

November 2016 | Tishrei-Cheshvan 5777, Vol. LXXI, No. 9

It's Always Something

If the last month has taught us anything here in Savannah and the surrounding area, it's that the old adage is true – it's always something. Just a few days before Yom Kippur, Hurricane Matthew blew into town and not one neighborhood or community was left untouched.

Thanks to the generosity of many each year for the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign, we were well-positioned to meet the emergency needs of the Jewish community when the hurricane was threatening and in its immediate aftermath. As Executive Director Adam Solender details in his column on page five, the Federation's Jewish Family Services provided members of the community with urgent financial assistance and social services.

But what would have happened if Federation wasn't here, or didn't have Jewish Family Services and the other resources made possible by your annual gift to the campaign? What if there wasn't a single number to call or place to go when a hurricane is bearing down? It's nice not to have to think about it... but it could happen.

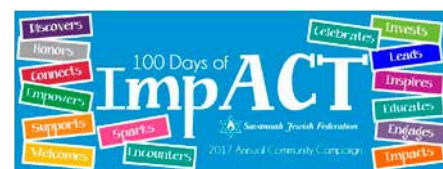
In addition to funding Jewish Family Services and providing emer-

gency assistance in times like these, a gift to Federation supports dozens of causes that sustain Jewish life here in Savannah, in Israel and elsewhere around the world.

In Savannah your gift provides for Holocaust education, Israel advocacy, PJ Library, community holiday observances, the Savannah Jewish Film Festival, this paper you are reading, and grants for the JEA, Shalom School, BBYO, SCAD Hillel and Jewish youth summer experiences.

Your gift provides critical funding for our overseas partners — the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC). Together, JAFI and JDC offer a network of vital social services throughout the State of Israel responsible for everything from at-risk youth to absorption of emigrants. And with JDC taking lead, but JAFI also present in many places, these agencies are caring for needy Jews throughout the world. When crises arise such as the one in Ukraine (or Hurricane Matthew – see *I on Israel*), our overseas partners already are there, seeing to the needs of our Jewish brethren and others.

Your gift maintains funding for Birthright Israel, ensuring that every



Jewish young adult can visit Israel, as his or her birthright, on a 10-day free trip. What an unbelievable gift!

Your gift provides investment grants each year for up to 20 different overseas organizations chosen by members of our community to receive direct assistance.

The Federation's 2017 Annual Campaign launches this year at the Main Event on November 2nd, once again with the theme of "100 Days of ImpACT." It will be followed immediately by Super Sunday on November 6th.

Chaired again by Stacey Schlafstein, the campaign management team includes Women's Division Chair Linda Sacks and Men's Division Chair Matthew Allan and Co-Chair Harvey Lebos. Jamie Richman is the Campaign Director. The team intends to conduct and conclude the campaign within 100 days.

When you are asked to consider a gift to the 2017 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign, please remember, *it's always something!*

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, November 4	6:14pm
Friday, November 11	5:09pm
Friday, November 18	5:05pm
Friday, November 25	5:03pm

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Next Israel Mission Set – All Invited

A Savannah Mission to Israel has been announced for next spring and the community is invited to participate. Offering a unique opportunity to celebrate *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*, Israel's Independence Day, while there, this mission is designed with first-time visitors as well as repeat travelers to the country in mind.

Planned for April 24-May 5, 2017, Savannah participants will join friends from the JCC MetroWest in New Jersey for 10 days and nine nights of fun, excitement and learning about the State of Israel. Each day will include options so that travelers can plan personal itineraries that maximize their interests. If you've never been to Israel, you may choose to see more traditional sites; for repeat travelers, especially those ages 60 and older, there will be new and different options, including spa and cooking choices.

Walk the streets of Jerusalem and know you are in the city where our greatest sages lived. Stand by the Western Wall and know that this is your moment to feel the hopes and dreams of generations of Jews. Experience the bravery of Masada knowing that you are standing on the ground of some of our most courageous ancestors. Be part of the café society and watch the world go by in Tel Aviv, now considered one of the most modern, fun-loving cities in the world — or join the fun!

Why a Mission?

Missions are for people of all ages and all interests — they are an opportunity for families to spend time with one another, for people who haven't been in a while to experience the major advances in the country, for learners young and old to tour the Israel Museum, for all to float in the Dead



Participants in the 2013 Savannah Mission to Israel at Masada

Sea and sample the finest cuisine — all within the context of 4,000 years of Jewish history. Along with Birthright Israel, Jewish community missions are the greatest catalyst for bringing Jews to Israel. As each group travels to Israel, so does our partnership grow with the Israeli

continued on page 4

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



Jewish War Veterans Division Commander Robert Max installs (l-r) Post 320 Commander A.J. Haysman, Se. Vice Commander Frank Katz and Adjutant Jamie Richman on September 25th

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 6th

Join us for the honor of placing flags on the graves of Jewish veterans

Meet at the Jewish Chapel at Bonaventure Cemetery at 10am

Friday, November 11th

Join us for the Veterans Day Parade
Ride or walk with Post 320

Meet at the JEA at 8am

Veterans Corner

by A.J. Haysman



Lt. Col. A.J. Haysman,
Georgia Air
National Guard,
Retired; Commander,
JWV Post #320

As I write this, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are behind us and Sukkot is in full swing. The holidays are time for families and I trust that everyone got some good family time, with a little bit of Hurricane Matthew

thrown in for good measure.

Note: For Jewish War Veterans members, national headquarters has a program if you need monetary assistance after the hurricane. Please call me directly at (912) 596-3078 for more information.

The last month has been an active one for JWV Post 320. We had my installment as Commander and the installment of officers. I appreciate

all of those who attended and supported us. A special thanks to Chatham County Sheriff John Wilcher for being the keynote speaker at that event. I also want to thank Robert Max, the JWV Division Commander, for coming down to join us.

We invite everyone to join us for our Veterans Day events. On November 6th at 10am we will meet at Bonaventure Cemetery to place flags on the graves of Jewish veterans. Then, on November 11th, anyone wanting to ride and/or walk with us in the Veterans Day Parade should meet at 8am at the JEA and we will head to the parade together.

Thank you for supporting our veterans!

Savannah Jewish News

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www.savj.org

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SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Matthew Allan**
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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Savannah Jewish Federation Mission Statement

Charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds, the SJF 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.

We couldn't do
it without them!

Help us thank our
advertisers, please
support their businesses!

Silverman Selected for Fellowship



Devra Silverman

Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator for the Savannah Jewish Federation and JEA, has been chosen for a prestigious Merrin Fellowship offered

through JCCA, the Jewish Community Center Association. Devra will participate in the 2017-2018 class of Merrin Fellows, beginning next January.

The Merrin Fellowship is a very selective professional development opportunity for Jewish professionals who have substantive responsibilities for working with teens directly. It provides Fellows with mentoring, seminars and on-going learning

based on the idea that the key to creating a vibrant Jewish future is connecting teens to meaningful Jewish experiences today

The fellowship provides an intensive, transformative professional development experience for a JCC professional early in their career. It supports their growth both within the JCC movement and in their work with teens, and their growth as a Jewish communal professional.

The Fellowship is focused around four program pillars: Development of leadership, management, and supervision skills; gaining expertise on teens and current teen issues; expanding personal Jewish literacy and Jewish content development for programming to impact individuals and their work as Jewish educators; and networking and development of the Fellowship class.

The program will include seminars in New York, Israel, Memphis and two locations yet to be determined to be held over an 18-month period. The program changes from class to class, but previous seminars have included participation in a Meyers-Briggs workshop, learning with JCC executives and leaders, exploring Israel with an eye toward understanding the landscape of its teen organizations and programs, learning best practices through visits to local and national institutions that work with teens and more.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Devra and the entire Savannah community. We look forward to being the beneficiary of all the learning she will be doing for the 18 months of the Fellowship. *Kol hakavod*, Devra!



Sign up TODAY
at www.savj.org



PJ Library families
enjoying our Shabbaton,
Out of the Shabbos



Children and parents listening to Miss Jodi
read a PJ Library book!

What does PJ stand for?

Pajamas! We know those special times of reading, dancing and singing together happen when your children are wearing their pajamas.

Who is eligible to register?

Families with children 6 months to 8 years old and at least one Jewish parent in the household, currently residing in the Savannah area.

What's the cost?

Thanks to our generous local donors, PJ Library® is free when your child is enrolled in the program. One subscription per child.

A Shalom School & PJ Library Program
in collaboration with
Congregation Agudath Achim & Congregation Mickve Israel

Tiny Yeladim

Spend the morning with your tot friends as you learn,
laugh & play with Miss Tara!

November 6
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
During Shalom School
(at Mickve Israel, 20 E Gordon Street, Savannah)

Save the date for our other Tiny Yeladim programs
January 22 @ Agudath Achim • February 26 @ Mickve Israel
• April 30 @ Agudath Achim

Questions? Contact Devra Silverman at pjlibrary@savj.org or 912.355.8111



Check out PJ Our Way™ the Newest Chapter of PJ Library®

PJ Our Way offers the gift of exceptional books with Jewish themes to kids ages 9-11 – Books that they choose themselves!

Sign up TODAY
at www.PJOurWay.org



What does PJ Our Way offer?



- Choose your FREE book each month
- Reviews and synopsis of authors and books
- Leadership with creating kids quizzes, polls, and video blogs



The Savannah PJ Library is made possible through generous support from the Savannah Jewish Federation, Jane Slotin, Nancy & Leon Slotin, and the Cecele Richman JEA Fund.

For more information about PJ Library, please contact Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator at pjlibrary@savj.org or 912-355-8111.



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

Savannah Jewish Federation Beneficiary Agency
Your Campaign Dollars at Work



David Finn AZA having dinner
with their new advisor Zach Stern!



Savannah BBYO
at their IC
Registration
Kickoff Party!



Savannah BBYO has had an exciting start to the year! In late September, Savannah BBYO joined thousands of other Jewish teens from around the world in their IC Registration Kickoff Party. Teens joined in on the fun through video chat where they could talk with their friends from around the world!

Last month, Savannah BBYO held their annual Sukkah Hop to celebrate Sukkot. They jumped from Sukkah to Sukkah at members' houses and enjoyed a meal and a learning session at each house. Also in October, our newest BBYO members attended MIT/AIT New Member Convention in Greensboro, NC, with other teens from Dixie, North Carolina, and Virginia Councils.

Next month we are looking forward to seeing our friends in Atlanta at Southern Region Convention, and holding some awesome chapter programs!



MISSION: To create a community of Jewish 5, 6, 7 and 8 graders through social and meaningful experiences that will serve as a gateway to continued involvement in Jewish life.



BBYO
Connect
conducts a
photo
scavenger
hunt around
downtown
Savannah!



Save the Date!

November 20
January 8

February 4
April 29

For more information about BBYO or BBYO Connect, please contact Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator at engagement@savj.org or 912-355-8111.

SAVANNAH MISSION TO ISRAEL

April 24 - May 5, 2017

- Travel throughout Israel with friends from JCC MetroWest (NJ)
- Multiple daily options
- Designed for first-timers as well as repeat travelers who are 60+
- Accommodations Jerusalem Dan Panorama and Nof Ginosar
- 10 days touring and 9 nights
- Round trip travel Savannah-Tel Aviv-Savannah (via NY) Delta/El Al
- Worry free travel that includes all guide, driver, bellmen, and restaurants tips, breakfast daily, 4 lunches, and 8 dinners, all itinerary entrance fees

Trip Highlights Include: Masada, Dead Sea (with spa options), Desert drum circle, Friday morning in the exciting Machane Yehuda Outdoor market, Ammunition Hill, Ben Yehuda Street, Kabbalat Shabbat at the Western Wall, Dinner with IDF Lone Soldiers, Israel Museum, political briefing with Israeli journalist, Lecture with Avraham Infeld on the Nine Days of Awe (Yom Hashoah to Yom Haatzmaut), tour Mount Herzl, visit with a bomb disposal unit to get a sense of the security challenges in the shadow of Gaza, join the Ofakim region for Yom Hazikaron Memorial service, Yad Vashem, Begin Museum, Ayalon Institute, festive Yom Haatzmaut celebration, tour Caesarea National Park, visit IDF base on Yom Ha'atzmaut, tour Kibbutz Nof Ginosar, ascend Golan Heights to Mount Bental, afternoon in mystical Safed, Tel Aviv's Independence Hall, Masket Fashion House, and more.

For more information, application, and itinerary send an email to israelmission@savj.org



Israel Missionfrom pg 1

people.
A mission is not just a tour — it's a mission because you're taken behind the scenes. Whether military, cultural or political, we have access to all realms of society. The most experienced guides and renowned scholars in the country are your traveling companions. Writers, artists, politicians, the country's founders — all will eagerly meet our mission participants.
There's nothing like sharing experiences and perspective — Israel is an exciting spiritual, historical and personal adventure; the land of soul and vitality. A mission is an opportunity to meet the people of Israel — to talk to new immigrants on a one-to-one basis, to ask questions and to share ideas with new Israeli friends, to meet IDF "Lone Soldiers" who have left their homes all over the world to volunteer to defend the Jewish state. It is all the more special to share these opportunities and impressions with friends, old and new.
To learn more about Savannah's 2017 Israel Mission, please send an email to israelmission@savj.org. Make your dream of spending Israel's 69th birthday there a reality!

Jerusalem and Tel Aviv are Favorites for Travel Magazine Readers

If you didn't already have enough reasons to consider going on the 2017 Savannah Mission to Israel, consider this: readers of the luxury magazine Condé Nast Traveler just included both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in their list of the 40 "best cities in the world," based on their 2016 survey of destinations outside the U.S.



Jerusalem came in at number 28 and was praised for its "cutting-edge art scene" and growing restaurant scene. The magazine elaborates:
Long a place of religious pilgrimage for Christians, Jews and Muslims, Jerusalem is now drawing a different sort of pilgrim: the global traveler. In addition to its significant sacred and religious sights, the city draws visitors with

its cutting-edge art scene and a growing number of notable restaurants.

Tel Aviv, which the magazine called "one of the world's most vibrant, diverse cities," came in at number 17:

With influences from Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean, Tel Aviv is one of the world's most vibrant, diverse cities. Hummusiyas and falafel aside, what continues to draw travelers? Notably nightlife and beaches, museums (Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv Museum of Art), and the world's largest concentration of buildings in the International Style — more than 4,000 of them comprise Tel Aviv's White City.



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St. Johns Town Center, Jacksonville 904.527.2643
levyjewelers.com

Matthew Redux

It was a storm in the south Atlantic, then it was in the Dominican Republic, hit Haiti (hard), the Bahamas and then to the Florida coast... all the while we were getting different messages from different officials. Evacuate Tybee, then evacuate the islands. Does that apply to Skidaway? No, just Wilmington and Whitmarsh... no, never mind, everyone east of 95, no, everyone in Chatham County.

Should we leave? When should we leave?

It was a veritable “storm of misinformation” which left everyone very unsettled. In a time of distress, people look toward authority to make them feel safer. At a time when everything seems to be spiraling out of control, we look for guidance and advice. It was with this background that I received a call on Thursday morning from Atlanta’s Jewish Family Services Holocaust social worker. She told me that she had heard from three Savannah area survivors that very morning, and explained to me that during times of stress, the survival senses of those who lived through the Holocaust become very acute. It is a natural response as a result of their experiences.

We called each of them with assur-

ances that the community was here for their needs. We made sure they had a place to go and the resources to get there. It is what we do.

Should we leave? When should we leave?

The JEA stayed open through mid-day on Thursday before the storm. It was a lovely, temperate October afternoon; a few wispy clouds were in the sky. We thought we would stay open since it was so lovely and there was no real threat for another 24-36 hours. But as the morning progressed, employee after employee asked to leave, and to be honest, I was starting to feel a little uneasy about the whole thing. By 2pm, we made the decision to let everyone go home to make their preparations for the storm.

Should we leave? When should we leave?

Facebook was filled with comments from those who were staying: “It won’t be much.” “I’m gonna ride it out at home.” “How bad could it be?” “We’re having a Hurricane party!”

There were those who couldn’t get out of town fast enough: “How’s the traffic on 16?” “It took us 8-½ hours to get to Atlanta.” “16 is empty, I flew through to Macon.”

Yes, we should leave, we should leave now!

And shortly thereafter the storm roared in like...well, like a hurricane.

For the next 36 hours the winds blew, rain came down in buckets, and trees snapped throughout Sa-

vannah, taking down power and communications lines with them.

It was hours or days, depending on where you lived and how lucky you were, until the power came back and cable and internet were restored. For most of us, it was three to five days; it just seemed like eternity (it is amazing how dependent we are on “our electronics”).

Thankfully, there was only one death in the area as a result of the storm, but sadly, it was Jeff Davis, the father of one of our JEA camp families. In a few short days, thousands of dollars were raised to support his family.

Before the storm, during and after, our national organization, Jewish Federations of North America was on the phone with us, offering technical and financial assistance. It was wonderful to have their support if we needed it. The Charleston Jewish Federation was particularly caring with many calls of concern and offers of assistance. They had narrowly missed the brunt of Matthew, but understood all too well from past experience the difficulty of going through this type of storm.

While most of us turned our efforts to cleaning out refrigerators and freezers, cleaning up the many branches and trees that were all over

our properties, and dealing with insurance adjusters, there were many among us who were grappling with how they were going to afford to pay their rent and replace their spoiled food.

The storm was difficult enough for most of us, but there were others — already living paycheck-to-paycheck — who had employers that did not compensate them for closed “Hurricane Days.” They then had the added expenses of transportation, hotels

and food while on the road, all creating a recipe for financial disaster.

YOU were the ones who helped them through our Jewish Family Services;

YOU were the ones who helped

provide supermarket cards for basic necessities;

YOU were the ones who helped with rental payments;

YOU provided social workers who met with those who were traumatized by the storm.

On behalf of the many people you helped, on behalf of those who are not hungry after the storm, on behalf of those who needed assistance with a rental grant: THANK YOU! As Federation President, Allan Ratner states, “Whatever it takes!”

What a Month!

WOW! I was installed as President of Savannah Jewish Federation on September 14th and what a month since then. We had a command

change of the Jewish War Veterans, the High Holidays, a hurricane, evacuation, and are now working on the recovery. We had to cancel our October SJF Board meeting so I have not even met with my new Board as of this writing. I did have the opportunity to select an executive committee and have one meeting.

I have been asked what my goals are for the next two years, but right now I want to talk about the present.

What does Federation stand for? Most of us know only about Campaign. Asking for money is what many think we do. That is probably the smallest part of the SJF mission.

Paragraph ‘A’ of the SJF mission statement reads: “To coordinate, fa-

cilitate and make more effective the functioning of all Savannah Jewish Communal life; to encourage and support social, recreational, religious, benevolent, philanthropic, educational and cultural activities among organizations, the individual members thereof; and to be constituted and governed in a manner that will exemplify, foster and preserve the principles of the Jewish heritage and American democracy.”

Our board represents a cross section of our Jewish community. All three local synagogues are represented, as well as unaffiliated members of our community. The decisions we make are what our board feels are in the best interests of our community. We don’t always get it right, and we have to adjust as conditions demand. But we are al-

“Our board represents a cross section of our Jewish community... we are always doing what we think is in the best interests of the community as a whole.”

ways doing what we think is in the best interests of the community as a whole.

Last year, in order to preserve the history of the Savannah Jewish community, SJF supported the decision to move the Savannah Jewish Archives to the William Berman Jewish Heritage Museum in Atlanta. They are working to digitize and catalogue all of the documents so they can be viewed and researched on line.

Our community outreach programs for BBYO, Hillel and Young Jewish Savannah are starting to bear fruit. BBYO has a growing membership with strong leadership and programming. Hillel at SCAD has increased membership. Young Jewish Savannah has been growing and increasing their community involvement.

None of these programs can be done without strong leadership. Ja-

mie Richman (nee Cahn) and Devra Silverman have guided these programs from infancy to where they are today. And in recognition of her achievements, Devra has received a prestigious JCCA Merrin Fellowship. You can read all about it elsewhere in this issue. Congratulations to Devra.

During the hurricane, Federation not only received calls from Charleston, Atlanta and Jewish Federations of North America to see if we needed assistance, but we also fielded calls for assistance from people who needed financial, as well as personal aid during the crisis. Through JFS we had funds and services available to give whatever aid was necessary.

These are just a few of the things that have happened in my first month. In future columns I will keep the community abreast of what we want to accomplish.

Just so you know, I will do “WHAT-EVER IT TAKES” TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY AND THE MISSION OF SJF.



Allan Ratner,
President of the
Savannah Jewish
Federation



Adam Solender,
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

Richard Tucker: A Son Remembers

by Lynn Levine

Dr. David N. Tucker, the son of legendary operatic tenor Richard Tucker, along with his father's biographer, Dr. James A. Drake, will present **Remembering Richard Tucker and the Golden Age of Opera** on Sunday, November 20th, at 3pm at the JEA. The program includes video and audio clips not only of Tucker performing a variety of musical selections but also personal interviews of him talking about his career. Drs. Tucker and Drake will narrate the program together, with Tucker providing personal vignettes and memories of being there with his father and mother during his father's career and Drake, the opera authority, providing the more academic view of Richard Tucker's work.

David Tucker is a retired ophthalmologist who once aspired to be an opera singer; Drake is President Emeritus of Brevard Community College, the authorized biographer of Richard Tucker and the author of biographies of the late sopranos Lily Pons and Rosa Ponselle. Together they travel all over to present programs about Richard Tucker. The program will feature operatic, popular, Neapolitan and liturgical musical selections.

Some of the clips also will feature Richard Tucker's wife, Sara, who David called "...my father's greatest ally. When my father first got started, hardly anyone believed he would really make it either as a *chazzan* or an opera star – it was my mother who was his biggest supporter." In an interview in advance of the Savannah program, David said: "It's a nice way for the audience to get to know my father and to know that his career wasn't served up on a silver platter."

The program has been enthusiastically received all over the country. It documents the evolution of Richard Tucker's career. David Tucker's admiration shines in his voice as he describes the development of his father's career from an early lyric tenor and unknown cantor to a star at the Metropolitan Opera: "He had guts, he had a great belief in himself and I think he just felt he was touched by the Lord to become a great singer... It's an American success story."

David goes on to describe his father as a spiritual person who conducted himself according to the highest Jewish values. "He believed that God gives you a hand and then you make the best of it. And he tried to instill that in his children," his son said. He shares a cherished memory of his parents: "We started in a modest, middle-class neighborhood in Brook-

lyn, but when my dad joined the Met and we gained more affluence, we moved to Long Island. My parents would give big parties; sometimes at home, sometimes in places like The Plaza hotel. And there would always be a few people there who weren't dressed as well as all the other guests. I asked my dad who they were. My dad and mom always remembered to invite their friends from the Lower East Side and Brooklyn, even the ones who hadn't achieved as much success. My dad told me, 'Never forget your friends and where you came from.' I try to teach my children the same thing."

Once a student at the New England Conservatory of Music, David Tucker had hoped to follow in his father's footsteps. But his father didn't want him to go through the hardships he had and insisted that his son go to medical school first. "I was disappointed as a young man, but in retrospect, he was right. I'm writing a book now about my relationship with my dad, and have commissioned a playwright to write a dramatic comedy about it – I don't know if it will reach Broadway, but at least I'm trying," David said. He relates that he and Sherrill Milnes, the great operatic baritone who will be a special guest at the program on November 20th, as young men auditioned at the same time at Tanglewood but, "the difference is, he made it and I didn't. He always laughs about that. Instead, the operating room became my theater."

David talked about his father continuing to conduct holiday services as a cantor through-

out his life, and what the future may hold for cantorial music in the U.S. "My dad said the Nazis killed *chazzanut* in this country in the sense that they killed so many of the Eastern



The Tucker family in 1955 backstage at the Metropolitan Opera at a performance of *Andrea Chenier*; (l-r) eldest son Barry, Sara, Richard, youngest son Henry and David

European cantors and that music there. I think the culture changed in this country, as well. If you go to synagogues today, you don't have the voices of the old *chazzans*, like Koussevitsky or Rosenblatt. A few places have it, but that style of singing is essentially gone. Today you have the guitar, piano or organ, and popular singing. My dad felt that with the six million who were killed, so much of that culture was gone. Even my

zayde, who wanted me to be a doctor, told me to learn *chazzanut*. 'You'll always be in demand on the holidays,' he said. I didn't do it. I learned the scores to *La Bohème*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, but I can't do a complete service. If I had studied that, he was right; I would be in great demand on the High Holidays."

The son attributes much of who he is today to his parents. "Growing up with a famous father or mother is a privilege, it's not always easy and it can have its effects, positive and negative... I think they gave me great values and I really feel that much of my success today, both professionally and as a family man – as a husband and father – was influenced by growing up in Richard and Sara Tucker's household. My father and I clashed, but in the end, love and respect flourished."

What

Remembering Richard Tucker

When

Sunday, November 20th, 3pm

Where

JEA, 5111 Abercorn St.

Cost

Free and open to the public

Patriot and Zionist

David Tucker tells the story of how in 1967, during the Vietnam War, his father volunteered to go there and conduct a Passover Seder for the Jewish troops and to perform for all the soldiers.

"My parents took the names of all the soldiers they personally met and when they got back to the States called all of their parents," David said.

"When my father died, some of the most poignant notes we received were from some of these parents or the soldiers themselves telling us how much those phone calls had meant to their families. Of course, some of those soldiers did not make it home."

In addition to this great service Richard Tucker performed for his country, David remembers his father as an ardent Zionist who also performed free concerts almost every summer in Israel.



Richard Tucker conducts a Passover Seder in Saigon in 1967

Four Questions

for the rest of the year

This past summer, Barbara and Leon Aronson travelled to Africa with their daughter, Hedy, and her family — Hedy's husband, Josh Marks, and their children, Jacob, 15, Ella, 7, and Charlie, 12, who will celebrate his *Bar Mitzvah* this month. While the trip had all the hallmarks of a trip to such a special place, including visits to South Africa and a safari in Botswana, it was Charlie's Bar Mitzvah service project that gave the family's travel truly special meaning.

Charlie, with the help of his entire family, created "A to Z" a project to raise money to purchase the first computers for a school in Zimbabwe. The Aronson/Marks family was on hand as the final touches were being put on the computer center at the Mwenje Primary School, shortly before the computers were delivered.

We spoke with Hedy (who lives in Atlanta) about the extraordinary experience her family had planning and sharing this project.

How did this trip to Africa come about?

We had a wonderful, traditional bar mitzvah two years ago for our older son, so were thinking about something different this time that would be meaningful to us as a family. We thought about a trip and considered Israel, but decided on Africa because of Josh and mine's past. We knew it had to have a service component — we wouldn't just go be tourists on this trip — we wanted it to have a lot of meaning for our family. We honed in on Botswana and South Africa and met with a travel agent (she's Jewish and from Zimbabwe) who planned our whole trip and put us in touch with The Malilangwe Trust.

The director of the Trust told us how the Trust works with community leaders on feeding programs, the community gardens, the local school; and he told us the administrators had been asking for technology for the children. Education is a priority in Zimbabwe and yet you go there and you see that some kids are still learning in mud huts while others have beautiful desks in beautiful classrooms. Maybe they don't have electricity, but it's a very functioning classroom. But they didn't have the next step, which is technology, so it was an easy sell for us, because now they would have an opportuni-

ty to engage with other kids outside of their community and around the world, and that was what was most appealing to me and Josh — connecting the children in Zimbabwe with children in the U.S. and Atlanta, to our kids' school. It was an experiment, but they asked for it and we thought it made sense, so we said that's what we're going to do. We built our campaign around that.

What was it about Africa that you and Josh shared in your past?

Josh and I went to different colleges but both spent time in Africa. He did a semester abroad in Kenya through Dartmouth College, mostly in the city. I did a program called Semester at Sea and spent week in Kenya on safari. It made such an impression on me that I did my Master's thesis on the conflict between wildlife and human populations in East Africa.

When we met after college our experiences in Africa tied us together, and it's like they say, once you've experienced that part of the world and that part of Africa it stays in your blood. And it really does; your heart never really leaves there. So when we talked about going back there with our family, it was an easy 'YES, can we make this work?' We both were drawn back.

What impact has this project had on your family?

This was where all the meaning came from with this project. As we created the campaign, it was something we really did as a family. We had to come up with a name, create a brand, build a website. All the steps you have to do, we were building momentum. We worked together to figure out how we were going to raise the money, who was going to do what — that was a family project that every single person took a role in and took ownership of. And seeing my young daughter raise \$900 through a three-day bake sale was great — she really did it!

For my kids to see that you set an intention, carry it out and reap the benefit, that was huge. And it gave them confidence that they could do this. They thought there was no way we could raise our initial goal of \$10,000, but they were so proud, and me, too, once we did. We were unified as a family and it made us stron-



The Aronsons and Marks with the administrators and representatives of the Malilangwe Trust

ger. We ended up raising \$16,000 through a campaign run by children.

And then to be fortunate enough to go to Africa and actually meet the beneficiaries, that was tremendous. I think once the computers are fully working and things like the Pen Pal program start up, we'll be re-energized.

I would love for other families to look inside their hearts, decide what's meaningful to them and do something to just get your hands a little dirty. I would love to help other families acquire the skills to do something like what we did — I think it puts more meaning into the process.

I hope my kids become enlightened citizens of the world, interested in other cultures. And I'm glad this project gave them a chance to see what I think is the heart of being Jewish, being a good person, helping to heal the world.

What are the long-term plans for A to Z?

All of this was part of Charlie's service project — the planning, the fundraising, everything.

The computers have now been delivered in Zimbabwe and are in the process of being installed. There is a bit of a learning curve — the teachers have to be trained on how to use



Leon and Barbara Aronson, Ella, Hedy, Josh and Charlie Marks

them before something like the Pen Pal program can actually be up and running. The goal is to Skype a few times the first year and then push forward with things like Pen Pals, but we're still taking care of technology issues right now. The children over there have seen computers on television and cell phones are ubiquitous, but they've never had computers to use for learning, not for daily use, and neither have their teachers.

So the plan is to build the Pen Pal program. This is a pilot program. Then we will need to evaluate how the kids do with the computers, which will be done through the Trust. Several schools in the area could benefit from the technology so if this works we would definitely be open to finding a way to expand the program. We'd like to see a long-term relationship between the current two schools (Galloway School in Atlanta and Mwenje Primary School in Zimbabwe) but if this works it could be taken to other schools. I would love to get more computers in other schools in Zimbabwe and who could then have Pen Pals at other schools in the Atlanta area. We took it to Galloway because that's where our kids are, but my friends at some of the Jewish day schools like Epstein and Davis would love to bring it there.



SAVE THE DATE

SAVANNAH

TEEN WEEKEND

February 10-12, 2017

Open to Jewish Teens Grades 8-12 • Make New Jewish Friends from Across the Southeast
• Community Shabbaton • Organized Home Hospitality • Fun & Transformative Jewish Programming • Exciting Saturday Evening Dance & Program • All Meals Included!
Cost: \$50 • Registration opens November 1 at www.savj.org

For more information, call Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator
at 912-355-8111 or email at engagement@savj.org

The Savannah Teen Weekend is made possible through support from the  Savannah Jewish Federation



I on Israel

Shimon Peres, 1923-2016



Tributes to **Shimon Peres**, former Prime Minister and President of the State of Israel and Nobel Laureate, who died September 28, 2016:

"As a man of vision, his gaze was aimed to the future.

"As a man of security, he fortified Israel's strength in many ways, some of which even today are still unknown.

"As a man of peace, he worked until his final days toward reconciling with our neighbors for a better future for our children."

Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel

"Perhaps because he had seen Israel surmount overwhelming odds, Shimon never gave up on the possibility of peace between Israelis, Palestinians and Israel's neighbors.

"A light has gone out, but the hope he gave us will burn forever.

"Shimon Peres was a soldier for Israel, for the Jewish people, for justice, for peace, and for the belief that we can be true to our best selves - to the very end of our time on Earth, and in the legacy that we leave to others."

Barack Obama, President, United States of America

"A visionary and courageous statesman, who worked relentlessly for peace and never lost hope that this would one day be achievable.

"... a great man who epitomized optimism and a belief that by working together we can build a brighter future for generations to come."

Theresa May, Prime Minister of Great Britain

"Israel has lost one of its most illustrious statesmen, and peace has

lost one of its most ardent defenders."

Francois Hollande, President, France

"I hope that his memory and many years of service will inspire us all to work with ever greater urgency for peace and reconciliation between peoples.

"In this way, his legacy will truly be honored and the common good for which he so diligently labored will find new expressions, as humanity strives to advance on the path towards enduring peace."

Pope Francis

"The Middle East has lost a fervent advocate for peace and reconciliation and for a future where all the children of Abraham build a better tomorrow together.

"He was a genius with a big heart who used his gifts to imagine a future of reconciliation not conflict, economic and social empowerment not anger and frustration, and a nation, a region, and a world enhanced by caring and sharing, not torn asunder by the illusions of permanent dominance and perfect truth.

"And Hillary and I have lost a true and treasured friend."

Bill Clinton, former President, United States of America

"As a young man, he worked for his country's independence. For the rest of his life, he led it with a deep and abiding concern for his people and a commitment to freedom and peace. The Bush family will miss Shimon Peres and his grace, dignity, and optimism."

George W. Bush, former President, United States of America

"With his hand outstretched in peace and friendship, Shimon Peres personified dignity and grace in a region of the world where both run far too short."

Donald Trump, U.S. Republican presidential candidate

Israel Responds to Matthew

As Hurricane Matthew first began its trek north, it wreaked its greatest devastation on the impoverished nation of Haiti, still recovering from a major earthquake almost seven years ago. The death toll there as a result of this latest disaster is said to be at least 1,000.

IsraAID, the Israeli NGO that offers humanitarian assistance around the globe, did not have far to go to respond to this crisis as it was still on the ground in Haiti providing recovery services for the January 2010 earthquake. Together with their local partner, Prodev, they were the first to provide food and water for several hundred children and their families at Cite Soleil, an extremely poor community in Port-au-Prince.

MASHAV, the Israel Foreign Ministry's agency for international development cooperation, had just two months ago sent a shipment of medical supplies to restock the trauma unit it established in one of Haiti's main government hospitals three years ago. Ambassador Gil Haskel, head of MASHAV, told Israel21c news service, "We are now assessing and exploring the current needs in the wake of the fresh disaster, and



An IsraAID volunteer helps distribute food to Haitian children in the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew

will decide on how to support the relief efforts."

Mickey Noam-Alon, IsraAID's media director and emergency team leader, said they are working with authorities and partners in Haiti to reach populations in desperate need of emergency supplies. It is estimated that 350,000 Haitians are in need of assistance.

In addition to the assistance being provided in Haiti by IsraAID and the Israeli government, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) also has responded to the crisis there. "Our hearts go out to the people of Haiti, and the wider region, in the wake of Hurricane Matthew's devastation," said Alan H. Gill, JDC's CEO. "All too familiar with the acute needs facing Haitians, JDC activated

continued on page 10

Israeli Economy Growing

Israel's Central Bureau of Statistics in October published its second revision for the second quarter and first half of 2016. The first half growth estimate was revised upward from 3% to 3.2%, on an annualized basis. The second quarter growth rate also was revised upward from 4% to 4.2% on an annualized basis, with quarterly private consumption jumping 10%, public consumption up 8.6%, and exports of goods and services, excluding startups and diamonds, leaping ahead by 13.7%.

As reported by the Israeli business news service Globes, the new figures show that private consumption was again the growth engine for the



The busy port in Haifa sees much of Israel's material goods export traffic

economy, posting 7.2% growth in the second quarter. Exports of goods and services, excluding startups and diamonds, were up by an annualized 4.1%. Public spending was up 3.7%, while investments in fixed assets soared 13.4%.



The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide:

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance

November 2016



Children's Programming

Saturday Night Out

November 12th, 6:00-10:00

"Ultimate Hide & Seek"

- Join us for a Camp Savannah favorite as we play Ultimate Hide-n-Seek
- Cool off from all the fun with our delicious Sno-Cones
- Watch a movie on our big screen

December 3rd, 6:00-10:00

"Polar Bears & Penguins"

- Take a dip in our warm indoor pool complete with games and prizes
- Warm up with some delicious hot chocolate and a dessert
- Watch a movie on our big screen

When: 6:00-10:00 pm

Who: 4y-6th grade

Cost: \$30/child and \$55/family

JEA Member Value Price: \$25/child and \$45/family

Where: JEA

RSVP and advanced payment must be made by Thursday, November 10th
Check www.SavannahJEA.org for more details.



Winter Days @ the JEA 2016-2017

Do you find it difficult to take days off of work when your child is out of school? The JEA offers year-round vacation programming for children in grades Pre K–8th. Your child will enjoy activities such as field trips, swimming, cooking, sports, crafts and MORE! For staffing purposes and the safety of your children, please register and pay before the date of the event or you will be charged a \$5 late fee.

November Dates: 11th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd

November 11th: "Invasion"

Activities include: Visit a State Park, Create Acorn Jewelry, Play a Thrilling Game of Invasion

November 21st: "Protect-A-Pilgrim"

Activities include: Decorate a Fall Wreath, Build Structures to Protect your Pilgrim, Play an Enthusiastic Game

November 22nd: "Medieval Times"

Activities include: Take a Trip to Star Castle, Create a Pumpkin Masterpiece, Creatively hold on to Your "Treasure"

November 23rd: "Fall Festival"

Activities include: Compete in Fall Festival Games, Bake Delicious Homemade Bread, Craft Your Own Fall Candles



December 19th – January 3rd

Activities include:

- Ice Skating
- Pajama/Pancake Party
- Trip to See the Movie "Sing"
- And Much, Much More!!



Member Value Price: \$35.00 per day for first child, \$33.00 per day for additional children

Non-Member Price: \$45.00 per day for first child, \$43.00 per day for additional children

Sign up today, space is limited

Ages 4 years-8th Grade

Call 355-8111 or email Mary Mazza at kids@savj.org for more info

JEA Donations

(September 13, 2016-October 7, 2016)

JEA BUILDING FUND

In memory of Harold Faust
Kelly & Marc Gordon

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH FUND

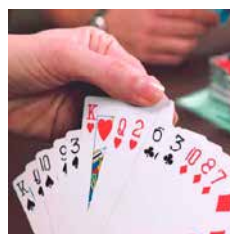
In memory of Harold Faust
Harriet & Paul Kulbersh

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Maxine Patterson
Brenda & Patrick Salter



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 2:00 pm to 4:00 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.



Honoring the Legacy of Richard Tucker

November 20, 2016
3:00 p.m.
Jewish Educational Alliance

David N. Tucker, M.D., son of the
legendary tenor Richard Tucker

and

James A. Drake, Ph.D., President
Emeritus of Brevard Community
College and authorized biographer of
Richard Tucker

will narrate a video presentation of the
life story of Richard Tucker as a man,
a father, and a singer.

—Special Guest—
Renown Baritone Sherrill Milnes

*The voice of Richard Tucker "was not only
beautiful shimmering, silvery, and very
powerful but also incredibly enduring." -
Luciano Pavarotti*



Join us on each Thursday at 12:30 p.m. for **Food For Thought!**
Visit with old friends and meet new ones, enjoy a delicious lunch
for only \$5, followed by an educational speaker or performer.

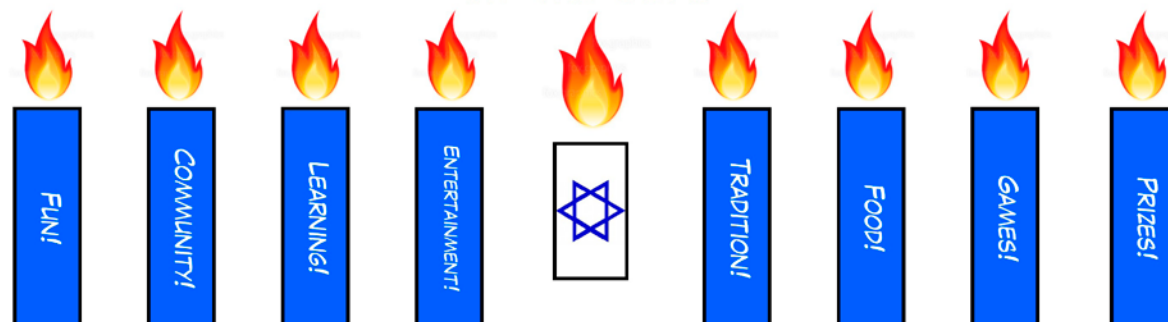
Don't forget to call and make your
reservation at the JEA Front Desk
or call 912-355-8111.

November 3 Seniors and Diabetes with
Dr. Ismary DeCastro
November 10 Lung Health with Dr. Domenick Roma
November 17 Live Performance with The Savannah
Voice Festival
November 24 NO LUNCH, Thanksgiving
December 1 Foot and Ankle Health with
Dr. Ido Friedman

ANNOUNCING...

THE CHANUKAH GAMES

AT THE JEA!



COMPETITIONS FOR ALL AGES!



CHANUKAH TRIVIA!
LATKE IRON CHEF!
PASS THE SHAMAS RELAY!
MACCABEE HAMMER TOSS!
...AND MANY MORE!!



SAVE THE DATE - DECEMBER 11, 2-5 P.M.



Health & Wellness

Life Coaching/Performance Consulting



Kat Ackerman
Health & Wellness
Director
fitness@savj.org

We are pleased to welcome Ben Freakley MS, Sport Psychology / CSCS to the JEA Team. Founder of Ready. Set. Resilient. and a decorated Performance Psychology Consultant and Life Coach, he will be offering one-on-one sessions to help people with their performance and or lifestyle goals.

For over 15 years Ben

Freakley has worked with thousands of people from the sports, military and general population, emphasizing mental skills necessary for peak performance. As a life coach, soccer coach and performance psychology consultant, he has

helped individuals, groups, teams and companies identify routines that are helping or hurting growth potential. Ben spent two years working with Special Operations forces as a performance psychology consultant. He believes that no age or stage defines one's life and that improvement is always possible. Freakley has consulted males and females of all ages on developing positive routines that will yield positive results. He is passionate about helping others find their break-through and live a life by design rather than default. Whether you feel like you are burning hot or burning out, Ben is ready to encourage you. Ready to be motivated?!

For more information contact Kat Ackerman at Fitness@savj.org.

What's Going On in Aquatics, Lately?



Kirby Southerland
Aquatics Director
aquatics@savj.org

Summer has come to a close and pool parties and days spent at the neighborhood pool are behind us until next year. That doesn't mean that all hope is lost for some pool side fun. The JEA indoor pool is open year-round for recreational swimming. In fact, the best time to prepare for next summer's water fun is during the off-season. Was

your little one not quite there yet to pass a swim test? Enjoy some time in the indoor pool and practice those skills so they are ready to go for next season!

Swim lessons are offered year-round to learn new skills and to further develop current skills. Swim lessons are available for all levels!

Swim team will begin its next session on November 1st and will now offer different options for practice times. Participants can choose to

swim on Mondays and Wednesdays OR Tuesdays and Thursdays. Practice will be from 5pm-6pm for both options.

Have you ever wanted to try a triathlon but were concerned about the swimming portion? Are you looking for a way to mix-up your cardio routine? Pool-side personal training is now available at the JEA. We offer both one-on-one and group training. Contact me for more information.

You might notice a new piece of equipment on the JEA pool deck - an ADA accessible lift for our indoor pool! If you're concerned with your entries or exit from the pool, just ask a lifeguard for assistance with the lift.

Fitness Classes

Sunday

9:15 am - Power Pilates
10:30 am - Total Body Blast

Monday

8:45 am - Firm It Up
9:45 am - Aquasize
10:00 am - Vinyasa Yoga
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
5:00 pm - Fast & Fit
6:00 pm - AquaDance
6:00 pm - Total Body Blast

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

8:45 am - Firm It Up
10:00 am - Sun Flow Yoga
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
6:00 pm - Total Body Blast

Thursday

9:30 am - Barre Blend
10:00 am - Aquasize
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
5:00 pm - Fast & Fit
6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Friday

8:45 am - Firm It Up
10:00 am - Yoga
10:00 am - Aquasize



JEA Youth Basketball

December 2016- March 2017
Ages: 5 years through 5th grade

For more information:
Contact: Kirby Southerland
912.355.8111
aquatics@savj.org

Registration begins in November!



JEA Preschool Savannah News

Enroll Now 2016-17 School Year

- Openings for 2-year old & 4-year old classes
- 2, 3 and 5-day options for 2-year olds
- For full details, visit our website at www.SavannahJEA.org

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

Rock and Read Kickoff Nov. 6th - 3:30 pm

Please join JEA Preschool Savannah for its second Annual Rock and Read. JEA Preschool Savannah will be kicking off its Scholastic Book Fair week (November 6th-11th) with lots of fun, friends, food, and books, books and more books!

There will be face painting by Glitterboxx Studios, as well as music by DJ Jeff Wells. Please join us Sunday, November 6th at 3:30pm at the JEA for a toe-tapping good time!



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



in the JEA Art Gallery

November 2016 Artist
Oksana Gruszka-Harmouche



Oksana's earliest childhood memories were of being trapped inside a body cast in a hospital in Odessa, Ukraine. Beginning at age two, Oksana would spend the next three years immobilized in a hospital bed.

The nurses on the floor gave her paper and pencils to help pass the time. Oksana learned to escape the hospital with her imagination and her art. She created her own world where she was free to be with nature and she drew every day.

At school, Oksana's teachers noted her exceptional talent in art. At age eight she auditioned for art school. She passed with high marks and was admitted into the Children's School of Art in Ternopil, Ukraine. At 17, Oksana graduated with two degrees: her high school diploma and a degree in Art. Oksana continued her studies and received her degree in Art and Architecture in 1990.

For fifteen years Oksana worked as an architect, at first in Ukraine and then the U.S. When the U.S. economy slowed down, Oksana turned to her passion for painting. Trained as a master watercolorist, Oksana also teaches classes in watercolors.

No matter what the medium, Oksana focuses on the fine detail. The beauty, fragility and strength of women and flowers are recurrent themes in Oksana's works. The fashion of *Vogue* also strongly influences her subject matter.

Another layer in Oksana's art comes with the technique she uses in many of her oil paintings. Before the invention of photography, the Flemish painting masters developed a seven-layer technique to paint transparent fabric like veils and to capture the colors under the skin and produce realistic faces not found in earlier two-dimensional work. This technique is very time consuming with each layer having to dry before progressing to the next step. These paintings take months to finish.

Oksana has exhibited her paintings at local shows. She currently sells her paintings in City Market.

Artwork available for viewing November 1-30, 2016
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception November 6, 2016, 2:00-4:00 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 9/12/2016-10/7/2016)

Lucy Berry
Michael Brennan & Teresa Cullina
Lee & Mary Crouse
Lyndsay Dunning & Rebekah Sapp
Stephen Gardner
April Hayes
Raul & Paola Heresi
Arturo & Lisa Lopez
Ariel Shtaubert

Join the JEA!

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

Types of Membership include:

Family Plans
Couple Plans
Single Parent/Family Plans
Senior Plans
Individual Plans
Military/Law Enforcement (active duty only)

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

Batampte Thanksgiving

Looking for something tasty (*batampte* in Yiddish) and different to add to your Thanksgiving menu this year? Here are a couple of recipes to help add a delicious “Jewish” twist to your table:

Sweet Potato & Carrot Tzimmes

(from *Spice & Spirit: The Complete Kosher Jewish Cookbook*)



- 1 pound carrots
- 6 sweet potatoes
- 1/2 cup pitted prunes (optional)
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1/2 cup honey or brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 2 Tbsp. margarine
- (1) 20 oz. can pineapple chunks, drained
- (1) 11 oz. can mandarin oranges, drained

1. Peel carrots and cut into 1-inch slices. Peel and slice sweet potatoes into 1/2 inch slices. In a 3-quart saucepan, cook carrots and sweet potatoes in enough boiling, salted water to cover, until tender but firm. Drain carrots and sweet potatoes and place in 3-quart casserole with prunes. Combine gently.
2. Preheat oven to 350.
3. Mix orange juice, honey, salt and cinnamon. Pour evenly over casserole. Dot top with margarine. Bake covered, for 30 minutes. Uncover, stir gently, add pineapple chunks and mandarin oranges and bake another 10 minutes.
4. *Variation:* cook ingredients listed, in pot, using juice from pineapple and mandarin oranges in place of water.

Yields: 8 servings

Cranberry Apple Noodle Kugel

(Shannon Sarna, Kveller)



- 8 ounces fresh cranberries
- 2 tsp cornstarch
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tsp fresh lemon zest
- 1 1/2 lbs wide egg noodles (one and a half packages)
- 5 large eggs
- 3 large apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup margarine or butter
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon plus extra

No patience to make your own sauce? Buy a can of whole cranberry sauce to substitute!

1. Place cranberries, 1/2 cup sugar, water and lemon zest in a saucepan over medium heat. Wait until water begins to boil and then add cornstarch and stir.
2. Continue to simmer until cranberries are all soft and sauce thickens. Add a little water if needed. Set aside to cool.
3. Cook noodles in large pot. Drain well and set aside.
4. Preheat oven to 350F degrees and grease a 9×13 pan.
5. Melt margarine or butter and mix with sugar, cinnamon and apples.
6. Separate eggs and beat egg whites until frothy and thick. Add egg yolks to sugar-apple mixture. Add noodles and mix well. Gently fold egg whites to noodle/apple mixture.
7. Spread half the noodle/apple mixture into the pan. Add a layer of the cranberry sauce. Add the remaining noodles and apples. Sprinkle with a very light dusting of cinnamon on top.
8. Bake 50-55 minutes, or until desired crispiness on top.

Mark your calendars.

January 25-February 4, 2017

Matthew.....from pg 8

its network of international and local partners and is mobilizing relief efforts in an expression of humanitarian solidarity and Jewish values.” JDC is working with local and NGO contacts and partners “to assess needs and ensure the most vulnerable victims are cared for in an expedient manner,” Gill said. JDC will focus on the southern part of the

island, where reports from the hardest-hit areas say torrential rains, flooding and strong winds damaged homes, infrastructure and farming stock and land.
Note: IsraAID is one of the recipients of the 2016 Savannah Jewish Federation Overseas Investment Grants; JDC is one of SJF's strategic overseas partners.

Teach in Israel

College graduates ages 21-30 interested in teaching English to Israeli children are invited to apply to be Masa Israel Teaching Fellows for 2017-2018.
The Masa Israel Teaching Fellows (MITF) program is a partnership between Masa Israel Journey, Israel's Ministry of Education and The Jewish Agency for Israel. The fellowship provides young Jews from North America, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand a 10-month experience living in Israel and volunteering in schools teaching English. The fellowship runs from late August 2017 to June 2018.

The program aims to close the educational achievement gap in Israel's education system through small group instruction and tutoring at schools identified as in need of additional assistance. The 2017-2018 fellowship class will be assigned to elementary and middle schools in Ashdod, Be'er Sheva, Beit She'an, Migdal Ha'emek, Nazareth, Netanya, Petach Tikvah, Ramat, Ramla, Rehovot, and Rishon Lezion as well as in a youth village providing a boarding school setting for immigrant and youth at risk. Applicants are asked to identify their top-choice location.
In addition to working directly with Israeli school children, Masa Israel Teaching Fellows also partici-

pate in a two-credit academic course, “Methods in Language Teaching: Theory & Practice,” taught by the staff of Tel Aviv University's TESOL Master's program. Throughout the program, fellows will study under top international language instructors in Israel, focusing on understanding how individuals acquire a new language. The strategies learned through this program help fellows better connect with their students and address challenging classroom situations.
MITF alumnus Matt Callman, who taught in Netanya 2014-15 and now serves as Israel Engagement Coordinator at the Hillel Jewish University Center of Pittsburgh, said, “Masa Israel Teaching Fellows was an opportunity to grow as an individual, connect with my Jewish identity, and enhance my leadership skills. MITF and Masa Israel helped me better understand my place in the Jewish world, the role Judaism plays in my life, and my passion for teaching.”
Eligible applicants must identify as Jewish and have at least an undergraduate degree by September 1, 2017. Applicants cannot be Israeli citizens or have spent four consecutive months or longer in Israel within the last two years.
For more information, go to israel-teachingfellows.org.



TIME TO ORDER MAH JONGG CARDS

Attention Mah Jongg Players! It's time to order your 2017 Mah Jongg cards. The standard card is \$8.00; the large card is \$9.00. The deadline for placing orders is January 10, 2017. Make checks payable to the Agudath Achim Sisterhood and send to: Judy Todtfeld, 23 Sundew Rd., Savannah, GA 31411. No extra cards will be ordered after January 10th; be sure to place your order on time! For additional information, contact Judy at (912) 598 -1161.



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director of
Early Childhood
Education

So Much for which to be Thankful

It has been a relatively smooth start to the school year. This has allowed me time to go into the classrooms to be with the teachers and the children to provide additional instruction and guidance to them.
When I'm with the children, I am usually sharing a finger play, reading a story, or providing a meaningful activity while being a role model for the teachers. One day, I was with the three- and four-year-old classes and had a one-on-one experience with each child. Each child brought his/her cubby bucket to the writing table where I wrote their Hebrew name on the cubby label. The children were carefully watching me write the funny looking Hebrew letters (as one child describes). I shared the Hebrew letter names and asked the children to repeat them for me. The children were very eager for their turns to sit with me.
Another teaching opportunity I

had was with the two-year-old class, G'daim B. I went in one day and asked the teacher if it was alright with her if I shared a story. While the children were getting ready for nap time, I made up a story about them and what they had done that day. They were engaged listeners and I even managed to put a few to sleep — not so interesting, I suppose!
I am thankful for these opportunities to teach the children, and the teachers. I am thankful for the experienced and open-minded teachers who make up the team at JEA Preschool Savannah. I am thankful for the families who entrust their children to us on a daily basis. I am thankful for the JEA staff that supports the work of our team at JEA Preschool Savannah. Finally, I am thankful to the community for its continued support of our preschool program. So as we approach the season of Thanksgiving, let's all stop and reflect on what and who we are thankful for in our lives.
Wishing you a wonderful and meaningful holiday with your family and friends!

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L'Dor Vador

L'Dor Vador. From generation to generation. It's such a simple yet powerful phrase. With generations come stories, names, recipes,

heirlooms and tradition. I think of my own family and how my children will inherit stories of the lives their great-grandparents led. Lives of hard work, persecution and love. They laugh as they recall their grandfather's favorite Hanukka story, spout off their grandmother's words of wisdom, and are always on the lookout for words, stories, and pictures of the past. I relish in the discussions I have with my children after a week spent with my mother. They remind me of the funny looking Sukkah decorations done by their father when he was five, they ask for details on stories they were told, and they ask to go do the same things we did as a child hoping for the same great experience. That's the power of the phrase "L'Dor Vador."

At Shalom School, we carry this phrase not only in actions with immediate family but the family that is our community. Our younger classes perform every year for the residents at Buckingham. They get hugs from the residents, they listen to stories, and they share in prayer. Watching the children and the residents saying the same Bracha (blessing) in unison is a heartwarming sight. It's so powerful. It's so beautiful. Communities around the world have been doing the same thing for thousands of years.

Around that same time of year (Purim), our students get the opportunity to make hamentaschen with women of both congregations' Sisterhoods. They learn the recipes, roll the dough and cut circles before filling and folding the cookie. Inevitably, some women will tell the children how they used to bake the same hamentaschen with their children and how today they keep doing so with their grandchildren. Students learning with someone they might not recognize is an opportunity to build a new relationship but more importantly, it makes the child realize that they are part of a bigger picture.

It has become a tradition at Shalom School to hold an annual Grandparents and Special Friends Breakfast. The day of the event, the students host and entertain their guests. The students cheerfully sing and perform, but not before taking 'orders', filling plates and serving their guests. This is another powerful thing to watch. Not only do we see the younger generation attending to the older one, but we see the students take such pride in doing so. They beam when they sing their songs in Hebrew, as they recite a prayer, and show off all of their knowledge from the year. Watching the younger generation interacting with the older generation with such enthusiasm is so fulfilling for all of our staff, parents and guests, and another expression of L'Dor Vador.

This school year, we have many activities on our calendar. We are so grateful to have new and familiar faces to teach, engage and inspire as we educate a new generation. As Josh Nelson describes it in his song: "We are carriers of wisdom, not the first and not the last."

A Storm to Remember

We all in some way experienced the hurricane that came spiraling through our city causing damage the likes we've never seen here

in Savannah and wreaking havoc to people's lives. Some people had only the interruption of their regular routine, some had their homes damaged, some had cars smashed, many lost power for days, and many were uprooted from their homes to only return to no electricity.

That's the storm; a massive message from the Almighty to all of Savannah and every other city that was hit. The message? Each of us must find the message within ourselves because there is no way one should allow the devastation that took place only days before Yom Kippur to be a phenomenon that came and went. Every single one of us must internalize what did happen, what could have happened and see the hand of G-d communicating with us. What we take from our own personal experience with Hurricane Matthew is up to each of us. We just have to make sure it didn't happen for naught and that lessons were learned and growth took place.

Aside from the storm, there was all the chesed, incredible kindness that took place from one human to another. It didn't matter who you were – if you were in need, you received help from those around you. I had the experience of being at Buckingham South when the residents returned from a very tedious ordeal of having to be evacuated, truly uprooted in a way that those of us who don't need assisted living can-

not understand. Take your fear and compound it a hundred times. These are people even if somewhat independent still dependent to varying degrees or they wouldn't have been with Buckingham South when they evacuated. I was among several people who were helping unload the bus of all the material items that had to accompany these residents and then we unloaded Individuals; people who were scared, tired and unsteady on their feet. They leaned on us as we inched them off the bus, baby step by baby step, and as we placed them in a wheel chair you could see the relief on their frightened faces. The National Guard came to assist and these guys through sweat and the deepest, most genuine kind hearts took those who were unable to walk inch by inch off the bus and carried them off. They kept going and going until every resident was safe inside and some even were carried to their rooms on the fourth floor as the electricity had not yet come back on.

With tears rolling down my cheeks, I watched these residents so grateful for the few hours we spent with them trying to help them get back to their normal feeling of safety and security. It is a night I will never forget. And the kindness that Atlanta extended – over 100 homes opened their doors to Jewish families looking for a safe place to be for Shabbos! Every Savannahian came back talking about what an incredible experience it was to be in Atlanta and how people treated them in such a caring, giving manner.

The stories of this storm will continue to surface for a long time – I just hope the stories infuse within young and old alike the tale of what humanity is capable of when all that matters is the other person.

Save these dates!



**Mark your calendars now
and plan to be at
these fun, enlightening
and entertaining
community events!**

December 8, 2016 — Women's Event, Community Campaign. Watch your mail and the eNews for more details on this Women's Division general campaign event.

December 25, 2016 — JEA Open House and Savannah Jewish Film Festival Preview Screening. A day of fun and games for the entire family, plus an advance screening from the Jewish Film Festival!

January 14, 2017 — Konter-Weiland Comedy Night. Another uproarious evening of laughs at the JEA, sponsored by the Lawrence Konter and Bertram Weiland Jewish Cultural Arts Fund.

January 25 - February 4, 2017 — Savannah Jewish Film Festival. Our yearly look at the finest offerings from around the world in Jewish cinema.

February 10, 2017 — 100 Day Community Shabbaton. We celebrate the conclusion of the campaign's 100 Days of ImpACT by joining together for Shabbat.

February 10 -12, 2017 — Teen Weekend. Jewish teens from across the southeast meet in Savannah for a weekend of engagement including learning, service and of course, fun!



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

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Friday Night Young Family Shabbat

SHABBAT SERVICES:

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

DAILY SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm, Monday & Friday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm, Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

GILEE SHABBAT

Georgia Israel Law Enforcement Exchange Shabbat

Friday, November 4th 6:00 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat service
followed by dinner at Agudath Achim Synagogue

Join us and hear first hand from top Israeli Security Officer and
get an update on Israel Security challenges.

This program is opened to all!

Dinner \$18 per person
RSVP by Friday, October 28th.





Melinda Stein

It's a Funny Thing

by Melinda Stein

Abe came home one day and found his wife Esther in tears.

"Darling, what's the matter?"

"Oh Abe," cried Esther, "Doctor Cohen says I have tuberculosis."

"What! A big healthy woman like you has tuberculosis?"

Ridiculous," said Abe, and he called the doctor.

"Doctor, Esther says you told her she has tuberculosis."

The doctor said something to Abe and with that, Abe began laughing.

"So what's so funny about my having such a dreadful disease?" asked Esther.

"Esther, Doctor Cohen didn't say you have 'tuberculosis', he said you have 'too big a tuchas'!"

A Short History of Medicine:

"Doctor, I feel sick."

2000 B.C. - "Here, eat this root."

1000 A.D. - "That root is heathen, say this prayer."

1850 A.D. - "That prayer is superstition, drink this potion."

1935 A.D. - "That potion is snake oil, swallow this pill."

1975 A.D. - "That pill is ineffective, take this antibiotic."

2000 A.D. - "That antibiotic is artificial and inorganic. Here, eat this root!"

The Shapiros, both a bit stubborn, were involved in an argument, both of them unwilling to admit they might be in error.

"I'll admit I'm wrong," Marcy told her husband in a conciliatory attempt, "if you'll admit I'm right."

Dave agreed and, like a gentleman, insisted she go first.

"I'm wrong," Marcy said.

To which Dave responded, "You're right!"

Jewish meanings for acronyms used while texting:

IDK doesn't mean, "I Don't Know," it means, "I'm Done Kvetching."

BTW doesn't mean, "By The Way," it means, "Brisket Tastes Weird."

IMHO doesn't mean, "In My Humble Opinion," it means, "I Made Haman tashen, Obviously."

BRB doesn't mean, "Be Right Back," it means, "Bubbe Requesting Bagels."

LOX = "Lamenting Over X-rays."

NOSH = "Nobody Overlooks Shmatas, Honey."

OMG = "Oy, My Gallstones!"

Grandma was enjoying her little granddaughter.

"Shayna, darling, what sound does a cow make?"

"Moo!"

"What sound does a cat make?"

"Meow!"

"What sound does a dog make?"

"Woof!"

"And what sound does a mouse make?"

"Click!"



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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Everyone is welcome to join us for
our services and events!
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by calling 912-233-1547.

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH AT 11AM VETERANS SERVICE

AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE
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Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Harriet "Pam" Palefsky Eichholz
Who died October 7, 2016

She is survived by three sons: Benjamin S. Eichholz, Richard M. Eichholz and Anthony S. (Donna) Eichholz, all of Savannah; seven grandchildren; two great-granddaughters, and many nieces and nephews. Pam was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Eichholz, and her six siblings.

Remembrances: Jewish Educational Alliance, 5111 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405; or Hospice Savannah Foundation, P.O. Box 13190, Savannah 31416; or Hadassah, 50 West 58th St., New York, NY 10019.

Dr. Richard A. Leavey
Who died October 1, 2016

He is survived by his wife, Hara Zuckerman Leavey; three daughters, Beth (Kevin) Crawford, Jodi (Eric) Kean, and Stacy (Daron) Rosenberg;

eight grandchildren; one sister, Carolyn Newhouse; one sister-in-law, Marilyn (Bob) Slagel; and many nieces and nephews.

Remembrances: American Parkinson Disease Association, 135 Parkin-son Ave., Staten Island, NY 10305.

Phyllis Meddin Fields
Who died September 24, 2016

She is survived by her three children, Doris (Alan) Blum of Tuscaloosa, AL, Robert (Robyn) Fields of South Salem, NY, and Jean (Doug) Holstein of Chapel Hill, NC; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; her brother, David Meddin; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Maurice, and her sister, Adele Meddin Schneider.

Remembrances: A charity of your choice.



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exciting year!
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GIVE, JOIN, DO!
www.hadassah.org/southeastern
Savannah for calendar updates.

Savannah's Chapter
1926—2016

90
never looked
so good !

JEA FITNESS CENTER REFURBISHED



The JEA last month installed brand new, state-of-the-art resistance training equipment to complement its recently acquired cardio exercise equipment. At the same time, the facility's Health and Wellness Center also received new flooring and paint. The compact, new machines and bright paint make the place seem so big now; lots of room for all to work out!

Health & Wellness Director Kat Ackerman will be conducting orientation sessions on how to use the new equipment through November 10th.
A schedule is posted outside the fitness center.



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



We want to hear from you!
For more information about
Young Jewish Savannah
call Jamie Cahn at 912-355-8111
or email yjs@savj.org.

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.

 **Savannah Jewish Federation**
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Friday, November 18	YJS Shabbat Across Savannah
Sunday, December 4	YJS Takes Charleston
Saturday, December 24	3rd Annual YJS Vodka Latke
Thursday, January 12	YJS Paint, Sip & Schmooze

**SHABBAT
ACROSS
SAVANNAH**



Young Jewish Savannah is planning 6 Shabbat dinners throughout the next few months and is looking for young adults who would like to open their homes & host.



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