

Savannah

JEWISH LIFE

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Shalom Savannah

Adam Solender, Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to the Spring edition of Savannah Jewish Life, the quarterly publication of the Savannah Jewish Federation. The publication seeks to engage and inform the community about the events and opportunities available to us all.

Savannah Jewish Life is made possible thanks to your support of the Annual Jewish Community Campaign, a unique enterprise where each year, one volunteer in the community reaches out to another person for the benefit of a third. Volunteers speak to those that they know and others who they don't.

Federations and a federated campaign have their origins from its original creation in Boston, Massachusetts in 1895. It sought to 'centralize' fundraising for those in need and the needs of new immigrants to our country. With enormous needs and an ever-changing environment, Federation was the central coordinating agency for the entire Jewish community, setting priorities and putting those priorities in to action.

While many years have passed, the commitment of the Federation, the Savannah Jewish Federation, is much the same. As the central communal organization, the Federation is the mechanism through which our Jewish community is connected to other Jewish communities and the broader Jewish agenda throughout the world

When you look at the Savannah Jewish Federation, which was established eighty-one years ago, you see that what we do today is much like what we were chartered to do in 1943. Federation coordinates the Community Calendar of events, prioritizes local and global funding, provides social services to members of the community in need, advocates for Israel to our government officials, disseminates Jewish information to area residents, funds education in community synagogues, welcomes newcomers to the community, executes the Annual Campaign, and trains future leadership.

The genius of the Federated system is that it is able to pivot to address needs as they are presented. In the

40's the focus was on providing relief to distressed European Jewish communities helping save Jewish lives during the war years and supporting and absorbing Displaced Persons after the Holocaust. Thereafter, it pivoted to supporting the nascent State of Israel. Thereafter it was rescuing Jewish communities around the world who were fleeing antisemitism.

While many of the communities around the world have been provided rescue, relief, and relocation, the Savannah Jewish Federation continues to advocate for needs of world Jewry. Over the last decade, as part of the National system of Federation we have provided advocacy and fundraising for fellow Jews including Ethiopian rescue, Israel Emergency funding, Tsunami relief, Israel Terror Fund, flooding in Houston, needs in Ukraine and many, many more. If Federation didn't exist, we'd have to create it.

And while we have pivoted significantly on ever-changing Overseas needs, we have done the same here in the Savannah area. Most recently, with the significant rise in antisemitism, the community has made the significant investment in a partnership with Secure Community Network to bring a Director of Community Security to our area. There have been dozens of training classes, facility assessments, and consultations to groups in our area. We all feel more secure knowing that there are professionals who are working 'behind the scenes' to better secure our institutions and training our professionals and volunteers.

Transitioning from the paper Savannah Jewish News to a 4-color magazine, Savannah Jewish Life is another of the changes made to address the changes in our community. Our community wanted something more modern and colorful—that is exactly what we present.

As sure as the early Spring that we are now in will change to the sultry days of Summer, the Savannah Jewish Federation will continue to change and grow to meet the needs of our community and our brethren Overseas. It is our sacred responsibility.

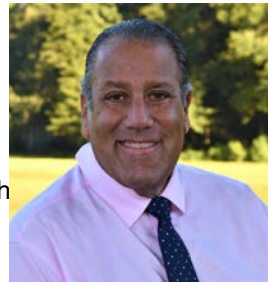


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The objectives of the Savannah Jewish Life Magazine are to foster a sense of community among the Jewish people of Savannah by sharing ideas, information, experiences and opinions, and to promote the agencies, projects and mission of the Savannah Jewish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

Savannah Jewish Life is published quarterly four times a year, with a deadline as follows:

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Fall Issue- September, October & November- Deadline August 1

Winter Issue- December, January & February- Deadline November 1

Please send all Savannah Jewish Life materials to: savannahjewishlife@savj.org

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

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Letters to the Editor

Savannah Jewish Life is a community publication. Letters should be civil and considerate in tone and not contain personal attacks, random attacks on businesses, or defamation. All statements of facts must 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 savannahjewishlife@savj.org. Savannah Jewish Life 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.

To The Editor

A Poem By Jennifer Leigh Ozer

And Then...

First it was an Exodus.
A commandment. The hope. The dream of safety in a
promised land.
And then it was the wandering. Through scorching
deserts. In pursuit of a freedom that would never come.
And then it was being conquered. Over and over again.
And then it was expulsions.
Diasporas.
Scattered throughout various lands and climates but still
clinging onto the notion of a return. Maybe. One day.
And then it was the pogroms.
And more fleeing.
To foreign uncertain lands.
Banded together by tradition. Studies. Culture. By the
constant shunning for adhering to a different set of beliefs
and customs.
And then there was an election of the worst kind.
And a monster stepped up by force and took hold on a
people. A land. The world.
And then the laws. The regulations. The restrictions. The
forced yellow star.
Jude.
And then the fear. And denial.
And then there were the lists. And the fear quickly turned
reality.
And visas if you were one of the lucky ones.
Like my grandparents.
And then there was the harsh unrelenting stomping of
boots, of doors kicked in, of rallied cries praising a Reich
that vowed to annihilate the "vermin" that was our people.
And then there were attics. And forced silence. And
turned heads. And screams in the middle of the night as
families were torn apart and made to leave everything
behind and gathered into shtetls. Ghettos.
Endless gunshots into the night. Synagogues and ancient
scrolls burned.
And then there were the cattle cars.
The trains.
And still we hoped.
We prayed even when Gd remained silent.
And then there were the camps. And Hope dimmed-
Ashy and dark skies threatening us all.
And then there were the showers. The gas. The ovens.
Fingernails buried deep into cement walls that refused
any mercy.

The endless piles of bones. The smoke billowing high with
souls still not forgotten.
And finally, there was the liberation,
After so much loss.
So much devastation.
And then there was the Return.
And the promise of Never Again.
And the re establishment of Israel.
And then there were the immediate wars.
And the victories.
And the never ending criticisms.
Now.
For 76 years.
Telling the indigenous people they are occupiers. And
murderers for wanting to defend their land-
A land they have been willing to share for peace sake,
since its inception.
Offers continuously denied. Rejected. Scorned.
And then there was October 7th.
And then there was October 7th.
Deep wounds ripped open.
The massacring.
And burning once again.
This time of kibbutzim and babies.
Women. Raped. Dismembered.
And then there were tunnels.
Hostages,
A world that demanded proof.
A world that ripped down posters of people held by Hamas
and quickly took to the streets chanting once again...
A rallying cry.
When do a people ever get to exhale and not worry about
its right to exist in the world?
My religion teaches about survival.
My religion urges the repairing of the world.
My people want peace.
My people want their families back.
My people want to stop being forced out of every home
we've ever known.
And then there is just this simple truth:
I can see the humanity in you but peace can not and will
not ever exist if you can not also see, recognize and
acknowledge the human that is very much alive in me.



Join for a delicious meal, meeting new & old friends, and an engaging speaker.

Thursdays at 12:30 PM Jewish Educational Alliance



All meals are served with a salad, vegetable and dessert

- 03/07 **Sandy Griffin & Kelsey Bihlman**
Encompass Health- Parkinson's Disease
- 03/14 **What's Jewish About St. Paddy's Day?**
- 03/21 **Rabbi Robert Haas**
Purim-Purim-Purim
- 03/28 **Laura Seifert**
The Mystery Of What Lies Below- Archeology in Savannah
- 04/04 **Brianna Halverson**
Front Porch Improv
- 04/11 **TEDxSavannah**
The Power of Community:
TEDxSavannah and Ideas Worth Spreading

- 04/18 **Rabbi Samuel Gelman**
History Of The Haggadah
- 04/25 **No FFT- Happy Passover!**
- 05/02 **Dr. Linda Sacks**
History of Vaccinations- A Modern Miracle
- 05/09 **Savannah Police Department**
Financial Fraud/ Elder Crimes
- 05/16 **Ardis Wood**
Global Warming
- 05/21 **Lag B' Omer Celebration**
- 05/30 **Nicole Magnani**
10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

**Reservations are required by the
Tuesday before by calling 912-355-8111**

Savannah Jewish Federation 2024 Annual Campaign



You CAN help tackle the most important Jewish issues. Today. Tomorrow. Always.

*Your donation combined with gifts from others in our community,
enables you to have the kind of impact that few can have on their own –
right in Savannah, in Israel, and around the world.*

Donate or Pledge to the 2024 Annual Campaign today! Call 912-355-8111 or go to savj.org

Making Good On A 50 Year Promise To Israel

By Lauren Mescon

My now-husband Tim and I were in college fifty years ago when the Yom Kippur war broke out. We didn't know one another then, but we both called home asking our parents if we could go to Israel and support the war effort. Unfortunately, we couldn't. However, five decades later, the minute **Jewish National Fund-USA** offered us a chance to volunteer, we signed up for the first mission.

We had already been planning to go to Israel October 16 with the organization's Arava Task Force – an initiative I've been involved with since its inception in 2010. I also participated in the dedication of the only fortified indoor playground in Sderot, which also serves as a bomb shelter (how about that for an oxymoron?) in 2008, the same playground that suffered a direct hit on October 7.

So, just over two weeks ago, Tim and I found ourselves heading out to a farming community in Israel's south located close to the border with Egypt and Gaza to help tend to their fields. The farm is on the 3% of the land that former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat refused to take in 2000 as part of the Camp David Peace Accords, thus scuttling one of the many peace deals offered because he said nothing would ever grow there. Well, after we cleared tons of weeds, there are plenty of green onions sprouting!

The next day, we had the privilege of farming in Sderot, a town on the border with Gaza. During the five short days of the volunteer mission, we packed and delivered gifts to patients and soldiers at

Seroka Hospital, spent a day on an army base packing snacks for the soldiers in Gaza, met with lone soldiers and evacuees from the border town of Shlomit talked to victims of the October 7 invasion, and prayed at the Western Wall.



Tim and Lauren volunteer on a green onion farm in Israel's south.



The experiences were life-changing and too many to share in this brief reflection, but I want to share my feelings and the feelings expressed by the Israelis because every Diaspora Jew, whether you have been to Israel or not, deserves to do what we did. And the Israelis deserve your presence, too.

Visiting the south on this volunteer mission meant I could check on the communities that I had watched Jewish National Fund-USA build, that I could hear directly from the city leaders, see the people whom I had met so many years before and hug them, just to hug them.

Osi, the incredible chef from Ofakim who is still too shell-shocked to talk about it; Yael, a new friend and mother of five who is trying to take it a day at a time; the Rabbi from Shlomit, where I pulled the sweetest carrots in the world from the ground over a decade ago, again on land that Arafat refused. To see them, to hear their faith, and to believe they were going to be okay is what this trip was about.

In the past, I would leave Israel buoyed by the joy, the love of life, the confidence, and the pride in what Israel was. This time, however, that joy had been replaced with anxiety and trepidation. Yet, what we heard over and over, from the farmers, from the widow of Uriel Bibi, a hero who had left Shlomit to report for duty but was murdered on the way, from the Mayor of Ramat Ha Negev regional council, is that on October 7, Israelis lost their trust in humanity. Now, through acts of solidarity and as volunteers by the busloads come together to save each other, they are trusting again, telling us that we are all part of their tomorrow - and we will rebuild trust.

Picking fruit and getting scratched by thorns while rockets were intercepted overhead was part of that process.

Making Good On A Promise

On my flight home, I sat beside Ericka, a young mother from Jerusalem. She spoke about her life and one story in particular that went viral in Israel.

When the army finally arrived, a 12-year-old boy from a secular community asked that they go back to his house and find the tefillin that he had from his grandfather because his Bar Mitzvah was coming up. The soldier went to the home, found it, and delivered it to the child. The soldier had hardened himself to the atrocities of the day. Yet, his tears flowed freely when he returned the tefillin to the child, recognizing that this is the soul of Judaism and that we are a people who will continue to survive.

So, as I return to my days of going down the rabbit hole of social media, sharing, commenting, and liking, I long to return to Israel like our ancestors did, to help the farmers and ultimately to rebuild those beautiful communities in the south.

Thank you, Jewish National Fund-USA, for letting me take part. Thank you to the incredible 69 other volunteers, and thank you to Israel and everyone who gave us their time and their trust on this mission.

“Am Yisrael Chai” – the People of Israel Live !

Lauren and Tim Mescon from Tybee Island, Georgia traveled to Israel with Jewish National Fund-USA. For more information, visit jnf.org/travel.



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

The Breman Museum, home to the Ida Pearle and Joseph Cuba Archives for Southern Jewish History and The Savannah Jewish Archives have joined the likes of Yale University and other great institutions with its easy-to-use online catalog ArchivesSpace! This powerful database makes it easier to find your family's stories. Try it today.

Research free at archivesspace.thebreman.org



Savannah Jewish Federation

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

The JEA's Secret Weapon: DJ Horton

Some people call him the “Pied Piper of Children:”
Some people call him the “JEA Secret Weapon,”
Some people call him DEEJ;

We call him DJ, our esteemed colleague.

Hailing from a close-knit military family, Delmos Horton, Jr. grew up on multiple posts including Georgia, North Carolina, and Japan. He says it was his family that instilled in him the values that he uses in his everyday life. His sister helped him find his love of camp. She even helped him run their own make-believe camps in their garage.

When asked *“What brings you joy in your life?”* DJ immediately responded, *“My family. Any extended down time that I have I try to visit them (South GA) as much as I can. Any time that I need a recharge or to talk out a crazy idea, I always lean on my family.”*



When DJ went to college, his goal (not all that surprising, it has always been about children) was to become a Pediatrician. Like many who pursue the sciences (he was a Biology major), Chemistry made him realize that he was on the “wrong path.” As he had a passion for fitness and working with children, he switched his major to Education with an emphasis on Physical Education. Thereafter, he focused solely on pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education.

DJ's leadership at the JEA almost didn't happen. During the Summer of 2008 he accepted a two-week position at a JEA “mini-camp” (similar to what we now call Days at the J) with the intention of returning to the YMCA. That was over 15 years ago and we have been blessed to have him on our team ever since.

In DJ's decade and a half at the JEA he has been an afterschool counselor, lifeguard, and worked the Fitness and Front Desks. Wherever he was needed, DJ stepped in and stepped up to fill the need and he rose through the ranks to eventually become the Children and Camping Director.

Anyone who has had any time with DJ knows that he is a “clothes horse.” We once quipped that DJ had to move to a new apartment just to accommodate all his creative outfits and costumes. During Camp, it is not surprising to see DJ in a different themed costume every day during the entire summer. We don't know how he comes up with all the ideas.

Under DJ's leadership the Children's and Camping programs have grown incrementally almost each and every year. To get an idea of the amount of growth in the last decade, in DJ's first year as Director, the Afterschool program was held in one single room (the current Yoga Studio). That very same program is now housed in eight rooms in an entire floor. In his first year as Director, the entire Camp (campers and staff) could go on field trips in four 15-passenger vans. Now, it takes 3-4 full size buses.

“I love watching camper's transformation while in the programs. I love watching them start in our program and evolve into young adults. I can't describe the feeling I get watching a shy camper perform as a solo act at our talent show. Or the feeling of guiding a camper who becomes a LIT, a CIT, then Camp Counselor and in some cases Team Leaders!”

(Ed note: Last year, JEA Camp Savannah had 19 counselors and team leaders who had formerly been campers).

DJ has shown the drive to grow the programs; he has shown the vision and flexibility to change. When COVID hit, when families were struggling for care, when schools closed down for in-person learning, DJ and his team created the “All Day at the J” program for childcare and school work. Hosting children from nine different schools and eight different grades, somehow, the Children’s Department figured out how to support the children through the challenges of COVID and ‘distance learning.’ They had to become equal parts Computer Help Desk, Pedagogic counselors, and tutors. They were so successful that SCCPSS administration and principals came to tour the program to see what they could learn from us!

DJ prides himself in working with children and families with all different abilities. While the JEA is not a special-needs program, DJ and his crew have figured out how to support children with unique challenges whether they be physical, mental, or emotional and over the past decade and a half, we have heard from dozens of families who told us that no other program would accept their child other than the JEA. It has changed DJ, his staff, and all the fellow campers.

If you’ve ever spent some time with DJ at the Mall, at a park, walking downtown, or literally anywhere in Savannah, it is typical to hear a child’s voice yelling, “DEEJ” followed by an excited child running and wrapping their arms around DJ’s legs. DJ often spends as much or more time with children than their parents. He has become an essential part of many Savannah families.

We asked DJ “*What inspires you in your work?*” to which he responded, “*The campers and staff. They challenge me every day to come up with unique quality programming. They teach me about being more patient and that everyone has different needs. This is a crucial lesson for me that I have to be mindful and to respect those unique needs.*”

When asking DJ about the future of his programs he spoke about his goals of bringing more unique specialty camps for the summer, transforming the outdoor space to accommodate a variety of programs and needs, and to develop solutions to future transport challenges. We have no doubt that as DJ puts his mind to the challenges, he is sure to find solutions.

DJ has been and continues to be a gift to the JEA and to hundreds of children in Savannah. Just ask anyone.



The many faces of DJ

Bring Them Home

By Dr. Dina Linfoot

As with many of you, October 7 was the beginning of a new, alternative reality for me.

I have always been proud to be Jewish, and never ever fearful. But, after October 7, the reality of what our ancestors have lived through took on a new meaning for me.

I learned about the Diaspora, the Pogroms of Europe, the Holocaust, and always thought “that could not happen here/now”. But now I understand how it happens ... slowly, hate slips in, along with silence and complacency, and the unthinkable becomes real.

When it was announced, I felt an overwhelming need to be at the November March for Israel in Washington, DC. I was never scared. I knew that being amongst thousands of Jews could be nothing other than peaceful. I cancelled office hours, found coverage for an overnight call shift from a generous partner (all things that I usually try very hard not to do) and arranged to meet up with 3 other Physician/Healthcare friends from my 2021 Momentum Healthcare Heroes trip to Israel. We were traveling from Savannah, Atlanta, Baltimore, and Boston. We had a “perfect” plan to meet up at the Mall.

I was on a 6 am flight from Savannah, dressed proudly in Israeli Blue & White, carrying a large Israeli flag in my backpack. I headed straight to the Mall after dropping my bags at my hotel. The Metro was filled with energy and spirit. When we disembarked at the exit for the Mall, the excitement began to build, and so did the crowds I checked in with the ATL Federation delegation, and then meandered to the security checkpoint. Unfortunately, once I passed through the checkpoint, cell service came to an abrupt halt. There was no way to communicate with my friends. I wandered around looking, but to no avail. Ultimately, I was adopted by a family from Atlanta. We played a successful round of Jewish Geography, and discovered many mutual friends.

The March/program was emotional and invigorating. It was VERY crowded, but it was also peaceful. After the March, from social media posting, I discovered dozens of friends and acquaintances from throughout my life, who were also present on the Mall that day. Amazingly, I ran into NOT a single one of them. The speakers were inspiring. Especially the families of the Hostages. There was a strong Bipartisan Political presence on the stage. My favorite parts were the singing. 300,000 voices singing Hatikvah, and then joining along with the brilliant Matisyahu for One Day.

As the crowds started to disperse, cell service returned, and my friends and I were able to meet up for about an hour before we had to start heading back to our respective cities/accommodations. Overall it was a very positive experience. It felt very “American” to exercise my right to congregate and stand up for what I believe in. This freedom is the essence of being both an American and a Jew. Since the March, I have continued to speak out for Israel in whatever ways I can. I am active on Social media, and I try to educate whoever wants to listen. Am Yisrael Chai!

Dr. Dina Linfoot was part of a group of individuals that traveled to Washington, DC for the March For Israel with a subsidy from the Savannah Jewish Federation.



Ensuring Community Safety in the Midst of Conflict is a Team Sport

Brett Butler, Security Director



Ensuring community safety in the midst of conflict is crucial. Vigilance, communication, and emergency preparedness training become paramount during such times. Community members should stay informed about local developments through reliable news sources, daily updates by the Secure Community Network <https://www.securecommunitynetwork.org/signup-requests> and adhere to any guidance provided by authorities.

Open lines of communication within the community are essential. Establishing neighborhood watch groups and partnering with local law enforcement can enhance awareness and foster a sense of solidarity. Attending personal safety training such as: Be Aware – An Introduction to Situational Awareness, Countering Active Threats (CATT), and Stop the Bleed, empower community residents to take inventory on their preparedness in the event of a natural or man-made disaster/incident. The key to a safe and resilient community is to take note of suspicious activity or persons and to report this promptly to law enforcement. See Something, Say Something DO SOMETHING!

Community leaders, local and state law enforcement and security experts play a crucial role in maintaining stability in the community. But this stability is weakened when there is apathy in the community when trainings and seminars are offered and there is little or no participation. Knowledge is power! The trainings offered at the JEA are hosted with the collaboration of the Secure Community Network's (SCN) Security Director Brett Butler and the Savannah Jewish Federation. The training opportunities allow community members to get up to date information on how to make themselves and their communities safer, more resilient and gives them a forum to address personal concerns and provides updates on security issues affecting Savannah.

During conflicts such as the current one in Israel, it's important to discourage discrimination and as Philip Gourevitc stated, "Denouncing evil is a far cry from doing good". Unity among diverse community members fosters resilience and collective strength. Leaders should actively work to prevent the spread of misinformation and rumors that can contribute to fear and hostility. Stereotyping, jokes, insensitive remarks all lead to bias's and ultimately, if unchecked, acts of violence towards a particular group.

The Savannah and Chatham Police departments and the local Savannah FBI Field Office have prioritized community safety and are employing strategies that balance security and respect for human rights. Ensuring fair treatment of all residents fosters trust in the authorities and promotes a cooperative relationship between the community and law enforcement.

In conclusion, community safety during times of conflict requires a comprehensive, team sport approach involving communication, preparedness, inclusivity, and collaboration between residents and authorities. By implementing these measures, communities can better navigate challenging circumstances and work towards a safer and more secure environment.



SPLASHING INTO SPRING:



MEET THE JEA AQUATICS TEAM



Kate Perry,
Aquatics Director

About five years ago, I started out at the JEA as both a Swim Instructor & Lifeguard, and since then I've played every role there is in Aquatics. The growth I've seen our Aquatics Department go through over the years has been astounding. We've seen record numbers for swim lessons, water aerobics, and major facility upgrades just within the past year. As the Aquatics Director, I've also been given the title of "everything pools", but the most rewarding part of my job extends outside of our pool areas. I take the most pride in teaching others lifesaving skills, from training lifeguards to CPR skills for members of our community.



Yisanny Contreras,
Swim Lesson Coordinator

I am the new Swim Lesson Coordinator at the Jewish Educational Alliance with over 14 years of experience in Swimming. As a certified swim instructor, I've successfully managed swim lesson programs, focusing on skill progression, water safety, and personalized learning. I believe that swimming is not just a skill but a life-saving necessity & a source of joy. My teaching philosophy revolves around creating a positive and inclusive atmosphere, where swimmers feel empowered to overcome challenges and develop a love for aquatic activities as well as fostering a lifelong love for swimming.

Living in a community that's near the coast, we hope you check out our swim programs, heated indoor pool, and everything else we have to offer. Join us in the world of Aquatics today.



Full Circle Moment

Callie Smith, Health & Wellness Director



As the new Health & Wellness Director, I want to give a huge thank you to all of the members of the JEA for their warm welcome as I have stepped into this new role!

A little about my background: I am a born & raised Savannah native. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Health & Wellness Management, and a minor in Coaching; I hold a Master's Degree in Exercise & Wellness with a concentration in Wellness & Nutrition. Becoming the Health & Wellness Director has become a full circle moment for me as the JEA was my first soccer team when I was about 4 years old. I was previously the Recreation & Wellness Coordinator for the JEA, where I was heavily involved with developing youth sports programs and recreation programs.

Our Health & Wellness team is excited as we look toward a time of growth for our department! We are steadily adding a variety of new classes to our fitness schedule; breaking enrollment records for our swim lesson programs; enhancing our personal training offerings; installing new studio spaces; gaining an increasing presence in recreation and youth sports; planning for summer programs on our renovated outdoor pickleball court; providing Private Specialty Training sessions for Yoga Therapy, Ballroom Dancing, and Martial Arts; and bringing a cohesive mindset to what healthy living looks like for each person.

We believe in providing a Health & Wellness experience for our members and the community that looks at the overall picture of healthy living. Our vision is to see our members and the community grow stronger in the gym and through fitness classes, to find tranquility of the mind during yoga practices, to connect socially with friends and loved ones, and to bloom in a community that abounds in opportunity. Come join us at the J!



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WHETHER YOU ARE LOOKING TO DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS OR IMPROVE AREAS OF HEALTH & FITNESS, OUR SPECIALTY TRAINING SESSIONS COULD BE RIGHT FOR YOU!

On The Personal Side

Mazel Tov To

To David Solender on his marriage to Megan Clark in October. David is the son of Sarah Denmark and Adam Solender.

To Elizabeth & Dean Danosh on the the birth of their daughter, Alma Be'eri, on November 8, 2023

To Jodi & Kenneth Sadler on becoming grandparents to Ezri Liam Cragin-Sadler, born December 21, 2023. Proud parents are Beth Sadler and Caroline Cragin.

To Amy Kole and Ian Dembling who were married January 14, 2024 on Jekyll Island, Amy is the daughter of LeeAnn and Jeffrey Kole, granddaughter of Don & Kaye olm Kole and Ina & Art Altman

To Brian Krapf on the publication of his book, "A Churchill Treasury: Sir Winston's Public Service through Memorabilia." (available on Amazon)

To Michelle Allan and Sarah Docar on their acceptance to the TZEDEK Program through JCCA and Repair The World.

TELL US YOUR

good news

CELEBRATING A SIGNIFICANT
EVENT, SIMCHA, BIRTHDAY OR
ANNIVERSARY?

SUBMIT TO
SAVANNAHJEWISHLIFE@SAVJ.ORG

Community Corner

We welcome your photos and stories at SJL. Let us know what you're doing out in the greater community!

Email us at SavannahJewishLife@savj.org



Members of the Jewish community gather and march together in the MLK Day Parade in Downtown Savannah carrying a banner reading "JUSTICE, JUSTICE, YOU SHALL PURSUE."

Emi Mackowiak goes to the SCCPSS Science and Engineering Fair and takes home 1st Place in her category for the district and 1st place overall for Elementary.



Derrick Fins goes to the SCCPSS Science and Engineering Fair and takes home 2nd Place in the Physics category for all K-12 entries and 2nd place overall for Elementary.



Leo Center proudly wraps himself in Israel's flag while at a swim meet.



Rabbi Samuel Gelman and Charlie Karpf perform in "Fiddler On The Roof" at the Historic Savannah Theatre



WELCOME TO THE



Kim Blomsness
Julia Bremer
Natalie Burnett
Susan Byers
Timothy Cameron
Jonathan Clements
James & Casey Crump
Jonathan & Kari Beth Cushman
Westley Daniel
Jerome & LaToya Duncan
Angela Forand
Laurie Garner
Tinsley Godfrey Cargile

Brian Gonet & Julie Sappington
Steven Hardy
Genevieve Hawkins
Kevin & Melissa Hayes
Grant & Mary Hepburn
Rob Hessler & Gretchen Hilmers
Adam & Carla Holloway
James & Julie Jessmore
Karen Karp
Shem & Ashley Kendrick
Patricia Killewald
David & Barbara Levitt
Benjamin & Carolyn Michaeli

Owen & Morgan Morris
Bradley Newton & Danielle Mankin
Joseph Parker, Jr.
Jonah Pine
Bailey Powers
Chris & Alexx Robbins
Thomas & Jennifer Robinson
Eric Santifer
Linda Sharples
Katrin Usifo & Natalia Kouznetsova
Micah West
Rebecca West
Alicia Wright

JEA Preschool Art Bash Family Sunday Funday!

**Sunday, March 10th
3-5pm
JEA Field**

**Children's art work on display
in the Montag Gallery
Bouncy house - Family Painting activity - Snacks**

JEA Camp Savannah R.O.C.K.S!

June 3-7: White and Blue with an Israel View

June 10-14: Claws, Paws & Jaws

June 17-21: Ready, Set, Survive

June 24-28: Maccabiah Games/Color Wars

July 1-5: Cowabunga Dude

July 8-12: Wet, Wild and Yucky

July 15-19: Color Outside the Lines

July 22-26: Camp Rocks



Add-Ons

Pickle Ball Junior (3rd-5th)

June 17-21

Artrageous Adventures (3rd-5th)

July 8-12

Sport FUNdamentals (K-2nd)

July 8-12

Artrageous Adventures Jr. (K-2nd)

July 15-19

Day Trekkers (4th-8th)

July 15-19

www.savannahjea.org

J PICKLEBALL JR



CAMP ADD-ON

JUNE 17TH- 21ST

3RD- 5TH GRADE



Sports

FUNdamentals Camp Add-on

- Gaga ball
- Kickball
- Lacrosse
- and more



July 8th- 12th
K-2nd

Artrageous Adventures Add-on

- Print Making
- 2D Design
- Sculpting
- Decoupage
- Pottery

5 days - 5 projects

Kindergarten-2nd Graders: July 15-19
3rd-5th graders: July 8-12



DAY TREKKERS

Daily adventures for
rising 4th-8th grade

July 15 - 19

The Zone
TopGolf
Dave and Busters
Summer Waves
Dolphin Tour



Obituaries

through 01/31/24

Harriet D. Levine

Who died Thursday, November 2, 2023

She is survived by daughter Debra Levine Levison; sons, Richard (Brenda Levine) and Michael (Laura) Levine, and grandmother of Ian (Ilona Laritsky) Levison, Benjamin (Leslie) Levison, Andrea, Matthew Emma, and Harrison Levine; loving great grandmother of Ava, Elle, and Adam.

Remembrances: The charity of your choice.

Frederick Barry Hoffman

Who died Friday, November 24, 2023.

He is survived by his mother, Thelma Hoffman, sister, Barbara (Paul Shapiro) Hoffman, nieces Emily Shapiro and Sarah Shapiro, and five first cousins.

Remembrances: National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship or Hospice Savannah.

Elsie Caroline Hecht Rubin

Who died Monday, November 26, 2023.

She is survived by husband, Rabbi Saul Rubin, son, Lance Hays Rubin, niece Carolyn Parsons, and many loving family and friends.

Remembrances: Temple Beth Tefilloh 1326 Egmont St. Brunswick, Ga. 31520 or Mickve Israel History Fund, 20

East Gordon St. Savannah, GA 31401.

Louis Rabinowitz

Who died Friday, December 1, 2023.

Gail Rosen Rosenzweig

Who died Monday, December 4, 2023.

She is survived her sister Harriet S. Rosen and by her four children Lynn, Susan and Harvey Rosenzweig and Sydney R. Sher; a devoted niece, Laurie Rubnitz; her grandchildren and great-grand children, Yossi and Simcha Sher and their son Lev; Miriam and Binyomin Freeman and their children, Gittel Leah, Nechama Leiba, Moshe Aryeh Leib, Baruch Dov, Chana Perel, and Yisroel Meir Freeman; Shoshana and Yitzchok Dorfman and their sons Shmuel and Moshe Eliyahu; Yaakov and Miriam Sher and their daughter Shirel Or; Dovid and Ayelet Sher and their son Naveh; Daniyel and Brachi Sher and their son Nosson Tzvi; Shlomo and Tehilla Sher; Mordy, Yehoshua and Simcha Sher.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob or Rambam Day School.

Charles Franz VandenBulck

Who died Sunday, December 17, 2023.

He is survived by his wife, Jan Solomon VandenBulck, daughter Elaine (Steven) Morgan, son, Steven (Pam) VandenBulck; stepchildren, Lisa Friedman York, Marc (Royceann) Friedman, and Alex Friedman; grandchildren, Jeffrey Morgan, William (Lauren) Morgan, Edmund (Angelica) Morgan, James (Katherine) Morgan, Mark (Alisa) Morgan, Claire Morgan, and David Morgan; step grandchildren Harris Friedman, Jacob Friedman, Felix Friedman, Anna Friedman, Maya York, and Ashley (John) Marin; one great grandchild, two step grandchildren, and numerous cousins.

Remembrances: Congregation Mickve Israel, Hospice Savannah, or a charity of your choice.

Robert B. Epstein

Who died Wednesday, December 27, 2023.

He is survived by his brother, Laurence Epstein; his sister, Dawn (Larry) Wexler; his step-mother, Sandra Epstein; his step-sister, Lisa (Morgan) Dillard; his step-brother, Adam; his niece, Arielle Berlinsky; and his nephew, Aiden Berlinsky.

Remembrances: The Georgia Transplant Foundation

Mike Strear

Who died Thursday, January 11, 2024.

He is survived by his daughters Jennifer (Jason) Rich and Julie (Glen) Green, and son Jay (Beth) Strear; sisters Nancy Strear and Barbara (Marty) Dubin; granddaughters Sophie, Ellie, Molly, Zoe, Aliza, Bella and grandson Sammy; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Remembrances: SJF Tikvah Fund for Jewish Family Services or the Savannah synagogue of your choice.

Joan Pam

Who died Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

Lucy Gottlieb

Who died Monday, January 28, 2024.

Stephen Mark Schwartz

Who died Monday, January 28, 2024.

He is survived by Earth (Amy) and their wife Jessie; son, Matthew; and sister, Terry.

Remembrances: Edel Caregivers Institute, 5000 Business Center Dr, Savannah, GA 31405.

Rita H. Asher

Who died Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

She is survived by her husband, Alan Asher, son Zachary Asher, daughter, Shannon (Scott) Javetz; grandchildren Reese and Matthew Javetz, Sadie and Giavine Asher,; and brother Richard (Vickie) Halperin.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks Our Contributors

Donations made 11/01/2023-01/31/2024

ISRAEL CRISIS FUND

Anonymous(29)

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In memory of Buddy Portman

Lynda & Charles Furchgott

Allen Shensky

In honor of Linda & Steve Sacks

Josh Sacks

*In honor of the Jewish Women
of the Landings*

The Cartledge Foundation

In honor of Allison & Mark Konter

In honor of Jennifer & Matt Sand

Sharon & Bill Sand

In memory of Buddy Portman

In memory of Gail Rosenzweig

In memory of Philip Schwartz

Sally Krissman

In memory of Elaine Dreizin

In memory of John Golkrand

In honor of Joy

In honor of Toby Hollenberg

In honor of Jane Kahn

Arlene & Allan Ratner

In memory of Elaine Dreizin

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In memory of Mike Strear

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Susan Timna

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The Jewish Educational Alliance Gratefully Thanks Those Who Made Donations

JEA BUILDING FUND

A donation was made by:

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A donation was made by:

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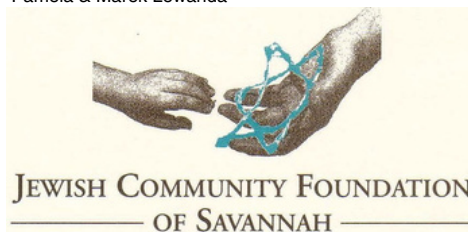
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In memory of Miriam K. Center
John Patterson
In memory of Gail Rosenzweig
In memory of Donald Shapiro
Harry Center
In memory of Rita Asher
Marsha & Chuck Bernstein
Brenda Salter



Donating to a Savannah Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah fund is a wonderful way to honor a special simcha or life cycle event, honor the memory of a friend or loved one, or recognize someone in the community.

Visit www.savj.org to see a complete list of funds and to make a donation.

Our Camp Stories

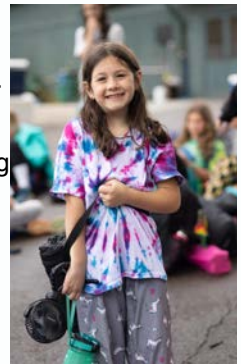
Kenzie Langdon



This summer I got to go to Camp Barney Medintz thanks to a scholarship from the Savannah Jewish Federation. Some of my favorite activities were kayaking, the rocket, and the trampoline on water. I also tried the blob this year, but to be honest it's not my favorite. Just like last year, we did Color War. Our team won this year, which was exciting. My favorite meal this year was hash browns. I got to ride the horses a bunch. I even got to try mounted archery, and that was fun. Our play which was Annie this year was really good. Every Friday, we did services that included singing, clapping, and fun. On one of those Fridays, I got to lead services with my friends. I had so much fun at camp this year.

Alessa Langdon

This was my first trip to Camp Barney Medintz and I was able to go for 2 weeks. There was a lot of water fun. I loved the Blob and the Rave (trampoline on water) and the Iceberg too. I also made new friends. In art, we made shrinky dinks. Our entire unit went to the pool together. One night, there was a big storm and the power went out. We got lots of flashlight time that night. I loved camp so much.



Kenzie and Aleesa are the daughters of Jody and Paul Langdon. They both attended camp with the assistance of a Jewish Youth Summer Experience grant from the Savannah Jewish Federation made possible by your generosity during the annual Community Campaign. For more information on Jewish camping, see the website of the Foundation for Jewish Camp, www.jewishcamp.org.



**A JOB FOR THE SUMMER...
SKILLS FOR A LIFETIME!**



**GET PAID TO PLAY AT
JEA CAMP SAVANNAH**



POSITIONS AVAILABLE :

Junior Camp Counselors
Camp Counselors
Specialty Counselors



2
3
4

Community

CALENDAR

Stay up to date on
all events in the
Savannah Jewish
community

WWW.SAVJ.ORG

23
24
20

JEA Preschool Savannah

Jodi Sadler, Director

Spring is a time of reflection and renewal as we look forward to celebrating Pesach/Passover and the blooming of flowers and vegetables in our gardens.



As I reflect upon the growth and opportunities at JEA Preschool Savannah, I am proud of the accomplishments and expansion that has occurred over the past 11 years. Most importantly, the program has gained an outstanding reputation in the Jewish and Savannah communities. When giving tours to prospective families, the first question asked is “How did you hear about us?” The answer is usually “I have friends/family who have a child attending now and love it here” or through social media and the “mom” groups.

With this stellar reputation comes growth and expansion to meet the community’s needs for quality child care. In August of 2013, the preschool opened with 3 classrooms, 25 children and 5 teachers, and 1 and ½ administrators. Throughout the next few years, classrooms, teachers and staff were added to the program’s structure. In August of 2023, an eighth classroom was added for the two-year-old program and in January of 2024, a ninth classroom for one-year old children was opened. To complete the expansion plan, a third three-year-old classroom will open in August of 2024. Also, an enrichment room was created as a designated space for the additional programs being offered to children.

The success of the program is due to the support of the JEA Board of Directors, the preschool leadership, but mostly to the amazing teachers who give of themselves on a daily basis to the children and families. While the teachers receive many personal rewards when working with the children, the physical and emotional demands are plentiful. So, when you see a preschool educator, or any educator for that matter, thank them. Show your gratitude to one of the most important people in children’s lives.

As always, community members are welcome to visit our program to see first-hand the successes of JEA Preschool Savannah.



Rambam Day School

Ester Rabhan, Principal

Someone sent me a video to watch of an individual giving an address concerning the horrible occurrence that took place in Israel on October 7th. I don't know who the speaker was, nor did they, however, he quoted Elie Wiesel and tied the quote to the horrors of October 7th. It was an amazing address.

The teacher in me found Elie Wiesel's words so applicable to Jewish education. Elie Wiesel was quoted as saying the opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference.

I've been involved in Jewish education for over 40 years, and I am still baffled as to why any Jewish parent would not want their child to receive a Jewish education. I am astonished that any Jewish parent would not feel it was their responsibility to give their child the privilege of a Jewish education.

One doesn't choose to be born into our heritage, but when one is, to not bask in its glory is sad.

A board member recently reminded me of something I said at an open house, many years ago. I shared with parents that their children will come home and talk about what they learned in their Judaic classes, and they may even want to "do" some of the mitzvos (commandments) they learned about. I expressed to the parents, when this happens, be as proud as you would if your son/daughter the doctor shared his/her knowledge with you and wanted you to make some changes based on their medical knowledge. There is nothing threatening about children wanting to inculcate within their homes things they have learned at school. In fact, it is something to embrace. Think of all the things our children could come home with that they pick up from outside of school and thank your lucky stars if all they want to do is a mitzva. Lots of situations have challenges and if one of the challenges of a student attending Rambam is they will learn about things they don't do in their home, well, that should be the worst thing their child comes home talking about.

Rambam Day School has families who are not observant, and those parents are the most excited about all the things Jewish their child brings home. We don't take our secular studies lightly. We are proud that our students transition smoothly

into the schools of their choice.



Over twenty years ago when my assistant principal, Mrs. Wright and I became administrators, we spent time with Savannah Country Day (at that time when tuition was more affordable, lots of our students attended Country Day), and spoke with them about our students and inquired if there were any areas in which our students struggled with the transition from us to them. Math was the only area of concern. Immediately we responded to this constructive criticism. Since then, we have tracked our math program. We have in middle school regular math and honors math. This allows us to meet the math needs of our students. In 8th grade, our honors math students receive credit for Algebra in every school they may attend.

Currently, we have a reading specialist working at the school with our elementary teachers. Dr. Cupp assessed our reading program and was very impressed with our materials and what our students are learning. Dr. Cupp is teaching our staff ways to assist students who may be struggling with reading.

So why would any Jewish parent not want their child in a Jewish school??!! Well, I understand parents want a variety of extra-curricular classes offered. I raised seven children, so I really do understand how exciting it is to have all kinds of other specialties to offer students. However, learning about one's heritage is a privilege. A privilege that has earned our students a reputation of being strong critical thinkers, which serves them well in high school and in life. And often with privileges comes sacrifice. The sacrifice of not having lots of other specialties during your elementary and middle school years isn't a terrible sacrifice. And our students go on to high school, do well, go to college and then on to successful careers and become wonderful young people just like those who had multiple extra-curricular classes.

A board member recently reminded me of something I said at an open house, many years ago. I shared with parents that their children will come home, and they will talk about what they learned in their Judaic classes, and they may even want to "do" some of the mitzvos (commandments) they have learned about.

Rambam Day School continued

I expressed to the parents, when this happens, be as proud as you would if your son/daughter the doctor shared his/her knowledge with you and wanted you to make some changes based on their medical knowledge. There is nothing threatening about children wanting to inculcate within their homes things they have learned at school. In fact, it is something to embrace. Think of all the things our children could come home with that they pick up from outside of school and thank your lucky stars if all they want to do is a mitzva.

I recently received an amazing letter from a grandparent. *Dear Mrs. Rabhan, my grandson is a student at Rambam. I am sending this donation to your school in appreciation for the education you are providing him as well as the other students. My family and I intend to continue to support Rambam Day School through your Partners in Education Campaign. Please know that we stand in support of Israel and continue to pray for the safety of the people of Israel.*

I received another letter soon after and this family is not Jewish. *Good morning, Ms. Rabhan, I asked xxxxxxx to suggest recommendations for me to donate this season to a worthy cause, especially in light of the current challenging times.*

He suggested I consider your school and provided your email. I read your message on the school's website and share your values and vision. xxxxxx told me your donations include a day, a week, or a month of the children's learning dedicated to a cause.

Our family prays for the safe return of the hostages, and we would like to make a \$xxxx donation to the school in support of that cause. All the best,

Someone recently shared with me they saw on Facebook, parents reaching out and asking for ideas of how to handle non Jewish holidays being discussed in school when there are lots of Jewish students attending these schools as well. And of course, the thought popped front and center into my head; if only these children were in a Jewish day school, they could live and breathe their Jewish holidays in school. They could proudly be Jewish.

Appreciating what we have, and taking advantage of what we could have... are both very important.

PJ Library Savannah's Great Big Matzah Bake

Sunday, April 21, 2024

3pm-5pm

Jewish Educational Alliance

Bake your own matzah and go home
with a delicious matzah house!



Not Just Hebrew School;



Hebrew School With A Side Of Schmooze!

Eva Locker, Principal

Once again, Shalom School rolled out the red carpet last month for our time-honored tradition: our Grandparents and Special Friends Brunch. From wide-eyed kindergarteners to seasoned 3rd graders, our students took the reins, ready to impress: they carefully filled their esteemed guests' food orders before showcasing talents that made us proud.

Picture it: the scene is set, the bagels are fresh, and the students are buzzing with excitement, eager to give their guests a taste of modern-day Hebrew education, which is probably a far cry from the "back in the day". And they have yet to show you our Alef Bet Yoga!

With great gusto, our mini maestros led Hamotzi for all (remember the bagels?) and under the direction of Cantor Rachel, they belted out tunes with the flair of seasoned performers. It was a sight to behold, with smiles so wide you could fit a Torah scroll through them.

But behind the scenes, it wasn't just the kids stealing the show. Our dedicated volunteers were the unsung heroes, the real MVPs of the morning. They orchestrated the setup, wrangled the pancake, scrambled the eggs, and kept the OJ flowing.

Looking forward, we're plotting to rope in more of the grandparental brigade in future adventures: we hope to see Sabba leading craft projects, Zayde baking with the little ones, or Savta stepping in for an absent teacher; the opportunities for engagement are endless.

As the dust settles on another successful brunch, we raise a toast to the stars of the show: our students, our volunteers, and, of course, our beloved grandparents and special friends.

See you all back at the 2025 Shalom School Brunch.

May Hebrew School fun continue for generations to come!



A row of very proud grandmothers recording precious memories!



Morah Michelle's 1st Grade sings their song thanking Hashem for grandparents and special friends with Cantor Rachel

From DP Camp To London Tailors And Cleaners

By Arthur Schreier

I am the son of Holocaust Survivors. I decided to finally tell the story of how my parents went from a Displaced Person Camp in post WW2 Europe to a thriving Cleaner and Tailor shop on Park Ave in New York.

I will start the story in the DP camp in Europe where my mother and father met. They got married and had my sister Esther. My dad was the sole survivor of his family and so was my mom. My father was from Poland and my mother Vienna, Austria. My mother survived the war pretending to be Christian. My dad was the youngest of four children that believed the rumors about the concentration camps and left his home at 15 years old. He hid in the forests of Poland. He later found out his entire family was killed by the Polish neighbors.

My parents were able to get second cousins to sponsor their immigration to New York. They arrived in New York with baby Esther, an orange juice squeezer and ten dollars in their pocket. They both worked in the garment district getting paid by the piece. Of course, the Jews got the biggest pieces. We lived in a rent-controlled apartment on the Upper West Side. The apartment was \$79 a month. They rented out the front room to a boarder. My dad charged \$85 a month so in reality we were living rent free.

In the evenings, there was a steady flow of strangers coming into our apartment for alterations. My Dad was always the front guy with the chalk, pins and kibbitzing. My mother was the actual tailor. All the cash made in the evenings was put into the Pushke (Collection Jar).



The Schreier family at Arthur's college graduation in 1975

After a few years, my parents brought the whole family to 87th and Park Ave with the Pushke. We waited across the street while my dad was negotiating to buy London Tailors and Cleaners. He kept on crossing the street taking additional money out of the Pushke. Eventually, London Tailors and Cleaners belonged to Murray and Helen Schreier.

London Cleaners and Tailors was a “drop” store. This means that the dry cleaning was outsourced for marginal profit. The main profit was attained with tailoring and alterations. My Dad put a sign in the window “Tailoring by Maurice.” It was a lot more appealing than Moshe or Murray.

One fatal day, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis came into the store in the late afternoon. Her evening dress had ripped on a car door, and it needed to be fixed for an evening affair. My mom and dad repaired it, and Jacky O was thrilled.

A “lantzman” friend of my dad was the editor of the NY Post. He wrote the story “The Secret Tailor of Jackie Onassis.”. After the article, my parents were swamped with celebrities such as Mrs. Guggenheimer, Robert Vaughn, Mr. Hanes and Mrs. Grossinger. Jackie O’s ripped dress became my parent’s success.

Eventually, my parents moved up to purchase a house in Queens. When I recall this story, I am very proud of what they accomplished rising from the ashes of Europe.

Arthur & Donna Schreier are recent transplants (from Florida) to Savannah. They jumped right in to our community and have never looked back.

Montag Art Gallery: Artist Spotlight

March: JEA Preschool Savannah

March 1-10

Some of our youngest JEA members are featuring their unique and wonderful art creations on display Friday March 1st through 10th. This year's Art Bash will be a Family Friendly Sunday Funday and will feature a gallery reception celebration during the outdoor event. All gallery artwork sales will benefit the JEA Preschool.

THE MONTAG ART GALLERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR LIGHT RENOVATIONS AND SPRING CLEANING FROM MARCH 11-31.



April: Sherry Dolgoff Holocaust & Writing Contest

April 1-30



Throughout the month of April, submissions from Savannah area middle and high school students will be on display as part of the Savannah Jewish Federation's Sherry Dolgoff Holocaust Art & Writing Contest. The contest was officially renamed in 2023 in memory of Sherry and her lifelong commitment to educate and advocate on the issues associated with intolerance, xenophobia, hate, and bias and her dedication to "ALWAYS REMEMBER"

This year's theme is the quote from Elie Weisel:

"What hurts the victim most is not the cruelty of the oppressor, but the silence of the bystander"

Submissions include painting, poems, short stories, musical compositions, sculpture, drawings, photography, video and collage. Winners will be announced at the community Yom HaShoah Commemoration on Sunday, May 5th.

May: Courtney C. Trowman

May 1-31

Courtney C. Trowman, aka CC Bella Collage, is an expressive and whole-hearted artist on a mission to create eco-conscious pieces that move the viewer through a journey filled with magical intentions and surprise details. Her whimsical 3D collage art was born out of an inherent need for expression, a passion for art, and the discovery that her art didn't flow through traditional forms such as painting or drawing.

"Most of my pieces feature at least 50% found, upcycled and/or recycled materials. In the last decade especially, I have developed a stronger desire to do as much as possible to reduce my carbon footprint. I love rescuing items that would otherwise go to landfill, giving them a second life in artwork.

This not only fulfills a very practical and necessary purpose for our planet, but I find that these random items give new meaning and bring a special kind of energy to my work."

Through her creations, she invites us to get curious, to open our hearts and minds to the layers within each piece, to see without needing to understand, and to embrace our own creativity without judgment. "Art doesn't need to be understood in order to be appreciated - it's about how a creation makes you feel."

Are you an artist? Would you like to show your work in the JEA Art Gallery? Having a show at the JEA is a great way to have your work seen and to help your community. Please contact Katie Griffith at artsandideas@savj.org to inquire about available months for your show!





CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

SAVANNAH GEORGIA'S CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE

9 Lee Blvd, Savannah, Georgia 31405

912-352-4737



Join us for our

Annual Purim Celebration and Megillah Reading



Saturday, March 23, 2024

**Light Dinner
7pm**

**Purim Celebration
8pm**

Additionally, join us on **Sunday, March 24 at 9:30am**
for a joint Megillah reading at Congregation Mickve
Israel with the Shalom School kids.

B'nai Brith Jacob Synagogue

Join Us for all things

SPRING TIME

Spiritual and Soulful



**PURIM / PURIM CARNIVAL
PESACH**

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

RABBI SLATUS MONDAY NIGHT CLASS

HEBREW READING COURSE

NEW KOLLEL CLASSES

BUSINESS AND LAW LUNCH CLASSES

FOR QUESTIONS, INFO, AND UPCOMING EVENTS

CALL OR EMAIL US: BBJACBOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

912-354-7721

WWW.BBJSYNAGOGUE.COM

CHABAD OF SAVANNAH PRESENTS

T'02



PURIM NIGHT OUT

March 23, 2024 • 9pm

OPEN TO ALL 21+

MEGILLA READING • OPEN BAR • DELICIOUS BUFFET



MORE INFO: JEWISHSAV.ORG/CELEBRATE



B"H

COMMUNITY

PURIM *Celebration*

SUNDAY
MARCH 24, 2024

2424 DRAYTON ST
SAVANNAH, GA 31401

- » MEGILLA READING
- » DELICIOUS PURIM FEAST
- » FUN FOR ALL AGES



For more info, visit jewishsav.org/celebrate

PASSOVER SEDERS

WITH CHABAD OF SAVANNAH

April 22 & 23

912-844-2477 | rabbi@jewishsav.org

**Wishing you and yours a
happy and meaningful
Passover!**

B"H



SUPPORT
CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL

AT THE

Purim Masquerade

SATURDAY
MARCH 23, 2024
6:00 PM

MORDECAI SHEFTALL MEMORIAL HALL
FESTIVE ATTIRE

Signature Cocktails

Catering by Chef Bryan Graves

Silent Auction

Entertainment by
Club One Drag Show

\$118 PER PERSON
OR
BECOME MASQUERADE ROYALTY
FOR \$360
(INCLUDES 2 TICKETS, RAFFLE TICKET
AND SPECIAL GIFT)

TO PURCHASE TICKETS
SCAN QR CODE

CHAIRS: JAMIE RICHMAN
& MARLENE ROBINOWICH

Congregation Mickve Israel
Spring 2024

Family & Children Programs

Kid-ish Club Shabbat
Family Havdalah
Mitzvah Club

Purim & Passover

Purim Masquerade:
March 23, 6:00pm
Passover Seders:
1st Night - April 22, 6:00pm
2nd Night - April 23, 6:00pm

Shabbat Services

Friday Nights 6:00pm
Saturday Mornings 11:00am

Judaica Classes

Every Wednesdays
Study with Rabbi Haas 10:30am
Every Saturday
Torah Study with Glenn Kersey 1:00pm

Museum & Gift Shop

Monday - Friday
Schedule located www.mickveisrael.org

Sign up to receive our weekly E-News:
rsup@mickveisrael.org



This war is unlike any we have seen before. And so are the needs.

What we are funding:

- Food and financial assistance
- Support for frontline communities
- Immediate cash grants to all victims of terror
- Trauma relief and psychosocial care
- Emergency medical services and healthcare
- Targeted assistance to vulnerable populations
- Local efforts and volunteers



**Support the Community
2024 Annual Campaign
Stand with Israel Appeal
Community Security Initiative**

www.savj.org

Pass the plate. Pass down the story. Happy Passover.

Get ready to prepare the feast and share in the seder. And don't forget the matzo ball soup! Start planning your Passover meal with recipes for traditional favorites.

Get inspired at publix.com/passover

