



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, December 6	5:02pm
Friday, December 13	5:03pm
Friday, December 20	5:06pm
Friday, December 27	5:09pm
Friday, January 3	5:14pm

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Illumination on a Serious Issue

By Carol Towbin Greenberg

In this season of light, Rabbi Michael Cohen, chaplain at Fort Stewart, illuminated a serious problem within the ranks of the military: soldier and veteran suicide. In his Dvar Torah at a recent Shabbat service honoring Veterans held at Hunter Army Air Base, Rabbi Cohen honored those assembled with the fact that “Jews have fought in every American engagement and many have laid down their lives to protect our freedom. Many of you put on the uniform and fought for our country,” but then issued a challenge that “we can and must do more” based on the following distressing facts:

“In the military and among our veterans, the fire that ravages this community is suicide. In the last 10 years, over 60,000 veterans have taken their own lives. At home and safe from bombs and bullets, more veterans have died than those killed in the Vietnam War, when thousands took to the streets to protest sending troops to Vietnam. Today, the

streets are quiet. Where is the outrage? Veterans are 250% more likely to commit suicide than their civilian counterparts. This isn’t a problem; it is a tragedy of epic proportions.”

While nationally, both the Federation and the JCC movements have created and support many social services including the Connections podcast, produced through the JCCA’s Jewish Welfare Board council of 16 Rabbis (split evenly between the denominations), and Project Welcome Home “to support returning veterans through a variety of programs, membership incentives for veterans and their families, reaching out to local veteran service organizations to create partnerships, and targeted outreach to veteran and military families, such

as those involved in early childhood and youth programs,” is this enough?

Rabbi Cohen stated that “In 2017, on average, 17 veterans a day committed suicide. There is something, we as a nation, is missing... At any given moment in the past 20 years, there are roughly 10,000 Jews serving in our military. How many thousands of Jewish veterans are out there, right now, silently suffering, wishing they could catch a break?... Who checks-in on our warriors when we, as American Jews, don’t know how the military works?...Military life is hectic, isolated, and can be incredibly lonely.”

Some of the solutions, for what

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Hadassah to Honor Janis Javetz

Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America, will present its highest honor, The Myrtle Wreath Award, to Janis Javetz in recognition of her contributions to Hadassah and Jewish life. Hadassah Savannah will bestow the prestigious award at a celebratory luncheon on Thursday, January 16, 2020, 12 o’clock noon, at 45 Bistro.

Janis, a native of Savannah, has been an active member of Savannah’s Jewish community ever since returning here in the early 1970s as a young newlywed. She and her husband Lee were eager to make friends and Janis joined the boards of several different Jewish organizations. She soon found herself immersed in Hadassah.

As a young member of Hadassah, Janis

quickly held every officer position culminating in being elected President in 1980. At that time she was one of the youngest presidents to have served Hadassah Savannah. Janis credits many of the women who served before her — including Ida Wilensky, Miriam Levy and others — for mentoring her as she successfully led Hadassah Savannah for two years. She especially remembers the

guidance and dedication she received from June Arkin, both for the chapter and for Hadassah Presents, the local group’s annual fundraiser. Janis says she remembers all of these women “not just as mentors, but as friends.”

Janis likes to say “fundraising is not my bag” yet over the years she has raised tens of thousands of dollars for Hadassah Medical Organization

(HMO), beginning in 1975 as a division co-chair for Hadassah Presents and continuing through serving as Chair of last year’s highly successful event honoring Carol and Joel Greenberg. She says she has chaired Hadassah Presents more times than she can remember, including each event during the years 2011-2018. Hadassah Savannah and Hadassah Medical Organization are indebted to her for her service.

In addition to serving the local chapter, Janis served on the board of Hadassah’s Southeastern Region as treasurer and vice president (working alongside her close friend Jean Weitz, then regional president). Janis also held a number of regional committee chairmanships, including co-chairing the Southeastern Region Conference

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Janis Javetz





Savannah Jewish Federation Presents

The Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial

2020 Savannah Jewish Film Festival

January 22-January 26



Wednesday, January 22

6:00 p.m.

Opening Reception

7:00 p.m.

The Keeper

Thursday, January 23

12:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 p.m.

*Egg Cream, The Last Resort
& Other Shorts*

Thursday, January 23

6:00 p.m.

Dinner

7:00 p.m.

Refuge

Single Movie Tickets

JEA Members: \$10

Community: \$12

Meal & Movie Tickets

Lunch:

JEA Members: \$15

Community Member: \$17

Dinner & Opening Reception:

JEA Member: \$22

Community Member: \$26

Full Festival Pass

Admits one person to all films & Opening Reception

JEA Members: \$60.00

Community: \$72.00



Friday, January 24

12:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 p.m.

*Wendy's Shabbat
& Other Shorts*

Saturday, January 25

7:00 p.m.

Dessert Reception

7:30 p.m.

Fiddler

Sunday, January 26

6:00 p.m.

Dinner

7:00 p.m.

Crescendo

Become a Friend of the Festival

Producer: \$650

Director: \$500

Actor: \$250



Savannah Jewish Federation



www.savj.org





Edwin Byck
President
Savannah Jewish
Federation

President's Message Jewish Moments Powered By the Federation

On
Wednesday
evening Novem-

ber 6, 2019 the Federation kicked off its annual fundraising campaign. This year's campaign theme asks each of you to remember a Jewish activity, person, place or moment that is or could be memorable and meaningful to your life. In making your pledge to this year's campaign, imagine if this "Jewish Moment" had not or could not in the future be possible due to lack of monetary funds.

For me, my Jewish Moment begins with Camp Chaverim at the JEA. When I was a child I was a camper. When I was a tween I was a junior counselor and Stacy Lasky was my boss and Senior Counselor. When I was a teenager, I was a Senior Counselor. When I graduated High School, I was a lifeguard at the pool, and as a father and parent, both of my sons, Adam and David, attended camp at the JEA. As President of the Federation I now understand that without people giving to the Campaign in the past, all these activities would not have been possible.

I do not expect all of the "Jewish Moments" to be so Savannah-centric. However, I do expect that each of you will come to the same conclusion. As I have written about in other articles, the Savannah Jewish Federation's involvement with each of our lives boggles my mind. Jewish Family Services provides over \$150,000 annually for local Jews in need; The Savannah Jewish News and the enews tries to keep us all up with current events; PJ Library, PJ Our Way, BBYO, support for collegiate Hillels, Young Jewish Savannah, Shabbat across Savannah, the weekly Food for Thought lunch and learn, and the Yesod leadership training all provide Jews in Savannah with Jewish moments. The Federation organizes the Savannah Jewish Film Festival, Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance, Konter-Wei-

lend Comedy Night, a community-wide Purim Carnival and Chanukah celebrations just to name a few.

In addition, the Federation through its Annual Community Campaign allocates money locally to organizations such as the JEA, Shalom School, BBYO, Jewish War Veterans, the Savannah Jewish Archives as well as many others. The Campaign provides essential support for nonprofit organizations outside the United States as well. In fact, one of the recipients of a grant recommended by a Federation member last year was the Krakow Poland Jewish Community Center. The Center had been visited by 14 Federation members last year in conjunction with a "NextGen" March of the Living mission to Poland and Israel which was made possible through local support from the Dena Yaschik Bodziner Memorial Fund a part of the Federation's Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah.

The executive director of the Krakow-Poland JCC, Jonathon Ornstein was the speaker at the Main Event campaign kickoff. He spoke about the rebirth of the Jewish community since the end of World War II. I must admit, I had expected him to speak about how the rebirth had taken place in the 50's. As Jonathon explained in his talk, however, due to Poland being a communist nation until the 1990s, no religion including Judaism flourished in Poland. The rebirth of the community, therefore, is in its infancy, only twenty to thirty years old. Jonathon told stories of people just finding out that prior to the 1940s, their families were Jewish. Jonathon appreciated our grant and that Jews in the Savannah Area cared enough to be a partner in the metamorphosis of the Polish Jewry.

The ability to contribute to the Jewish experience for all is what the Federation's campaign is all about. I look forward to hearing about all the Jewish Moments that are special to you.



Adam Solender
Executive Director
JEA/SJF

Executive Director's Message Thankful

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

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

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

In his book, "A People Divided," Dr. Jack Wertheimer, the former Provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, wrote about how "belligerence

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

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

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

I am thankful (thanks to the support of the Slotin family) to be able to provide a the wonderful PJ Library and PJ Our Way books, tapes and programs to over 120 area children;

I am thankful for the Yesod Leadership program where 36 community members have stepped forward to work and learn and to change our community!

I am thankful to have such great lay leadership: the officers of the JEA and Federation work tirelessly on all of our behalf;

I am thankful for the Federation's newest initiative, YACHAD, a program for 6-8 grades that combines Jewish learning with social action in a social atmosphere (the perfect way to engage teens before BBYO!!);

I am thankful that thus far our solicitors are having very positive responses for this year's campaign. Our community is so very generous. We are asking you to make Jewish giving a priority... if we don't give to us, no one will;

I am thankful for the JEA Preschool and the wonderful families that changing the face of our community each and every day;

I am thankful for the response we get from the Savannah Jewish News, Facebook, Instagram pages, and weekly e-mails—hopefully there is something for everyone; hopefully they make you think. I learn from you all each and every week.

I am thankful for the cultural and identity events that are taking place every day at the JEA.

I am so very thankful and grateful for the colleagues at the Federation and JEA who give so much of themselves—all in an attempt to make the Jewish community even more vibrant and welcoming.

And, I am thankful-Thankful for your support, your confidence, and your participation in making the warm and welcoming Savannah Jewish community so very special.

We couldn't do it
without them!

Help us thank our advertisers.
Please support their businesses!



Your Campaign Dollars At Work

Featured Beneficiary: Lone Soldier Center

The Lone Soldier Center was founded in 2009 in memory of Michael Levin by a group of former lone soldiers who were particularly aware and concerned with the needs and struggles of lone soldiers.

A “lone soldier” is an IDF soldier with no family in Israel to support him or her. A lone soldier may be a new immigrant, a volunteer from abroad, an orphan, or an individual from a broken home. Every day, tens of thousands of soldiers are defending the state of Israel its citizens. These soldiers regularly spend weekends and holidays at home where their parents provide for all of their needs: laundry, food, and even a hug. For the lone soldiers, there is no immediate family in Israel to support them. Though highly motivated and proud to serve, when on leave, many of them struggle with basic needs that a family would provide.

There are over 7,000 lone soldiers currently serving in the IDF. About 45% of these soldiers are new immigrants, coming from Jewish communities all over the world. Another 50% are Israelis who are orphans or that come from low socio-economic backgrounds. There are some that come from ultra orthodox neighborhoods who are shunned by their families and communities because they decided to go to the army.

Most lone soldiers are placed in combat units and come highly motivated to serve in the Israeli army. At any given time, these soldiers are awake and aware, guarding Israel's borders by land, air and sea.

While each is their own amazing story, there are some issues that arise across the board and are common between all lone soldiers.

Financial Issues: For lone soldiers, money becomes a major issue. A lone soldier's monthly salary is twice of what a regular soldier in

their unit would receive, but is still mostly insufficient to pay bills, do laundry, pay for furniture and home appliances, and buy food for Shabbat. Rent is subsidized by the army (up to 1048 NIS per month), but it is not enough to create a home in Israel.

By organizing meals and creating a community, the Lone Soldier Center helps the soldiers lower their expenses and live a bit freer of



unnecessary stress.

Lack of Information about the IDF: Having the correct information is crucial when joining the IDF. Israelis grow up being taught about the army by their parents and by special programs in school.



IDF Soldiers

Lone soldiers generally do not have access to basic IDF information, such as: what are the different units in the army, what are the rights and benefits of being a lone soldier and who to turn to for help when they have special requests during their service.

Specially trained volunteers of the Lone Soldier Center are there to counsel and explain these important aspects of military life to the lone soldiers. Prior to their drafts, the lone soldiers are invited to special drafting seminars where crucial information such as what to bring and how to get to the draft office is explained. The volunteers continue to help the lone soldiers during their military life by being a “walking encyclopedia” of military protocols and other useful information.

Loneliness and Homesickness: Loneliness is a major problem for many lone soldiers. In the army, camaraderie is a very essential part of daily life, but when soldiers come home on weekends, they go to their homes all across Israel and enjoy their time with their families and friends. Lone soldiers are not as lucky. They all too often come home to an empty apartment with an empty fridge and must take care of the daily chores of running a home—cleaning, doing laundry, cooking and paying bills. Then, if their friends from their units do not live close by, they are stuck alone without anyone to talk to or spend time with.

The Lone Soldier Center organizes community building events such as movie nights, pub nights, Shabbat meals and more in order to help lone soldiers not feel lonely. The Center also helps lone soldiers in apartment hunting and works hard to ensure all lone soldiers find the right place to call home.

The Lone Soldier Center is one of 16 beneficiaries of the Savannah Jewish Federation Campaign Overseas

Investment Grant program to benefit the Jewish experience throughout the world. Each of the beneficiaries was nominated by a member of the community who had a personal connection with the program.



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

SJF President: Edwin Byck
SJF Treasurer: Matthew Allan

SJF Executive Director: Adam Solender

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

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly 10 times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 6th of the month before publication. For example, for a March issue, the deadline would be February 6. January-February and July-August are combined issues. Submission deadlines for these winter and summer issues are December 15 and June 15, respectively.

Editorial/articles submissions should be in Microsoft Word format (.docx or .rtf). For best results, photos should be high resolution (300 dpi) with width and height dimensions as large as possible, as .jpg, .tif, or .psd (Adobe Photoshop) files. Artwork, drawings, line art, and other graphics are best sent as “vector” files, e.g. .eps or .ai (Adobe Illustrator). We will accept .jpg, .tif, or .psd files, if necessary.

Advertising submissions must be in a high-resolution, “press” quality PDF format with fonts embedded. For best results, photos and other artwork within advertisements should also be high resolution (300 dpi), .jpg, .tif, or .psd files. All color must be in the CMYK color format; “true” black preferred.

Please send all Savannah Jewish News materials to:
sjnews@savj.org

Please send eNews newsletter submissions to:
adam@savj.org

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Letters to the Editor

The Savannah Jewish News is a community paper. Letters should be civil and considerate in tone and not contain personal attacks, random attacks on businesses, or defamation. All statements of facts must be verifiable (state the original source of the information).

Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length, clarity, or factual content. The opinions expressed are always the writer's.

All letters must include the author's full name, address, and phone number (only your name, and if appropriate, job title and organization or business name, will be published).

No more than two letters from the same author will be published within 12 consecutive months.

Submit letters to sjnews@savj.org. The Savannah Jewish News retains full and sole discretion about which letters to publish.

**Savannah Jewish Federation
Mission Statement**

Charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds, the Savannah Jewish Federation seeks to advance the welfare of the total Jewish community. The Federation strongly supports Israel and world Jewry. Additionally, the organization strives to preserve the civil, political, economic and religious rights of all Jews to develop an articulate, intelligent, and constructive Jewish community and to promote mutual understanding with the community at-large.



young jewish
savannah

If you are Jewish, in your 20s and 30s and want to meet new people, connect to the community and make a difference - YJS is where you want to be!

Young Jewish Savannah's goal is to provide meaningful opportunities for engagement in the Jewish community through social and professional networking, community service, Judaic and leadership programs for Jewish young adults in their 20s and 30s.

Young Jewish Savannah is made possible through the Savannah Jewish Federation.

COME & **JOIN** **US**



Young Jewish Savannah's

**VODKA
LATKE**

DECEMBER 19 • 6:30 PM
BAR-FOOD



We want to get to know you!
New to Savannah and want to get connected?
Want to help plan events?
Have ideas you want to share?
Just want to hang out?
Let us take you for coffee!



912.355.8111



jackieL@savj.org



Young Jewish Savannah

savannah bbyo
DECEMBER

MISSION:

To create a pluralistic community of Jewish high school teens.
More Jewish Teens, More Meaningful Jewish Experiences.



Upcoming Events

December 6

BBYO Global Shabbat

December 20-22

Eastern Regional Convention

January 12

Winter Kick-Off Event

In November we sent 3 new members to the New Member Regional Convention in Greensboro. They came back with new friends, memories, and a sense of what brotherhood and sisterhood is really about. Want your teen to experience this?

Sign them up today!

THE BEST PLACE TO BE A SAVANNAH JEWISH TEEN

SAVJ.ORG/SAVANNAH-BBYO SAVANNAH BBYO

Want to get involved?

Contact Jackie Laban at JackieL@savj.org



Savannah Jewish Federation

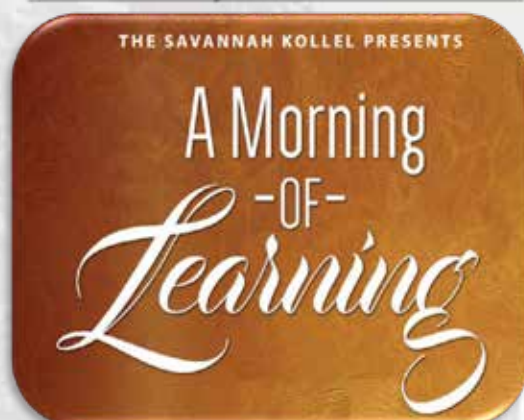
Beneficiary Agency: Your Campaign dollars at work



Wishing Everyone a Joyous and Illuminated Chanukah!

Sign up for our Weekly Newsletter to receive the latest updates on all programming!

Experience an Exciting Morning of Torah Study and Camaraderie



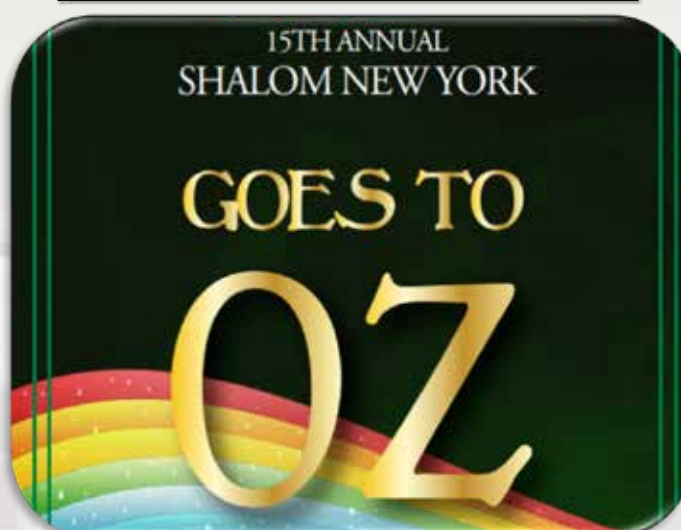
December 6th

Study groups and classes
for men and women

8 AM – 1 PM

Breakfast and Lunch to be served
Cost: \$10 for 1 meal / \$15 for both

Don't Miss Our Annual Gala Event!



December 15th

Starting 6 PM in the Social Hall
Featuring: Live and Silent Auctions

\$150 - 1 TICKET - 1 RAFFLE
\$300 - 2 TICKETS - 2 RAFFLES
\$750 - 6 TICKETS - 6 RAFFLES
\$1500 - 8 TICKETS - 15 RAFFLES
\$2500 - 10 TICKETS - 25 RAFFLES

ADDITIONAL RAFFLE TICKETS
(WITH PURCHASE OF AN ENTRANCE TICKET)
\$25 EACH
\$100 FOR 5
\$250 FOR 15

Sisterhood Chanukah Family Night



December 22nd

Fun for all ages – including Bingo

Delicious Dairy Meal

Giftshop to be open for
all your shopping needs!

Please call the office to make reservations

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks our Contributors

JULIUS RUDIKOFF HEALTH CLUB

& ATHLETIC FUND

In honor of Lynn & Dick Berkowitz

Biff & Jerry Montana

CAROL & JOEL GREENBERG HEALTH RESOURCE FUND

In honor of Carol & Joel Greenberg

Dawn Kaley
Cheryl Ross

TIKVAH FUND

In memory of Florence Karsman

In memory of Sylvia Dane

Arlene & Allan Ratner

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Eva Odrezin

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In memory of Harriet Konter

In honor of Sue & Ira Ruby

Doris & Arnie Goldstein

In memory of Sylvia Dane

Jane Kahn

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In memory of Sylvia Dane

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SALLY & STEVE GREENBERG LEADERSHIP FUND

In honor of Steve Greenberg

Renee & Russell Bridges

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PHILLIPA SHERMAN (BUNNY) MONTAG & JAMES LEE MONTAG JEWISH EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL FUND

In honor of Bunny & Jim Montag

Michelle & Rodney Cohen

JEA Garden Project

By Penny Berkman

This year, JEA Preschool Savannah has four gardens that have become an integral part of our school's curriculum. Our

gardens teach the children about the

many aspects of

nature and how

they can become

very involved. The

children are so adorable when they tell

me to look at their rain boots as they

quickly line up to go to the Gahn,

which is the Hebrew word for garden.

Within our gardens, the children

are able to indulge in all their senses.

They are eager to dig

in the dirt to look for

worms, identify the

various insects that

are helpful for our

plants, pull weeds,

help with water-

ing, and sample and

smell the different

herbs. Together we have planted many

cool weather vegetables and have

already started to observe the tiny seedlings sprout.

This huge undertaking could never have come into play without the

help of our many com-

mitted parents and all of

their hard work. I person-

ally want to thank each

of you and say today. All

our efforts have received

recognition through Con-

stellation's Community

Champions project. They

were excited to support our JEA Gar-

den Project with a grant of \$500.00,

and are proud of our dedication and

efforts to improve our community.

We invite everyone in the JEA

community to enjoy our

gardens, which are the

beautiful butterfly/hum-

mingbird sanctuary, the

herb garden, the straw-

berry patch and the veg-

etable garden. Please feel

free to sample the herbs

and vegetables. Also,

come and observe the many changes

year round.



On The Personal Side

Mazel Tov to new parents:

Casey Anderson and Harley Krinsky on the birth of their daughter, Ryder Ophelia Krinsky on October 3, 2019.

Ashley and Josh Yellin on the birth of their son, Levi Standfield Yellin on October 12, 2019.

Paige and Brett Levine on the birth of their son Elliot Alexander Levine on October 16, 2019.



HADASSAH

Savannah Chapter

Like us on Facebook

Hadassah Savannah Chapter

May the miracle of the Chanukah lights usher in a year of peace and understanding for all.

**Please join Hadassah Savannah on January 16, 2020
as we present the prestigious Myrtle Wreath Award to
Janis Javetz**

12 o'clock noon • 45 Bistro

For more information: Sue Adler (susandemberadler@gmail.com)

Illumination

Continued from page 1

he calls this Invisible Jewish Community, he gratefully recounted, are already in place in our Savannah community, but need to be augmented.

"Let's work to provide welcoming inclusivity for our Jewish service members and veterans. Let us be those friends, let us be those family members, and let us be those advocates for those who have none....we can thank Soldiers for their service by checking in on them and offering them a community they can call their own...Once they complete their military service, they would have a built-in social network and be surrounded by people who care...if we find ways to better integrate them into the Jewish community."

Currently locally, but discreetly, The Savannah Jewish Federation provides funding, advertising, supplies and administrative support for our local and distinguished Jewish War Veterans Post 320 and has sourced speakers for Holocaust remembrance to local bases. In addition, the Jewish Educational Alliance provides funding for flags, holders and transportation for parades and grave honors as well as sponsoring some military families for membership, Jewish education and activities. Synagogues and members of the community host active service members during the holidays as well.

Rabbi Cohen reminds us that "The Talmud teaches us, 'When one is lost and in despair, whoever can assist in helping him find his way must

do so by Torah law...The law commands us to help restore a lost and desperate person" to a better version, a more complete version, of himself. During times of crisis and despair, it is easy to feel lost, overwhelmed, and question everything we thought to be true about ourselves. When confronted by someone experiencing this sense of loss and despair, Jewish law commands us to restore her sense of self and help her find her way back home.... So how do we [in this community] bring visibility to that which has been invisible for so long? ...Clinical studies all agree that the answer [to suicidal thoughts] is community ...feeling connected, a part of something larger, and having a purpose. Community is a powerful thing and it saves lives every day."

Our Savannah Jewish community at large, has so many wonderful things to offer service members and veterans, but we need to review if we can offer more. If you or your social action committee is interested in finding out more ways you can help Rabbi Cohen make those in his charge less isolated, join us at a meeting Tuesday January 7, 2020 (7 -8:30pm) to discuss options for greater involvement with our Jewish military and veterans.

He ended his service with this prayer: "In this new year, may we be blessed with the good sight to see the unseen, and the vision to increase their visibility in our blessed nation."

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Raymond Schneider

Who died Wednesday, October 9, 2019.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Rhea Kleinberg Schneider, sister Linda Traunfeld of Delray Beach, FL, brother Carl Schneider and sister-in-law Jo Ann Schneider of Ocala, FL, and children Jason Samuel Schneider of Atlanta, GA and Julie Cummings of Savannah, GA, son-in-law Michael Cummings of Savannah, GA, and grandchildren Carter and Isabelle Cummings.

Remembrance donation may be made to LSU Foundation, indicating "Raymond W. Schneider Memorial" in the memo line, and mailed to LSU Foundation, 3796 Nicholson Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Sylvia Dane

Who died Thursday, October 10, 2019.

She is survived by her daughter, Joan Dane-Kellogg (Larry); her son, Charles Dane; her grandchildren, Julie Cohen (Adam), Sean Dane-Kellogg; her great-grandson, Korte Cohen, and many dear cousins and friends.

Remembrance donations may be made Congregation Mickve Israel, PO Box 816, Savannah, GA 31402-0816, Hospice Savannah, PO Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31406-0190 or a charity of the donor's choice.

Colonel Richard "Dick" Steven Kent

Who died Friday, October 11, 2019.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Oliver Kent; one daughter, Kimberly Kent of Portland, Oregon; one son, Gregory D. Kent and his wife, Kimberly, of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania; five grandchildren, Lindsay Kent, Jahleel Heath, William Kent, NayNay Kent-Taylor and Brenna Kent; one sister, Marjorie Millman and her husband, Michael, of Short Hills, New Jersey, and nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be

made to Hospice Savannah, PO Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31406-0190 or a charity of the donor's choice.

Harriet Kanter Konter

Who died Sunday, October 13, 2019.

She is survived by her children, Stanley and Rose Konter, Sally (Konter) and Steve Greenberg and Jerry and Marcy Konter; six grandchildren, Natalie (Konter) and Jon Sarnat, Harris and Elissa Konter, Greg and Susan Greenberg, Matt and Karina Greenberg, Mark and Allison Konter and Tess (Konter) and Albert Neudeck; nine great-grandchildren; her longtime friend and special person, Mildred Jones, and nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be made to The Bertha and Hymie Kanter Young at Heart Fund – c/o Jewish Educational Alliance – 5111 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405-5214 or the Harriet Konter Leadership Scholarship fund – c/o the Women's Council of Realtors Georgia – 6065 Barfield Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30328 or a charity of the donor's choice.

Frances "Fran" Jane Lowery-Wilson

Who died Friday, October 18, 2019.

She is survived by four children, Nicholas E. Seward, Joseph E. Seward, Donna M. Seward and Chandra M. Seward; five sisters, Macie Bagley, Annie M. Knox, Zenobia Campbell, Bertha L Lowery and Carrie E. Lowery; one brother, Nathaniel Lowery (Lena); seven grandchildren, Danielle, Brendon, Monica, Nigel, Anthony, George and Jonathan; great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be made to Congregation Agudath Achim – 9 Lee Boulevard, Savannah, Georgia 31405-5707 or Congregation Mickve Israel – Post Office Box 816, Savannah, Georgia 31402-0816 or Park Place Outreach, Inc. – 514 East Henry Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401-6927.

CELEBRATING A

Simcha?

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Engagements

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Births

We Want To Know!

Share your good news with the
Savannah Jewish News!

Send the vital statistics to

sjnews@savj.org



8 DAYS.

Shred the potatoes. Pour the oil.
Crispy, crunchy latkes. Almost ready.
Just one more. And more and more.
A taste for Chanukah. Almost gone.
Shred the potatoes. Pour the oil.

**Happy Chanukah from
all your friends at Publix.**



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WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE



The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance _____ December 2019



Children's Programming

JEA Children's Department Presents:

Winter Camp Days at the JEA

MON, DEC 23

TUE, DEC 24

THU, DEC 26

FRI, DEC 27

MON, DEC 30

TUE, DEC 31

THU, JAN 2

FRI, JAN 3

MON, JAN 6

MON, JAN 20

Open to all kids in Pre-K-8th Grade
8am-6pm

JEA Members: \$40- 1st Child/\$38- Additional Children

JEA Guests: \$50- 1st Child/\$48- Additional Children

For more information and to register visit

www.savannahjea.org!

Saturday Nights Out

Loco for Legos!

December 7- 6:15-10p

Stike!

January 11- 6:30-10p

Open to all children in PreK-8th grade

Members: \$25/child or \$45/family

JEA Guests: \$30/child or \$50/family

For more information and to register
visit www.savannahjea.org!

OY VEY 5K REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

FINISH

December 22, 2019





Adult Programming



Scrabble	Thursdays	6-8pm
Mah Jongg	Mondays	2-4pm
	Thursdays	2-4pm



Food For Thought

Join us each Thursday at 12:30pm

Dec. 5	Savannah African Art Museum Billie Stultz	Dec. 26	Annual Movie and Chinese Food
Dec. 12	Live Musical Performance Savannah Voice Festival	Jan. 2	Bingo
Dec. 19	Chanukah History Tim Slivinski	Jan. 9	Rabbis Without Borders Rabbi Rachael Bregman
		Jan. 16	Libraries for Kids Int. Roy Austin

Visit with old friends and meet new ones while enjoying a delicious lunch for only \$5 followed by an educational speaker or performer.
Don't forget to make your reservation at the JEA desk or by calling 912-355-8111

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 October 7, 2019)

Sharmaine Browne
Etienne & Kendall Du Toit
Susan Fitzmaurice
Claudia Thomas

Join the JEA

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

Types of Membership include:

Family Plans, Couple Plans, Senior Plans, Young Family Plans, Individual Plans
Military/Law Enforcement (active duty only)

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

JEA Donations (10/7/19-11/7/19)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Harriet Konter
Nancie & Fred Clark

JEA GENERAL DONATION

In memory of Muriel Maida
Joanne & Dick Hochman
In honor of the JEA Discussion Group
Marty Foxx
In memory of Lillian Lowe
Anne & Steven Scheer

ALLAN ULLMAN PLAYGROUND FUND

In memory of Thelma Rosen
In memory of Harriet Konter
Arlene & Michel Steinfeldt

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH

A donation by:
Sandra Seligman
In honor of AM Goldkrand
Sharon & Bill Sand

BERTHA & HYMIE KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Harriet Konter
Sheila & David Adelman
Sue & John Adler
Renee & Russell Bridges

Ellen Busch
Harriette Carter
Sarah Denmark & Adam Solender
Sam, Eddie, Liora & Amir Dressler
Rina Freeman
Sharon & Murray Galin
Faye & Gary Glancz
Robbie & Sander Hollander
Toby Hollenberg & Michael Bonder
Sara Jospin
Jane Kahn
Dale & Jerry Kaminsky
Sandra Katz
Brenda & Brian Kenworthy
LeeAnn & Jeff Kole
Sally Krissman
Sara & Christopher Lane
Walter Lewis
Gary Mankin
Nancy & Tony Montford
Mark Nathan
Eva Odrezin
Jamie & Greg Odrezin
Judy & Larry Odrezin
Henrietta & Ira Pearlman
Regina Platock & Harvey Kanter
Arlene & Allan Ratner

Jack Robertson
Cheryl & David Rubnitz
Sharon & Bill Sand
Florence Shayne
Elise & Victor Shernoff
Harriet Simowitz
South State Bank
Barbara & Alan Tanenbaum
Susan Tessel
Thomas & Hutton
Irma Fox Shulman Weiner
Weiner Shearhouse Weitz
Greenberg & Shawe
Beth Vantosh & Kenneth Richards
James Yeckley

JEA FITNESS FUND

In memory of Harriet Konter
Coastal Home Care

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Madeline Rubin
Elise & Victor Shernoff

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Lillian Lowe
In memory of Joe Virant
Tony Center



Health & Wellness

Eight Reasons to Run a 5K this Holiday Season



Kirby Southerland
Health & Wellness
Director

Chanukah is coming, and as you and your family partake in these eight days of celebration, here are eight reasons to join us for the Second Annual Oy Vey 5K!

1. It's a great way to challenge your fitness level - Hitting the pavement for a quick 3.1 miles is a great way to step up your cardio workouts and to move your body.
2. Think of all the calories you're burning - Running a 5K burns up to 400 calories - which makes room for a delicious beer and a latke at the finish line!
3. It's a great muscle toner - Toning up trouble spots, like your legs and glutes, is made easier by regular running, so why not kick that off with a 5K?
4. Running keeps you young - Studies show that running regularly can slow the aging process. What are you waiting for?
5. Running improves your mood - There's no better way to break through the Winter slump than to get your endorphins flowing. Whether you're running or walking, get outside and move your body!
6. It's a chance to give back to your community -

Participating in 5K's is an awesome FUNdrasier for your community center! Funds raised from the Oy Vey 5K go right back to the JEA for scholarships for programs for the Savannah community.

7. You'll sleep better - No, seriously! Sleep quality is shown to be improved with regular exercise.
8. It's just really fun - Themed 5K's are just a fun opportunity to get your family together and spend some time outside being active.

The Second Annual Oy Vey 5K is scheduled for December 22 at 3:30 at the JEA. This event is a fun way to celebrate the first night of Chanukah at the J. Join us for a run (or a walk!) and a refreshing beer and tasty latke at the finish line. You can sign up on our website today!

Private Swim Lessons - The Time is Now!



Lorin Titus
Health & Wellness
Programming
Coordinator

The summer sun has left Savannah and in its place there's a chill to the morning air and a promise of colder days ahead. But don't put those swim-suits away just yet; it's always warm and balmy on the deck of our indoor pool. The swim lesson waitlist has ended and our certified and professional staff of stellar swim instructors are ready and waiting for you!

Register now for private lessons through our aquatics department and stayed tuned for winter group lessons beginning in the new year. Don't wait until the summer heat is back upon us before teaching your children the joys of swimming.

COMING TO THE JEA IN 2020
PICKLEBALL
BEGINNING JANUARY 6, 2020
FOR JEA MEMBERS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY
12:00PM-2:00PM

SUNDAYS
9:30AM-11:00AM

WANT TO LEARN HOW TO PLAY?
TWO CHANCES FOR MEMBER CLINICS:
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 3:00PM-4:00PM
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 9:30AM-11:00AM





JEA Preschool Savannah News

Open House December 19 - 10am & January 29 - 7pm

JEA Preschool Savannah will host two Open Houses for prospective families on Thursday, December 19 at 10am and on Wednesday, January 29 at 7pm. Everyone is welcome; see what wonderful things are happening at Savannah's premier preschool program!

Don't miss out on touring our beautiful facility and receiving important registration information.

Call 912-355-8111 or email preschool@savj.org to make your reservation today!



JEA Preschool Savannah admits students of any race, color, national, racial or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

Providing for the social, emotional and cognitive growth of young children in a Judaic setting.



in the JEA Art Gallery

Edward Jones - December

Edward Richard Jones is a sculpture. He works with wood that he gets from friends and tree services. After a stint in the Navy, he attended Rhode Island College where he majored in metals and jewelry design. While there, he discovered his love for sculpture. While at Rhode Island College, Ed was asked if he could teach an after-hour's class for sterling silver jewelry making. He was also asked to teach the same course at the University of Rhode Island. He spent three years studying art in college before economics forced him to leave and get a job as a jewelry designer.

Said Ed, "The artist in me could not deal with changing my designs to save the department store buyers ten to twenty cents per piece. I took a job as a stone setter and stopped doing my own art. After about ten years of looking for what was missing in my life I went back to doing art." This is when he started carving figures and other sculptures. Two years later, he went to the Artful Deposit Gallery in New Jersey. They accepted and displayed his work.

Ed has been teaching himself about casting and is now sand-casting Aluminum. He retired from the workforce in 2013 and is now striving every day to make his artwork better. He works with wood, sterling silver, copper, aluminum and brass.

Says Ed, "I try to express the beauty of each element that I work with."



*Artwork available for viewing December 1-31, 2019
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception December 4, 6-8pm*

Nae'Keisha Jones - January 2020

Nae'Keisha Jones is an illustrator and writer from Colorado, now living in Savannah. She graduated from SCAD with a B.F.A in Illustration and a minor in Creative Writing. She is the author and illustrator of Anonymous as a Hippopotamus: The Tales of Ida.

She is involved within her community and has been featured in the A-Town Get Down Festival and the Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies Event. She gives back locally by teaching teens how to share their own stories by volunteering with DEEP's Young Author's Program, along with serving as an advocate for the HOPE World-wide Savannah Chapter.

*Artwork available for viewing January 2-31, 2020
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception
January 12, 3-5pm*



SIX13 CONCERT - A HIT!

Almost 400 people from throughout the community filled the JEA Auditorium to sing and dance with Prodezra (Reuben Formey) and Six13. Thank you to Bianca & Steven Hollander for spearheading and chairing this unbelievable community event.



Many Thanks to Our Sponsors



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Patricia & Syl Formey
Sally & Stephen Greenberg
Robbie & Sandy Hollander



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Linda & Stephen Sacks
Jenny & Aaron Tillinger



Jewish
Educational
Alliance



Savannah Jewish Federation



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

Eye on education

Or Katan, Or Eitan

A famous Hebrew Hanukka song describes the lights of the menorah as “each one is a small light (Or katan) but all of them together

are a powerful one (Or eitan)”. Like the hanukkiah we are about to light. Like Shalom School students who often come together as one bright light through the year: Tsedaka, achievements, mitzvah projects... At a time that world problems are so many and so complex, we are, each of us, only one out of 7.5 billion human beings. It feels like a grain of salt in the ocean and it makes it difficult to see the potential power of our personal actions.

The Jewish concept of “Divine Providence” (Hashgacha Pchaitit) is based on the idea that God gave us certain capacity, certain gifts and put us in a time and place where, if we maximize those gifts and that capacity, we can make a world of difference. The story of baby Moses is a perfect example of that idea: Pharaoh’s daughter happened to be there when Moses’ basket passes by. She heard his cry and, even so she suspected him to be an Israelite baby, she decided to

“extend her arm” and help that child.

Very often in life the reason why we don’t do what is good and positive is not because we don’t care, but because we think that whatever we could do doesn’t make a difference, so why bother, why extend our arm? Because Pharaoh’s daughter did extend her arm that day, Hashem extended its reach. She saved a child that not only changed Jewish history but the moral landscape of all mankind.

One of the three core part of Shalom School curriculum is the notion of Tikkun Olam, “Repairing the World”: We practice one little mitzvah at a time and we learn how each one us, even the youngest ones, can make our word a better place. We learn about Savlanut (patience) and how to progress one good deed at a time, one day at a time, one person at a time.

God does not ask us to do what we cannot, just do our best, extend our arm. Despite our frailties and seeming insignificance, it is important never to forget that when working together we can change the world, one mitzvah at a time.

Wishing you a Hanukka full of shining lights!

Eva Locker



Robin Rackoff

Mah Jongg and More

Thanksgiving has always been my favorite holiday. When we lived up north,

it was the one time every year that the entire family would get together. When your family is Jewish, Christian, Buddhist, Caucasian, Asian, Latina, Gay, Straight, and Lesbian, it’s not always easy to find a holiday approved by everyone. Hanukkah? A minor holiday. Christmas? Too commercial. Halloween? A pagan ritual. Forget about Columbus Day, which is now Indigenous Peoples’ Day. (I admit I did not know!) Groundhog’s Day might have made the cut, but what would we serve? Thanksgiving, though, is beloved by all.

The guests, all fifty of them, would start arriving two days in advance and not leave until two days afterward. They took up half the Holiday Inn. They would travel from all over – California, Oregon, and even Paris (the one in France, not the one in Texas). There were turkeys (several), briskets, and salmon (so the healthy eaters wouldn’t go hungry). There was special food for the vegans, for the gluten-free, the sugar-free, and for the tree-nut-free.

When dinner was just about ready, I’d call everyone into the kitchen (fortunately it was a big kitchen) and ask the guests to go

around the room and say one thing that they were thankful for. The first one would say something like, “I’m thankful that I have such a wonderful family and such good food.” The next one would say, “Yeah – what he said.” And that would be the end of the giving thanks!

Ten years ago, we moved down south, and that was the end of the family Thanksgiving. No one had a house large enough to accommodate the group. Until this year! My daughter, who lives in New Jersey, moved into a perfect Thanksgiving house and said that with my help (we all know what that means), we could resurrect our favorite get-together. We’ve lost a few family members since that last one, and some had not been born yet, but 50 still seems to be the magic number.

When dinner is ready, all 50 will gather in the kitchen, but this year, there will be no eating until we give thanks. It’s called Thanksgiving for a reason! When the eating is done and the kitchen is clean, we’ll break up into groups – the ping pong players in the game room, the young kids in the family room to watch a Disney movie, the women to play mah jongg, and the men to fall asleep on the couches. And I will look around the room and think about how much I have to be thankful for.

LETTERS

T O T H E E D I T O R

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation

Thank you for your recent gift, we are grateful for you support. You are helping us to change lives and you are the main reason for our success. Our expansion last year resulted in a 20% increase in the number of puppies born-to a record 128! It takes two years from birth until a dog is fully trained, so it will take time to increase the number of “partnerships” we can create.

But it is not just about puppies, it’s about helping more people-like Yehuda Persi. Yehuda was a young IDF soldier when a missile hit his jeep near Gaza-causing a traumatic brain injury and total blindness. It took Yehuda quite a while to regain full movement and the confidence he needed to get on with his life. He

came to us for help and we matched him with Pam at the end of last year. Yehuda is now well on his way to an exciting life with his new four-legged friend by his side.

Yehuda asked us to pass along his gratitude. He said, “You have no idea how much a already care about Pam. *We have only been together for a short time, but she has already saved my life in many different ways. I want to thank everyone who helped bring us together and making my life easier.*”

Your support allows people like Yehuda to maintain their independence. Thank you again!
Sincerely
Norman L. Leventhal
President
Israel Guide Dog Center

Your Campaign Dollars At Work My Camp Story

By Oliver Solomon Ceo

For the past two summers I’ve been going to Eden Village summer camp in Putnam, NY. This camp is basically a non-denominational hippie Jewish summer camp. We have a two acre farm which has about a ½ acre of vegetables that we use in our meals which we eat in the mess hall of course. We have a full kitchen staff and the food there is always homemade. We always have chicken on Wednesdays, and fish on Fridays. My personal favorite meal of the day at EVC (Eden Village Camp) is breakfast. We have around three coops of chickens each year and 3 - 4 goats.

The daily routine at Eden Village goes like this: wake up, go to this morning wake up thing called Modeh Ani, (like yoga or collecting the eggs from the chickens) have breakfast, do bunk activities,

do first activity (that you get to choose), go to the second activity that you choose, do the third activity that you choose, go back to bunk to rest, go to lunch, go back to bunk to clean it up and have shower time, have dinner, go back to bunk, read, go to sleep. It may sound boring but the activities are really fun. For instance, we have a lake, in which we can boat on the water

in kayaks, canoes, row boats, and even paddle boards. We have an apothecary and a greenhouse. We also have a pool for some reason. There’s a farmer’s kitchen (different from the mess hall kitchen) and an orchard. (different from the farm) The whole camp is a whopping 248 acres in all.

Bottom line, it’s a great camp and I really love it there.



SHABBAT SERVICES:

Friday 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
 Saturday 9:45 am Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon
 Mincha following Kiddush
 Saturday Evenings Maariv & Havdalah



CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

SAVANNAH GEORGIA'S CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE

DAILY SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm
 Monday & Tuesday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm
 Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm
 Thursday & Friday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm
 Saturday Evenings Maariv & Havdalah



Join us for our Hanukkah Party, Sunday, December 29th at 5:30 p.m.

\$10 per Person, \$25 per Family, RSVP to the AA office, 912-352-4737

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL

We have docent-led tours of our museum available
 from 10:00am - 3:30pm Monday - Friday.

For a complete schedule of services & events,
 check our website at www.mickveisrael.org

JUDAISM 101

A 12 week course led by Tim Slivinski

**TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM
 STARTING JANUARY 14**

TOPICS INCLUDE:

JEWISH BELIEFS, LIVING IN JEWISH TIME
 THE JEWISH STORY, ANTI-SEMITISM
 THE HOLOCAUST, LIVING A JEWISH LIFE

Cost: \$45 includes a book and educational materials

Contact Tim Slivinski at 912-233-1547 or tim@mickveisrael.org
 for more information or to sign up

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL'S

Hanukkah Celebration!



Friday December 13

Dinner, 6pm

Hanukkah Service, 7pm

Cost: \$6/person - \$12/Family for members
 \$8/person - \$16/family for non-Members
 RSVP to 912-233-1547

Don't forget to bring your menorah!

We will be collecting clothing
 for the homeless as well as new unwrapped
 gifts for children ages 5-13.

Book Review: The War I Finally Won

By Lila Allan- Age 9

The War I Finally Won

By Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

The War I Finally Won is a wonderful book that is an informational yet heartwarming story that I would recommend. I would recommend it to children ages 10 and up.

In *The War I Finally Won* there is a girl named Ada and her brother Jamie, they live with a nice older lady named Susan Smith who rescued them in London in 1940. Ada has a club foot and was abused badly by her biological mother who was pressured with work. Ada had been made to sleep in a cabinet under the sink and punished for stumbling, so living with Susan is a major upgrade even if Ada is scared.



Ada is very worried about work and money and trusting adults.

There is also a girl named Ruth, who is German and happens to be very scared and worried about what's happening in her homeland. In the course of her stay, Ada finds out more about Ruth's history than Ruth intended for her to. They eventually become friends.

They only have one book, *Swiss Family Robinson*, which Ada hates. Susan eventually gains Ada's trust, Jamie gets to take care of the cat named Bovril, and Susan gives

Ada a horse named Buttercup.

PJ Our Way is the next chapter for PJ Library for kids age 8-12 where they can select their own book each month. Interested in joining PJ Our Way? Sign up today at pjourway.org. Interested in attending fun programs and having your book review published? Contact orlyhenkin@savj.org.

Hadassah Honors

Continued from page 1

in 1997 and 2003. She represented the SE Region on Hadassah's Prime Leaders Council.

For many of the years that she was dedicating her time to Hadassah, Janis worked as a dental hygienist and was busy raising a growing family. She has been active in the Savannah Jewish Federation and in the former Council of Jewish Women and B'nai Brith Women. Janis also was involved at Savannah Country Day while her children attended school there.

Today, Janis is focusing her attention on Hadassah's future rather than its past.

She is counting on Hadassah Medical Organization — with its intense research in neurosciences — to facilitate progress in the fight against Parkinson's disease, which Janis herself was diagnosed with in 2003. For the last 16 years she has continued her fundraising work for Hadassah but with a much more personal stake. Knowing that HMO — using cutting edge research — is making real progress in treating ALS and MS, she

is hopeful that better treatments or even a cure for Parkinson's disease can also be a reality in the foreseeable future.

At Janis's suggestion, the money raised at this year's Myrtle Wreath event will be earmarked specifically for research in HMO's neurosciences department.

Hadassah Medical Organization was founded by the Woman's Zionist Organization of America more than 100 years ago, and has defined health care in Israel and consequently the world. It is about compassion, healing and life for the more than one million patients it serves each year. Building bridges to peace is at the core of HMO's mission where all who come through their doors are treated, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity. HMO is the only medical organization in Israel to have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Please join us in honoring Janis Javetz. Tickets are \$60 per person; for more information please contact Sue Adler, susandemberadler@gmail.com.

Your Campaign Dollars At Work

My Camp Story

By Sophie Guthrie

Camp Coleman has become my favorite place ever! I have made lifelong friends that I look forward to seeing every summer. This was my third year and the best one yet!

Over the past year, many of my friends, including myself had our Bat Mitzvah's. It has been so exciting to go through this meaningful time with my camp friends. We all know preparing for a Bat Mitzvah is challenging, but knowing my friends were doing the same thing made it easier to get through. I have been fortunate to be able to attend some of my friend's Bat Mitzvah's. This never would have been possible without Camp Coleman.

Lots of people don't understand how or why I like to go away to camp for so long. But to me 25 days isn't enough! What makes Camp Cole-

man so amazing is the people; friends, counselors, staff...they are all so special! You might ask why? Well the simple answer is they care and they

listen. It is not easy to find people like that but Camp Coleman has them all!

Seeing my friends this year at camp was better because many of us saw each other throughout the year. It was interesting to see what they were

like outside of camp. My friends were just as caring and fun outside of camp as they are at camp. We were able to spend time this summer reminiscing about prior years at camp and also looking forward to what our future holds! One thing we know for sure is that we will always be Camp Coleman kids!

Sophie Guthrie's summer camp experience at Camp Coleman was made possible in part thanks to a grant from the Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign.



Jewish Community Night

June 4

The Engagement Ambassador Impact

Over the past five years, the Savannah Jewish Federation has made a great investment in outreach and engagement initiatives, one of which is with the Savannah College of Art & Design's Hillel. The goal has been to connect students to one another, to Hillel, and to the larger Savannah Jewish community.

Hillel has been an official club at SCAD for 18 years, and is overseen by our new Faculty Advisor Kimberly Chonko. Her enthusiasm and dedication to SCAD Hillel is evident in her desire to help the club continue to grow and succeed.

Five years ago, with the help of the Savannah Jewish Federation, that SCAD Hillel started the Student Engagement Ambassador program. Each quarter, SJF hires two students to be Engagement Ambassadors. They are tasked with finding, communicating, engaging, and connecting uninvolved Jewish students to Hillel and its members.

With the Ambassadors serving as a bridge between the Hillel members and the Executive Board, they help identify and present the wants and needs of the freshman class. Engagement Ambassadors have quickly learned over the years that not only are they a resource to new students, but they can have a significant impact on a student's Jewish experience while at SCAD.

We are excited to introduce our Student Engagement Ambassadors of the quarter, Jessica Benson and Nadav Ben-Haim.

Jessica is from East Brunswick, New Jersey. She is currently in her



Jessica Benson

junior year at the Savannah College of Art and Design and is an industrial design major with a minor in business management and entrepreneurship. Jessica loves to travel and spent her Spring semester traveling throughout Asia. She was inspired to become a student ambassador for SCAD's Hillel because of the lack of Jewish life on campus. She grew up in a town that had a large Jewish community, so coming to SCAD was a hard transition but knowing that she has Hillel has helped her feel like she is back at home. Jessica is excited for the upcoming year and is looking forward to helping the freshmen discover Hillel and letting them know that there is always an open door.

Nadav was born in Tel Aviv, Israel and attended Ironi Dalet Municipal as a high school student. While in school he volunteered as a tutor and youth mentor at the Ramat Israel Community Center. After graduating from high school he served in the IDF from 2014 to 2018 as a non-commissioned officer. While serving in the IDF he was chosen to be a Soldier escort for a Taglit Birthright group. He was honorably discharged at the rank of Sergeant First Class. Nadav is currently studying Game Design at SCAD. He is excited to take on this role as a Student Engagement Ambassador for Hillel and help other students make meaningful connections with other Jewish students and the local Jewish community.



Nadav Ben-Haim



Ester Rabhan,
Principal
Rambam Day
School

Eye on education

Which Role Is Mine?

What is the role of a parent?

To provide an optimal environment, protection, an education, guidance, direction, assistance, support, encouragement and emotional and physical protection.

Does this description sound familiar? Isn't this the exact description of what we expect from our children's teachers?

I deduce from this that the most effective message a school can communicate to its parent body is: Partner with us to ensure your child's environment is optimal, that they're protected, that they're educated, that they're given guidance, that they're given direction, support, encouragement and emotional and physical support.

Sounds like a partnership that could indeed greatly fortify our children to withstand the many challenges that face them. Sounds like a bond that will treasure each of its participants and each be for-

ever grateful for the partnership.

We can talk about all the classes our staff and administration take to strengthen their classroom presentations; for instance how to push language with pre-school children, how important continuous interaction is for toddlers, how crucial positive responses and conversations are for toddlers, how to make story time come alive, and then there are all the classes about physical, mental and emotional development. We take classes on what to expect at various stages of growth and how to help children transition into these various stages. The list goes on and on. Our continuous education goes on and on. It's a necessity in this ever-changing world we live in. However, while I believe so much is accomplished in school with great teachers and great programs and ongoing professional education; so much more can be accomplished for each child when parents are partners with their child's school. Then, success has a far stronger chance!

WELLS
FARGO

ADVISORS

Aaron M. Tillinger

is proud to support

The Savannah Jewish Federation



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**LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING
TO DO?**

**Check the
Community
Calendar**

www.savj.org



PJ Library & PJ OUR WAY™

PJ Library is for Children ages 6 months to 8 years old being raised in a Jewish home, residing in the Savannah area. Parents can register their children for PJ Library at www.savj.org

Families with children ages 9 to 11 years old can register for PJ Our Way at PJOurWay.org



BOOK REVIEWS

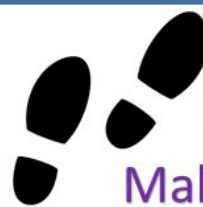
Love your PJ Library and PJOW books?
Want to share with others?
Have your own reviews published!

Send your reviews (with a picture of yourself reading that book) to orlyhenkinsavj.org.



Savannah Jewish Federation
Your campaign dollars at work!

Need more information? Email
PJLibrary@savj.org



Step Up to a Great Volunteer Opportunity

Make A Mat for the Homeless

- Step 1: Recycle your grocery bags
- Step 2: Make "Plarn"- plastic yarn
- Step 3: Crochet or braid a sleep mat
- Step 4: Teach someone else

Easy to learn. Free Classes available. Email Carol: MStarArts@gmail.com

A Friendly Reminder

The next issue of the Savannah Jewish News will be our combined January/February issue.

The deadline for all submissions is December 20th.

Please send all materials to sjnews@savj.org.

Post Dash Chanukah Bash

Sunday, December 22
3:00 p.m.

Games • Bounce House • Crafts • Food • Face Painting
\$5 per person or \$15 per family



JEA OY VEY 5K

CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO
SOMETHING DIFFERENT

COME RUN WITH US

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22
3:00 P.M.

SAVANNAHJEA.ORG



IT'S TIME TO GIVE BACK

#GIVINGTUESDAY

Savannah Jewish Federation 2020
Annual Community Campaign

.....
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

6:00-8:00 P.M.

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
.....

MAKE YOUR
2020 CAMPAIGN
PLEDGE

AND

SIGN UP TO
MAKE
PHONE CALLS

WWW.SAVJ.ORG



SAVANNAH JEWISH
FEDERATION



You Power Jewish Moments

Your support of the Savannah Jewish Federation makes it possible for PJ Library families to gather to celebrate Jewish moments together and create memories to last a lifetime.

Across Savannah and across oceans, your support poweres innumerable moments that build, ensure and enrich Jewish life. No organization powers more Jewish moments than Federation.

Give Today
www.savj.org



Savannah Jewish Federation

Consider endowing your gift to ensure a strong Jewish world for generations to come.