



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, May 31	8:07pm
Saturday, June 1	9:08pm
Friday, June 7	8:11pm
Saturday, June 8	9:12pm
Friday, June 14	8:14pm
Saturday, June 15	9:15pm
Friday, June 21	8:16pm
Saturday, June 22	9:16pm
Friday, June 28	8:17pm
Saturday, June 29	9:17pm
Friday, July 5	8:16pm
Saturday, July 6	9:16pm

JEA Preschool: Another Year, Another Success

By Jodi Sadler

What a year it has been! 2018-2019 school year has come to a close. The children are so much bigger in size, smarter in knowledge, and socially and emotionally more mature than when we got them in August!

Our teachers have worked diligently this year giving them love and a feeling of safety in the preschool environment. Also, they took part in accomplishing an important goal which impacts children and families.

Please read the letter sent to families on May 1.

Exciting Announcement from JEA Preschool Savannah Director, Jodi Sadler

We are ready to shout it from the rooftops: JEA Preschool Savannah has been designated as a 3-Star Quality Rated program (the highest designation possible which is achieved by only 11% of Early Childhood Centers in the

state)!

Quality Rated (QR) is a systematic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early care educational programs. Similar to rating systems for other service related industries, Quality Rated assigns a quality rating to programs that meet a set of defined program standards.

The teachers and staff at JEA Preschool Savannah embarked on this process in August, 2018. It has been a year of self-reflection, diligent and intense work, and study. It is a two-part process which involves an evaluation of a portfolio including Administration, teacher credentials and continuing education, and family engagement. The process was a wonderful opportunity for the entire staff to evaluate ourselves versus “best practices” established by the State of Georgia.

The second half of the QR evaluation involves observation of two

classrooms that are picked totally at random. We had no idea of when the observations would take place. All the self evaluation, team building, room assessment(s), and review payed a great dividend when QR showed up at the JEA last month: we were all prepared and were using what we had learned about best practices.

JEA Preschool Savannah earned a 3-star rating from Georgia’s Department of Early Care and Learning. This is the highest rating an Early Childhood program can earn.

Thank you to the teachers for all that they did to prepare. In recognition of the lofty designation, the State of Georgia awards each teacher with a personal stipend and the preschool program will receive funds to purchase items for the program! The teachers are winners, the classrooms are winners, our program is a winner, but most

continued on page 4

ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS REMAINED AT NEAR-HISTORIC LEVELS IN 2018

Atlanta, GA, April 30, 2019

The U.S. Jewish community experienced near-historic levels of anti-Semitism in 2018, including a doubling of anti-Semitic assaults and the single deadliest attack against the Jewish community in American history, according to new data from ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) issued [this month]. ADL’s annual Audit of Anti-Semitic incidents recorded a total of 1,879 attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions across the country in 2018, the third-highest year on record since ADL started tracking such data in the 1970s.

In a year marked by the white supremacist shooting spree at a Pittsburgh synagogue, which claimed 11 lives, and punctuated by a dramatic surge in white supremacist propaganda activity nationwide, ADL’s Audit

identified 59 people who were victims of anti-Semitic assaults in 2018, up from 21 in 2017. While the overall number of incidents represents a 5 percent decline from 1,986 incidents reported in 2017, the number of incidents last year remained at near-historic levels – 48 percent higher than the total for 2016 and 99 percent higher than in 2015.

In the Southeast specifically, we had 55 reported incidents across Alabama (9), Georgia (30), South Carolina (6) and Tennessee (10). Notably, 13 incidents were reported in the two months after the Pittsburgh shooting, which is more than double the number reported in the two months prior to the shooting.

“We’ve worked hard to push back against anti-Semitism, and succeeded in improving hate crime laws, and yet

we continue to experience an alarmingly high number of anti-Semitic acts,” said Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL CEO and National Director. “We unfortunately saw this trend con-

tinue into 2019 with the tragic shooting at the Chabad synagogue in Poway. It’s clear we must remain vigilant in working to counter

the threat of violent anti-Semitism and denounce it in all forms, wherever the source and regardless of the political affiliation of its proponents.”

ADL’s annual tally of incidents nationwide found that anti-Semitic assaults, harassment and vandalism are still pervasive in the U.S. All but four states experienced anti-Semitic

continued on page 3

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Anti-Semitic Incidents...continued from page 1

incidents. In addition to the October mass shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, 2018 saw high levels of white supremacist activity, including propaganda on college campuses and in communities, and hateful robocalls aimed at voters.

While most anti-Semitic incidents are not directly perpetrated by extremists, there are interesting connections between the trends. In 2018, 249 acts of anti-Semitism (13 percent of the total incidents) were attributable to known extremist groups or individuals inspired by extremist ideology, making it the highest level of anti-Semitic incidents with known connections to extremists or extremist groups since 2004. Of those, 139 incidents were part of flier campaigns by white supremacist groups. Another 80 were anti-Semitic robocalls allegedly perpetrated by anti-Semitic podcaster Scott Rhodes in support of the candidacy of Patrick Little, an unabashed white supremacist who ran an unsuccessful campaign for U.S. Senate in California.

The Audit also noted spikes at several points during the year. The final three months of the year were unusually active, with 255 incidents in October, 300 in November and 194 in December. The high number in October included 45 propaganda distributions by white supremacists. The incidents in November and December immediately followed the

Pittsburgh massacre, which likely drew more attention to anti-Semitic activities. Incidents first spiked in May, when 209 anti-Semitic acts were reported, including 80 anti-Semitic robocalls sent by white supremacists, which targeted Jewish individuals and institutions with harassing messages.

Incidents took place in nearly every state across the country but, consistent with prior reports, the states with the highest number of incidents tend to be those with the largest Jewish populations.

“Anti-Semitism is a grave concern across the nation and here at home. Whether it be in K-12 schools, on campus or in communities it is disturbing to see the slow normalization of anti-Semitism and its impact here in the southeast. This is why our on-the-ground programming and advocacy work is so essential to help fight hate before it truly sinks its teeth into a community,” said ADL Southeast Regional Director Allison Padilla-Goodman.

HOW ADL IS RESPONDING

ADL has a comprehensive approach to addressing anti-Semitic incidents and behavior, including educating youth to prevent these incidents and working with law enforcement to apprehend the perpetrators. ADL works to enact laws to improve federal, state, and local prevention tactics and response to anti-Semitic hate crimes and all forms of hate violence. ADL partners with law enforcement to raise awareness of extremist threats and trains law enforcement profes-

sionals to recognize and disrupt potential threats. ADL likewise provides education and training every day to students, reaching young people at a time when they are most vulnerable to bullying and social pressures. ADL also works with victims and universities to respond to anti-Semitic harassment and other worrying incidents on college campuses. Finally, ADL’s No Place for Hate and Words to Action programs teach understanding and promote inclusivity in schools and on campuses, respectively.

ADL has been a longstanding partner in the effort to ensure the safety of Jewish community organizations and recently announced that former Homeland Security secretaries Michael Chertoff and Jeh Johnson will co-chair a new Community Safety and Security Task Force convened by ADL and the Secure Community Network (SCN), the homeland security and safety initiative of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The task force will work to enhance the safety, security and resiliency of religious communities.

“It is incumbent upon our leaders to continue fighting anti-Semitism at every opportunity,” said George Selim, ADL Senior Vice President of Programs and a former DHS official. “We will continue to advocate for legislative and other remedies to ensure that there is no place for anti-Semitism in our society.”

LETTERS

T O T H E E D I T O R

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation

My name is Ran Nitka. When I was 15, the doctor told me that I would someday go blind. I ran outside, and left all of my dreams on the steps of the doctor’s office. But I decided that I would not let this stop me.

I became interested in balloon art, and made a name for myself in competitions. One day, in my 40’s, my vision went dark, and my life of blindness began.

With the support of family and

friends I obtained my guide dog, Shubert, and together we continued my work. I recently won an international competition in Moscow! With Shubert by my side, nothing can stop me.

Thank you for making a gift that changed my life.

Ran & Shubert

Ed Note: The Israel Guide Dog Center is a beneficiary of the Savannah Jewish Federation’s Overseas Investment Grant program



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SJF Treasurer: Matthew Allan

SJF Executive Director: Adam Solender

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Letters to the Editor

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

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

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

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

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

Savannah Jewish Federation Mission Statement

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



Adam Solender
Executive Director
JEA/SJF

Executive Director's Message Cancer to Society

The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) is a group of 31 member

countries, each who “recognizes that international political coordination is imperative to strengthen the moral commitment of societies to combat growing Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism.” It is made up of countries that are commonly seen as democracies (no authoritarian, dictatorial, or totalitarian regimes) and those countries are committed to the Declaration of the Stockholm International

Out of this group came the world's most commonly accepted definition of anti-Semitism:

“Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

The IHRA gave a number of examples to serve as illustrations:

Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic. Anti-Semitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of anti-Semitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

--Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

--Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspir-

acy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.

--Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

--Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).

--Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.

--Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

--Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.

--Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

--Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.

--Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

--Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Does parts of this definition

sound like what is going on in our country (world) right now? Does this sound like what you are reading in the newspaper, listening to on TV/radio, or on sites on the internet? My guess is that there is a universal response of “Yes!”

Yes, anti-Semitism is alive and well and growing. And there is no quick fix for rising anti-Jewish anger. If there was, we would have fixed it years ago.

For many of us, it was easy to “brush away” anti-Semitic acts as being aberrant behavior of a few fringe individuals or it was an issue in Europe, not here, but it is, but it

was.

Radical Islamists and white supremacists seem to be leading the way (but they are not alone) with blaming Jews for a litany of ills that affect our country whether it be anti-Israel rhetoric, control of the media, disproportionate power and wealth and the like.

The reality is that anti-Semitic bias is no longer a fringe movement, we see it being mainstreamed in many parts of our lives: Holocaust denial (or pure ignorance) is on the rise, fringe parties (worldwide) are gaining great influence (Great Britain and Hungary, for example), and classic anti-Semitic canards are being widely disseminated by members of Congress (Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib).

Just this month, the Anti-Defamation League published a report that stated “violent attacks against the Jewish community in the United States doubled last year” and that “overall attacks that also included vandalism and harassment remained near record-high levels.”

Just look at some of the headlines in mainstream publications (gathered on one day: May 10th), “Anti-Zionist Imam Delivers Opening Prayers in Congress (an Imam who likened Israelis to Nazi and called Zionists “the enemies of God”), Tennessee Judge Posts Links on Facebook saying Jewish should ‘get the f*** over the Holocaust, Dutch Soccer Fans Beat Jew and Sing Song Praising Nazis, Farrakhan Speaks of ‘Satanic Jews...’, and Poway Gunman Said he Did it Because ‘the Jew-

ish people are destroying the white race.” All these headlines in ONE day.

There is absolutely no justification or explanation for the violence that we are seeing that people are being targeted simply because they are Jewish or attend a synagogue.

Whether it be on the streets of Brooklyn, at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh or in Poway on the last day of Pesach, we must stand up to the intolerance, to the rhetoric, to the violence. We cannot be timid or passive and let this “cancer to society” grow.

“Violent attaches against the Jewish community in the United States doubled last year” - ADL report

Save the Date

a Gala to Remember

...AGAIN!

THROW BACK PROM

SEPTEMBER 8

6:00 PM

Join us for a night you'll never forget.

Drinks • Dancing
Food • Prom Pictures
...and so much more!

Co-Chairs

Allison Konter

Sharon Sand

Gala Coordinator

Ashley Yellin

Another Year, Another Success continued from page 1

importantly, our children and families are the ultimate winners. We continue to strive to be the very best we can be.

Thank you to each of you for your trust in JEA Preschool Savannah and your support of our "3 Star" teachers and staff!

JEA Preschool Savannah teachers, staff, and families are so proud of this accomplishment and I know

that many of the community members have expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the teachers and staff. Our Jewish and Savannah communities are reaping the rewards of the preschool program.

Come see us- our doors are open to all. We want to show you what we have to offer to children and families!

Another Five Star Review



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- T. Cuyler



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*In memory of Neil Haysman
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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.

A Friendly Reminder

The next issue of the Savannah Jewish News will be our July/August double issue. The deadline for all submissions is June 15th. Please send all materials to sjnews@savj.org.

SUMMER savannah bbyo

● Congrats 2019-20 Chapter boards! ●

Wexler Clark BBG

Sophie Rich - N'siah

Sarah Javetz - S'ganit

Sarah Loncon- MIT Mom/Morah

Zoey Loncon- Safranit

David Finn AZA

Marc Saul - Godol

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Savannah Jewish Federation

Beneficiary Agency: Your Campaign dollars at work

Contact Caitlin Gardner at engagement@savj.org

Your Campaign Dollars at Work Around the World Friends of the IDF

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF) is a non-political, non-military organization that provides for wellbeing of the soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), veterans and family members. They are the single organization authorized to represent the IDF across the United States and Panama.

The Israeli government is responsible for training IDF soldiers and providing them with the necessary tools for their service. FIDF is committed to providing these soldiers with love, support, and care to ease the burden they carry on behalf of the Jewish community worldwide.

Established in 1981 with a mission of "offering educational, cultural, recreational, and social services pro-

grams and facilities that provide hope, purpose, and life-changing support for the soldiers who protect Israel and Jews worldwide." it was organized by a group of Holocaust survivors under the leadership of John Klein.

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces initiates and supports various educational programs designed to broaden the soldiers' horizons, further strengthening their Jewish, Zionist, and Israeli identity. These programs include:

Identity and Purpose Programs acknowledge that the Israel Defense Forces' soldiers confront questions of identity, purpose, and ethics on a regu-

lar basis. The IDF Education Corps and Beit Morasha, a Jerusalem-based leadership training center that specializes in Jewish studies, have developed three courses for soldiers and commanders that focus on Jewish values and identity.

Israeli Journey takes Israel Defense Forces' soldiers on a journey throughout Israel and seeks to help soldiers better understand what they are serving to protect. At the same time, the program strengthens the sense of community within units and contributes to the individual's personal development.

Amir Course seeks to better integrate Ethiopian-Israeli enlistees into the army and enable them to access more challenging and influential posi-

tions in the IDF.

Eitan Program supplies teenagers from difficult backgrounds with tools to have a full and meaningful service and provides them with a vocation as a mode of succeeding in life thereafter.

Formal Education seeks to increase opportunities for soldiers to complete twelve years of formal education and receive a high school completion certificate by the end of their military service, enabling them to finish their military service with a greater chance of success in civilian life.

Friends of the IDF is one of sixteen beneficiary nonprofits that received grant funding from the Savannah Jewish Federation Overseas Grants program, an initiative where community members nominate overseas programs that are meaningful to them and the worldwide Jewish agenda.



SNEAK PEEK FOR NEXT ISSUE

MARCH OF THE LIVING

Read in July/August issue all about our 14 representatives experience with this amazing trip!

Mazel Tov to our 2019 Graduates

High School



Phillip T. Boblasky
Benedictine Military High School
The son of Susan and Joel Boblasky, Phillip played football all four years of High School and was part of a team that were the GA State Champs (10th grade) and Regional Champs all four years. He was a member of the Baseball team (9 & 10), Wrestling (9 & 10) Model UN (11), Math Team (12) and ROTC for all four years of High School. He was in the National Honor Society (11 & 12), was Major & Company Commander (Company of the Year (& 10), received the Jewish Studies Certificate of Excellence all four years, Highest GPA Award Honors in World History and Chemistry (10), 3A All Region Academic 1st Team (Football) and American Legion Military Excellence Award (11). Phillip was member of NCSY and BBYO. He will be attending Georgia Tech in the Fall majoring in Finance with the intent of continuing on to Law School. He attended Rambam Day School from 2 years of age through eighth grade.



Josh Braun
Savannah Country Day School
The son of Meg and Dana Braun, Josh participated in JV Soccer, JV and Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Tennis (and was a scholar athlete in all) as well as being a member of the National Honor Society, Math Team, JV & Varsity Quiz Bowl, Diversity Club and Mock Trial group. He was Vice President of the Junior class and Upper school government, winner of the Chemistry Award, participated in the 2019 Annual Congressional Juried Student Exhibition (photography), and was a "Rings Award winner in 2018, Josh volunteered his time with Ronald McDonald Yellow ShoeCrew, Savannah Bicycle Campaign, Mountainview Film Festival, Mickve Israel's Shalom Y'all Food Festival and Savannah Kids Code. Josh will be attending Georgia Tech in the Fall where he plans to major in Business. He attended Shalom School from grades 3 through 7.



Richard Epstein
Savannah Arts Academy
The son of Donna and Jay Epstein, Richard was a Theatre major and member of the Thespian Society. He student directed Almost Maine in his Senior year and was an active participant both on stage and behind the scenes at the Savannah Children's Theatre. He was S'gan of BBYO Dixie Council in 10th grade, was 54th and 55th Aleph Gadol in 11th and 12th grades, as well as Aleph Gadol of David Finn AZA #206 in 11th and 12th grades. Richard was awarded the Cardinal Principals Award, an award that honors teens that have dedicated their time and energy to promoting the value of BBYO and

have embraced the ideals in all aspects of their lives. Richard was a member of NCSY and David Finn AZA#206 and was a weekly volunteer with Preschool children at the Savannah Children's Theatre. Richard will be attending Georgia Southern University and the GA Film Academy in the Fall. He attended Rambam Day School from Kindergarten through 8th grade.



David Gratz
The Beacon School, NYC
The son of Susan Buchsbaum and Jeffrey Gratz, grandson of Esther Buchsbaum, David was on the Ultimate Frisbee team, baseball team and was a violinist (chamber, orchestra, and solo), was a teaching assistant in both Math and Physics, and worked as a "home-work helper" at the NY Public Library. He will be attending Turfts University in the Fall with the intention of majoring in Computer Science or Physics



Abigail Fox Kahn
Savannah Country Day School
The daughter of Diane and David Kahn, Abigail participated in Varsity Volleyball, Varsity Tennis, and Student government. She volunteered for Special Olympics and UTime and worked with underprivileged and challenged children in the community. She was a leader of the Freshman Ambassador program and was one of two sophomores to be honored with the Hugh O'Brian Leadership Award. Abby will be attending University of Colorado in Boulder in the Fall. She attended Rambam Day School from 2 years old through fifth grade



Reid Markowitz
St Vincent's Academy
The daughter of Amy and Brian Markowitz, Reid was President of the Spanish Club, was a Benedictine Military School Cheerleader (9-12), participated in Dawn's Daughters Leadership Academy (11) and was a Rotary Youth Leadership Award winner (12). She is a member of the National Honor Society and volunteered at Hess Elementary School teaching English to "speakers of other languages (10 & 11). Reid will be attending University of Georgia in the Fall and plans on majoring in Biology. She attended Shalom School from PreK through Confirmation.



Blake Myles Strauss
Savannah Arts Academy
The son of Jill and Brad Strauss, Blake was a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, Math Club, Beta Club, Savannah Arts Military Support, Exploring Engineering Club and National Honor Society. He was the

BBYO Dixie Council Council S'gan, David Finn AZA Chapter Moreh (VP New Members) and Chapter S'gan (VP of Programming) and Blake volunteered at Ronald McDonald House Charities. Blake will be attending University of Georgia in the Fall and plans to study computer science, engineering, or business. He attended Rambam Day School from 3 years of age through eighth grade.

College



Hadley Bess Gordon
University of Georgia
The daughter of Kelly and Marc Gordon, Hadley was a member of the Student Dietetic Association where she was Treasurer and President, a University Student Ambassador, Treasurer and President, was volunteer at

Piedmont Athens Regional Hospital, and at the Lunch Buddy program of the Athens Community Council on Aging. She was a Zell Miller Scholarship awardee (4 years), a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, Blue Key Honor Society and Phi U Honor Society. She will be attending Boston University in the Fall where she will participate in their Coordinated Master's in Nutrition program and Dietetic Internship with the goal of becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.



Sarah Gratz
Middlebury College, VT
The daughter of Susan Buchsbaum and Jeffrey Gratz, grandson of Esther Buchsbaum, Sarah will be graduating with honors with a BA in Studio Art and Education. She worked at WomenSafe (a domestic and sexual violence center), designed and built sets for a theater program, was a college radio station DJ and led backpacking trips during her college experience. Following graduation, she will be interning at a Minneapolis sculpture garden in the fall.



Max Aaron Strauss
University of Georgia
The son of Jill and Brad Strauss, Max graduated with a BS in Computer Science and received an Entrepreneurship Certificate from the Terry College of Business. He was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi Fraternity and was President of the UGA Chapter of AIPAC. For his leadership and advocacy with AIPAC he received an award from the Consulate General of Israel to the Southeast. Max will be joining NCR Corporation in Atlanta as a Technical Consultant beginning in July.

J



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The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance June 2019



Children's Programming

June Camp Fun!

JEACAMP SAVANNAH

JUNE 2019

SUNDAY



MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY



FRIDAY



SATURDAY



2

READY, SET, SURVIVE

3
SPECIALTY CAMP
SCIENCE CAMP
(K-2ND)

4
TRIP TO CLUBHOUSE
(K-2ND)

5
CODE CAMO

6
TRIP TO CLUBHOUSE
(3RD & UP)

7
SHABBAT
CAMPFIRE MEAL

8



9

BACKYARD EXPLORERS

10
CAMP CLOSED
FOR SHAVUOT
SPECIALTY CAMP
TRAVEL CAMP - TAMPA
(6TH & UP)

11
TRIP TO CLUBHOUSE
(K-2ND)

12
LOW COUNTRY
FASHION SHOW

13
ALL CAMP
SLEEPOVER
TRIP TO LAKE MAYER
(3RD & UP / FISHING)

14
SHABBAT
BACKYARD BBQ

15



16

NATURE UNLEASHED

17
SPECIALTY CAMP
SCIENCE CAMP
(3RD & UP)

18
TRIP TO
OATLAND ISLAND
WILDLIFE CENTER
(K-3RD)

19
SUPER HERO

20
TRIP TO JAX ZOO
(4TH & UP)

21
SHABBAT
CARTOON BRUNCH

22



23

THE AMAZING RACE

24
SPECIALTY CAMP
NATURE'S PANTRY
(ALL AGES)

25
TRIP TO SEE
SAVANNAH BANANAS
(ALL GROUPS)

26
INTERNATIONAL ATTIRE

27

28

SHABBAT
TACO FIESTA

29



Adult Programming



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



Food For Thought

Join us each Thursday at 12:30pm

June 6	<i>BDS & Other Issues Facing Israel's Future</i> Ken Miller	June 20	<i>"Signs of the Times"</i> Tom Kohler
June 13	<i>Medical Care at Curtis Cooper</i> Dr. Yael Elfassy	June 27	<i>Reflections from AIPAC</i> Linda & Steve Sacks
		July 4	<i>No Food For Thought</i>

Visit with old friends and meet new ones while enjoying a delicious lunch for only \$8.50 followed by an educational speaker or performer.
Don't forget to make your reservation at the JEA desk or by calling 912-355-8111.
Have a suggestion for a new speaker? Contact Orly Henkin at orlyhenkin@savj.org



in the JEA Art Gallery

Susan Earl

Raised in New York, Susan Earl earned a BS in English Literature from the University of Wisconsin. A self-taught photographer, she was an artist-in-residence on Ossabaw Island, and became an early SCAD photo faculty member. Her work has been shown in galleries in Savannah, Atlanta, New York, London, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and Mississippi. She is the co-author of *Waddie Welcome & the Beloved Community*, and author of two novels about Savannah — *In The Dark*, and *Harrington's Way*.

The exhibit at the JEA is a photography exhibit displaying a sample of Savannah's rich cache of hand-painted signs from storefronts and facades of African-American churches, barber and beauty salons, restaurants, seafood emporiums and auto repair/carwash businesses.

Once abundant, as gentrification spreads from downtown into midtown, Thomas Square, and the Starland districts, more of these signs disappear every day. In many cases, the photographs are the only remaining documentation of a valuable part of our city's culture.



Artwork available for viewing June 2-30, 2019

Join us for the Art Gallery Reception June 6, 5:30-7:30 pm

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 April 6, 2019)

Ashley Applebaum
Tyler Brown & Emily Aquadro
Jason Dulin & Marinta Fruittrell
Mike & Elianna Gilenson
James Humiston
Andrew & Caitlin Hurley
Dustin & Megan Johnson
Holly Lawhorn
Ivy Orr
Nathan & Melissa Pollard
Nathanael & Emma Rhodes
Lewis & Sandra Schneider
Yvette Wilson

JEA Camp Savannah: Meet Our Sh'liach, Dor Rotem!



A letter from our Sh'liach (Israeli Emissary):

Hi everyone, my name is Dor Rotem, and I am almost 24 years old. I live in a small village called Mishmeret, forty minutes north of Tel Aviv. My family and I own an avocado farm where we all work together on the weekends.

I served in the army as a tank commander and was released last summer. Two days after my release I flew to the USA to be a counselor at Newport News Virginia Day Camp. I had a great summer over there and am very excited to come again and stay with the great community of Savannah.

Hope all of you are ready for a full, exciting and fun summer with all of the staff, because I am!

Join us in welcoming Dor by coming to our Meet and Greet Sunday, June 2, Noon-2pm at the JEA outdoor pool for Camp Savannah's annual pool party!



Health & Wellness

100 Days of Summer Fitness Challenge! Memorial Day-Labor Day

We can Win this again Savannah!



Kathy Ackerman
Fitness Director

We are registered to compete in the **2019 100 Days of Summer Fitness Challenge!**

We will be competing against other JCC's across North America that are approximately the same size as the JEA.

Individuals will log miles/yards/classes attended through our online form:*

- **Running** (indoor and outdoor)
- **Walking** (indoor and outdoor)
- **Cycling** (indoor and outdoor)
- **Swimming**
- **Cardio Equipment** (ellipticals, rowers, steppers, etc.)
- **Group Fitness** (any type of fitness class)
- **Strength Training**
- **Personal Training**

***NOTE:** Each workout needs to be recorded within 7 days. Data will not be accepted after 7 days.

Members sign up at the Fitness desk with this information:

- Name
- Email
- Type of Exercise

Competitors will submit the following information for each entry:

- Name
- Email
- JEA Savannah
- Date exercised
- Type of exercise
- Amount exercised

Members can enter as many categories of exercise as they choose.

Log it at jcca.org/SummerFitChallenge or let the Fitness Staff do it for you. JCC Association will award:

- Top three JCCs (based on size of cen-

ter) in the seven events (84 total team awards)

- Top three Individual Champions in the seven events (21 total individual awards)
- Top three JCC staff in the seven events (21 total individuals)

In addition, individual JCCs may award JCC members for your internal challenge as you see fit.

We will get weekly updates to track our standings.

If you have any questions about the program, contact Kat Ackerman (fitness@savj.org)



Summer is Coming - And so Is the Fun!



Kirby Southerland
Aquatics Director

Summer is arguably the best season of the year- and at the JEA, we are welcoming even more fun this year!

Put these fun dates on your summer calendar and join us by the pool!

June 13 and 27: 5-7pm

July 11 and 25: 5-7pm

Dinner by the Pool

Join us for a tasty dinner and evening swim!

July 4: 11am-2pm

Fourth of July Family Fun

Wear your best Red, White and Blue pool attire for a fun day by the pool!

September 3: 11am-2pm

Labor Day Luau

Nobody likes to see summer come to an end, so let's say "Aloha" to our favorite season together with one last party!



Outdoor Pool Hours:

May 28- August 5:

Monday-Thursday 10am-7pm

Friday 10am-4 pm

Sunday 10am-5pm

August 6- September 2:

Monday-Thursday 3-7pm

Friday CLOSED

Sunday 10am-5pm

September 3-September 30:

Sundays 10am-4pm



JEA Preschool Savannah News

Enroll Now 2019-20 School Year

Limited spaces available for the upcoming school year.

Contact Jodi Sadler, Director, at Jodi@savj.org or 912-355-8111 to set up a tour

JEA Preschool Summer Program. Accepting Registration for 2019 beginning June 3. Open to all children ages 12 mos. and walking through 4 years old.

Jun 3-14 - Session 1: Commotion in the Ocean

We'll learn about the underwater world of our oceans and create an aquarium.

Jun 17-28 - Session 2: Space is the Place

We'll learn about gravity, astronaut food and more!

Jul 1-12 - Session 3: Mountain Madness

We'll camp out, learn about animals, waterfalls, creeks and more!

Jul 15-26 - Session 4: Diggin' in the Desert

Try an archeological dig, discover reptiles and build a teepee!

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

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

NEED MORE CAMP?

Summer Days at the JEA



Help us send off summer in true JEA style as we recreate some of 2019 Camp Savannah's biggest moments!

July 29 to August 13
8 am-6 pm

Open to all children in grades PreK-10th

For more information and to register,
visit our website:
www.savannahjea.org



JEA Donations

(4/6/19-5/10/19)

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS – SUMMER CAMP

*In memory of Charlotte Jung
In honor of Ellen Byck & Family
Alice Dugger*

JEA FITNESS FUND

*In honor of JEA Fitness Instructors Helena,
Linda, Caroline & Elaine
Marsha Huntington*

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH

*In memory of Betty & Larry Lasky
Joan & Joe Gamble
In memory of Betty Lasky
Laura & Eric Weiss*

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

*In memory of Bob Troner
Sherry & Johnny Macchia
Michelle & Louis Meddin
Lorry & Chuck Palefsky*

All Are Invited to Celebrate Shavuot at Congregation BBJ

Saturday Night June 8th

All-night programming
featuring classes and
study groups for
men, women, and teens.
Refreshments to be served

Starting at Midnight:

Classes for Men and Teens
in the BBJ Chapel

Women's classes
(host home and start time
to be announced)



Sunday June 9th

Afternoon: Women's Class followed
by Kollel class for Men and Women

Monday June 10th

Communal Yom Tov Luncheon
featuring:

Catering by Murray Gottlieb
Call the office to sign up

Afternoon: Women's Class followed
by Kollel class for Men and Women

CONGREGATION
BBJ
בני ברית יעקב
BNAI BRITH JACOB



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SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING
JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

\$136 PER PERSON

SAVANNAHJEA.ORG

Mazel Tov to Rambam Day School Class of 2019



(L-R) Elie Raskin, Benny Schachter, Ayelet Weinberg,
Chana Raizel Rabhan, Jack Saul, Shaya Slatus



Ester Rabhan,
Principal
Rambam Day
School

Eye on education Looking Deeper....

Within the Jewish calendar there are so many days singled out for acknowledging significant time periods and lessons from our history. The history that made us the People

we are today.

I've always wondered about two days that we single out; the Holocaust and Yom Hazikaron. I clearly understand the importance of their message but feel their message is often lost on our people. Remembering what happened during the Holocaust must be more than a staunch determination that it will never happen again, because in truth, how many of us play a role in ensuring that? Remembering fallen soldiers, certainly puts a value on life, but when we are sad for the loss of life and don't really feel that loss; then the day has come and gone without purpose. Not all of us personally know fallen soldiers, so the bereavement we feel is our humanity responding to the understanding of what the loss of life means. It's difficult to feel the pain of loss if we can't relate to one of the lives taken from our people.

We must look deeper into what

we should gain from Yom Hashoa and Yom Hazikaron. We need to celebrate life! We need to celebrate the lives of those whose lives were snuffed from this world. Each one of those lives had purpose, meaning, value and are now a means for us to reach our potential. We must strive to keep them alive by living their ideals, living our Judaism, living with gratitude to the Almighty. The way we live impacts their deaths. When we live and give purpose to every day and when we live with the lives of others mattering to us; we ensure that the loss of life is not for naught.

While it saddens the Almighty when Jews don't embrace the teachings of their faith; the sadness the Almighty feels when we don't embrace each other, runs even deeper. It penetrates the very soul of our Creator.

As our six graduates prepare to leave the vestibules of Rambam Day School, we hope and pray we have accomplished our goals. We hope that each of these six precious, young adults leave the embrace of our caring, dedicated teachers; knowledgeable about their heritage, prepared for high school and keenly aware of the importance of genuinely caring about others.



Robin Rackoff

Mah Jongg And More

I LOVE technology! I'm not one to be nostalgic about the "good old days" before we had computers and cell

phones. Remember what it was like when you went to visit a relative in their new home? Five pages of directions were necessary, and some of the steps

reminded me of Yogi Berra's "When you come to the fork in the road, take it." Thank goodness we now have GPS. Just enter the address and a woman, probably someone's wife, will tell you

how to get there. She'll also tell you that you're driving too fast.

Another technological marvel is Alexa. I don't know how I ever lived without her. When I'm at home cooking, I can say "Alexa, put Olive Oil on my shopping list," and when I get to the supermarket, sure enough, Alexa has put Olive Oil on my shopping list. It's a miracle! Every evening, I say, "Alexa, turn off my bedroom light," and she does. Today I said, "Alexa, do you like me," and she said, "I think you're magnificent!" No wonder she's my new best friend! How about the flashlight on our phones? Without this feature, I would never, ever, be able to read a menu. Why do they keep restaurant lights so low anyway? And imagine the shock of witnessing this exchange: a woman was checking out in front of me at a department store. When the salesperson asked the woman for her email address, she

replied proudly, "I have no email address because I don't have a computer. I don't even have a cell phone." I had to sit down so that I wouldn't faint.

With this mindset, it's not surprising that I would consider purchasing one of those automatic mah jongg tables. In case you haven't seen one in action, at the end of the game, the players slide their tiles into a slot in the middle of the

table. Like magic, the tiles get mixed and then rise onto the table in four perfect walls. Just google "automatic mah jongg tables" and prepare to be amazed. These tables come with a hefty price tag, around \$1,000 for a basic one, but who

wouldn't want one?

Actually, I wouldn't. Even though this new invention combines two of my favorite things (mah jongg and technology), why would I want to rush through my favorite part of the game? It is while we mix the tiles and build the walls that I catch up with my girlfriends and find out about everybody and everything. If, during the playing of the game, you try to tell me about your brilliant grandchild, I will not be able to focus on what you're saying. I am serious enough about mah jongg that I will be concentrating on my hand. However, as soon as the game is over and we begin mixing the tiles, I'll be DYING to hear about your little genius.

If only technology could walk my dog. That's something I would definitely buy.

Until next time, let's maj on!



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



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levyjewelers.com

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL

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

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

Enjoy Shabbat this summer with our Exotic Location Summer Shabbats

All Friday services begin at 6:30pm with a potluck dinner. Guests are asked to RSVP by calling the Temple at 912-233-1547 to get location information and to sign up for a potluck dish (no pork or shellfish) for 8-10 people.

Summer Shabbat dates:

May 31 at the Hollander's in Midtown,
June 7 at Sissy Levy's on Tybee,
June 14 at the Ames's in Midtown,
June 21 at the Robinowich's in Hardeeville, SC.,
June 28 at Seth Grenald's in Midtown,
July 5 at the Goldberg's on Isle of Hope,
July 12 at the Friedman's in Midtown,
July 19 at the Harris's on Tybee,
and July 26 at the Leblang's at The Landings

Jazz Benefit Concert

Sponsored by Congregation Mickve Israel
and the Martin de Porres Society

Presenting

Mr. Teddy Adams & Quintet

Featuring

Ms. Huxsie Scott



Sunday, June 23, 4:30pm
at

Congregation Mickve Israel
20 E Gordon St. Savannah GA 31401

Tickets: \$35 Adults, \$10 Youth

Buy tickets at:

Congregation Mickve Israel, Lester's Florist,
online at www.mdpsjazzbenefitconcert.eventbrite.com,
or call 912-233-1547

All proceeds benefit the Camp Lighthouse Program.

Minis Family Photograph Collection Online!



Photographs from one of the first Jewish families in Georgia, the Minis family, are now available to search in our online catalogue: <http://archive.thebreman.org>. If you find any errors or if you can identify some of the unidentified people in the photographs, please reach out to lresnick@thebreman.org, and our staff can assist.

Now that these historic images are now completely processed and available online, we will now be turning our attention towards the remaining photograph collections and the oral history collection in the Savannah Jewish Archives. Stay tuned for further updates!

Image caption:

Abram Minis' home at 204 E. Jones Street. Portrait of Henry Minis is hanging above the fireplace.

Any questions about the Savannah Jewish Archives? Contact us at lresnick@thebreman.org or jrkatz@thebreman.org. There's history in your home! Please consider reaching out to make an appointment to explore the Archives if you're in Atlanta, or donating to the collection.



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

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

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



Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Larry Leonard Ackerman

Who died Sunday, April 28, 2019

He is survived by his wife Lynda Ruth Salov Ackerman, two daughters, Aura Welch and her husband, Patrick, and Nova Ackerman; one son, David Ackerman and his wife, Kathy; six grandchildren, Skylar Ackerman, Nathan Welch, Jacob Welch, Mikkel Welch, Snow Ackerman and Silver Ackerman.

To continue his commitment throughout his life of helping others, family requests that in place of donations and flowers in the spirit of Larry, please give a member of your family and or friend your intended donation and or valued gift and assistance.

He is survived by his life partner Helen Pashales; one daughter, Rebecca "Becky" Slemmons and her husband, Shawn, of Decatur, Georgia; one son, Steven Greenspan and his wife, Alison, of Sandy Springs, Georgia; five grandchildren, Sam and Ben Greenspan and Brady, Bayla and Harper Slemmons; two brothers, Marty Greenspan of Charleston, South Carolina and Arthur Greenspan of Brick, New Jersey, and nieces and nephews.

Remembrance donations may be made to the Humane Society for Greater Savannah, 7215 Sallie Mood Drive, Savannah, GA 31406-3922.

Phyllis S. Elovich

Who died Friday, May 10, 2019

Bruce Charles Greenspan

Who died Thursday, May 9, 2019



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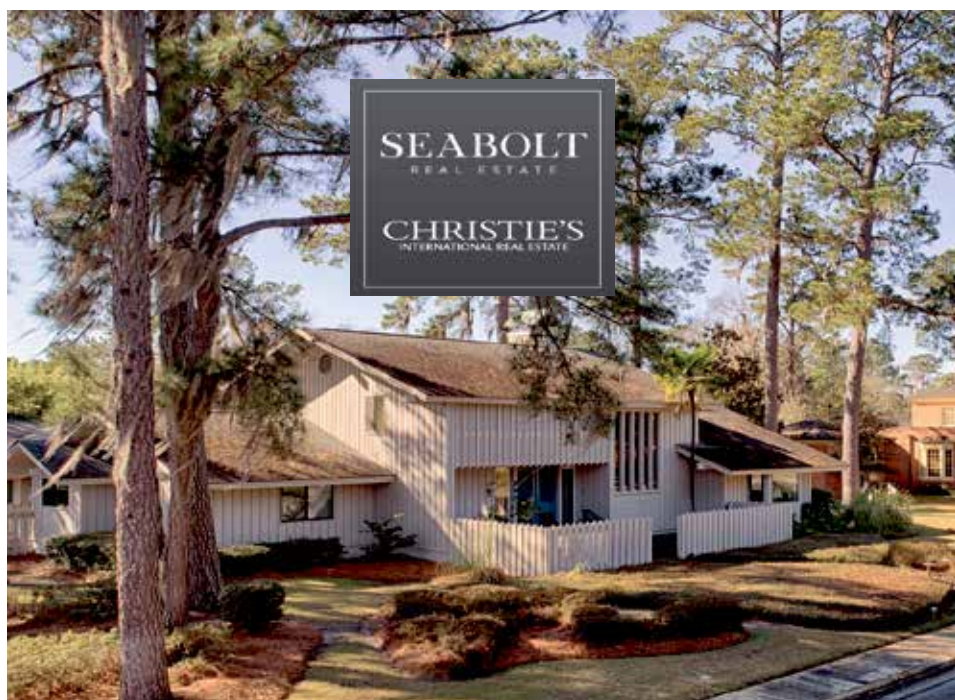


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Cardiovascular Wellness Center at Hadassah Hospital Celebrates 5th Anniversary

The *Linda Joy Pollin Cardiovascular Wellness Center for Women at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem* was established in 2013. Designed to promote cardiovascular health in women, the center emphasizes lifestyle change and targets ultra-Orthodox women, Arab women in East Jerusalem, the disabled community, disadvantaged women, and hospital employees.



Irene Pollin

Irene Pollin was married to the late real estate developer and professional sports teams owner Abe Pollin. Their daughter Linda Joy Pollin died in 1963, age 15, from a congenital heart defect. Her younger brother died ten years earlier, also from a congenital heart defect. Knowing that heart disease, the leading killer of women, often is preventable, Irene provided generous funds for the center.

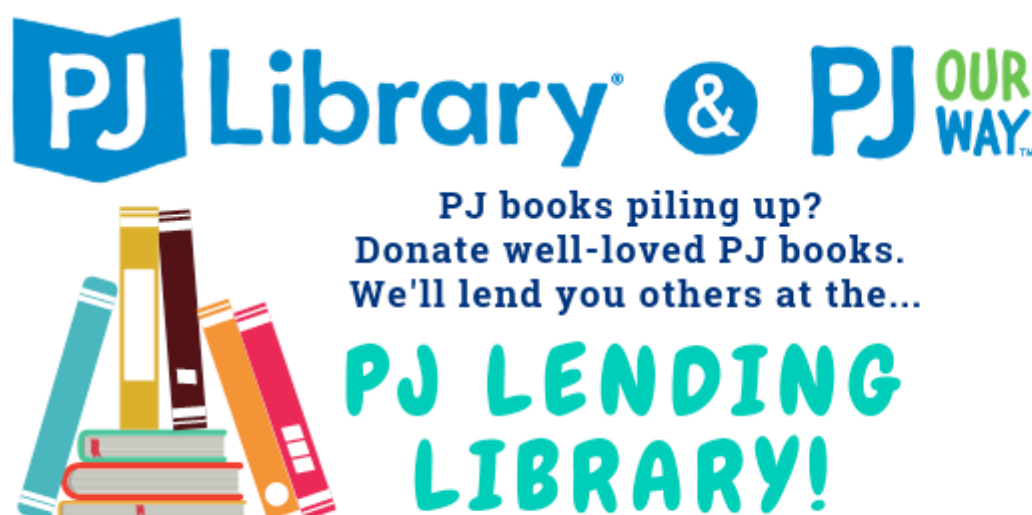
Research, health-care provider education, and a public awareness campaign are major components of the center's mission. Dr. Donna Zwas, the center's director, stated: "Our team's groundbreaking accomplishments are recognized both in Israel and internationally. This past year the center reached approximately 46,000 women and men, an increase of over 25,000 since 2017."

That's the Power of Women Who Do.

Hadassah Savannah would love for you to join our chapter!

We also have greeting cards for holidays and everyday occasions — all available for purchase with a donation to Hadassah.

Contact Susan Slotin (sslotin05@comcast.net) for more information.



PJ books piling up?
Donate well-loved PJ books.
We'll lend you others at the...

PJ LENDING LIBRARY!

Donation bins are located in the
JEA & Preschool Lobbies



Parents...
Check out the PJOW
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Summer reading experience!

pjourway.org/parents-blog



Savannah Jewish Federation
Your campaign dollars at work!

Want more information?
Email PJLibrary@savj.org

Beyond the books...



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

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

Thanks to our generous local donors, PJ Library® is free for those who qualify for the program, which grants one subscription per child. The subscription is renewable annually for qualifying Savannah families.



PJLibrary Savannah

Todah Rabah! Thank You!

to the donors of the 2019 Annual Community Campaign

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