



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, January 17	5:26pm
Friday, January 24	5:32pm
Friday, January 31	5:39pm
Friday, February 7	5:45pm
Friday, February 14	5:52pm
Friday, February 21	5:57pm
Friday, February 28	6:03pm

In this Issue

- P2 Savannah Jewish Film Festival
- P4 Your Campaign Dollars at Work
- P9 JEA CenterPiece
- PII Book Review by Dinah Henkin
- PI3 Maxine Patterson Named 2020 MLK Marshal

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2020 Campaign Underway

By Dr. Linda Sacks,
2020 Campaign Chair

The Mission Statement of the Savannah Jewish Federation states in part that we are charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds. Federation seeks to advance the welfare of the total Jewish community and strongly supports Israel and world Jewry.

Where does Federation get the power to do this awesome job? From you.

The theme of this year’s campaign is “JEWISH MOMENTS POWERED BY YOU.”

What exactly does this mean? After googling this phrase I found a myriad of answers - all focused on the power of the individual to affect change. These articles went so far as to suggest specific ways in which each of us can contribute to bettering the world, as we Jews say, to advance Tikun Olam.

So what can you do?

You can speak out on issues of importance to you – poverty, homeless-

ness, the environment, bullying, and anti-semitism for example.

Or, you can e-mail, text or phone your representatives in government to let them know what issues concern you, and where you stand on them – issues such as hunger, the opioid crisis, job creation, anti-BDS legislation, and immigration.

Why not attend rallies on behalf of causes you believe in and marches against issues you find troubling? Maybe you can start a blog or use Facebook or twitter to express your views and gain followers for issues dear to your heart and/or pocketbook.

You can volunteer your time with agencies that make a difference. That is what many of us here tonight are doing with our presence and continued volunteerism.

All of these actions are worthy. Some have a reasonable chance of success, others not so much, and they all require some planning and a time commitment.

Through the Savannah Jewish Federation’s Annual Community Campaign we offer you a chance to change the world by combining your individual power with the power of your friends and neighbors in the coastal empire, and ultimately in the international Jewish community. It will take you less than a minute.

You can contribute funds to the Savannah Jewish Federation. Federation dollars support the local, national, and international needs of the Jewish People. Federation’s impressive system of services is underwritten mainly by this campaign.

What have we done in the past? We have helped fund the needs of our community organizations, such as the JEA, Shalom School, JFS and SCAD Hillel, and to send significant money overseas for resettlement of refugees and to meet the needs of elderly Jews living in poverty in Europe.

Locally, with complete confidentiality,

continued on page 7

2020 Savannah Jewish Film Festival: A New Decade of Contemporary Jewish Cinema

By Abigail Stevens,
Community Program Coordinator

Kicking off January 22 and running through January 26, The Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial Savannah Film Festival will feature a variety of film selections in all

genres. This year’s festival has been capsulated into five days in which movie-goers are encouraged to attend the films, enjoy meals and interact in discussions.

Now in its 16th year, the Savannah Jewish Film Festival has become a Savannah tradition and has thrived over the years due to a dedicated festival committee and supporters of the arts within the Jewish Community.

When asked to share what they enjoyed most about the festival, committee member

Nancy Cunningham pointed to a love for cinema itself, “I enjoy participating in planning the Savannah Jewish Film Festival, as I love innovative, edgy films

that are not seen in the multiplexes. I look for films that have appeal based on the quality of the script and acting, as well as production values. Jewish content is added value and the reason to attend Savannah’s own Jewish Film Festival.”

Many committee members juggle busy schedules yet still find time to make the festival a priority. Heather Szatmary mentions, “Because I teach

at night, I can’t attend most of the meetings and even some of the festival, but I cherish working behind the scenes. Evaluating the potential films, I lean towards the quirkier movies, and strive to bring balance to the schedule. At the festival, I sell tickets which allows me to greet the filmgoers-some with familiar faces and some that are new to me, but all of whom are coming together to be entertained by movies that we might not otherwise be able to see in Savannah.”

New committee member, Bianca Hollander, brought a fun new engagement idea to the committee as she and her husband, Steven Hollander, worked to produce a promotional video for the festival to be featured on social media and to advertise the festival to the Savannah community.

continued on page 12





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 - *Italian Feast*

1:30 p.m.

Egg Cream,
The Last Resort

Thursday, January 23

6:00 p.m.

Dinner - *Salmon*

7:00 p.m.

Refuge
NoBody Wants Us



Friday, January 24

12:30 p.m.

Lunch - *Chicken Schnitzel*

1:30 p.m.

Wendy's Shabbat
Gefilte
L'Dor, V'Dor
Absolutely No Spitting

Saturday, January 25

7:00 p.m.

Dessert Reception

7:30 p.m.

The Fiddle (short)
Fiddler: Miracle of
Miracles

Sunday, January 26

6:00 p.m.

Dinner - *Glazed Meatloaf*

7:00 p.m.

Crescendo

Single Movie Tickets

JEA Member: \$10

Community Member: \$12

* Purchase your tickets (movie only) at the JEA beginning 30 minutes prior to each screening.

Meal Tickets

Meal reservations must be made at least two days in advance. No meal walk-ins can be accommodated.

Lunch

JEA Member: \$5

Community Member: \$7

Dinner & Opening Reception:

JEA Member: \$12

Community Member: \$14

* Dessert reception on Sat. 1/25 is free with admission to the film

Full Festival Pass

*Admits one to all films and Opening Reception only. All other meal reservations are paid for separately.

JEA Member: \$60

Community Member: \$72

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

This article will be my first of 2020. I hope that you had a Great Chanukah. The Festival of Lights is one Jewish Moment that is special to me. As kids, on the eighth night we turned out the lights and ate by the menorah lights. I know that my brother David and I kept the tradition alive when our kids were young. Also, I know that you all enjoyed the Oy Vey 5k and the menorah lighting at the JEA. What a way to end 2019.

2020 will be a great year. At the Federation, January is a busy month. The weekly Food for Thought luncheon program is attracting more and more participants. Keep coming and Jamie will keep organizing exciting programs for the community. The Annual Campaign is well underway. It is only with each person's support that the Federation can continue supporting the great community events and organizations that allow Jewish Moments to be made in our community and throughout the world.

Each of you should pledge to the campaign even if no one has contacted

you about contributing. If you want to assist in soliciting donations, the Federation will have at least one phoneathon and other fundraising events in January. Please contact Jamie Richman for more information.

From January 22nd to 26th, the Federation will present the 2020 Savannah Jewish Film Festival. The Film festival committee has been hard at work for several months to make this year's event special. The festival will begin with a Wednesday reception and night time movie (7:00pm). Thursday there will be both a lunchtime and dinnertime movie. Friday, there will be a lunch and then a movie and Saturday evening there is a Desert reception followed by a movie. Sunday, the festival will end with another Dinner and a final movie. Please make reservations for the meals and the movie as soon as possible. The Federation has scheduled the movies as outlined above in order to encourage increased attendance and interest in the films. I can think of few events better than a meal and a movie, so please join us.



Adam Solender
Executive Director
JEA/SJF

Executive Director's Message The Roaring Twenties

As we have entered into the "Second" Roaring Twenties (2020) we harken back to the key attributes of the "original Roar-

ing Twenties," (1920s) a time when people defied convention (notably, Prohibition), indulged in new styles of food, dress and dance, and most notably for the rejection of traditional moral values.

One of the moral values that is under siege as we've begun the next decade is anti-Semitism.

You'd have to be living 'under a rock' to not note the increased violence being perpetrated against Jews throughout the world. To some, it feels like just over 81 years ago, a time when systematic discrimination against Jews became violent during Kristallnacht when hundreds of synagogues were burned or damaged, thousands of businesses ransacked, and tens of thousands were gathered to go to internment/concentration camps. It didn't happen in a vacuum as racist ideas had been espoused for years ultimately turning into mass violence and the destruction of European Jewry.

Over the recent past years we have watched 'from afar' at what was going on throughout Europe with many thinking it could never happen here; and nothing could be further from the truth. From Pittsburgh to Poway to Munsey, Jews are under attack throughout this country. We don't know how many other potential threats were addressed by local and national law enforcement before they happened.

Don't think things have changed? Just look at our local synagogues on a Shabbat morning - armed police presence, doors locked, cameras noting every entrant into the building. Two year olds at the JEA Preschool take part in 'active shooter' exercises throughout the year. The Alliance has locked lobby doors. Nothing could be more symbolic of a community which is unsure of its security.

Is this 1938 all over again? I would think not, yet, things are becoming ever more worrisome. The internet has certainly changed things. No longer do you have to meet people of like mind to share hatred; it is as close as

your fingertips. One of the common denominators of many of the perpetrators of hate crimes is their use of the internet with many of them visiting the very same hate sites.

One of the challenges is that this hatred is no longer just amongst groups, there are many 'lone wolves' who exist under the radar for many years before something happens that causes them to act on their hatred.

Another challenge is that the threat to the Jewish community is coming from both the extreme left and right.

Education is one of the cornerstones of fighting anti-Semitism. No one comes out of the womb hating. We must rail over and over against intolerance. We must stand united against the dangerous words that are spreading hatred and learn to value what is unique in our religion and others.

There must be a united effort...Jewish and non-Jewish to address the oldest baseless hatred as it is slowly wearing away the very fabric of our democracy. The Jewish community can stand up and speak, but it is not enough, everyone must stand up and speak, whether it is violence against our community or any other minority.

Too many people have taken to hide their heritage. Jews around the world have taken to wearing a baseball hat to cover their yarmulke, no longer wearing jewelry that might identify them and avoiding anything with Israel printed on it. Holocaust historian, Deborah Lipstadt recently wrote a distressing article titled, "Jews Are Going Underground" describing such phenomena, "When Jews feel it is safer for them to go 'underground' as Jews, something is terribly wrong-wrong for them, and even more so, wrong for the society in which they live."

It should be a clarion call to the American Jewish community. We must not and cannot allow our individual Jewish identities nor our collective Jewish communal identities to be suppressed, hidden, or covered up in the bowels of our homes, synagogues or community centers.

It is time to stand tall, to claim what is both our Jewish and American freedoms. It is time for our leaders and ourselves to proudly proclaim our Jewish and American identities and to fight the scourge of anti-Semitism, and all forms of racism, bigotry and hatred...as Savannahians, as Jews, and as Americans.

Like to read Jewish-related books?

The Savannah Jewish News is compiling a list of people to read and write reviews of Jewish-themed books that we receive. Your substantive review would be about 250 words and include your name and affiliation to any organization, if useful to the reader.

You'll return the book to us with your review so that we may repurpose it.

If interested, please email sjn@savj.org



Your Campaign Dollars At Work

Yemen Orde Youth Village

Yemin Orde Youth Village, located on 77 acres atop Mount Carmel in northern Israel, is home, school and safe haven to 430 at-risk and immigrant youth from North Africa, Iran, India, Yemen, Eastern Europe, Ethiopia, France, Brazil, and the former Soviet Union. Most of the children have suffered trauma in their young lives including loss, neglect, abandonment and extreme poverty. Not only do they have Jewish refugee children, the student population includes Muslim refugees from Darfur and other conflict zones.

Historically, Yemin Orde Youth Village was founded in 1953 by the British Friends of Youth Aliyah. The Village was named for British Major General Orde Charles Wingate, an ardent supporter of the Zionist cause and influential force in the formation of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). “Yemin Orde” literally means “in the memory of Orde.”

As Europe slowly recovered from the ravages of World War II and survivors emerged from the horrors of Nazi concentration camps, a newly-founded State of Israel stood

as a beacon of hope to these homeless souls. Most noteworthy, Yemin Orde Youth Village provided a safe haven and home for these Holocaust orphans and immigrant children during the great immigration wave to Israel of the fifties.

The Village remains open 24/7, 365 days a year, for youth who have no other place to call home in Israel. Yemin Orde provides a high ratio of staff to students and provides individualized therapeutic care and academic tutoring to those in need of extra supportive services. Additionally, the Village’s “Informal Educators” provide mentoring to troubled youth and are available 24 hours a day.

At Yemin Orde Youth Village, they work to help their children understand their connection to Judaism and Israel. Like most teenagers, they are trying to figure out who they are, where they fit in and who they want to become. In addition, they struggle to find their place in a new country, where they need to learn a new language and culture.

Jewish and Israel education

does not take place in a vacuum, but rather is integrated into the daily life of Yemin Orde and experienced in a real, vibrant and meaningful way. Children learn about prayer in morning discussion groups and prayer services. Importantly, Shabbat and holidays are celebrated as one community, beginning at the synagogue where everyone gathers for evening services, continuing on through communal meals and discussions. Finally, children build a connection to their new home through field trips and hikes all over Israel, where the Bible and modern Zionism and the State of Israel come together.

The village has served as a model for the Agahozo Shalom Village in Rwanda and has twice received the President’s Award for ‘Excellence in Education’.

The Yemin Orde Youth Village is one of sixteen beneficiaries of the Savannah Jewish Federation’s Overseas Investment Grants program. Beneficiaries are nominated by members of the community who have some relationship with the program.

LETTERS

T O T H E E D I T O R

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation to Latet. Your support demonstrates to people in need in Israel that the Jewish community has not forsaken them; they are not alone. I let you imagine how strong your support was for families in need.

At Latet, we are constantly working to create a more just society by reducing poverty and mobilizing Israelis toward acts of giving and mutual responsibility. We provide assistance to Israel’s needy citizens on an egalitarian basis, addressing the most pressing problems facing underprivileged members of Israeli society, such as poverty and hunger, regardless of an individual’s religion, race, age, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.

Your support is essential to the successful continuation of our various programs and our

organization as a whole. Together we will work towards ending poverty.

We are grateful to have partners like Savannah Jewish Federation that support us in our mission to build a better and more just society in Israel. Sincerely and in gratitude, Eran Weintrob, Executive Director Gilles Darmon, Founder and Chairman

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation

On behalf of the thousands of poor children and families that receive food from us every week, we thank that Savannah Jewish Federation for its gift.

Yad Ezra V’Shulamit started giving away 50 food baskets in 1988. We now distribute 3,000 weekly food baskets each week plus 40,000 baskets before the holidays which feed over 100,000 people! Our Children’s Centers break the

cycle of poverty for undernourished children who receive a daily hot meal, help with their homework and a lot of love. Our holistic approach to poverty includes our successful job desk and employment counseling service, assisting low-income families to emerge from the cycle of poverty.

Without friends, such as the Savannah Jewish Federation, none of this would be possible. On your next visit to Israel, we would be honored to show you first hand, what we do for the poor in Israel.

Thanks again for joining our team

Tefilla Busbaum
Director of Resource Development
Breaking the cycle of poverty...One child at a time.



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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

Neither the publisher nor the editor assumes responsibility for the kashrut of the services or merchandise advertised in this paper. If you have questions regarding kashrut, please consult your rabbi.

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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.

Savannah Jewish Film Fest Continued from page 1

Both festival committee members and volunteers are vital to the success of the festival and that is an aspect that we would like to highlight this year.

The festival opens on Wednesday evening, January 22, with an Opening Reception of heavy hors'doeuvres catered by local chef Bryan Graves, who will oversee the food throughout the festival. The opening night feature will be *The Keeper*, a dramatic romance in which a German POW and a young English woman overcome prejudice, personal tragedy and public hostility as World War II came to an end.

Movie-goers are invited back on Thursday January 23 to reminisce over a for a classic Italian luncheon followed by two films - A documentary short, *Egg Cream*, which looks at the enduring meaning of a beloved chocolate soda drink, born in Jewish immigrant neighborhoods at the turn of the 20th Century. And then, *The Last Resort*, a documentary in which photographers Andy Sweet and Gary Monroe focus on the sunburned paradise of 1970s Miami Beach and its vibrant community of Jewish retirees. Then we invite you back Thursday evening for a salmon dinner as we screen *Refuge*, a short film about a young woman named Rachel who moved to Austria and runs headlong into the trauma associated with the Holocaust-and her feelings about the refugee crisis. Following is *Nobody Wants Us*, a film that tells the story of three teenagers and their families hoping to make it safely onto American soil after escaping the Nazi invasion of Europe. These two films will be followed by a moderated discussion be-



tween David Wurawa, lead actor, Michael Hofstein, Writer and Producer (both of *Refuge*) and filmmaker Laura Seltzer-Duny (of *Nobody Wants Us*). Friday, January 24 will be a lunch screening of a number of shorts that celebrate Jewish culture, family, and community: *Wendy's Shabbat*, *Ge-filte*, *L'Dor V'Dor*, and *Absolutely No Spitting*. Lunch will be a traditional chicken schnitzel.

Saturday evening features a free dessert reception and two films that take two different perspectives on the story of *Fiddler on the Roof*. First, will be a short animated film, *The Fiddle (Der Fidl)*, based on Sholem Aleichem's short story, "The Fiddle", a prequel to the later well know story that became a Broadway sensation. Then, *The Fiddler: Miracle of Miracles* will give a glimpse of the behind the scenes history and making of *Fiddler on the Roof*, one of Broadway's most beloved musicals.

The finale of the festival on Sunday evening, January 26, featuring a savory glazed meatloaf dinner and the film *Crescendo*, that tells the story of a world famous conductor who tries to create an Israeli-Palestinian orchestra.

Watch your mailboxes for the complete festival schedule. Full festival passes and meal reservations may be purchased on our secure website, www.savj.org. Meal reservations must be made 48 hours in advance. Tickets for individual films will be available at the door 30 minutes prior to each screening.

Looking forward to seeing you at the movies!



The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks our Contributors

SJF GENERAL DONATION – FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A donation was made by
Sue Adler

SJF GENERAL DONATION

In honor of Marlena Shear
Jenny & Josh Shear

TIKVAH FUND

In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy
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In honor of AM Goldkrand
Arlene & Allan Ratner
In honor of Biff & Jerry Montana
Merry & Richard Bodziner
In memory of Muriel Maida
Jamie & Steven Richman
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In memory of Julius Hornstein
Sally Krissman
In honor of David Byck
Sarah Denmark
& Adam Solender
In honor of Sharon Galin
Merry & Richard Bodziner

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In honor of Maddox & Morgan Tirey
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Jamie & Steven Richman
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Naomi Silva & family

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In honor of Sigrid Massenbauer
Donna & Ron Cohen
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Helese & Dan Sandler

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES FUND FRIENDS CAMPAIGN

A donation was made by
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Dr. Adelle Burnsed-Geffen

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Merry & Richard Bodziner

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In memory of Harriet
& Lawrence Kontor
Angie & Skip Weiland

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In memory of Harriet Kontor
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KAY BECKER ISRAEL FUND

In memory of Lillian Lowe
Elaine Becker

CAROL & JOEL GREENBERG HEALTH RE SOURCE FUND

A donation was made by
Susan Rosenzweig

**LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING
TO DO?**

**Check the
Community
Calendar**

www.savj.org



Save The Date

**Purim
Palooza**

SUNDAY, MARCH 8





Join Yachad for a
**MIDDLE SCHOOL
DAY OF ACTION**

Monday, January 20

9:00 AM-4:00 PM

\$25

A day on, not off!

Spend the day giving back to the seniors of Senior Citizens, Inc. followed by a fun afternoon at Frames n' Games!

Lunch will be provided

Register by January 15
www.savj.org



THE SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION BOARD OF
GOVERNORS CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

**JACK MALITZ LEVY
LEADERSHIP AWARD DINNER**

HONORING

STEPHEN GREENBERG

*For a lifetime of leadership, dedication and
love for the Savannah Jewish Community*

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26
SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
\$100 PER PERSON**

RESERVE TICKETS AT WWW.SAVJ.ORG

The Jack Malitz Levy Award is the highest honor the
Savannah Jewish community bestows upon its leaders

Food prepared and served by Murray Gottlieb and staff

SAVANNAH JEWISH COMMUNITY

SHABBATON

February 28

Jewish Educational Alliance

Join us as we sing, pray and celebrate Shabbat together!

5:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat

Get in the Shabbat Spirit with Shabbat Music & a family friendly reception

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Services

- **Community Shabbat Services** - Engaging and spiritual service
- **Young Family Service** — for families & kids up to 4th grade

Both services will have acoustical music accompaniment

7:15 p.m. Community Shabbat Dinner

*All meals prepared by the JEA are under Kosher supervision.
Sealed Kosher meals available upon request.*

Cost for Dinner:

\$18 per adult • \$10 per child

RSVP by February 21

912-355-8111 or www.savj.org



2020 Campaign Continued from page 1

ality with respect and dignity, hundreds of Jews were served meals and provided with supermarket gift cards; or received health care assistance, including prescription medicines; Many were given emergency cash for missed mortgage payments, rent, utilities and other necessities.

We trained the next generation of leaders, through YESOD - where to date, 36 community members have participated. One graduate - single handedly - organized the upcoming six 13 concert, which was a sold out event.

Federation provided essential grants to BBYO, Savannah Jewish Archives, Jewish Agency for Israel, JDC, ADL, birthright Israel, and dozens of other organizations that enhance and reflect our values. Our Overseas mini-Grant Nominations program, this year distributed \$500 grants to 16 organizations that make a difference in the lives of Jews throughout the world. These groups included, teens at Camp Szarvas in Hungary, Lone Soldiers in the IDF, and Isha L'Isha, the oldest grassroots feminist organization in Israel

There is little red tape attached to Federation -we are not a bureaucracy. We move fast; we waste no precious resources. We have an amazing 4 star charity navigator rating, a status which shows how efficiently a charity sustains its programs and services and their level of commitment to good governance, best practices, and openness with information. Our allocations process involves 35 community members from all 3 synagogues, and the unaffiliated, who

evaluate and hash-out how the funds we raise are distributed.. The results are published in SJN, and available to anyone who wants to know where the money goes.

Last year we raised \$1,141,479. This year we are looking to raise \$1,200,000, Our campaign team leadership this year are Women's co-chairs Lynn Reeves and Michelle Allen, and Men's chair Matthew Allen..

So, what can you do? You can continue your monetary support to the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Community Campaign, hopefully increasing your pledge. We know that everyone gives to non-Jewish causes, but only Jews can be counted on to give to Jewish causes.

You can help by cheerfully help spread the message and solicit others when you are asked. Educate yourself on the myriad of Federation accomplishments, so when you tell others during solicitation your words will flow from the heart. You can come out and join us for telethon, on #GivingTuesday, which is December 3. Last year we were able to recruit over 80 new donors through telethon outreach.

Consider that the welfare of the Jewish World is hanging in the balance, and that your pledge will make the difference.

The next Jewish moment for someone in our community - maybe even for someone you know - may very well be powered by YOU.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Fay M. Silverman

Who died Monday, November 11, 2019.

She is survived by her children, Davida Silverman Kashdan (Alan) of Vienna, Virginia, Josef Silverman (Carol) of Greensboro, NC, and Mathew Silverman (Charly) of Boca Raton FL; brothers and sisters-in-law, Irwin ("Buddy") Reed and Ramon Silverman (Renie) of Savannah, Beverly Merlin and Dottie Merlin of Atlanta; eight grandchildren, Kate Kashdan of Washington, D.C., Harry Kashdan of Columbus, Ohio, and Alix Kashdan of New Haven, CT, William Silverman (Julie), Andrew Silverman and Marley Silverman of Greensboro, NC, and Rachael Leah Harris (Aaron) of North Miami Beach FL and Tzvi Silverman (Rachel) of Jerusalem, Israel as well as 10 great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donation may be made to The Cottage School - 700 Grimes Bridge Rd., Roswell, GA 30075, The Rambam Day School - 111 Atlas Street, Savannah, Ga 31405, Hospice Savannah - Post Office Box #13190, Savannah, Georgia 31416-0190 or Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob - 5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405.

Philip Charles Cooper

Who died Thursday, December 12, 2019.

He is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Howard and Nancy Cooper of Rockville, Maryland, and by his sister, Rachel Perling of Atlanta, Georgia.

Morris Hyman Lamhut

Who died Tuesday, December 17, 2019.

He is survived by two daughters, Faye Brill and Sherry Spevack and her husband, Michael; one son, Lester Lamhut; three grandchildren, Mark Brill, Louis Spevack and Janine Kaiser and her husband, Michael; two great-grandchildren, Naliyah Kaiser and Lincoln Kaiser, and nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be made to Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob - 5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405 or the Veterans Council Of Chatham County - Post Office Box 16561, Savannah, Georgia 31416-3261.

William Houdini "Dennie" Bradley

Who died Thursday, December 19, 2019.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Riette Hirsch Bradley; son Dr. Paul Bradley and daughter-in-law Mindy Bradley; son Mark Bradley and daughter-in-law Amy Bradley; grandchildren Adam and Holly Bradley, Dr. Amanda and Dr. Steven Kent, Caroline and Zachary Shultz, Dr. Brooke and Stuart Halpern, and Andrew Bradley; and great-grandson, Charles Bradley Kent. He is also survived by his sister Joy Bradley and several nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donation may be made to Congregation B'nai Brith Jacob Synagogue - 5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405.

Catherine Elizabeth Gleghorn Sacaloff

Who died Thursday evening, December 19, 2019.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 49 years, Harold Sacaloff and their five cherished children: Debra Potenzzone and her husband, Paul, of Midway, Georgia and their three sons and seven grandchildren, Laura Robertson and her husband, Craig, of Pembroke, Georgia, Mark Sacaloff of Waretown, New Jersey, Paul Sacaloff of Austin, Texas, and Rebecca Morgans of Union Beach, New Jersey. Catherine also leaves behind her sister, Denise McCallum and her husband, John, and daughter, Caelin, of Lacey Township, New Jersey; a brother, Thomas Gleghorn and his wife Christeen, of Barnegat, New Jersey and their four children. Fur baby, Bootsie, is also left behind by Catherine, who gave her many years of love and feline companionship.

CELEBRATING A

Simcha?

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Engagements

Weddings

Births

We Want To Know!

Share your good news with the
Savannah Jewish News!

Send the vital statistics to

sjnews@savj.org



JEA CAMP SAVANNAH 'CAMP ISRAELI AWESOME!'

Get Hooked

Jun 1-5

Week 1

School is out and summer is here! Join us for a 'reel' fun week of fishing, ice cream at Hull Park and an Under the Sea Dress-Up Day. Are you ready to get hooked on camp?

Ninja Academy

Jun 8-12

Week 2

Do you have what it takes to be a Camp Savannah Ninja? Master your skills through fun drills, stealth training and our first-ever Ninja Warrior Course. Ninjas Unite for our first all-camp sleep over!

Maccabi Games

Jun 15-19

Week 3

Color war is back and better than ever! Participate in fun physical activities with obstacle courses, progressive relays and team-based challenges. Make sure you bring your *Ruach* for the annual Color War Show!

Go Bananas

Jun 22-26

Week 4

Are you ready to go bananas? We are too! Experience Savannah's favorite past time with us as we go to Grayson Stadium to enjoy Super Splash Day with inflatables and baseball! We will start the week out right with banana splits!

Stars and Stripes

Jun 29-Jul 3

Week 5

Between America's Birthday, our Israeli camp spirit and LIT elections we have a lot to celebrate! With a fun-filled Israel Day, a Backyard BBQ and a Patriotic dress up day, it's a party at the JEA!

Animation Domination

Jul 6-10

Week 6

Cowabunga dude! It's time to celebrate everything cartoons. From Cartoon Network to Disney, campers will be immersed in a week of cartooning, fun dress-up days and a trip to see the Minions 2!

Mad Batter

Jul 13-17

Week 7

If baking and mixing is something that you do, then this lip-smacking week is for you! Campers will have the opportunity to show off and chow down on their culinary creations. We will also have our second all-camp sleep over! Bon appetit!

Beat the Heat

Jul 20-24

Week 8

As the temperatures continue to rise the JEA has cool ways to improvise. Splash and glide through our slip and slide or participate in a shaving cream war that will have campers begging for more.

Camp Rocks

Jul 27-31

Week 9

Rock and roll, it's time to bowl! We will venture out to Frames n' Games for our last trip of the summer. Campers will also bust a move at our annual end-of-summer show.



Registration Opens Soon!

J



J

The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance _____ January-February 2020



Children's Programming

JEA CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday Nights Out

Jan 25: 6:30-10P Dive In Movie

Feb 8: 7-10P Saturday Night Live

Feb 22: 7-10P Hide and Seek

Mar 7: 7:15-10P Munchkin Masterpiece



Days at the JEA

Jan 20- MLK Day

Feb 17- President's Day

Mar 16-20- SCCPSS Spring Break

****March 13 is a 1/2 day for SCCPSS students. JEA Aftercare will run on an extended schedule for no additional fee.**

J

WWW.SAVANNAHJEA.ORG



Adult Programming



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



Food For Thought

Join us each Thursday at 12:30pm

January 2	<i>Bingo at the JEA</i>	February 6	<i>Live Music on the Piano</i> Joyce Schifanelli
January 9	<i>Rabbis Without Borders</i> Rabbi Rachael Bregman	February 13	<i>Judaism and Mysticism</i> Rabbi Steven Henkin
January 16	<i>Libraries for Kids Int.</i> Roy Austin	February 20	<i>Davenport House:</i> <i>What's Old, What's New?</i> Jamie Credle
January 23	<i>Jewish Film Festival</i> Movie Shorts: <i>Egg Cream</i> <i>The Last Resort</i>	February 27	<i>Car Classics</i> Savannah Classic Cars Museum Tony Avazquez
January 30	<i>Touched with Fire</i> David Lowe		

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

JEA Donations (11/8/19-12/15/19)

ARKING-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Harriet Konter
In memory of Lillian Lowe
Elizabeth & Steven Arkin

JEA BUILDING FUND

A donation by:
Aaron Levy
In memory of Craig Sanders
Elaine Becker

JEA GENERAL DONATION

A donation by:
Susan & Martin Cohen

PEARL & JOSEPH GEFFEN ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Julius Hornstein
In memory of Lillian Lowe
Adelle Burnsed-Geffen & Theodore Geffen

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH

In honor of Sharon Galin
In honor of David Byck
Jodi & Kenneth Sadler

BERTHA & HYMIE KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Harriet Konter
Elaine Becker
Beth & Richard Bosman
Jane & Ed Feiler
Marla & Morris Geffen
Rochelle Javetz
Peggy & Harold Yellin
Sylvia Yellin

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Vickie & Richard Halperin
Brenda & Patrick Salter

NCJW CAMP/YOUTH FUND

A donation by:
Mary Mazza

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Miriam Center
John Patterson

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 November 8, 2019)

Ronald & Leah Brunson
D'Angelo & Lujean Cousar
James Gavin
James & Melinda Hilton
Michael Jacobs
John Kellner
Sharon Mays
Peter Relic

New Children's Yoga Classes!

Flow and Grow Preschool Yoga

Wednesdays
January 15-February 19
12:30-1:15pm

Cost:

Community Members \$75
JEA Members \$60

Location: Senior Lounge

This class is only for Doobim or community 4- & 5-year olds.

Flow and Grow Yoga

Thursdays
January 16-February 20
K-2nd: 4:15pm-5pm
3rd-5th: 5pm-5:45pm

Cost:

Community Members \$75
JEA Members \$60

Location: Senior Lounge

Please contact Lorin Titus for more info:
youthsports@savj.org or 912.355.8111.

In memory of Lillian Lowe
In memory of Alfie Mays
In memory of Muriel Maida
Miriam Center



Health & Wellness

What a Year!



Kirby Southerland
Health & Wellness
Director

Each year just gets better and 2019 was no different. Reflecting on the past twelve months of exciting health and wellness programs and events only makes us more excited for the next year! Here are some notable moments in the last year.

January 1, 2019

Second Annual Polar Plunge

This fun event brought JEA families and their friends for a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool to kick off the year. Although we had some unseasonably warm weather, we all made the most of it and refueled with Krispy Kreme and hot chocolate in the fitness lobby.

March 2019

Ballet Reboot Kicked Off

What began as an idea from a member to lead an instructional ballet class turned into a six-week class that was filled in no time. Lisa Mackowiak instructed a group of participants in a challenging and refreshing exercise/dance blend.

April 2019

T-Ball returned to the JEA with a new twist - away games! Our junior athletes were given the opportunity to travel to play their opponents at other fields in Savannah. The added element of travel was a welcome and fun surprise for the Tornados.

May 2019

Summer Safety Series Launches

With the start of summer came a unique opportunity to gain life-saving skills. The Summer Safety Series was an initiative offered to both JEA members and the community and offered classes such as Babysitter's Training, Lifeguard Certifications, Pediatric CPR and CPR for Professional Rescuers.

June 2019

We reintroduced Dinner by the Pool. Twice a month, families were invited to join us for an evening swim and tasty dinner to wrap up their days. Additionally, Young Jewish Savannah hosted a pool party in a continuing effort to engage young Jewish community members to join the excitement at the JEA.

July 2019

We offered the first-ever Paddle Board Yoga class at the JEA! With our friends at Savannah Canoe and Kayak, participants got to partake in a one-hour yoga class in the outdoor pool. This class filled quickly as the opportunity to do something new and exciting came to the JEA.

August 2019

As school began, so did the JEA's youth sports programming. Swimmers joined the Junior Swim Team to work on developing their strokes and working on sportsmanship, camaraderie and bettering their fitness.

September 2019

This month brought a new Reset and Renew Yoga class for JEA members on Sunday afternoon. This class blends meditative practices and yoga poses to start the week off right. MicroSports also returned as a preschool add-on to teach the basics of basketball and soccer for 3- and 4-year olds at the Preschool.

October 2019

The first-ever session of Kids Run Club began at the JEA in October. This fun-filled activity ran for six weeks and brought children from ages 4-10 together to learn the sport of competitive running and work on principles of sportsmanship and perseverance.

November and December 2019

The end of the year brought opportunities for running, swimming, soccer, yoga and Pickleball!

Overall, 2019 was a fantastic year and we can't wait for the fun to continue!



Lorin Titus
Health & Wellness
Programming
Coordinator

HomeSchool PE

We are excited to announce a new fitness program coming to the JEA in February.

This program is HomeSchool PE, a fitness-based curriculum for children being HomeSchooled.

The curriculum will be done in six-week sessions. If you have, or know of, a child being home schooled who would be interested in this fitness program, please contact Lorin at youthsports@savj.org.

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 PLAY?
JEA MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS
(WITH VALID GUEST PASS) ARE
WELCOME TO JOIN US DURING ANY
OPEN COURT TIMES!



JEA Preschool Savannah News

Open House January 29 - 7pm

JEA Preschool Savannah will host an Open Houses for prospective families 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

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.

Nae'Keisha 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 Worldwide in its Savannah Chapter.

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



JEA Children's Department- February 2020

The JEA Children's Department - both Days @ the JEA and the AfterCare program - have Arts & Crafts as part of their regular programming. This month, we will display the crafts the children have made in Camille Hulbert's Seed to Fibre art course.

What is the art show about?

The art show is about how children use textile art techniques and fibre art crafts to make textile patterns and art from the fibre to the cloth. Their artwork demonstrates their ability to combine cultural notions, paints with mixed media, assemblage and wearable art to show off their talent and art skills.

What materials did the children use?

They used burlap, alpaca fibre, plant material and seeds,. They also used silk fabric, velvet paper, paint (acrylics, spray paint, tempera paint and fabric) and color pencils.

Please stop by the JEA Art Gallery to see what our children have been working on!

*Artwork available for viewing February 2-28, 2020
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception
February 5, 4-6pm*



David Lowe

Book Signing and Author Event

Welcome home Savannah's own, David Lowe,
as he shares his new book

*Touched with Fire: Morris B. Abram and the Battle
against Racial and Religious Discrimination*

Thursday, January 30

Food for Thought Lunch 12:30 PM

Speaker & Book Signing 1:30 PM

&

Evening Dessert Reception

Speaker & Book Signing 7:00 PM



Chazak

Strengthen your Inner
Jewish Leader



Creating the Customer
Experience

Aaron Greenberg
JCCA Senior Consultant



Preparing For, Recognizing &
Responding to Anti-Semitism

David Hoffman
Anti Defamation League
Southeast Associate Regional Director



www.savj.org

February 3

May 11

5:30-7:30: Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and program



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

Eye on education

Oh Hanukkah!

The songs and excitement spilled into the street as Shalom School hosted our annual Hanukkah performance. Those in the audi-

ence were blown away by the original songs, creative costumes and infectious spirit of our students. Our kindergarteners marched as Macca-bees. The 5th graders dropped the beat with a Six13 tribute. Our 3rd/4th class did a fabulous rendition of Bohemian Hanukkah, 6th grade took us back to the

90s with a boy band themed tribute to Hanukkah, 1st grade blew us away taking us down to the Menorah with and Old Town Road Parody, and 2nd

grade put their knowledge of Hebrew vowels to use with an original remake of "Witch Doctor"

It was so wonderful to see not just parents, but extended family members in the audience as well. After working up quite the appetite, our students and families were treated to

latkes and sufganyot by the CMI Sisterhood. Students piled their plates high with latkes, gobs of sour cream and applesauce and doughnut holes.

We are so incredibly grateful to the CMI Sisterhood for providing The Shalom School with a substantial and generous donation that will be put to good use in

our classrooms. We wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah. See you in class in January!



Robin Rackoff

Mah Jongg and More

When I was a kid, Mah Jongg night at our house was the best! Why was this night different from all other nights, you ask? On this night, we had great desserts. As a rule, in our Kosher home, a meat dinner would be followed by Jello for dessert (actually Kojel, Jello's Kosher cousin in the 1950s). Even though I would tell my mother every night how much I disliked that jiggly stuff, she would always give me a bowl and then be shocked when I wouldn't eat it.

So back to Mah Jongg night. First, there was the candy. Bridge Mix. Every time. And there was sliced fruit. Oranges and grapefruit, every time. But most important, Blackout Cake from Ebingers, the famous Brooklyn bakery, every time. Blackout cake, a chocolate delight filled with chocolate pudding and topped with chocolate crumbs, was invented during World War II and named after the blackout drills. Of course, we didn't know that in the 1950s. Not until Google was invented did we learn how it got its name.

So back to Mah Jongg night. I would stand over my mother's shoulder, trying to make sense of the tiles and the card. The pictures on the tiles,

flowers and dragons, made it seem like a game and a fairy tale rolled into one.

To this day, I can't think about Mah Jongg without thinking about my mother. Just as she and her friends would catch up on their lives, I do now with my friends. Also, like it was back then, chocolate is a requirement.



This week is my mother's birthday, and she will be turning 103. While she no longer plays Mah Jongg, her life at Buckingham South is filled with activities. She goes from Bingo to Dominos,

followed by beading, Word Games, and Chair Zumba. The high point of her week, though, is Friday mornings, when Rabbi Henkin of Congregation Agudath Achim comes to visit. With Sally Krissman's assistance, they conduct a little service that they call Shabbat Singalong. Residents of all religions gather around a long table, eating Gale Hirsh's amazing challah, and singing songs and chatting.

So back to Mah Jongg. I can't help but think that my love for this game is connected to those memories of standing in the kitchen, eating great desserts, and watching as my mother and her friends click click click the tiles around.

Happy birthday mom, and maj on! Yetta Tureck

Some heroes die in battle... some because of neglect.



How can we help Jewish military personnel and veterans connect to our community as a means of suicide prevention?

Tuesday, January 14th, 2020

6pm-7:30pm

RSVP a must: 912-355-8111

Meeting facilitator and special guests:

Rabbi Michael G. Cohen, U.S. Army Chaplain

ITC David Escobar, Hunter Garrison Commander

Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn St.
Savannah, GA 31405



Free parking
Light snacks will be provided

A new year... a new hope... a new community outreach Initiative Informational meeting:
open to the whole Jewish community—individuals or groups,
current or previous military service not required.
Meeting is during the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of

Martin E. Kirschbaum Jr. Post 320
Jewish War Veterans of the United States

All are welcomed!
Col. Ed Wexler, Post Commander
USAF, retired

HADASSAH
Savannah Chapter

Like us on
Facebook
Hadassah Savannah Chapter

Save the Date

**Monday
March 23, 2020**



Shannon Sarna

Author of
Modern Jewish Baker

Watch this space and your mail for more details!

Your Campaign Dollars At Work

My Camp Story

By Sarah Loncon

This year was my last year as a camper at Camp Coleman. My first year at Coleman was in 2013. I loved camp so much after that year, I came back every year for one month each time. My favorite things about camp are, Shabbat, the trips, and my friends. This year my unit, Chalutzim, went on a four day trip. The trip was one of the best experiences of my life. I got super close



Sarah Loncon (r) with friends
Isabella Haman and Elisa Rosenthal

to the people around me. I have made some of my best friends at Coleman. The Coleman experience overall is the best decision I have ever made.

Flashback to 2013, my first year at camp: I wasn't so sure about going - it seemed fun, but two weeks seemed like a long time away from my family. For the first couple of days I was homesick and I really missed my family. Then, I opened up and began to love camp. I loved camp so much that when my mom picked me up I told her I wanted to stay the rest of the month!! Now, its 2019 and I finished my last year as a Coleman camper. It was my last time in the cabin, my last chofesh, my last Shabbat at camp, and my last "porch talk". It was my last time with my second family, in my second home. Looking back through all my years at camp, all I can say is that Camp Coleman was the best way I could have possibly spent seven summers.

There is no Shabbat like a camp Shabbat! Every Friday night at camp, everyone dresses in white to celebrate the Sabbath. We all walk to dinner together, meeting outside the cabins, doing "the Shabbat walk." The Shabbat Walk is led by song leaders and counselors or guests holding the Torah, and then we all eat fried chicken and go to services. This year, I had the opportunity to help lead my

last Shabbat service as a camper. This was meaningful to me, because I also helped lead my first Shabbat service as a camper. After services, there is a song session, where every camper and counselor joins together in dancing and singing camp songs, that will follow you forever.

This year, Chalutzim took a trip to Alabama, Tennessee, and Atlanta. We started the trip out with white water rafting. Then we

went to the Paperclip Museum in Tennessee, which was so meaningful. The rest of the trip we went to different museums and memorials in Selma, Montgomery, and Birmingham, Alabama to learn about the Civil Rights movements. We had the amazing opportunity to speak with Bloody Sunday survivors. We ended our trip back in Atlanta with a Braves game and a day at Six Flags before returning back to camp.

This year I became closer with people I had never talked to before. Our whole unit became a lot closer this year, branching out and talking to new people instead of just the people in our cabin. I have made so many close friendships at camp, ones I know will last a long time. Most of my friends live in cities I visit a lot, or have family in, so I know we will keep in contact. I have already seen five camp friends since camp ended. Some of my friends are in BBYO, so we are able to connect even more.

If you are thinking about attending sleepaway camp, I wouldn't hesitate to attend Camp Coleman. Coleman has taught me so much about Judaism, about friendships, and about history. I never knew I could feel so connected to people or a place until I attended Camp Coleman.



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director
Early Childhood
Education

Eye on education

Fantastic Families at JEA Preschool

When you think about those involved in early learning center/preschool programs, the first thoughts that come to mind are the children and teachers. These groups are a vital part to the makeup of the program. However, the parents/families are the third component of a preschool community and one which I'd like to highlight.

Over these past few weeks, I have been impacted with the commitment the families have shown to our program. There were two instances in particular that proved these ideals. There were a couple of meetings organized by the administration to address a situation with the families. I presented the information about the issue and the families asked good follow up questions. The parents then began to discuss ways to help to solve the problem. What stood out for me was how willing the parents were as a group to help with the issue in whatever way they could. They were willing to give of their time to come help teachers in the classroom. Whether it was cleaning the toys, supervising the children, or even sweeping the floors

(which is done many times during the day), nothing was too much for them to offer to do.

Another example is the volunteer work of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). These PTO volunteers organized a number of activities which support the teachers. The first was a lovely Thanksgiving teacher lunch. This is one time during the year that the entire teaching team is able to step away from the classrooms in the middle of the day to enjoy a meal together. Parents volunteered to cover the classrooms and made delicious dishes for all to enjoy. The Chanukah classroom parties were also a success. Each class had a special Chanukah snack with an activity for families to do together with the children.

The success of any program is when all of the entities work together. In this case, this would be the families, teachers and administration working together for the benefit of the children.

We can't wait to see what's in store for the rest of this school year!

Thank you /Todah Rabah to our fantastic families for their dedication to our preschool program.

PJOW Book Review: *Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar

By Dinah Henkin

Lucky Broken Girl was a very good book. I was able to really get into the book and would recommend it to other kids who are 8-12 years old. Some parts of the book were sad, some were very uplifting and I would totally read it again.

The book, based on the author's life, is about a 10 year old Jewish-Cuban girl named Ruthie who emigrated to the United States with her family when Fidel Castro comes to power.

Ruthie is in an accident and ends up in a body cast for a year. She is scared that she will never walk again,

has a hard time with a new language and living in a new country and gets

very sad around her friends. But then, Ruthie decides to be strong and courageous and shows that you can do anything in a difficult situation as long as you put your mind to it. The book makes you think about how important family and friends are.

It was very interesting to learn about what life was like for the Jewish people who came to America from Cuba.



Dinah Henkin

A Friendly Reminder

The next issue of the Savannah Jewish News will be our March issue. The deadline for all submissions is February 6th. Please send all materials to sjnews@savj.org.



CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

SAVANNAH GEORGIA'S CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE

9 Lee Boulevard • Savannah GA 31405 • 912-352-4737
agudatha-achim.com

Rabbi Steven Henkin

Join our Synagogue, Join our mishpacha!!!

Tefila/Service

Backpack Buddies

Family Shabbat

Parashat Hashavua Classes

Midrash Study Groups

and ... Good food too!!!

SHABBAT SERVICES:

Friday 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

Saturday 9:45 am Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon

Saturday Mincha following Kiddush

Saturday Evenings Maariv & Havdalah

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

Activities and Events for Everyone at BBJ this Winter



"Secrets of the Aleph Bet"

by Erin List

January 14th, February 18th

"Exploring the Third Temple"

by Sara Brana Rabhan

January 21st

"Genesis: In Depth"

by Rena Maccabee

February 11th



**BBJ Brotherhood
Superbowl Party**



Email Rabbi Lob
lobe@ncsy.org to sign up



Annual Fundraiser

February 22nd



Call the shul office for more information or to make reservations
Sign up for our Weekly Newsletter to receive the latest updates!

5444 Abercorn Street ■ Savannah, Georgia 31405 ■ 912.354.7721 ■ bbjsynagogue@gmail.com ■ www.bbjsynagogue.com

Maxine Patterson Named 2020 MLK Marshal

By Carol Greenberg

Local dance instructor Maxine Patterson was honored last month by the Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Day Association by being named one of the 2020 MLK marshal's for this year's MLK annual celebration at a ceremony at Savannah State University with Rabbi Robert Haas providing the invocation and many members of the Jewish community in attendance.

Along with recipient Lieutenant John A. White— one of the first Savannah African American police officers, Civil Rights honoree George Shinhosher, and Trailblazer Awardee Antwan Lang, Ms. Patterson will lead the MLK Parade scheduled this year for Monday, January 20 and representing the theme, "Dr. King's Non-Negotiables: Non-Violence, equality, Peace and Love."



Maxine Patterson, center with other 2020 MLK Parade Marshals

At this year's Marshal's Reception she was recognized for her 50 years serving Savannah's youth – especially in the African American and Jewish communities -- through dance. Maxine Patterson is a lifelong resident of Savannah, Georgia who started dancing, as she tells it, when she "was five years old" and has "never stopped". She started teaching in 1969 at variety of centers prior to moving to her midtown studio on Lincoln and 39th streets in 1985... a place where—as acknowledged by the committee—everyone was always welcomed with equal chances for success.

This award was in part an acknowledgement that Maxine and her instructors are not only committed to teaching dance, but also to "instilling high self-esteem, self-pride, and confidence in every dancer."



Ester Rabhan, Principal Rambam Day School

Eye on education

Out of The Mouths of Kids...

A videographer was at the school and chatting with various students. She prompted each student being interviewed with questions. We tried prepping the elementary children because when put on the spot, they can say the zaniest things. We tried to steer them away from saying their favorite part of Rambam is recess, lunch or snack.

A second grader was being interviewed and asked the million-dollar question, "What is the best part of your day?" The young man didn't look me straight in the eye, he just glanced my way and said to the videographer, "The answer I want to give, I can't, because Morah Ester said not to."

I was around for most of the students being interviewed. We did not articulate to anyone what they should say. We did try to help the younger students put their own thoughts into full sentences. Around 15 students were interviewed and every one of the middle school students commented

on the size of RDS and how the size has allowed them to have the personal attention of their teachers and to feel a connection with their teachers. Elementary students talked about school being fun. A fourth-grade student conveyed they feel comfortable in Rambam and they are so happy. Middle School students explained Rambam's dual program and having the opportunity to learn about their heritage.

I have no idea what the little pre-school children said, however, listening to the elementary and middle school students and hearing them express their appreciation for the very entities that make Rambam unique was energizing.

These children are between the ages of seven and fourteen years of age. If they see the value of a Rambam education, I can't help but believe if parents would come by the school, chat with us and get to know the school; they'd be surprised and maybe even be open to wanting their children to experience what Rambam students have on a daily basis.

Annual Future Of Jazz Concert

TRIBUTE TO BEN TUCKER

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
7:00 pm
Jewish Educational Alliance

Savannah Black Heritage Festival

A Savannah Black Heritage Event presented by Savannah State University & The City of Savannah. Presented in part by the Jewish Educational Alliance and Good Times Jazz Bar and Restaurant.

"A Stitch in Time" can help our planet and our people:
Learn to crochet a Sleep Mat for the Homeless with your extra plastic bags.
Thursdays (9:30 to noon)
January 9, 16, 23, 30

Free but call ... RSVP a must 912-355-8111
Good company & chatter while crocheting for a good cause

1145 111 Abernethy Street / 31405 ---free parking
Plastic Bag Drop off Eisenhower recycling center

Need more Info?
Email Carol MStarArts@gmail.com

YOUTH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



SUMMER EXPERIENCE GRANTS

- Grants available for:
- Overnight summer camp
 - Conventions
 - Jewish youth group summer programs
 - Leadership development programs

Grants are provided from the Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign and awarded on a non-needs basis

HARVEY RUBIN ATHLETIC AWARD

- Criteria:
- Full-time High School Student
 - Display leadership in the community
 - Exceptional sportsmanship
 - C or above average grade in school
 - History of good conduct
 - Display exceptional athletic ability on a varsity level team (school or recreational league)

KAY BECKER ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP

Provides scholarship to teens for travel to Israel on a peer group trip (including "gap year" programs, yeshiva attendance, or a college program).

JACOB & IDA ULMAN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

This award is given based on need, availability and the participation you have had in the Savannah Jewish community.

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

This award is for JEA MEMBERS and given based on need, availability and the participation you have had in the Savannah Jewish community.



DEADLINE: MARCH 1
WWW.SAVJ.ORG

NOMINATE AN ORGANIZATION FOR AN
OVERSEAS INVESTMENT GRANT

MAKE YOUR MARK

Nominate an organization you care about to receive \$500.

Visit

www.savj.org

for guidelines and to nominate



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

Super
MUSEUM SUNDAY
GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1-4PM



VISIT OUR MUSEUM AND DISCOVER CENTURIES OF SAVANNAH HISTORY FROM 1733 TO TODAY INCLUDING OUR NEW PRESIDENTIAL WALL



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**



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 JAN/FEB NEWS



Meet the new David Finn AZA Advisor:

Raised by an Israeli father and a Long-Island born Jewish mother, Seth Ravid is a Connecticut Valley Region BBYO alumnus. He served as Chapter S'gan of Exodus AZA before moving to Florida to attend Eckerd College. He is currently serving on active duty with the US Army at Ft. Stewart. Seth hopes to guide the new generation of Alephs on their journey to manhood and help them to find the same fulfillment he found in the brotherhood that is BBYO.

Upcoming Events

January 8
BBG Chapter Dinner
January 12
Winter Kick-Off Event
January 15
AZA Chapter Dinner

January 17
BBG Sleep Over
February 2
BBYO Superbowl Party
February 14-18
International Convention

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

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 12 years old can register for PJ Our Way at PJOurWay.org

Need more information? Email PJLibrary@savj.org



Saturday, January 18 · 6:00 PM · JEA
Dinner, Havdalah & Crafts



Savannah Jewish Federation

Your campaign dollars at work!





Jewish Moments
POWERED *by* **YOU**

Give Today
www.savj.org



Savannah Jewish Federation

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