

# KJA Community Events Calendar

**Knoxville Jewish Alliance**  
Building Community  
Enriching Lives  
6800 Deane Hill Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919

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**Knoxville Jewish Alliance**  
Building Community  
Enriching Lives

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Knoxville, TN 37919  
p 865.690.6343  
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KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY

*Voices*

HA=Heska Amuna Synagogue  
TBE=Temple Beth El  
AL=Adult Lounge  
BR=Board Room

## MAY 2007

15  
10:30a-Friendship Steering Com-AL  
12p-KJCFF Board Meeting-Offs  
7p-Rit & Wor Committee-TBE  
7:30p-Rabbi & Rel Serv Committee-HA

16  
6p-Hadassah tropical Luau Mixer-Bonnie Boring

17  
6p-Sisterhood Goes out-TBE  
6p-Preschool 50th Reunion Meeting-BR  
6p-Private Basketball-gym

18  
Rosh Chodesh Sivan  
6:30p-Talia Dessel Bat Mitzvah-HA  
8p-Shabbat services-TBE

19  
10a-Tot Shabbat-TBE  
Torah Study following Kiddush-HA  
9:30a-Talia Dessel Bat Mitzvah-HA

20  
9a-Talmud study-HA  
AJCC POOL OPENS  
9:30a-Religious School-TBE  
9:45a-Minyan-HA  
10:15a-Sisterhood Mtg-HA  
2p-Music & Drama-KJDS-offsite

21  
7:30p-KJA Board Meeting-AL  
7:30p-Israeli Dancing-Gym

22  
KJDS Last Day of school  
11a-Hazak-HA  
Lyl Shavuot-HA  
7:30p-Annual Congreg. Mtg-TBE

23  
Shavuot  
9:30a-Shavuot-HA  
5:30p-Shavout Buffet-Chabad

24  
Shavuot  
9:30a-Shavuot HA  
6p-Dalet Class Graduation-gym

25  
6:30p-Services/Bat Mitzvah-HA  
7:30p-Confirmation services-TBE

26  
9:30a-Rachel Brown Bat Mitzvah-HA

Torah Study following Kiddush-HA

27  
9a-Talmud study-HA  
9:45a-Minyan-HA

29  
6p-BBYO dance-gym  
6p-Boogie for Bucks

30  
6:15p-Adult Ed-TBE

## JUNE 2007

1  
8p-Shabbat services-TBE

2  
9:30a-Bat Mitzvah Jennie Frost-HA  
Torah Study following Kiddush-HA

4  
3-6p-Kinderdance Summer Program-AL  
7:30p-Israeli Dancing-Gym

5  
1:30p-Friendship Book Group-AL  
3-6p-Kinderdance Summer Program-AL  
6p-Executive Committee-TBE

7:30-Executive Committee-HA

6  
3-6p-Kinderdance Summer Program-AL  
6:15p-TBE

7  
3-6p-Kinderdance Summer Program-AL

8  
3-6p-Kinderdance Summer Program-AL  
8p-Shabbat services-TBE

9  
9:30a-Services-HA  
10a-Torah Study-TBE  
Torah Study following Kiddush-HA

10  
9a-Talmud study-HA  
9:45a-Minyan-HA

11  
7:15p-KJA Executive Committee-BR

12  
11a-Hazak-HA  
7p-Board of Directors Mtg-TBE

7:30p-Board of Trustees-HA

13  
6:15p-TBE

15  
8p-Shabbat services-TBE

16  
Rosh Chodesh Tammuz  
9:30a-Services-HA  
Torah Study following Kiddush-HA

17  
Rosh Chodesh Tammuz  
9a-Talmud study-HA  
9:45a-Minyan-HA

18  
7:30p-Israeli Dancing-Gym

19  
7p-Rit & Wor Committee-TBE  
7:30p-Rabbi & Rel Serv Committee-HA

20  
11:30a-Friendshippers-offsite

For update information, visit  
www.jewishknoxville.org

## Get Ready for the Summer of Fun 2007

By Wilma Weinstein

Just in time for the 2007 swimming season, the Arnstein Jewish Community Center is making improvements to both locker rooms and the snack bar. You have to come and see what our new "face" looks like. You won't recognize the pool area! The pool fence and buildings have been painted, the pool furniture has been refurbished, new lifeguard stands have been installed, and landscaping and other aesthetic improvements have been made. The pool opens May 20, 2007.

Contact the AJCC for information regarding pool parties and swim lessons.

The Smokin' Salmon swim team won their league in 2004, 2005 and 2006. The swim team builds friendships, self esteem, strength and leadership. Coaches will work with swimmers during practices to ensure the swimmer is working at a level that both challenges and encourages. The AJCC Swim Team coaching staff consists of experienced, highly motivated persons. A member of Greater Knoxville Area Interclub Swim

Association (GKAISA), Smokin' Salmon is open for girls and boys ages 5-18. Swimmers are divided into age group competition levels. Join now.

Practice your game on one of our four tennis courts. Leagues are forming, so please give Josh Hill, Cedar Bluff Management Area, a call at 865-386-3225.

Membership is open to all - so come and join us and get ready for the Summer of Fun 2007 summer at the AJCC!

## KJA Campaign Update

**Total: \$375,329**

**Number of Donors: 210**

**68 increases from 2006**  
**12 new pledges**

For more information on how you can contribute to the KJA Campaign, call 690-6343 or visit [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org).



Painters work on the guard shack exterior walls as part of the AJCC Pool renovation. The fences, showers, bathrooms, and snack bar also received fresh coats of paint.

Facilities Administrator Wilma Weinstein checks out the new lifeguard stands with Tipton Pools employees.

Getting the pool ready for swimmers is a major undertaking each spring. A Tipton Pools employee begins chlorinating the water.



## What's Inside

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## KJA Salutes Our Volunteers

Thank you to the following people for their help with the April Friendship Luncheon program: Gene Rosenberg for his very moving and thought-provoking program; Bernie Shorr for collecting money at the door; Eleanor Shorr and Laura Supman for providing beautiful spring flowers for the tables; and the Rosen Fund for underwriting the cost of providing transportation.

Thank you to Michael Messing for providing sound and taking photographs at the Hillel Three on Three Tournament.

## Jewish Family Services Wins Award

At the annual Association of Jewish Family and Childrens' Agencies Conference in New York City this year, Jewish Family Services of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance won a Kovod (Honor) Award for excellence in written materials for the new Jewish Family Services

Emergency Fund brochure. Nancy Britcher and Marilyn Burnett attended the conference and received the award and plaque, which is now home in Knoxville. For more information about JFS services and the emergency fund, please contact Nancy Britcher, LCSW, at 693-5837.

KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY

## voice

## Identification Statement

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## Officers

Scott B. Hahn	President
Stephen Rosen	President Elect
Stephen Rosen	Vice President Campaign
Seth Schweitzer	Vice President Children and Youth
Ellen Kern	Vice President
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Marilyn Wohl	Vice President
	Jewish Community Resources
Jane Cohen	Vice President Public Relations
Dr. Renee Hyatt	Secretary
	Treasurer
Dr. Ellen Schnoll	Immediate Past President
Jeff Gubitz	Executive Director

## Board Members at Large

Justin Bell, Marilyn Liberman, Rosalie Nagler,  
Jill Weinstein, Barbara Bernstein, Dr. Caren Gallaher,  
Dan Smith, Paul Steinfeld

## Automatic Board Members

Heska Amuna Congregation	Rabbi Louis Zivic
Temple Beth El Congregation	Rabbi Beth Schwartz
Heska Amuna Board Chairperson	Arnold Schwarzbart
Temple Beth El President	Wilma Weinstein
Knox County Hadassah President	Mary Evars-Goan
BBYO Advisory Board Chairperson	Karen Robinson
KJCFF, Inc. President	Pace Robinson

Chairperson, Men's Division Campaign; Chairperson, Women's Division, Campaign; Chairperson, Youth Division Campaign; and Executive Director, KJA, Inc. (ex officio), and chairpersons of these committees: Melissa Feinbaum, Allocations; Budget; Event Fundraising; Long-Range Planning; Pace Robinson, Facilities; Pace Robinson, Personnel; Camp; Children's Programs; Cultural Arts; Manny Herz, Institute for Jewish Studies; Ellen Kern, Leadership; Jewish Knoxville; AJCC Membership; Susan Silver, Adult Recreation and Wellness; Marilyn Burnett, Jewish Family Services; J.P. Dessel, Jewish Student Center; Bernie Shorr, Seniors/Friendshippers; Arnold Cohen, Community Relations Committee and Jane Cohen, Publications.

The KJA strives to serve Jewish life by providing the democratic forum, the organizational structure, the physical home, and financial means to support and promote the cultural, intellectual, and general welfare of the entire Jewish Community of Knoxville and the Jewish community across the world. The KJA is affiliated with the United Jewish Communities. The AJCC, a division of KJA, is a beneficiary of the United Way of Greater Knoxville. It is affiliated with the (JCCA) Jewish Community Center Association.

Knoxville Jewish Community Voice Staff  
Editor: Joyce York • Staff: Wilma Weinstein, Jeff Gubitz, Laura Uribe • Publications Committee Chair: Eleanor Shorr



## What is the General Assembly (GA)?

By Marilyn Liberman

The General Assembly (GA) is the largest gathering of lay and professional Jewish communal leaders in the Diaspora. It is the United Jewish Communities (UJC) premiere annual event, hosted by a different community each year. This year, the GA is hosted by the Jewish Federations of Tennessee - Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis and Nashville. The GA has been called the Super Bowl of Jewish Conferences, and attracts some of the finest minds in the Jewish World. More than 4,000 participants from across the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe and the Middle East are expected to travel to Nashville in November 2007.

The GA sponsors three days of stimulating and provocative programs led by outstanding local, national, Israeli and international Jewish scholars. It gives the conference attendees an opportunity to share ideas and gain new knowledge about their Jewish communities and others around the world. The GA also serves as an occasion to renew old friendships and make new ones within the larger Jewish community. Past dignitaries to the GA include the late Yitzchak Rabin, Benjamin Netanyahu, Ehud Barak, Bill Clinton, Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg, Elie Wiesel, Deborah Lipstadt, Ariel Sharon, Natan Sharansky, Susan Weidman Schneider, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and many others.

Executive Director Jeff Gubitz and past KJA president and community leader Marilyn Liberman are involved with the planning with

their counterparts from Nashville, Memphis and Chattanooga. Bernie Rosenblatt and Pace Robinson have been involved in several areas as well.

## What are the dates of the General Assembly?

The dates of the General Assembly are Sunday, November 11 to Tuesday, November 13, 2007.

## What are the registration fees for the GA?

Tennessee Host Communities- \$275  
Delegates from Knoxville will get a \$75 credit for working a four-hour block of time during the GA. Please note all fees are for the entire GA. There is no one day rate.

## Where is the GA taking place?

The 2007 GA takes place in Nashville, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center. All hotel guests will be staying at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center at a special GA rate of \$189.00 per night.

## Who can participate?

Everyone! The GA is for people familiar with the Federation/UJC system, as well as those who are not. It is for people interested in the issues facing the Jewish community as well as those who want to learn from scholars, authors and politicians.

## KJA President's Report

By Scott B. Hahn



With the advent of warm weather, one can't help but think about summer. As one person who grew up in Knoxville, I can't think of a more meaningful experience for a young person than to attend a Jewish summer program.

When I was in high school, BBYO had many excellent summer programs that I had the privilege to attend. I was also able to go to Israel for the first time through BBYO. When I was in college, I attended the Brandeis-Bardin Institute in Simi Valley, California. The program was run by two rising Jewish luminaries, Dennis Prager (now a radio talk-show host) and Joseph Telushkin (now a Jewish author).

These programs had a big impact on me for several reasons. Knoxville had a relatively small teen and young adult Jewish population. This gave me a chance to meet Jews from all over the world and from different backgrounds. I met people with whom I have remained friends for a very long time. Along the same lines, I was exposed to the wide world outside of Knoxville. While I believe that we have an excellent Jewish community, it was important to see Jews outside of my insular world. This was my first exposure to kids from different backgrounds from orthodox to secular Israeli. Scholars with a point of view that I had previously

been unexposed to taught me.

Finally, it gave me a chance to discover myself Jewishly. It is a quantitative difference living Jewish 24/7 as opposed to attending a class or lecture. Minute per minute, eight weeks of a summer program is slightly more time than a calendar school year.

I am well aware that the school year is different now than it was when I was in school. I know how young people have schedules crammed full of other activities. I am also aware that these programs can be costly. However, speaking from experience, these were some of the most significant Jewish events of my life.

The KJA has scholarships available for all sorts of summer programs from camps, BBYO, to trips to Israel. If you have a child that has shown a remote amount of interest, I strongly urge you to check into it. You never know when impact a Jewish summer program can have on a young life.

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## KJA Names New Camp Director

By Dan Schwartz, Camp Director,  
Milton Collins Day Camp

I would like to thank Jeff Gubitz and the staff of the AJCC for the warm welcome. I come to the MCDC with an enthusiasm for camp, after eight years of experience working in summer camps in Massachusetts and New York, which later inspired me to work with children and families in a variety of positions over the years. After graduating from Oak Ridge High School and completing my BA at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, I then relocated to Boston for six years where I worked in residential

counseling and obtained a Masters in Education from Boston University in 2000.

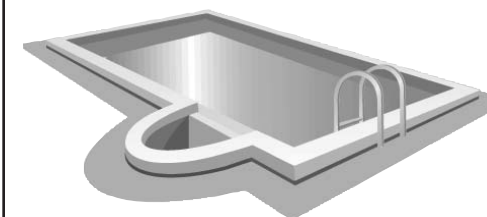
Returning to Knoxville in 2001, I worked as a family counselor and clinical supervisor for Youth Villages, an intensive in-home family therapy program for troubled youth and their families. I have been working since 2004 as a school counselor in Knoxville and am currently completing the last year of my Educational Specialist in School Counseling degree through the University of Tennessee. I was also married in 2004 and my wife Anne and I are currently expecting our first baby girl in August.

## KJA Welcomes Laura Uribe

Laura Uribe is the new administrative assistant at Knoxville Jewish Alliance.

Laura worked as a special events coordinator for a local not-for-profit in West Palm Beach, Florida for the past 10 years prior to moving to Knoxville in the fall 2006. Laura is married to husband, Ruben, and has six Chihuahuas and an Amazon parrot. When not working at Knoxville Jewish Alliance, Laura enjoys cooking, reading and spending time with her family.

## AJCC Pool



Opens Sunday,  
May 20 at 1:00 p.m.

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The KJA has scholarships available for all sorts of summer programs from camps, BBYO, to trips to Israel. If you have a child that has shown a remote amount of interest, I strongly urge you to check into it. You never know when impact a Jewish summer program can have on a young life.

I am extremely excited about my return to camping, where I have always felt most at home. The Milton Collins Day Camp holds all of the tradition and sense of family and community that I feel makes camp most special and rewarding. I hope to continue to cultivate the tradition of excellence that has been built so soundly by my predecessors. Please stop me and say hello when you get the chance. Let me know what I can do for you and how I can help you and your children best enjoy our first summer together here at the MCDC.

## Israeli Dancing at the AJCC

Israeli dancing is held at the AJCC on the first and third Mondays of every month from 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. unless it's a holiday. For more information, contact Fay Campbell at 694-2628.

## “ON YOUR, MARKS, Let’s Swim!”

By Jeff Gubitz

Kaitlin Wojner is our new Smoking Salmon swim coach for the Summer of Fun 2007.

Kaitlin graduated from of Bearden High School and is now a student at Amherst College where she swims on their winning team. Over the past four years she became progressively more involved with the AJCC family, specifically with the Smokin’ Salmon Swim Team.

In a recent interview, Kaitlin reflected that “Swimming is a sport that I have been actively involved in for a majority of my life. I have been swimming year-round since the age of seven.” She is a firm believer that team sports like swimming are ways to build strong and caring youth for the future. Kaitlin goes on to say, “It amazes me that so many of the kids who get involved with our team are even younger than that. It is important to me that the numerous four and five year olds who join each year for the first time, end the summer with nothing but good memories of their initial team experience. There are so many benefits they receive as athletes: health, camaraderie, structure, and a sense of achievement. Catching their attention with a fun

team environment, then keeping them involved and motivated are key.

As a very young swimmer, Kaitlin was a member of several other teams, and her brother is still involved with the Knoxville Racquet Club. Wojner is a big fan of the AJCC and reflects that “in the past, the AJCC has been blessed with coaches who rightfully value the preservation of a fun, light, family atmosphere. She went on to say, “I hope that I can continue that tradition.” In closing, Kaitlin says, I would like to think that as a part of the lifeguard, lesson, and swim team staff, I have made an impact in all aspects of the community surrounding the pool. It is hard for me to imagine, considering the relationships I have formed with the swimmers and their families, seeking work as a coach elsewhere. I truly value the bonds many of the children and I share and am eager to help them improve their skills in swimming.

We welcome Kaitlin Wojner back for another successful season. It is still time to sign up for the swim team, Milton Collins Day Camp, and join the AJCC for the Summer of Fun 2007. For membership information, please call, 690-6343 or visit us on the web at [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org).



*Kaitlin Wojner is the new Smoking Salmon swim coach for the Summer of Fun 2007.*

## Where in the World is Reggio Emilia?



*Leo Pollock, Alephbet, uses the medium of ice painting to express himself.*

By Rebekah Goemaat, AJCC Preschool Director

Once upon a time (shortly after World War II), in a little village in Italy, people with not so much money but with big hearts made some very important decisions.

- 1) They decided that never again could they allow narrow-minded, bigoted thinking to wreak such havoc in the world.
- 2) They decided their children were more important than anything else in the world.
- 3) They decided that in order to change the way the world thinks, they would have to start with their own children.

And so was born a system of public preschools with a unique approach to Early Childhood Education (now known as the “Reggio Emilia Approach”) that would make their little village famous for decades to come.

Once the citizens of Reggio Emilia decided to build the preschools, they came together to talk. They talked about what their values were and about what was important to them and their children. After many, many long evenings of talking (which, I’m sure, included at least a measure of argument, compromise and laughter), they decided to base their schools on the following innovative educational concepts.

### The Image of the Child

Children are viewed as competent, curious, full of knowledge, potential, and interested in connecting to the world around them.

### Many Languages

Children act on a variety of materials: clay, wire, drawing media, paper and so on. They learn the ABC’s of each material which they use to express their ideas, theories and feelings about the world in which they live.

### Teachers as Partners

Teachers are viewed as facilitators of children’s learning experiences. As partners, they listen, document, challenge, and organize children’s learning in a collaborative relationship with other colleagues.

### The Three Subjects of Education

Children, parents and teachers have rights; the right to safety, care and welfare, the right to be involved and the right to grow professionally.

### An Emergent Learning Process

Ideas are shared, work is exchanged and



*The Reggio Emilia approach encourages natural curiosity. Lily Hirsh, Bet, explores materials in the Bet room*

researching and learning among teachers and children.

### The Role of the Environment

Through the conscious use of space, color, light, displays of children’s work, and attention to nature and detail, the environment serves as another teacher.

### Time

Time is influenced by the interests and activities that the children bring to life within the school. This in turn impacts schedules, groupings and routines.

opportunities are created to extend and build upon theories that are uncovered. In this way of working, projects may occur which last days or months.

### Collaboration and Interaction

Children, parent and teacher collaboration and interaction at all levels make everything possible.

### The Role of Parents

Parents are an essential component of the school. They are an active part of their children’s learning experiences and help to ensure the welfare of all the children in the school.

### Documentation

The learning process between children and teachers is captured, made visible and then shared in order to support wondering,



*Parent collaboration is a key Reggio concept. Emily Theriot and daughter Grace, with Riley Goodfriend, Anna Enkema, and Eliza Gallaher at the Purim Carnival*

Then... once upon a time, more than 65 years later, a little preschool in Knoxville, Tennessee decided that these were pretty good ideas and decided to embark on their own “Reggio Emilia Inspired” journey. It was a long journey – took years to get it how they wanted it – and there were many bumps in the road. They talked, they argued, they compromised and they laughed. But the whole time, they all knew that these were their children, their gift from G-d, and that they could give these precious little ones no less than the best.

To find out more about the Reggio Inspired Approach, visit these websites...

[www.reggiochildren.it](http://www.reggiochildren.it)  
[www.reggioalliance.org](http://www.reggioalliance.org)  
[www.reggioinspired.com](http://www.reggioinspired.com)

## Camp K’ton Ton Set for Summer Fun

By Rebekah Goemaat, Camp K’ton ton Director

We’re getting ready to kick off another summer of fun! At Camp K’ton ton, your child will explore their world through art, science and outdoor activities. He or she will gain confidence swimming in our

pool, going on nature hikes and interacting with counselors and peers.

If you’ve not yet signed up your child, please call our director, Becky Goemaat, at 690-6343 to find out about available openings for children ages 1 to 4.

We still have just a couple openings for Camp K’ton ton counselors! If you have experience working with young children and enjoy active play and outdoor activities, give us a call and find out how you can have a fun and meaningful summer!

## Camp Tikkun Olam Participants Gearing Up for Summer

By Deborah Oleshansky, CTO Coordinator

Mazal tov to our Camp Tikkun Olam Israel Exchange program delegates for Summer of Fun 5767/2007. Area students include  
 Harris Bailey  
 Mara Hahn  
 Rachel Iroff  
 Zach Kramer

Bryna Oleshansky  
 Jacob Pais  
 Emma Silver-Alford  
 Britt Sturm

The Israel campers will be in Knoxville from July 3 until July 16. While here in Knoxville, the teens will do community service work, create a joint art

project, visit the campers at Milton Collins Day Camp and learn about life in the United States. The group will then go to Israel to continue tikkun olam projects and travel throughout Israel.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday night July 14: Dinner and Havdallah at the AJCC pool with the U.S. and Israeli Camp Tikkun Olam delegates.

## Cool Off This Summer of Fun 2007 With The FRIENDSHIPPERS!

By Beth Heller, Senior Adult Activities Director

Join us for the following sensational summer programs!

**Wednesday, June 20:** Joan Markel of the UT McClung Museum presents: "Ancient China: China for Citizens of the World." 11:30 a.m. in the private room of the Mandarin House Restaurant. \$8.00 per person for luncheon; no charge for the program alone.

July Date TBA: Lunch and a Matinee at Downtown West Cinema. Watch for details!

**Thursday, August 9:** Is it Funny...or Is it Anti-Semitic? featuring Mimi Pais. Noon at the AJCC. \$8.00 per person for catered luncheon; no charge for the program alone.

### TRANSPORTATION!

Need transportation? Rides available to ALL luncheon programs! Don't miss out! Contact Beth at the AJCC, 690-6343.

### FRIENDSHIPPER BOOK GROUP:

The Friendshipper Book Group continues to meet during the summer! The group will meet the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at member's homes. New members welcome! Interested? Contact Beth at the AJCC, 690-6343.

### ATTENTION! GREAT OPPORTUNITY! ORAL HISTORY PROJECT!

Would you like to tell your stories and have them recorded on a DVD for your children, your grandchildren and your great grandchildren? Now you can. Interested? Contact Beth Heller at the AJCC, 690-6343.

### FRIENDSHIPPER DISCRETIONARY FUND

Looking for a way to honor a friend, send get-well wishes, or just let someone know you care? A contribution to the Friendshipper Discretionary Fund is a great way to show you care. The Friendshipper Discretionary Fund purchases equipment to be used by the Friendshippers and helps cover the costs of special Friendshipper programs and speakers. For more information, please contact Beth Heller or Ed Hunter at the Knoxville Jewish Alliance, 690-6343.

Suggestions? Ideas for programs? Know someone who would like to be added to the Friendshipper mailing list? Please contact Beth Heller at the AJCC, 690-6343.

The Friendshipper Program is a program of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance. Thank you for your support.

## Jewish Family Services News

By Nancy Britcher, MSW, LCSW, Jewish Family Services Director

**JFS coordinates** "Chai" Bags for Special Visits Jewish Family Services Volunteers treat residents in community assisted living and nursing homes with our famous "Chai" bags. These bags enable volunteers to bring a little gift with them when they visit those confined to nursing homes or other long-term care facilities. They contain assorted toiletries and personal care items with separate bags designed for men and women. If you would like to know more about our "Chai" bag program or volunteer some time to visit our older adults in assisted living and nursing homes, please call

Nancy Britcher, JFS, at 693-5837 or contact our Volunteer Coordinator Evan Sturm.

### A Festive Passover Celebration at Elmcroft of Knoxville

On Wednesday, March 28, 2007, a Passover celebration was given by Jewish Family Services for our Jewish older adult residents of assisted living and retirement homes. Held at Elmcroft of Knoxville, 28 people, including residents from two different facilities, volunteers and family members enjoyed a mini-

seder accompanied by wonderful Passover desserts. Rabbi Zivic gave a drash and Mendel Wilhelm entertained the attendees with his rendition (accompanied by his mother) of the four questions! Our next special holiday event will be for Shavuot. If you would like to be involved please contact Nancy Britcher or Pat Rosenberg at the JFS office, 693-5837.



Jewish Family Services hosts a seder during Passover.



Miriam Esther Wilhelm and son Mendel greet guests at the seder celebration.

## The June 15 VOICE deadline is Monday, June 21.

Send your articles by  
E-mail: [voice@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:voice@jewishknoxville.org)  
Fax: 694-4861

Mail to: VOICE, 6800 Deane Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919

## Yom HaShoah Seder Moving Experience

By Wilma Weinstein

The Yom HaShoah program began at 2:00 p.m. with a candle-lighting ceremony. Participants joined together in one large circle and all were encouraged to open their hearts to understand and feel the pain and suffering of the Shoah victims, as well as the comfort and strength we get from living in a warm caring Jewish community. Everyone used a Haggadah for the Yom HaShoah Seder edited by Rabbi Avraham (Avi) Weiss. The program was innovative and meaningful. Candles were lit, including one by Senator Tim Burchett, honoring the six million killed in the Holocaust.

Participants included narrators Sandra Parsons, Marilyn Liberman, David Linwood, and Tony Zucker; readers Art Pais, Ernie Gross, Morty Goodfriend, and Marilyn Kallet; and singers Carolyn

Silver-Alford, Norma James, and Kathy Goodfriend.

Committee members include Manny Herz, chair, Sandra Parsons, Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Rabbi Louis Zivic, Jeff Baerman, Isadore Sauers, Gilya Schmidt, Rabbi Yossi, Rabbi Victor, Marilyn Kallet, Marilyn Wohl, Jeff Gubitz and Wilma Weinstein.



Art and Mimi Pais attend the Yom HaShoah seder.



Participants read from a haggadah at the Yom HaShoah event.

## Dear AJCC Parents,

I wanted to let you know that, as of mid-June, I will be leaving AJCC Preschool. I have struggled with this decision and have decided that it is in the best interests of myself and Andrew to move to Hampton, Virginia to be near family, where I will be teaching special education in the fall. While I am excited about being near family again, my emotions are bittersweet, as I will be leaving many people that I love here in Knoxville and here at AJCC.

This community is a very welcoming community—and three years ago, it welcomed me with open arms, becoming a second home for Andrew and me. I want to thank all of you for that. This time at AJCC has changed our lives forever in ways I will never forget.

When I interviewed for the position of director, former executive director Bernie

Rosenblatt said to me, "I want AJCC Preschool to be THE BEST." I took his words to heart, and that has been my goal during my time here. I have been privileged to talk with so many of you who share that vision. With the continued move toward Reggio Emilia approach coupled with the vision of those who love this place, AJCC Preschool will continue to become a model of excellence for our community.

Terri Adkisson, our assistant director, has agreed to take over the direction of Camp K'ton ton for the remainder of the summer. Terri is an amazing, capable person who loves our children, and I feel grateful to be able to leave AJCC Early Childhood programs in her hands until a new director is hired.

Best wishes from my heart,

Becky Goemaat  
Early Childhood Director

## Former Longtime AJCC Secretary Dies



Helen Ecker, former AJCC secretary for 31 years, died Sunday, April 15 in Memphis.

A Brooklyn native, Helen Ecker moved to Knoxville in 1942, where her parents had opened a retail store called The Community Store. She and her husband Michael continued in retail with a store simply called Eckers.

Helen began working at the AJCC in 1963, when the AJCC was located on Vine Avenue. At the AJCC, she was secretary and bookkeeper for the AJCC and the Knoxville Jewish Federation, and she even chaired all the committees when there was no director in 1968-69. A woman of many hats, Ecker also worked on the Menorah, the Center's newsletter.

When the Deane Hill property was purchased, she worked out of a house on the property until the current AJCC building was completed.

In 1974, Ecker retired, only to be persuaded to return by then-president Ted Reback. She then spent the next 20 years working at the AJCC before permanently retiring in 1994. She moved to Memphis to be closer to family.

In reflecting on her death, current KJA director, Jeff Gubitz fondly remembered her for her knowledge and her deep commitment to the Knoxville Jewish community. Gubitz said, "Our members were more than just a number in her book." She loved a good laugh and in the mid 1980s enjoyed traveling whenever she could get away from Knoxville. She often told Gubitz that she enjoyed traveling and always with a good hearted laugh and broad smile "...spending her children's inheritance." KJA President Scott Hahn added, "She was the friendly face of the AJCC for two generations of kids."

# Hillel Hoops for Health with Bruce Pearl

By Deborah Oleshansky, JSC/Hillel Director

The first annual Hillel Hoops for Health Three on Three basketball tournament was held on UT campus in April. The event, designed to benefit the Interfaith Health Clinic, raised over \$900. Interfaith Health Clinic Board member Dr. Bernard Rosenblatt was on hand to accept the donation check on behalf of the clinic which provides affordable medical care, dental care, mental health counseling and prescription medications for the working uninsured and their families.

The early rounds of the tournament were held at the HPER Building and over one dozen teams participated in the double elimination rounds. The semi-final and final games were held at the Stokely Athletic Center. UT Men's Basketball Coach, Bruce Pearl, was on hand to "coach" the final games and

players Wayne Chisholm and Duke Crews joined him. Grand prize for the tournament was dinner for the three team members with Coach Pearl at the Northshore Brasserie.

The fundraiser was the vision of UT Hillel President Elyse Messing and she was tireless in her commitment to the completion of the event. She was joined by students Pam Chvotkin, Amber Case, Andrew Toltsis, Leigh Eisenberg, Eric Lehman, Jonathan Coplon, Matt Dietel, and Eliza Chafetz who worked on the planning committee.

Many thanks to our business sponsors: Markman's Jewelers, Northshore Brasserie, Stephens Audio Visual, Tennessee School of Beauty, and Winston Eye & Vision Center.

For more information, please visit <http://web.utk.edu/~uthillel/>.



Tennessee Basketball Coach Bruce Pearl talks to the winning team.



Rae Oleshansky clowning around with UT basketball players Duke Crews and Wayne Chism.



Bernard Rosenblatt, Interfaith Clinic board member, accepts a check from UT students Elyse Messing, Amber Case and Pam Chvotkin.



Coach Bruce Pearl referees the final 3 on 3 tournament game.

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# KJA Campaign Update

By Bernie Rosenblatt

When Stephen Rosen, the KJA Vice President for Campaign, asked me to write this article from a personal perspective, I immediately said yes. Then I thought about it; how can I sort out what I know as the retired executive director from a personal point of view? This was a bit more difficult! So I decided to assume a more naive approach. What if I did not know why I should give to the Campaign?

How could I rationally decide to contribute to the Annual KJA Campaign? If I attended the Annual Meeting (which I did) I would have realized that I was part of a dynamic community; I would have heard energetic reports given and received the Annual Report. When I read it I learned where all of the money raised goes locally and internationally. And then I thought, what if I did not go to the meeting, how could I find enough information to help me make a decision? Well, I could call the V.P. for Campaign but I would not want to seem

ignorant! Then I thought, I could go to the website, [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org), (which I did) and lo and behold, there was a tremendous amount of information about all that KJA does and who it supports and about all of the Jewish Knoxville organizations and what they do and how KJA supports them and how Knoxville is connected to the Jewish world at large. So now I could be more prepared with information, but maybe I need more affect. Now I guess I could call Stephen or Scott Hahn, KJA President, and get the emotional pitch but if I needed an even more visceral experience I could go the KJA and see programs in action. If I was really ambitious, I could go to the UJC (United Jewish Communities) General Assembly (the GA) and see why some 4,000-5,000 other Jews give to their campaigns or I could go on a Mission to Israel and see first hand where my money goes overseas. The opportunities seem endless if I had the inclination, the time and, in some instances, I wanted to spend the money. So, if I was really

open to persuasion, I could find the facts.

As I thought about it some more, and why I give, I guess I am really guided by the fact that I grew up in an environment (home and afternoon Hebrew School) where giving was what one did, as a Jew and as a human being. I learned that no matter how little one has there are those in more need and that it was my obligation to help. I learned that I was part of a community, that I should not separate myself from that community and that I had a financial obligation to that community. I guess it was part of our family DNA. Also, I remember a speaker somewhere once said: "show me a person's check book and I will tell you a great deal about their values and their character!" I have thought often about that statement. I guess that one could build a long list of legitimate reasons why one can or cannot, should or should not give to the Campaign. Yet, the bottom line for me has to do with values and character. It has been said: If I am only for myself, then what am I?

**For the latest news and calendar updates,  
Visit [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)**

## The Jewish Community Archives of Knoxville and East Tennessee

### The Way We Were

1938 JCC Team  
Front row: C.B. "Buster" Brown, Unknown, Louis Glazer  
Middle row: Milton Collins, George Busch, John Crocey, Max Wolf, Coach Cy Polan  
Back row: Milton Gourse, Joe Billig



# Earth Day Community Service Event

By Deborah Oleshansky, B'nai Tzedek Coordinator

An enthusiastic and energetic group of teen volunteers spent part of Earth Day working on a community service project at Ijams Nature Center. The students weeded a large area around the hawk house, laid landscaping fabric and covered the area with mulch. Overall, they contributed a full 40 hours of volunteer effort, a full week of work in one afternoon! Ijams staff was THRILLED with the effort! Volunteers will gather again soon for an ice cream celebration in honor of their labor.



Hannah Hughes, Haley Lowentritt, Keaton Noon, Nathan Bendriem, Samuel Bendriem, Max Silver-Alford, Justin Spiegelman, Bryna Oleshansky, and Rae Oleshansky weed a bed by the hawk house at Ijams Nature Center.



Noah Erwin, Andrew Messing, Zack Kramer, Josh Carson, and Bryna Oleshansky move mulch to be used in a nearby plant bed.



Front row: Lilia Brock, Iain Konigsberg, Justin Spiegelman, Nathan Bendriem, Sam Bendriem, Andrew Messing. Back row: Britt Sturm, Hannah Hughes, Bryna Oleshansky, Rae Oleshansky, Keaton Noon, Max Silver-Alford, Zack Kramer, Haley Lowentritt, Rachel Brown, and McKenzie Felthoff.

# BBG to Host Dance-A-Thon

By Avi Hahn, BBG President

May 29, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the AJCC, marks the day our community, with the leadership of Gert Weinstein BBG #636, has a chance to make a difference. The girls of Weinstein would love YOUR participation in our Dance-A-Thon. All of the proceeds of this fundraiser will go to BBYO's International Service Fund (ISF), which in turn goes directly to relief in the state of Israel. Sponsorship forms will go out a few weeks prior to the event, and each

participant is asked to organize various sponsors before the Dance-A-Thon. To acquire a form, information, or ask any questions, please email Megan Weiss, the head coordinator of this event, at megamoo9209@aol.com. \$7.00 will be charged at the door for further fundraising, so bring your friends, Jewish or not, to enjoy free food, good music, and some old-fashioned fun, all for a good cause. Don't forget your dancing shoes, because the fun won't stop until you drop!

## Summer Camp Registration forms are online. Visit [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)

# Living Museum Entertains, Educates

Temple Beth El's Religious School presented a Living Museum on Sunday, April 22, 2007. The ribbon cutting was conducted by the Director Norma James and Rabbi Beth Schwartz. Once inside the Living Museum, Temple members, families, and friends wandered through displays by each class. The classes showcased what they had learned throughout this past year, including performing acts of G'milut Chasadim, volunteering for Heart Action, studying the Holocaust, and portraying famous Jews, through pictures, costumes, and displays. The Museum ended with a play, Abraham's Family Tree, presented by the 1st/2nd Grade Class. The play followed the journey of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Esau, and Rachel and Leah. Following the Museum, a pizza lunch was served.



Abraham's Family Tree actors pictured from left to right: (top row) Rachel Margulies, Kalisa Parsons, Justen Bain, Taylor Kolnick, (bottom row) Benjamin Gibbons, Brandon Schulz, Isaac Lehrich.

# Positions Available at HARS

It is time for Heska Amuna Religious School to seek some new staff members for the 5768 school year. We have a few teaching positions open at different grade levels. Our teaching assistant program has been changed and we are asking that those who wish to work as madrachim (teaching assistants) request applications immediately. There will be no automatic renewals without current applications both for teachers and for madrachim. This year, those who wish to work as madrachim will be applying to work on Mondays or

Wednesdays ONLY as Prozdor has been moved to Sunday mornings. Qualifications for teachers include a love of Jewish learning, skills in working with children, and the time to commit to our growing program. Madrachim must be at least 14 years old or in the 9th grade. Pay is commensurate with experience. Call Carolyn Silver-Alford at 522-0701 if you are interested in applying or if you know of someone who would be an asset to our school. Applications are now available by mail or e-mail.

# Temple Beth El Hosts Women's Seder

By Liz Gassel

The Sisterhood of Temple Beth El celebrated "A Women's Seder" on March 25. Women of all generations participated. By providing child care, young mothers were able to attend. Mature women from our and other congregations, seniors from Echo Ridge and Westin Place and many invited guests from various faiths also were present.

This year, the Sisterhood revised the Haggadah we have used at the previous years' seders. Aply put together by Karen Smith, Laurie Fisher, Liz Gassel with Rabbi Schwartz, the new version emphasizes a woman's view of the Exodus and Miriam's role in the story. The event was presided over by Rabbi Beth Schwartz and Laurie Fisher and each guest participated by reading a paragraph of the Passover story. There was an abundance of food with Temple Beth El Sisterhood providing kugels and our guests contributing some unique Passover dishes. Recipes for the Passover dishes contributed were collected and will be available in printed book form for next Passover.

This is an event Temple Beth El Sisterhood celebrates every two years and is well worth putting on your calendar for 2009.



Laurie Fisher leading the Temple Beth El Women's Seder.



Marcie Silverstein lighting candles at the Women's Seder



Participants at Temple Beth El's Women's Seder

# Heska Amuna to Host Annual Meeting

Heska Amuna Synagogue congregation members should mark their calendars for Sunday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m. when Heska Amuna Synagogue will hold the 2007 Annual General Membership Meeting at the Synagogue in the Rosen Social Hall.

Participants will elect new board officers, receive the annual report, enjoy refreshments, and get a chance to schmooze with fellow congregants.

## Shorrlines: Don't Mess With Me

By Eleanor Shorr, KJA Publications Chairperson

This is a story of our two "pixilated" aunts – two elderly women living alone in Florida – each in separate apartments. Actually elderly is a kind word to describe them – even by today's standards they are OLD. Old - but in full possession of their minds which are razor sharp. One is 94 and the other is 96.

Now in spite of all warnings to the contrary, the 94-year-old is a life-long smoker. She lives alone because the 96-year-old is contemptuous of a smoker and refuses to breathe the same air. Mrs. 94 no longer has any friends to join her in a game of mah jongg or bridge because of the polluted air surrounding her. When we pointed out that in Florida it was easy to go out on the balcony or patio to smoke – her raucous and indignant retort was – "Why should I? I have as much right to smoke as you do to object to it" and she becomes almost rabid on the subject.

When they moved to Florida eons ago, they

were youngish and beautiful with complexions that mirrored their years in the Northeast – no sunspots, no freckles and very few wrinkles. They had devoted their lives to avoiding the sun at all cost – but then they moved to sun country.

No one sold sun parasols and the shady side of the street was not always available – so-o-o picture if you will, two beautifully dressed and bejeweled sisters arm in arm crossing the streets of Miami Beach, Boca Raton and Palm Beach, strolling on the byways of the outdoor malls with two fully open utilitarian jet black umbrellas over their heads, shielding them from their enemy, the sun. These two pixilated sisters stopped traffic even where people are generally used to – shall we say – free spirits.

Well, just recently Mrs. 94 who refuses to wear a Medic Alert around her neck because it costs \$40/month to monitor it (as a side note – she has oodles of stocks and money – but she says it was accumulated because she is so frugal), Mrs. 94

called her sister, Mrs. 96 on the phone that she always keeps within reach, and cried that she had fallen. Mrs. 96 prudently called 911 and that poor young man walked into a hornet's nest.

Remember we told you how bright 94 is and how years and years of smoking has made her voice rough as a man's. Simple questions concerning her age, name, and address to determine her mental ability made her more and more annoyed with what she considered the stupidity of each question. Finally, the unsuspecting medic asked the one that set off her famous family temper: "Who is the president of the United States?" She took one deep breath and let him have it both barrels from deep in her heart and soul – cussed loudly and clearly, "That!!!!!! \*\*\*\*##\*XYZ George W. Bush!"

Let's hope she never needs 911 again – She is on their "do not call" list! but those of us in the family who share her DNA, temper and all, are proud of her.

## UT Hillel Hosts Pesach Seder



Richie Bonilla, Zach Zalowitz, Elyse Messing, Amber Case, Jessica Frieden, Leigh Eisenberg, Eliza Chafetz, and Seth Schklar.



Damion Brown, Matt Hilton, Lindsay Weiss, Leah Pearl, Steven Pearl, Bruce Pearl, Steven Jarret, Nicole Petric.

Students, young professionals, and a few rowers from Wisconsin joined together to celebrate the first Pesach Seder on Monday, April 2. Special thanks to Temple Beth El for allowing us to use their facility for the event and to Marilyn Burnett for all of her help, including sharing the Heska Amuna kitchen.



Students enjoy a Pesach meal at the UT Hillel seder.

## Suzy Snoops

**Joe and Marion Goodstein** send best wishes from Israel and want to share some family news. Grandson **Nadav Goodstein-Hillbuch** will be Bar Mitzvah in Jerusalem July 27-28. Granddaughter **Lisa** is now a freshman at the University of Maryland, College Park. Granddaughter **Allison** is now with UJC in Washington, DC. And, grandson **Be-eri** has completed four years with the Israeli army.

**Jennifer Gubitz**, daughter of **Jeff and Charlene Gubitz**, was recently accepted to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's rabbinical program. She will begin her studies in July in Jerusalem.

Jennifer is an alum of the Milton Collins Day Camp, a graduate of Indiana University with a degree in Jewish Studies and English and a Certificate in Eastern European Studies. She currently works for Hillel in Washington, DC and worked as a legislative assistant in 2004-05 for the Religious Action Center and Rabbi David Saperstein.

**Ron Gubitz**, an AJCC and Milton Collins Day Camp alum, was recently featured in the Indiana University Alumni Association Magazine for his work and music with urban youth. He currently lives in St. Louis and works as a recruiter for Teach for America, having taught English at a center city school in St Louis for four years. Ron is a graduate of Indiana University.

**Lissa Miller**, oldest daughter of **Lee Miller**, and the late **Lenny Miller**, has taken a new job in Los Angeles, CA. Her new position is with Haley & Aldrich, Environmental, Real Estate, & Infrastructure Services. Lissa is a biomedical engineer and her new position is program manager, responsible for hazardous waste clean-up activities at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in Simi Hills, CA.

**Sam Winston** has been accepted for the fall entering class at the Southern College of Optometry. Sam received his undergraduate degree from Miami University (Oxford, OH) in May. Grandfather **Harold Winston**, a 1941 graduate of SCO, is thrilled at the news, as is Grandmother **Becky**. Sam will be the third generation of the family to go to SCO, as his father **Barry** (a 1974 graduate) and uncle **Jerry** (a 1967 graduate) also received their degrees there. This admission will put Sam in the 2011 class of new doctors of optometry.

### In the News

**Mark Kaye** was featured in the News-Sentinel's West Zone paper as the parent facilitator of an eighth grade reading group at Cedar Bluff Middle School. Kaye led the discussion of Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic* during the lunchtime meeting and hosted a mini-seder because the book's setting features the Passover feast.

## Yasher Koach to Shabbat Hosts

Thank you to all the gracious Shabbat Dinner hosts for UT Hillel students spring semester 2007: George and Ellen Kern, Miriam Weinstein, Pat Caron, Art and Mimi Pais, Elmcraft Assisted Living Community, Larry Anovitz and Deborah Cole, Mark Blumenthal and Mindy Goldberg, Gilya Schmidt, Arnold and Mary Linda Schwarzbart, Josh Gettinger and Barb Levin, Jeff and Nancy Becker, Ted and Wendy Besmann, Marilyn Burnett and Elmcraft Assisted Living Community, David and Amy Hull, and Abraham and Judy Brietstein.

Your hospitality, graciousness and generosity created delicious and joyous memories for all the students who participated. Thanks also to UT Hillel student Adam Schwartz for coordinating the dinners.



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## AJCC Wish List

The Arnstein Jewish Community Center is always looking for items to add or replace items that we do not have or have outlived their useful life. If you are able to donate any items, we are happy to provide a charitable donation tax receipt. Items we'd love to have:

- Rubbermaid Heavy-duty Charcoal full double-door cabinet. We need 5 of these for camp storage. We found the best price at Target for \$107.99 each.
- Other items needed for the preschool are white or light wood cabinets (the kind you can put together) for storage.
- Gazebo for outside shaded gatherings.
- Shelving for storage.
- Photo-quality desktop printers.

Remember your donations are tax-deductible and the AJCC will furnish you with a letter for your tax records. Thanks for your help.

## UJC Aids Va. Tech Students, Families

From a IJC press release

United Jewish Communities/the Federations of North America are rapidly coordinating with other Jewish organizations and agencies to extend aid to the stricken community at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University in the wake of this week's shooting massacre, the worst in modern U.S. history.

UJC/Federations and other Jewish organizations are supporting the 25,000-member student community, including 1,400 Jewish undergraduates and graduates, the Virginia Tech Hillel, and the Jewish community of Blacksburg, where the campus is located. UJC and federations have approved initial aid to the local campus Hillel, provided a rabbi to administer pastoral care to the local community, and remained in close contact with members of the community to determine additional needs.

The UJC Emergency Committee this week approved a \$10,000 grant for the Virginia Tech Hillel to help offer enhanced services such as meals and counseling for students and faculty in the immediate wake of the shooting, with any residual funding going for long-term healing programs.

In addition, UJC, with the UJA/Federation of New York, the Jewish Federation of Rockland County, N.Y., the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach, the Jewish Federation of Broward County, the Jewish Federation of Greater Minneapolis, and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans, are providing more than \$20,000 for pastoral care to the university and local community, where a synagogue of 230 members includes school faculty. Other federations are also getting involved.

UJC and these federations, working with the New York Board of Rabbis, dispatched Rabbi Zahara Davidowitz-Farkas, who among other activities oversaw a long-term spiritual-care program for the Red Cross after Sept. 11. The rabbi, trained in disaster response, grief counseling and pastoral care, flew to Blacksburg Friday to provide support. Among those requiring help, a faculty member told UJC, are a dozen children ages 5-13 who "need attention and answers."

The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, the nearest Jewish federation, which has launched an online fundraiser to help the campus Hillel and those affected by the tragedy. A link to their online fundraising form can be found on

our website, [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org).

"Through a collaborative effort among United Jewish Communities, it's Network of Independent Communities, Virginia statewide public health officials, Chabad of the Virginias, the Israeli Embassy, International Hillel, the Greater Washington Federation, other North American federations and the Jewish Community Federation of Richmond ... we found a way to coordinate a rapid network of services be made available to help the healing of the entire Tech community, the Virginia Tech Hillel community, all Jewish students on campus and to ensure Professor Librescu would be buried in Israel according to Jewish tradition for before Shabbat," said Ellen J. Chernack, executive director of the Richmond federation.

"The strength of our continental federation system has been marked by our ability to step in quickly after emergencies, determine and address immediate needs in collaboration with those on the ground, and then generate support by our system while planning for the longer term," said Carol Smokler, UJC Emergency Committee chair.

## AJCC Family Promotes Breast Cancer Gene Awareness

By Rebekah Goemaat, AJCC Preschool Director

When AJCC preschooler Devon Marchand's aunt was diagnosed with breast cancer several years ago, no one guessed that a gene mutation she carried was responsible for her cancer. Here's what the Marchand family has discovered about the increased risk Jews of Ashkenazi descent have for breast cancer... and how to prevent it.

### Did you know?

- 1 out of 40 Ashkenazi Jewish women have a BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 gene mutation which gives them a 33 percent-50 percent risk of developing breast cancer by age 50 and 56 percent-87 percent risk by age 70.
- 1 out of 40 Ashkenazi Jewish women have a BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 gene mutation which gives them a 27 percent-44 percent risk of developing ovarian cancer by age 70
- A simple blood test will tell you if you have a BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 gene mutation
- If you have a BRCA gene mutation, you can reduce your risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer up to 96 percent

For more information, see the Jacob International website at [jacobintl.org](http://jacobintl.org).

## Jewish Agency Helps Rebuild Northern Israel

By Zeev Bielski, Chief Executive, The Jewish Agency for Israel

As you know, we are working hard to assist the people of Northern Israel to rebuild and rehabilitate.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the facts and figures of this past week, February 25- March 2, 2007:

- 38,470 schoolchildren from 47 cities participated in various after-school enrichment programs including soccer, drama, and computers.
- A national training event was held for field professionals. They were taught to use computers to process applications and inquiries and maximize their utilization of other relevant computer programs as well.
- \$11,450 worth of children's books were delivered to seven schools in the northern city of Kiryat Shemona. These books will enhance the school library and provide the children with new, updated reading materials.
- 100 new applications were received by the Jewish Agency Small Business Loans—a grant that will help the small-to-mid-size businesses get back on their feet.
- 145 residents of the north attended Arabic language and culture seminars to help build the foundations for coexistence and understanding.
- 540 new immigrant children currently living in Jewish Agency absorption centers benefited from recreational and educational activities.
- 8,630 students who fought in this summer's war completing their first semester back in school after the war. During this semester, they received special Jewish Agency scholarships and assistance to ease their reentrance into the educational framework.

We are proud of the work we are doing on your behalf. We are grateful to you and our United Jewish Communities and Keren Hayesod partners, for all that you make possible. These, and other activities, are all a part of our efforts to get things in Israel "back to normal."



Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds *A Supporting Foundation of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation to preserve and strengthen the Jewish Community of Knoxville*

## KJCCFF President's Message

By Pace Robinson



Knoxville-Jewish-Community-Family-of-Funds, (KJCCFF). That's a mouthful of a name, with a lot of important, powerful words. The most important one is in the middle, Community. That's what the Family of Funds is all about. Promoting, sustaining,

and enhancing community. As I take the reins as president of the KJCCFF, I look forward to continuing the work of those that have come before me. I cannot say enough about Jeff Becker who almost single-handedly got the KJCCFF off the ground and continues to support it with his time and money. Then there is Mary Linda Schwarzbart who as usual has brought a keen sense of organization and vision at just the right time. I have some proverbial "big shoes" to fill and I hope that I'm ready for the challenge!

I do feel uniquely qualified for the job. I am a fourth generation East Tennessean. I have spent

time on the KJA Board and served as its first president after the merger of the AJCC and Knoxville Jewish Federation. I have served on the Family of Funds board since its inception and I have supported some of the funds as part of my commitment to the Jewish Community of Knoxville and East Tennessee. I look forward to the tasks at hand of not only growing our community endowment but also seeing to it that its gets utilized in the best possible manner. I would appreciate any ideas that anyone might have regarding the KJCCFF. Please contact me at [pacer@modernsupplyco.com](mailto:pacer@modernsupplyco.com).

## Leave a legacy

I have been back in town for slightly over four months. Everyday when I come into the AJCC and my office I look on the walls of the building at the names on the Ben Zwick Wall of Honor. I look at the plaques on the doorways of each room and office. I wander through Heska Amuna and Temple Beth-El and I see more names. I see history. I see commitment to community by those who have supported our institutions with legacy gifts and bequests. I can still see the faces of many of those I knew during my first time living in Knoxville. These names bring back so many memories for me. I hope they do that for you when you come to the Center and our congregations.

Philanthropy comes in many forms. You can create a fund at the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds (KJCCFF). Pick a theme or a program that has really influenced or helped you. For as little as \$5,000 you can start a fund. I know of people who have left a bequest to their Jewish community simply by putting a paragraph in their will. Still others have designated their favorite Jewish institution as their IRA beneficiary. It is as simple as that.

We hope that you would choose the KJCCFF as that vehicle for making your legacy gift. Your gift today is not a footprint in the sand; it is a legacy that can never be washed away by the water of time. Like Honi, the tree planter in the parable, we may or may not be around for the proverbial three score and ten years to enjoy the fruits of the trees planted today... but we can be assured

that our children and grandchildren and those that come after us will have the benefit of our philanthropy; the benefit of our foresight to leave that footprint in the sand of this community.

I look forward to confidentially discussing ways that you too can leave your footprint. Please call (690-6343) or e-mail me ([jgubitz@jewishknoxville.org](mailto:jgubitz@jewishknoxville.org)) to set up an appointment to discuss a legacy gift.

B'shalom,  
Jeff Gubitz

## New Grants:

Heska Amuna received a grant from The Heska Amuna Educators Supplement Fund to support HARS (Heska Amuna Religious School). This fund was set up to ensure that HARS teachers were adequately compensated for their dedication to the education and care of students in the religious school.

## Donations:

- Asher Robinson to his B'nai Tzedek Fund
- Pace and Karen Robinson to B'nai Tzedek Fund of Asher Robinson
- Peggy and Gale Hedrick and Mary Beth Leibowitz and Michael Eisenstadt to B'nai Tzedek Fund of Britt Sturm in memory of Dale Hasden

## A Note of Thanks and Welcome by KJCCFF Founder Jeff Becker

The leadership of the KJCCFF is in good hands with the passing of the Presidency from Mary Linda Schwarzbart to Pace Robinson. Mary Linda's two-year term was filled with continued growth in terms of the number and total value of endowment funds. Her leadership skills were evident at every meeting of the KJCCFF Board, in the articles published in the VOICE, and in all venues where KJCCFF was

represented to the Jewish community and the broader community. Under Mary Linda's leadership the B'nai Tzedek program was conceived and initiated bringing the concept of philanthropy to our youth through a dynamic and meaningful program.

Pace Robinson, former President of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance, will continue to advance the KJCCFF. Pace's broad experience and

leadership in both the Jewish community and in the general community, through his memberships on the Board of Directors of KUB and the East Tennessee Foundation, will carry on the KJCCFF tradition of deep involvement in all community affairs and commitment to the future of the Knoxville Jewish community.

### KNOXVILLE JEWISH COMMUNITY FAMILY OF FUNDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pace Robinson, President • Richard Jacobstein, Vice President • Bernie Rosenblatt, Secretary/Treasurer • Jeff Becker, Bernard Bernstein, Arnold Cohen, Bobby Goodfriend, Scott Hahn, Herb Jacobs • Harold Markman, Alexandra Rosen, Mel Sturm • Jeff Gubitz, Ex-Officio

### The Board of Directors of the Knoxville Jewish Community Family of Funds

thanks the Knoxville Jewish Community, the staff of the Knoxville Jewish Alliance and the East Tennessee Foundation for their support and encouragement. The KJCCFF encourages you to help insure the healthy future of our Knoxville Jewish community by including a commitment to the KJCCFF in your financial and estate planning.

To learn more about KJCCFF philanthropic opportunities, call 690-6343 or visit our website at [www.jewishknoxville.org](http://www.jewishknoxville.org)