

Annual Campaign Kickoff

The Savannah Jewish Federation will kick off the 2019 Annual Campaign at the Main Event on Thursday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. Featured Keynote Speaker, Jeff Goldman, is an Emmy award winning Producer and Reporter for CBS News and the PBS NewsHour. Until recently, Jeff worked at the White House covering 6 Presidents over the past 34 years. In that role he traveled the world aboard Air Force One with Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W.

Bush, Barack Obama and the beginning of the Donald Trump Presidency.

The Main Event is the community's annual opportunity to show support for our local and worldwide Jewish agencies that provide Jewish education, social services, Holocaust education and remembrance, youth, teen and college Jewish identity initiatives, programs for combating anti-Semitism, Israel advocacy, and more. The Community Campaign is the primary source of funding for many of these services and programs in our

community.

Goldman has been an eyewitness to the major historical events. He has covered 6 wars and military conflicts. In the Middle East, he covered both Gulf Wars. He lived in Kuwait and



Jeff Goldman

Saudi Arabia for many months during both military interventions. Jeff has also traveled to Israel and other countries in the region multiple times with several Presidents. After witnessing the historic White House hand shake between Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, Goldman was immediately dispatched to the region. He produced exclusive interviews with key regional leaders to look at the future of the Israeli PLO conflict. Those interviews were with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Egypt, King Hussein in Amman Jordan and then Israeli President Shimon Peres in Jerusalem. In addition, he covered the Balkan war and troop interventions in Somalia,

Haiti, and Iraq. Jeff has also traveled around the globe with Secretaries of State Hillary Clinton, Condoleeza Rice and General Colin Powell. At the PBS NewsHour, Goldman produced numerous long form documentaries on a wide range of topics he witnessed overseas included the breakup of the former Soviet Union, historic elections in eastern Europe and the Baltic States and the Mandela election in South Africa. He was the first to interview Mikhail Gorbachev after his meeting with Ronald Reagan as Russia opened up to the world.

At CBS News, Goldman also covered every domestic Presidential election since 1996. He has also been dispatched for breaking news stories around the globe including the horrific Haitian earthquake in 2010 where an over 200,000 people were killed. Jeff was one of the first journalists on the scene with American search and rescue teams dispatched within hours to rescue victims.

Goodman will be speaking on "Covering the White House from Reagan to Trump: An Insiders Retrospective."

What: SJF Main Event Dinner

When: Thursday, October 4, 6:30pm

Where: JEA, 5111 Abercorn St.

Cost: \$18/person

RSVP: savj.org or (912) 355-8111

2019 Campaign Leadership

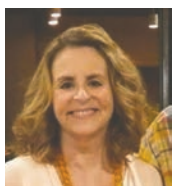
Autumn has arrived and, believe it or not, the 2019 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Community Campaign season is here also!

We are excited to announce the 2019 Campaign Leadership Team and thank them for their commitment to our Federation and entire Jewish community.

Linda Sacks has graciously agreed to serve as the 2019



Michelle Allan



Lynn Reeves

overall campaign chair. Sacks has provided years of service to the Federation Board of Governors and has held numerous leadership roles in previous campaigns including chairing the Women's Division for the 2017 & 2018 campaigns.

Lynn Reeves & Michelle Allan will chair the Women's Campaign. Reeves and Allan have both previously chaired divisions in the Women's Campaign and are excited to help coordinate the entire women's campaign.

Stephen Greenberg will chair the



Stephen Greenberg

Men's Campaign. Greenberg is a seasoned Federation and campaign leader.

"With so much experience to draw on, and with the generosity of our community, I am confident of our ability to

once again provide for the needs of our community and our people. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Main Event on October 4 to kick off the campaign," said Sacks.



Linda Sacks



Candle Lighting Times

Sunday, September 30, 2018	6:52 p.m.
Monday, October 1, 2018	7:45 p.m.
Tuesday, October 2, 2018	7:44 p.m.
Friday, October 5, 2018	6:46 p.m.
Saturday, October 6, 2018	7:39 p.m.
Friday, October 12, 2018	6:37 p.m.
Saturday, October 13, 2018	7:31 p.m.
Friday, October 19, 2018	6:29 p.m.
Saturday, October 20, 2018	7:23 p.m.
Friday, October 26, 2018	6:22 p.m.
Saturday, October 27, 2018	7:16 p.m.
Friday, November 2, 2018	6:16 p.m.
Saturday, November 3, 2018	7:10 p.m.

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Savannah, Georgia 31405
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Levy Concert On October 14

After the Jewish Holidays, when everyone is back in town from their summer travels, what could be better than coming to the JEA to enjoy an afternoon of live music with your friends and family? This year, for the first time in several years, the annual Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin Levy Memorial Concert will be held in the fall, October 14 at the JEA. The concert will feature The Savannah VOICE Festival Artists and special guest pianist, Benjamin Warsaw and other instrumentalists.

This year the show will be a celebration of Jewish composers and will include a repertoire of Porgy & Bess and West Side Story and feature composers such as Gershwin, Bernstein, Copland and Rogers & Hammerstein. The Sunday afternoon concert is sure to leave its audience feeling very



Savannah Voice Festival Singers

uplifted and humming melodies all the way home.

The Savannah Voice Festival, a nonprofit arts organization founded in 2013 brings classical vocal excellence to the Savannah area through a two-week celebration of concerts, events and educational presentations during the month of August and other events throughout the year. The Savannah Jewish Federation & Jewish Educational Alliance are proud of the partnership they have cultivated with the Savan-

nah VOICE Festival and their Executive Director, Maria Zouves. The SVF can be found performing at a Thursday Food for Thought luncheon many times throughout the year. The JEA is also proud to host one of the Savannah VOICE Festival's recitals each year.

The Levy Concert will feature a wide range of music sure to please the young of age and the young at heart, including some of Broadway's most beloved songs.

The annual Levy Concert, sponsored by the Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin Levy Memorial Fund, is free and open to the public, welcome to people of all ages and includes a dessert reception. Doors open at 1:30pm at the JEA, with the concert beginning at 2pm. For more information contact Jacqui Drazen, Community Program Coordinator, programming@savj.org, 912-355-8111.

You Are Invited To

THE main EVENT

Savannah Jewish Federation
2019 Campaign Kick-Off Dinner

Thursday, October 4
6:30 p.m.
Jewish Educational Alliance
\$18 per person

Featuring Keynote Speaker

Jeff Goldman

***Covering the White House from Reagan to Trump:
An Insiders Retrospective***



Jeff Scott Goldman is an Emmy Award winning Producer and Reporter for CBS News and the PBS NewsHour. Jeff worked at the White House covering 6 Presidents over the past 34 years.

Please RSVP at www.savj.org
or by calling 912-355-8111.

All food served by the JEA is under Kosher supervision.

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



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

SJF President: Edwin Byck
SJF Treasurer: Matthew Allan

SJF Executive Director: Adam Solender

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

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly 10 times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 3rd of the month before publication. For example, for a March issue, the deadline would be February 3. January-February and July-August are combined issues. Submission deadlines for these winter and summer issues are December 3 and June 3, respectively.

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

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

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

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

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

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Savannah Jewish News are
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unless noted otherwise.

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 The High Road

Many of you who know me know that I am not the best sleeper in the world. I am one of those people who

needs to have the TV playing while I fall asleep (and thereafter); I often wake up just before 3 a.m. for the day, and have been known to read three papers online before 5 a.m. And I know lots of people who are afflicted with the same issue; it's kind of a club that you don't want to be a part of.

A few weeks ago, I was lying in bed in that half asleep/half awake

stage and the "talking heads" of CNN were blabbing in the background when I heard a commentator state, "Take the high road, it's far less crowded."

We all have those times while sleeping when we come up with an idea or thought and promptly forget it after we fall asleep. I was determined to remember. I forced myself up, rooted through the night stand for a pen and a piece of paper, resolute to capture the phrase. Scribbling as one might in the dark, I pushed to get the idea on the back of the receipt that I had found before I fell back asleep.

When I woke up a few hours later I remembered that I had written something down. I thought I might need a Rosetta Stone to decipher my writing, but lo and behold, I could read my own scrawl. "Take the high road, it's far less crowded."

When I've shared this quote with people it always seems to bring a small smile to their face. Somehow we all imagine a highway of cars with one road, the high road being almost empty.

It's not a new concept, it's one that I have dealt with my entire professional life. I suspect we all do. I think I spent all 24 months of Steve Greenberg's presidency in deep discussions about taking the high road or doing the right thing, no matter what the circumstances. We had dozens of philosophical discussions about a myriad of initiatives and proposals. Almost every single one of them ended with Steve reminding me that doing the right thing is not easy, but the right thing remains the right thing. Sometimes I make myself laugh with a picture of "Angel Steve" on one shoulder

and "Devil Steve" on the other, each urging me to make the opposite decision ("Angel Steve" wins almost every time).

And it has become increasingly more difficult to take "the high road" in an increasingly uncivil world. It doesn't matter whether it's politics, the internet, or personal relationships, there seems to be more and more demeaning, insulting, aggressive behavior. We are seeing it from our elected officials' right down

to elementary school children. In the last six months the Savannah Jewish Federation has played a role in three area schools dealing with issues of anti-Semitism or intolerance.

One definition of civility is "claiming and

caring for one's identity, needs, and beliefs without degrading someone else's in the process." It's an interesting definition that speaks to me. We can go back to 1748 when 16 year old George Washington wrote the Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation where he similarly stated, "every action done in company ought to be with some sign of respect, to those that are present."

In this environment it is hard to "take the high road," yet, without civility our society is rapidly fraying around the edges.

A friend shared a Facebook post with me on the subject with some suggestions on behaviors that help you to take the high road. While most FB posts fly by as quickly as your mouse scroll can advance to the next post, this one made an impression: Think before speaking, focus on facts rather than beliefs and opinions, focus on communal good rather than your individual agenda, disagree with others respectfully, maintain openness to others without hostility, offer productive feedback to those who are demeaning, disrespectful or discriminatory, acknowledge the good points that others make, use less aggression and sarcasm, and interrupt others less.

I'd like to think that these ten behaviors would make our community, our country and our world a much better and more civil place. Then hopefully the high road would become much more crowded.

By the way...five weeks later, I finally found out where the quote came from...it was the Wizard of Omaha, Warren Buffett.

**"Take the
high road,
it's far less
crowded"**

Local Cub Scouts Making History

Cub Scout Pack 18, chartered to Rambam Day School, is making history, as it becomes one of the first coed Jewish Cub Scout packs in the country.

Committee Chair Gary Lee says that from its founding in 1932 until earlier this year, there were no girl Cub Scouts.

"Cub Scouting, which is for children in Kindergarten through fifth grade, has long had adult female leaders, and the Boy Scouts of America have long had females both as leaders and as youth 14 years old and up, but this is a new chapter for Cub Scouting." It is also the first year that the Boy Scouts of America have allowed kindergartners to become Cub Scouts. "A long time ago, there were Lion Cubs; this is what the oldest Cub Scouts were called. That rank was retired over 50 years ago, but it's now designated for the youngest Cubs – kindergartners."

Lee, who was a Cub Scout himself, was camping with about 800 other scouts from Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina earlier this year, along with one of two

sons, both who are Eagle Scouts, the BSA's highest rank. His son asked when his little sister was going to become a Cub Scout. "Son, that's not funny; she's only five and she's

also a girl!" "Yes Dad, I know; but they're now allowing girls AND kindergartners to join," was Lee's response. But he asked around and determined his son had accurate information. By July, Lee was in the embryonic stage of helping form a Cub Scout pack at his daughter's school, Rambam; they hope to have their first

meetings and activities by either late September or early October.

With that in mind, Lee says "any kindergartner through 4th-grade student in the local Jewish community can join Cub Scout Pack 18. They should expect to learn via

constructive play and activities, as well as exhibit a love of doing mitzvot. The registration fee is probably lower than what you'd expect, and used uniforms are plentiful on social media."

If you're ready for your wee one to

embark on their own adventures, you may reach Lee at (912) 755-9791 or email him at gelee1963@comcast.net.



Proud father and son



The Jewish Educational Alliance Presents the Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin Levy Memorial Concert

Featuring the dynamic music of
The Savannah Voice Festival

&
Special Guest Pianist
Benjamin Warsaw

Sunday, October 14
Jewish Educational Alliance

Concert 2:00 p.m.
Doors Open 1:30 p.m.

Dessert reception
during intermission



This concert is made possible by the
Jack Malitz and Miriam Slotin Levy
Memorial Fund of the Jewish
Community Foundation of Savannah.





Savannah Jewish Federation

Films for a Cause



**Savannah Jewish
Film Festival
Presents...**



\$10

*All proceeds from ticket sales to
benefit a Savannah
program or organization*



October 18 • 7:00 pm
Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas
Benefitting BBYO



November 8 • 7:00 pm
G.I. Jews
Benefitting Jewish War Veterans



Savannah Jewish Federation Beneficiary Agency
Your Campaign Dollars at Work

bbyo Invites teens in grades 8-12 to the
IC Kickoff Party
 Thursday, October 4
 6:30 PM
 Blake Strauss' House
 RSVP by September 28 to engagement@savj.org or 912.355.8111 to receive location address



MIT/AIT New Member Convention
October 26-28

- For teens in grades 9, 10, and up
- Learn the basics of BBYO, history, rituals, traditions, and cheers!
- Great first convention for new members!
- Visit www.savj.org/savannah-bbyo to learn more!

For more information about BBYO or BBYO Connect, visit our website
www.savj.org/savannah-bbyo



Ages 6 months to 8 years old



Ages 9-11 years old

PJ Library and PJ Our Way invites kids ages 11 and under to

BUILD • A • TZEDAKAH • BOX
WORKSHOP

Sunday, October 21
 4:00 p.m.
 Jewish Educational Alliance

Join your friends at PJ as we learn the value of Tzedakah ("justice" or "helping others in need"), then build and decorate your very own Tzedakah box!

PJ Library **Our Way**

RSVP by Wednesday, October 17 to pjlibrary@savj.org or 912.355.8111.

SAVE THE DATE!
 Congregation Mickve Israel and PJ Library's

October 12

Shabbat

For more information about PJ Library, Email pjlibrary@savj.org

PJ Library and PJ Our Way Savannah are made possible through generous support from the Savannah Jewish Federation, Jane Slotin, Nancy & Leon Slotin, and the Ceceile Richman JEA Fund.



young jewish savannah

*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 Jacqui Drazen 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.

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

Savannah Jewish Federation
 Beneficiary Agency



Jews, Booze & Woos
 October 25 7:00 pm
\$20 per person

SPOTS ARE LIMITED SO RSVP EARLY!



young jewish savannah

CONSUMERS BEVERAGES.COM

SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION

Meet at Telfair Square (121 Barnard St.) at 7:00, bikes will take off at 7:30 for a two hour tour.
Spots are limited so please RSVP to Jacqui at programming@savj.org

The Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Festival - 30 Years And Still Going Strong!

On October 28th, the Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary from 11 am – 3 pm at Monterey Square. You'll dance to the sounds of fantastic music, the smell of delicious latkes, corned beef and sizzling Sephardic lamb will tempt your taste buds and enjoying friends – old and new – will enliven Monterey Square and the streets surrounding Mickve Israel!

Don't miss out on all the special things the Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Fest has to offer plus an expanded Kid's Zone with midway carnival



games, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream and Chubby Cheeks Face painting!

Tickets available now by calling Mickve Israel at 912-233-1547 or on the day of the festival at the Ticket booths located at E. Gordon St. and Bull Street. Would you like to volunteer? Help is needed the day of the festival. Sign up by calling 912-233-1547.

We can't wait to see you on October 28th!!
What: The Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Festival
When: Sunday, October 29, 11 - 3pm
Where: Monterey Square

Savannah In Atlanta Get Together!

Come to a one-of-a-kind evening – a reunion with friends and acquaintances who grew up in Savannah! Catch up with folks who “knew you

when,” share memories, laughter, and poignant stories as you enjoy cocktails, foods reminiscent of your Savannah childhood, dancing, and schmoozing!

All generations, spouses welcomed on SATURDAY, OCT 6th from 7-11:30 PM. Meet at Three Sheets in Sandy Springs, a beautiful venue with cozy seating, rooftop bar, and dance floor. Tickets on sale now!

Come run into your old Savannah buddies on purpose! Invite your Sa-



vannah friends in Atlanta and other cities to join you!

See if your “punim” appears in the Savannah Jewish Archives slide show, courtesy of The Bremen Museum!

Football fans, we got your back! The venue will televise college football, so you can cheer your team with old friends.

To purchase tickets, visit our EventBrite page at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/savannah-friends-in-atlanta-reunion-tickets-48172089015>.

You can also visit the Facebook event page – Savannah Friends in Atlanta – and access the EventBrite link.

Questions? Send email to Savreunion2018@gmail.com.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Deborah “Debbie” Simon Safer
Who died Thursday, August 9, 2018.

She is survived by her three sons, Stephen B. Safer and his wife, Shifra, Adam B. Safer and his wife, Julia, and Joshua S. Safer and his wife, Serenity; five grandchildren, Shai Safer, Esther Safer, Nitzevet Safer, Aviva Safer and Miriam Safer; her mother, Lillian Shirley Rubenstein Simon; one sister, Denise Silverstein and her husband, Stephen; one niece, Dara Silverstein-Cohen and her husband, Jonathan, and one nephew, David Silverstein.

Remembrance donations may be made to Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob

Jerald Cohen

Who died Friday, August 31, 2018.

He is survived by his wife Carole Jackson Cohen and his children and grandchildren: Mark and Laure Cohen and their children, Bram, Grant, Leah and Nathan, Dr. Scott Cohen and Lisa Podem and their children, Gena Ashley and Ben, Lee and Edye Cohen and their children, Megan and Linsey, and Reece and Caren Cohen and their children, Jackson and Dylan; his brothers, Ronnie and Mary Cohen, Steve Cohen and his wife, Betty, and Jan and Carole Jackson; his very close “sister/cousin,” Jane Fryer, and too many wonderful cousins, nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors to mention.

Remembrance donations may be made to Congregation Agudath Achim – 9 Lee Boulevard, Savannah, Georgia 31405-5707.

Kenneth “Ken” Michael Edel
Who died Thursday, September 6, 2018.

He is survived by his devoted parents Julius Edel and Danyse Greenwald Edel, sister Cathy Edel Solomons (Philip), and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Remembrance donations may be made to Edel Caregiver Institute at Hospice Savannah, Congregation Mickve Israel, Hospice Atlanta, Weinstein Hospice in Atlanta, or the Humane Society.

Gary Michael Levy

Who died Thursday, September 13, 2018

He is survived by his wife, Joan Levy Levy, a daughter Jennifer Leigh Levy and her husband, Joseph Cowart, of Houston. He was “Poppie” to Lily, 8, and Ruby, 3, of Houston. Gary is also survived by a sister, Jo Rose Cohn of Creve Coeur, Missouri; nieces, nephews and cousins; his mother-in-law, Marion Levy Mendel; and his brother-in-law, B. H. Levy, Jr. and his wife, Margie.

Remembrance donations may be made to Congregation Mickve Israel-Post Office Box 816, Savannah, GA or Georgia Historical Society, -104 West Gaston Street, Savannah, GA 31401.



Like to read Jewish-related books?

The Savannah Jewish News is compiling a list of people to read and write reviews of Jewish-themed books that we receive.

Your substantive review would be about 250 words and include your name and affiliation to any organization, if useful to the reader.

You'll return the book to us with your review so that we may repurpose it. If interested, please email sjn@savj.org



Looking for something to do?

Check the Community Calendar at www.savj.org

Exciting programs are added regularly, check for new events each week!





The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance _____ October 2018



Children's Programming



Days at the J



October 5th, 8th and 9th

8:00am - 6:00pm

Don't forget to bring a bathing suit, towel, and lunch! This program is full of games, friends, sports, art, crafts, baking, and field trips!

Cost: Member Value Price

\$40.00 - 1st child / \$38.00 - 2nd child

Non Members

\$50.00 - 1st child / \$48.00 - 2nd child

Ages: Pre-K - 8th Grade



To register, email kids@savj.org. For a complete schedule of activities visit savannahjea.org.

Saturday Night Out



Enjoy a night out on the town while the kids have fun! Your child will engage in themed activities, snacks, movies, and build strong friendships with other children from the community. Program is open to children four years old – 5th grade.

Save the Dates:

November 10th
December 8th
January 12th
February 9th
March 9th



Saturday Night Out!

It's back and **BETTER** than ever!!!!

- Exciting new themes
- Brand new games
- Awesome and delicious snacks

Registration will open mid-October. For more information regarding themes and pricing, please continue to check out website, <https://www.savannahjea.org>



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? Become 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 are donated to Second Harvest to aid them in their mission to feed up to 6,000 children daily. For more details, "like" **Midtown Miracle Community Garden** on Facebook or email Carol Greenberg at MStarArts@gmail.com.

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 Aug. 4, 2018-Sep. 6, 2018)

Caroline Banks
Adam Brown & Jennifer Wilson
John & Sara Colwell
Kathryn Feingold
Chuck Loncon
Margo McCleod
Michael & Korry McCormick
Russell & Karen Nanning
Dawn Snyder
Stephen Stanley & Joseph Bush

JEA Donations

(August 4, 2018-September 6, 2018)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Debbie Safer

In memory of Jerald Cohen

Nancie & Fred Clark

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Robert "Ruby" Sugarman

Lorry & Chuck Palefsky

Sherry & Johnny Macchia

Michelle & Louis Meddin

BERTHA & HYMIE KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Robert "Ruby" Sugarman

Sally & Steve Greenberg

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Elise Shernoff

Marsha & Chuck Bernstein



Food For Thought

Join Us Each Thursday at 12:30 pm

Oct. 4	Family Caregiving Tonya Hillis	Oct. 25	The State of HCS/Memorial Hospital in the Community Tanita Akinyokunbo, VP of Operations
Oct. 11	Savannah Voice Festival		
Oct. 18	Gottlieb's Preservation Matthew Allan	Nov. 1	Savannah Postcard Project

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



Sukkah-palooza

Sunday, September 30 • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Jewish Educational Alliance

Sukkot Projects • Lulav Limbo • Snacks • Inflatable Obstacle Course
• "Shake your Sukkah" Dance Party • and more!

Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family



Join the JEA

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

Types of Membership include:

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

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



Health & Wellness

Leave the Cell Phone Behind



Kirby Southerland
Aquatics Director

This summer, articles from all around the world spoke about the thing we all fear the most about water: children drowning. Most of these articles cited reasons: no personal floatation devices, strong currents, getting too tired, but the most frightening reason? The people supervising the swimmers were on their cell phones.

There is no denying that in today's society, there is a clear over-reliance on the use of cell phones. Whether it is to make a phone call, send a quick text message, check email or see what's going on in the world of social media, it seems that there is always an excuse to have a cell phone in hand.

Of course, there are rules in place at facilities with commercial pools that prohibit staff

from having their cell phones on deck (and that includes here at the JEA) The danger comes with pools that don't staff lifeguards or pool attendants, such as hotel pools, apartment complexes, and of course, backyard pools. What can you do to make sure that you're keeping your swimmers safe?

- If you're hosting a party at your own backyard pool, make sure there is a designated person to monitor the water and keep an eye on all the swimmers present. Hire a lifeguard to come during swim time, if possible.
- If you're visiting a new pool that you're unfamiliar with, make sure you go over the rules with your child and ensure that they are comfortable in all depths of the water, and that they are wearing a personal floatation device if they are not comfortable.
- Put your cell phone away! Safety around water is the highest priority.

Ballet Reboot



Kathy Ackerman
Fitness Director

Try our newest offering, here for a limited engagement! This class is open for all ages and levels and will be a welcome place for people to enjoy the art and fitness of ballet. Whether you are re-turning to your ballet training from long ago or trying a new form of exercise, you will enjoy stretches and body toning in a calm and soothing environment. We will use classical ballet music while working through traditional exercises that are suitable for everyone. This class aims to improve participants' body tone, flexibility, strength, posture, grace and stamina through

the use of the body's natural resistance, focusing on muscle tone of the legs, hips, arms and abdominals. You will experience the satisfaction of learning to execute ballet technique with the appearance of ease and elegance...all while transforming your body and your basic workout!

The class is an hour long and may be enjoyed in regular workout clothes or classical ballet attire. Ballet shoes are recommended, but not necessary.

6-Class Session: October 12th, 19th & 26th & November 2nd, 16th & 30th, 11:15 am. Should you miss a class, a make-up class will be held December 7th.

Cost: JEA Member—\$30

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
10:45 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
5:15 pm - Fast & Fit

Tuesday

9:15 am - Power Pilates
10:00 am - SilverSneakers Splash
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
10:30 am - Functional Flexibility
7:00 pm - Aikido



Wednesday

8:45 am - Firm It Up
10:00 am - Sun Flow Yoga
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Silver Step
4:30 pm - Fast & Fit
6:00 pm - H.I.I.T



Thursday

9:15 am - Barre Sculpt Express
10:00 am - Aquasize
10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
5:15 pm - Fast & Fit
7:00 pm - Aikido

Friday

8:45 am - Firm It Up
10:00 am - Aquasize
10:00 am - Functional Flexibility



Member Guests—\$50

Instructor: Lisa Mackowiak*

Register at the JEA or on our website, SavannahJEA.org

**Lisa is a former professional dancer who has performed with two modern dance companies and various artists for several years.*





JEA Preschool Savannah News

Enroll Now 2018-19 School Year

Please call for enrollment availability

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

Rock & Read Sunday, November 4th, 3:30-5 pm Scholastic Book Fair November 5th-9th

Rock & Read is the kickoff to the Scholastic Book Fair. Bring the entire family for fun and to preview and purchase some wonderful children's books and items.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held each week day and is the perfect opportunity to purchase Chanukah gifts.



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

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



in the JEA Art Gallery

Fiber Guild of the Savannahs

"Connecting Threads"

The Fiber Guild of the Savannahs is a group of fiber artists who meet regularly to share inspiration and techniques using a wide variety of fiber-related arts. Spinning, weaving, dyeing, quilting, knitting, basketry, rug making, paper manipulation, needle felting, and crocheting are just some of the crafts our members explore. We have a strong sense of community service and volunteerism. Our members demonstrate traditional pioneer crafts to children and families at the annual festivals at Oatland Island Wildlife Center. All persons—beginners, amateurs and professional fiber artists, are all welcome to join the guild.

Artwork available for viewing October 3-31, 2018
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception October 7th, 2-4 pm



Welcome Jackie!



Jackie Laban
Asst. Children &
Camp Director

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Educational Alliance is proud to welcome new Assistant Children's & Camp Director, Jackie Laban, who joined the staff August 27th.

A native of Columbia, SC, Jackie attended College of Charleston graduating with a BS in Psychology and a minor in Jewish Studies. Jackie has extensive experience working

with children with disabilities and worked as a Patient Care specialist before working for the Charleston County School District's Afterschool and Summer Camp as a site program coordinator.

During her free time she enjoys outdoor activities, travel and exploring, socializing with friends, and creating new ideas for her next art project. After living by the ocean for a decade in Charleston she knew she wasn't willing to give up living by the water... Savannah is the next chapter in her career. Welcome Jackie!

New Year, New You! Early Bird Registration for the JEA's First Annual 5K is open!



Registration includes:

- Race Participation
- Entrance to the Post Dash Chanukah Bash which includes Meal & Drink Tickets
- Participation Medal for every age group
- T-Shirt

Early Bird Registration is only \$18 until
October 15 then it goes up to \$36
Register online at savannahjea.org

Artifacts from Savannah Jewish Archives on display at the Breman Museum!

When visitors to the Breman Museum enter the atrium, they are greeted by a case of recently collected items, including three medicine bottles and two advertising cards from Solomons Drug-gists Company of Savannah. These items



were recently donated to the SJA by a descendent of the founder, Abraham Alexander Solomons. Born in Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1816. He was licensed by the Medical Society of South Carolina as an apothecary on December 15, 1835. In 1845, he opened his apothecary shop in Savannah at Whitaker Street and Bay Lane. With no large pharmaceutical manufacturing establishments in the area, Solomons



not only maintained a retail store but also a wholesale business that supplied other pharmacies and apothecaries with his medical products. The retail stores closed in 1940 but the wholesale business operated until the 1980s, having gained status as one of Savannah's most respected institutions one of the oldest drugstores in the country.

Stop in the Breman Museum today to see these rare pieces of Savannah Jewish History!

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 our collection.



The Savannah Jewish Archives is generously supported by the Savannah Jewish Federation

www.bbjsynagogue.com



Shabbos and Daily Services
Ongoing Educational Initiatives
Social Events & Programming
Dynamic Youth Events & Programs
Kosher Catering and Take-Out
Full-Service Judaica Store

Hadassah Observes Breast Cancer Month

How many people do you know who have breast cancer? Who are breast cancer survivors? Who have died from breast cancer? Without even blinking I could name a dozen. It is the most common cancer and the second leading cause of death from cancer in American women. But fortunately, there are dedicated physicians and scientists leading the way in diagnosing, treating and searching for a cure for breast cancer.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Hadassah Savannah is proud Dr. Elena Rehl, to host Dr. Elena Rehl, a distinguished breast care surgeon with Memorial Health, to speak on October 17th about the latest advances in breast cancer treatment.

Dr. Rehl is a U.S. Army surgeon and a decorated veteran. She completed medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Rehl did her residency training in general surgery at Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii.

Beginning in 2005, she served overseas as an Army surgeon in Wurzburg, Germany; Tallil, Tikrit, Baji, and Baghdad, Iraq; Landstuhl, Germany; Ghana, Africa; and Al Asad, Iraq. She also worked at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. While in the Army, Dr. Rehl earned a Bronze Star Medal, a Meritorious Service Award, an Army Commendation Medal, a National Defense Services Medal, an Iraqi Campaign Medal with a Star, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and a Parachutist Badge.

Dr. Rehl later completed a clinical breast care fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. She joined Memorial Health University Physicians | Breast Care in 2013. She is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American Society of Breast Surgeons.

Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) recognizes the unique impact of breast cancer for Jewish women and has a three-prong program, led by Prof. Tamar Peretz, head of Hadassah's Sharett Institute of Oncology, that focuses on:

- The role inherited traits play in

developing breast cancer;

- The specific biology of each tumor to better tailor therapy;
- Diagnosing cancer through blood samples, rather than invasive biopsies.

Hadassah researchers confirmed that Ashkenazi Jews have at least a 10 times greater prevalence of BRCA1 gene mutations. Hadassah researchers discovered founder mutations in Sephardic and Kurdish Jews, increasing the risk of breast cancer in these populations.



Dr. Elena Rehl

HMO Senior Oncologist Dr. Aviad Zick and his team are examining circulating tumor DNA in patients' blood to help identify the type of cancer present and the appropriate treatment. Examining the tumor DNA before and after treatment will help researchers

determine the efficacy of the treatment protocol and whether an alternative therapy is needed.

HMO researchers pioneered a diagnostic regimen to prevent transmission of the BRCA mutation to the next generation. This breakthrough in in vitro fertilization and pre-implantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) enables women who carry the mutation to have their embryos pre-screened.

HMO is developing a Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) platform to examine tumor amplification, a specific DNA change characteristic of aggressive breast tumors. This could lead to another predictive marker that would signal the presence of cancer.

Hadassah researchers are more precisely identifying those at risk for breast cancer and using new Hadassah developed markers to monitor and tailor treatment.

Please join Hadassah Savannah and Dr. Elena Rehl on Wednesday, October 17th, for an enlightening morning about the latest advances in breast cancer. And please join us in wearing pink!

Details: Savannah Hadassah Breast Health Awareness Event; Wednesday, October 17th; 10am-11:30am; Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn St.; \$10 members; or bring a non-member friend and it's \$5 each; Refreshments will be served. RSVP: Sue Adler, susandemberadler@gmail.com.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal
Rambam Day
School

Eye on education

What Does It Mean To Be A Teacher?

It means loving what you do; understanding the impact your life will have on others. It's being kind; giving of yourself to children who need you and come to depend on you.

It's being compassionate. Its knowing that when you make a child feel significant and validated, they feel they are priceless. It's being empathetic; knowing your students are not always right but your students knowing, they are always heard.

It's being positive. Even when you are correcting a child; your words and your tone exude your confidence in the child. Your belief that with a bit of guidance, they will

make the right choice.

It's being a builder. Building a community with your students, with their parents and each of them with their peers. It means building bridges.

It's being inspirational. Motivating others to reach their potential, to be great, to accomplish, to be better. It's being INSPIRED. Knowing you can learn as much from your students as they learn from you. It's growing all the time to be a better teacher, a better person – helping your students be the best they can be, because you see each student as world in which only they live.

I want to thank my staff for being such wonderful examples of what it means to be a teacher.

IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE THAT HADASSAH SAVANNAH PRESENTS

THE PRESTIGIOUS 2018

MYRTLE WREATH AWARD

IN HONOR OF

Dr. Joel and Carol Towbin Greenberg

Sunday, November 18, 2018

5:30 in the evening

Jewish Educational Alliance

Dinner and open bar to follow

\$65 couvert per person

All additional contributions made benefiting the
Hadassah Medical Organization's Neurology Department
are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in framed artwork
to be presented to the Greenbergs at the event.

For more information, please contact Sue Adler, susandemberadler@gmail.com



Don't Forget
**Savannah Hadassah's Breast
Health Awareness Event**

**Wed., October 17th
10-11:30am**
Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob
5444 Abercorn St.

RSVP: susandemberadler@gmail.com

Featured Speaker:
Dr. Elena Rehl
Breast Surgeon, Memorial Health



Members: \$10 or bring a non-member
friend and it's \$5 for each of you!

Refreshments will be served



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director
Early Childhood
Education

Eye on education

Always Learning and Growing

One of the special parts of being Director at JEA Preschool Savannah is hearing the stories from my teachers and families about the children. The following is an experience that a two year old teacher had on the playground this summer. This story proves that young children are like sponges; always absorbing information and experiences. You just never know when that experience will reveal itself through the children's eyes.

By Adrianna Galvan- G'daim A Lead Teacher

As a community we don't realize how much of an impact we have on our children. Here at the JEA we embrace and acknowledge our Jewish culture. While playing outside in July during our summer camp program, I observed a big group of children on the playground sitting under the slide. As I walked towards

them to see what they were doing, I noticed that they were reciting the blessings. When I asked what they were doing, everyone replied that they were having Shabbat. The child who was leading the Shabbat ceremony on the playground was holding a stick and told me it was the challah. As I asked him if I could join he replied, "Sure." I joined in and sang with the children as they had their own Shabbat celebration during outside time. What a joy it was to be a part of such a meaningful and special time on the playground!

Now that all of the Jewish holidays have been celebrated, I hope that we will hear more stories of children experiencing these special Jewish moments under the slide on the playground!

You are always welcome to come share your talents, read a book, or sing a song with the children at JEA Preschool Savannah. You'll be glad you did!

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks our Contributors

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In memory of Jerald Cohen
Ina & Art Altman

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Sue & Ira Ruby

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In honor of Lynn & Dick Berkowitz
Marilyn Slagel
Joanne & Dick Hochman



Savannah Jewish Federation

SHABBAT SERVICES:

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



CONGREGATION
AGUDATH ACHIM
SAVANNAH GEORGIA'S CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE

DAILY SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm,
Monday 7:15 am & 6:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm,
Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm

**Hope you had wonderful High Holidays.
Don't wait until next year...**

Join us for GILEE Shabbat
Georgia Israel Law Enforcement Exchange Shabbat
Friday, November 2nd at 6:00 pm

The entire community is invited to attend Friday night dinner and meet with high ranking Israeli officers that will discuss the current events in Israel and across the border.

Dinner is \$18 per person
Please contact the AA office for reservations
912-352-4737



Four Questions

for the rest of the year

With Larry
Dane-Kellogg

*SJN: Tells us
about your
background
and how you
came to be in
Savannah*



In a nutshell, I was born at Ft. Meade in Maryland and grew up in a military family. I lived in Germany for 6 years, but graduated high school from the Academy of Richmond County in Augusta. I joined the Air Force right after high school and served for four years, completing a year in Viet Nam. After discharge, I attended undergraduate school in Augusta. Following working for a couple years after graduating, I moved to Athens to attend graduate school at

UGA in the social work program. This is where I met my wife, Joan, who was in the same graduate program. We got married while in Athens and our first child, Julie was born there. I stayed in Athens for ten years when I got a job offer in Savannah (over 30 years ago) and decided to move here.

SJN: You are considered one of the “geniuses of Jazz” in Savannah. What makes the Savannah Jazz scene different? Vibrant? And where do you see it going in the next decade?

I think an important thing about the jazz scene in Savannah is the support it gets from the City of Savannah. Dedicated volunteers contribute enormous amounts of time and energy to put on monthly concerts and produce the annual

Savannah Jazz Festival. The Coastal Jazz Association and the Savannah Music Festival combined, bring great jazz artists to Savannah. I consider myself fortunate to have been involved in both the Savannah Jazz Festival and the Savannah Music Festival for many years.

We also have two radio stations that include a jazz format as part of their programming: WHCJ and WRUU. I do a jazz show on both stations -one newly release jazz, and one is a classic jazz format from decades past. For there to be a future in jazz, young people need to be encouraged to listen to and appreciate the music. The JEA has been helpful with this objective by sponsoring the annual “Future of Jazz” concerts. Jazz is now in a resurgence that hopefully will continue.

SJN: As the son-in law of the “Great Dane” you are a four generation Savannah family. Share what it’s like to have all the generations together.

Both Joanie and I come from close extended families and feel

that family is everything. We are thankfully fortunate at this time in our lives to have our family (four generations) here in Savannah. We enjoy spending time with each other and hanging out socially. It is so gratifying seeing a 100-year-old Sylvia holding her newborn great-grandson.

SJN: You have had a long career in service to the community and have recently retired. What’s in the future for Larry Dane-Kellogg?

I am still trying to figure out what my retirement life will be. I will continue with my jazz radio programs and other organizations to which I am committed. I plan to take cooking classes if I can find ones that complement what I want to accomplish. I am also interested in other educational endeavors as well as developing a personal exercise regimen. Joanie and I love to travel, so I can see spending as much time as possible in exotic. And then, of course, there is my grandson!

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

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL PRESENTS THE SHALOM Y'ALL JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 11AM - 3PM • MONTEREY SQUARE, SAVANNAH, GA
FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO MICKVEISRAEL.ORG

Volunteers Needed!

The 2018 Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Fest is October 28th
11am to 3pm
in Monterey Square
and we'd love for you
to volunteer!

Whether you love to cook, organize, serve food, or sell tickets, we've got a space for you!

Online registration is open at
mickveisrael.org/foodfest

Your Campaign Dollars At Work

My Camp Experience

by Joey Heilbrun

My experience going to camp Barney was difficult. It was difficult to leave home for 12 days. Even though I was homesick, I had fun.

My favorite thing was the blob.

It's like a trampoline but ten times more fun. You climb a flight of stairs, at the top you are at a platform. It's as high as a high diving board. You jump down and you are on a big blow up pillow which feels like fluffy marshmallows. You crawl to the edge,

as someone else jumps down, which makes you go flying. Then you land in the water. No worries, your wearing a life jacket. Then the next kid goes and it all repeats.

I also really liked horseback riding. I enjoyed riding with friends. We rode around a big ring. I liked giving the horse commands to stop and go. After riding we got to feed the horses apples. During horseback riding we played this game where we threw horseshoes at poles and if it landed on the pole you got a point. The team with the most points won.

I liked the log roll too. You'd walk across and try and balance, in order to get to the other side and not fall into the water. I did it with my friend Ava. We almost made it but we would always fall in before we made

it across. I also really liked the Saturn, a huge float with straps to hold onto. It spins in the water and you want to stay on. Other favorite things were the Hurricane and the Rave. The rave were trampolines in the water with a moonwalk.



Joey Heilbrun and Friends

You try to walk across but it's really slippery. The hurricane was a big water slide. It had turns, drops and spun.

There were 6 ping pong tables, so everyone could play. Ava and

I were partners, it was a lot of fun, mostly cause I learned to play.

Overall I had an ok experience, I didn't love it but I had moments that were fun.

Go to Camp Barney if you like leaving your parents. I'm one of the people who doesn't love leaving her family. But thank you for the opportunity to go to Camp Barney. I might go to another camp next year. Joey Heilbrun 9 years old.

Joey Heilbrun is the daughter of Mikie Streit Heilbrun. She lives in Savannah and attends Country Day School. Her experience at Camp Barney Medintz was made possible in part thanks to your support of the Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Community Campaign.

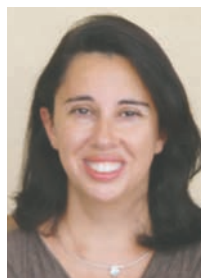
Your Campaign Dollars at Work Throughout the World

Cape Jewish Seniors Association

As part of the 2017 Campaign and Allocations process, the Savannah Jewish Federation reapproved the Overseas Investment Grant program whereby community members recommend overseas agencies to receive \$500 investment grants. We are pleased to introduce to you the grant recipients.

CJSA strives to meet the educational, spiritual, social and entertainment needs and interests of the elderly Jewish community in Cape Town, South Africa. Regular planned

activities including outings, art classes, knitting, Yiddish seminars, Shabbat dinners, group discussions, Yoga, film club, and wraparound social services, encourage members to form new friendships and support systems. These new friendships (and the support of the CJSA staff) help to alleviate the loneliness and isolation from which a number of members suffer, in many cases as a result of the migration of their children and grandchildren abroad.



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

Eye on education

Off To A Great Start

For any parent, teacher or school principal, the first day of school is always a balance between excitement and anxiety. That last Sunday of August, I left the house in the morning desperate to hear that commonly used blessing expressed to one another: "have a good day". Maybe if I heard it often enough, it would happen.

Well, that first day was wonderful. Children were smiling and excited to catch up with their Sunday school friends. Living us only a couple of sessions to talk about Rosh Hashanah, I was so happy to see the enthusiasm students show as they learned more about our New Year. It was only at the end of this emotionally charged day that I realized what had happened. Our day didn't turn out well because somebody wished it for us. We had that terrific day because each one of us took it upon him/herself to make that day into a great one and to focus on Hakarat Hatov, recognizing the good around us. It sometimes looks like we never feel we have enough, and we even might be prone to think we are entitled to have more. And if we remember King Salomon's quest for another woman, another horse, another ounce of gold ... will remember that this attitude is not specific to our generation but one linked to our human nature. When we choose to feel content for our day and what we have we gain the ability to feel gratitude. And when we feel gratitude, we can then focus our energy to make what we have great.

That 1st morning many of us made the choices to be happy for what we have and to work hard to make what

we had special. From youngest to oldest our students put extra effort: In PreK, Addison made the brave decision to keep smiling when her parents left, even so it was her very first time at Shalom School; And ten of our 8th-10th graders decided that the best way to spend their Sunday morning was to volunteer in Shalom School classrooms. Our teachers and Rabbis made sure that first day would be a success when they carefully planned lessons will be engaging and fun. Our parents made sure they made Jewish education a priority when they drove them to school on a Sunday morning.

The lesson I took from that first day is an obvious one, but one that we need to remind ourselves constantly: We don't just "have a good day", we make a good day. We need to work for and invest in it to make it happen. It's not a passive event but rather a very active one.

When saying "Mode Ani" every morning we thank God for granting us another day, and while we may not have a choice in what comes our way for that day, we always have a choice in how we respond to what comes. We can be fearful or courageous, pessimistic or optimistic, despairing or hopeful. The choice is always ours to make. Every day we wake up with opportunities, with a plate-full of possibilities. No matter what mood we wake up in, we always have the power to make it a good day for ourselves and for others.

Hakarat Hatov, hard work, positive attitudes and determination, those are all the things that our students, their parents and our faculty brought to school that first day.

Thanks to all of you for that!

We couldn't do it without them!

Help us thank our advertisers.
Please support their businesses!



T ALL STARTS WITH YOU



**I build
pathways
from our
history to our
future.**

How do I picture the Jewish future? Varied.

Vibrant. Maybe reinvented in some ways. But as long as Federation keeps working worldwide — engaging kids, teens and younger adults — I think Judaism has a good chance of becoming stronger than it is today.

Give today.

www.savj.org

**Kick off the 2019 Savannah Jewish Federation
Annual Community Campaign on Thursday, October 4
and make it possible!**



Savannah Jewish Federation