

Savannah JEWISH ✦ LIFE

SAVANNAH
JEWISH
CULTURAL
ARTS
FESTIVAL
2023

SPRING 2023 - VOLUME 3, ISSUE 01

ART - MUSIC - FILM
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JEWISH ✦ LIFE
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Shalom Savannah

Adam Solender

If you don't stop and look around our Savannah Jewish community, you could miss some exciting things.

You could have missed the Savannah Jewish Cultural Arts Festival. And if you did, you would have missed over a dozen movies, receptions, desserts, Food for Thoughts, cooking classes, Konter Weiland Comedy Night, Author Panel, music concerts and more. You would have missed a series of community collaborations with Front Porch Rehab, Savannah Music Festival, E Shaver Bookstore, Bike Walk Savannah, and Savannah Tree Foundation.

You could have missed that the Federation announced the hiring of our first Community Security Director, law enforcement veteran, Brett Butler. He will serve as an expert advisor to synagogues, Rambam Day School, and the community at large, and will establish a system of collaboration, coordination, and communication among organizations. He will also serve as a liaison to local, state, and federal law enforcement and represent the Federation and the Jewish community. At the same time, you may have missed that the Savannah Jewish Federation partnered with more than 30 other Jewish Federations to launch a new, standardized online form for the public to report threats, incidents, and suspicious activity related to Jewish organizations, facilities, or community members.

You could have missed that after providing three months of training classes for the community, the Federation provided Stop the Bleed kits to Congregations Agudath Achim, Bnai Brith Jacob, Mickve Israel, Chabad, and Rambam Day School. It is part of the Federation's leadership in securing our overall community. Next time in you are in one of the buildings, make sure you familiarize yourself with the location of the kits.

You could have missed all the projects going on around the JEA. The Outdoor Pool is on schedule for a Memorial Day ribbon cutting. The grounds have been leveled in preparation for a zero-entry pool which will be handicap accessible and make it easier for children and families to enjoy. All new decking will be created and there will no longer be different levels thus making it much safer and accessible.

At the very same time, the outdoor basketball court right next to the pool is being rehabbed with new basketball poles and rims and lining for three Pickleball courts. Were that not enough, one of the racquetball courts is being prepared as a Functional Fitness room featuring TRX stations. This will provide a whole new set of classes and training opportunities.



You could have missed that the JEA Preschool has been at capacity for a number of years. Well, for the 2023-24 school year there will be two additional classrooms added with two more coming online the following year as the JEA will be redesigning the Senior Lounge to classrooms (they were classrooms many years ago). ECE leadership is excited to expand after ten years of serving children and families.

There is so much going on at the Federation and JEA....

"If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it" - Ferris Beuller



To be published in Savannah Jewish Life

Submit your articles, poetry, reviews,
recipes and more!

All Welcome!

Deadline: May 1

savannahjewishlife@savj.org

Savannah JEWISH LIFE

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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 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 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.

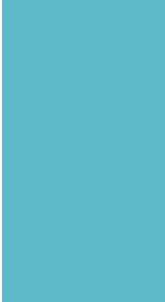
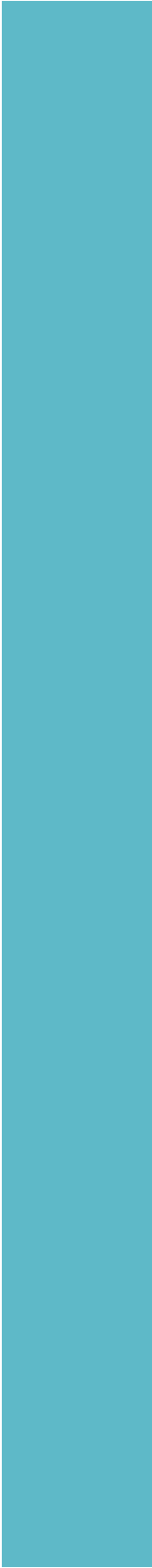


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RAMBAM SCHOOL

Your Campaign Dollars at Work



Savannah Jewish Federation

Editor's Note: Charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds, the Federation seeks to "advance the welfare of the total Jewish community." Each issue highlights some of the organizations that are beneficiaries of allocations from the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Community Campaign.



Dear Savannah Jewish Federation Board of Governors,

On behalf of The Breman's staff, board, and volunteers, we thank you for the Savannah Jewish Federation's generous allocation of \$11,500 on December 20, 2022 to the Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History at The Breman Museum.

As you know, the Cuba Family Archives maintains the largest repository of archival materials, making The Breman the world's leading resource for researching Southern Jewish History, including the significant archive from Savannah. Each year, over 400 people visit the Breman for Archives research, in addition to the thousands of people around the world who access our online archival database. It is our honor to be able to share these personal stories from the Southern Jewish Community.

The Breman Museum is proud to remain a hallmark institution of Atlanta that celebrates and commemorates the Jewish experience. Your significant investment in the museum is what enables us to preserve and sustain the archives and we are pleased to continue our collaboration with the Savannah Jewish Federation. Sincerely,

Leslie Gordon
Executive Director

Casey Fishman
Director of Archives

Rambam Day School by Ester Rabhan



Dear Adam,

On behalf of myself, my staff, my parents, and my students, I want to thank the Federation for supplying the Stop the Bleed Kits. I know they are costly, and the Federation's benevolence is certainly appreciated. While I deeply hope and pray we never need to use these kits, it is comforting to know we have them.

It is also greatly appreciated, all the classes and efforts of the Federation to keep us informed and educated as much as possible, for situations we all pray should never occur. Facing the need for such classes is daunting, however, knowing the Federation is determined to ensure we are all knowledgeable, is reassuring.

Warmly,
Ester Y. Rabhan
Principal

Tzedakah

Linda Sacks,
President, Savannah Jewish Federation

About 850 years ago Rabbi Moses Maimonides, known as the Rambam, compiled a work called Introduction to the Mishnah. In it he enumerated in a logical, topic-centric manner all the halachot, or laws, of the written Torah, and our oral tradition. That had never been done before.



Rambam lists 8 levels of Tzedakah, 8 levels of charitable giving. He says that the greatest level is supporting a fellow Jew by endowing him with a loan, or entering into a partnership with him, or finding him a job; the purpose being to strengthen his hand so that he will not need to be dependent upon others. This is akin to the pithy proverb of unknown origin, "Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him to fish and he will never go hungry".

Most of us ordinary folk are not in a position to carry out that highest level of Tzedakah. The next level is to give to

the poor without knowing the recipient, and without the recipient knowing the donor. Rambam likened this to the "anonymous fund" in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem where the righteous gave in secret, and the poor took in secret. Giving to a charity fund is similar to this mode of tzedakah. Rambam wisely adds that one should not contribute to a charity fund unless one knows that the person appointed over the fund is trustworthy, wise and a proper administrator. Perhaps that's the modern-day equivalent of a 4 star rating on Charity Navigator.

Giving through the Savannah Jewish Federation – a 4 star charity by the way, fulfills this lofty level of Tzedakah. Recipients of Federation's beneficence, in particular through Jewish Family Services, do not know who gave to them – the gift comes from the community at large. And the community never knows the identities of the individual recipients.

*Consider a gift to the 2023 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Community Campaign.
Learn more and make your gift at www.savj.org.*

PJ Library® & PJ OUR WAY™



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.

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.

Need more information? Email PJLibrary@savj.org.

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
CAMP PURIM CARNIVAL
3-5PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 12
PICKLIN' PICNIC
12-2PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 19
"EASY LIKE SUNDAY MORNING" CYCLE RIDE
10AM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
PJ OUR WAY PIZZA AND PAINTING PARTY
6:15PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 2
MATZAH MAKE AND BAKE
3-4:30PM



Savannah Jewish Community Security Director



Thanks to your commitment to the Federation's Annual Jewish Community Campaign, the generosity of many donors (who have made additional commitments for this security initiative), and support from Jewish Federations of North America's LiveSecure initiative, the Savannah Jewish Federation has launched its first-ever Jewish Community Security program. After a nearly

year-long national search which considered over 250 applicants, we have hired our first Community Security Director.

Partnering with the Savannah Jewish Federation is the Secure Community Network. Established in 2004 under the auspices of the Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, SCN is the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. Because the Savannah Jewish Federation's security program is powered by SCN, it will have access to SCN's national security advisors, intelligence analysts and other professionals as well as benefiting from SCN's National Jewish Security Operations Command Center in Chicago. Butler will be employed by SCN and report to both SCN Deputy Director of Operations, Grant Mendenhall and Savannah Federation CEO Adam Solender.

Butler brings a wealth of experience to the position of Community Security Director following almost thirty years of service with the Arlington (VA) County Police Department. As a Captain in the Criminal Investigations Section he supervised over 60 detectives, oversaw the Homicide Unit, advocated for laws that strengthened law enforcement, and has significant experience in community policing, working with government entities, and liaising with community civic organizations. He previously instructed at the Northern VA Criminal Justice Academy where he trained other officers.

He is a graduate of George Mason University, attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, and Professional Executive Leadership School. In his almost thirty years in

Virginia he was awarded the Police Service Award (2x), Police Officer of the Year, the Meritorious Service Award, and has over 50 letters of commendation for exceptional service.

Butler has over twenty years' experience in training and course development in the areas of leadership, emergency management, and law enforcement.

"I am honored to take on this role with the Federation to support the safety and security of the Savannah Jewish community," said Butler. "Making comprehensive security a priority is a significant step that will positively affect Jewish life in Savannah going forward."

Butler will act as an expert security advisor, liaison and training coordinator for the community. Under his direction, security practices will be enacted, including, but not limited to:

- Trainings for schools, synagogues and other institutions;
- Security consultations and threat assessments of our Jewish institutions;
- On-hand community liaison with law enforcement for emergency events that may occur

After his onboarding in Chicago, Butler will mentor with a Security Director in another community to familiarize himself with SCN and Federation practices. He then will meet with leaders from Savannah community organizations. We are planning many opportunities for you to meet Brett in the coming weeks and months.

The Federation is working in partnership with our synagogues, JEA, and Rambam Day School. Each organization has a representative on the Community Security Committee which will help guide the overall Community Security Initiative. The Federation will work hand-in-hand with community partners as these efforts are implemented and will continue keeping the community informed about this comprehensive security approach that has become necessary to keep our Jewish institutions and community members safe.

Thank you to our Community Security Committee for assisting in the process of interviewing and recommending our new Security Director. We enthusiastically welcome Brett Butler.

Federation Launches New Online Form to Report Suspicious Incidents



The Savannah Jewish Federation announced that it has partnered with more than 30 other Jewish Federations and the Secure Community Network (SCN), the official safety and security organization for the Jewish community in North America, to launch a new, standardized online form for the public to report threats, incidents, and suspicious activity related to Jewish organizations, facilities, or community members. The form is available on the Federation's website at www.savj.org.

"Our new online reporting form is one of the many ways the Savannah Jewish Federation is working to protect the Jewish community," said Federation CEO Adam Solender. "Together with the Secure Community Network, we urge everyone to report anything suspicious or concerning so the appropriate action can be taken."

Information reported through the form is sent immediately to the Federation's new Community Security Director, Federation professionals, and the 24-hour Duty Desk in SCN's National Jewish Security Operations Command Center, where SCN's team of intelligence analysts are available to support local Federation security initiatives using intelligence and information-sharing best practices to determine what people or facilities may be at risk, as well as what next steps to take. Credible threats are referred to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and Jewish facility leaders as needed.

"This is the first nationally standardized incident reporting effort that ties together local Federation security initiatives and SCN as a national partner, ensuring that wherever someone is, there can be timely, consistent, and accurate reporting of threats, incidents, and suspicious activity," said SCN National Director and CEO Michael Masters. "This is critical to keeping the Jewish community safe. In a world where threats travel at the speed of social media, this effort enhances our ability to identify trends and incidents across communities and work with security professionals and law enforcement to address them. Through a coordinated, best practice approach to information sharing, this initiative will help us more effectively and efficiently address threats and issues before they turn to action."

The new form can be used to report in-person assaults or threats; suspicious persons or activity; property

damage or vandalism; threatening or suspicious phone calls, text messages, or social media; suspicious packages or letters; spam and phishing emails; antisemitic or threatening flyers; or other similar incidents of concern to the Jewish community. Reports may be made anonymously.

The effort will also allow SCN to better aggregate and collect information, providing more comprehensive and reliable data to partners in the Jewish community and in law enforcement. This is especially important given the recent announcement that 1 in 3 law enforcement agencies in the United States – representing up to half of the Jewish community – did not report hate crimes data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 2021.

The system was developed after careful analysis of the threat environment and a recognized need to ensure consistent, best practice incident reporting across the community, in line with national standards. The form was developed with input from key information-sharing, law enforcement, and public safety partners, as well as those in the nonprofit, academic, and private sectors. The form is designed to be compliant with federal reporting guidelines and constitutional requirements.

In an emergency, always call 9-1-1 first. If online reporting is not practical, follow established protocols to report suspicious activity – to include contacting local law enforcement and/or the relevant suspicious activity reporting authority – and contact the SCN Duty Desk at dutydesk@securecommunitynetwork.org or by calling 844-SCN-DESK.

REPORT AN INCIDENT



www.savj.org

Levy Award Dinner To Honor Dr. Joel A. Greenberg



If you ask community leader, Aaron Levy about this year's Jack Malitz Levy Award recipient, Dr. Joel A. Greenberg, he doesn't hesitate to chuckle a little as he states that for a doctor, Joel has a strong business sense. "Joel has spent his 37 years in Savannah involved in helping and supporting Federation, the JEA, the Temple, and other Jewish institutions. I have always admired his dedication." Past Savannah Jewish Federation President, Dr. Fred E. Rabhan added that "Joel Greenberg is the consummate community volunteer and friend."

These are a few of the many qualities that the committee of past recipients noted when they decided unanimously to award Joel the Savannah Jewish Federation's highest honor, named for Aaron's father, at a dinner on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at the Jewish Educational Alliance. Greenberg is only the ninth award recipient since the award was established through the generosity of the Levy Family over thirty years ago.

His former partner, Dr. Richard Bodziner, also a Past President of Federation, remarked: "How can one write just a few lines about Dr. Joel Greenberg? I had the privilege of working with Joel for 32 years, sharing the office next to him the last 10 years. I was in awe of how he saw patients, taught residents and medical students, went to the hospital during lunch to give a lecture or attend a staff meeting, dictating all his notes and out of the office by 6pm to then go to meetings for the Savannah Jewish Federation, JEA, the Temple and who knows what else. Doing all this, he ran our 10-person physician group. He did this all, serving the Jewish and medical community with excellence, enthusiasm, and as we all know Joel, a fabulous wit. He is a most worthy recipient of the Levy Award."

Philip Solomons, Jr. a local businessman and philanthropist noted that, "One of the most rewarding aspects of civic or community involvement is some of the amazing people with whom you are blessed to work; getting to know them on a deeper than just social level. Joel Greenberg is one of those blessings. A unique blend of wisdom, commitment, warmth and humor, he brings light instead of heat; too rare these days. And his humility is disarming and admirable. I have worked with Joel on everything from budgets to search committees and always found his questions and observations of great value to the endeavor."



Joel and Carol Towbin Greenberg photographed for the TreeLoft Exhibit Faces of the Jewish Community at Bull Street Library by Richard Hochman (z'l).]

"When I think about Joel I think about his cutting and intellectual sense of humor - no holds barred," added Dr. Linda Sacks, current Federation President. "A typical conversation in the doctors' lounge: me: "Hi Joel, Good morning" Joel, straight-faced: "That, Linda, is a proposition yet to be proven." He can make almost any situation humorous, including parliamentary procedure. His philanthropy goes without saying."

Using the example of his parents, Judge Harry and Geraldine Greenberg, and his brother Murray Greenberg, all of blessed memory, he grew up with a sense of responsibility to his community, seriousness in his practice of Judaism, and a strong commitment to Israel.

Aaron Levy remarked, "Joel is a wonderful example of someone who devoted his life for Judaism in Savannah."

The cocktail party and sit-down dinner, catered by Murray Gottlieb, will begin at 6PM. Make your reservations to celebrate Joel Greenberg at savj.org.

Yom HaShoah Community Remembrance

Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, will be observed this year on Thursday, April 18. The community program, which is open and free to the entire community, begins at 6:00 PM at the Jewish Educational Alliance featuring Rachel Kastner and Edan Tamler.

Rachel's productions and media projects that have garnered millions of views and media coverage around the world. Most recently, she produced "How to Never Forget", a mini-docu series on TikTok geared towards bringing Holocaust awareness to Gen-Z, and her full-length documentary film "The Barn" (which will be shown at the Savannah Jewish Cultural Arts Festival in March), where she immortalized her grandfather's Holocaust story by traveling with him to uncover the history of his family's survival. Her work includes podcasts, film, and TV, and has been featured on Good Morning America, NBC News, PBS, People Magazine and more. Her projects have featured influencers and celebrities including Mark Cuban, Claudia Oshry, Bari Weiss, Montana Tucker and more. She is a creative strategist to several organizations and individuals, producing impactful media content.

Aside from her work behind the camera, Rachel also inspires crowds through public speaking and community engagement. She has spoken to thousands of elementary and high school students as a Holocaust storyteller and remembrance activist - sharing her work, and stimulating deep conversations about the meanings of empathy and intergenerational remembrance. She does this work to continue her family legacy as the proud granddaughter of three survivors, and seeks to inspire younger generations to create a better, more just world. Rachel has lived on 3 continents, is an avid traveler, and has a deep love for people, culture and diversity. She also is Chief of Staff at an Israeli health-tech company, OneStep, where she enjoys working with her brilliant teammates to make the world a healthier place.

Edan has performed internationally and on some of Israel's biggest stages such as Caesarea and Festival Hatamar and is a former X-Factor finalist, with his own music appearing on Israeli TV and radio. He has represented Israel as the lead singer of the IDF Orchestra in remote places such as Moscow and Uganda, and most recently has served as the Chief Cantor of Denmark. Edan's singing inspires not only on stage and in the synagogue, but also in the classroom where he teaches Judaism and music to students of all ages, invigorating them to find ways to take ownership over their Jewish identities. As an experienced community leader Edan has created, led and produced meaningful community-based projects and events geared towards eliciting a sense of nationhood and belonging in Jews all around the world.

As a Cantor, Edan has led religious prayer services for communities worldwide, including Denmark, United Arab Emirates, England, New York, California and more. As a musician, Edan makes appearances and concerts all over the world for groups of all ages.

Together, Rachel and Edan seek to utilize their unique, young, innovative energies to inspire and bring out the best in the communities they join.

The local Yom HaShoah Committee is pleased to oversee the Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Sherry Dolgoff Yom HaShoah Art and Writing Contests for middle and high school students as part of this year's observance. These works will be shown throughout the month of April in the JEA Art Gallery.

Remembering the names On Yom HaShoah, we remember the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. So we won't forget the personal devastation of each lost life, we will continue our solemn tradition of reading aloud names of children throughout the day. Members of the community will read these names in the lobby of the JEA from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. We speak and hear their names, and we recall them as full human beings, not just as "victims." The ceremony also will include the lighting of memorial candles, benedictions from our local Rabbis, and recognition of the Art and Writing Contest winners. The ceremony is open to the public.

Rachel and Edan will also be in the Savannah area from April 16th-24th. In addition to the Yom HaShoah program, they will be working with schools, the area congregations and speaking at Food For Thought on Thursday, April 20th. Visit savj.org for full details.

SAVANNAH COMMUNITY Yom HaShoah HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE

TUESDAY, APRIL 18
JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

9:00 AM - 6:30 PM

Reading of the Names

7:00 PM

**Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration
with Keynotes
Rachel Kastner & Edan Tamler**

**To Sign Up For Reading Of The Names & For More
Information, visit savj.org**

Yesod Leadership Cohort 3

We are thrilled to announce the third cohort of Yesod: Savannah Jewish Community's Leadership Development Initiative. Yesod Cohort 3 began in January with 19 participants. These participants – who were nominated by leaders from Jewish organizations in Savannah – are a talented and diverse cohort of outstanding individuals in the Savannah Jewish Community ready to develop, practice and apply new leadership skills.

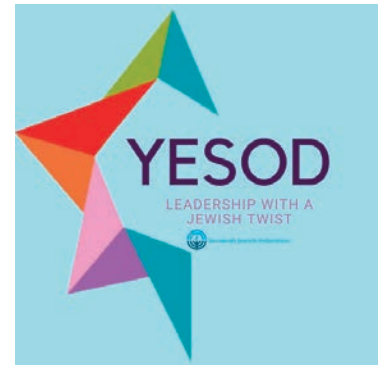
Yesod, the Hebrew word for foundation, will further develop leadership capabilities and inspire them to take part in shaping the future of the Savannah Jewish Community.

The program uses a curriculum written by Dr. Erica Brown, director of the Mayberg Center for Jewish Education and Leadership at George Washington University, and sponsored by the Jewish Federations of North America, in partnership with the Mandel Center for Leadership Excellence and the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning.

They are participating in 8 sessions beginning with an examination of the individuals' personal journeys to leadership and continue with exploration of topics such as mentorship, community and communication – all taught and discussed through a Jewish lens. The program will culminate in graduation at the Federation's Annual Meeting on September 13, 2023.

Introducing the Participants of Yesod Cohort 2:

Noah Abrams - Attorney
Kara Adoff - mother, artist, business owner
Michelle Balshem - Graduate student adviser at SCAD
Yuval Bartal - Real estate investor and developer
Carolina Braunschweig - new product development
Cara Bryant - Self Employed
Katherine Celiz - Administrative Assistant & Family Service Coordinator
Sean Dane-Kellogg - Business Owner
Elizabeth Danosh - Teacher at Chatham Academy
Dean Danosh - Business owner
Keeley Haysman - Life Insurance
David Hoffenberg - COO Memorial Health
Heather Lieberfarb - Assistant Director JEA Preschool
Lisa Miller - Nurse Practitioner
Rachael O'Mara - SAHM
Jennifer Ozer - Attorney
Arthur Schreier - Consultant
Yosef Shirazi - Consultant
Libby Waldman-Strugatch - Retired



Community Corner: Yesod Spotlight

Kara Adoff: Curator & Founder: West House Parkside
Artist. Mom. Wife. Business Owner



What brought you to Savannah?

My husband and I moved to Knoxville from Hershey, Pennsylvania. I was working as a Pre-K teacher and couldn't take off work for the first visit trip to

Knoxville and his interview. When Spencer returned he described Knoxville as a blend of Nashville and San Francisco, so I thought 'oh heck yeah! Let's go!' No offense to Knoxville, but that is not how I would describe it. I knew I wanted to be somewhere that felt more like me: comfortable, artsy, and big in a small package. Savannah is just perfect. We've had our three babies here, love our house downtown, what more could I ask for?!

What are you most excited about in the future? Any new projects or plans?

We just purchased a ground floor condo in The Forsyth Parkside building. The bike shop Savannah On Wheels was the last commercial space in there so it's a raw, open workshop. I've already moved my painting studio into one room and in the other room I'm setting up a gallery cafe. My vision is a cozy, light-filled spot: I'm behind my canvas with my little paint-splattered apron on and I pop out when the cafe door chimes; a friend, another creative, or a busy entrepreneur comes in. I make them an espresso like we're in Paris, then they go about working or host a small meeting. Maybe they just gander at the art on the walls, or maybe they buy a painting from me and some quirky Van Gogh fridge magnets.

What's something you've found about the Savannah Jewish community?

The Jewish community in Savannah can be described as the food fest slogan "Shalom, y'all." I've found one of the most endearing parts of our Jewish community is that there is very little that separates the involvement, inclusion, and kindness of both the reformed and conservative members. I have never met a person who wasn't genuine or unwilling to lend a moment to listen or help. I respect the perseverance and connectedness the generations before secured for us and I really am super grateful I get to be a part of a community of so many hard-working, intelligent individuals and that I have a great, stable tribe to raise my kids with.

What's your favorite childhood memory?

I loved elementary school. I definitely peaked in 5th grade. I was student council president, they appointed me Top Safety Patrol (hall monitor!) and I wore my brother's suit coats a lot because I really thought I was so boss.

Dean Danosh & Yuval Bartal: The Orchard Group
Best Friends. Business Partners. Soccer Fans.



What brought you to Savannah?

Yuval: I came to Savannah with Dean in 2014 after traveling in South America for several months. We came here because we had friends from Israel working here

selling cosmetic products. We had no money after spending it all in South America so we wanted to stop here and work for a few months to gain it back. Since then, we moved around for the first 2 years and decided to settle in Savannah permanently in 2016.

Dean: One of the main reasons for our move is the growth of the real estate market in Savannah. The city has seen significant growth in recent years, with new developments and construction projects underway, and this has created a lot of opportunities for investment and homeownership. Additionally, Savannah has a number of similarities with Israel, such as a rich history, cultural heritage, and a warm climate, making it a familiar and comfortable place for me to call home.

Are there any projects you are excited about on the horizon?

Dean and Yuval: We actually just finished a very large project of many properties that we bought and renovated. We recently entered the wedding venues industry with Chateau 1800 (in Effingham County). It is a beautiful 56 acres of land with amazing potential. This is an exciting step for us, being able to be a part of people's happiest days in their lives. We are now working on a new large project that will provide homes for the Hyundai Megaplant workers. Every part of our projects is interesting because each one of them is very different from the others. I think that the challenges of learning the new parts are what most attract me.

What's your favorite restaurant in Savannah?

Dean: My favorite restaurant in Savannah is a Mexican taco place which you cannot find unless you know the right place. It is located inside a Mexican grocery store and has the best tacos in Savannah.

Yuval: My favorite in the area is Cowboy located in Hilton Head. In Savannah, however, I think Cotton & Rye deserves a big shout out.

What are your hobbies?

Yuval: I enjoy hiking, watching movies and hanging out with friends. This isn't considered in most places a "hobby", but it is my favorite thing to do.

What's something you've found about the Savannah Jewish community?

Dean: Surprisingly, I found out that the Savannah Jewish community reminded me a lot of my community back home in Israel. So many different opinions and beliefs, but at the same time a unity feeling you can feel nowhere else.

Mah Jongg and More

Robin Rackoff



Last-minute Louie – that was my father's nickname for me. Very appropriate since I always used to put everything off as long as possible. You've seen the woman driving the car next to you, and she's putting on makeup at the red light? That was me. Talk about last minute - in the old

days, if I had dinner guests arriving at 6 PM, I wouldn't start preparing until an hour beforehand. At 5 PM, the meat would go in the oven, and out would come the vacuum. I'd be ironing the dinner napkins, washing the spotty crystal, and jumping into a shower. Miraculously, just as my company would be pulling up in front of the house, I'd make it to the front door, everything perfect. I could juggle more things at one time than the guy in the circus.

What a difference three decades make! These days, I need to concentrate on one thing at a time. For my Saturday dinner parties, I start preparing way in advance. By Wednesday, the table has been set with beautifully ironed dinner napkins, my crystal is spotless, and every dog hair has been vacuumed up.

Another thing that has changed with the passing of the years is my ability to learn complicated things. I panic when my Mac Operating System tells me that it needs to be updated. Whether it's Catalina, Mojave, or High Sierra, I know it will be a nightmare.

I realize I'm not alone in having more trouble learning new concepts as I've gotten older. I think that has made me a more sensitive Mah Jongg teacher. My older students definitely need additional TLC, and I'm very patient when they ask the same question over and over again. I get it. And rather than send them on their way after my usual four lessons, I've found that five or six is more realistic. Before they know it, they can Charleston with the best of them, and I don't mean the dance!

Until next time, let's Maj On!

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TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 7:30 PM
TRUSTEES THEATER



View the entire 2023 festival lineup
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Box Office: 912.525.5050

A WORLD OF MUSIC. ONE CITY.

Jack Malitz & Miriam Slotin Levy Memorial Concert

Featuring the Savannah Voice Festival

Sunday, May 7, 2023
Jewish Educational Alliance
Doors Open 1:30 p.m.
Concert 2:00 p.m.
(dessert reception during intermission)



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

Artist Spotlight:

JEA Art Gallery Artists

March: Stephen Hall

March 1-31, 2023, Opening Reception March 2nd, 5-7 pm



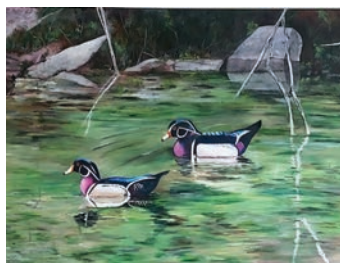
Stephen Hall never imagined that his own work could compare to the work of masters, but believed that he could learn from them and possibly make respectable paintings of his own.

His education and experience in graphic design gave him an understanding of composition, color and form.

His choice of subject matter has ranged from buildings and streetscapes to still lifes and agave plants.

May: Del Belew

May 1-31, 2023, Opening Reception May 4, 5-7 pm



Dell Belew, a self-proclaimed chameleon artist, continues to work in a variety of media. This year's exhibit will be a combination of some of her representational paintings with texture and a variety of fluid art works and textured abstracts. No artist is worth

her weight who has not continued to experiment and broaden her creative horizons. Dell Belew is nothing if not a prolific chameleon.

April: The Sherry Dolgoff Holocaust Art and Writing Contest

April 1-30, 2023, Presentation of Winners April 18, 2023



Throughout the month of April, submissions from Savannah area middle and high school students will be on display as part of the Sherry Dolgoff Holocaust Art & Writing Contest. Winners will be announced as part of our community Yom HaShoah program on April 18, 2023

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 Vicky@savj.org to inquire about available months for your show!

On The Personal Side

Mazel Tov to

Anna & Jordan Stoltzman on the birth of their son.

Sean & Melissa Wheeler on the birth of a baby boy, Eliyahu Nachshon

Charlie & Amy Garfunkel on the birth of a granddaughter & mazel tov to the parents, Benji and Lee Garfunkel.

Paul and Mindy Bradley on the birth of their grandson, Aaron Joseph Bradley.

Debbie Cohen on her retirement from Levy Jewelers after 40 years of dedication.

Ron Fagin on his appointment to President of Mickve Israel.

Yuval Bartal & Michelle Balshem on their engagement.

Michael & Julie Cummings on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Isabelle and the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Carter, on March 11th.

Ben & Lisa Mackowiak on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Alexandra, on May 27th.

Jackie Laban on being selected for the inaugural cohort of The Martin Pear Israel Fellowship.



Obituaries

through 1/31/2023

Ramon Silverman

Who died Friday, November 4, 2022.

She is survived by his wife of 63 year, Irene Silverman, children Marica, Walter, and Brian Silverman; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Remembrances: Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah, GA 31405 or a charity of your choice.

Denise Svetlik Portman

Who died November 29, 2022

She is survived by her daughters Renee Dunn, Michele Powell and Nina (Stephen) Malone, grandsons Charles (Mary) and Alexander (Sara) and four great-grandchildren Charlotte, Connor, Katelyn, and Andrew and special niece Denise Svetlik Montanus and extended family.

Remembrances: Hospice Savannah, PO Box 13190, Savannah, GA 31416

Doris Smith Foskey

Who died Friday, January 13, 2023.

She is survived by a daughter, Colleen Foskey; a son, Myles Foskey; and a grandson, Thomas Dane Foskey, all of Vidalia, and a brother-in-law, Rian Foskey of Nashua, NH, and a sister-in-law, Lynn Sharpe of Uvalda, GA. Also surviving her are numerous nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews on both the Smith and Foskey sides of the family.

Remembrances: Sweet Onion Animal Protection Society, P.O. Box 210, Vidalia, GA 30474; Beth Israel Congregation, 1117 Tomlin Road, Lyons, GA, 30436; or the charity of your choice.



"As my fathers planted for me,
so do I plant for my children."
- Taanit 23a



HATE ENDS NOW

THE CATTLE CAR

STEPPING IN AND OUT OF DARKNESS



LOCATIONS



DAYS

1,631



PARTICIPANTS

1

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FOUNDATION OF SAVANNAH

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SAVANNAH



Savannah Jewish Cultural Arts Festival



The Savannah Jewish Federation (SJF) is proud to host the 2nd annual *Savannah Jewish Cultural Arts Festival*.

Throughout the month of March, the Savannah Jewish Cultural Arts Festival will host a variety of films, speakers, meals, artists, music and more, all to illuminate Jewish culture, right here in Savannah.

As part of the festival, the Joan & Murray Gefen Memorial Savannah Jewish Film Festival will continue to be an integral part of the fabric of our community, as it has for over 20 years. From comedies to poignant dramas and documentaries, each film has helped to promote and celebrate our diverse Jewish history.

Kicking off the Festival will be an opening night art reception featuring works from local Jewish artists. Arlene Ratner coordinated local Jewish artists whose works will fill the walls and halls throughout the building. Following the reception,



Four Winters, will have its regional debut as part of the Joan & Murray Gefen Memorial Savannah Jewish Film Festival. Plus, we are pleased to welcome director and producer, Julia Mintz. This essential documentary tells the stories of the last surviving Jewish partisans who despite extraordinary odds, fought the Nazis and their collaborators from deep within the forests of Eastern Europe. These determined men and women, many barely in their teens, engaged in acts of sabotage, blowing up trains, burning electric stations, and attacking armed enemy headquarters. Mintz shines a spotlight on their bravery through interviews, archival footage, and historic war records. *Four Winters* is a stunning, heartfelt narrative of heroism and resilience.

Throughout the month, be sure to check out the many more comedies, dramas, documentaries and shorts highlighting music, baseball, fashion, history, romance, social justice, and the search for identity. At all screenings a brief survey will be provided asking you to rate the film and in April we will announce an Audience Choice Award and the date for an encore spring showing. Another smaller shift will be the inclusion of concessions in the ticket price for all films – a drink and popcorn box for all!

Be sure and make a reservation for the “Shorts on Shabbat” film series. Each week two intriguing shorts will be shown and a loaf of delicious freshly baked challah baked by Tzila Lemberger will be provided as you welcome in Shabbat. We hope this mid-morning event will make it possible for even more to enjoy the Festival this year.



Our Food for Thought lunch series will include a “**Film for Thought**” theme and includes the documentary, *The Barn*, which takes viewers on a very personal journey with Karl Shapiro, a Holocaust survivor, and his teenage granddaughter as they travel to Poland to be reunited with the woman who saved his life over seventy years ago. March speakers at Food for Thought include Rabbi Gelman will discuss Jewish theater, Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace archivist, Alison Beckelhymer, will share information about the Jewish Roots of the Girl Scouts, and creative force, Zelda Refson, will explore the Art of Jewish Living with guests – you won’t want to miss any of it!

Each Sunday a fun filled community partnership event has been planned including the family friendly JEA Camp Purim Carnival on March 5 with Loop it Up, PJ Library's Picklin' Picnic with the Savannah Tree Foundation on March 12, and the Easy Like Sunday Morning cycle ride with Bike Walk Savannah + the JEA Open House -come check out Studio J!- on March 19. We round out this lively month of Sundays with an exclusive Jewish Comedy Night at Front Porch Improv on March 26. This unique show has been specifically created by the brilliant Artistic Directors, Brianne Halverson and (JEA member) John Brennan, for the SJF audience - you won't want to miss it!



Be sure to check out events with community organizations and businesses such as SCAD, E. Shaver, Foxy Loxy, Starland Yard, and special ticket pricing for Savannah Music Festival concerts. Sprinkled throughout the festival are other exciting events such as the **Jewish Authors Panel hosted by Jessica Leigh Lebos**, the **JEA Preschool Art Bash celebrating 10 Sea-sational Years**, the **Baby Tosh Jewish Songwrit-**

ers Concert, cooking classes, workshops, and more. Rabbi Haas has promised to make a comedic appearance as well so stay tuned!

For a full calendar of events, please visit www.savj.org. There, you have access to watch trailers of the films being offered, purchase tickets, or become a Friend of the Festival! Please consider becoming a "Friend of the Festival" to help support the Savannah Jewish Film Festival and other cultural programs. Your participation makes it possible for us to provide the Savannah Jewish community this unique Jewish cultural experience.

We can't wait to see you at the Festival!



SAVANNAH JEWISH CULTURAL ARTS FESTIVAL

MARCH 2023 WWW.SAVJ.ORG Savannah Jewish Federation 			1	2	3	4
			Opening Night Art Reception Special Screening of <i>Four Winters</i> with Director, Julia Mintz	Food For Thought + MOVIE: <i>Israel Swings for Gold</i>	Chai Coffee Bar Shorts on Shabbat	MOVIE: <i>Farewell Mr. Haffmann</i> + Dessert
5 "JEA Camp Purim" with Loop It Up	6 Israeli Cooking Class with Tzila Lemberger	7 Dinner + MOVIE: <i>13 Frames of Love and War</i>	8 Meshugganah Marbling Mom's Night Out at West House Parkside	9 Food For Thought with Rabbi Gelman Baby Tosh Jewish Songwriters Concert at Front Porch Improv with Rabbi Haas	10 Chai Coffee Bar Shorts on Shabbat	11 JEA Preschool Art Bash: 10 Sea-Sational Years!
12 PJ Library "Picklin' Picnic" + Tree Planting with STF *special screening of <i>American Pickle</i>	13 Babka Baking Class with Sharon Sand	14 Dinner + MOVIE: <i>Haute Couture</i>	15	16 Food For Thought + MOVIE: <i>The Barn</i> Jewwnity Event	17	18 MOVIE: <i>Where Life Begins</i> + Dessert
19 "Easy Like Sunday Morning" Cycle Ride with Bike Walk Savannah + JEA Open House	20 Igal Fedida Art Reception at Chabad of Savannah	21 Dinner + MOVIE: <i>March '68</i>	22 Jewish Tour of SCAD	23 Food For Thought: "The Jewish Roots of the Girl Scouts" with Alison Beckelhymmer	24 Chai Coffee Bar Shorts on Shabbat	25 MOVIE: <i>America</i> + Dessert JEA Kids Night Out
26 Jewish Comedy Night at Front Porch Improv	27 Israeli Cooking Class with Tzila Lemberger	28 Joe Alterman Trio Concerts hosted by Savannah Music Festival	29 Jewish Authors Panel with Jessica Leigh Lebos at E. Shaver Starland	30 Food For Thought with Zelda Refson Dinner + MOVIE: <i>Jews and the Blues</i>	31 Chai Coffee Bar Shorts on Shabbat	+ APRIL 4 / Ger Mandolin Orchestra hosted by the Savannah Music Festival



Her passion was history, followed closely by political science, philosophy, and religion.

The Dena Yaschik Bodziner Memorial Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah was initially created in 1996 as the Lawrence and Dena Bodziner Holocaust Endowment Fund. The purpose of this fund is perpetuate the memory of the Holocaust and Jewish survival through education. Dena became absorbed in Holocaust history after writing a paper and interviewing a local Savannahian who had been liberated from the camps. The fund has subsidized youth experiences and most recently brought the Hate Ends Now program to our community.

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

For information about creating a legacy with the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah, contact foundation@savj.org.



My Camp Stories

by Hannah Guthrie

Going back to camp every year is the best feeling ever! And this year was no different. But really this year was better!

This year was my 4th year at Camp Coleman. The best thing about this year was that my friendships with my camp friends seem to become even stronger. There is a whole group of us that have been going since our first year. This year is a big year for us...it's our Bar/Bat Mitzvah year. It was great to be able to share this big event with friends that actually understand how big and important (and stressful) it is. And I didn't even have to explain it to them. That feeling of being known and understood is something I can only get at camp!



One of the best parts of camp this summer was our unit service. This was where we were able to lead Shabbat services one week. I was able to participate by singing 4 songs with my friends. Being able to go to services with my friends every week is always great but being able to lead them takes it to a whole new level. I am so happy that our unit had this opportunity.

It is hard to believe that summer is over. The great thing is that I am hoping to see some of my friends throughout the year this year as we are all Bar/Bat Mitzvahed! For those I don't get to see, I will have to wait until camp next year but I know it will be worth the wait!

Editor's Note: The previous issue of SJL paired the wrong story with Hannah's Camp Experience. We are happy to share the correct story, and we are even more happy to have played a role in Hannah's wonderful experience.

YJS ALUM RECEIVES SENATE COMMENDATION

U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff is recognizing **Lauren Fins** for her compassionate leadership and commitment to Georgia's veterans with an Official U.S. Senate Commendation.

Over the last 10 years, **Lauren Fins** has dedicated her personal time to supporting Georgia's veterans and other members of the Savannah community who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder or other related illnesses.

Ms. Fins works to train dogs that can help people in need across Savannah, assisting veterans and other individuals with emergency assistance.

"Ms. **Lauren Fins** has dedicated her time to assisting veterans and other members of her community who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and other trauma-related illnesses through her organization **Fins Animal Training** — fondly earning her the title of "hometown heroine" across Coastal Georgia.

"Over the last 10 years, **Ms. Fins** has committed more than 1,000 hours of her personal time to training service dogs that uplift people in need across Savannah, and she was recognized with the President's Volunteer Service Award in 2022 for her commitment to this feat.

"In addition to her work with **Fins Animal Training**, she also trains dogs for SD Gunner Fund, a local non-profit that provides service dogs to people who need them.

"In many cases, **Ms. Fins** has helped dogs grow from young pups to loyal companions who can help support individuals' everyday quality of life, including by helping a person off the floor, pulling a wheelchair, or by picking up a prosthetic limb.

"Mr. President, as Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend **Lauren Fins** for her commitment and dedication to Georgia's veterans."



YOUNG JEWISH SAVANNAH



**YJS
Connectors
Elizabeth
and Yossi
want to
meet you!**

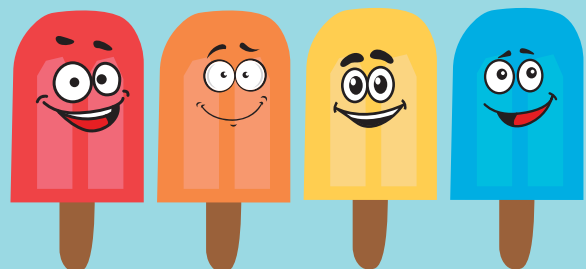


YJS@savj.org



Young Jewish Savannah

SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION'S SUMMER EXPERIENCE GRANTS



MAKE SUMMER SO MUCH COOLER!

WELCOME TO THE



Jordan Amiri
Samaksh Behl & Yachna Gola
Timothy & Kelsey Bihlman
Carolina Braunsweig
Rio Brittany & Isabelle Cable
John & Aviva Crystal
Tiffany Cullen
Rosita Fletcher
Matt Gignilliat
Esther Goossens
Robert Harte & Victoria Prewitt
Matthew Hertz & Catherine Lentile
Keith Huntley & Aya Melamed
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Heather Knight
Jonathan & Anne Lee
Leslie Lewis
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Aubrey Nixon
Neysa Parham
Aaron Peck & Amber Johnson
Adrian Remington
Jay Shah & Maria Jauhar
Carolyn Shover
Matthew & Rosa Triolo
Evan & Jacquelyn Weinstein
Riann Willis
Abra Young



ENVISION THE FUTURE
 CAPITAL & ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN



SEASONAL PASS

3 MONTH PASS* TO THE JEA

*Summer
 seasonal
 includes
 Memorial Day
 thru Labor
 Day

Seasonal Single	\$250
Seasonal Couple	\$285
Seasonal Family	\$333

- \$25 Registration Fee
- Use of Health & Wellness center including fitness facilities, pools, lockers rooms & classes
- Payment due at sign up
- Not eligible for member pricing or financial assistance

SAVANNAHJEA.ORG

Health & Wellness Spotlight

Victoria Avilez (Lifeguard)

Victoria used her training and her wherewithal to come to the rescue of not one but TWO people in the span of a single week. Her quick and decisive action, both in and out of the water, helped to save lives. We thank you, Victoria, for being vigilant, watchful, and keeping us safe! Victoria is originally from New York and has been working at the JEA since August.



Katy Keyes (Yoga Instructor)

Katy teaches Yoga at the JEA and, not surprisingly, has seen her class attendance grow steadily for the past few months. Her calm, reassuring demeanor is infectious and welcoming. She makes her classes accessible to both novices and those that have been practicing yoga for years. Katy teaches both Gentle Yoga (Wednesdays and Fridays) and All-Levels Hatha Yoga (Tuesdays). For a full view of our new (and expanding) Group Fitness Schedule, check out www.savannahjea.org and click on "Fitness Classes."



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UP TO BAT THIS SPRING!





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Lessons are held in our heated salt water indoor pool.

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

Week 1: Shalom Summer

Week 2: Where the Wild Things Are

Week 3: Once Upon a Disney Movie

Week 4: Maccabiah Games/Color Wars

Week 5: Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead

Week 6: Splish Splash I Might Need a Bath

Week 7: Color Outside the Lines

Week 8: Just Dance

Add-Ons

Artrageous Adventures

6/12-6/16 (3rd-5th)

Ultimate Sports 1/2 Day

6/12 - 6/16 (K-2nd)

7/10 - 7/14 (3rd-5th)

Specialty Camps

Day Trekkers

6/19 - 6/23 (4th-8th)

Ultimate Sports

6/19 - 6/23 (K-2nd)

7/17- 7/21 (3rd-5th)



www.savannahjea.org



10 Sea-Sensational Years of JEA Preschool Savannah

If you were involved in the JEA in 2012 (11 years ago) you may remember the chatter about a new early learning center at the JEA. Not everyone was excited

about this new venture but many felt like there needed to be a pathway to engage Jewish families with young children in our community.

The dream became a reality and in August of 2013, JEA preschool Savannah opened its doors to 23 children, 3 classrooms, 5 teachers, one office coordinator, and one Director. Now 10 years later, this program has grown to 90 children, 7 (soon to be 8) classrooms, 20 teachers, one Office Coordinator, one Assistant Director, and one Director. And the most important part is that the goal of engaging our families in Jewish life was met in so many ways. As the preschool grew in numbers, so did the participation in community events like Purim Carnival,

Chanukah party, Oy Veh 5K, along with swim lessons, youth sports, and Children's and Camp programming.

10 years is a significant milestone and a **10 Sea-Sational Year** celebration is happening on Saturday March 11 at the JEA.

The preschool's annual fundraising event, Art Bash, will be an evening that the entire community is invited to attend. There will be a silent auction, live auction with items that the children have created, food, drinks, and an opportunity to connect with alumni and present families.

All of the information can be found on the Savannah JEA website or you can reach out to me at jodi@savj.org for ways you can support our school of excellence!



The original 3 - Amanda Newport, Penny Berkman, and Jodi Sadler, opened JEA Preschool Savannah in August 2013... and here they are in year 10! Wow! Where has the time gone!

Jewish Educational Alliance Preschool Savannah

Join us as we celebrate
10 Sea-Sational Years
JEA Preschool Art Bash 2023
Fundraiser
Saturday, March 11 @ 7:30pm
\$20 per person
Open Bar. Hors d'oeuvres & Desserts.
Live & Silent Auction. And MORE!
for tickets & to become a sponsor go to:
www.savannahjea.org/jeaartbash or
SCAN 

Let's Nurture The Tree Together

Eva Locker, Principal

As I am writing this article, we are about to celebrate the holiday of Tu B'Shvat, the "new year" for trees, and it got me thinking about education with an earthy lens.

We know how important it is to teach our children about their heritage, shared values, and traditions. Jewish education comes in many forms, built a bit like a tree. We plant the roots in early childhood, sending children to a Jewish preschool, PJ library, and community events. The branches of that tree come a bit later with things like camps and youth groups. But the trunk, the core of the structure, is education. When the tree is well nurtured and grows to be strong, its impact is so much wider than just acquired knowledge about our heritage. Jewish learning begins at home and is supported by school, Day school or Hebrew school. It takes the family lots of time and energy and dedication. (Finances are often a concern too and we are fortunate in Savannah to have a community where school and camp scholarships are available to help). But the task is big! It is never easy for a tree to grow on its own. You as parents, are vital to this process so to support and keep us going in our joined mission is a reminder of 10 items that a well-rounded Jewish education will bring to a child:

1. A strong sense of identity and pride about being Jewish
2. Learning experiences that are both challenging and valuable
3. Critical thinking
4. Positively experiencing Jewish holidays and Shabbat
5. Opportunities to socialize with other Jewish peers and establish strong friendships
6. Meaningful relationships with mentors, role models, and educators
7. Positive relationship to the land, people, and the State of Israel
8. Tools to express values and ethics in relation to Jewish principles
9. Capacity to recognize and express the spiritual journeys



SHALOM SCHOOL

10. Learning that fosters commitment to the Jewish people now and in the future

As parents, you can keep the trees strong. Help the roots and branches grow within your children. Let's turn the trees into forests together!

For more information on Shalom School, contact Eva Locker at theshalomschool@gmail.com or visit www.ShalomSchool.com.



An Open Invitation

by Ester Rabhan

As I write this article, Rambam is celebrating the 100th day of school. Faculty and students were given the opportunity to use creativity to celebrate! A lot of very, very old people are walking around the school. At first, I thought I walked into the wrong location and entered an assisted living facility.

To celebrate the completion of finals, our middle school students went to Fun Zone for a morning of bowling and competition. Our Student Council didn't think elementary school should miss out on fun just because they don't take midterms, so they organized an age-appropriate game, and played with the elementary classes. I have no idea what the rules were for the game, all I know is, there were lots of laughs and screams.

Our pre-school has been very busy welcoming parents, grandparents, and friends. Our first Shabbos Party, the children sang Shabbos songs and shared cookies and grape juice with all their guests. The next Shabbos Party was more Chanukah than Shabbos. All the children were dressed in various paraphernalia related to Chanukah and shared some adorable songs. Then all the pre-schoolers shared with their guests Chanukah cookies and a drink. The most recent Shabbos party was shared with winter fun. Each of the four classrooms had a different project for the children and parents/grandparents to make together. There

was a kiddush cup to decorate, a candle holder made of sand art, (each child made their own sand first), and a snow shaker, and a snowflake! All feedback expressed it was a huge success!!

Our middle school students had a visit from Mr. Alan Seidman, who is a grandparent of two of our students, (Henry and Ezra Rabinowich), and he is a retired science teacher. Mr. Seidman did some science experiments with the students. I'm not sure who had more fun, Mr. Seidman or the students. Mr. Seidman also visited first grade with his daughter, Marlene Rabinowich (parent of Henry and Ezra) to do an art project with the class.

Middle School just completed their in-house science fair. Our winners were 1st Place: Hudi Rabhan, 2nd Place: Miri Maccabee, 3rd Place: Dovi Nitekman, and Honorable Mention: Esti Lob and Yosef Slatius. Two professionals assessed each project and following a rubric scored the projects. We were unable to attend the Regional Science Fair as it was on Shabbos.

We have a lot going on in Rambam. It's not just about learning, it's also about being inspired and having fun!

Come visit us!!!



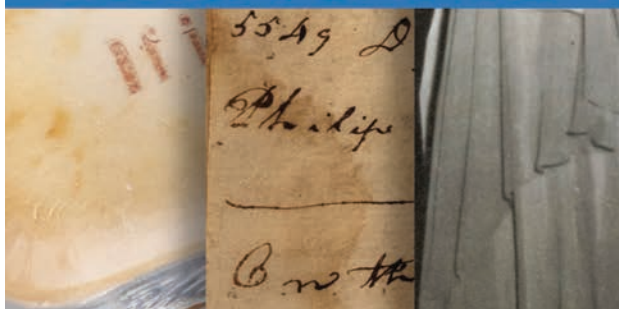
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CHABAD OF SAVANNAH PRESENTS

1703



PURIM NIGHT OUT

Monday, March 6

Open to all 21+

MEGILLAH READING • OPEN BAR • MASQUERADE



MORE INFO: JEWISHSAV.ORG/CELEBRATE

CHABAD OF SAVANNAH PRESENTS

84

PURIM

CELEBRATION



TUESDAY, MARCH 7

MEGILLAH READING | DELICIOUS DINNER | FUN FOR ALL AGES
MORE INFO AT JEWISHSAV.ORG/CELEBRATE

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WITH CHABAD OF SAVANNAH

April 5 & 6

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happy and meaningful
Passover!***

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*Join us as we celebrate
Purim with great food,
games, a costume parade,
and lots of fun!*

*Dinner will begin at 6:00
and the Megillah reading
will begin at 7:00 on
Monday, March 6th.*

*The cost is \$10 per person
or \$20 per family.*

*Please call 912-352-4737 to
make a reservation.*



Services

Minyan
Tues, 7:30 AM
Wed & Fri, 8:00 AM

6:00 Kabbalat Shabbat,
9:45 Shabbat Morning

Classes

Talmud Page of the Week
with Rabbi Gelman,
Wed, 7:00 PM

Learn to Lead
with Rabbi Gelman,
Thurs, 1:00 PM

RABBI SAMUEL GELMAN • ADAM FINS – PRESIDENT

9 Lee Boulevard Savannah, GA 31405 912-352-4737 agudatha@aol.com

Congregation Mickve Israel

Spring 2023

FAMILY & CHILDREN PROGRAMS

Kid-ish Club Shabbat - monthly Saturday morning shabbat for kids 6 & under

Family Havdalah at Rabbi & April Haas' home

Mitzvah Club for tweens & teens 6th grade and older

PURIM & PASSOVER

Purim Celebration - Mon, March 6

Men's Jewish/Irish Seder - Wed, March 22

Passover Seders - Wed, April 5 & Thur, April 6

SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday nights 6 pm

Saturday mornings 11 am

In-person & On YouTube weekly
www.youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah

Join us for meaningful services plus special guest speakers & dinner programs this Spring!

JUDAICA CLASSES

Weekly Topics with Rabbi Haas
Wednesdays 10:30 am

Torah Study with Glenn Kersey
Saturdays 1 pm

MUSEUM & GIFT SHOP

Open Monday - Friday

Schedule online www.mickveisrael.org

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.mickveisrael.org
www.youtube.com/mickveisraelsavannah

Sign-up to receive our weekly Enews
rsvp@mickveisrael.org

MICKVE ISRAEL

20 E. Gordon St.
Savannah, GA 31401
912-233-1547

Located in Savannah's Historic District
Across from Monterey Square

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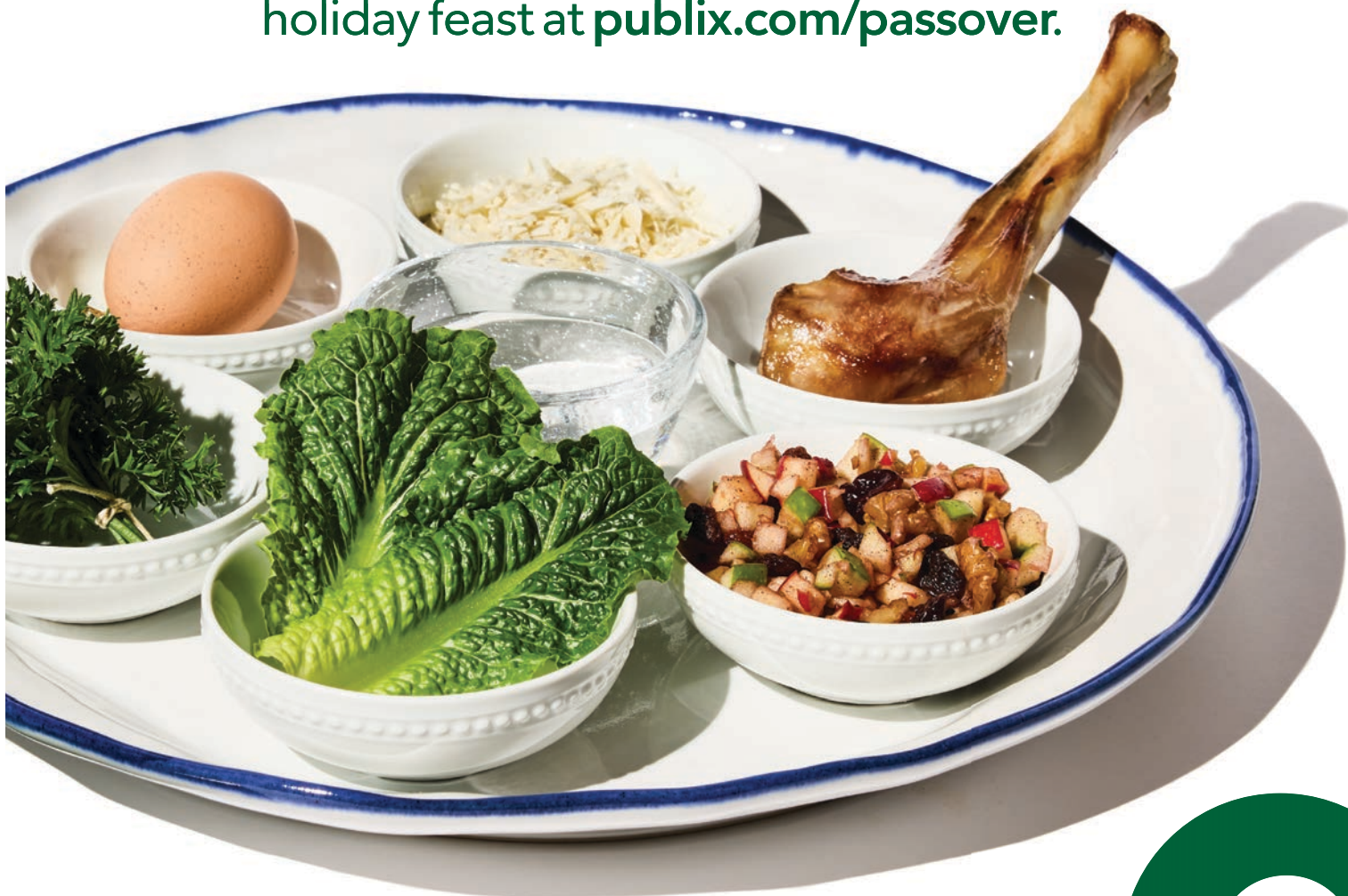
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Visit www.savj.org to see a complete list of funds and to make a donation.

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