



Shabbat & Holiday Candle

Lighting Times

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Friday, December 2 | 5:02pm |
| Friday, December 9 | 5:02pm |
| Friday, December 16 | 5:04pm |
| Friday, December 23 | 5:04pm |
| Friday, December 30 | 5:11pm |

In This Issue

- President's message, p3
- Executive Director's message, p3
- Letters to the Editor, p4
- Shlichah Message, P4
- Condolences, p6
- Healthcare and Judaism, p9
- Funny Girl, p11
- Four Questions, p13

Featured Stories

Retired Lawyer Honored by Alma Mater—Learn why Savannah native and community leader, Aaron Buchsbaum, received a prestigious award from Emory Law School for his outstanding career and his community involvement, p5

And in this corner...—Read about the early histories of Jewish Savannah and Jewish Charleston, how they were entangled, and how they were different and decide who you think is the older community, but only if you can, p4

New Interactive Series to Begin at the JEA—Starting December 11th, the JEA to start a new lecture series - *Opinion Minyan* - a new discussion series offered to inform, entertain and engage the community with a variety of topics and presenters, p13

Community Chanukah Celebration is December 20

It has become a yearly tradition in Savannah for the Jewish community to celebrate Chanukah together at the JEA; much as it's our tradition to light the Chanukah menorah and eat greasy latkes and yummy donuts. Come to the JEA on December 20th and join us for the celebration set to begin at 6:30pm.

Just like every year, this year's Community Chanukah Celebration will be another special and awesome time to celebrate the miracle of



commemoration and is all about "firing up the night!"

We invite you to bring your own menorahs for a joint festive candle lighting by the community members (so bring your menorah!) and a special fire show with fire performers that will amaze us with their act! The amazingly talented Shalom School and Rambam Day School students will sing beautiful Hebrew Chanukah songs to warm our hearts! And we'll have pizza and Sufganiyot- the Hebrew donuts to warm our bellies.

We will have Arts & crafts stations where you can make menorahs and candles to take home and use for the remainder of Chanukah, dreidel color-

ing and playing, and face painting. It'll be a fun way to celebrate with the kids and to create some beautiful souvenirs to take home.



Savannah's PJ Library will host a story reading, too! There will be Chanukah Gelt and prizes for the children, and of course traditional *Sufganiot* (jelly-filled donuts) and delicious slices of pizza for sale.

But most importantly of all, we'll have the entire community, y'all, bringing the light together, rejoicing, and celebrating this wonderful miracle of a holiday!

See page 5

JEA's 100 Year Celebration - 1950's-style Sock Hop Party

Make the scene on Sunday January 15, 2012 as we kick-off the JEA's 100 Year Celebration with our 1950's-style Sock Hop Party! We will "Celebrate



our past" with friends, delicious food and fun. DJ Ray Williams of Sounds Great! Entertainment will head up this bash with his wide collection of 50's sounds including Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Chubby Checker, Motown and Beach Music just to name a few.

Dust off your ducktails and poodle skirts because we'll have contests for best costumes, twisting the night away, the limbo, hula hooping, bubble-gum blowing and more! Take a chance in our *Cake Walk* raffle, where you can enter to win gift-certificates for sweet



treats baked by some of Savannah's finest! We know you don't want to miss out on winning one of these amazing treats: Betty Lasky's Toll House Brittle, Jodi Sadler's Goldrush Brownies, Sherry Dolgoff's Truffle, Sally Sander's Coconut Cake, Marilyn Seeman's Brownies, Bunny Cohen's Almond Cookies, Elise Shernoff's Chocolate Fudge Cake, Vivian Slotin's Biscotti, Gale Hirsh's Apple Cake, Stephanie Zerden's Cheesecake, Terri Dressel's Banana Pudding, Harriet Kulbersh's Pineapple Orange Torte, Lynn Levine's Cheesecake

Dress up your pad with some beautiful artwork from our Silent Auction, featuring the works of JEA Community Artists who have displayed their work in our art gallery. Looking to refuel with some of your Soda Shop favorites? Cool it Daddy-O, we got it covered

See page 5



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2012 Federation Campaign Achievement Update

\$736,000



Life is a DJ.

He's watching and learning. How you walk to temple together, rain or shine. The way you speak gently to Aunt Ruth. And your gift for making the holidays feel miraculous. Best wishes for a happy Chanuka.

Life is a Miracle.

pass it on.

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Doing The Right Thing

“Doing the right thing” is a phrase I remember hearing my parents repeat to me over and over as I grew up. It is one of those moral compass truths that helps guide us throughout our lives. Am I “Doing the right thing?” should be a question you ask yourself anytime you have to make an important decision in your life.

As I sit down to write this month’s column, The Federation’s Annual Campaign is entering the home stretch. You should all be very proud of the incredible response we have received to date from the community. Our message that “every gift is important and every increase, no matter how big or small, is significant,” has resonated with our donors. We have received a significant number of increases and a number of new gifts. If the wave we have created continues, our campaign will go up for the first time in a number of years and may very well reach our goal. Are members of our community “doing the right thing” in the way they are giving to campaign? The answer is a resounding yes.

Many of our community’s leaders and volunteers gathered last week at the JEA for Super Sunday. They made hundreds of phone calls to many of our friends and neighbors asking that they make their annual gift to Campaign. There were be many discussions about Federation’s mission and how a gift to the Campaign saves and changes lives. All of our solicitors who made calls, and all of our donors, who “Just said

yes” did the “right thing” and made a difference for Jews in need.

As Federation President, I have the privilege of being in a position to see people “Doing the right thing” everyday. I want to share with you a story which demonstrates how being President can be so gratifying and inspirational. I recently received a letter from a young man in our community which had a message in it that truly exemplified what my parents meant when they taught me about “Doing the right thing”. I opened the envelope and pulled out a note from a recent bar mitzvah. The note talked about how this young man had made a decision to give a percentage of the money he received for his bar mitzvah to Jewish charities. He had decided that giving Jewishly was important and included a generous check to our community’s Annual Campaign. His parents had obviously taught him the importance of “Doing the right thing.” The unselfish act of this 13 year old young man in “Doing the right thing” for fellow Jews in need brought a smile to my face and a warm feeling to my heart.

I recently met with this young man so I could personally thank him for his gift and take a picture. Gabe Adler, son of Sue and John Adler, was the young man that displayed his deep understanding of what it means to “Do the right thing.” All of us should be very proud of Gabe and learn from his example of our obligation to give back Jewishly and of “Doing the right thing.” Our community’s future is bright by having young people like Gabe whose parents have taught him what is important in life and what “Doing the right thing” means as a Jew in the world in which we live.



Jeffrey Lasky, President, Savannah Jewish Federation



Jeff Lasky meets with Gabe Adler

The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades

I recently read an article in eJewish Philanthropy which spoke about young Jews and their engagement in the community. It stated, “This generation needs to feel engaged before they are willing to provide financial support. They don’t do financial support on autopilot or because they are supposed to. They do it because they care, and they care when they’re involved and engaged.”

The Savannah Jewish community is blessed with an organization called Young Jewish Savannah. It is an “organic” group that meets, plans, and executes programs with little help from the organized community. It is an outgrowth of the Sweet Potato Schmooze, a gathering of young Jewish singles and couples on “Erev Thanksgiving,” an event that mixed old-timers coming home for the holiday and newcomers looking for a social evening.

From that annual event came Young Jewish Savannah or YJS. YJS is a group of Jewish singles and couples who get together 15-20 times a year just to be together. They meet in each others homes, at area restaurants and pubs, at the JEA and at synagogues. Watching who they are and what they do makes me incredibly wistful for younger days (don’t we all feel that way?) They have a Facebook page, links from the Federation website, use Evites for their events—all the technological outreach mechanisms. They have a “Brotherhood” and a “Sisterhood,” Executive Committee, and leadership--All the trappings of an organized group, without any of the baggage. Come to one event, come to all, they are happy to have people join them.

YJS has made their mark in Savan-

nah. There is a mantra around the JEA and Federation leadership: “Let’s ask Young Jewish Savannah to chair that. Do you think Young Jewish Savannah would like it?” I hear lines like this every single week. “What about Young Jewish Savannah?” My, have things changed in a few short years.

There now are almost a dozen of the “original leaders” of YJS on area boards. They are involved and engaged. They saw the value of the “organized Jewish community” and are now making their mark on our Boards. Not a meeting goes by where someone (in admiration) brings up the different thinking of the younger members. The subject of our “meetings after the meeting” (when a few of us have a conversation in the parking lot after the “official” meeting) is typically what one of the YJS members brought to the meeting; Often fresh, different thinking.

Savannah continues to be a magnet to many Jewish young singles and families. They are looking for economic opportunity, quality of life, and a warm welcoming “hamish” place to call home. They are looking to be Jewishly involved and engaged – in their own way.

The entire community is excited to have such dynamic, interested, committed young people as a major part of our community. Every day they are taking the mantle of leadership. As the song says, “The future’s so bright, I gotta wear shades.”



Adam Solender Executive Director of JEA/SJF

The Savannah Jewish Federation Board of Governors wish you and your family a Happy Chanukah

Jeffrey Lasky—President

Adam Solender—Executive Director



The Board of Directors of the Jewish Educational Alliance wish you and your families a Happy Chanukah

Paul Kulbersh—President

Adam Solender—Executive Director



Several Nights of Lights and Perspectives

A few months ago I participated in a lecture dealing with the Jewish holidays outside of Israel. The lecturer spoke about how some people don't celebrate this holiday or the other and do celebrate this or that, but, Chanukah, the lecturer said, is the most celebrated and loved holiday of the Jewish people in North America. I wondered, is it because of the closeness to Christmas? Or winter break? Or another reason? I think the Chanukah story gives also another explanation.

Chanukah was one of my favorite holidays as a child. The festive lights, bright decorations, eating as many jelly donuts as I wanted, and the long vacation from school, as a child I loved the Chanukah story. I could sit quietly for hours and watch the Chanukah special on the kid's network, which made it a favorite holiday for my parents as well. For me it had everything I loved in a story, it has the bad guys (the powerful Greeks, mounted on elephants, with sword and armor) against the good

guys (a few Maccabees) who fought the evil decrees of the Greeks.

They tricked them with dreidel games, all the while actually studying torah and planning the rebellion. They fought bravely against great Greek armies and at the end, not only out-fought them; they even got to witness a miracle. As a modern Israeli, I know that the emphasis of the story is different for different sectors of the society.

When I heard the story from my parents, in my school, and even from my youth movement counselor as a teen, all we talked about was the glorified Maccabees and their values. They were strong and brave and fought for the freedoms of their people and their land. The value of freedom is important to the non religious (or secular) Jewish society in Israel; the characteristics of the Maccabees were not very different from the characteristics of the first pioneers in Israel.

On the other hand, when I asked one of my friends that came from a more re-

ligious family and who studied in a yeshiva, he remembers that the emphasis was on the Jews who objected to the Greek decrees by studying torah and the seven sons of Chana who sacrificed their lives for the holiness of G-d, *Kidush HaShem*. And when I asked a different friend, she told me that the miracle of oil for the menorah, *chanukiyah*, in the temple was the most important part of the story when she was a child.

When we look at the different values and perspectives of the Chanukah story, we can see that it has different meaning for different people. Like the importance of leading a Jewish life, the importance of being a strong independent people or the importance of relying on G-d, each of these values are important to people in the Israeli society. This story unites these values and unites the Jewish people to one cause - the Jewish people were always exposed to assimilation, to losing our identity as a people, but, we choose different ways to remain Jewish and to

keep our faith and our heritage.

We need the different parts of the story to make it a complete story, like we need the different parts in Israeli society to make it a complete society. It is important to be a strong free nation the same way it is important to keep our nation's Jewish aspects... together we make the people of Israel.

Chanukah is still one of my favorites; even now when I can't eat as many donuts as I might want. Now I know why it's everyone favorite, Chanukah has something for anyone; it is a holiday of unity and victory, of uniting all the different Jewish values and of celebrating our Jewish identity. This Chanukah when we'll celebrate together at the JEA for the Community Chanukah Celebration, whether you celebrate the victory or the miracle or freedom from oppression, we also need to remember that we celebrate it together, together we make a Jewish society, and together we make a community.



Tal Bratman,
Savannah Jewish
Community Shlichah

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The Georgia tax credit program is changing lives by giving children the opportunity to receive the education that best fits their needs. Through the Apogee Georgia School Choice Scholarship Fund, Georgia taxpayers redirect, at no cost, Georgia Income Tax dollars to eligible Georgia private schools including Rambam Day School. Donors receive a "dollar-for-dollar" Georgia tax credit for donations to the Apogee Scholarship Fund. In turn, Apogee provides eligible Rambam students with tuition scholarships. For the past three years, Rambam participated in this wonderful opportunity to take advantage of outside sources to benefit its students and we have distributed approximately \$190,000 in scholarships to qualified students since 2009.

Georgia residents became increas-

ingly aware of the obvious benefits to redirecting their state taxes to their own community's schools, which positively affects their lives and the children in their community. This recognition is evident by participants in Georgia meeting the state mandated cap of \$50 million on November 8th. This marks first time the state reached the \$50 million cap, and highlights that Georgia residents who pay state income tax desire to take advantage of a program that costs them nothing and directly benefits their community.

Rambam Day School would like to thank the 90 donors within our community who participated for 2011. Those donors contributed over \$159,000 to the fund that directly benefits Rambam students.

We encourage full community participation during 2012 when the program restarts on January 1, 2012!

As more people throughout the state become educated to the merits of allocating their state tax dollars, we expect the state CAP will be met even sooner during 2012. Please be proactive by marking your calendars in January to fill out (or ask for help in filling out) your Georgia Education Tax Credit forms for submission. Submitting the forms is important, as it reserves your ability for early approval and allows you to pay your commitment within 60 days of approval by the Department of Revenue. Credit card payments are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact our chairpersons, Freddie Rabhan or Judy Hirsch; or, visit our website www.rambamdayschool.org and view the "giving" page for complete details.

Sincerely,
Fred Rabhan

Savannah's Jewish Family Services - Here for you...

As a department of the Savannah Jewish Federation, Jewish Family Services is a non-profit comprehensive organization that offers a wide array of services that are directed towards improving the emotional, economic and spiritual quality of life of people within Greater Savannah's Jewish community. Jewish Family Services serves children, adolescents, parents, and adults of any age.

The mission of Jewish Family Services is to provide and coordinate

professional and lay social work and services for the Savannah Jewish community, with the goal of promoting the wellness of individuals and families. The JFS does its work with confidentiality; all inquiries and services are treated with the strictest confidentiality. All of our services are provided on a sliding fee scale; Individuals receiving counseling services may be covered by insurance or may self-pay; others might qualify for an income/expense related discount. Ask

us about this benefit.

If you are in need or know someone in need, please don't hesitate to reach out and ask. The Savannah Jewish Federation is not a hand-out but a hand up. Please call Adam Solender, Executive Director, Savannah Jewish Federation, (912) 355-8111 or email him at adam@savj.org. Your gifts to the 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation's Annual Campaign help to fund needs in our community, Just Say "Yes."

Savannah Jewish News

Published by the
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SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**

SJF President: **Jeffrey Lasky**
SJF President-elect: **Stephen Greenberg**
SJF Vice President: **Amos Timna**
SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Allan Ratner**

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

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 10th of the month before publication. There are no February or August issues. All articles for the Winter and Summer issues should be submitted by December 15th or June 15, respectively.

Please send all materials to:
sjn@savj.org

For submissions to the eNews
Please send information to
adam@savj.org

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Chanukah.....from pg 1

For more information or to ask how you could be involved with this program next year call Tal Bratman, Savannah's Israeli Shliach, 355-8111 or email her, Tal@savj.org. Also, to learn how you can get involved with the Savannah Jewish Federation call, Benjamin Bloom,

Community Programming, 355-8111 or email him, programming@savj.org. The Community Chanukah Celebration is an annual program made possible by the Savannah Jewish Federation. Your Campaign Dollars at Work!

Sock Hop.....from pg 1

with ice cream floats, giant pretzels, a baked potato bar with all the fixings, falafel sliders, vegetarian chili, rum and cokes, soda, beer and wine.

Tickets are \$36 per person and can be purchased at the JEA or by calling Anna on the horn at 355-8111 ext 211 or send her an e-mail at anna@savj.org. Want to help out with planning the event or donate an item to the cake walk raffle? Let Anna know and she will be sure to get in touch with you soon.

Be there or be square!

1950's Slang - Make the scene: To attend an event or activity, Bash: Great party, Sounds: Music, Pad: Home, Refuel: To eat, Cool-it: Relax, settle down, the horn: the telephone

2012 will commence a year-long celebration of the past, present and future of the JEA. We welcome you, your family and friends to join us at one of our three signature 100-year events. Full-Access 100-Year Celebration passes are being sold now for \$200, affording you admission to all three events. For more information or to get involved, please contact Anna Berwitz at 912-355-8111 or via e-mail at anna@savj.org.

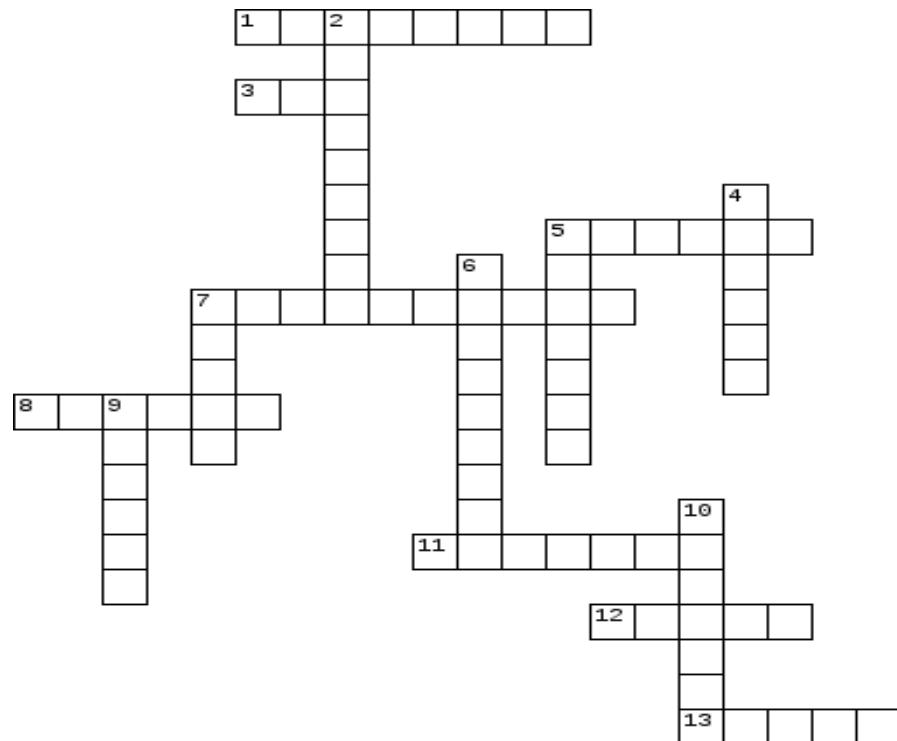


Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia Representative Dawn Kaley, and one of last year's award recipients Toby Hollenberg surprised Carol Greenberg with the announcement that she will be named one of the Girl Scout's 2012 Women of Distinction at a luncheon on March 2, 2012. Ironically, Carol was working on a Girl Scout exhibit 100 Years of Jewish girls participating in Scouting due to open in January!



2012 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign
Thank you for Super Sunday!
Your support of the Savannah Jewish Federation will certainly help maintain and grow our Jewish community and will help Jews in Israel and throughout the world.

Crossword Puzzle—Shabbat and Judaism



Across Clues

- 1. A holiday that is remembered on Shabbat
- 3. How many commandments G-d gave the Jewish people
- 5. The shawl that is often worn during worship
- 7. The Hebrew name for the Star of David
- 8. Name of the Jewish food laws
- 11. The motzi (bread) eaten during Shabbat
- 12. Jewish leader: literal translation Teacher

Down Clues

- 13. Opposite to the food laws, means forbidden
- 2. The Jewish gathering place for prayer
- 4. The small cap worn during the day/prayer (Hebrew)
- 5. Fringes that are at the bottom of the next clue
- 6. Ceremony that signifies the end of Shabbat
- 7. The Jewish leader whom G-d gave the commandments
- 9. One of the things used in no. 2
- 10. The day of rest and gathering with family

*You are cordially invited
To a Russian Reunion*

*Sunday, December 4, 2011
4:30 to 6 P M at the JEA as*

Elaine Radetsky and Marcia Berens

are honored as

for their volunteer efforts with

Savannah Jewish Federation's Russian Resettlement Program

This casual event, open to the whole community, is a way for families to reconnect with others who came to the United States through resettlement, to show their pictures, tell their stories and to say thank you to some of the people who tried to ease the way by providing jobs, transportation, support and friendship during those critical first months of adjustment.

If you participated by adopting a family or lending your resources of time, support or hospitality to this herculean effort, or sponsored this effort through donations to Federation for this project, please also consider yourself a person of interest and tell us about your experiences as you RSVP for this event.

*To RSVP call the JEA at 912-355-8111
or email Carol Greenberg at MStarArts@gmail.com*

Retired Savannah Attorney Receives Emory Law Distinguished Alumni Award

By Emory Law Alumni Association

After earning his degree at Emory Law in 1954, Aaron L. Buchsbaum returned to his hometown of Savannah to practice law and fight against discrimination. He was a member of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People and volunteer attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union at a time when belonging to those institutions, especially in the Deep South, could exact personal and professional cost.

Buchsbaum was an officer of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, active in the Anti-Defamation League and championed human and civil rights wherever possible. In 1967, he was the first attorney to challenge racial discrimination in Georgia grand and petit jury selections in a case that led to the desegregation of juries in the state. He was president of Savannah Legal Aid and Georgia Legal Services, where he oversaw a broad expansion of the program, which provides legal services to the indigent. In the 1960s, he successfully challenged legal practices used to jail civil rights demonstrators in Savannah.

He was instrumental in desegregating the Savannah Bar Association, and in 1980, he resigned from the organization over its practice of holding functions at private clubs with discriminatory membership policies. He later rejoined, after the group ended the practice. He retired from active

legal practice in 2006.

In 2011, the Economic Opportunity Authority For Savannah-Chatham County Area Inc. bestowed its highest honor by naming its new Head Start building after Buchsbaum in recognition of 40 years of exemplary service as leader of the EOA's legal team. He served Emory Law on the Law School Council and assisted with Barrister level and class gift fundraising. He and his wife have supported the Emory Public Interest Committee and the Law School Fund for Excellence since 1975.

This award recognizes outstanding alumni who have achieved distinction in legal practice, teaching, research or public administration, and who have demonstrated distinguished service to Emory Law, the Emory Law Alumni Association or Emory University. Nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award are accepted throughout the year from Emory Law alumni and members of the community. Nominations are reviewed by the Emory Law Alumni Board based on the nominees' credentials and record of service to the legal profession. The Emory Law Alumni Board selects the award recipients.



Aaron Buchsbaum

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Lillian G. "Mickey" Murphy
Who died on October 20, 2011

She is survived by a daughter; Charlotte Murphy Weitz, and two grandsons; Joseph Trace Weitz, Marc Adam (Renee) Weitz and several nieces and nephews in Savannah and Atlanta.

Remembrances: Hospice Savannah or Jewish Educational Alliance.

Frances Perl Rudikoff
Who died on October 28, 2011

She is survived by her sister; Fay Perl Schaffer of Queen's New York; her daughter, Lynn Rudikoff (Richard)

Berkowitz; her son Stuart Rudikoff of Bethesda, MD, and seven grandchildren; Daniel (Tamara) Berkowitz, Abby (Brian) Berkowitz Nelson, Craig Rudikoff, Lisa Rudikoff (Matthew) Flaherty, Debra (Martin) Darvick, Amy (Steve) Trager, Lisa (Martin) Thaler, and five great grandchildren: Elliot and Emma Darvick, Kevin and Emily Trager and Henry Thaler, and various nieces and nephews.

Remembrances: The Julius Rudikoff Athletic Foundation at the Jewish Educational Alliance or Hospice Savannah or The AA Sisterhood at Congregation Agudath Achim.

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We're gonna rock around the clock tonight...

Please join us for the JEA 100 Year Celebration

1950's Style Sock Hop Party!

Sunday, January 15, 2012, 6:00pm
\$36 per person

**Music & Dancing,
Rum and Coke, Beer & Wine
Small Bites and Sweet Treats
Cake Walk Raffle
JEA Community Artist Silent Auction
1950's Themed Contests & More!**

Please RSVP by January 9, 2012 (912) 355-8111

*Dietary laws observed
*Childcare for event attendees available

Full Access 100 Year
Celebration Pass –\$200
(Includes Admission to Sock Hop,
Dinner Theatre and Gala)

Savannah Verse Charleston: Who's Oldest?

Savannahns are very proud of their relaxed culture, great food, old oak trees strung with Spanish moss, and rich history found in and around Savannah. The Jewish community of Savannah is no different. And so too is the Jewish community about two hours north of Savannah, the Jewish community of Charleston, South Carolina. So, who gets the dubious distinction of being the "older" Jewish community?

The original forty-one Jewish men and women of Savannah arrived in Savannah on July 11, 1733, five months after Georgia's first European settlers. In their first year as Savannahns, they established a cemetery which still can be seen in the median of Oglethorpe Avenue (then called South Broad Street) at Bull Street. They had brought with them a Torah scroll (still used) and a circumcision kit (no longer in use) for the express purpose of starting a Jewish congregation in the New World. However, disagreement stemming from strong traditions and backgrounds of religious customs and language inhibited these early Jewish Georgians from creating a synagogue immediately. The reason for this is the first Jews that came were a mix of Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jews. Indeed, in 1734 an Anglican clergyman in Savannah noted that, "Some Jews

in Savannah complained . . . that the Spanish and Portuguese (Sephardic) Jews persecute the German Jews (Ashkenazic) in a way no Christian would persecute another Christian." This feud ended when the Jews of Spanish decent heard in 1741 that the Spanish might invade Savannah, in which many of the Sephardic Jews in Savannah fled to Charleston leaving a majority of Ashkenazic Jews in Savannah.

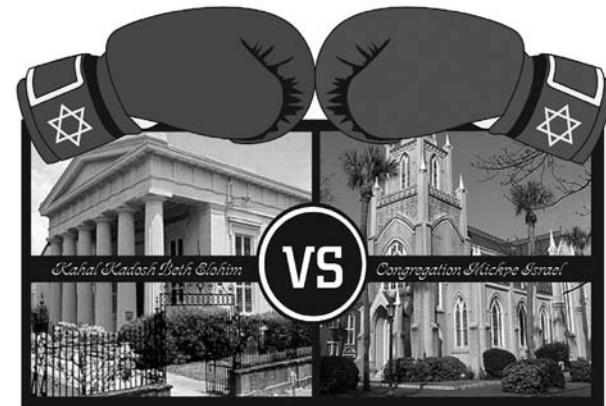
It was only two years after the first Jews landed in Savannah, in July of 1735, that Congregation Mickve Israel (Hope of Israel, the third oldest Jewish congregation in the United States) was established by the Sheftall family, part of the original group of Jews who came to Savannah from England. In 1737 they built a mikvah (ritual bath). And just 13 years later, in 1749, a set of tefillin were brought from England for use during the first recorded Bar Mitzvah in Savannah and America.

In Charleston, there was a different story. The earliest recorded mention of Jews in Charleston is in 1695, one is mentioned as an interpreter for Governor Archdale, but, there is assumption that there were Jews in Charleston prior to that year. And, in 1702 Jews were recorded as having voted at a general election. In 1740-41, a group of Jews came from south

of Charleston (including several original families from Savannah) when difficult policies arose in the Georgia colony and the threat of war from Spain.

It was not until 1749-50 that Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (Holy Congregation House of the Lord and the forth oldest Jewish congregation in the continental United States) was organized and established by Jews of Charleston (many of those founding families came from Savannah). It was another fifteen years before a burial ground was established. Charleston's Hebrew Benevolent Society, a Jewish charitable organization, was founded by congregants in 1784, the oldest of its kind in the United States.

So, who's the older Jewish community? Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines a community as, "a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together in larger society." From this definition, Charleston has an older Jewish population. Jewish people have been in Charleston for thirty-eight years longer than in Savannah. However, the Savannah Jewish community established a cemetery, a mikvah, a synagogue and held a bar mitzvah, thus some sort of Jewish



education, by 1749, the year Charleston established its first Jewish institution, their synagogue. To many observant Jews, a Jewish community must have a way educate its youth in Judaism, a mikvah for ritual purposes, a Jewish burial ground and a house of worship.

Again, which can be considered the older Jewish community? This is a question that might not have an easily discernable answer. Until it is determined otherwise, how about calling this match a draw?

<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-3169>

http://www.jhssc.org/Chas_KKBE_History.html

<http://www.kkbe.org/index.php?page=history>

http://mickveisrael.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13&Itemid=18



The PJ Library®

Help your child's sense of Jewish identity grow strong. Sign up for The PJ Library and you'll receive a free, high-quality book or CD each month that will enrich your Jewish family relationships.

The PJ Library in Greater Savannah Area is available to children six months to 8 years old and is a gift of Jane Slotin, Nancy and Leon Slotin, the Savannah Jewish Federation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Go to www.savj.org to register for The PJ Library It's Free!

Got an Opinion? Don't Miss the Minyan!

Have you heard about the *Opinion Minyan*? It's the JEA's new forum for sharing ideas and information on all kinds of topics - history, current events, local issues and more. But more than a traditional Speaker Series, the *Opinion Minyan* series is designed so that with each program you get the knowledge and opinion of one or more experts in the field, but you also will have the opportunity to participate in varying fashions.



Dr. Stuart Rockoff

Don't let the fact that Rockoff is a native Texan worry you as to the authenticity of his Southern credentials (Texas did join the Confederacy). He also serves as vice president of the Southern Jewish Historical Society and is working on a general history of Jewish life in the South. Come test your knowledge of everything from the original "Jew stores" to the "Last Night of Ballyhoo" as Rockoff takes us on an enjoyable journey in "Bagels & Grits: How Jews Found a Home in the South." This program is graciously co-sponsored by the Savannah Jewish Archives.

And speaking of bagels and grits, of course we'll be serving both! Thanks to the generosity of a sponsoring donor, we will break bread together at each *Opinion Minyan* gathering. Because where best to get opinionated than over a meal?

The *Opinion Minyan* continues after the New Year on Sunday, January 8th,

at 10am, with Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, professor of International Relations at Georgetown University. Nurnberger will use his famed humor, political acumen and knowledge of history to leads us in a discussion of "Current Insights into the Arab-Israel Conflict and the Peace Process." He was named "Professor of the Year" by the Graduate School of Liberal Studies in 2003 and in 2005 received another award commending his over twenty years of teaching excellence at Georgetown. His articles have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and numerous scholarly journals. He spent more than eight years as a Legislative Liaison for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and since then has advised a number of Congressional and Presidential campaigns on issues related to the Middle East. Nurnberger was the first staff director of Builders for Peace, an organization established in 1993 with the encouragement of Vice President Gore, to assist the Middle East peace process by encouraging private sector investment in the West Bank and Gaza.

The *Opinion Minyan* is free for JEA members in good standing (please be sure to bring your current membership card with you to the program) and \$8 per person for non-members (includes the meal and speaker). Look for additional details about the *Opinion Minyan* in the series brochure currently being mailed and in future issues of the Savannah Jewish News.



Dr. Ralph Nurnberger



Photos by Adam Solender

Countdown of the Century: In 5772 Make History with Hadassah

Wann-a-be no more: Life membership is on sale for \$100 until 12/31/11! This is the year to enjoy **Hadassah** events as President Joanna Rich and her board implement programs locally that cover all interests and ages based on members' requests, the national office has reduced lifetime membership to only \$100 until December 31, 2011, and the membership is planning to go to Israel as a group to celebrate the centennial in October, 2012! Join Hadassah for gourmet baking fun with our President Joanna and for a special personal financial planning event in January. See Nov & Dec *Faces of Hadassah Ad* to learn more.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 1912 Did you know... | 1942 | 1952 | 2011: Sunday, Dec. 4 | 2011: Saturday, Dec.31 | 2012: Tuesday, Nov. 15 | |
| | Hadassah, Girl Scouts, and the JEA Were all founded in 1912? WOW share the 100 year vision! | Ida Wilensky is Savannah Chapter President when Hadassah offers resources to US War Department and research exchange for physicians | Sadye Rabhan leads Savannah Chapter when Hadassah gives fledgling Israel needed medical support in the Sinai Campaign | Croissants & Cappuccino Gourmet Baking with guest chef Nina Finkelman 2 to 4 At the home of President Rich | Yes, it is New Year's but it is also Shabbat so get or gift \$100 life membership in by the 30th to take advantage of the sale. January 1st this price goes away. | Women & Wealth Luncheon Series Guest speaker Susan Clifford, CPA JEA noon to 1:30 Program free Lunch \$10 | |



Please join us for the JEA 100 Year Celebration

1950's Style Sock Hop Party

Sunday, January 15, 2012
6:00 pm

\$36 per person

- Music
- Dancing
- Rum & cokes, beer & wine
- Small bites and sweet treats
 - Cake Walk raffle
- JEA community artist silent auction
- 1950's themed contests & more!

Please RSVP by January 9, 2012
912-355-8111



*We're gonna rock
around the clock
tonight . . .*

What's Your Signature Sweet Dish?

Calling all bakers out there—do you have a baked sweet treat that is renowned in our Jewish Community? We are looking for volunteers to assist with our Cake Walk fundraiser that will be held at the 1950's Style Sock Hop Party on January 15, 2012. Please be a sweetie pie and call Anna Berwitz for more information on how to support this great event! 912-355-8111, ext. 211.



SAVE THE DATE for Our Other 100 Year Celebration Events

Sunday, April 29th, 2012
Billy Joel Diner Theatre
\$72 per person

Sunday, September 9, 2012
Great Gala 100 Year Celebration
\$100 per person

Full Access 100 Year Celebration Pass
(Includes admission to all three events, name listing in the 100 Year Celebration Tribute Journal and a complimentary copy of the 100 Year Celebration Tribute Journal)
\$200 per person

New JEA Members

The JEA would like to thank our members. Without your membership and support, we would not be able to offer all the services that we do. Our members are our most important asset! (New Members as of 10/11/11-11/9/11)

Lisa Anderson
Ida Branch
Brittney Diggs
Adam & Lauren Fins
Anker Jensen

Jean Kaminsky
Melanie McKelvey
Casey Morris
Jeff Perryman
Noel Szychowski

JEA Donations

(10/11/11 to 11/10/11)

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In honor of Kelly Gordon's speedy recovery
Merry & Richard Bodziner

ARKIN-CLARK GARDEN FUND

In memory of Rev. Benjamin Sanford Ulmer
In memory of Sidney Raskin
Nancie & Fred Clark

JEA BUILDING FUND

In honor of George Feehley's birthday
Doris Klugman
In memory of Susan Karpf
In honor of Judge Michael Karpf
Garrett & Ross Kaminsky
In honor of Joanne Hochman
In honor of Biff Montana
Doris Goldstein
In memory of Sydney Raskin
Edith Karpf

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Lillian "Mickey" Murphy
Betty Nathan
Patsy E. Lamson
Jill & Brad Strauss

JEA FITNESS FUND

In memory of Frances Rudikoff
Linda & Eric Karpf
In honor of Kelly Gordon's speedy recovery
Helese & Dan Sandler

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Dorothy Adler & Mickey Murphy – Life-long friends
Brenda & Brian Kenworthy



JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
**PIECE
PIECE
PIECE
CENTER**



Ages: 4 years - 6th Grade

Crafts, Sports, Swimming & more!

DAILY RATE:

MEMBER \$30
NON-MEMBER \$40

WEEKLY RATE
(all 5 days in either week)

MEMBER \$135
NON-MEMBER \$180

Winter Camp 2011-2012

December 19th, 2011 -
January 3rd, 2012

Winter Camp Themes

- Dec. 19th - Star Wars and the Princess
- Dec. 20th - Military Appreciation (Trip to Mighty 8th)
- Dec. 21st - Knights at the Round Table
- Dec. 22nd - Winter Wonderland (Ice Skating trip)
- Dec. 23rd - Passport: Next Stop Israel
- Dec. 26th - Wild About Art
- Dec. 27th - Bowl-O-Rama (Trip to Frames and Games)
- Dec. 28th - Weekend Remix
- Dec. 29th - Monkey Joes (Trip to Monkey Joes)
- Dec. 30th - New Years Around the World
- Jan. 2nd - Hot Chocolate at Hull Park
- Jan. 3rd - Pizza at the J

Saturday Night Out

Children
4 years - 6th grade
Look what's coming up for
Saturday Night Out this year!

Dec. 3, 2011 - 6 pm - Maccabi Games - Enjoy a night filled with fun! You'll compete in an array of sports and team-building activities.



Dec. 17, 2011 - The Matzo Ball - Let's celebrate Chanukah with dreidel making, games, songs and we're even going to make our own sufganiyot (jelly donuts).



Jan. 7, 2012 - The Case of the Curious Cypher - Enjoy an exciting night of riddles, clues, mystery and fun challenges to try to figure out "who did it?"



Jan. 21, 2012 - Polar Bears and Penguins - Test how brave you are by enduring the polar bear swim, followed by a hot chocolate social with friends and a movie!



Feb. 4, 2012 - Tu B'Shevat Party - Come celebrate the New Year of the Trees with an ecological evening.



Feb. 18, 2012 - Fiesta - We saved the best for last: An evening filled with music, pinatas, food, games and fun for everyone!



Where: JEA

When: 6-10 pm

Who: 4 years - 6th grade

Cost:

Members: \$10 a child or \$25 a family

Non-Members: \$18/child or \$30/family

- Please RSVP and make payment by the Thursday before the event.
- There is an additional \$5 late fee for those registered after the Thursday deadline.
- Only available to the first 30 children to RSVP.

Enjoy themed games, movies and dinner at each Saturday Night Out. For more information, call DJ at (912) 355-8111.

JEA Aftercare Program

Aftercare Hours:

Mon-Thurs - 3:00-6:00, Fridays - 3:00-5:00

Starts Monday, August 22nd

Open most days out of school

Cost: \$50/week \$12/day

Transportation from Jacob G. Smith,

Charles Ellis & Garrison

Transportation cost: \$30/month \$3/per trip



- **Swimming**
- **Gymnastics**
- **Sports**
- **Yoga**
- **Much more!!**

- **Homework Help**
- **Daily Snacks**
- **Cooking**
- **Fitness Fun**
- **Art**



Call DJ at 355-8111 for more information

Your Diet and Your Health: What Your Body Needs



Stephanie Johnson
Health & Wellness
Director

Eating right isn't just about looking good — it's about staying healthy and providing your body with the fuel it needs to function at its best. Incorporating certain vitamins and nutrients into your diet can help fight osteoporosis, eradicate eye disease, and lower your risk of developing hypertension, as well as some cancers.

We've all heard the old saying "you are what you eat." And it's still true. If you stick to a healthy diet full of vitamins and minerals, your body reflects it. You feel healthy, energized, and just all-around great. However, people who limit their diet to junk foods will undoubtedly suffer the consequences of not giving their bodies what they need to thrive. The result is not only fatigue and low energy, but poor health as well. Understanding this clear connection between your health and your diet may spur you to make better dietary choices.

Food is essential. People take it for granted, but we need nutrients. In the old days when sailors crossed the ocean for months without proper nutrition, they ended up with scurvy because of a lack of vitamin C from citrus fruits. Vitamin C and other vitamins and minerals are necessary to keep all the different parts of

the body healthy and functioning — otherwise, we get sick.

Every little thing that you do happens because of the nutrients that you give your body. Food gives us the fuel to think and the energy to move our muscles. The micronutrients, the vitamins, the minerals are there so that our bodies can function. You need food not just to sustain health, but to feel better. And the only way the body will get the many nutrients needed to stay healthy and function is by eating a wide variety of healthy foods.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's food pyramid and the daily food recommendations were established after extensive research and continue to be updated as more is learned about the role of nutrition in good health. Their goal is to make sure that people understand all the different nutrients their bodies need to stay healthy.

Food went from being a necessity to simply function, to being the key to enabling the body to be at its functional best. Research shows that the right nutrition optimizes health and that getting enough of certain vitamins and minerals can also lower disease risk.

Many foods have a huge impact on heart health. Research has long shown that fruits and vegetables and a diet rich in whole grains and low in saturated fats can help protect the body from heart disease and high blood pressure, while a diet high in saturated and trans fats without enough fruits and vegetables can actually cause those diseases.

Even small diet deficiencies can have an enormously negative impact on your health. The most common health problem due to a lack of nutrients in the United States is iron deficiency. Menstruating women and girls need plenty of iron in their diets to replace what they lose each month during their periods. Iron is also an essential nutrient for infants, children and growing teens.

Another example is calcium, needed to keep bones strong and healthy. Without it, the body can develop osteoporosis, a health condition characterized by weak and brittle bones.

Eating a well-rounded and varied diet will go a long way toward making sure you have all the nutrients you need. Remember that our body uses everything we put into it, and what we give it determines how it's used — for good health, or for bad.



Baseball and T-Ball Registration

KIDS NEEDED! The JEA Youth Sports Department is in need of children from the ages of 4-12 for T-Ball and baseball.

Age divisions are 4-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12.

T-Ball Information:

- Parent guided
- Plays in the Hunter League
- Practice days & times TBD
- Practice starts March 19th behind the JEA
- Games start in April



Baseball Information:

- Parent guided
- City League for U8, U10, U12
- Pitching machine for U8, U10, U12
- Practice days & times TBD

Cost: Members: \$50-\$75
Non-Members: \$75-\$100

Parent volunteers and sponsors are needed. If you're interested in helping, let Stephanie know. Registration forms are available at www.savj.org or at the front desk. Contact Stephanie with any questions, 355-8111 or stephanie@savj.org.

JEA Basketball Registration

Registration is almost at an end. If your child wants to play basketball, please register them at the JEA front desk by Friday, December 2nd.

Cost:

Under 6 (U6) and Under 8 (U8)
Member: \$65 Non-Member: \$90

Under 10 (U10) and Under 12 (U12)
Member: \$75 Non-Member: \$100

We are hosting our own tournament with outside teams coming here. The team availability is U6, U8, U10 and U12.

For more information, contact Stephanie, 355-8111 or stephanie@savj.org.



Register for Junior Swim League

Led by Coach Charles, the program's objectives include stroke and turn development, technique, speed and endurance. Open to children 5 years and up, children are required to be able to swim the length of the pool to be eligible.

Junior Swim League

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5-6 pm
\$50/month—JEA Members
\$75/month—Non-Members
Register at the JEA front desk



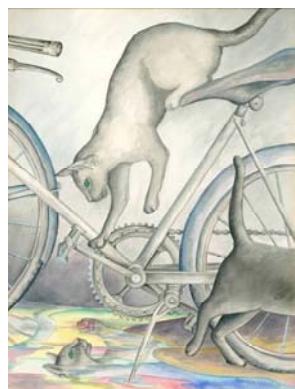
10 Reasons to Drink More Water!

1. Water suppresses the appetite.
2. Water helps reduce cholesterol.
3. Water helps to tone muscles.
4. Water is necessary for proper digestion.
5. Water helps the liver to function.
6. Water helps to soothe digestive problems.
7. The right amount of water causes the body to stop retaining water.
8. Water stops you confusing hunger and thirst.
9. Water moisturizes the skin and makes it more radiant and supple.
10. Water washes the toxins out of the body.

Art at the JEA



Blue Jay's Ladder



Cat's Jump



Birds with Butterflies

December Artist—Gwen DiCroce

Gwendolyn DiCroce - Biography

Gwendolyn DiCroce was born in Washington, D.C. Her father was a civil engineer in the Bureau of Public Roads and in that position, the family travelled around the US and even to Pakistan and the Philippines! Both of her parents had been raised on farms and dreamed of seeing the world. Their spirit for places unknown was a major influence in her life.

Gwen earned her teaching certificate from Radford College and an MFA in Printmaking from VA Commonwealth University. She passed her PhD Curriculum & Instruction midway exam from VA Tech (VPI). After marrying, she received the VAEA Art Educator Award for Secondary Art Teacher of the Year in 1996. Gwen was a full-time art teacher for 31 years, teaching art at all levels from K to Post-Grad.

She and her husband moved to Savannah in 2003 where her major role is to follow her artistic paths and enjoy life. Since 2004, she has been a docent at the Telfair and enjoys working in her garden, mixed media, silverpoint and etching.

Says Gwen, "I make art I want to live with and which satisfies me. My images conjure up the love and joy I hold for humanity, animals and the garden. Teaching has inspired many themes related to youth."

Currently, Gwen is working on the *Funky-Chic Birds* series. She collects bird-related matter such as feathers, leaves and bugs. She draws in mixed media materials where her altered birds take on human emotions and predicaments. To expand her production of these time-intensive pieces, she makes "embellished giclees." She prints giclees of the drawing and then adds the real found objects individually to each giclee. Each one will be different and signed as an Embellished Artist Proof.

Artwork available for viewing December 1-30, 2011
Art Reception December 1, 2011, 6-8 pm



January Artist - Judy Nichols

Judy Nichols - Biography

Judy Nichols began painting as a child with her grandmother who taught art in her home. Her grandmother painted oils and watercolors of regional landscapes. Her landscapes of azaleas in bloom, especially at Bonaventure Cemetery, were very popular.

Judy has a BA in art from Georgia Southern University. Her career was as a librarian in Savannah, Georgia (MSLS Emory University) and she retired in 2002.

Judy has worked in watercolor, oil, pencil and other media. In the fall of 2007, at the start of the school year when all the school supplies were put on display, she spotted a set of 36 Bic markers. She thought that with so many colors, she could do a painting using markers. Her first few pictures were inspired by Picasso, but as she learned the new medium, she branched out. Her collection of markers has grown to hundreds of colors. Her earlier work was more impressionistic, but the markers made her see shadows and voids as shapes with edges. Markers also let her feel free to be less literal in depicting subjects and to work more abstractly.

Artwork available for viewing Jan. 2-31, 2012
Art Reception January 5, 2012, 5-7 pm

December 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| Nov. 27 Soccer Awards- 1 pm | 28 | 29 | 30 | Dec. 1 JEA Art Gallery Reception- 6 pm | 2 | 3 BBYO Dance Weekend- 6 pm Saturday Night Out- 6 pm |
| 4 Hadassah Family Cooking Fun- 2 pm Russian Cafe- 4 pm | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 Opinion Minyan- 10 am | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Rambam Chanukah Program- 6:30 pm | 16 | 17 Saturday Night Out- 6 pm YJS Chanukah Party- 7 pm |
| 18 | 19 | 20 Community Chanukah Party- 6 pm | 21 Chanukah | 22 Chanukah | 23 Chanukah | 24 Chanukah Christmas Eve |
| 25 Chanukah Christmas JEA open 9 am-5 pm Offices Closed | 26 Chanukah | 27 Chanukah | 28 Chanukah | 29 | 30 | 31 New Years Eve |
| Jan. 1 New Years Day JEA open 10 am- 2 pm Offices Closed | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 JEA Art Gallery Reception- 5 pm | 6 | 7 Saturday Night Out- 6:30 pm |
| 8 Opinion Minyan- 10 am | 9 | 10 MLK Concert- 7 pm | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 JEA Sock Hop- 6 pm |

What Being a Jewish Doctor Means to Me.

By Harry Portman

Judaism has a long and prominent history of involvement with the medical profession. G-d Himself is described in the Torah as the ultimate healer, and many of our greatest scholars such as Maimonides, Nachmanides and others emulated this aspect of G-d's manifestation by being physicians themselves.

What does it mean for me to be an observant Jew studying in medical school, aspiring to one day become a practitioner of the art of healing?

As a graduate of Yeshiva University, I proudly affirm their philosophical viewpoint called Torah Umadda. Torah Umadda is the synergistic interaction of our traditional and religious source of eternal divine wisdom, the Torah, with the secular, human-based knowledge which we learn and use to engage the world around us. As such, my desire to become a doctor is not merely a means to earn a livelihood, but a channel for religious and personal fulfillment in the role of a caring for others and serving as a conduit for G-d to heal.

Studying medicine is in and of itself

inspirational. When I read about the intricate wonders of the human body, from the largest organ systems to the minutest cellular functions, I can't help but feel a sense of awe. The words of Psalms 104: 24 are brought to mind, "How great are Your deeds Hashem, all of them You have made with wisdom, the Earth is full of Your creations." As I begin to understand the multitude of issues that can cause difficulty for a person's health, I feel a sense of gratitude for my own personal wellbeing. I appreciate the magnitude of systems and processes that must function properly to allow me to live each and every day, as well as respect how things can go awry with the smallest of changes.

No other profession, save being a rabbi, features at its core the continuous encounter with Torah and mitzvot. A doctor is not only afforded the opportunity to heal, but is obligated to apply the skills and knowledge at his disposal to help cure the illness



Harry Portman

that afflicts those around him. Every aspect of his daily actions is inherently entrenched with the fulfillment of the commandment to heal.

Judaism has a lot to say about being a doctor. I find tremendous fulfillment in studying and applying the practical, ethical, and philosophical elements found in our holy scholarly works. The integration of Torah and medicine is truly soul-stirring.

However, a doctor is not merely a mechanic for the human body. A doctor is obligated to care for his patient in a holistic fashion, which includes mind, body and soul. Jewish law shows great respect for the emotional wellbeing of a

patient, and doctors are admonished to show caution and sensitivity. Doctors must also be educators and pastoral figures, teaching their patients about health and supporting them in times of need.

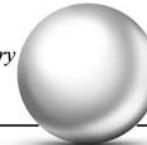
I hope through the success of my ongoing studies that I will embody the ideals espoused in our hallowed tradition, and become a role model of service as a Jewish physician.

Harry Portman is the son of Jerry and Myra. Harry is a first year student at Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah campus. He has moved back to Savannah with his wife, Elana.

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BERWITZ, D.M.D.
Cosmetic and Restorative Dentistry

Faces of Hadassah

Meet Gourmet Baker and
Hadassah Member

Nina Finkelman

And let's have some baking fun!

Cappuccino and Croissants

Sunday, December 4, 2011

At the home of President Joanna Rich

105 Coffee Pointe Drive; RSVP to get the gate code

Program, as always, is free.



HA
DAS
SAH

- Hadassah members, associates (our men) and wannabees* are welcomed.
- Color refrigerator magnets with the rest of our programming year will be handed out.

RSVP to Chapter President and hostess Joanna Rich

912-480-4686

or email Joanna@chirpheath.com

*Wannabee a Hadassah member? Come see how we impact the world and join as a lifetime member for only \$100, **Sale ends 12/31/11!**



On Sunday, November 6, the 7th, 8th, and 9th graders from the Shalom School assisted Frank Katz, Commander of Jewish War Veterans Post 320, in placing American flags on the graves of Savannah's Jewish veterans at Bonaventure Cemetery. Besides performing this mitzvah, the students learned about the history of Savannah's Jews who served their country. Thanks to Eva Locker and the Shalom School parents who helped transport their children to the cemetery and back to the JEA.

For more information on the Jewish War Veterans, contact Frank at 912-351-0666 or by e-mail at fhkatz@comcast.net

Hillels of the Coastal Empire

serving area students from
Georgia Southern University
Armstrong Atlantic University
and the
Savannah College of Art and Design

look for us on **facebook** 

Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES

Murray A. Galin



I've lived in Savannah for many years with memories stretching back to a little boy on Duffy Street on the side of the streetcar track.

The street was our playground, we moved for passing cars, craved each other's company and shared our candy bars.

Collected stamps and foreign coins, rode our bikes and skates; we grammared through to high school and started having dates.

The core of my existence became the JEA, where Barnard Street meets Charlton we'd go for fun and play.

Athletic games or meetings would entertain each day; continued school and teenaged and joined the AZA.

We learned to communicate and develop social grace, strove toward self sufficiency at an ever growing pace.

Now I've reached far beyond those tender years ago I reminisce so pleasantly On things I used to know.

That is what our Jewish Archives do for you and me, maintain our treasured heritage for all who care to see.

One may come to recollect or trace a family tree and we thank you for the effort to preserve our history.



View of Broughton Street, circa 1935.

AZA Banquet, Forest City, November 19, 1946 - Murray Galin is sitting on the right, second from the front.



102 West Duffy Street, Gottlieb's Kosher Delicatessen. Murray Galin's childhood neighborhood.



JEA Basketball, 1950. Murray Galin is pictured in back row, 4th person from left.

It's A Funny Thing

By Melinda Stein

During the recent High Holy Days in Savannah, I overheard the following conversation:

- "My family always attended Synagogue X, but I have been hearing a lot about how friendly and welcoming the congregation of Synagogue Y is."

"Well, we belong to Synagogue Y but they say that Synagogue Z has many more dinners, events and programs – that really sounds great."

"Even though Synagogue Z is where we go, I'm hearing all about Synagogue X. They're supposed to be so kid-based and family-friendly."

- A Rabbi dies and is waiting to enter heaven, behind a guy in casual clothes. Gabriel says to the guy, "OK, in life you were a taxi driver. Take this silken robe and enter Heaven." Then Gabriel says to the Rabbi, "OK, Rabbi. Take this cotton robe and enter Heaven." The Rabbi says, "Hey, that man was a taxi driver – why did he get better stuff than me?" "Up here, we judge by results," says Gabriel. "While you preached, people slept – but while he drove, people *prayed*."

- Did you hear about the theft of egg-enriched challah dough from a

Brooklyn warehouse? Unfortunately, the theft happened just before Shabbat, forcing many bakeries to bake their *challahs* with plain, white flour. A leading rabbi was quoted as saying, "I'm appalled by this rise in *white challah crimes!*"



Melinda Stein

- Izzy and Howard were brothers. Unfortunately, they were not exemplary in their behavior. When Izzy died, Howard said to the Rabbi, "I will donate a thousand dollars if you say at the funeral that my brother Izzy was a *mensch*." The Rabbi thought hard then agreed. At the funeral, the Rabbi spoke of Izzy's wrong doings, then ended with, "But compared to his brother, he was a *menschl*!"

- Sidney telephones Rabbi Levy and says, "Rabbi, I know tonight is *Kol Nidre*, but it's the final game of the World Series. I'm a life long baseball fan and I've got to watch the game." Rabbi Levy replies, "Sidney, that's what video recorders are for." Sidney says, "You mean I can record *Kol Nidre*?"

Save The Dates

Incorporating some of our core values of community, conversation, and collaboration, (and of course, good food) the JEA is proud to establish the **Opinion Minyan** an interactive, participatory discussion series

Free to JEA Members
\$8 per person Non Members
Includes speaker and breakfast



Sunday Morning - December 11 10:00 am
Bagels and Grits: How Jews Found a Home in the South
Dr. Stuart Rockoff, Director of History at Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life
Cosponsored by the Savannah Jewish Archives

Sunday Morning - January 8 10:00 am
Insights Into the Arab-Israeli Conflict & the Peace Process
Dr. Ralph Nurnberger, Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University

Sunday Morning - February 12 10am
The State of Education in Savannah
Dr. Thomas Lockamy, Jr., Superintendent, Chatham County School System
Dr. Joe Buck, President, Savannah-Chatham Board of Education
Mrs. Sharon Sand, Chief Academic Officer, Chatham County School System

Jewish War Veteran?

If you have a family member buried in Bonaventure Cemetery who does not have a US Flag, please contact the local Jewish War Veterans Post 320 with the name and location of the plot. Please do not remove a flag or a JWV marker from another gravesite. The marker only denotes a member of the JWV chapter.



Contact: Post Commander Frank H. Katz
Savannah JWV Post 320
229 Groveland Circle
Savannah, GA 31405 or

fhkatz@comcast.net



One Gift to Jewish Family Services, A Lifetime of Support for the Savannah Jewish Community

A community supporter who chooses to remain anonymous has established

The Tikvah Fund

in support of the Savannah Jewish Federation's Jewish Family Services efforts.

Tikvah, meaning Hope, will provide funding in perpetuity for the social service needs of the community including rent/mortgage assistance, Kosher meals, case management, prescription medicines, clothing and other daily necessities for those who are unable to attend to themselves in times of need.

The Challenge

The fund's creators have generously issued a challenge to the community to participate in the creation of the Tikvah Fund. For every dollar donated to the fund by members of the community (up to a total of \$20,000), the fund's creators will match the donations *dollar for dollar!*

Rosenthal

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The Savannah Jewish Federation proudly provides space for a half-page ad to each local congregation in each issue of the Savannah Jewish News.



ב"ב

Congregation B'nai B'rith Jacob

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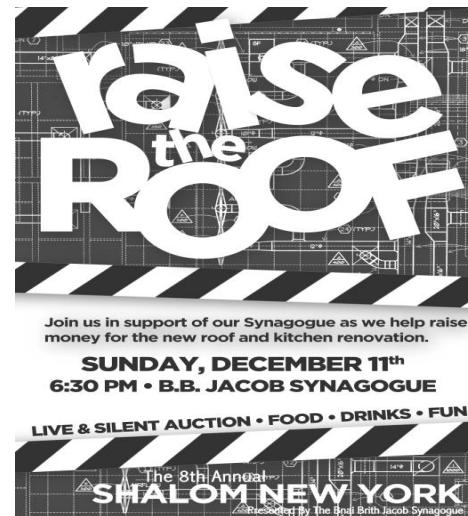
We're going to Raise the Roof!

Join us for the 8th Annual Shalom New York: Raise the Roof
\$180/couple • \$90/individual • additional sponsorships available
Sunday, December 11, 2011 • 6:30 p.m.

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Come enjoy the best deli dinner south of Manhattan, featuring an elaborate buffet with platters of NY style pastrami, mounds of fried chicken, delicious sushi, sumptuous salad selections, a lavish knish bar along with open bar service. Ticket prices include an entry in the exciting \$3,000 raffle. Bid on extraordinary live and silent auction items!

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**COME JOIN US FOR THE
CHANUKAH PARTY AT THE AA
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22ND AT 6:00 P.M.**



COME LIGHT THE MENORAH, EAT LATKES AND ENJOY CHANUKAH



**Saturday, February 11th
Agudath Achim Members 2nd Annual
Havdalah "Progressive Dinner"**

Please call the Synagogue office at 352-4737 to RSVP

Four Questions for the Rest of the Year

Dr. Jay Goldstein,

Chief of Staff, Memorial University Medical Center



Dr. Jay Goldstein

1. Can you better explain to those unfamiliar with the medical field what position you have attained at Memorial University Medical Center?

For the past 8 years, I have held the position of Medical Director of Emergency Services at Memorial Medical Center. During this time period, the volume of patients visiting the Emergency Department has grown from approximately 45,000 in 2003 to 96,000 in 2010. Beginning January 2012, I have been elected to a two-year term as Chief of Staff, also called President of the Medical Staff.

2. Having had the experience of working your way up in a hospital system, what did it teach you about the American hospital system? What did it inspire you to want to change?

That's a very difficult question to answer as the hospital system has changed so much over the past 12 years that I have been practicing medicine. I do

think we have the best medical care in the world, but the frustration for me has been trying to find an answer to providing care for those who can't afford it. Seeing someone suffering through life, not getting the care they need because they can't afford it has been tough on me. Many of these patients come to the emergency department seeking help and hoping for treatment for their medical conditions. As the years have gone by, insurance premiums have sky-rocketed, and the number of people who can't afford the cost of their own healthcare has surged. I have witnessed a steep cost increase in healthcare expenditures and feel we need to do everything possible to control costs and continue to provide the great care we always have in this country. I think this is a shared responsibility and will require government officials, attorneys, hospitals and physicians to give in a little bit to make the necessary practice adjustments, which in turn will help

control costs. If we don't act quickly, we will see a continued escalation of healthcare costs and a serious deterioration in the quality of care as hospitals and physicians will continue to close their doors to patients, or even worse close their doors permanently. Having said that, I don't think the new healthcare law is the answer. I don't think you need to tear apart the system completely and rebuild, but just make some necessary adjustments to get the system back on track and contain costs. The active players need to be held accountable for doing their part to right the system.

3. What influence has Judaism and your practice of the faith had on your medical practice or vice versa?

I attribute many of my successes to being Jewish and to being a part of the Jewish Community of Savannah. Growing up in this community, I spent a lot of time at the JEA and around the BB Jacob Synagogue. I observed many of the area's leaders had come from the Jewish community and these were people that I came to know well. On top of the respect I had for these individuals, their leadership encouraged me to be a part of the community's leadership. I feel that growing up in Savannah's strong Jewish community gave me strength to grow

and the desire to take on leadership positions. It fueled the desire to take on more active roles and attempt to make things better. Lastly, I definitely would like to see my children have as great a childhood as I had. So, trying to do for the community will hopefully benefit our children greatly and continue to surround them with the cultural influence that I was so grateful to experience.

4. In your professional capacity of treating others and prevention of future medical issues, what's the best advice you've ever received? Why?

Funny, this question brings me all the way back to my high school senior quote: "You can judge a man's character by the way he treats those who can do nothing for him." I have lived by this mantra for as long as I can remember. I feel it has served me well in my practice of life, as well as in my practice of medicine. My interpretation of this statement has always been that I don't care who you are, where you come from, or what kind of issues you may have, you will always get treated with decency, respect, and very well by me. I also feel if everyone gave more of themselves than asked to be given, the world would be a better place.

Join Us At Mickve Israel

Mickve Israel extends to you an open invitation!

To Worship: In addition to special children services and holiday events, we have Shabbat services on Friday evenings at 6:00 pm. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, our Friday evening services will be held at 6:30 pm. Instead of being held in our historic sanctuary, these Exotic Resort Location services will be hosted at member homes around the community. Our Saturday morning services are at 11:00 am and are followed by a Kiddush lunch.

To Tour Our Historic Sanctuary and Museum: We offer docent-led tours Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and again from 2:00 to 4:00 pm with the last tour starting approximately 30 minutes before the end of the session. The suggested donation for a tour is \$5 per person.

To Shop: Our Judaica Shop is stocked with a variety of items for children and adults. If we don't have what you are looking for, we can order it for you! The shop is open during tour times and other times upon request.

To Eat: The Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival will be held in Forsyth Park on Sunday, October 30, 2011, from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm.

For more information on the third oldest Jewish congregation in America founded in 1733, which is right in your community, contact Mickve Israel at 912.233.1547 or visit www.mickveisrael.org.



Image by Attic Fire Photography

Important Lessons From The Home

In Parshas Vayaira, G-d commands Avraham to sacrifice his son. Through this commandment, (that we know Avraham set out to do with tremendous zeal), Avraham saw in the younger generation an incredible strength of character. Avraham had heard directly from the Almighty that he was to sacrifice his son. However, Yitzchak had heard it from his father. Yet, both father and son went forth to perform the mitzvah with a full heart dedicated to fulfilling the commandment of G-d.

We see from here that children can be raised to believe in the principals of their parents. This makes it vital for parents to be scrupulous in the examples they set for their children. In Parshas Lech Lecha when Avraham is directed to leave his land, his birthplace and his father's home; it seems the order of the directive is backwards. Avraham would first have to leave his father's home, then his birth place, then his land. Why does the Torah list the places Avraham must take leave from in this particular order? The Torah has expressed in ascending order what Avraham must do based on the difficulty of the event.

Leaving one's father's home would be the most difficult to do, as this is the abode that has the greatest influence upon an individual. Through this means, the Torah emphasizes the significance of the home's impact upon one's children.

Thus being said, Rambam is dedicated to the importance of the home. Every Friday, the pre-school children have a Shabbos party with two children chosen each week to be a Shabbos Mommy and a Shabbos Daddy. The children are encouraged to share what

they have learned about the portion of the week with their parents. They take home beautiful projects depicting ideas they learned about the portion. Without family significance, Rambam would be missing a major component.

We just had Parent Teacher Conferences and most children's parents (Mom and Dad) attended. It is heartwarming to observe the dedication and attentiveness of parents for their children's success. As well, it is meaningful to witness parent's concerns for the areas in which their children may need some additional attention to be more successful. It is also priceless to hear parents' support, appreciation and endorsement of all that Rambam accomplishes with their children.

By the time you read this article, Rambam would have completed its Race to Raise, which is a triathlon fundraiser for the Savannah Jewish Federation. The K- 8th graders have secured sponsors for their participation in this triathlon. I hope to report our success in the next issue of Savannah Jewish News. After family, comes community. It is fundamental that our Jewish community and our Jewish institutions thrive, so they can support the efforts of parents to instill within their children the importance of being well versed in their heritage, and being an active partner in the vitality of our people.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

Pack and Load

Twenty years from now, do you want your child to attend synagogue? Be active in a JCC and celebrate Purim (with your grandchild on their shoulders of course)? Then start packing a duffel bag and load them on a bus bound to a Jewish sleep-awaycamp.

For decades, parents have sent their children to summer camps for a variety of reasons. Some want their kids to gain the confidence of being "away from home", some are looking for improving certain skills, others may want to strengthen their child's Jewish identity by choosing a Jewish camp, and very rightly so.

We always knew it and the most recent study led by sociologist Steven Cohen confirms once more the impact of Jewish summer camp. Right with Jewish school and a trip to Israel, sending your child to a Jewish summer camp is the promise of an adult with a strong Jewish Identity.

The study reports behaviors on which camp had the greatest impact: emotional attachment to Israel (55 percent higher for camp alumni), attending synagogue at least monthly (45 percent higher) and lighting Shabbat candles (37 percent). Camp alumni were also 30 percent more likely to donate to Jewish federations and 26 percent more likely to affiliate with synagogue.

With those "speaks for themselves numbers" in mind, I decided to host at Shalom School our first Jewish Camp fair; Last month, a total of eight Jewish camps were displaying information for our families. I knew that a lot of our students are/will be going to summer camp. By presenting the wide variety of options I hope to have convinced our campers to "Go Jewish" for the summer.

When looking for a Jewish Camp one will take into consideration the level of observance, the Camp affiliation (if any), the location and the type of activity

focus (if any). Even living in the South, the options are numerous. Shalom Camp Fair presented the following but many others (farther away) exist out there.



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

Hadassah Camp

Judea: "a leader in the Jewish and Zionist camping world for environmentalism" (Hendersonville, NC)

USCJ Camp Ramah Darom: "integrates experiential Jewish living and learning with an atmosphere of friendship and fun" (Clayton GA).

URJ Camp Coleman: "where campers have fun and experience the excitement and warmth of belonging to a Reform Jewish community" (Cleveland, GA)

6 Points Academy: an URJ Sport Camp, "a place for Jewish athlete". (Greensboro NC)

Camp Barney : "Located high amidst the Appalachian and Blue Ridge Mountains just 75 miles northeast of Atlanta" (Cleveland, GA)

Blue Star Academy: "devoted to enriching the lives of children by offering both a fun and meaningful Jewish Camp experience". (Hendersonville, NC)

Eden Village Camp: "an innovative Jewish Organic Farm Camp" (near NYC)

JEA Camp: for those too young to go to sleep away camp, the JEA camp offers a wide range of activities in a Jewish atmosphere. (Savannah, GA).

Most of these camps have a website where more information is available.

For grant and opportunity to reduce the cost of camp visit <http://www.jewishcamp.org/one-happy-camper/>

Even though summer camp can come with a hefty price tag let's remember:

THE IMPACT OF JEWISH CAMP LAST A LIFETIME.

Judaism Around the Web

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee— www.jdc.org

For 96 years, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)—also referred to as "the Joint"—has exemplified globally the principle that all Jewish people are responsible for one another. Active today in more than 70 countries, JDC and its partners work to rescue Jewish lives at risk, bring relief to Jews in need, renew lost bonds to Jewish identity and Jewish culture, and help Israel overcome the social challenges of its most vulnerable citizens, both Jewish and non-Jewish. JDC reach extends beyond the global Jewish community by providing non-sectarian disaster relief and long-term development assistance worldwide.

JDC's reach is global, yet it is uniquely equipped to make a deep impact locally. In the former Soviet Union, home to the world's poorest Jews, a network of JDC-supported Hesed welfare centers offer relief to 168,000 Jewish elderly in some 2,800 towns and villages, while Jewish Community Centers are fueling Jewish renewal for all ages across the region. Wherever JDC works, it is viewed as a trusted partner to propel vulnerable Jewish and non-Jewish communities from dependency to self-sustainability.

Jewish Agency for Israel— www.jafi.org

For over 80 years, the Jewish Agency has served as the link between the Jewish people and Israel, working to ensure the future of a connected, committed, global Jewish People with a strong Israel at its center. Together, we helped create and build the State and brought over 3 million Jews to Israel.

Today, they continue our work to secure the Jewish future. As they bring more olim and stand ready as the Jewish world's first responder to crises both in Israel and around the world, the Jewish Agency is redirecting its primary focus toward the greatest challenge we currently face as a people – strengthening the Jewish identity of young Jews in both the Diaspora and Israel. Indeed, the solutions to local and overseas challenges facing Jews around the world depend on our revitalizing a strong sense of Jewish community, which has faded over the last generation.

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks Our Contributors

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In honor of Carol & Joel Greenberg's Sukkot Hospitality
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In honor of Kelly Gordon's speedy recovery
Susan, Danny, Alli & Matt Klugman

CREATE a Jewish Legacy



Why Become a Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah Donor?

The Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah provides a wide array of services to assist donors in accomplishing their charitable objectives. They work with donors to develop customized giving arrangements, which can benefit the donor and the donor's family, as well as the charities that they care about. Here are some key advantages of this unique approach to philanthropy:

- Funds established at the Foundation can channel gifts to multiple beneficiaries, including both Jewish and non-Jewish charities.
- Foundation funds can be established during a donor's lifetime with a modest initial contribution and added to periodically.
- The Foundation is equipped to handle complex deferred giving arrangements, such as charitable trusts, under which donors retain benefits during their lifetimes

while providing for endowments to be funded upon their deaths.

- The Foundation specializes in planned giving techniques, which often result in significant income, gift and estate tax savings.
- Giving through the Foundation is a cost-effective alternative to private family foundations since we are not subject to the deduction limitations; excise taxes, regulatory burdens and annual expenses imposed on private foundations.
- All Foundation funds and individual gift transactions are held in the strictest confidence.

Just as a wise investor will look for ways to maximize the return on an investment, a wise donor will take advantage of tax incentives specifically designed to encourage charitable con-

tributions. Such incentives often enable a donor to make a larger gift at no additional, or even a reduced, out-of-pocket expense. Many planned giving opportunities enhance a donor's financial security for themselves and their families and simultaneously provide a substantial commitment to strengthening the future of the community.

At the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah we are available to answer questions regarding the timing

of your gift, and the charitable needs of our community. We understand and help donors meet their highly individual circumstances and considerations.

For more information, or to establish a foundation, through the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah at the Savannah Jewish Federation, please contact the Executive Director, Adam Solender at Adam@savj.org, or call (912) 355-8111

A bisse (little) Yiddish
I always wondered what was said?

Maven - an expert
Call that tech guy to fix the computer; he's a real *maven* when it comes to fixing computer issues .

Tchatchke - knick-knack, little toy, collectable
People always bring back *tchatchkes* from vacations.

The poorest Jews in the world live in the former Soviet Union. Last year you helped 168,000 find reason to smile.



By supporting leading-edge food distribution systems and an innovative network of centrally located community centers, Jewish Federation is helping seniors across the former Soviet Union live with dignity and pride. It's a successful strategy we apply to every issue we tackle. Whether responding to natural disasters, helping the unemployed or supporting innovative Jewish education, together we do a world of good.

Just say "Yes." Donate. Volunteer. Make a difference today.

