



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, July 18	8:13pm
Friday, July 25	8:09pm
Friday, August 1	8:04pm
Friday, August 8	7:58pm
Friday, August 15	7:51pm
Friday, August 22	7:44pm
Friday, August 29	7:35pm

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Movie Spiel, p10
It's a Funny Thing, p13
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Also Featured

I on Israel — Enjoy our newest feature covering developments and trends from Israel... we hope you'll be part of it, too; p2

Off to be a Cadet — Local teen Marissa Karp has accepted a prestigious appointment to the U.S.M.A. at West Point. Fellow high-school grad Sophie Lichtman writes about it and what the future holds in store; p7

A Slice of Life — And blueberry pie... Dick Berkowitz shares the enjoyment of the Annual Blueberry Festival in Alma, GA; p9

Campaign Goal Exceeded, Funds Allocated

by Allan Ratner, 2014 SJF Annual Campaign Chair



Allan Ratner
2014 SJF Annual
Campaign Chair

A few weeks ago the Savannah Jewish Federation Board of Governors approved the recommendation of the Budget and Allocations Committee for the 2014-15 year. (See below.)

While it is easy to review the numbers, it also is very important to realize what the numbers represent.

When the Savannah Jewish Federation creates its budget each year, among its primary concerns are providing food for the hungry, medication for those in need, case management for individuals and families, and housing assistance for those in jeopardy, all through our Jewish Family Services. It also provides scholarships for teens to attend programs that create and enhance Jewish identity including Jewish summer camp, teen travel to Israel, and leadership development. SJF provides for Holocaust remembrance and education through our Kristallnacht and Yom HaShoah programming — for the Jewish and secular communities. It keeps you informed through the weekly eNews, *Savannah Jewish News*, Facebook, and periodic mailings. It provides support for dozens of advocacy, social service, cultural, and other programs and services that our community needs, and frankly expects.

When you see a line item for Overseas, you can be assured that the Jewish Agency for Israel and the Amer-

ican Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, our historic partners, are working on our behalf to assist Jews in danger throughout the world, whether in Ukraine (or elsewhere in the Former Soviet Union), in Argentina, or in 56 other countries around the world. In a ever increasingly dangerous environment in Europe and the Middle East, our partners are doing the direct work we wish we could do personally — and no one does it better than JDC and JAIFI.

When you see a number for Birthright Israel, it represents our contribution to the collective, a 15-year initiative to send each and every Jewish young adult to Israel as a "birthright." Studies have shown that participants in Birthright are more likely to marry Jewishly, support Israel, and live Jewish lives. These are not just numbers, they are life changing experiences... and more than 100 young adults from our community have gone on Birthright trips — thanks to you and the Annual Campaign.

These numbers are lives saved, lives enhanced, lives defined, lives helped.

Our goal of raising \$1,000,000 was reached and exceeded by more than \$8,000. This goal could not have been met without the tireless efforts of our Campaign Team, as well as the generosity of all our donors. I will not congratulate each by name; I would not want to leave someone out due to an

error of omission. Instead I would like to thank EVERYONE who worked on the campaign, as well as all of our donors.

Every organization that made a request received an allocation. For the second year, as part of our Overseas commitment, we are proud to be able to fund with Minigrants 18 different programs. Each of these programs was nominated by a different member of the community (who often had a personal connection to the program), and were vetted to insure they met established criteria required to receive a grant. A list of the 18 worthy organizations we are supporting and that are making a difference in the world Jewish community follows below and again we will be highlighting them throughout the year in the *Savannah Jewish News*.

We also were able to fund a Community Special Initiatives program that SJF President Steve Greenberg talks about in his column on page three. It will be a very exciting opportunity for our entire community.

So as not to rest on our laurels, I am asking you to please mark your calendars now for the kickoff for the 2014-2015 Campaign, the *Main Event*, which will be a dinner on *Thursday, October 23*, at the JEA. We have confirmed our speaker for the evening, **Izzy Ezagui**.

continued on page 4

Savannah Jewish Federation 2014-15 Allocations

(as recommended by the Budget & Allocations Committee and approved at the 6-11 Board of Governors meeting)

Total Campaign	1,008,594
-2% reserve for pledges uncollectable	20,172
-SJF programs and services	450,350
+General Donations (<i>noncampaign</i>)	5,065
+Budget surplus from FY 2012-13	43,341
-Donor designated gifts (<i>unallocatable</i>)	39,660
Total Funds available for allocations	544,818

<u>Allocations</u>	
Shalom School	23,000
Teen Identity Funds (<i>camp, leadership, etc</i>)	7,500
BBYO	2,500
SCAD Hillel	1,000
Taglit/Birthright Israel	5,888
Overseas (<i>JFNA, JAIFI JDC</i>)	152,780
Overseas Minigrants	9,000
Jewish Educational Alliance	291,000
JEA Special Allocation (<i>technology</i>)	10,000
Jewish Council for Public Affairs	500
Jewish Telegraphic Agency	200
Israel Action Network	450
Jewish Educational Loan Fund	1,000
Community Special Initiative Funding	40,000



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I on Israel

New Israeli President Elected



Reuven Rivlin

On June 10th, Reuven Rivlin, a member of Israel's right-wing Likud party, was elected by the Knesset in a run-off election as Israel's 10th president. He defeated Meir Sheerit, a member of the liberal Hatnuah party established by Tzipi Livni. Rivlin and Sheerit received the most votes in the first round of balloting that included three other candidates; the run-off was required to elect a candidate by an absolute majority of votes.

Many of the President's duties are those of a figurehead, involving diplomacy, granting of awards and such. Perhaps the two most significant powers given the President of Israel are (1) the ability to appoint the members of Knesset to form a government when majorities break down, following consultation with the representatives of the parties in Knesset, and (2) the power to pardon criminals and commute their sentences. In the execution of this power the President is given wide, unique, and independent discretion.

Rivlin will serve a single seven-year term as President of Israel and cannot be reelected to another term. Though elected by the Knesset, the position of President of the State of Israel is not considered a political position. According to the official website of the President of Israel, "The President's actions are geared at strengthening mutual commitment among the citi-

zens of Israel, identification with the State and its official emblems, social cohesion, national pride, and ties between Israel and the Diaspora; to nurturing moral values, equality and peace throughout society, improving ties between the Jewish majority and the minority populations, and to encourage Israeli culture and creativity... The power of the President of the State is derived in large part from his being non-partisan, and his being a symbol of national unity representing the core values of the State."

The 74-year-old Rivlin hails from what *The Times of Israel* calls "an illustrious Jerusalemite dynasty." One of his ancestors was a student of the 18th century rabbinic scholar the Vilna Gaon who, along with other students, was dispatched in 1809 to Israel where they were involved in Jewish settlement of 'modern' Jerusalem. Later family members helped pioneer Rosh Pina, Petah Tikva and Kiryat Shmuel.

Known to be a staunch opponent of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian issue, Rivlin at the same time is very cognizant of the parliamentary and democratic rights of Israel's Arab citizens. It is said that he had the support of the Israeli-Arab MKs in the secret ballot presidential election. He and fellow Likud member, PM Benjamin Netanyahu are rumored not to care for each other, but to have called a truce. He also is a vegetarian and is known for his sense of humor.

Rivlin will be sworn in on July 24th, succeeding the popular outgoing President Shimon Peres.

SOS App Created

JERUSALEM — Following the tragic kidnapping of three Israeli teens in the West Bank, United Hatzalah (UH), Israel's volunteer emergency medical response service, has outfitted its LifeCompass technology to create "SOS," an emergency alert app that allows users to immediately dispatch a distress call and their precise location to UH and the Israeli police with a single swipe on a smart phone.

United Hatzalah's dispatch centers

already utilize the GPS-oriented LifeCompass technology commissioned from the Israeli company NowForce to map out and respond to emergencies. This technology optimizes the response time by ensuring that medic volunteers closest to the emergency receive the mobile-alerts and are then dispatched. In the wake of the kidnappings, UH and NowForce have accelerated the launch of a public version called "SOS" to give victims of an

continued on page 5

Opera Festival Key to Cultural Tourism Strategy

compiled from Israel21c reports

Seeing an opera at the footsteps of Masada is a majestic experience. The Israeli Opera knows this, as does Israel's Ministry of Tourism. And it is for this reason that a concerted effort was made this year to draw "cultural tourists" to the open-air stage at this historical site.

Giuseppe Verdi's popular opera, *La Traviata*, is staged the world over many times a year. But seeing it on the backdrop of a stunning ancient fortress at the lowest point on Earth could only be achieved at the Israeli Opera Festival at Masada (held this year June 12-17).

For 50,000 lucky ticket-holders, this year's production was indeed a feast for the eyes. Some 700 singers, dancers, musicians and actors shared the 3,500-square-meter stage.

While some operas staged there in the past, such as *Aida* and *Car-men*, easily adapted to the enormous stage, Polish director Michal Znaniecki admitted that bringing the story of a Parisian prostitute to Masada "was a real problem."

La Traviata is a personal psychodrama usually staged in an intimate setting. After much discussion with Maestro Daniel Oren — one of the most sought-after conductors in today's opera world, and who has conducted all the productions at Masada — Znaniecki turned to metaphors to recreate Verdi at Masada.

For example, he used the mountain as a huge clock of life that projected the dwindling time Violetta has left.

"It's like the metaphor of our life; she has no more time and we have no more time. She decided to be free, to leave Paris, to love somebody — against everybody... she chose to be not losing time," Znaniecki said.

In doing so, the Israeli Opera produced a first-class opera on a unique backdrop.

The Israel Ministry of Tourism had a budget of approximately \$500,000 for marketing support for the opera festival. The ministry used campaigns in Germany, Italy, France, Russia, England and the U.S. to entice cultur-



Masada is the backdrop for the magnificent staging of the Israeli Opera's production of Verdi's *La Traviata*

al tourists to the Judean Desert.

Each opera festival at Masada injects about \$23.2 million into the economy.

"Many locations are now actively developing their tangible and intangible cultural assets as a means of developing comparative advantages in an increasingly competitive tourism marketplace, and to create local distinctiveness in the face of globalization," according to an Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report, *Impact*

continued on page 5

Welcome to our new feature page, I on Israel. The "I" is for information and, we hope, interesting. We intend to use this space to bring you reports on the latest developments and trends in Israel. But this space is for you, too. If you know about something new going on in Israel that you'd like us to cover, please let us know about it. If you are traveling to Israel, we'd love for you to send pictures of yourself at interesting places and/or reports on what you saw that fascinated you. Please send ideas, pictures and travel reports to sjnews@savj.org.



Steve Greenberg,
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Dial Tomorrow

The rotary telephone. It is a sign of by-gone days, a curiosity, an antique. (Disclosure: I still have a working one from my parent's house). It actually has speed dial (calling 232-1111 is pretty fast). But it had one built in advantage that does not exist today. As you dialed the numbers, you could think ahead; think about who was going to answer, or think about what you were going to say. To think ahead, whether it be the next minute or longer, is an art that should not be lost, but it is an art that becomes increasingly important.

The Budget and Allocations Committee and the Board of Governors of the Savannah Jewish Federation have done just that — looked ahead and considered the tomorrow for our community. The allocations process this year offered a unique opportunity for Federation to use a portion of its campaign funds to further its mission and move forward our Jewish community. This opportunity existed right now, this moment, and if not seized, it no doubt would have been lost. The Allocations Committee and the Board of Governors, both assemblies of smart, committed and dedicated people, passed recommendations that were not business as usual but started a process of taking Federation where it needs to be — thinking ahead.

Our Campaign Chair, Allan Ratner, wrote very eloquently about the impact of the annual SJF campaign. Two of his points bear repeating.

One, the committee and Board inserted line items in the allocations motion regarding teen Jewish experiences. This expenditure had always been in the SJF budget but by clearly identifying it, our community can better see where funds are being spent. Expanded listings like this will continue in future years. Second, the allocations process continued the overseas mini-grant program to orga-

nizations that provide support, relief and necessities to our fellow Jews in Israel, Ukraine, Poland, Eastern Europe, Cuba and Argentina. Again, this is evidence of a process that shows a specific use of the funds.

But, the most important step was the decision of the committee and the board to designate the sum of \$40,000 for a community special initiative. This decision is not an allocation. It is an investment in the people of this community — the entire community. It is an investment in new ideas. It is looking at our mission and deciding the effect we want to have with our contributions. The use of these funds will be in areas of Jewish education (of all ages), Jewish identity, Jewish leadership and Jewish social service support.

"This initiative is a real chance to lay the groundwork for the future... it is an opportunity to build relationships across our entire Jewish community."

This initiative will take bold vision. This initiative is a real chance to lay the groundwork for the future. It is to give our donors a clear idea of where our priorities are. It is to show a younger generation the type of targeted use of funds that drives their involvement and interest. Finally, it is an opportunity to build relationships across our entire Jewish community. Nothing is more precious than that.

A working group is being formed that will develop the concrete proposals for use of these funds — all with an eye to helping our community. The final decision and funding of each proposal will rest with the Board of Governors of the Savannah Jewish Federation.

I again thank the Budget and Allocations Committee and the Board of Governors for their confidence in the future of our Jewish community. These individuals made a fundamental difference in the allocations process unlike any in recent history. I would also urge you to read the mission statement of the Savannah Jewish Federation, printed elsewhere in this issue. Those words are a reflection of what each and every one of us should feel about our community.

Now, if you will excuse me, I need to return a few telephone calls...on my rotary telephone.



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

To Learn From and About Each Other

A column I recently read pointed out that this year, on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, for the first time there were more than 6,000,000 Jews living in Israel, an event of significant note. There now are more Jews in Israel than were murdered in the Holocaust.

It took a little more than 66 years for this momentous occurrence. It is an absolutely astounding miracle that from the dreams of our Zionist forefathers and out of the ashes of the Holocaust arose the land of Israel and the miracle of thousands of years of hope and yearning. The land of Israel is a miracle of survival, a miracle of stubbornness, a miracle of vision, a miracle of hope.

And here it is, sixty-six years later and we are reading about how the Israeli government has proposed funding NIS 400 million (\$116 million plus) per year to invest in programs that connect the Diaspora Jewish community with the Israeli Jewish community. "The Government of Israel-World Jewry Initiative" is one of the most audacious programs that Israel has even undertaken; if approved, Diaspora-Israel programming will become the fastest growing area of government spending.

Many social scientists have written extensively about the growing schism between the "two great centers of Jewish life:" North America and Israel, and the need for us to *learn from* and *about* each other. Over the past two decades there have been innumerable studies documenting the strong correlation between the effects of Israel experience programs (Birthright Israel, summer programs, gap year, etc.) and enhanced Jewish identity.

Effectively, more than 80% of world Jewry lives in America and Israel, and both have flourished since World War II. Israel has absorbed entire countries of immigrants, weathered countless wars, and created an economy and lifestyle that are the envy of most of the world. In the U.S., we have built a Jewish infrastructure: synagogues, Federations, community centers, and schools; we live in relatively secure surroundings, and have achieved great success by almost every measure.

Yet, with all these successes, our two major Jewish societies have very

different ways of thinking about the Jewish narrative and Jewish identity.

The most obvious difference is how we look at what "secular" means. In the U.S., secular Jews have very little distinction from the rest of society. In Israel, secular Jews live by a Jewish calendar, speak the "Jewish language," and literally walk in the steps of the Bible. We have none of that here.

Israelis typically look at military service as an expression of their Jewish identity and commitment to the Jewish state. American Jews make up a very small percentage of the military and for those who join; it is an expression of our *American* identity.

Remembrance is ingrained in Israeli culture. Whether it be memory of the Holocaust, those who were displaced from their country of origin, or shared military sacrifice, Israelis have common experience. There is relatively little common experience for American Jews.

Day Schools and supplementary Hebrew schools work very hard to teach our children about Israel and what it means to live in Israel. They

"...Diaspora-Israel programming will become the fastest growing area of [Israeli] government spending."

have made inroads, but still have lots of opportunity. In Israel, there is essentially no systematic instruction on the "other half of world Jewry." Most Israeli teens get their vision of American Jewry through a TV

show character, on a brief summer or camp "twinning" trip, or if some anti-Semitic occurrence happens and is reported in the Israeli press.

And the gap is growing.

The implications are challenging. With lower trends of synagogue and Jewish communal affiliation in the U.S., discord between Israeli and Diaspora religious groups, and a rapidly changing political landscape in both countries, the challenges are complex and many.

Almost three generations since the creation of the state, Israeli leadership has made a significant statement that its longstanding ignorance of the history and culture of nearly half of world Jewry is not in Israel's best interest...and it is going to act to improve it.

It's not too late. We must learn from and about the other. It is in Israel's interest. It is in our interest. It is in the interest of the next generation of Jews, here and throughout the world.

Don't forget...

The Savannah Jewish News is online at www.savj.org.

Tell your out-of-town family & friends! Back issues through December 2007.

Campaign.....from pg 1

His emotional story is a story of Zion-ism, duty to country and people, and of overcoming challenge. You do not want to miss this evening.

I was honored to lead the Annual

Campaign, a campaign that is not “just” numbers, but is the engine that provides the resources for the essential and holy work done by Savannah Jewish Federation.

2014 SJF Minigrant Recipients



AKIM: National Association for the Habilitation of the Mentally Handicapped in Israel

Provides services for children and adults with mental disabilities and other developmental disorders in Israel.

American Friends of Magan David Odom

The largest supporter of Magan David Odom, Israel's ambulance, blood-services, and disaster-relief organization.

American Jewish World Service

The leading Jewish human rights and development organization working to realize human rights and end poverty in the developing world.

Atlit Ma'apalim Detention Camp

A camp established to prevent Jewish refugees from entering Palestine. Tens of thousands of Jewish immigrants were interned here. The camp now is a museum of the history of *Ha'apala* (the immigration of Jews to Palestine/Israel as a result of the Nazi era/Holocaust).

Ayalim Association

The association's role is to revive the Israeli model of settlement, driven by young people, creating value and innovation with Zionist ideals in the Galilee and Negev in Israel.

Chimes Israel

An organization that helps people with disabilities become independent and lead as normal a life as possible.

Comunidad Hebrea Hatikva

Helping to support a small and poor, but vibrant Jewish congregation in Santiago de Cuba that remains committed to Jewish life in Cuba.

Ein Prat-Academy for Leadership

A *Beit Midrash* where Israel's young adults come together from across the

religious and political spectrum to learn canonical Jewish and Western texts, drawing from them for Israel's future.

Guantanamo Jewish Center

A small but active Cuban congregation in dire need of funds to perpetuate their communal life.

JDC Baby Help

A program developed for young families devastated by Argentina's financial collapse over a decade ago. Today it provides essential support such as food and medicines to nearly 600 vulnerable babies and children up to age 5.

JDC Ukraine Relief

An emergency response network to assist elderly clients, provide medicine and other essentials to JDC clients homebound due to the violence and to assist JDC homecare workers to spend nights with clients requiring daily services.

JDC Warsaw JCC

This new JCC is the second in Poland and will serve as a hub for a vast array of Jewish cultural, educational, and community programs and activities.

Jewish Cuba Connection

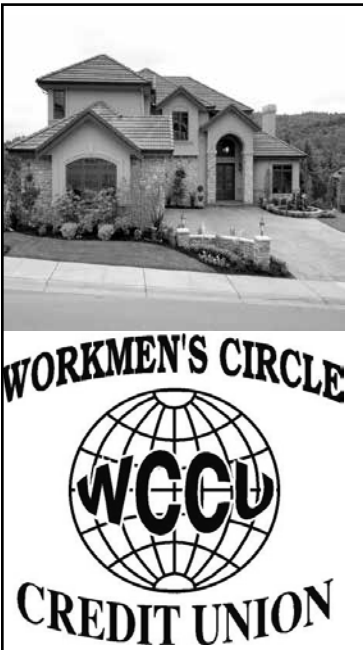
Provides assistance to Jewish congregations in Cuba.

Meshi Children's Rehabilitation Center

Located in Israel, it helps children from around the world who suffer from Spina Bifida.

Nalaga'at Art Center

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Holiday greeting due date: August 4th

uses artistic and cultural experiences to create dialogue between equals.

The Survivor Mitzvah Project

A humanitarian effort providing direct financial aid to elderly Holocaust Survivors in remote areas of Eastern Europe and Ukraine.

WUPJ Ukraine Relief

Short-term needs focus on working with youth as well as adult populations to come to terms with the

upsurge of violence and anarchy in their country and strengthening the security around the World Union for Progressive Judaism center in Kiev to ensure the safety of congregants and staff.

Yeadim School

Focuses on helping new immigrants and students from poor and broken homes in Kfar Byalik, Israel.

Opera Festival.....from pg 2

of Culture on Tourism. Opera at Masada has helped achieve this goal in Israel, say organizers of the annual festival.

Says Znaniecki: "I think culture tourism is the future of the opera. There are people who travel from festival to festival in the summer, and Masada is now one place in this tour. You have to be here."

History of Opera in Israel

In 1917, Russian-Jewish conductor Mordechai Golinkin envisioned and wrote about bringing opera to Palestine. In 1923, Golinkin realized his dream, and conducted Verdi's *La Traviata* in Tel Aviv. That was the beginning of the Palestine Opera, which performed in movie theaters.

In 1940, composer Marc Lavry and conductor George Singer established the Palestine Folk Opera, which produced *Dan the Guard*, the first opera in Hebrew.

In 1945, celebrated American soprano Edis de Philippe came to Palestine and created the Israel National Opera, performing nightly across the country. Its success spurred other opera singers from abroad to come and perform in Palestine, and subsequently in the state of Israel three years later.

And it was to Israel that a young Plácido Domingo arrived in the early 1960s to train before becoming an international household name.

In 1982, the Israel National Opera lost its government funding, and for the next three years, the field was dry. But in 1985, the Council for Arts and Culture decided to fill the void, brokering a partnership between the Cameri Theater of Tel Aviv and the Israel Chamber Orchestra to establish the new Israeli Opera.

Today, under Hanna Munitz's direction, the IO has more than 18,000 subscribers (and a growing number

of non-subscriber fans), putting on an average of eight productions each season. These are performed in their original languages, with Hebrew and English subtitles – a feature that Munitz says helps audiences "feel connected" to what is happening on stage and may explain why performances tend to fill 95% of the house's 1,500 seats.

Like other Israeli endeavors, the IO has gained international acclaim, receiving rave reviews for its performances, including contemporary Hebrew operas, which Munitz admits "can be hard to get used to."



Mission Statement of the Savannah Jewish Federation

Charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds, the 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.

SOS App.....from pg 2

emergency a quick and easy way to call for help.

With a swipe on the smart phone, calls go out simultaneously to the police and to UH's 24/7 dispatch center. UH receives the phone's GPS coordinates and alerts the police of the exact location. In addition to tracking the user via the smart phone, the system contacts any family or friends that are pre-programmed into the system during registration. UH dispatchers continue to monitor the emergency until it is cleared.

"Our main mission at United Hatzalah is to get to medical emergencies within two minutes all over the country," said UH president and founder Eli Beer. "With the recent kidnappings, we feel obliged to share our knowledge and technology to provide that extra layer of protection for the people of Israel."

The app is designed to function as

an emergency safety and security alert system and is not meant to replace direct verbal



communication with police, fire or medical emergency dispatchers.

The app is available on sos.now-force.com in English and Hebrew.

UH is Israel's first and largest fully-volunteer emergency rapid response service. Using more than 300 ambucycles, UH's 2,300 volunteers respond to nearby emergencies from mobile-alerts and are able to arrive first on site to administer urgent care within minutes from the initial call of distress – bridging the gap between emergency and ambulance arrival.

*The Savannah Jewish Federation
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LASTING LEGACIES

When we hear the words “Greatest Generation,” we most often think of the brave men and women who served in the armed forces during World War II, and certainly this column is about one of them. But there were others of that generation who at the same time made a difference in other ways, and as you will see, this column is about them, too.

A few months ago, a generous check arrived at the Savannah Jewish Federation representing a grant from the Irving S. Weinstein Philanthropic Fund, a donor-advised fund at the Jewish Communal Fund in New York City. It included a brief note that said:

“This grant was recommended by Mr. Jerry Weinstein, in honor of his uncle, Irving Weinstein, a WWII veteran who served in the US Army Air Corp in Savannah and was befriended at that time by the Halperin Family; he learned much about being an electrician from the family who had a business in Savannah and became a successful electrical contractor, and owed a part of his success to the experience of 1942-45. Kindly acknowledge this grant to the Halperin family.”

It took some investigating, but it was discovered that the family that befriended Irving Weinstein 72 years ago actually was the *Alpern* family — in fact, the family of Irving and Annie Alpern.

“My mother wanted to have every young man she could get a hold of to come eat with us on Shabbos. And they would be thrilled because they were stuck out there at Fort Stewart,” said Simone (Alpern) Fluke, Irving and Annie’s surviving daughter, who now lives in Orlando. “This one particular person [Irving Weinstein] became very attached to my father because my father was an electrical engineer, but he never got a chance to work at it when he came over from the ‘old country,’ so he became an electrician. This man wanted to be an engineer when he got out of the service and he stayed close to us.”

Jerry Weinstein, the Trustee of the Irving S. Weinstein Philanthropic Fund, said of his uncle: “I believe he learned much from Irving Alpern about the electrical contracting profession in which he prospered upon returning from the service.”

But the friendship between the Alperns and Irving Weinstein grew much deeper than one of just ‘professional’ interest. And its impact would be felt a number of ways. “Whenever

Irving could get away, he came to us. He practically lived in our house... During the war you didn’t get much of anything. I think as children we did not realize that,” said Simone. “Everybody that you met helped you along. Irving would bring us stuff from the PX like coffee and of course, candy for us kids. And my mother would let us eat it all. But we saved some of the other things he brought.

“Once a week we would get out these paper shopping bags and fill them up with all kinds of stuff. And because my mother did not drive, we would take the bus over to the old Candler Hospital; next to that they had built this high-rise apartment building and a lot of the older Jewish people had apartments there and we would distribute food that we had saved, partly from what Irving had brought from the base and partly from what she had gotten with [ration] stamps she had saved.”

How fitting then, that the Savannah Jewish Federation used the generous gift to establish the *Irving Weinstein Fund* at the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah. Each year, in

perpetuity, the Fund’s appreciation will be used to make a gift to the Federation’s annual campaign to support community needs —

continually providing for the elderly and less fortunate, educating about the Holocaust, helping to strengthen Jewish identity, and so much more.

“When he was in Savannah, I was a boy of six. I remembered the war years very well and knew how important your city was to him. So here was a way of giving to the Jewish community and in a sense, recognizing the importance of his military experience,” Jerry Weinstein said of the gift. He also wanted to “reiterate the importance of a Jewish connection and specifically to the Alpern family at a time and place that was significant to [my uncle]. I thought that a gift to the Savannah Jewish community is the best way to memorialize those events that took place over 70 years ago.”



Annie Alpern



Irving Alpern

Beverly Alpern, who was married to Irving and Annie’s late son Bill and lives in Chicago, said: “I tell my grandkids; a good name is never forgotten. Isn’t that the moral of this story?”

Create a Fund

A designated fund can benefit a specific purpose dear to your family or the community at large. Funds can be created and activated now or established with a bequest or other financial instrument. To discuss establishing a Lasting Legacy for your family with a fund at the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah, contact Adam Solender at (912) 355-8111 or adam@savj.org.



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Associate Broker

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Savannah Jewish News

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SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**

SJN Editor: **Lynn Levine**

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

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

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

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

Please send eNews submissions to:
adam@savj.org

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Marissa Karp Eager to Serve

by Sophie Lichtman



Marissa Karp

This year, numerous Jewish high school seniors received acceptances to prestigious colleges and universities. Among these well-accomplished students was

Marissa Karp, who received her appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point this past spring. Although she was accepted to various other colleges as well, such as New York University and Boston University, Marissa has officially accepted her appointment to West Point and was scheduled to leave for basic training July 1st.

Becoming a cadet at the most distinguished military school in the country is not an easy process. Besides the ordinary academic application, there are other tests and recommendations that need to be passed and obtained. "There is a medical physical and a candidate fitness assessment where you have to do a specific number of pull ups, sit ups, and pushups in a set amount of time. Oh, and you also have

to run a mile," says Marissa. "I prepared for probably 6-7 months with a trainer."

Perhaps the most impressive part of the application process was that Marissa had to apply for a nomination from Congressman Jack Kingston. When asked about the nomination process Marissa said, "I had to send in my SAT scores and write a few essays. Then when I passed that part of the application I had to go in for an interview." Out of the few hundred applicants, Marissa received one of the two nomination slots. A special shout out goes to Dr. Steven Kolman and Adam Weber at Savannah Country Day School to whom Marissa credits a great deal of her application and academic success.

From the start, Marissa knew that if appointed to the Academy, she would enroll in the program without hesitation. "One of the main reasons I chose West Point was because I wanted a strong engineering program and eventually I'd like to be a JAG officer. However, what really sort of got me is that they have some of the most accessible faculty, and also a small class size of only about 1,000 students per grade," explained Marissa.

"It was actually my driving instructor who sparked my interest in West Point because I didn't know a service academy existed until my sophomore year."

Obviously Marissa is not going to get the "normal college experience," which is something her friends mentioned when they found out she was applying. "I was warned about military stuff and not having as much fun in college, but overall my friends and family were really excited and supportive when I decided to accept my appointment."

Though no longer a rare case, females were first admitted to West Point in 1976. When asked about her thoughts on the subject Marissa replied, "It makes me a little nervous, sexism in general makes me nervous. When you're a female officer you have to work harder to prove you are equally capable. It just means that I will have to show [myself] that I am able to do whatever it takes to be a good Army officer, no matter my gender." Marissa also explained that 20% of admitted applicants this year are female, a number that has been slowly increasing over the years.

Marissa is also a minority in another way, specifically, being Jewish at a school where there are not very many other Jewish students. Never-

theless, she explains that there is a small, but active, Jewish presence on campus. "There is actually a Jewish choir and bible group and a supportive Jewish community with services that are available, which is really nice to know."

With only around two weeks left until she leaves for basic training, Marissa admits that she is a little bit nervous about what the rest of her summer has in store. "I leave July 1st! I was nervous for awhile, but I talked to some other cadets. Basic training is kinda scary and really intense. For the first 6 weeks of basic training you can only write letters — no phone and no computer. Actually, the only thing that really scares me about basic training is the running," she laughs. "I actually really am looking forward to some of the summer training we get to do after the main basic training!"

As of right now Marissa says her life hasn't changed much at all. She could still be found at home doing every teenager's least favorite chore — cleaning her room.

Editor's Note: Marissa, a 2014 graduate of Savannah Country Day School, is the daughter of Sidney and Marcie Karp. Sophie Lichtman, the author of this article, will be attending the University of Georgia as a freshman, where she may study journalism.

Opinion

The Power of One

by Larry Zaslavsky



Larry Zaslavsky

Moving to Savannah 11 years ago from Chicago produced many differences and changes. No more snow and bitter cold days; no more annual frustration with the

Cubs and Bears and the refrain "wait until next year"; no more separate but equal denominations of Judaism, each uninformed with the other.

Coming to Savannah netted many benefits: weather, people, cultural changes, sense of history, friendliness, UGA and one huge difference — *the power of one*. Here, each of us can make a difference by getting involved, bringing new and different ideas. We have an audience that listens, even if they don't agree and refer to us a Yankee or even worse, a *damn* Yankee.

In Savannah, each voice has more significance than in a large city. Each contribution is more strongly felt here and has a greater impact.

With *the power of one*, each of us can get involved and have influence on

our Jewish community, regardless of our financial or emotional commitment, whether at a synagogue, the JEA, Social Services, Federation, or helping to understand other Jews regardless of their backgrounds, beliefs and causes.

I am proud to say we have met and become close friends with people who, in Chicago, I never would have crossed paths with, never learned from and never had the opportunity to grow with and share a common background. This is *the power of one* — to recognize that we each have it and must stand together accepting, understanding, learning from and hopefully influencing each other.

Much of the world would be happier if there were no Israel, no Jews, none of our beliefs and traditions. We make their mission easier when we attack each other. But each of us learning, compromising, adjusting and tolerating — exercising our *power of one* — will make us all stronger.

I quickly realized that in Savannah, the Jewish community works best when everyone participates. We are similar, but different but that should be an advantage, because diversity is healthy. Let's all get involved, get to know each other and make a difference for our community.

My wife Sheree and I recently had the honor and pleasure of having

Shabbat dinner at the home of Rabbi and Ruchie Slatius. We did not know how to act, what to wear or what to say. I confess to having been nervous and a little intimidated; I sought advice from my more observant friends. But it was a night I will never forget — educational, enlightening, interesting and stimulating, not to mention a gastronomical feast.

While we had and still have many differences of opinions and ideas, I kept remembering we are all Jews. We have a common bond, common blood running through our veins. Together we are stronger than alone. *The power of one* allows each of us to influence and learn from others who are open minded and agree to disagree.

There are so few of us each of us is relatively more important to our Jewish community. Whether still young, or 'more experienced,' I believe we are

required to use our *power of one* to make a difference, to make positive contributions financially, emotionally, culturally, or however else possible. We are one people with a common thread. With wealth, ability, insight, knowledge, time and energy comes responsibility. We must use these gifts for our legacy.

Being involved and making a difference helps us feel relevant and worthwhile. Contribute in any way you can — make Savannah a better Jewish community. You have *the power of one* — use it!

Thank you Savannah, for allowing me to be *the power of one*. I have received far more than I have given.

Larry Zaslavsky recently completed six years of service on the Board of Governors of the Savannah Jewish Federation and currently serves on the Board of the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah.

The JEA presents the Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin

Levy Memorial Concert



Postponed until Spring 2015

Watch in the Savannah Jewish News, the SJF eNews and your mail for more exciting details to come!

Sponsored by the Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin Levy Memorial Fund
Visit www.SavannahJEA.org for more information.



Savannah BBYO News

On Sunday, May 18th, Savannah BBYO held its annual Installation and Awards ceremony. Former Dixie Council Godol and David Finn AZA alumnus Elliott Kooden installed the following officers for the 2014-15 year:

Wexler-Clark BBG #39

N'siah (President)

Melanie Ourhaan

S'ganit (VP Programming)

Sophie Guggenheim

Mit Mom (New Member Recruiter)

Allison Samuels

MazGiz (Secy/Treasurer)

Evelyn Darling

David Finn AZA #206

Godol (President)

Gabe Adler

S'gan (VP Programming)

Asher Kolman

Moreh (New Member Recruiter)

Max Strauss

MazGiz (Secy/Treasurer)

Nathan Luskey

Shaliach (Jewish Programming)

Peter Kronowitz

Several awards were given in memory of each award's namesake to out-

standing members for their contributions and enthusiasm for BBYO. Gabe Adler was awarded the Matthew J. Cranman Outstanding AZA Member of the Year as presented by Karen Cranman and her son Jordan, another David Finn alumnus. The Janet M. Clark Outstanding BBG Member of the Year was awarded to Natalie Ourhaan by Fred Clark. The Sima Radetsky Goldfarb MIT of the Year recipient was Allison Samuels as presented by Elaine Radetsky.

In presenting the MIT of the Year award, Elaine remembered her daughter Sima and at the same time, captured the true essence of BBYO: "...Sima believed in a goal of peace and happiness for all humanity and had a talent for inspiring her peers at all times. The strong relationships Sima made at the Savannah level, as well as the Dixie Council and Southern Region levels remained throughout her life. Her passion for BBYO led her to Starlight, PA, where she attended the International Convention and again made strong friendships with people from all over the world. It is hoped



(l-r) Allison Samuels, Melanie Ourhaan, Evelyn Darling, Sophie Guggenheim, (front) Hadley Gordon, Natalie Ourhaan



(l-r) Gabe Adler, Asher Kolman, Max Strauss, Nathan Luskey, Max Braun, Max Cohen



Jordan Cranman and Gabe Adler



Natalie and Melanie Ourhaan



Allison Samuels and Elaine Radetsky

that this award given to you, Allison, will allow you to develop strong leadership potential and inspire others to have a strong Jewish identity as well as personal growth socially and in community service."

Savannah BBYO is currently re-

cruiting new members. For more information contact Melanie Ourhaan (melanieourhaan@gmail.com) or Gabe Adler (gabe.adler11@gmail.com).

Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES



ERWIN "ERNIE" FRIEDMAN
25 JULY 2001
INTERVIEWED BY DAVID ROSENZWEIG

"I have to tell you that my bar mitzvah was a great occasion. . . . It was war days and everybody then was rationed, you couldn't buy this and you couldn't buy the other. . . . I remember all the Levy, Buchsbaum, and Tenenbaum clan got together and they bought me a bicycle. . . . That was a really nice bike and that was my mode of transportation for quite a few years after that. . . . Aaron Buchsbaum and I grew up like brothers 'cause he was born three months after I was. His mother was my godmother, and we lived in each other's houses from the time we were infants all the way through high school. . . . Well, after I graduated from Savannah High in 1948, I attended Armstrong Junior College. . . . It was a two-year college, and I graduated with what they call an associate degree in liberal arts. . . . I . . . was admitted to . . . the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. That's where I spent my third year. At the end of that year, when I came home in the summer of 1951, I guess with two objectives in mind. One was to marry my sweetheart, with whom I'd been in love since I was 15 years old, Mary Weitz, ... And the other was, I woke up one day and decided that I wanted to be a lawyer. . . . All my teachers, all the way through school, used to always tell me, "You need to be a lawyer." 'Cause I was always arguing about everything . . ."



AARON LEVY BUCHSBAUM
JULY 30, 2006
INTERVIEWED BY HARRIET MEYERHOFF

"Well, anyway, when I first started practicing law in Savannah, I was with Brannen, Clark & Hester. That's Sol Clark's, the late Sol Clark's firm. And then later we formed a firm with five other lawyers. The only other Jewish one of the firm was Ernie Friedman. We formed a partnership and that went on for a while but the last 27 years my partner is Alan Lowe and we and the former accounting firm the late Philip Hoffman was in, bought a building together at 311 West Broughton Street that had been a retail business and we had it designed into an office building by a brilliant young architect named Eric Meyerhoff who believed in 45 degree angles rather than 90 degree angles on walls. We've been in that office building all that time. Alan Lowe and I are on the third floor. Alan's a member of B.B. Jacob and his wife is the director of Massie School now. It's not a student school any more, it's run by the Board of Education for historical purposes. That's the practice that I'm in now, Buchsbaum & Lowe and it's still going on. You know, I'm 75 years old. People ask me if I'm ready to retire and I said no, because I don't play golf."



The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide:



CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance

July-Aug. 2014

JEA Gala, September 21st, A Trip to 'Noshville'

Over the years, the Great Gala has served as one of the cornerstones of the Jewish Educational Alliance's fundraising efforts. Since its inception, the Great Gala has raised many thousands of dollars to support the mission of the Jewish Educational Alliance. Funds raised at the Great Gala make it possible for us to serve our community by providing free services, offering senior and youth programming, and year-round activities for the entire Savannah community.

Our 2014 celebration, slated for Sunday, September 21st at 6pm, is themed "Welcome to Noshville," where guests will sample an array of exquisite Bar-B-Q small plates accompanied by a large variety of authentic Southern sides, a Biscuit and Honey station sponsored by Savannah Bee Company, and a Spiked Ice Tea bar. Gala Chair Michelle Allan and Gala Logistics Co-Chairs Myndi Carter and Jessie Brinsfield have been working tirelessly to plan an evening that is guaranteed to thrill everyone. Tickets are available at the JEA or online at www.savannahjea.org.

This year three local chefs will delight your palate with their culinary genius. In addition to the fantastic Bryan Graves, Executive Chef at Congregation Mickve Israel, who will be returning to assist with the gala once again this year, we are excited to announce we have two new chefs to add to our slate: Jeffrey Quasha, Executive Chef at MUMC, and Chef Daniel Berman, owner of A.Lure and Village Bar and Grille.

Bryan Graves is a Savannah-based chef whose career started in 1996 and has taken him from Sun Valley, ID, to the Hamptons. Bryan has had the opportunity to work at some of the most exclusive resorts in the country. Bryan has been back home in Savannah since 2008 and has been working as the private chef for Temple Mickve Israel. He started his own business in 2012, Savannah Cooks Catering. Bryan's favorite part of being back in his hometown is being close to family and friends. When not taking advantage of the coastal lifestyle, Bryan can be found

volunteering for many charities including Ronald McDonald House.

Jeffrey Quasha, Executive Chef at Memorial University Medical Center, moved to Savannah last year with his wife Laura and two boys, Joshua and Austin. Originally from Boston, Jeffrey has an undergraduate degree in criminology and criminal justice from Florida State.

He then attended Florida Culinary in West Palm Beach for his bachelor's in culinary management. Chef Quasha is passionate about his role at MUMC: "Food is for healing. It's something I tell our chefs every day. The food we serve has a special role. I'm not a doctor, but I know food can help heal people. This isn't just a job. You have to love what you do. My family motivates me to give back. Putting on my uniform excites me."

Chef Daniel Berman, owner of A.Lure and Village Bar and Grille, moved to Savannah from Charleston, SC, where he was working in the family restaurant business. He graduated with a degree in psychology from Georgia State, but a year after graduating he decided to follow his true passion—culinary arts. After moving to Savannah in 1998, Daniel managed Pink House, Garibaldi's and Bistro Savannah. In 2004 he opened his own restaurant, Kasey's. He likes to use his cooking skills to give back to the community whether it is stocking up Second Harvest or doing fundraisers for his synagogue and kids' schools. When not spending time with his wife Kasey or their two kids Laney and Will, Daniel plays the guitar and sings in the Charlie Fog Band.

We will finish off the night with blissful sweet bites from our Viennese display featuring desserts prepared by community members. Dessert Co-Chairs Vickie Halperin and Elise Shernoff have recruited Savannah's finest to please your sweet tooth, including Betty Lasky, Nina Finkleman and Rhoda Halperin just to name a few.

The night will feature a live auction led by "auctioneers" Jeffrey Lasky and Joel Greenberg. Our Silent Auction will be bursting at the seams with prizes, thanks to our hard-working Auction co-chairs David Eichholz, Ricky Friedenberg, Doris Goldstein, Dayle Levy, Candy Lowe, Aileen Miller, Gail Robinson, Lori Robinson, Debbie Rotkow, and Aliya Rubenstein. Live music will be provided by Skip Jennings, Skip Hinely and Tommy Holland of the Telfair Babies Band.

Tickets can be purchased for \$100 each at the JEA or online at www.savannahjea.org. Tables of 10 can be reserved for 10 paid ticket holders. For questions or more information, please contact Anna Berwitz at anna@savj.org.



JEA Donations

(May 10, 2014-June 17, 2014)

JEA BUILDING FUND

In memory of Ada Kramer
In memory of Sonny Rubnitz
In memory of Mickey Siegel
In memory of Betty Nathan
Arlene & Allan Ratner
In memory of Ada Kramer
Esther Buchsbaum
In honor of Arlene Ratner
Toby Hollenberg
Sally & Herb Sanders
Joanne & Dick Hochman

ALLAN ULLMAN PLAYGROUND FUND

In honor of Arlene Ratner
Cathy & George Shriver
In honor of Paul Kulbersh
Arlene & Mike Steinfeldt

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Aaron Buchsbaum
Michael Karpf
Micki Kingsley
Montgolfier Society
Eleanor & Melvyn Galin
In memory of Ada Kramer
Jeri Greenberg
In honor of Arlene Ratner
Maureen & Steve Gordon
Biff & Jerry Montana
Linda & David Cohen
April Levine
In honor of Arlene & Allan Ratner
Toby Hollenberg

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH

In memory of Ada Kramer
In memory of Suzanne Shapiro
In honor of Sharon Sand
Marcy & Jerry Konter

ASHLEY SAMUELS CHILDREN’S & YOUTH ACTIVITY FUND

In memory of Aaron Buchsbaum
In memory of Edith Karpf
In memory of Bea Goodman
In memory of Ada Kramer
In memory of Herbert Ray
In memory of Anne Shuman
Scott Samuels & Family

JACK M. & MIRIAM S. LEVY CONCERT FUND

In honor of Leon Slotin
In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy
Austin Hill

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Lorry & Chuck Palefsky
Merry & Richard Bodziner

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Sylvia Blumberg
In memory of Edith Karpf
In memory of Marie Crider
Chuck Palefsky

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Arlene Ratner
In memory of Mickey Siegel
In honor of Lillian & Walter Lowe’s great grandson
In honor of Candy & Allan Lowe’s grandson
Elise & Victor Shernoff

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Doris Kanter
In memory of Bill Brown
Vicki & Harry Center

Adult Programming



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

Community Garden

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



Lunch Bunch - Every Thursday 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

Join us for Thursday Lunch Bunch! Visit with old friends and meet new ones, enjoy lunch followed by an educational speaker or performer.

July 17th – “An African Adventure: People, Places and Animals.” A photographic exploration with Don Kole.
July 24th – “A Jewish Conversation” with Rabbi Robert Haas.
July 31st - Israeli update with Motti Locker.
August 7th - Whole Body Exercises you can do at Home” with JEA Health & Wellness Director, Stephanie Johnson.
August 14th - “The State of the JEA - Present and Future” with JEA President Arlene Ratner.
August 21st - “The Work of Photographing Pets” with Becky Smith, owner of Photos by Becky.
August 28th - “Buyer Beware - Precautions when Working with Subcontractors” with Audrey Biloan.
Please call 355-8111 to make your reservations. Lunch and program are just \$5!



Summer Fitness Classes

Sunday

8:30 am - Firm It Up
9:15 am - Power Pilates
10:30 am - Total Body Blast
1:00 pm - Extreme Toning

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

Monday

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

Thursday

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

Tuesday

9:15 am - Power Pilates
10:00 am - SilverSneakers Splash
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
5:45 pm - Zumba
6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Friday

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

Wednesday

5:00 am - Master Swim



Children's Programming

Not Back in School Yet? Join Us for Days at the JEA!

August 4th, 2014 - Surfs Up (Giant Slip and Slide) - The sun's out and the surf's up at the JEA! Campers will have the opportunity to brave the roaring rapids of our giant slip and slide.

August 5th, 2014 - A Day at the Clubhouse (Field-trip to the Clubhouse) - What could be better than hanging out with your friends at the Clubhouse? Campers will be able to choose from an exciting game of laser tag, ballcity or to play for prizes in the arcade!

August 6th, 2014 - Field Day 2.5 - Field Day is back and better than ever. For 2.5, campers will take the friendly competition outside with some out-of-this-world water challenges.

August 7th, 2014 - Journey to Rio - The JEA is taking it overseas as we celebrate Carnivale in Rio! We will make masks, enjoy party treats and what day in Rio wouldn't be complete without watching Rio 2?!

August 8th, 2014 - A Rocking & Rolling Shabbat - Shabbat has been remixed to an all-out musical extravaganza!

August 11th, 2014 - Jurassic Adventure - The JEA is taking a Prehistoric adventure back in time.

We will be on the "hunt" for fossils, doing a dino stomp and more!

August 12th, 2014 - Back to the Renaissance - Join us for an art-tastic day filled with self portraits, double the abrakadoodle and a trip to the SCAD Museum.

August 13th, 2014 - Continental Drift- Brrrr - A winter storm has surrounded the JEA. Campers will partake in the art of milkshakes and will paint with some snow.

August 14th, 2014 - Battle for Pangaea - Attention campers; the continent of Pangaea is up for grabs. In order to claim your super prize, you must become victorious in the games of Survivor and Battleship.

August 15th, 2014 - Cavemen's Dive - Campers will brave nature as they experience what it was like to live back in the Stone Age. Those who are brave enough will attempt to slide down the wild rapids.

August 18th, 2014 - Shalom Summer - It's time to bid farewell to another fantastic summer season. Join us for hot dogs and volleyball poolside. And did we mention...it's a PARTY!!

Days at the JEA is offered periodically throughout the school year. When school is closed, you can always count on more fun at the JEA!

Who? Children Pre-K to 8th grade

Price: \$40/per child/day

JEA Member Value Price: \$30/per child/per day

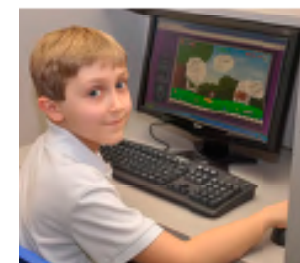
Any questions, please contact DJ at camp@savj.org or 355-8111



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

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

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



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

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

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



Youth Sports



EAT. SLEEP. PLAY.
SOCCER

Registration

Who: Kids ages 4 - 12

When: July 1 - August 4

Where: JEA Front Desk or www.savannahJEA.org



JEA Preschool Savannah News

July-August 2014

Enrollment Now Open for Fall 2014

Enrolling Now for the new Preschool Year 2014-2015

- Preschool Begins August 11th
- 16-months through 4-years-old
- Half-day and full-day options
- 2, 3 and 5-day options for the toddlers and two-year-olds
- For full details, visit our website at www.savannahjea.org

Contact Jodi Sadler, Director, at
Jodi@savj.org or 912-355-8111

It's Not Too Late for Our Summer Program

You can still enroll your preschooler for our July 21 – August 1 Summer Program session. Children participate in weekly Shabbat celebrations, hands-on experiences and activities, water play (including swim lessons for three & four-year-olds) and more! See www.savannahjea.org for full details or call us at 355-8111.

HoliDaycare available August 4, 5, and 6

Preschool Closed August 7 and 8

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Repairing & Updating the JEA 2nd Floor



Before - This is just one of five rooms that had bad floor tiles needing repair work. We prepped the damage to the walls throughout the 2nd floor and readied it for new paint. The cabinets didn't need much work, just a good cleaning.



After - The walls were repainted with the same color used in the ECE classrooms. This made the room look bright and clean. Jeff (night shift supervisor) stripped and repolished the floors.



Before - 90 percent of the ceiling tiles in this room were stained. We replaced them, then replaced the light fixtures with "green" fixtures. Justin then rebuilt the heating and cooling units and gave each its own thermostat.



After - This project was difficult, but we did learn a few things along the way. In addition, all the doors received new locks.

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 5/10/14-6/18/2014)

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discover *your* community

A Norman Rockwell Weekend in Alma

by Dick Berkowitz

A few weeks ago we had the distinct pleasure of going with Jerald and Carole Cohen to Alma, GA, for the 40th Annual Blueberry Festival. It was like being given the keys to the city.

We checked into the Blueberry Inn, a lovely group of buildings set on a golf course and surrounded by beautiful homes. The owner's home could have been a setting for *Gone with the Wind*. A wedding took place over the weekend and naturally Jerald and Carole knew the families of the bride and groom. Sunday, when we were leaving, the bride's folks insisted we have breakfast with them, so we did.

Alma, with about 5,000 people, is the Bacon County seat. It has a wonderful hospital for a town its size, excellent new schools and a vibrant, small downtown. Alma is an agricultural secret best known for its blueberries. Also, corn, cotton, soybeans and tobacco are grown in the surrounding area. It is home to a very large meat processing and packing plant owned by a local family. Their sausage is sold all over.

Jerald's father came to Alma from Poland at the age of 14 and over time opened a store, Cohen's, now in its 90th year. Jerald's son Mark runs the store.

Cohen's sells name brand clothing, supplies uniforms to the hospital and other medical establishments and is the place to rent tuxedos for weddings, graduations, etc. These have helped stabilize their general retail business. Cohen's pricing is moderate and while we were there they were having a 'blueberry sale' to coincide with the Festival.

Everyone knows everyone in Alma, their business and family stories,

so you can't be anonymous. Jerald and Carole raised their four boys in a beautiful house overlooking a magnificent lake where the kids fished and boated. What a great place to raise kids. Mark and his wife now live in the home.

Jerald tells how when his father ran for Mayor, there were some grass-root anti-Semitic comments but the Sunday before the election all the ministers in the churches spoke out in a strong way and Jerald's father got about 70 per cent of the vote. His father also helped start the town's second bank. Jerald and Mark followed the tradition of family community service and involvement. Jerald owned an egg producing farm with a friend and had a garden on some land he owned downtown.

Now Mark is Chairman of Alma's Board of Education and his wife works for the local phone and cable company. Their sons do not live in Alma so Cohen's future could end when Mark retires. That would be sad.

After visiting Cohen's we toured John Bennett's blueberry packing plant and learned a great deal about what is entailed in getting this healthy product to our tables. The local co-op is building a state-of-the-art \$13 million facility in Alma. It was fascinating to learn the details of their business. Alma supplies about 10% of the nation's blueberries and new varieties are being cultivated all the time.

Carole and Lynn bought five large boxes of blueberries to distribute to their Mah Jongg friends or whomever. They cost half what you would pay in the grocery store.

The next morning we breakfasted on blueberry pancakes and sausage at one of the local churches, a fund raiser

for the Lion's Club. While we were eating everyone came up to Carole and said how glad they were to see her.

The Festival parade was just what you would expect: Farm trucks, political campaign trucks (Jack Kingston and Buddy Carter were represented and Buddy was there), the Alma Citizen of the Year, the local police riding in their Command Truck (what they need a command vehicle for is beyond me), various local groups and clubs in their cars, remnants of a Confederate Civil War reenactment group who were performing at Goldwasser Park (named after a beloved physician), and Veterans of Viet Nam War group riding in a military truck.

Alma is a step back in history but remains the kind of community that still forms the backbone of what our nation is about — honest, hard working people who live out their lives still believing in G-d and maintaining basic virtues and values.

I love going to places like Alma because it restores my faith in what a



Cohen's storefront in downtown Alma



(l-r) Lynn Berkowitz, Jerald Cohen, Carole Cohen & Dick Berkowitz on their tour of Alma's blueberry processing plant

great nation we are and how we have overcome so many of our problems and prejudices.

Norman Rockwell should have been there because he would have had a great subject for one of his American life paintings.

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The PJ Library in Savannah is a program of the Savannah Jewish Federation and is made possible with generous support from Nancy & Leon Slotin and Jane Slotin.



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Bonnie Strongin

“Willkommen, bienvenue, welcome, to Cabaret, oh, Cabaret, oh, Cabaret”

And Apathy begat Evil. And Evil begat Bigotry.

And Bigotry begat... ANNIHILATION.

Some movies are meant to be no more than a snapshot of their time. It is their main purpose and, so being, the setting dictates the premise.

Hester Street sails into New York Harbor at the turn of the 20th century during the mass immigration of Eastern European Jewry; witness the price and reward of assimilation. *Exodus* wages war against almighty odds to establish a Jewish homeland in the 1948 partition of Palestine; learn the human price one pays for freedom. *Cabaret* is set in 1931; Berlin reels from the Depression nursing its wounds from the disastrous military defeat of World War I and is adrift in a moral vacuum. It hypnotically yields to the pursuit of pleasure and ignores the increasing violence that has taken hold of the streets, the rising National Socialist [Nazi] Party.

This is not a Holocaust film. It is a film of anti-Semitism, of prejudice unchecked, bigotry spinning into mass murder...and the citizens don't pay attention *until it's too late*.

Open the doors to the Kit Kat Club where the Emcee [Oscar winner Joel Grey] tells us, “Leave your troubles outside. Here life is beautiful.” Hedonism slides into Hitlerism, and revelers live for the moment.

The Kit Kat Club, the central set, is a microcosm of German society. The lighting is dark, the room hazy with smoke. The only backdrop is a distorted mirror reflecting twisted images, reflections of a twisted society.

Here, anything goes. Half-naked women and androgynous musicians line the stage. The numbers are laden with sex and political punch. It is the only stage musical to receive an X certificate.

It is not possible to review *Cabaret* without homage to its director/choreographer. 1972 is the year of Bob Fosse. He wins the show biz Triple Crown by receiving an Emmy for *Liza with a Z*, a Tony for *Pippin*, and an Oscar for *Cabaret*.

His trademark signatures embrace the stage: bowler hats and gloves, angular groupings, staccato movement, positioned fingers and hands. Dancers imitate Nazi uniforms with hip high boots, the Nazi goose step, and the stiff-armed salute.

The stage show is a fusion of politics with song and dance while lyrics advance the story. And onstage the Emcee beckons you to enjoy the show. An exaggerated reminder of carnal pleasures and greed, he is the portal to decadence. Cameras then cross-cut to the increasing violence on the streets.

Sally Bowles [a brilliant Liza Minnelli] is the starry-eyed headliner, the girl who is sleeping her way to the top. The moral center of the story, she quivers with vulnerability, booze and sex.

She is a pleasure seeker who ignores the reality of Hitler. A flawed heroine, she revels in the decadence of the Kit Kat Club...and gives no thought to



Liza Minnelli and Joel Grey in Cabaret

the world crashing outside.

Liza and the Emcee sing all the songs onstage but one. It is the movie's most chilling moment.

Performed in a beer garden, *Tomorrow Belongs to Me* is sung by a handsome young Aryan. The camera slowly pulls back and reveals the boy dressed in full Nazi uniform. Hitler Youth.

One by one the customers rise and

swear in a rousing anthem loyalty to the Fatherland. Cut from the film's original release in Germany, it rings with patriotism, racial supremacy, nationalism, and economic superiority. Hitler and the Nazis proclaim rescue for a limping society.

At its close, nothing has changed but the setting. The characters remain the same, but now they must pay the price for the warning they never heard. The once-ignored Nazi Party has become a mighty machine, a metamorphosis from thug to army, from fringe to mainstream while no one was watching.

The closing shot, the image the director wants you to take home, pans slowly across the audience now filled with Nazi uniforms. And the emcee bids a hasty retreat.

“All that is necessary for the forces of evil to win in this world is for enough good men to do nothing.”

Edmund Burke
British statesman
1729-1797

See you at the movies...
Bonnie

Bonnie Strongin, a film analyst, is the host of the film series movieSPEAK, now on summer break.

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Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

I Remember

On May 27, 2014, six wonderful young individuals graduated from Rambam Day School. At their graduation, they were given the opportunity to express their most inner feelings and thoughts. I would like to share with you portions of what they each said.

“Each Jewish tribe was delegated its own flag. This sent a message to the Jewish people that while each tribe is part of the whole that makes up the Jewish people; everyone is different and must serve the Almighty in the manner He has set forth; however each of us must use our own unique talents and strengths.

“Rambam lives and breathes the conviction, that while all students coming to this institution come for the same purpose, which is to receive the best Secular education and an extensive Jewish education, everyone keeps close to their hearts that the students come from different homes and different backgrounds and we all want to feel respected, accepted and cared for.” – Shlomo Yosef Garfunkel

“As an 8th grader we’re on the part of the campus just for middle school students. It was a big change from last year. By having our own campus and an area all our own, we really did feel special... We’ve loved Rambam from the first moment our little feet touched its grounds. So while our new campus is fun and wonderful, even with all that, no matter where we would be, if we were in the halls of Rambam, we would feel safe, loved and cared about.” – Ben Cohen

“In Rambam, all the students and teachers know each other and have a bond with each other. In my new high school (in Wisconsin) students will be coming from all around the country, so many of us will not know each other and we’ll be thrown together to face for the first time the many chal-

lenges of high school. Even though we’ll be coming from different cities and homes, we’ll have a lot in common just having chosen to leave home at such an early age to continue our Jewish studies. Having been in Rambam, I will bring a unique experience with me. In Rambam we all came from very different backgrounds, yet we never saw our differences; we saw in each other friends, partners, and classmates. I think every student that leaves Rambam, leaves with an appreciation for all Jews and for all Mankind.” – Gabriel Damelin

“This was my only year in Rambam. I never knew much about my heritage before coming to Rambam. It felt great learning about what it means to be a Jew, and I found it all quite fascinating. There are so many stories about Jewish events, our Matriarchs and Patriarchs and other great individuals, who have played major roles in the lives of the Jewish people, throughout our history.

“I found it mesmerizing to learn in detail how these people influenced the generations to follow them and lived lives that are examples of what we should strive to-

wards; not just growing in our grasp of the mitzvahs, but how we should be as people; how we should act towards others, and how we should be proud of our heritage.” – Jacob Wollschlager

“Familiar always feels better than unfamiliar. Rambam has been home for 11 years! I feel well prepared for the academics in high school, but I am definitely concerned about all the new and very different aspects of another school. I’m excited for the change because Rambam has prepared me for change by instilling within me a confidence of who I am and who I can become if I put my mind to it.

“While it is difficult to look to the future knowing everything will be different, it is comfortable knowing that I take with me what became familiar to me in Rambam. I count as a person, I’m capable of accomplishing, I’m knowledgeable about who I am and I am a better, stronger person.”

– Uri Locker



RDS graduates (l-r) Jacob Wollschlager, Ben Cohen, Uri Locker, Shani Locker, Shlomo Yosef Garfunkel, Gabriel Damelin (front)



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director of
Early Childhood
Education

Oh, the Places We Went

I have been fortunate during my Early Childhood Education (ECE) journey to be able to participate in a number of professional development opportunities. Some of the

learning experiences in which I participated included a Georgia Bright from the Start Directors’ training, informative webinars through Early Childhood Investigations, and the Jewish Community Centers Association (JCCA) ECE New Director’s seminar.

The one thing I always consider during these experiences is, “how do I bring these concepts and ideas back to our children, families and teachers?” This question is always in the forefront of my thoughts as I study with and learn from my colleagues. When I am able to answer this question with action, I feel most gratified.

The end of our inaugural preschool year was quickly approaching and Ms. Penny and I wanted to have a celebration for our Ayalim class, the rising kindergartners who would be aging

out of our program. I knew I didn’t want the typical cap and gown program with children marching into a large space with a lot of people staring at them. It can be overwhelming for adults, how much more so for young children? I wanted a meaning-

ful and memorable program.

Then I remembered an informal discussion that took place during my JCCA seminar. Other directors had shared their ideas about what they did for their children: warm and loving experiences which involved not only the children, but the parents as well. My learning was about to be put into action.

Our “Oh the Places You’ll Go” program developed and was executed beautifully. The short program included remarks from the parents of the rising kindergartners about their children and how happy each was to have been part of JEA Preschool Savannah. Also, each of the children in the class had a chance to speak about their time spent at JEA Preschool Savannah with their friends. Of course, favorite songs were sung and class-made refreshments were served. And best of all, this experience took place outside, with the sun shining through the branches of the majestic oak tree that is the centerpiece of our outdoor



The first class of JEA Preschool Savannah to be ‘going places!’

learning space, with the Ayalim class surrounded by their family and friends.

The pride Ms. Penny and I felt for the accomplishments of all of the children and for the success of

the first year of JEA Preschool Savannah was overwhelming. The parents had expressed their gratitude and pride. But most of all, the children were laughing together, hugging each other, and enjoying their special time! How proud they were of themselves!

“How will my Jewish education impact my life? I think my awareness of being tolerant, respectful and open minded will be more extensive than the average student because character and how we treat others was a continuous focus and emphasis throughout all lessons learned in Rambam, both in our Secular studies and in our Judaic studies.

“Being in Rambam most definitely has impacted my life – I have learned about so many things – academically, Jewishly and ethically. I’m feeling pretty confident about facing my new phase in life and I owe it all to Rambam.” – Shani Locker

Celebrating a simcha?

(Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, engagements, weddings, births.)



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- JULY 4 — 4th OF JULY KABBA AT SHABBAT, 6PM
JULY 5 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
JULY 11 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF KERRY & PHIL ROSEN, 6:30PM
JULY 12 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
281ST ANNIVERSARY SHABBAT SERVICE
JULY 18 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF TOBY HOLLENBERG, 6:30PM
JULY 19 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
JULY 25 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE HOSTED BY JENNIFER & JASON RICH AND ANNA & STEVE BERWITZ AT THE RICH HOME
JULY 26 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
AUG. 1 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF ANDREA & CHARLES HARRIS, 6:30PM
AUG. 2 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
AUG. 8 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF JULIE & NORMAN HIRSCH, 6:30PM
AUG. 9 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
AUG. 15 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF MELINDA & EDWIN BYCK, 5:45PM
AUG. 16 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
AUG. 22 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF DEGI & JESSE RUBEN, 6:30PM
AUG. 23 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM
AUG. 29 — SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE AT THE HOME OF CAROL & JOEL GREENBERG, 6:30PM
AUG. 30 — SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, 11AM

Everyone is welcome to join us for our services and events! Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter by contacting kayla@mickveisrael.org, or by texting CMI to 42828.

For more information or to RSVP to an event: call 912.233.1547 or visit mickveisrael.org

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It's a Funny Thing



Melinda Stein

Max and Miriam were shopping at the mall. Suddenly Miriam looked around and Max was gone. She searched for a while, then called him on his cell phone to ask him where he was.

In a quiet voice he said, "Do you remember the jewelry store we went to about five years ago, where you fell in love with that diamond necklace that we couldn't afford and I told you that one day, I would get it for you?"

Miriam choked up and started to cry. "Yes I remember that store," she said trembling.

"Good," replied Max, "Because I'm at the ice cream place next door."

After Morris's first year of college he comes home and visits with his 95-year-old Bubbie. During his visit, she asks him, "So, dahlink, what are you going to be when you grow up?"

Morris replies, "I'm going to be a doctor of philosophy, Bubbie."

"Oh, vunderful, Morris," says Bubbie, "but what kind of disease is philosophy?"

Mr. and Mrs. Rubenstein were teaching their 4-year-old son Eli the importance of making *brachot* (blessings) before you eat.

"For example," said Mr. Rubenstein, "before I eat this piece of cake, I need to make a *bracha* to thank God."

Mrs. Rubinstein motioned to the food on young Eli's plate. "Go ahead," said Mrs. Rubinstein, "Why don't you make a *bracha* for the food on your plate?"

Little Eli looked up at his parents and asked, "If I thank God for the broccoli, won't He know that I'm lying?"

Young brothers David and Michael were spending the night at their Grandma's house. At bedtime, the two boys recited the evening prayers before going to sleep. David began praying at the top of his lungs, "I pray for a bicycle! I pray for a new TV! I pray for an iPad!"

Michael said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? G-d isn't deaf."

To which the brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"

Sol wanted a boat more than anything. But his wife Fay kept saying that they could not afford one. Overcome with desire for a boat, Sol bought one anyway.

"I'll tell you what," he told Fay. "In the spirit of compromise, why don't you name the boat?" Being a good sport, she accepted.

When Sol went to the dock for the maiden voyage, this is the name he saw painted on the side: "For Sale."

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Friday Shacharit 7:00 am & Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 pm



TREELoft: Forming a Jewish Connection

by Carol M. Towbin Greenberg

New name, new space, the twenty year resolution of an old idea: creating an environment where it is easy to learn about the history of the Savannah Jewish experience by referencing how we, as Jews, pass the torch through education, traditions and leadership.

Scheduled to open September 14, 2014, TREELoft (Traditions, Recordings, Exhibits, Experiences) will be a four month stand-alone museum exhibit with a Savannah Jewish experience timeline, in a space MorningStar Cultural Arts is designing for the Bull Street Library to promote creative personal narrative. The room, which will continue after our Jewish pilot project is retired in December, will host oral histories and still photography with a “selfie” feel that makes people at ease and want to drop in and participate in documenting their connection to the narrative we are telling because we have made it fun, interesting or easy for them to smile and tell their story.

Using the work started as ChainLinks project in 1994, MStarArts will construct a short film, children’s book fair event, a photo wall with portraits by photographer Dick Hochman, and a lecture series as part of this exhibit.

Whether your roots are from a 1733 Jewish descendent or not, exhibit participation is open to anyone, Jewish or not, whose family branched out with a historic, strong or unique connection to the Savannah Jewish community who would like to be included by leaving their narrative.

With copies of and borrowed memorabilia, we will link our Jewish history to Savannah’s through those who wish to tell their story. Individual or in group, participation sessions in photography, collection and videotaping will continue throughout the summer until we complete what is needed for the exhibit. Call Dick Hochman (912-598-8659) for photo opportunities or contact Carol Greenberg (912-352-1238 or MStarArts@gmail.com) for video appointments or to offer expertise, time or tax-deductible funds to help MorningStar Cultural Arts make this happen.

After twenty five years, TREELoft, MorningStar’s final project, will also set the precedent for any group to come use the space we create to highlight the contributions of their own communities. Once dismantled, our exhibit will be donated to Savannah’s various Jewish organizations and TREELoft will continue as an interactive resource space at the Bull Street Library.

Started as a way to highlight the unique silver engraved chain dedicated on Shavuot in 1935 by Henrietta Steinheimer (now Victor), A.J. Cohen, Jr. and eight other members of their religious school graduating class, ChainLinks, the original project, was a way to restore the chain and learn something about its history. The chain reflected the students’ commitment to Judaism and symbolized Jewish continuity. Once restored, it was hung in the Jewish Museum housed at Congregation Mickve Israel, but

for MorningStar Arts it represented more. The chain also seemed to connect the historic congregation with so many other Jewish families across and outside of Savannah. The chain is a link to the past, but continues to grow with each new class of students, most recently this past Shavuot with the addition of seven new names.

This gift began a tradition at CMI, but also spawned a renewed effort to identify all the teenagers involved since 1880, the date Rabbi Saul Rubin references in his book *Third to None*, about Savannah’s Jewish history. Learning that Bnai Brith Jacob and Agudath Achim also participated in Confirmation rituals in the 20th century was illuminating as in many parts of the country this was part of a Reform tradition.

The wider implications as a tool to learn about Jewish education in Savannah led to a larger *Georgia History Diversity Project*, in the early 2000’s that tried to digitize information on local Jewish education to make this history part of an interactive teaching tool for Jewish youth. Photos were found, digitally re-mastered and placed on Facebook and website pages and we started some video interviews, but without funds, this project did not flourish.

In honor of the chain’s 75th anniversary in 2010, still a symbol of Jewish commitment, MorningStar launched



Mickve Israel 1915 confirmation class

a new effort to make this history and achievement that the chain represents accessible to students of Jewish history in a way that links all of our community stories. After four years of planning, the exhibit will open in September. If you would like to contribute in some way this summer to help us get this exhibit “ready for prime time,” we welcome your participation!

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(Planning to begin in early August.)

Contact Jennifer Rich by phone, 912-355-8111 or by e-mail, programming@savj.org for more information.



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



Don't miss the chance to include your holiday wishes in the next issue of the Savannah Jewish News!

Download the Holiday Greetings Order Form at www.savj.org
Holiday greeting due date: August 4th

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Contributions to the Savannah
Jewish Federation may be made on
our secure website at www.savj.org
or by calling 912-355-8111.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Betty Adler Nathan

Who died June 15, 2014

She is survived by her daughter, Celia Nathan of Greenbelt, MD; two sons, Harris Nathan of Savannah and Mark (Carol) Nathan of Tybee Island; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and one sister, Sylvia (Burt) Udinsky of Savannah. She was preceded in death by her husband, Irving, and her daughter, Sarah Nathan.

Remembrances: Hospice Savannah, P.O. Box 13190, Savannah 31416-0190 or the Duvall Home, P.O. Box 220036, Glenwood, FL 32722.

Jacob "Jack" Stoltzman

Who died June 12, 2014

He is survived by his wife, Lilian Koblenz Stoltzman; a son, Morris "Mo" (Gail) Stoltzman of Savannah; a daughter, Barbara (Paul) Talisman of Houston, TX; three grandchildren; brothers- and sisters-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn St., Sa-

vannah 31405 or Hospice Savannah, P.O. Box 13190, Savannah 31416-0190.

Miriam "Mickey" Lasky Siegel

Who died May 26, 2014

She is survived by her husband, Nathan Siegel; one daughter, Barbara S. (Philip) Schwartz of Savannah; one son, Dr. Alex M. (Lauri) Siegel of Philadelphia, PA; one brother, William "Billy" Lasky of Orange, CA; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a son, Jeffrey Lee Siegel, and a brother, Robert Lasky.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405 or Rambam Day School, 111 Atlas St., Savannah 31405-5461.

Irvin "Sonny" Rubnitz

Who died May 17, 2014

He is survived by his wife, Jean Mincey Rubnitz; one daughter, Debbie Cohen; one son, David (René) Rubnitz; four grandchildren and numerous nephews and their children.

Book Review

Back in the Fight

by Ken Chanin

In June of 1967, with her Arab neighbors threatening to attack, Israel chose to launch a surprise offensive that in the end would destroy the Egyptian Air Forces while still on the ground, destroy the Egyptian ground forces in the Sinai, liberate the old city of Jerusalem from Jordan, and capture the Golan Heights from Syria — all in what would take only six historic days. Most of us already know this story, but in *The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War*, Steven Pressfield allows those who fought the Six Day War to tell their stories. He interviewed the pilots who dominated the air war, the ground troops and tank troops who captured the Sinai, and the paratroopers who liberated the old city of Jerusalem.

Pressfield begins by explaining the three principles that were hammered into every Israeli soldier and airman. First, complete the mission, no matter the cost. Second, whatever needs to be done, do it to the utmost. And lastly, there is no alternative. Israel was surrounded by enemies who desired to destroy her and exterminate the Jews. There was no alternative to victory.

The book then contains first-person narratives from three units including an Air Force unit, a ground reconnaissance unit in the Sinai, and a paratrooper unit in Jerusalem. The pilots detail taking off, flying to their targets, and destroying the Egyptian Air Force on the ground. They also retell the later events of attacking airfields in Jordan and Syria.

The reconnaissance unit gives the account of their jeeps and armored personnel carriers rolling across the border into the Sinai in order to find the enemy for the Israeli tanks. These reconnaissance troops would suffer the highest casualty rates of the war.

Lastly, the paratroopers recount their battles to secure Jerusalem and then to ultimately be the first Jews to enter the old city of Jerusalem in almost 20 years. The moving passage on page 390 expresses the overwhelming emotions of the paratroopers as they stood on the Temple mount for the first time:

"Stempel held my arm in a grip of iron. Twice he tried to speak and twice his voice failed. He pulled me so close that the brows of our helmets were touching.

'Zamosh!' Stempel said, with such emotion that I can hear the words still, though he spoke them almost fifty years ago. 'Zamosh, if my grandfather, if my great-grandfather, if any of my family who have been murdered in pogroms and in the death camps... if they could know, somehow, even for one second, that I, their grandson, would be standing here at this hour, in this place, wearing the red boots of an Israeli paratrooper...if they could know this, Zamosh, for just one instant, they would suffer death a thousand times and count it as nothing.'"

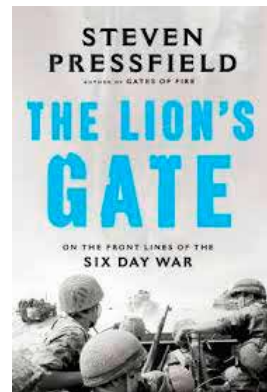
I spent 28 years in the U.S. military. I flew combat missions in Iraq, and served with the Army on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan. As I read this book, I felt as though again I was flying combat missions and was on the ground with the ground forces in combat.

Steven Pressfield has expertly taken the stories of the Israeli airmen and soldiers and told the story of the Six Day War from the view point of those who were there. The first person narratives are intense and place the reader in the battle for Israel's survival. It allows the reader to feel their emotions, joy and sorrow.

This is not a dry history book. It puts you in the fight.

Major Ken Chanin, United States Air Force ret., served 28 years of active duty. He now is the Executive Director of Congregation Mickve Israel.

The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War
Sentinel HC | 448pp | \$29.95



CONGREGATION
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Part-time Program Assistant for Congregation Mickve Israel wanted to assist with development and implementation of synagogue activities. Background in Jewish cultural, religious and life cycle events required.

Send resume and cover letter to kchanin@mickveisrael.org

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