 6th grade
Look what's coming up for
Saturday Night Out this year!

Nov. 19, 2011 - 6 pm - Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory - Enjoy Willy Wonka-themed activities, treats and a viewing of the movie.



Dec. 3, 2011 - 6 pm - Maccabi Games - Enjoy a night filled with fun! You'll compete in an array of sports and team-building activities.



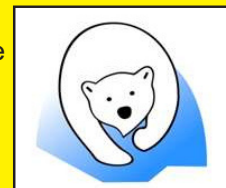
Dec. 17, 2011 - Chanukah Party - Have fun creating delicious desserts/entrees in multiple teams. Who will be the next JEA "Iron Chef"?



Jan. 7, 2012 - The Case of the Curious Cypher - Enjoy an exciting night of riddles, clues, mystery and fun challenges to try to figure out "who did it?"



Jan. 21, 2012 - Polar Bears and Penguins - Test how brave you are by enduring the polar bear swim, followed by a hot chocolate social with friends and a movie!



Feb. 4, 2012 - Tu B'Shevat Party (The New Year of the Trees) - Come celebrate Tu B'Shevat in true JEA style.



Feb. 18, 2012 - Fiesta - We saved the best for last: An evening filled with music, pinatas, food, games and fun for everyone!

**Where:** JEA**When:** 6-10 pm**Who:** 4 years - 6th grade**Cost:****Members:** \$10 a child or \$25 a family**Non-Members:** \$18/child or \$30/family

- Please RSVP and make payment by the Thursday before the event.
- There is an additional \$5 late fee for those registered after the Thursday deadline.

Enjoy themed games, movies and dinner at each Saturday Night Out. For more information, call DJ at (912) 355-8111.

"It's not easy being green"— especially in winter

Join the Green Space Group*

And help the JEA prepare for our future

Next meeting **Wednesday, November 16, 2011****4:30 to 5:30 PM****JEA Room 2A**

*A Subcommittee of the JEA Building & Grounds Committee whose purpose is to beautify the JEA by maintaining all plants and decide environmental policies & creative land management.

Call Carol Greenberg at 912-927-9922 or email MStarArts@gmail.com to join

Holiday Eating Survival Guide



Stephanie Johnson
Health & Wellness
Director

Many people tend to gain weight during the winter months. Some joke that they are preparing for hibernation, but we don't get to crawl into a warm hiding place and sleep the fat away. In our sedentary culture, factors that accelerate weight gain are a real concern. The extra pounds acquired over the winter can stay year after year contributing to health problems such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease. People gain weight during the winter for several different reasons. If you fall towards this tendency, it is important to figure out what factors contribute to your weight gain and to plan accordingly. Simple changes in behavior can have enormous health benefits. Following are some ideas to help prevent winter weight gain.

Make a holiday survival plan. The holidays can be a time for over-consumption of food and alcohol. Try to identify barriers that keep you from being active during this time and strive to come up with creative solutions to these barriers. Schedule them the same way you do your parties, meetings and family gatherings. If the holidays create stress for you, think of some way to reduce it. Stay active. Exercise is the best way to reduce stress. Rest. It is important to get enough sleep, especially during stressful

times. Eat defensively. Include occasional small portions of treats that you enjoy, but balance it with the rest of your meals. Try to avoid munching and drinking just because "it's there." If you drink alcohol, keep your consumption reasonable.

Winter doldrums? Get into the light. Many people experience mild to moderate winter depression. Severe winter depression known as seasonal affective disorder (SAD), is marked by depressed mood, sleeping more than usual, increased appetite, cravings for sweets and carbohydrates, and weight gain. If depression is a problem for you, consult your health care provider. They may recommend some form of light therapy, which relieves winter depression in many people as well as light to moderate exercise.

Make friends with winter. Winter can cause a decline in physical activity, as days become shorter and inclement weather can limit exercise options. If winter weather creates barriers for you, take a closer look at those barriers and strive to combat them with creative solutions. Check out recreation programs and fitness centers in your area. If you are comfortable with colder weather, purchase some warmer clothes and hit the street for a walk or a run.

No matter what the reason for winter weight gain, there is always a way to minimize, if not prevent it. Remember to make a plan...stay active, rest, and eat defensively.

Register Now for Junior Swim League



Registration for Junior Swim League at the JEA has begun! Led by Coach Charles, the program's objectives include stroke and turn development, technique, speed and endurance. Open to children 5 years and up, children are required to be able to swim the length of the pool to be eligible.

Junior Swim League

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5-6 pm
\$50/month—JEA Members
\$75/month—Non-Members
Register at the JEA front desk

Youth Basketball Leagues Now Forming



Gator Rivers

While we are in the midst of football season, registration for basketball has begun! We are looking forward to a great year of basketball. Coach Larry "Gator" Rivers (a former Harlem Globetrotter) will be coaching at least one of our teams this season. He was a great asset to our basketball camp this summer. The children enjoyed him immensely and are still talking about what they learned. Sign up your child and let them have a great learning experience.

Who: Ages 5-12 (6U; 8U; 10U; 12U)
When: Nov. 13th 2011
Where: JEA large gym
Price dependent upon age of child.

JEA 2011 FITNESS CLASSES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim
9:15-10:15 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up
10:15-11:15 am Total Body Blast	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am SilverSplash		10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize
	10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		
	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	
1:00-2:00 pm Extreme Toning					Noon-2:00 pm Noontime Basketball
	4:00-7:30 pm Maxine Patterson Dance	4:30-5:30 pm Maxine Patterson Dance	4:15-5:45 pm Maxine Patterson Dance	4:30-6:00 pm Maxine Patterson Dance	
	5:30-7:30 pm Karate		5:30-7:30 pm Karate		
		5:45-6:30 pm Zumba	6:00-7:00 pm Boot Camp	6:00-8:00 pm SCPD Basketball	
	6:00-7:00 pm Evening Water Aerobics		6:00-7:00 pm Evening Water Aerobics	6:00-7:00 pm Evening Water Aerobics	
		6:30-7:30 pm Total Body Blast		6:00-7:00 pm Yoga Flow	
		7:00-9:00 pm Savannah Fencing Club		7:00-9:00 pm Savannah Fencing Club	

Art at the JEA



A. Clay



M. Clay



R. Cotton



C. Graham



B. Haun

November Artists—Annie Clay, Margaret Clay, Rachel Cotton-Smith, Carolyne Graham and Betsy Haun

Annie Clay- Biography

Annie Clay has always loved to draw. Growing up on the mission field in Argentina, however, gave her little opportunity for formal training. Still, drawing and painting have been constants in her life. Her paintings are never really planned, but are rather created in bursts of inspiration. Her favorite subjects to portray are animals. This is her first show.

Margaret Clay- Biography

In 2010, Margaret began hand-painting silk scarves. Her work has jumped to a new level of brightness and energy through these scarves. One of her early projects was a Water Series, focusing on the sea life most affected by the recent Gulf tragedy. Margaret believes that since we are all energy, the more positive energy we can surround ourselves with in every way possible, the more we can positively affect our world.

Rachel Cotton- Biography

Rachel M. Cotton grew up with a drawing utensil always in hand. She attended Brenau University Women’s College studying studio art with an emphasis in ceramics and sculpture. In her time there, she participated in many competitions, winning many awards in her field, including the Heather Mercer Shaw Award given for her winning design of a gold ring. Rachel is now happily running her own business, Cotton Studios, working as graphic designer, eMarketing Consultant and Artist.

Carolyne Graham- Biography

Carolyne combines the medium of clay with her love of painting. With subtle layering and colorful glazes, she creates spiritually uplifting forms. Carolyne’s clay work is compared to the ceramics of French naturalist Bernard Palissy and 19th Century European Majolica, both in style and glaze techniques.

Carolyne has received many honors and awards including Best of Show and People’s Choice Awards on national and state levels. Her work is in collections around the world.

Betsy Haun- Biography

Betsy Haun has loved watercolors since high school, but it wasn’t until 1995 that her passion came to life. In 1996 she joined the Savannah Art Association, and three years later she won a Best of Show Award. During this time she did numerous commissions including house portraits, churches and a painting of a family crest. She also works in mixed media and in 2004, she discovered oils again, having not painted with them since high school.

Artwork available for viewing November 1-30, 2011
Art Reception November 6, 2011, 3-4:30 pm

November 2011						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct. 30 Shalom Y’All Jewish Food Festival	31	Nov. 1	2 Girl Scout Sing - 5 pm	3	4	5
6 Girl Scout Sing - 1 pm JEA Art Gallery Reception- 3 pm	7	8 Election Day	9	10	11	12
13 JEA Speaker’s Series- 7:30 pm	14	15	16 Rambam Thanksgiving Lunch- 11 am	17	18	19 Saturday Night Out - 6 pm
20 Campaign Super Sunday Fun Day 9 am- 3 pm	21 Thanksgiving Camp - 8 am	22 Thanksgiving Camp - 8 am	23 Thanksgiving Camp - 8 am	24 Thanksgiving JEA Fitness Center Open 9 am-3 pm	25	26
27	28	29	30	Dec. 1 JEA Art Gallery Reception- 6 pm	2	3 BBYO Dance Weekend - 6 pm Saturday Night Out - 6 pm

Hospice and Judaism

By, Jon Cohen, RN, BSN, CHPN

Over the past 13 years, it has been my honor to assess and assist with the logistics of enrolling patients into hospice services. I have worked with families at their most vulnerable times, witnessing people at their best and at their worst. As you can imagine, one has to be quite sensitive to the many cultural influences that impact the decisions of patients and families when faced with end of life issues. Our African American community, Latino community, Asian community and certainly the Jewish community have rich customs and traditions pertaining to end of life rituals. I have always found it interesting how some customs and rituals are very beneficial while others seem to be a hindrance and act as a barrier to healthy coping. Let us explore the tools we, as Jews, have access to when dealing with our own end of life decision making.

So, how do the Jewish people rank? Do we easily accept our destiny or do we struggle with this concept more than other groups? Are Jews reluctant to consider hospice care as an end-of-life alternative to acute hospital care?

It has been my experience that the answer to both of these questions is a resounding, YES. Jews do struggle more than other groups with end of life decision making.

The reasons why Jews have a difficult time accepting end of life and tend to struggle with the decision of hospice care stem from Jewish attitudes toward death and misinformation about the ideas and practices that hospice represents.

In his work, *The Jewish Hospice Manual*, Rabbi Maurice Lamm explains the Jewish perspective of death and dying this way: "The Jewish people always have placed a high premium on life, in all circumstances—even during the Holocaust. Their traditions and literature have placed the value of life in an exalted position, and in every age defended the duty to live, not only the right to live." Personal survival, beating death and not giving up hope are key themes of Jewish history.



By Jon Cohen, RN, BSN, CHPN

With our challenges come our successes. The way in which Judaism handles issues of bereavement is absolutely ingenious. We Jews support the family at time of death like no other group I've observed. The observation of Shiva (a seven-day mourning period) and the recitation of the Kaddish prayer done in public would be enough to impress any bereavement counselor. But we have more... we recite Yahrzeit on the annual anniversary of the date of death,

as well as at "Yizkor" services on four holidays throughout the Jewish year. Public expression of the loss of our loved one is a profound and wonderful gift that is built into our theology.

It gives me great pride and comfort to know that, as a Jew, I have a tool kit full of brilliant rituals and traditions that help guide me as I continue to do my small part.

Jon Cohen, Director of Hospice at THA Group/Islands Hospice



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Faces of Hadassah

Savannah Hadassah proudly offers a luncheon series

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Tuesday, November 15, 2011: "Creating a Strategy that Works for You"

Tuesday, January 10, 2012: "Accounting for More Taxing Aspects of Life"

Both events noon to 1:30 p.m.

at the JEA

Hadassah members, associates (our men) and wannabees* are welcomed.

Program free

Chef Bryan C. Graves

will provide a kosher hot lunch for only \$10 per person

Rides can be arranged

RSVP to Chapter President Joanna Rich 912-480-4686
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*Those wishing to join \$100 life membership sale until 12/31/11!



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

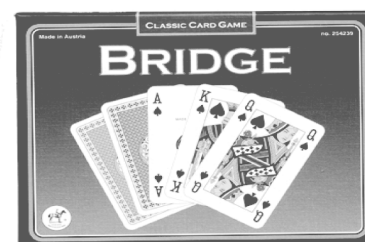


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Sunday, November 13th from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm



R.S.V.P

Bunny Cohen 354-7489 or Betty Lasky 355-2017

Cost \$20/per person, \$100 to sponsor a table

Join Us At Mickve Israel

Mickve Israel extends to you an open invitation!

To Worship: In addition to special children services and holiday events, we have Shabbat services on Friday evenings at 6:00 pm. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, our Friday evening services will be held at 6:30 pm. Instead of being held in our historic sanctuary, these Exotic Resort Location services will be hosted at member homes around the community. Our Saturday morning services are at 11:00 am and are followed by a Kiddush lunch.

To Tour Our Historic Sanctuary and Museum: We offer docent-led tours Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and again from 2:00 to 4:00 pm with the last tour starting approximately 30 minutes before the end of the session. The suggested donation for a tour is \$5 per person.

To Shop: Our Judaica Shop is stocked with a variety of items for children and adults. If we don't have what you are looking for, we can order it for you! The shop is open during tour times and other times upon request.

To Eat: The Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival will be held in Forsyth Park on Sunday, October 30, 2011, from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm.

For more information on the third oldest Jewish congregation in America founded in 1733, which is right in your community, contact Mickve Israel at 912.233.1547 or visit www.mickveisrael.org.



Image by Attic Fire Photography

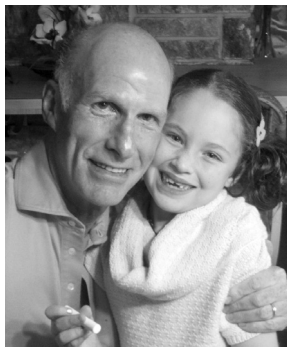
Four Questions for the Rest of the Year

Myron Kaminsky,
Co-owner of Southern Motors Honda,
Kaminsky Automotive Group

1. Kaminsky Automotive Group is involved with a special program with Hospice Savannah, Camp Aloha. What is Camp Aloha?

Well, Aloha is the Hawaiian word for hello and goodbye and this camp is a place for children who have lost loved ones to come together, have lots of fun and to say their hellos and good-byes. This camp, in coordination with Hospice Savannah, meets for a weekend every April. The kids that attend this camp are allowed to attend for two years in row to mourn the death of a loved one. The camp is absolutely free of charge. This camp is staffed by many volunteers, professional grief counselors and others, with some that come back year after year to help. For many of these campers this will be the only time for them to receive grief therapy.

2. Why has your company become so heavily involved in this project and



Myron Kaminsky with his granddaughter, Alex Kaminsky

decided to fund it for several years?

We wanted to do something to have an impact on the community and what better way than to have it involve and affect the lives of children. We are happy to help. We love to do a lot more for others but, why do a little good for a lot of causes when we can really focus and really help with this worthy cause. For every sale from these dealerships; Southern Motors Acura, Southern Motors Honda, Springfield Chrysler Dodge Jeep or Rincon Select Automotive Sales a donation is made to Hospice Savannah each month.

3. What is your hope for those who are connected with this program?

I hope that they can come away from camp with a feeling of joy and their

grief more manageable. Because, hopefully, this camp will make a positive impact in their lives and, in turn, they will give to others through volunteer opportunities or the profession they will some day choose.

4. What are the lessons you have learned from your partnership with Camp Aloha that you'd wish to share with the community?

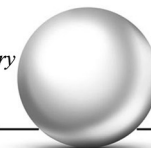
A personal family crisis led me to Hospice Savannah over 20 years ago

and since then I've been involved with Hospice Savannah. I really value what they do and this camp, which is open to children of all faiths and backgrounds, really got to my heart. A lesson that we've learned is the more we do the more there is to be done. As this program grows, we're able to provide more financial resources in the hope to help more grief programs involved with Hospice Savannah. However, our main emphasis will always be on helping children in this community.

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Join us for two upcoming community events:



1st Annual Hymie Epstein Golf Tournament • Sunday, November 6, 2011

Henderson Golf Club • Lunch / Putting Contest - 11:30 A.M.

Shotgun Start - 1:00 P.M. • Volunteers welcome!

Get ready for the 8th Annual

Shalom New York

Raise the Roof

Sunday, December 11, 2011 • 6:30 p.m.

Come enjoy a night filled with glitz and glamour while bidding on extraordinary live and silent auction items.

Savor a night with fabulous food, family, and friends at

our largest annual fundraising event!



Join us in support of our Synagogue as we help raise money for the new roof and kitchen renovation.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th
6:30 PM • B.B. JACOB SYNAGOGUE

LIVE & SILENT AUCTION • FOOD • DRINKS • FUN

The 8th Annual
SHALOM NEW YORK
Presented by The B'nai B'rith Jacob Synagogue

Teach The Children

Monday, October 3rd, the Lady Lions' volleyball team was cheered on by at least 50 adults and children, all friends of Rambam. These 50 something individuals came to watch the Lady Lions play and root for their success. Signs were being held in the stands sending positive messages to the players. The sound of Rambam pride was loud and clear!!!! The Lady Lions didn't win the games, but their fans were successful in energizing the crowd and infusing the players with confidence.

Prior to Rosh Hashanah, Rambam Day School made available the purchase of beautiful Rosh Hashanah cards, \$2 per name. This year we sold an increase of 162 cards (1,367 total cards sold), which was a 13% increase in funds raised.

October 5th, Rambam day School had its annual car raffle drawing! This year tickets were sold for \$118 (an increase of \$18 per ticket). We also increased the amount of tickets to be sold, 550 tickets instead of our usual 500. The raffle was a huge success!!!! We sold all 550 tickets. This was a 10% increase in ticket sales and a 29% increase in funds raised! In this economy?!!!! What a wonderful bracha from the Almighty!

Hashem will make an effort to draw our attention towards Him in many different ways. When the Almighty chooses a way such as a successful Rosh Hashanah Card project, or a successful car raffle campaign, or both, and He doesn't choose to draw our attention through a hurricane or a tornado or monetary loss, we should express our gratitude to Him and respond in kind.

A prayer familiar to most Jewish people is the prayer of Shema Yisroel Hashem Elokainu, Hashem Echad, *Hear o Israel, the L-rd is our G-d, The L-rd is One*. One of the verses found within this fundamental prayer is; *vasheentan-tam l'vanecha, and you shall teach them to your children*. What exactly are we being asked to teach? We are being asked to teach the words of Hashem's Torah. If we don't take the first step of at least teaching our children the precious words found within the Torah, given to us from G-d Himself, then how can our children make knowledgeable choices about their heritage. In all of a life, all we can do is teach our children what is right and encourage them to make wise decisions and to infuse within them the understanding that all choices have consequences. Our chil-

dren have minds of their own and will make their own choices. We can only hope and pray that our lessons and the sacrifices that we have made on behalf of our children, will assist them in making good decisions.

Rambam Day School would love to be an active part of your efforts to ensure that your child/children are well informed, familiar and comfortable with their knowledge of our heritage.

I recently had the privilege of overseeing the morning davening (prayers) for the 2nd through 4th grades one morning. Since Judaic studies for elementary students is in the afternoon, the secular staff of these grades gives them up for about seven minutes to come together and daven some of the morning prayers. On this day of which I was supervising, they davened their little hearts out. I couldn't even keep up with them. It was also the day for third grade to purchase canteen from middle school, so some of the third grades were a few minutes later for davening. A precious moment was when Sol Cohen was returning from canteen and as he walked down the hall to put his newly purchased snack away, I noticed he was saying the words of davening on the way. *Sol was certainly seizing all moments and what they had to offer*. He didn't miss a beat. Sol davened all the way to his room, put his snack away and joined us in the hall.

When davening was over, I called all the children over and told them the best part of my day is hearing them sing the words of davening so beautifully. I told them if I am not in the best of moods and I hear them, my whole day becomes happy. One of the children asked, (I don't remember who) if I would tell them the next time I wasn't having such a good day so they could do the davening for me?

Come by and experience what the Rambam families already are privy to, and what our students and teachers are able to encounter on a daily basis. A lot goes during a Rambam day; a lot of intense learning both in Secular and Judaic studies, a lot of knowledge obtained and a lot of memories to be stored forever.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

Not What It Used To Be

I heard it so many times from grown-ups "I hated going to Hebrew school, I would beg my parents to let me skip." They had memories of dusty rooms with teachers extolling the importance of tzedakah that was collected in the tin blue box. Elders loudly repeating the need to remember the Holocaust because, "Those who don't study history are doomed to repeat it." And examples would go on and on...

Well, the Blue Box is still here! But the concept of Hebrew School has been revitalizing and having a good time while learning has become the basis of today's approach.

In Shalom School, as in many Hebrew schools, we are incorporating dance, music, art, drama and even yoga into the curriculum. The learning of the holidays is often experiential rather than didactic. Shabbat services are being taken over by small people while inviting the entire community to learn and participate.

The old Hebrew school has often succeeded preparing children for becoming Bar or Bat Mitzvahs. But that's not all we want anymore! Strong Jewish identity, history, spirituality, modern Hebrew, women's involvement, Israel... all this has become an integral part of parents' expectations. We have come a long way from the time when memorizing a Torah portion was the pinnacle of a Jewish education and the changes are becoming more exciting with the years!

Teaching approaches have taken a big leap as well: we are getting geared to adapt to children with learning challenges and music has become a real tool rather than just an activity. Prizes, games, and rewards are all mecha-

nisms that work magic with Sunday School children. It makes the children want to be on time, step up to lead a prayer, stretch their memory to find that Hebrew word. Kids can

earn "Gold Points" not only at school but also at home. It's no fun saying "Do you want a homework assignment?" but, it is fun saying, "Do you want to earn a Gold Point?" It's more fun to say "Color War" is breaking out, rather than "next week we'll have a test on what we've learned". The best part of games is there's no fear of failure. In regular school it's often a sin to fail, but in gaming you just figure out how to fix it and move on. Games give students a non-threatening space in which they can learn from their mistakes.

Once regarded as distracting, if not downright dangerous, computer games are winning new respect in the education world for engaging kids, especially teens. New software and Apps are going to become an integral part of the Hebrew School tool box and the world of Apps and blogs will soon be part of any Hebrew School teacher's training.

Those are just a few examples of the experiences that pull us apart from previous generation's experiences. As for the blue box, come the month of May we have a debate and a democratic process engaging all students before deciding the types of charities they want to support every year.

"To improve is to change" said a famous leader, and that's what learning is all about.



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

Reason to Say "Yes"

When you say "Yes" to the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, you are supporting Jewish education through Rambam Day School and The Shalom School. Jewish education is the one way you can assist in ensuring a sustained Jewish future.

A *bissel* (little) Yiddish I always wondered what was said?

Chutzpah - nerve, extreme arrogance
That boy has some *chutzpah*, talking the way he did.

Plotz - to explode, as in aggravation
Oy, I am so tired; I could just *plotz*.

Have you tried the new savj.org?

Community calendar, online donations and much, much more!

Elizabeth Holland on the Holocaust

By Nancie Meddin Clark

Honors and Advanced Placement English and Literature teacher at Herschel V. Jenkins High School, Elizabeth "Beth" Holland, thinks "people who deny the Holocaust are completely delusional. Even the German people themselves, have detailed records of what happened during WWII. There is no denying the evidence."

Holland spent 3 intensive weeks last summer participating in the Jewish Labor Committee's Holocaust & Jewish Resistance Teachers' Program. This Program is an intensive three week learning and living experience in Washington, DC, Poland, Germany and Israel for educators who are committed to teaching about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance in high school. The Mathew Cranman Fund Scholarship Award makes local participation possible.

"I could see the value in teaching with personal stories of resistance and survival before the trip", Holland says. "I exposed my students to the Holocaust with books like, *The Hiding Place*, by Corrie Ten Bloom and *The Diary of Anne Frank*." "Afterwards it became more imperative to show my students the importance of fighting for what you believe and what is right. I want them to know that you can overcome what seem to be impossible odds."

Holland believes that Holocaust



Beth Holland in Jerusalem

studies should be taught in high school English as well as history classes. "Some schools", she says, "have whole courses on the subject, but not here in Georgia. I wish more people would apply for the scholarship," she continues. "And I would love to have survivors or the children of survivors speak to my students."

The Cranman Family established the local fund in 1999 in memory of their son and grandson, Matthew J. Cranman to deepen teachers' knowledge and strengthen their ability to implement Holocaust Studies in the classroom.

Vladka Meed, author of *On Both Sides of the Wall* and founder of the national program was a member of the Jewish underground in the Warsaw Ghetto from its first days. She lectured on the Holocaust, and, together with her husband, Benjamin Meed, helped foster Holocaust education and build memorials.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Sidney Raskin

Who died on September 28, 2011

He is survived by a brother; Edwin B. Raskin of Nashville, TN, and four children; Alex B. (Michele) Raskin Savannah, GA., Daniel E. (Susan) Raskin of Atlanta,

GA, Kenneth M. (Joanna) Raskin and Laurie (Peter) Raskin Katz of Needham, MA, and seven grandchildren; Kathryn and Andrew Raskin, Anna and Sara Katz, Evan Raskin, and Sam and Elie Raskin.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob Building Fund or American Cancer Society.

Vital Statistics

Mazel Tov- A hearty Mazal Tov to Morgan and Scott McGhie on the birth of their daughter, Harper Lois McGhie, born on September 23rd. The proud grandparents are Lynn and David Reeves and Lyn and Pat McGhie.

Reason to Say "Yes"

When you say "Yes" to the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, you are saying that you feel your Jewish community is important to you. For almost 100 years, the Jewish Educational Alliance has been the "central address" for Savannah's Jewish community.

Opinion Minyan

By Melinda Stein

Opinion Minyan? What's that? An alternative religious service for 10 strong-minded individuals?

Not at all. This is a new discussion series offered by the JEA to inform, entertain and engage the community. Every month, a program will take place that will feature a topic of interest presented by a talented speaker or speakers – with the innovation of participation and interaction with the audience. Opportunities galore to hear and be heard! The Opinion Minyans are free to JEA members (a nominal fee for non-members) and will include either breakfast or lunch depending on the program day and time.

Here are just some of the scheduled speakers:

"Bagels and Grits: How Jews Found A Home in the South"

Sunday, December 11

Dr. Stuart Rockoff, director of history, Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern

Jewish Life—co-sponsored by the Savannah Jewish Archives

"Current Insights into the Arab -Israeli Conflict and the Peace Process"

Sunday, January 8

Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, professor of international relations, Georgetown University



"The State of Education in Savannah"

Sunday, February 12

Dr. Thomas Lockamy Jr., Superintendent, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

Dr. Joe Buck, President, Savannah-Chatham Board of Education

Mrs. Sharon Sand, Chief Academic Officer, Savannah-Chatham County Public School System

"Medical Ethics, Jewish Influences and Important Personal Decisions"

Thursday, April 5

Dr. Martin Greenberg, professor, Mercer University School of Medicine, medical bioethicist and board member, Hospice Savannah

"What's so Funny About Being Jewish? What's so Jewish About Being Funny?"

Date TBA

Melinda Stein, local funny expert

Much buzz has already been generated about the Opinion Minyan. Please keep a lookout for more information in the *Savannah Jewish News* and in a brochure that will be distributed community-wide. You won't want to miss a single event!

Save The Dates

Incorporating some of our core values of community, conversation, and collaboration, (and of course, good food) the JEA is proud to establish the Opinion Minyan an interactive, participatory discussion series

**Free to JEA Members
\$8 per person Non Members
Includes speaker and breakfast**



Sunday Morning - December 11 10:00 am

Bagels and Grits: How Jews Found a Home in the South

Dr. Stuart Rockoff, Director of History at Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life

Cosponsored by the Savannah Jewish Archives



Sunday Morning - January 8 10:00 am

Insights Into the Arab-Israeli Conflict & the Peace Process

Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University

Sunday Morning - February 12 10am
The State of Education in Savannah

Dr. Thomas Lockamy, Jr., Superintendent, Chatham County School System

Dr. Joe Buck, President, Savannah-Chatham Board of Education

Mrs. Sharon Sand, Chief Academic Officer, Chatham County School System

Elaine Radetsky and Marcia Berens To Receive Russian Reunion Award on December 4

By Carol Greenberg

On Sunday, December 4, 2011, from 4 to 6 pm at the JEA, Elaine Radetsky and Marcia Berens will be honored by some of the people who benefitted from their incredible efforts on behalf of Savannah Jewish Federation's Russian Resettlement program.

Since 1978, Savannah Jewish Federation volunteers helped Russian families immigrate and adjust to life in the USA. Though many of the families that started their American adventure in Savannah did not stay in this area, many of them still recount fondly the help and support they received from members of the Savannah Jewish community.

The following families comprise a partial list of those who sponsored newcomers to this area or helped the committee in 1990 alone: Donna & Tony Eichholz, Laurie & Jeff Rubnitz, Jodi & Kenneth Sadler, Zelda & Sheldon Tenenbaum, Candy & Alan



Marcia Berens and Elaine Radetsky welcome new Savannahians—Pavel & Yelina Gorelik with their parents Vladimir and Galina Gorelik and grandmother Sima Kharmatz

Lowe, Michael Karpf, Aviva & Edwin Cooper, Amos Timna, Judy & Larry Odrezin, Merry & Richard Bodziner, Marcia Berens, Elise & Victor Shernoff, Esther & Herbie Blumenthal, Linda & Steve Sacks, Sally Krissman, Nancy & Paul Feldman, Charlie Garfunkel, Beezy Forstot, Sara & Sam Jospin, Lucille & Kayton Smith, Stephanie & Sol Zerden, Linda Tillinger, David Garfunkel, Carol & Joel Greenberg, Linda Cohen, Sandi Lipsitz, Vickie & Richard Halperin, Anita Karnibad, Thelma

Rosen and Gail Robinson.

This casual reception on December 4th, open to the whole community, is a way for families to reconnect with others who came to the United States in similar circumstances and to say thank you to some of the people who tried to ease the way by providing jobs, transportation, support and friendship during the immigrants' critical first few months of adjustment. The City of Savannah's social services for language and housing needs and jobs retraining was almost non-existent when Klara Chernyak and her daughters (Matilda Shkirenko and Alica Basilashvili) arrived in a relatively small group of immigrants in 1978.

A dozen years later, when Yelena

Chernyak immigrated with her parents and son Mikhail, this area still could not provide for the needs of so many foreigners and it was only through the auspices of the SJF that these new Americans were able to find homes, jobs and needed language skills. Elaine Radetsky, with the help of her family and friends, made arrangements for things such as housing and food while Marcia Berens helped with language and job placement.

If you participated by adopting a family or lending your resources of time, support or hospitality to this herculean effort, or sponsored this effort with special donations to Federation for this project, please also consider yourself a person of interest and tell us about your experiences as you RSVP for this event. To RSVP or for more information call 912-972-9922 or email Carol Greenberg at MStarArts@gmail.com.

Reason to Say "Yes"

When you say "Yes" to the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, you are saying that you are interested in supporting and rescuing Jewish people in all lands. The Jewish people are still in peril in many countries around the world. Saying "Yes" can make the difference.



Matt Cohen and Murray Gottlieb of Savannah New South Kosher with Travel Channel's Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern host, Andrew Zimmern during filming an episode in Savannah on October 18th. Being Jewish himself, he really enjoyed cooking and sharing recipes from his childhood and enjoys helping Jewish communities celebrate holidays through food.

Just Say Yes



Community Campaign 2012

Donate. Volunteer. Make a difference today.

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks Our Contributors

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Sharon & Murray Galin
Merry & Richard Bodziner
In honor of Murray Galin
Merry & Richard Bodziner
In honor of Linda Zoller's presidency
Sally & Steve Greenberg

SJF GENERAL DONATION

A donation was made by
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Joanne & Michael Kooden
In honor of Arnie Goldstein
Arlene & Allan Ratner

TIKVAH FUND

In memory of Hyman Zaslavsky
Linda & Michael Zoller

In honor of David & Lynn Reeves becoming grandparents
In honor of Morgan & Scott McGhie's new daughter, Harper Lois McGhie
Sarah Denmark & Adam

Solender

A donation was made by
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In honor of Lynn Berkowitz's speedy recovery
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In honor of Martin Maddern's speedy recovery
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CREATE a Jewish Legacy



Ancient Ladder of Giving Can Guide Modern Philanthropy

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By Bruce DeBoskey, former ADL Regional Director of the Mountain States Region, a Colorado-based philanthropic adviser.

More than 800 years ago, Moses Maimonides, known by many as Rambam, a rabbi, physician and philosopher, described eight rungs on the ladder of charitable giving. Remarkably, his approach is still pertinent to contemporary thinking about philanthropy.

The first rung, at the bottom of the ladder, is reserved for donors who donate grudgingly – giving with the hand but not with the heart. These donors rarely act with a charitable spirit. Nonetheless, Rambam recognized that giving even with a closed heart is better than not giving at all.

The second rung up the ladder is for donors who give with an open heart, but at levels below their capabilities. In 2010, Americans donated an average of 2 percent to 3 percent of their net incomes to charitable causes, well below the 10 percent encouraged for tithing by many religions.

As people climb the ladder, the third rung is for those who give money

cheerfully and in adequate amounts, but only after being asked. This is the rung on which many donors stand. In response to solicitations, they give generously and with an open heart. Without these donors, many charitable needs would go unmet.

The fourth rung is for donors who give before being asked. These donors identify community needs and address problems proactively. Many philanthropically minded businesses, foundations and families stand on this rung.

The next two rungs are less relevant today because the direct relationship between donors and recipients has been altered by the creation of non-profit organizations that act as a buffer between them.

The seventh rung is for donors who give anonymously to unknown recipients. Rambam suggested that by donating anonymously, donors elevate their giving to a higher level of spirituality, eliminating the potential for recognition or praise as the motivation for giving, and reducing the likelihood of embarrassment or shame for the recipient. On the other hand, giving publicly

can be an act of service itself by setting an example of generosity and inspiring others to follow suit.

The eighth and top rung of the ladder is reserved for those who give the gift of self-reliance – donations of money, loans, time or experience to help recipients lift themselves out of their unfortunate situation. Rather than reacting to adverse conditions (e.g., hunger or disease), donors on this rung look to solve the underlying causes (e.g., poverty or education). Rambam seemed to understand the concept that “if you give a man a fish, he will eat for a day; if you teach a man to fish, he will eat for a lifetime.”

Although the world is much different than when Rambam designed his ladder, his writing causes us to think about the nature of our giving and the ultimate impact it has on solving the pressing problems of our time. The essential questions raised by Rambam's centuries-old model are:

- With what spirit do we approach our giving?
- What is our motivation for donating our time and money?
- Should we give anonymously or can

our giving be a source of inspiration for others?

- How much of our money and time do we require for our own needs and how much can we

share?

- How do we proactively and strategically address community needs?
- How can our philanthropy have the greatest impact and help lessen the disparities, injustices

and challenges our world faces?

The answers to these questions form the foundation for philanthropic initiatives that are more gratifying and rewarding for the giver and help create real solutions to the problems we seek to solve. Rambam's ladder is an inspiring metaphor to help us climb to a higher level of meaning, impact and joy with our philanthropy.

The Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah manages the endowed funds of the community and encourages the increase of endowed funds to sustain in perpetuity the Jewish community and the causes the community cares about. For more information about endowment funds contact Adam Solender, Executive Director of the JEA/SJF by phone, 912-355-8111 or by email, adan@savj.org.

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