



Candle Lighting Times

Friday, October 2	6:49pm
Friday, October 9	6:40pm
Friday, October 16	6:32pm
Friday, October 23	6:24pm
Friday, October 30	6:18pm

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2021 Annual Campaign kicks off with Virtual Main Event, November 5

The Savannah Jewish Federation will kick off the 2021 Annual Campaign at the Main Event on Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 PM - virtually. Simone Knego will be the featured keynote speaker. Simone Knego has been a board member of the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation for the past 6 years and was the 2016 Doris Loevner Memorial Young Leadership Award winner. She feels passionate about Jewish Federation’s focus on making the world a better place for all people, and through her volunteer work, has witnessed the difference that Jewish Federations can make locally and across the globe. Simone took an active role in developing young Jewish leaders as the 2018-2019 Co-Chair of the Jewish Federations of North America’s National Young Leadership Cabinet. The National Young Leadership



Main Event speaker
Simone Knego

Cabinet is the premier leadership development program of the Jewish Federations of North America for people ages 30-45. It’s 4000 alumni are part of today’s top Jewish leaders and they also help raise 2.4 million dollars each year to support Federation programs. Simone’s work with the Jewish Federation also helped her realize that she had the ability to inspire others to dedicate time and resources to projects, both personal and charitable, that can make a difference in people’s lives. Simone has shared this message with numerous audiences and, in doing so, has discovered her passion for public speaking. In 2015, she climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise funds and awareness for the Livestrong Foundation. She has traveled on several philanthropic, international missions, including medical missions with her husband Rob, who is a

Neurosurgeon. They have been married for 27 years and have six children. Simone just published her first book, *The Extraordinary UnOrdinary You*.

Michelle Allan has graciously agreed to step up as Chair of the 2021 SJF Campaign. Michelle has co-chaired the women’s division for the last two years. She has the most caring heart and works hard in her personal and professional life to do good – including fostering all animals, hosting a social action night each year for Hanukkah and being an excellent campaign solicitor. Michelle also teaches at Shalom School and sits on the JEA Board of Directors.

This year, the needs of the Jewish community, here in Savannah and around the world, are greater than ever. Please join us for the Main Event, November 5th and help us kick-off the 2021 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Community Campaign.

Register today and make your 2021 pledge at SJF2021.GiveSmart.com.

Federation Dismayed at Lack of Holocaust Awareness

The Savannah Jewish Federation is shocked and dismayed at the U.S. Millennial Holocaust Knowledge and Awareness Survey put out by The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. The report reveals appallingly low levels of Holocaust awareness and understanding among American millennials and members of Generation Z in our region.

The report, released this month, was the first ever state-by-state survey on Holocaust knowledge. A concerning number of young people in all states believe falsehoods including that Jews caused the Holocaust and that two million or fewer Jews were killed in the Holocaust. **Georgia ranked among the ten states with the lowest level of Holocaust knowledge.** The state with the highest Holo-

caust knowledge was Wisconsin, with a 42 percent score.

- Only 52% of Millennials and GenZ queried in Georgia knew what Auschwitz was.
- 20% believe that the Holocaust is a myth or is exaggerated.
- 15% believe that Jews caused the Holocaust
- 43% did not know that the Holocaust was associated with WWII

“The children of Savannah and Georgia are the future of our region. It is our responsibility to teach them about the consequences of hatred so they have the tools and understanding to build and sustain a tolerant, welcoming society for all in our area,” said Kenneth Sadler, Savannah Jewish Federation President. *“We have to do better. This is why the Federation advocates for legislation and educational policies that create awareness and teach respect, and works tirelessly to*

combat present-day anti-Semitism and bias in our schools.”

The Savannah Jewish Federation has led our area in Holocaust commemoration and education for decades, drawing hundreds of people annually to remember, mourn, and honor the memory of the Holocaust at our community commemoration.

Throughout the years, the Federation has brought Holocaust survivors and other educators into middle and high schools to talk to students and teachers to directly share their experiences, as no one else could.

Additionally, thanks to the support of the Matthew Cranman Memorial Fund, over the past two decades, many area teachers have participated in an intensive two week program on teaching the Holocaust.

Welcoming the New Year at Hillel

By Elliot B. Karp, CEO
Hillels of Georgia

My colleagues and I recently welcomed our Hillel student leaders back to campus for the start of the new academic year amidst precautions and protocols due to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hillel is open for business, although it will not be business as usual.

We know it will be challenging to personally meet and embrace our students, as we are limiting the number of people gathering at our Hillel buildings in favor of online programming. However, given the passionate commitment of our Hillel staff and student leaders, I am confident we will continue to engage Jewish students and create dynamic Jewish life on each of our Hillels of Georgia campuses.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, 49 percent of universities across the country plan to hold in-person instruction, with 35 percent planning for a hybrid mix of virtual and in-person classes. Each campus within the Hillels of Georgia constellation is making these same determinations, and Hillel will be adaptive and flexible

in working with each college or university. We are creating innovative ways to continue and expand our offerings.

Since March, Hillel programming has pivoted online featuring ongoing activities like our popular Jewish Learning Fellowship, weekly D'vrei Torah, Israel seminars, yoga sessions and holiday celebrations. We developed new initiatives like our Summer Distinguished Speaker Series featuring local Atlantans in business, medicine and community.

Even High Holidays came with adjustments this year. Our services were online and inspiring, and provided both holiday to-go packages and "Shabbat2Go" meals so students could celebrate with a Kosher meal in their dorm rooms or apartments. At a time when gathering is limited, we hope to continue to offer creative ways for our students to connect with the Jewish community and their faith.

Most importantly, our Hillel

staff is maintaining regular contact with as many of our students as possible through virtual coffee dates, phone calls and COVID-safe socially distanced meetings.

Hillel International

We are proud to be working in collaboration with JF&CS in providing our Hillel staff with in-service training on mental health

awareness and issues during the pandemic, so we are equipped to assist students during these challenging times.

We are honored to serve over 5,000 students on 24 campuses (and counting) across the State of Georgia. Now, more than ever, our students need additional support and community, and we strive to continue to offer meaningful Jewish experiences for students so that they may enrich the Jewish people and the world.

At Hillels of Georgia, our hearts, minds and arms (or elbow bumps) will always be open.



Allan Ratner with his portrait as it was added to the "Hall of Presidents" at the JEA.

A Friendly Reminder

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

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 sjnews@savj.org



Published by the
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www.savj.org

SJF President: Kenneth Sadler
SJF Vice President: David Eichholz
SJF Treasurer: Frank Slotin
SJF Executive Director: Adam Solender

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Letters to the Editor

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

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

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

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

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

Savannah Jewish Federation Mission Statement

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



Adam Solender
Executive Director
JEA/SJF

Celebrating My Savannah 'Bar Mitzvah'

A Bar Mitzvah is a child's coming of age, when that child becomes

accountable for their actions; they are obligated to perform the commandments. All that is necessary to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is that one be 12 years of age if a female and 13 if a male.

I kind of feel like this is my Bar Mitzvah season (again), not because I'm newly obliged to perform the commandments (that's been many years), or that I am now accountable for my actions (all I can hear is a lecture from my father about "being responsible,") but in the next two weeks, the middle of October, will mark exactly 13 years since I began working with and for the Savannah Jewish Federation and Jewish Educational Alliance.

Since it's my Bar Mitzvah year do I get presents? A party? I'm thinking the answer is "No" (unless I give one to myself).

It's been 13 years and no longer do people comment on my use of "y'all." Except for the other 'former' New Yorkers, many people think that I am a Savannahian (by birth). Of course, Savannahians are quick to point out that I am "nothing of the sort." And my enthusiastic support of the New England Patriots has certainly not endeared me to the long suffering Atlanta Falcon fans (and Super Bowl LI didn't make me any more popular). Nor is my affinity for rooting for Georgia Tech (how could I do otherwise having a son who attended). The UGA fans are quick to remind me that my son attended that "trade school in Atlanta."

But despite all the gentle reminders that I am a Northerner, I love calling Savannah my home and have come to really appreciate what it has to offer, the beauty (that we come to take for granted) and the special (define it as you will) people who live here. I am blessed with wonderful friendships, and have the privilege of serving our community alongside committed volunteers and talented colleagues.

With the High Holidays having

just finished, we are in the midst of the Chagim, and while most of us have not been able to gather in person, we are gathering in new and innovative ways....the meaning of the holidays have never felt so poignant.

And as the holiday season comes to an end in the middle of the month, we turn our attention towards the Federation Annual Campaign. The Campaign is the engine that drives this community. Since March, the needs within our community, in Israel, and in Jewish communities throughout the world have increased (perhaps as never before). The need for all members of our Jewish community to support our Annual Community Campaign has never been stronger.

We are honored to have Michelle Allan as our Campaign Chair. Her passion, focus, and work ethic will certainly compliment an amazing effort. With Michelle's enthusiasm, it's hard to say "no" to her. And we know you won't. Teamed up with Jamie Richman, I know that my "Bar Mitzvah year" will be a strong one.

The impact of the pandemic on the JEA, Shalom School, Federation, Rambam, and our cherished synagogues has brought to light the importance and urgency to establish endowment funds to secure our Jewish future. While there are many in our community who are in need, there are many more who have "weathered the storm" quite successfully. If you are in such a position, now might be the perfect time to endow a gift to whatever organization you feel passionate about.

Your gift, whether it be a life insurance policy, a percentage of your future estate, appreciated stock, an interest in your home, or an outright gift of cash, will make all the difference in future community challenges. While there may not be another Pandemic, there will be other pressing needs that you can address.

So....if you wanted to make a gift that is meaningful, forget the Bar Mitzvah year celebration. Create a legacy that will give to this community forever. That would be one heck of a gift!



Kenneth Sadler
SJF President

I Wish

As I begin my tenure a Savannah Jewish Federation President, I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve. I look forward to working with

the Federation Board to move this community forward during this difficult time. As I said in my inaugural speech, *the Savannah Jewish Federation is needed now more than ever*. In reality what is needed now more than ever is YOU. We need your time; we need your input and we also need your financial support.

The Annual Campaign is already in the planning period and I am happy to announce that Michelle Allan will be the overall Campaign Chair for this year's Campaign and Hillary Kronowitz will Chair the Woman's Division. Please agree to help with the campaign when asked to serve. Please put on your calendar for the Main Event Campaign Kick-off, date confirmed soon.

We are starting to set goals for the next two years and your input will be needed if we are to transition

from this pandemic to success. The challenges that lie ahead are daunting, but with proper planning and your financial support we will continue to grow as a community and improve the future for our children and grandchildren.

We have talked in the past about what will be best model for the future of the Savannah Jewish Federation and the JEA. I feel like now is the time to restart this discussion and to talk about a Strategic Plan for our community. This will take input from all the stakeholders in our community. You will hear more about this as we move forward.

I want to thank Adam and Jamie and all of the staff of the Federation and the JEA for all their hard work during the last six months. This pandemic has challenged us in ways we never imagined but through it all the staff of the Federation and the JEA have been there for our community.

I wish each and everyone of you a Healthy and a Happy New Year, I wish you peace and a vaccine in the coming year.

Chag Sameach

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Esther Rosenbaum Buchsbaum
Who died, August 25, 2020.

She is survived by her children, Herbert Buchsbaum and his wife, Letta Tayler, of Brooklyn, New York; Lauren Buchsbaum and her husband, Nick Riggio, of St. Louis, Missouri; Susan Buchsbaum and her husband, Jeffrey Gratz, of Brooklyn, New York; and Elizabeth Buchsbaum of Peaks Island, Maine; grandchildren, Emma Louise Buchsbaum, Sarah Lea Gratz, David Matthew Gratz and Charlie Aaron Buchsbaum Levine; and her sister, Harriet Draluck of Atlanta.

Remembrance donations may be made to the Esther and Aaron Buchsbaum Fund of the Savannah Jewish Federation, Agudath Achim Synagogue of Savannah or the William Bremen Jewish Heritage Museum in Atlanta.

Arthur Horovitz

Who died, Thursday September 11, 2020

He is survived by his son Dr. Paul M. Horovitz, a grand-daughter, Julia Rovnan, two great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins, and special friend, Wendy McCarthy

Remembrance donations may be made to American Cancer Society – Suite 102, 4849 Paulsen Street, Savannah, Georgia 31405-4424 or The National Museum of The Mighty Eighth Air Force – Post Office Box #1992, Savannah, Georgia 31402.

Naomi Adler Rosenberg Rogers

Who died, September 11, 2020

She is survived by her son, Jay Rosenberg.



Dixie Council "No More"

For Jewish teens in our area, Dixie Council of BBYO is no more - the region has been renamed "Southeast



Council" which consists of chapters from Augusta, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville and Savannah. They are a part of the BBYO "Eastern Region." In all the Eastern Region has 30 chapters spread across 17 communities in four states.

On June 1, the international Jewish fraternity and sorority issued a statement "in Solidarity with the Black Community and All Communities of Color" pledging

to "listen and learn" about racial injustice "so that we can become even better allies."

The statement announcing the name change said after that first step, "we also wanted to engage in a profound introspection, examining long-held traditions and practices to be sure they aligned with our inclusive and anti-racist values."

The decision was made in consultation among teens, alumni and parents to change the name and "ensure that BBYO remains a respectful and open home for all."



Check us out!

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

Tell your out-of-town family & friends!

savannah  bbyo

Savannah BBYO wants you!



We are going back to face-to-face programs and we want you to be a part of it! If you are a Jewish teen or have a Jewish teen in high school and want to learn more about BBYO or want to get involved contact Jackie at JackieL@savj.org!

Upcoming Events

Sukkot Chapter Picnics (In person)

October 4: 12:30-2:30p

Regional New Member Weekened (Virtual)

October 16-18

THE BEST PLACE TO BE A SAVANNAH JEWISH TEEN
SAVJ.ORG/SAVANNAH-BBYO   SAVANNAH BBYO



Savannah Jewish Federation

Beneficiary Agency: Your Campaign dollars at work

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL

For a complete schedule of services & events, as well as our new Virtual Tour, check our website at www.mickveisrael.org



Drive-In Sukkot Service
Saturday, October 3, 11am

Drive-In Shabbat & Sukkot Service
at Kingdom of Life Christian Fellowship outdoor stage and parking lot on Montgomery Crossroads. Each family will celebrate the service with the Rabbi from the safety of their cars.

EREV SIMCHAT TORAH
Friday, October 9, 7pm

Erev Simchat Torah Service
on youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah

SIMCHAT TORAH
Saturday, October 10, 11am

Shabbat & Simchat Torah
Yizkor Service
on youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah



THE SHALOM Y'ALL JEWISH FOOD FESTIVAL IS GOING VIRTUAL

Saturday, Oct 24 at 7pm

at youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah

Jewish Food Festival will feature cooking demonstrations, lively music and stories woven in about Jewish food and Savannah's Jewish history.

Jewish Food To Go:

Online Food order reservations

begin Monday, October 5

Food Pick-up: Sunday, Oct 25th, 11am – 6pm

Monday, Oct 26th from 11am – 6pm

Order online at www.mickveisrael.org

Stuffed cabbage

Chicken Matzah Ball Soup

Noodle Kugel

Coney Island style Potato Knishes
and Honey Cake!

Park Place Outreach to dedicate garden in memory of Fran Wilson

by Carol M. Towbin Greenberg
Park Place Outreach Youth

Emergency Services will recognize long time Social Worker Frances "Fran" Lowery-Wilson by dedicating the 4-for-Fran Memorial Garden. Fran passed away in October of 2019 at the age of 81. All friends and guests are invited to a walk-by dedication ceremony Sunday, October 18 at 2:00pm at Park Place Outreach, 514 East Henry Street planned in keeping with Covid safety standards.

Park Place Outreach provides residential shelter and services to run away, homeless and at-risk youth ages 11-21. Fran was a beloved team member and mentor to countless youth whom she counseled and loved. She is sorely missed by everyone she touched. Fran loved Park Place so much that even with her advancing age, she did not want to retire, and despite her increasingly ill health, did not want to leave.

This memorial garden, created by Carol Greenberg of Morningstar Cultural Arts Group and Camille Hulbert of MorningStar Arts Creative, combines Fran's passion for helping our community youth and her love of gardening. Fran was a Master Gardener and one of the founders of the Midtown Miracle Community Garden. She felt strongly she should lead by example and supplied her own cedar wood to build her garden box, named by her friend Dr. Joel Greenberg, *The Noah's Arc of the Condiments*. Fran loved that name because, not only was she a deeply religious woman, and a Jew by choice, but it was the culmination of so much of her life's journey that included a love of all life and the beauty of creation. She looked for connections between this project and her daily life and in doing so gave them both meaning.

Essential to Fran's interest in the community garden project was a multi-faceted love of art. She appreciated all types of art and was a board member and President of Telfair's *Friends of African American Art*. Her gardens added a new color palette to her life that she could share.



She used her garden as a teaching

laboratory for those in her care. At Park Place, she developed a garden plot to make it easier for the children to experience the joy of nature. The natural extension was teaching how the herbs and produce could be used in the creation of healthy meals with her friend, volunteer Dr. Linda Sacks. That activity in turn led to the establishment of guest dinners – cooked entirely by the residents – with distinguished community leaders that allowed Fran to extend lessons of gracious eating and hospitality and to give the children important life lessons.

Not only was the dedication of this 4 for Fran Garden designed with



Fran and her garden

purposeful activities for the youth at Park Place in mind - fragrance, fun crafts, fiber arts and food - but the designation of a fund to maintain the space will perpetuate her legacy going forward. Sculptural artist Matt Toole has created an outdoor sculpture that will represent Fran's dedication to rising youth out of homelessness.

There is no admission to attend, but donations for maintenance of the garden are welcome. Donations can be charged online www.parkplaceeyes.org/donate/ earmarked for Fran or mailed to Park Place Outreach at 514 East Henry Street, Savannah, GA 31401.

All guests are required to wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Guests will be able to walk up the sidewalk from East Broad Street to Price Street to observe the garden and artwork. Street parking available.

Roxanne Formey Sworn In

On August 31, Roxanne Formey was sworn in as Judge at Chatham County Juvenile Court succeeding Judge Leroy Burke III.



Roxanne Formey swearing in ceremony

A native Savannahian and graduate of Beach High School, Georgia State University, and Northeastern University School of Law, she has been a member of the Georgia Bar since 2004.

Before returning to Savannah, Judge Formey became a member of the New York Bar working at WomensLaw.org and then for the Kings County office of the District Attorney in Brooklyn.

In Savannah she served as an Assistant District Attorney 2009-2013 where she was Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney, State

Court Division.

Since 2013, Judge Formey served as the Criminal Law Staff Attorney for the State Court of Chatham County and has been a part-time



Judge Roxanne Formey

Magistrate Court Judge in addition to her responsibilities as Court Administrator and Clerk since 2018.

A member of the Jewish Educational Board of Directors, Judge Formey is known for her strong ethics and thoughtful insights. The entire community wishes Judge Formey a hearty Mazel Tov on her appointment.



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

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

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

COME & **JOIN US**

YOUNG JEWISH SAVANNAH'S PICNIC IN THE PARK!

Sunday, October 18, 2020 | Forsyth Park
1:00 to 3:00 PM

Cheese & Wine, Frisbee, and Friends!

More information is available on our Facebook or you can email JackieL@savj.org



We want to get to know you!
New to Savannah and want to get connected?

Want to help plan events?
Have ideas you want to share?
Just want to hang out?
Let us take you for coffee!



912.355.8111



JackieL@savj.org



Young Jewish Savannah



CONGREGATION
AGUDATH ACHIM

SAVANNAH GEORGIA'S CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE

9 Lee Boulevard, Savannah GA 31405 912-352-4737
Agudatha@aol.com / Agudath-Achim.com



*Come Shake the Lulav
in our
Sanctuary
For an appointment
Call the Synagogue*

We are maintaining Daily Services, via Facebook

To participate, please make sure you follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AgudathAchimSavannah/>

Join us for Friday night and Shabbat morning services via Zoom using the following information...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87032079194?pwd=Zk8yeWg3YWtGaUFkbkdFbDRsdmVHUT09>

Meeting ID: 870 3207 9194

Password: 181818

*Chag Sukkot
Sameach!*

Have a Joyful Sukkot!

CONGREGATION
BBJ
בני ברית יעקב
BNAI BRITH JACOB

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The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide

CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance

October 2020

JEA Children's Programming; Things Are Different, But One Thing hasn't Changed



Jackie Laban
Asst. Children &
Camp Director

This time last year I was sitting in one of the JEA's minibuses in front of Charles Ellis waiting on our first load of JEA Aftercare kids to be dismissed. As they loaded the bus you could feel their excitement; school was done for the day and they were heading to the JEA! They were

in for another afternoon of fun and engaging activities with their friends and favorite counselors.

This time last year you would see kids running up to their counselors to give them a hug or a high-five with big smiles across their faces.

This time last year you would see different grades mixed together playing in the gym and swimming in the pool and sharing art supplies in Abrakadoodle. Now it looks quite different, but one thing has remained the same - our priorities. Our number one priority has always been to offer a safe and engaging environment for children in our community.

When we heard that the kids in Chatham Coun-

ty would most likely not be going back to in-person classes at the start of the school year, we knew there was going to be a need for a safe and structured environment where kids could come and do their distance learning while their parents went to work. We implemented a program called All Day at the J - a distance learning program that provides support and assistance with children in grades K-6th grade.

This was the hardest pivot we had to make since the beginning of the pandemic. As camp and aftercare professionals, DJ and I were faced with a difficult task - to create a program that aids in the virtual learning of over 60 kids from 14 different schools and across seven different grades while still

making sure we follow our mission of providing a fun program that engages children mentally, physically and socially.

Although the first few days were filled with computer glitches, connectivity issues, and a multitude of other obstacles including incorrect zoom meeting codes, missing passwords and lack of communication about schedules, we were able to find our groove. Our amazing team went from camp counselors to

IT professionals overnight; they pulled out their phones and started setting alarms for all of the different zoom meetings, and they came up with fun activities for brain breaks that wouldn't disturb the kids that were still in zoom classes.

Now, when you walk the camp hallway of the JEA, you will see our cabins have been transformed into classrooms with chairs and tables set up to allow the kids to socially distance themselves. It is a different feeling walking through our hallway. It's quiet, it's filled to the brim with electronics and the kids are all wearing masks. But one thing hasn't changed—the fact that the kids are resilient and no matter what is thrown their way, they will adjust and be successful. That is what we are seeing here and that is why we love doing what we do.





Adult Programming



THURSDAYS AT 1:00 PM

OCTOBER 1	Jewish Response to Domestic Violence Amanda Katz
OCTOBER 8	History of Yiddish Music in the 20th and 21st Centuries Dr. Samantha Zerlin
OCTOBER 15	Birkat HaChodesh- Blessing the New Month Dr. Linda Sacks
OCTOBER 22	Beyond the Debate: Creation Vs. Evolution Rabbi Robert Haas
OCTOBER 29	JEA Art Gallery Exhibition: The Year in 20/20: Keeping Perspective. Abigail Stevens

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 August 10, 2020)

Ashlie Allen
Emily Allsteadt
Stanley & Margaret Biner
Christopher Brannan & Diana Reichenbach
James Chapman
Chad & Lauren Dingus
Zachariah & Gillian Karatassos
Lisa Levine
Americo & Jennifer Mafera
Matthew & Alexandra Phillips
Elizabeth Simmons
Steven & Gwen Sparger
James Torrence & Jessica Baker

JEA Donations

(8/10/20-9/10/2020)

JEA GENERAL DONATION

A donation by:

Susan & Martin Cohen

In memory of Michael Allswang

Maury Fertig

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH

A donation by:

Margaret & Britt Kramer

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of James "Coach" Holmes

Tony Center



GROUP FITNESS SCHEDULE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			Family Morning Flow w/ Sarah (7-7:45am)	Rise N' Grind Bootcamp w/ Jess (8:15-9am)	
	Firm it Up w/ Linda (Virtual Class) (8:45-10am)	Yoga for kids & parents w/ Sarah (Virtual Class) (10am-10:45am)	Firm it Up w/ Linda (Virtual Class) (8:45-10am)	Yoga Flow w/ Sarah (Virtual Class) (10am-10:45am)	Firm it Up w/ Linda (Virtual Class) (8:45-10am)
			Water Aerobics w/ Jennifer (11-12pm)		Water Aerobics w/ Kim (11-12pm)
Barre Blend w/ Kat (Virtual Class) (1-1:45pm)	Upper Body w/ Jess (12-12:30) Core Blaster w/ Jess (12:35-12:55)	Pilates Flow w/ Kat (Virtual Class) (1-1:45pm)	Lower Body w/ Jess (12-12:30) Core Blaster w/ Jess (12:35-12:55)		
	Family Workout w/ Jess (Kids 6+) (5:30-6:30pm)	Aqua Fit w/ Kim (5:30-6:30pm)		Yoga w/ Katy (5:30-6:30pm)	

GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT: SAVANNAHJEA.ORG

Classes are subject to change so check back for the most up to date schedule

*Virtual Classes can be found on the JEA Health & Wellness Facebook page

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, Basic Plan
Military/Law Enforcement
(active duty only)

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



Health & Wellness

Group Fitness is Back



Jess Whitacre
Health & Wellness
Director

We are excited to announce that in-person fitness classes ARE BACK! Looking for ways to get the entire family involved? Well look no further because we are offering classes that are kid friendly that will encourage parents to bring their kids with them. If

this is something you are interested in, check out our Family Workout and Family Morning Flow! With the way our world is changing, we felt we needed to offer an outlet for families who may not have the same child care options as before or need to find additional ways for their kids to get in some physical activity.

Don't worry though, we still have classes available for just the adults. Some of these adult classes include strength classes, Bootcamp, Yoga, Water Aerobics, and AquaFit. These classes will all have limited space so make sure you reserve your spot now!

You can reserve your spot by going to the JEA website.

Learn More About our Class Offerings Below:

These classes are subject to change

Family Workout: Looking for a workout that gets the entire family involved? Look no further, because we are offering a family outdoor workout that will help improve cardiovascular endurance, strength and mobility. Kids 6+ will be allowed to join a parent or guardian for this hour-long group exercise session.

Kids under the age of 16 will not be allowed to attend without a parent or guardian

Rise N' Grind Bootcamp: Early bird gets the worm, right? Drop off your kids and then come join this 45 minute total body workout! This early morning Bootcamp class is de-

signed to get you up, moving and motivated for the rest of the day. This class will challenge you and help improve cardiovascular endurance, strength and mobility.

Family Morning Flow: Come join this 45 minute class before your day starts and get your yoga in early! Rising with the sun will start your day off right! Gradually warm the body and awaken the mind to this energizing flow for all levels. This balancing and grounding routine will encourage a positive mental approach to any challenge your day may bring.

Kids 6+ will be allowed to join a parent or guardian for this hour-long group exercise session.

AquaFit: Check out this hour-long class that resembles bootcamp class but takes place at the pool. Part of the workout will take place in the water and the other part will take place on the pool deck. Prepare to challenge your body in a new way in this low/medium impact, total body workout for all fitness levels. Also, check out our Kids Splash Class at the same time as this class if you need somewhere for your child to hang out while you work out!

Water Aerobics: This is an hour class that meets in the shallow area of the pool. This aerobic workout provides high intensity work with low impact on your joints. Come join this high energy class and change up your routine in the pool!

Yoga: Come join this hour-long yoga class consisting of yoga poses modified to individual's needs, gentle movement sequences to help improve the body's movement, and deep breathing and relaxation. Also, check out our Kids Splash Class at the same time as this class if you need somewhere for your child to hang out while you work out!

See schedule at bottom of previous page.

What is New in Aquatics?

Session 1 was so popular, we're adding Session 2 of our new...

KIDS SPLASH CLASS!

Children ages 6-13 (up to 6 kids per class)

Two class offerings: Tuesdays or Thursdays (choose one) starting October 13, 2020. Kids Splash Class is a mix of water aerobics, games and other swimming activities. We will be socially distanced using pre set-up chairs and pool noodles as dividers. Should there be rain, the class will move inside using floating devices. Kids will play games, aerobics and potentially obstacle courses.

Each class includes four (4) 1-hour sessions, beginning at 5:30 pm. If you choose to enroll your child in both classes, you will need to fill out paperwork for both.

***Sign your child up and then reserve your own spot in one of our adult fitness classes!**

Session 2 Dates:

Will be announced soon.

For more information, check out: <https://www.savannahjea.org/health-wellness/aquatics/swim-lessons>

***Please email Jess at aquatics@savj.org to register.**





JEA Preschool Savannah News

Open Enrollment
Currently enrolling 3-yr olds for
half-day and full-day program.

New operating hours: 8am-5:30pm

Limited spaces available.

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

Professional Development for Staff!

The teachers participated in Fire Safety Training and learned about fire prevention and emergency preparedness and evacuation. We're always working for the safety of our children!



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



in the JEA Art Gallery

Abigail Stevens - October 2020

"The Year in 20/20: Keeping Perspective"

Abigail Stevens holds a B.A. in Art History from Agnes Scott College and an M.A. in Art History from Savannah College of Art and Design. She currently works at the Jewish Educational Alliance and Savannah Jewish Federation. She lives in Savannah, GA with her husband, toddler, two dogs and two goldfish.

"Borrowing from the title of a long-running TV show, this is an installation examining the phases that many of us have gone through in this one year alone. From parenting in a pandemic to witnessing a time in history torn apart by political debate and protests, to the literal movement from one phase of societal re-opening to another, we progress through the timeline of the past year collectively, yet in a private manner. Here is my rather personal time capsule of thoughts and daily routines during the quarantine period of about three months. In that time, I was working from home remotely with a two year-old. I was not aware of the many new roles I was about to take on in addition to being a mother and wife. At a time that was utterly chaotic in nature and unprecedented, I found myself not only pivoting professionally but also personally.

"The confinement of my Victorian-era house in downtown Savannah had me seeking out new ways to creatively stage my home - as if trying to stretch into every extra inch of space for me, my spouse, our toddler, two dogs, and two goldfish. In the shelter of our home, I found myself surrounded by vintage décor and thinking about the last pandemic and how very similar yet different our experience was to those who lived here in 1918 - in this very house and through the decades thereafter as survivors. I also wanted to incorporate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. Through the use of everyday items, I seek to merge the past and present, to explore the complexity of being a parent and an active global citizen in a not yet post pandemic world - an act that almost seems rebellious in a way."



Artwork available for viewing October 1-30, 2020

Vanessa Withun - November 2020

Vanessa Withun is a contemporary representational artist of Puerto Rican and Dominican heritage originally from Bronx, New York. Coming from an artistic family, she was always drawn to the arts. After serving in the military and moving to the Southeast, she developed an interest in landscapes and nature. She was inspired by the wetlands and marshes that surrounded the coastal area and decided to pursue a degree in environmental science. Although her work is representational, she heavily relies on an intuitive process which gives her paintings a sentimental and romantic quality. Her style is a combination of Expressionism and Realism and she believes that both forms of art are necessary in order to achieve an aesthetic balance. She enjoys painting from life and using color and heavy textures to show the intricacies of form and the behavior of light. Although she focuses on coastal landscapes, she enjoys painting portraits and still life as well. Her work has been exhibited across the United States.



Artwork available for viewing November 1-30, 2020

Join us for the Art Gallery Reception November 29, 2-4pm



Savannah Jewish Federation

campaign kickoff 2021

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5 | 7:00 PM | ONLINE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SIMONE KNEGO
CAMPAIGN CHAIR: MICHELLE ALLAN

REGISTER AND PLEDGE AT
SJF2021.GIVEMART.COM



HADASSAH
Savannah Chapter

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Hadassah Savannah Chapter

Hadassah Public Health Grads Share Knowledge with Developing World

In Uganda, Samuel Okot was 13 when rebel soldiers from the feared Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) kidnapped him. The LRA took 30,000 child soldiers who were brutalized and forced to become murderers. A week into the ordeal, Okot escaped.

In the Dominican Republic, Rosa Capellan was orphaned at 3 and placed in a church orphanage.

Never could they have imagined that when they grew up, they would study in the prestigious International Master of Public Health (IMPH) program at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

Dr. Capellan, whose church paid for her medical education, and environmental health officer Okot are among this year's 21 IMPH students from 18 countries, most of them low-income, emerging economies.

Okot says, "The diversity in both the [Hadassah] hospital and our program is so important. The hospital is multi-cultural, with Ethiopians, Russians and others. In our program, with so many participants from different countries, we learn a lot from each other."

The IMPH program offers academics coupled with real-life medical training. "What I hear emphasized in this program is the importance of community awareness, community mobilization and community participation," says Dr. Capellan.

IMPH students learn administration, economics, health systems and evaluation. They become acquainted with Hadassah research, a specialty of Hebrew University and Hadassah Medical Organization.

Graduates of the program go on to high positions in the World Health Organization and become health ministers in their countries. They also learn about and become positive ambassadors for Israel.




It's Easier Than Ever to Find Your Family's Stories

The Breman Museum, home to the Ida Pearle & Joseph Cuba Archives for Southern Jewish History and the Savannah Jewish Archives is proud to join the likes of Yale University and other great institutions with the launch of its new, easy-to-use online catalog, ArchivesSpace! This powerful database makes it more searchable than ever before.

Research free at archivesspace.thebreman.org



Savannah Jewish Federation

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

1440 Spring Street
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A Second Helping: An Etrog update

by Carol M. Towbin
Greenberg

Years ago, after many years of dormancy, the Etrog seeds from Israel I had received from a friend who used to live in Savannah started to grow and bear fruit—not just any fruit, but one perfect Etrog on the top of a two-story tall tree which was almost as long at 11 inches, as it was round.



The Etrog that grew again in Savannah

I wrote an article for my regular SJN column Higher Ground called An Etrog Grows in Savannah (October 2012 page 5), where I recounted Rabbi's providing blessings and members of our community coming to see, smell and experience the Etrog before, during and after Sukkot.

Much like our community, our tree changed.

One year we had three lemon-sized citrons dangling around holiday time, but many years it rarely even flowered and stood mostly forgotten among the other greenery, until a hurricane finally toppled it. We replanted the root with little hope it could survive the stress of change and my handling. In a striking coincidence, when we gifted cuttings to others, our

tree began to grow again.

It has been a difficult year of changes all over the world and many people are alone or feeling isolated. We don't see each other as much, and we are approaching the holidays marking many personal losses and challenges. But in this season of joy, with a little apprehension that we will not be able to share our Sukkah this year—as we have for almost 35 years, we are so encouraged to find the people in our community trying harder to think of the welfare and safety of others and quietly and creatively, helping each other.

Just before the JEA's Gala for community support, we noticed another miracle; Somehow during the pandemic, quietly and without us noticing, there grew just one almost-perfect Etrog that is measuring 11 by 7 inches and growing!

So, like before, we are very hopeful, as this story begins and ends with the gift of our Savannah Jewish community. May we all be healthy and safe in this upcoming year and may our efforts for each other and our community bear wonderful fruit, and above all, joy.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal
Rambam Day
School

Eye on education

RDS Reflecting

School is different. All the children are happy. Teachers are teaching; however, the new norm reminds us the world as we know it, is not the same. We look into the eyes of our students, and we've learned that even though we can't see their faces, we can tell when they are smiling, when

they are sad and yes even when they are not too happy with us.

While we are thrilled with the way things are going in our new norm, the Rambam family is hopeful that the Almighty will find us all worthy to have the New Year shower us with good health, happiness and a deeper appreciation for all the things we took for granted prior to Corona-19.

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Thank You

Friends can make a difference!

CHAG SAMEACH!

**The JEA will be closed
on the following days:**

Monday, September 28
in observance of Yom Kippur

Sunday, October 4
in observance of Sukkot

Sunday, October 11
in observance of Simchat Torah

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2020
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7PM (EST)

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Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director
Early Childhood
Education

Eye on education

Resilience - The Ability to Overcome Hardships

the resiliency of young children. But what exactly is resilience?

According to The Center for the Developing Child at Harvard University, resilience is the ability to overcome serious hardship. I would constitute a pandemic as a serious hardship for ALL individuals, young and old.

Resiliency allows people to keep in balance and is mainly about the interaction between the person and the environment.

A successful community depends on its individuals to be emotionally healthy and to be able to cope with adversity. This is why resilience is so important in the growth and development of children. They are our future. They will be the members of our communities in the years to come.

There are many reasons for adversity in our world, particularly for children. Some children face more adversity than others- having a parent with mental illness, being exposed to violence, and living in a disadvantaged economic situation.

According to the article Resilience, "the single most common factor for children who develop resilience is at least one stable and committed relationship with a supportive parent, caregiver, or other adult. The combination of supportive relationships, adaptive skill-building, and positive experiences is the foundation of resilience".

As the children come to preschool and hop out of their cars, walking happily down the hallway

to begin their day, it makes me think that these children have positive relationships with the important adults in their lives, including the teachers at JEA Preschool Savannah. It also makes me think that the children are having positive experiences at home and at school- all signs that they are experiencing positive interactions which promote resiliency.

Resiliency is built over time and can be strengthened at any age. It is never too late to build resiliency. Therefore, adults can build their resilience through regular exercise, stress-reduction practices, and programs that build executive function and self regulation skills. When adults are strong then they can model healthy behaviors for their children.

The main emphasis this year at JEA Preschool Savannah is to focus on the social and emotional development of the children because of the experiences of the past months during the pandemic. Resiliency is certainly one of those skills that we will continue to instill in the children through positive interactions and experiences.

After, all the goal for all of us when modeling for our children is to mold healthy and productive citizens for our communities.

In normal times, I would invite you to participate in our program to read to the children to help build those positive experiences. However, that invitation will have to wait for a later date!

Wishing you all an abundance of resilience during these difficult days!

CELEBRATING A

Simcha?

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs
Engagements
Weddings
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We Want To Know!

Share your good news
with the
Savannah Jewish News!
Send the vital statistics to
sjnews@savj.org

Donate to the Holocaust Education Funds

Dena Yaschik & Lawrence S. Bodziner Foundation - Income shall be used to perpetuate the memory of the Holocaust and Jewish survival through education.

Matthew J. Cranman Holocaust Teacher Education Fund - Income will be used to send one Savannah area public school teacher, annually, on the Holocaust & Resistance Teacher Education Program to Poland and Israel.

To make a donation online visit savj.org/foundation.

On The Personal Side

Mazel Tov to **Jennifer Rich** who was conferred with a Masters Degree in Nonprofit Management and a Certificate in Jewish Communal Studies from Gratz College, Melrose Park, Pennsylvania. Jennifer, who graduated in 1995 with a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology (Sports Medicine) from University of Colorado, Boulder, had her first career as a Personal Trainer in Denver. She decided to enroll in the Gratz College Masters in Nonprofit Management program after finding her passion



and second career working in Jewish Nonprofits, first at the JEA and SJF and now at Mickve Israel. The Master's in Nonprofit Management and Jewish Communal Studies Certificate have given her the foundational knowledge needed to effectively and professionally lead and manage nonprofits. Jennifer is greatly appreciative of the support that the Savannah Jewish Federation gave her while pursuing her degree.

Mah Jongg and More



Robin Rackoff Like most of us, my husband and I have a lot of time on our hands. We've cleaned out the garage, twice, we've shredded checks from the 1970s, and we've Zoomed with every person we have ever known in our lives. Now we are practicing games, in the off-chance that this pandemic will someday be over and we will be able to get together, with friends, in person. Right now, we're working on euchre, the card game that only people from the Midwest (or their friends) are allowed to play. Don't know anyone from the Midwest? Forget about it. Next, we'll be reviewing canasta. Fortunately, there are no geographical restrictions on that game. Our couples' gin game used to be great fun – we'd eat, and then we'd play. What could be bad? Couples pinochle? Sure! Scrabble? No problem! So why won't he consider playing mah jongg?

We know several couples who, before the quarantine, played mah jongg together. In China, there are as many men playing mah jongg as women. While my husband says he's just not interested, I have another theory. I think that even though he won't admit it, he thinks of it as a game only for women. When we were growing up, the women would play mah jongg, the men would play poker, and never the twain would meet. In those days, gender roles, in general, were very clearly defined.

Fathers worked, and mothers stayed home. Period. There was no discussion about whose turn it was to do the housework or take care of the kids. My mother did all the cooking (woman's work), except for barbecuing (man's work.) Driving? That was for the guys. My mother recently asked, "What's the matter with Fred that his wife does the driving?" When I said that she likes to drive and he doesn't, my mother responded, "That's crazy!"

Many parents today are determined to treat their children the same, whatever their sex. I was beside myself when my son said that he was "very disappointed in me" because I suggested to my 5-year-old grandson that the pink necklace he wanted to buy was for girls. I was guilty of "perpetuating gender stereotypes," obviously an infraction of the highest degree. I won't make that mistake again!

Maybe my husband will reconsider someday, but if he doesn't, I can always play maj with my girlfriends. I understand that some traditions are hard to break, and I'm ok with that. I will continue to do all the cooking (except barbecuing, of course), and he will remain CEO of Garbage Maintenance and Large Bug Removal. And I won't care if he's wearing a pink necklace while he does it!

Until next time, be smart, be safe, and maj on!

Getting to know other Jewish communities

When you are a child living through the summer of a pandemic, your life is filled with canceled plans and lost opportunities. Many of the children who were looking forward to sleep away camps and meeting friends from other places instead spent their summers stuck at home and unable to make those new connections.

That's when PJ Library came to the rescue! We wanted to be able to provide a way for our PJ Library subscribers to connect with other children from other Jewish communities and get to know each other. Starting in August, twelve of our Savannah kids joined a new pen pal program that includes a total of over 40 participants from 3 communities, including our own. Participants ranging in age from 6 to 12 years old have been sending

and receiving letters through the mail "the old fashioned way," as one participant claimed. They are getting to know each other, learning about other Jewish communities and connecting through a variety of Jewish themes.

One pair of participants even traded an "all about my city" package as a way to further the connection. Our PJ Pen Pal participants

are looking forward to seeing what their future letters hold and continuing to grow the bond with their new Jewish friends.

Open to all PJ Library subscribers, sign up and get matched with your own pen pal by emailing Orly Henkin at pjlibrary@savj.org



Dina Henkin sends PJOW letter to Pen Pal

PJ Library® & PJ OUR WAY™

[Learn more...](#)

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

Families with children ages 9 to 12 years old can register for PJ Our Way at PJOurWay.org. Check out the new website!

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

PJ OUR WAY™

Weekly Virtual Cooking Challenges | Book Club | Leadership Opportunities!
Interested? Email us!

Creative kids wanted -- for our PJ Our Way's 2021 Ambassador Design Team! Email for details today!



Need more information?

Email PJLibrary@savj.org



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