

Shabbat and Holiday Candle Lighting Times

Friday, April 6th	7:30pm
Saturday, April 7th	8:26pm
Thursday, April 12th	7:34pm
Friday, April 13th	7:35pm
Friday, April 20th	7:40pm
Friday, April 27th	7:45pm

Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 5th

Opinion Minyan
 Pre-Pesach Lunch & Program
 12:15pm, JEA
 RSVP by April 3
 see p. 13

Thursday, April 26th

Yom Ha'atzma'ut
 Savannah Jewish Film Festival
 Dinner, 6:30pm; Film, 7:30pm
 RSVP for dinner by April 24
 see p. 5

Sunday, April 29th

JEA 100-Year Celebration
 Billy Joel Dinner Theater
 5:00pm, JEA
 RSVP by April 20
 see CenterPiece

YOM HaSHOAH – HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE – APRIL 19TH

On Thursday, April 19th, the entire community of Savannah will participate in the annual observance of Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. This year's theme is "Mothers of Valor: The Courage and Compassion of Women in the Holocaust" and the daffodil has been chosen as a symbol of hope.

Thanks to the longstanding work of the Savannah Jewish Federation's Yom HaShoah Committee, school children throughout the city have been preparing for Yom HaShoah for the last few months. Middle and high school students have been writing essays and preparing art projects about the Shoah for competitions and younger children have been coloring hundreds of daffodils. All of the artwork will be on display at the Jewish Educational Alliance for the Yom HaShoah observance.

The Art and Writing Contest winners will be recognized at the Yom HaShoah Ceremony that begins at 7pm at the JEA. The keynote speakers for the evening will be mother and daughter, Melinda Mandelbaum Stein and Deganit (Degi) Stein Ruben, who will approach this year's theme from two sides. Melinda, who lectures frequently on the Holocaust, will talk about her parents' experiences during

the Shoah, focusing on her mother, a journalist in pre-war Poland who was incarcerated for four years in a slave labor camp. Melinda also will speak about her own experiences growing up in a family of survivors. Degi will address these issues from the standpoint of her generation, as the legacy to remember passes "Midor L'dor" – "From Generation to Generation."

The Yom HaShoah ceremony also will include readings, an interpretive dance, lighting of memorial candles and benedictions from the Rabbis at all three local congregations. The ceremony is open to the public and customarily is attended by people of all faiths and walks of life.

The world often recognizes that six million of our Jewish brethren perished in the Holocaust, but lest we forget the personal devastation of the loss of each life taken, we will continue our solemn tradition of reading aloud throughout the day the individual names of those



The daffodil reminds us of the yellow Stars of David worn by Jews during the Holocaust, but as one of the first signs of spring, it is an even stronger symbol of hope.

murdered. On April 19th, volunteers will read the names in the lobby of the JEA from 9am to 7pm. If you would like to participate in the reading of the names, please contact Nancy Rosenthal at nrosent892@aol.com.



Past and present leadership of the Jewish Educational Alliance recently gathered as guests of Kaye and Don Kole at a delightful dinner purchased last summer at the Cupcakes and Cocktails JEA Gala. They were feted by members of the current JEA Board of Directors. Pictured here are all of the JEA presidents who were in attendance: (l-r) Seated Jodi Lasky Sadler, Marcy Weiland Konter, Walter Lowe, Lynn Cranman Reeves, Jeff Kole. Standing: Kenneth Sadler, Jerry Konter, Jeffrey Lasky, Don Kole, Murray Arkin, Skippy Goodman, Aaron Levy, Paul Kulbersh, Steve Greenberg.



A Publication of Savannah Jewish Federation
 5111 Abercorn Street
 Savannah, Georgia 31405
www.savj.org

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 207
 SAVANNAH, GA

*There'll be bottles of red, bottles of white
 And food to sate your appetite – at our Italian restaurant
 Sunday, April 29 (see CenterPiece)*



Life is תקווה.

The china was your grandmother's. One day, it will go to your granddaughter. More precious are the stories handed down along with it. Best wishes for a joyous Passover.

Life is Hope.

pass it on.

Publix®

WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE.®

Vanilla, Chocolate or Swirl: It's Still All Ice Cream

Growing up as a kid, I only liked vanilla ice cream. I could not understand how anyone liked anything else. Then my sister came along, and of course, she only liked chocolate. I still failed to understand how she could like a flavor different than vanilla. Flash forward twenty years and I got married. My wife, Stacy was a vanilla/chocolate swirl kind of person. Now I was really confused. How could two people that I loved very much like something different from me.

This dilemma over ice cream preference is reflective of the many flavors of Judaism in our own community. Savannahians, like Jews throughout the world, express their Jewishness in many different ways: Some immerse themselves in religious observance and study while others get their Jewish identity through their involvement in Jewish organizations and Jewish philanthropy. Some may be labeled "unaffiliated," yet they have a Jewish neshama (soul) which guides them through *their own* Jewish journey.

Since we have so many individuals who practice so many different flavors of Judaism, our community organizations are designed to deliver services to these many diverse constituencies. Some organizations' missions are designed for those who only like vanilla; others are for the chocolate lovers and yet others look to serve everyone—vanilla, chocolate or mixed swirl. No organization's mission is more important than another's nor should we should expect them to deliver services to their constituents in the same ways.

Because our community is so small, there are episodic tensions, some perceived and some real, between the competing missions. A good example of this perceived tension is the ongoing discussion community leadership has been having over the early childhood education (ECE) program. We (the Federation, JEA and Rambam Day School) have identified a significant segment of young Jewish families that have

not, for whatever reasons, availed themselves of our community's current ECE offering at Rambam Day School. We have engaged in long, honest and enlightening discussions about the best way to engage this vital segment of

our community. The very future of our community depends on us engaging this group of parents and their children. We have worked extremely hard to design a collaborative ECE program that preserves the critical components of what currently exists and add new and innovative pieces that will attract the currently unaffiliated young Jewish families.

The discussion between the JEA and Rambam is in its final stages and I cannot predict what the ultimate outcome might be. We may have one collaborative program and we may have two individual programs. The issues are complex and important to everyone involved. The discussions have been passionate and honest. Whatever the outcome, our entire community should be proud of the leaders who have spent countless hours dealing with the issue. Everyone involved recognizes the importance to our community's future of engaging this large group of parents and children.

Whether we wind up with a scoop of vanilla and a scoop of chocolate or one scoop of vanilla/chocolate swirl, you can be confident that our community will be a better place to live and that our future will be secure. I will report to you as soon as we have a decision.

Now back to my ice cream dilemma. I struggled with the issue for years and then one day the light bulb went off. I realized that it really did not matter what flavor someone liked because in the end.... it was still all ice cream.



Jeffrey Lasky,
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Memories of the Past, Traditions for the Future

There is something about Passover that triggers a visceral feeling in our souls.

It would be easy to say that it is the memory of the week of matzah (every recipe under the sun seems to be adapted to using matzah or matzah meal), the eye watering horseradish (are you a red or white horseradish seder?), the matzah balls (heavy or light?), brisket, turkey, or chicken. I always associate the sweet potatoes with marshmallow topping that my Aunt Mim always made (and the admonition for the children to not scrape all the marshmal-

... it is the intangible things that have sustained us for centuries"

lows from the top) with our family seder. Of course, there was the "special" Passover cereal that "magically appeared in the cupboard - Sunny O's, Crisp Os, and Fruit Os (I'm still not sure why everything had an "Os" at the end).

There are other memories that many of us associate with the Passover seder: the wine stained Hagadot that the family has been using since 1952, the door being opened for Elijah, the beautiful table (usually set two days in advance with great admonition to the children—"Do not go in the dining room!"), the "special" pre-Passover house cleaning to assure there is no chametz, the special plates and table décor.

And then there are the items that some of us have adopted to personalize our seders. In my house, it is the addi-

tion of a Miriam's Cup, (a newer ritual to honor the role of Miriam the Prophetess in the Exodus and to highlight the contributions of women to Jewish culture, past, and present), an orange (as a symbol of the fruitfulness of all Jews including women and gay people), and a miniature Statue of Liberty (which ties in the story of freedom to our country).

All these memories are the tangible items that trigger memory of Passovers past, but it is the intangible things that have sustained us for centuries. We are asked over and over again to remember-remember that we were once slaves, remember the false gods that were put before us, remember our escape to freedom.

When we sit down at the seder table, laden with beautiful food, surrounded by family and friends, we must remember that slavery, dispossession, and sorrow were a part of our history, but it is part of our world today. Suffering is around us every day.

At our seder tables we are reminded that we were once slaves in Egypt and that we have the ability to make a difference in the world. It is an opportunity for giving thanks and to rededicate ourselves to the concept of liberation, justice, and redemption.

May your seder be filled with many memories of the past and traditions created for the future.



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

Preferred Hotel Partners of



- Located in the heart of midtown near the corner of DeRenne and Abercorn
- Book your block of rooms today for Bar and BatMitzvah's
- Banquet Space accommodating up to 300 people
- Contact Melaina Jaudon at 912-721-5173/Melaina.jaudon@hilton.com



Have you tried the new savj.org?

Community calendar, online donations and much, much more!



YO TEENS!



Expanding your Jewish IQ?

Are you an up and coming Jewish Leader?

Do you want to make a difference in our community?

Planning on a "Jewish peer group experience" this summer?

Are you thinking about attending a Teen Leadership program?

**...Then the Savannah Jewish Federation
Teen Experience Scholarship is for you!**

Applications are available for download at www.savj.org
All submissions due by April 15, 2012

MAZEL TOV TO ALL SPRING & SUMMER GRADUATES AND YOUR FAMILIES

You are invited to submit your pictures and records of achievement for publication in our special graduation section of the June issue of the *Savannah Jewish News*.

To be included, please download the submission form from www.savj.org or pick one up at the JEA.

All submissions must be received by the absolute deadline of May 10, 2012. Listings will be published only in the June issue.

Return forms & pictures to:

sjnews@savj.org

or

Savannah Jewish News
5111 Abercorn St.
Savannah, GA 31405

An April Journey

April is a busy month. Events, holidays and days of mourning, hard to determine what is the main event that marks this month and will be carrying my article. But sometimes I don't have to choose, I can simply choose a starting point. So I'll start at the beginning - Passover.

Passover in Israel is a wonderful time, not just because its springtime in Israel and almost all of Israel is on vacation; but also because of the special unity created during Passover. Any other time of the year unless a miracle happens, my parents have to beg me to take the dog, Foxy, out for a walk; which is quite annoying—she runs off, she pulls the leash and she won't stop barking. But when Passover comes the story is different. Foxy already knows the procedure, five minutes after we start eating at the Seder we're already out walking around the neighborhood, even without a leash. As I walk from every house I hear the same thing- a family around their table telling each other the Passover story. You can hear the different melodies and the different pace to the readings; some are even faster than

us and have already opened the door for Elijah the Prophet, some ask a million questions and will start eating probably when we're done. And I enjoy the momentary silence in the street and this sense of togetherness that we all feel at Passover.

This feeling stays with me for a long time after, and I remember that together we were able to make the journey out of Egypt from slavery to freedom.

And then to emphasize that solidarity, everyone celebrates the Mimouna the week later (a custom of the Moroccan Jews at the end of Passover of inviting guests and having celebrations that most Israelis adopted - probably because it includes fried sweet pastries). This celebration shows our ability to unite and being supportive and accepting to the different cultures in Israel.

After almost two weeks of celebration, we have a different period of April. A week of the Holocaust Re-



Tal Bratman,
Savannah Jewish
Community Shlichah

membrance Day, Yom HaShoah, and a week later the Israeli Memorial Day, Yom Hazikaron. Twice that month we stand silent when the sirens are playing, the streets quiet down, and we take the time to remember. We take part in the families mourning for their loved ones. We all join this day to the family of mourners; the young soldiers are our sons, daughters, brothers and sisters, our friends and heroes, who sacrificed their life so that we could live free and safe in our country.

And again we go back to good mood for my favorite holiday of all- Independence Day! Live music shows, parties in the street and fireworks.

So after reviewing it all it seems crazy to go through one month this extreme mood swings in Israeli society; but if we look at the meaning behind all of this we see that it's not that strange. That it's all connected to the same thing- the freedom of the Jewish people.

We are on a constant journey, Out of the slavery in Egypt, surviving the Shoah, surviving the constant wars for our independence in our homeland, the land of Israel. It's a journey that continues still to make our society better for a better future for Israel and for the Jewish people.

Artist Gives Back

By Harriet Meyerhoff

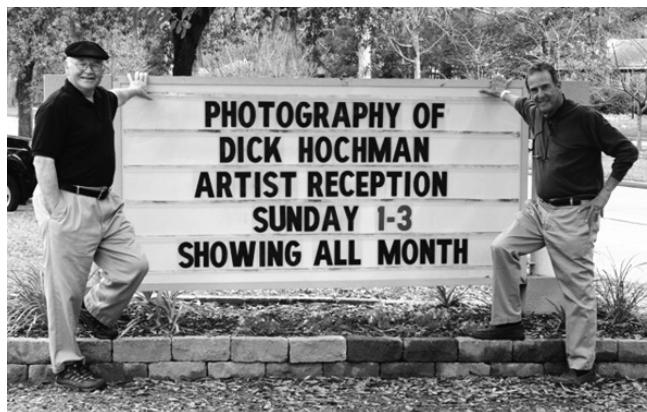
The JEA's March art show, "Where We Live," featuring photographs by Richard "Dick" Hochman, was a huge success, thanks mainly to the artist's exceptional photographic eye and generosity. Dick is a retired physician who, with his beautiful wife Joanne, relocated to the Landings from Philadelphia.

He has created an ideal life style for a retiree by playing golf, socializing and taking pictures. Dick is rarely seen without his camera and appears at many happenings around town, photographing events such as St. Patrick's Day, a Civil War reenactment, the dedication of the World War II monument, the annual Jewish Food Festival and more.

Dick initially was reluctant to exhibit at the JEA, fearing it would take too much time away from his cherished golf games. However, once he agreed, he was determined and diligent in his preparation for this very upbeat, feel-good show that was a combination of gorgeous settings indigenous to Savannah and photographs of many Savannah faces.

Along with all of his time and effort preparing this show, Dick graciously

donated all proceeds from the show to benefit the JEA. This certainly is an example of giving back to the community and for this act of *tzedakah* we recognize and thank Dick. Savannah and the JEA are lucky to have you.



Dick Hochman (r) with Alex Gilmore of Bay Camera Co., who helped curate Dick's photography exhibit.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Jacob & Ida Ulman

College Scholarship Fund

Offered through the Savannah Jewish Federation
This scholarship is given based on need, availability and the applicant's participation in the Savannah Jewish community.

Henry W. Center

College Scholarship Fund

Offered through the Jewish Educational Alliance
This scholarship is based on need, availability, and the applicant's scholastic achievement.

Applications are available for download at

www.savj.org

Confidential applications must be submitted by April 15, 2012

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Savannah Jewish News

Published by the

Savannah Jewish Federation

5111 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31405
(912) 355-8111

SJF President: **Jeffrey Lasky**

SJF President-elect: **Stephen Greenberg**

SJF Vice President: **Amos Timna**

SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Allan Ratner**

SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**

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

The Savannah Jewish News is published monthly 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.

All submissions must be in MS Word format (articles) or pdf format (fonts embedded for advertisements). All color must be in the CMYK format. All type in true black, photos in .jpeg format.

Please send all SJN materials to:
sjn@savj.org

Please send eNews submissions to:
adam@savj.org

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

All materials published in the Savannah Jewish News are Copyright © 2012 Savannah Jewish Federation, all rights reserved, unless noted otherwise.

Celebrate Israel's Independence at the Jewish Film Festival

Double your appreciation for Israel and cinema on Thursday, April 26th, as the Savannah Jewish Film Festival commemorates Israel's 64th birthday with a special double feature and a yummy Israeli dinner to start things off.

An Article of Hope is the inspiring documentary that details the life of Colonel Ilan Ramon, the first and only astronaut from Israel, who blasted off on the ill-fated shuttle Columbia. The film also tells the story of a tiny Torah's journey, from its hidden life in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during the darkest hours of World War II to the day it was celebrated in weightless wonder aboard the Columbia.

My Brother's Keeper tells the story of one of the best kept secrets about the creation of the modern State of

Israel. In 1947 and 1948, a group of 4,400 people from 56 countries — Jews and Christians — volunteered to join the fledgling Israel Defense Forces. They flew the planes that brought the weapons from Czechoslovakia; they commanded the Navy; they drove the first tanks; they were the first bombers and fighter pilots. The fate of Israel was in their hands. In the end, 6,000 Israelis, almost 1% of the population, lost their lives in the War of Independence that determined the country's right to exist. My



Colonel Ilan Ramon

Brother's Keeper celebrates the stories of those who lived to tell them and the martyrs who did not.

Despite the threats and challenges to its existence that continue to this day, Israel thrives, as does its cuisine. Join us for a wonderful supper before the movies with a menu that is popular today and reminiscent of the fare in 1948. We'll be serving all the Israeli favorites — falafel, humus, tabouli, babaganoush, pita, Israeli salad and baklava for dessert. Dinner is \$10 per person and you must RSVP with payment to the JEA by close of business on Tuesday, April 24th. Dinner reservations also may be made online, up until 48 hours in ad-



vance, at www.savannahjea.org. Dinner is at 6:30pm.

Are you coming only for the films? The movie starts at 7:30pm. Individual tickets may be purchased at the door, beginning at 7:15pm. Prices are \$8 for JEA members, \$9 for all others.

LEVY *Jewelers*
SINCE 1900

Downtown 912.233.1163 • Oglethorpe Mall 912.238.2120
St. Johns Town Center, Jacksonville 904.527.2643 • levyjewelers.com

Helping those who need help for over 30 years. We offer a full range of services from simple companionship, homemaking and errands, to personal care and skilled nursing. We can provide services in the home, hospital, assisted living facility and anywhere else you may need it. We're available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please let us know how we can help you or your loved ones.

If you have any questions or would like more information, Please call Jana Goldberg Feiler at 912-354-3680 or visit us online at www.coastalhomecare.us

Coastal HOME CARE **Serving all of Southeast Georgia**



FREE
32 oz.
SODA

WITH ANY PURCHASE

Bring this coupon in to any ENMARK convenience store location and receive a free 32 oz. fountain drink with any purchase.

ENMARK
EnmarkEnjoy.com

Valid until 4/30/2012

“Uncork” Your JEA Memories

By Jane G. Kahn

Debbie Rotkow and Sherry Dolgoff, long identified with the JEA, are donating their considerable talents to “Unpacking Memories—One Story at a Time” in celebration of the JEA’s 100-year history. Already, they have met with several groups of JEA members anxious to record their stories of growing up in the JEA. More workshops will be held as demand dictates.

In a way, their talents have come full-circle. They were teachers at Rambam Day School in the early 1990s when they decided to enroll in the National Writing Project’s Summer Institute. Debbie was in the charter group at Armstrong Atlantic State University, a 10-quarter hour graduate program. Sherry signed on a year later.

Debbie found that the tricks and techniques discovered through in-service training, could translate to her first grade classes. During the next years, Sherry also discovered the same magic with her kindergartners and middle school students. It was a defining moment for these teachers as they realized that skills they developed in the Writing Project could be transferred to the eager, uncluttered minds of their young students.

Unimpeded by rules and established notions, when suggested a subject,



Debbie Rotkow (credit: Ardis Wood)

these kindergartners and first graders wrote, or told, of their innermost—and highly creative—thoughts. Writing was a way of getting children to tell their stories. The teachers found that self-expression validates a person’s thinking. And it gave the students an opportunity and encouragement to talk about how they felt. (One of Sherry’s former students said he “never knew what he thought until he saw what he wrote!”)

Several years away from the elementary school classroom, it occurred to these two innovative teachers that these same story-telling skills could translate to older writers as well. They approached Roger Smith, director of The Learning Center at Senior Citizens, Inc. with their ideas for memoir writing workshops. That idea has become a 3-workshop series, using catchy subtitles such as “The Music of Our Lives”, “And Away We Go: Stories from the Road” and “Where Were You When?” Provocative reminders to stimulate the writing that will pour forth.

With the initial JEA groups, there was no need for task sheets and trigger titles. The problem here was that the animated JEA members, often lifelong friends, would not stop talking and write!

But Debbie and Sherry—neither of whom “grew up” in the JEA (although their husbands did!)—are at the ready with creative ideas sure to spark a flood of memories. Said Sandy Goodman, “It was my life. What can I say? It’s where my friends were.” And Richard Levy, “Wow, I’m not sure where to begin. I learned to swim there. Spent summers buying hot dogs and ice cream at the snack stand by the pool...played racquetball with my Dad and brother every weekend...It’s the heart of the Jewish community.”

In the Institute, Debbie said, “we wrote about ourselves, how children learn and wonderful literature. We shared what we wrote. We reflected on what we wrote. And, along the way, learned about writing from each other.

I knew if this process worked for me, it would translate to my first graders. As the years passed and I experienced the value of the process, I knew it would be valuable for adults.” It is “what you have to say that is important,” Debbie says, in an unthreatening environment, without concern for length, grammar, punctuation or spelling.

Debbie shared her enthusiasm about the Writing Project, when she first learned “how to think and value my thoughts. I learned the power of words. I learned to write better by reflecting on what I had written. We shared what we wrote. We reflected on what we wrote. And, along the way, learned about writing from each other.”

Sherry found that “once students understand that they have the right to express themselves honestly, whether others agree or not, and can expand those ideas to include ‘life lessons’ in literature, poetry, the newspaper and their own lives...well there is simply no stopping them. They make connections to the real world in more and more mature ways...and they are never the same again.”

Debbie and Sherry had “uncorked” their own bottles, and now have figured out how to uncork others. Debbie says, “I guess what Sherry and I are doing at the JEA is laying the groundwork for a written JEA legacy.” Excerpts from the



Sherry Dolgoff (credit: Ardis Wood)

stories will become a part of the 100th anniversary commemorative book, and the complete writings will become a part of the Savannah Jewish Archives. After the anniversary project, Debbie and Sherry may offer a more extensive workshop at the JEA, and are working on plans to take their writing project to professional groups.

To uncork your own JEA story with top-flight professional guidance and contribute to the 100th anniversary memories contact Debbie at drotkow@comcast.net or Sherry at sdolgoff@aol.com or through the JEA, 355-8111.



SOME DAYS ONLY PERFECT WILL DO.

Hyatt Regency Savannah is the perfect place to celebrate your special day. Allow our wedding professionals to perfect every detail and cater to your every need. We are delighted to work with kosher celebrations. For information, call 912 238 1234 or visit savannah.hyatt.com Hyatt. You’re More Than Welcome.

HYATT
REGENCY
SAVANNAH®

ON THE HISTORIC RIVERFRONT

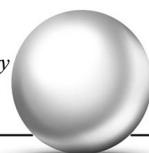
912 238 1234

SAVANNAH.HYATT.COM

The trademarks Hyatt®, Hyatt Regency® and related marks are trademarks of Hyatt Corporation. ©2011 Hyatt Corporation. All rights reserved.

design
the smile
of your
dreams

Where Smiles Are Pearl Perfect.



General, Cosmetic and Restorative Dentistry
7805 Waters Avenue, Suite 1A
www.stevenberwitzdmd.com
912.355.5004

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

CRITZ

WE MAKE IT HAPPEN!



Abercorn at Stephenson Avenue
912-354-7000 • www.critz.com



The J&A presents, a 100 Year Celebration Event Scenes From An Italian Restaurant

A Billy Joel Dinner Theater featuring "The Stranger" Billy Joel tribute band.

Sunday, April 29, 2012

\$72.00 Per Person, Open Seating

Tables of ten (10) can be reserved for an additional \$250.00, includes a champagne toast

Door at 5:00 pm | Dinner at 5:30 pm | Band at 6:45 pm

Purchase Tickets at the JEA, by phone at 912 355-8111, or online at SavannahJEA.org R.S.V.P. by April 20th

Platinum Sponsor	Silver Sponsors	Emerald Sponsors	Ruby Sponsors
	 	 	Hyatt Savannah Critz, Inc. Coastal Home Care LLS Management Company (L. Lasky, K. Sadler, S. Samuels, & B. Strauss) Signum Business & Personnel Services (Alan Ratner)



The Savannah Jewish Archives needs your help!



Donated by Martin Rabhan

Can you identify anyone in this photograph?

Do you know the circumstances surrounding this photograph?

If so, please contact the Archives :

Lynette Stoudt
Phone: 651-2125, ext. 134
Email: lstoudt@georgiahistory.com

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

Local Teens Inspired at BBYO Meeting

By Sarah Segall

BBYO can be referred to as the leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement. This strong organization has really opened my eyes and made me so proud to be Jewish.

This year I was given the opportunity to attend BBYO's International Convention (IC). This convention (held in Atlanta February 16-20) had people from thirteen different countries. Standing in a room with over 900 Jewish teens had such a powerful impact on me. In just five days, I made some of the most amazing friendships.

Throughout the five days of IC, programs and speakers included Avraham Infeld, the president of Hillel, watching "The Bully Project" (a documentary about how bullying has touched five kids and their families), hearing from Holocaust survivors, celebrating the largest BBYO Havdalah, and connecting the morning service prayers to Israel.

IC strengthens your Jewish identity. It brings people together from all over the world who share the same values and beliefs. I learned from these people many of their different traditions they



Savannah attendees at BBYO's recent International Convention (l-r)-Nina Luskey, Lena Hirsch, Jarrod Samuels, advisor Rachel Cohen, Sarah Segall, Elliott Kooden, Max Strauss

follow. IC was such an inspiring convention; it was an experience I will never forget.

BBYO's International Convention is just one of the many programs that teens like Sarah can attend with the assistance of the grant that Savannah BBYO receives from the Savannah Jewish Federation, thanks to your generous donations to the Annual Campaign. If you have not said yes to the 2012 Campaign and would like to help BBYO and our many other programs and agencies, it is not too late. Please contact Adam Solender, adam@savj.org or 355-8111.

Sarah Segall is a Senior at the Savannah Arts Academy. She is the daughter of Mona and Robert Segall.

Rich Joins JEA/SJF Team

Jennifer Rich has been named the new director of Community Programming for the JEA and Savannah Jewish Federation. In her new position, Jennifer will be responsible for overseeing longstanding programs such as Yom HaShoah and campaign events, enhancing The PJ Library program, and creating new, innovative programs to increase community involvement.

Jennifer was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. She began her professional career at the JCC in Denver, where she developed a passion for working in the Jewish community. When she, her husband Jason and their daughter Sophie relocated to Savannah in 2005, she looked forward to being part of a smaller, yet committed Jewish community where she could make

a difference. During the past seven years she's been a stay at home Mom to Sophie and to Ellie and also has worked extensively as a volunteer in many leadership positions at Congregation Agudath Achim, Rambam Day School, as well as on committees at the JEA.

Jennifer is excited to become part of the JEA/SJF team as Director of Community Programming. You may reach her at the JEA at 912-355-8111, ext. 206, or by email: programming@savj.org.



Jennifer Rich

JEA CAMP SAVANNAH IS NOW HIRING SUMMER CAMP STAFF!



We are currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Lead Group Counselors College Freshmen and up, Early Childhood Education Majors and Teachers preferred.

Junior Group Counselors High School Juniors & Seniors

C.I.T. (Counselors in Training) High School Freshmen & Sophomores
A great way to fulfill your public service requirement and have fun at the same time.

Specialty Counselors: Sports & Recreation

WSI-Certified Swimming Instructors

Those applying should possess the following qualities:

- Knowledge and experience working in a camp setting or with children.
- Ability to be an excellent role model, exuding maturity while still remaining youthful.
- Must be responsible, creative, motivated, and professional.
- Flexibility with regard to tasks, work hours and changes in program.
- Ability to positively relate to children, coworkers, and parents alike.

Online Counselor Application available at www.SavannahJEA.org.

For more information, please contact

JEA Camp Director

DJ Horton at 355-8111 x225 or

JEA Camp Registrar

Anna Berwitz at 355-8111 x211



Have you tried the new savj.org?

Community calendar, online donations and much, much more!



SAVE THE DATE

for Our Next 100-Year Celebration Event



Sunday, April 29, 2012

A Night with "The Stranger" - Billy Joel Dinner Theatre

Join us for a delicious family-style Italian dinner & dessert, wine & beer, and the musical talents of the complete premiere

Billy Joel Tribute Band

\$72 per person (can be purchased on-line or at the JEA)

Tables of 10 can be purchased for \$250.00

Doors open at 5:00 pm. Dinner at 5:30 pm. Band at 6:45 pm.

*"A bottle of white, a bottle of red.
Perhaps a bottle of rose instead.*

*We'll get a table by the street, in our old familiar place
You and I, face to face, at Savannah's JEA"*

'The Stranger' is the complete premiere tribute to the music of the Piano Man himself, Billy Joel. Fronted by accomplished pianist & vocalist Mike Santoro, and backed by some of the finest seasoned musicians in the business, this 6-piece band brings together an authentic replication of Billy's timeless music, crowning it with soulful, spot on vocals that make a Billy Joel song what it is. So much so that you will find yourself taking a second look. Join us for an amazing evening as the JEA is transformed into an Italian restaurant, serving up a traditional Italian dinner with wine and beer, proceeded by a night of wonderful entertainment with music by everyone's favorite Piano Man, Billy Joel, as performed by Mike Santoro and his 6-piece band. Childcare is available with advanced notice.

SAVANNAH JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Special Double Feature: An Article of Hope & My Brother's Keeper

Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day

Thursday, April 26th

Dinner at 6:30 pm

Movie at 7:30 pm



An Article of Hope -- an inspiring film about the life mission of Colonel Ilan Ramon, the first and only astronaut from Israel. (60 min., Documentary, English)

My Brother's Keeper

- Out of the ashes of the Holocaust came the birth of a nation and a victory that led to the rebirth of the Jewish People. A group of 4400 volunteers from 56 countries volunteered to join the fledgling Israel Defense Forces. In 1947 and 1948 the fate of Israel and the Jewish People hung by a thread and a prayer. Here are some of their stories. (40 min., Documentary, English)



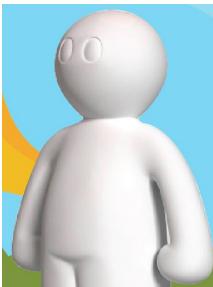
Paid Dinner Reservations by April 24th
Movie Only: \$8-Members, \$9-Non Members
Dinner & Movie: \$18-Members, \$19-Non Members

Opinion Minyan

A special pre-Passover luncheon will be provided at this event.

Thursday, April 5 - 12:15 pm

Dr. Martin Greenberg
Medical Ethics, Jewish Influences and Important Questions



Medical ethics is a system of moral principals that apply values and judgments to the practice of medicine.

Dr. Greenberg is Professor of Medical Education, Mercer University School of Medicine and Director of Bioethics. Moderator: Joel Greenberg.

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE
CENTER
PIECE

JEA SPRING BREAK CAMP



When: April 6th-12th

Cost: Members: \$30 per day, Non-Members: \$40 per day

Who: 3y-6th grade

Where: Jewish Educational Alliance, Register online NOW!

For more info contact DJ Horton at 355-8111 or email camp@savj.org

Save the Date

Sunday, May 6
2:00 pm

Annual Levy Concert

featuring Strings of the South
Entertainment for the whole family!



JEA CAMP SAVANNAH 2012



Creating memories to last a lifetime!



JEA CAMP SAVANNAH PHILOSOPHY

We strive to provide a nurturing environment that fosters self-confidence, Jewish identity, community consciousness, integrity and respect for others. Our camp teaches universal values helping your child to embrace new concepts, develop independence, and create meaningful friendships. We welcome campers from all religious and cultural backgrounds.

Camp starts June 11th, Register online at www.SavannahJEA.org or at the JEA at 5111 Abercorn Street!



Gardening as Exercise



Stephanie Johnson
Health & Wellness
Director

If you garden for pleasure, you may not be aware of how beneficial this hobby is for your health. While you're preparing your garden to grow fresh veggies, or while turning the compost pile, you're actually doing a decent amount of exercise!

Basic yard work tasks such as mowing the lawn and raking leaves are also good

ways to exercise. Additionally, gardening and yard care are beneficial for your mental health, too. Just think of the relaxation you experience when working in the garden.

Not convinced that mowing the lawn and planting veggies can be as good for you as an aerobics class? The research proves it! Various health professionals and university studies show that gardening and yard work are more than just enjoyable hobbies.

What Gardening for Exercise Can Do for You

Gardening and yard care are forms of exercise that allow you to do something calming, creative and fun while you work various muscle groups and get a moderate level of cardiovascular exercise as well.

This is the great thing about gardening for exercise, as you can use your whole body while you're working. Gardening involves a number of different kinds of exercises, including stretching, weightlifting, and a moderate cardiovascular workout.

You can expend as much effort raking the lawn as you would during a leisurely bicycle

ride. Trimming trees and shrubs is roughly the equivalent of walking at a moderate pace. Heavier work like clearing brush and stacking wood can give you the equivalent workout of a light aerobics class. Studies have shown that 45 minutes worth of gardening can burn as many calories as 30 minutes of aerobics. Turning compost is a great alternative to lifting weights, and raking the lawn is the equivalent to using a rowing machine.

Like other forms of exercise, gardening can help lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels and keep away problems with heart disease, diabetes other diseases related to inactivity and excess weight. You can also use gardening and yard work to keep extra pounds off. Remember, if you burn more calories than you consume, you'll generally lose a little weight.

Activities in the yard and garden are also a form of exercise that is appropriate for a variety of people and age groups. Depending on the activity, gardening and yard work are not quite as hard on your body as say jogging and other forms of moderate to strenuous exercise. This means that even if you're older, you can still enjoy putting in the garden and cleaning up your lawn. There are a lot of activities that you can do in your yard and garden with a wide range of physical exertion levels, so you're bound to find something to fit your needs.

For older gardeners, especially women, gardening can also help reduce problems with osteoporosis. Just make sure you check with your doctor first if you're older and haven't already been gardening for a while. That way you can tackle the gardening tasks that are appropriate for you.

If you already garden, good for you! You can increase the amount of time you spend gardening to improve your health even more. If you're not already a gardener, consider starting a small plot of veggies. You can combine the joys of growing your own food with a light exercise regimen.

How Best to Garden for Exercise

When gardening you'll need to follow a few basic tips to maximize your experience. First off, you should warm up a bit. Do some basic stretches so that your muscles are ready. Also, if you plan on lifting any heavy objects, remember to always lift with your knees, not your back.

A good bit of advice is to start off with a moderate exercise/gardening program and then work your way up to heavier tasks and activities. This is especially important if you're not already an active gardener, or if you're an older gardener. Don't overdo it the first time or you may strain a muscle or two.

For gardening and yard work to actually provide a beneficial workout, you must garden for at least 30 minutes a day. Try including a variety of activities in your routine so that you use various muscle groups. Moderately strenuous activities are best.

If you're busy and don't garden for 30 minutes at a time, not to worry. Even if you perform a few gardening and yard care tasks throughout the day, you'll benefit.

You have to be doing something like raking, spreading compost, etc. to make these short spurts work, though. Ideally you should perform regular aerobic activity to maximize these benefits. Regular aerobic activity will overall work to strengthen your heart and lungs.

JEA FITNESS CLASSES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim		5:00-6:30 am Master Swim
9:15-10:15 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up	8:30-9:30 am Pilates	8:30-9:45 am Firm It Up
10:15-11:15 am Total Body Blast	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am SilverSplash		10:00-11:00 am Aqasize	10:00-11:00 am Aqasize
	10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		10:30-11:45 am Gentle Yoga		
	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers MSROM	10:30-11:30 am SilverSneakers Cardio Circuit	
1:00-2:00 pm Extreme Toning					Noon-2:00 pm Noon Basketball
	5:30-7:30 pm Karate	5:45-6:30 pm Zumba	5:30-7:30 pm Karate		
		6:00-8:00 pm Savannah Kenpo	6:00-7:00 pm Boot Camp	6:00-8:00 pm Savannah Kenpo	
		6:30-7:30 pm Total Body Blast		6:30-7:30 pm Yoga Flow	
	6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics		6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics	6:00-7:00 pm Eve. Water Aerobics	
		7:00-9:00 pm Sav. Fencing Club		7:00-9:00 pm Sav. Fencing Club	

Art at the JEA



Back River
McIntosh



Four O'Clock Rock
Duch

April Artists - Sharon McIntosh & Barbara Duch

Sharon McIntosh - Biography

Sharon McIntosh was born in Savannah. She began painting at the early age of 8 and continued to pursue her painting studies in college, culminating in a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Painting from Florida International University in Miami where she graduated Magna Cum Laude.

Sharon works in oil and watercolor. Her love of painting, combined with her attraction to the waterways, historical sites, and the area's unique landscapes, beckons her to share these experiences with others visually. She and her family enjoy the pleasures of sailing and boating on the waters of their coastal home. Her paintings depict selective viewpoints of this lifestyle found amidst Southern backdrops. Sharon's works are created to invite the audience into the feelings of color and the emotions of the coastal south.

Barbara Duch - Biography

Barbara Duch has been making art her entire life and has been sculpting for the past ten years. She received formal art training as an Architectural student at Lawrence Technical University in Southfield, MI, and has taken many workshops through the years with nationally and internationally known artists. Much of the inspiration for her work comes from her many years as an avid scuba diver which has taken her to many interesting places including the Netherlands Antilles and Cuba.

"For me the water is a metaphor for our spiritual selves. Additionally the ageless shapes and textures that occur underwater on corals, sponges and shells are unsurpassed as examples of original sculpture!" Barbara and her family have lived in Savannah on Whitmarsh Island since 1981.

Artwork available for viewing Apr. 1-30, 2012
Art Reception April 5, 2012, 5:00-7 pm

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 2/7/12- 3/9/12)

Heather Lambros
Jared & Jessica Lott
William Metz
Kenneth Munshaw

Blair Ritzert
Daniel & Phyllis Shorter
Dallas Sicay
Mary Sicheloff
Hannah Silverman

Nora Spatola
Jason & Emily Unger
Michael & Jacquelin Vaughn
Trace Weitz
Timothy Welter

JEA Donations (2/7/12-3/11/12)

JEA BUILDING FUND

In honor of AM Goldkrand's birthday
In honor of Jane Winter's birthday
Judy Byck
In honor of Jane Winter
Ester Buchsbaum

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Sylvia Richman
Dr. & Mrs. Laurence Richman
In honor of Kaye & Don Kole
Toby Hollenberg
In memory of Debra Giffen-Smith
Brenda J. Grossman

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Helene & Leon Friedman's 50th
wedding anniversary
Nita Kramer

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Richard Halperin's speedy recovery
Brenda & Patrick Salter & Mrs. Elman
Elise & Victor Shernoff

DAVE & BUNNY CENTER CAMPERSHIP FUND

In honor of Arlene Steinfeldt's special birthday
Jodie & Ralph Lorberbaum

2012 JEA TORNADOES SWIM TEAM

Registration begins April 2nd

Practices begin May 14th

For children ages 5 and older

All registration information can be found on line at <http://savannahjea.org/page.aspx?id+219374>. You will also find information about how to order the team swim suits that for your child. Any questions, please contact Stephanie at 355-8111 or at stephanie@savj.org.



April 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 *Last day to RSVP for Opinion Minyan Luncheon	4	5 Opinion Minyan/Sr. Lunch- 12:15 pm JEA Art Gallery Reception- 5:30 pm	6 Erev Passover SPRING BREAK CAMP	7 Passover
8 Passover JEA Closed	9	10	11	12 Erev Passover JEA Closes @ 5 pm	13 Passover JEA Closed	14 Passover
SPRING BREAK CAMP						
15	16	17	18	19 Yom HaShoah Community Yom HaShoah Program- 7 pm	20	21
22	23	24 *Last day to RSVP for SJFF Dinner	25 Yom Hazikaron Community Yom Hazikaron Event- 5 pm	26 Yom Ha'atzma'ut SJFF Dinner- 6:30 pm SJFF Movie- 7:30 pm	27	28
29 Billy Joel Dinner Theatre- 5 pm	30	May 1	2	3	4	5

Health and Forgiveness

By Dr. Moshe Dekel

It proved very enlightening to me, when, for this article, I was asked how my Jewish ethics and upbringing influence my practice. Reflecting back on my childhood in Israel, I realized that one of the most important life lessons I learned was that of forgiveness. My beloved mother, G-d rest her soul, had a hugely forgiving heart and it was that which was her most endearing quality. Ema, as she was called, (Hebrew for mother) role-modeled forgiveness in countless ways throughout the years I was blessed to have shared with her.

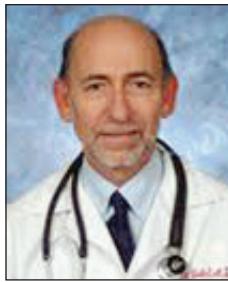
There were times, as a young boy, and even as a young man, that I could not understand how she could forgive certain injustices to which she was subjected. I was filled with frustration and anger as I tried to integrate how she remained at peace despite the obviously hurtful acts that were perpetrated against her. It wasn't until many years later that I finally began to assimilate the great significance of her spiritual nature.

The impact her gentle and forgiving manner had on my self-image cannot be overstated. It was the main reason I learned to love and respect myself as well as others. It gave me the confidence to move forward with my car-

eer in medicine. And, ironically, as I transitioned from OB-GYN to a career in alternative medicine, it provided me with the foundation for my new approach to treatment.

In my ten-plus years of experience as a holistic practitioner, I have come to understand that our emotional and spiritual selves are inextricably tied to our physical health. Our physical problems are largely symptomatic of our internal stressors and conflicts.

When we experience stress, our body reacts with a cascade of hormones that trigger a "fight or flight" response, dating back to the beginning of mankind. While in specific situations of danger, this is a normal bodily response which quickly resolves after the danger passes. If we find ourselves in chronic states of stress, due to unresolved emotional issues, this otherwise healthy bio-chemical reaction can wreak havoc on our immune system, if it is not "turned off". Although the confines of this article do not allow for an in-depth discussion of the bio-chemistry of the immune response to stress, suffice it to



Dr. Moshe Dekel

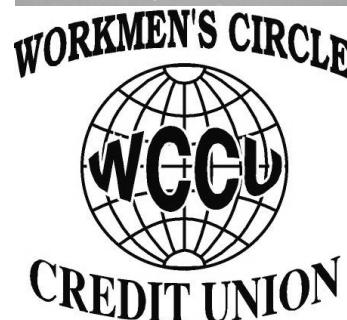
say that the messages sent to the cells and cell receptors preclude healthy functioning and, over time, result in a wide variety of physical problems.

The more I delve with my patients to find the source of their illness, the more I find that a lack of forgiveness is at the root of the problem. And not just a forgiveness of others; but, often, a forgiveness of self.

When most people think of forgiveness, they tend to think about who has done them wrong and set about the work of forgiving them. Although this is hard work, harder yet is the fine art of forgiving oneself. It is this work that

I have come to see as crucial to overall patient health and it is this work to which I have been dedicating an increasingly large part of my practice.

Dr. Moshe Dekel, MD, is a Board Certified OB-GYN and thermography reader. He has been practicing medicine for over 30 years and transitioned into holistic medicine ten years ago. Dr. Dekel recently relocated from New York and practices, as well as lectures, in the Hilton Head/Savannah area. His wife, Karen, a recently retired school counselor, is the author of Anger's Way Out, a children's bibliotherapy book.



Refinance NOW while rates are at historic lows

Fixed Rates Up To 30 Years
Free Good Faith Estimate
1/2 point origination
No intangible tax

**Contact Chris or Jessica
(912) 356-9225**

**Or Apply Online at
workmenscirclecu.com**

527 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 2
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Discover the Credit Union difference...

the Faces of Hadassah

Youth Aliyah ...Yom HaShoah...

....Loss....Life....Help...Hope... Hadassah

Youth Aliyah is a child rescue program that Hadassah helped to create in 1934 when Henrietta Szold assisted Recha Freier in rescuing tens of thousand of children from war torn Eastern Europe. At the beginning, the youth were settled in agricultural villages and helped to build the fledgling country that would become Israel in 1948.

Once Hitler enacted the Nuremberg laws in 1935 and German schools were closed to Jewish children, Henrietta Szold brought an appeal to Jewish communities around the world and with the Jewish Agency smuggled children out of Europe.

It is in honor of her spirit that Savannah Hadassah is donating their service in April to Savannah Jewish Federation's Yom HaShoah events
Thursday April 19

including the **Am Yisroel Chai Daffodil Project**
to commemorate the loss of 1.5 million children



Help Hadassah

commemorate the loss, but also celebrate those millions of lives saved because Hadassah was there.

**Call Joanna Rich
912-480-4686 to
volunteer with Hadassah for
Yom HaShoah.**

Today the job of Youth Aliyah is to help resettle the children of the Ethiopian and Russian migrations as well as the Israeli children who are part of the over 300,000 troubled Israeli youth. They are all our children.

To learn more about Hadassah and youth aliyah go to **www.hadassah.org**.

We Are One People

Passover is approaching and one of the most well known paragraphs in the Haggadah is *Avadim Hayinu, we were slaves unto Pharaoh*. One reason it is probably one of the most familiar paragraphs is because it is recited at the beginning of the seder – no wine has been drunk and everyone is still exuberant about participating in the seder.

The theme found in this paragraph is had our ancestors not been taken out of Egypt by the Almighty Himself, we would still be enslaved in Egypt. The paragraph continues and states, that even if we had all been sages, all of us intellectuals, all of us elderly scholars and all of us knowledgeable in the words of the Torah, it would nonetheless still be a mitzvah for each of us to speak about the departure from Egypt; and whoever tells over the story is praiseworthy.

We need to look closely to the inner meaning of these words which have been uttered for hundreds of generations. We as a people often divide ourselves between those who are more knowledgeable about the ways of the Torah and those who are not. However, the phrases above could be referenced to as being redundant with its multiple descriptions of someone who is wise. Yet, the Haggadah is not

being redundant at all. In fact the haggadah is being *all inclusive*. The Haggadah is referring to different types of wisdom; a flash of inspiration, the logic one uses to develop new ideas through existing information, the accumulation of knowledge through age and the knowledge gained from the study of the Torah. No matter how those of intellect who left Egypt gained their knowledge, they all equally were removed from the bondage of slavery and must express their gratitude to the Almighty.

No matter how each of us has gained understanding of our Judaism, or even if all we have is the knowledge that we are a member of the Jewish people – we all are joined by the common bond that our ancestors were freed from Egyptian slavery. Together we must express our gratitude to the Almighty for the esteemed honor of being amongst His Chosen People. Together we must build a community that exudes shalom and unity, for we are *one people*.



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

Freedom

An assignment for a class I took lately was to answer the question: “Why do you think students’ behavior is more challenging in Hebrew school than it is in “regular “school?”

After mentioning the obvious: scheduling hours (Sunday morning or late after school on Wednesdays), one word kept coming to mind: freedom. I aspire to lead a school where children have more freedom: freedom to express themselves, to experience, and even to challenge what is taught.

Passover is our celebration of freedom: after 400 years of slavery the Jewish people are finally free to make their own choice. But the story just starts there. We gave up this notion of total freedom to make a covenant with God and to live following a different kind of authority: the Torah. We came to realize that freedom becomes valuable only when limited by authority. These two cannot be separated; they are two sides of the same coin.

This tension between freedom and authority is the dilemma that many teachers who aspire to a democratic practice face each day. There is much to be said for the merits of students having both a choice and a voice in

educational decision-making. The Israeli school systems bring that to a higher level and there, students’ counsel is part of any decision-making process for the school. Students are empowered and, as a result, feel more responsibility as well.

We have to engage students in discussions about things that matter to them and act as guides and interpreters. While preparing them to live as a committed Jews, I want our student to question each step of the process, to feel free to express their doubt or their frustration so we can better address them.

Dialogue is key. When we speak from our hearts to theirs they know we care. So yes, our Hebrew school might not appear, at first, to be as disciplined, but my hope is that the freedom we are giving them will guide our student to make the same commitment our ancestor did at Mount Sinai.

Wishing you “Pesah Sameah.”



Eva Locker,
Principal of
Shalom School

THANK YOU!

REACH for the STARS

Apogee Donors Raise \$155,745

Thank you to our families that brought in \$155,745 to Rambam. We greatly appreciate your contributions.

Georgia residents can allocate a portion of their state tax dollars directly to Rambam through the Apogee Georgia Tax Credit Program. To learn more about this fantastic program, please go to the GIVING tab located on our homepage.

www.rambamdayschool.org



(912) 352-7994

5111 Abercorn Street • Savannah, GA 31405

Have you tried the new savj.org?
Community calendar, online donations and much, much more!

Finding the right apartment has never been easier!

Southside, Westside and Eastside in Savannah.

Students, Military Personnel & Hospital Employees receive 3% discount.

*Bring this ad in and application fee will be waived

Tailoring our services to fit your company and personal requirements.

Allan Ratner

Specializing in all types of Business & Personal Services:

- Health Insurance
- Long Term Care
- Trip Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Payroll Services
- Retirement Plans
- Worker's Compensation
- Disability

2 Tomochichi Lane • Savannah, GA 31411

Phone: 912.598.5070 • Fax: 912.598.2907 • Mobile: 843.687.1726

Four Questions for the Rest of the Year

Brian Birge, Publix Store Manager

For Pesach, we spoke to Brian Birge, Store Manager at Publix at Twelve Oaks, about what it's like to be responsible for helping to put food on our tables for the Festive Meal at our Seders, no easy task!

How many years have you been ordering Passover foods and at how many different locations?

I've been doing it for about eight years at three different stores here in Savannah and also on Hilton Head.

What is one thing you know now about ordering for Passover "that you wish you had known then" when you placed your first Passover order?

Being at the Twelve Oaks store in Savannah has been very educational for me. The demand here has been much higher than at any of the other stores where I worked. I didn't understand at first the need to focus on everyday items like mayonnaise and ketchup. That's an area I've learned to give more attention.

But I would like to point out a couple of challenges we face that I would like our customers to understand. We have to order holiday foods way in advance.



This year's Passover items were ordered last summer. We'll be ordering for Chanukah (and Christmas) by June. So we have to predict in advance what people will want. Also, we order a lot of things that we don't get. Supplies are very limited and sometimes manufacturers just don't produce an item. Right after the holiday we will go over what we sold to make sure we order correctly for the next year, but sometimes our suppliers let us down.

What controls the price of foods that are designated Kosher for Passover?

The buyer at the corporate office works with the distributors to set retail prices. Kosher for Passover foods come almost exclusively from small manufacturers and distributors, and are touched by so many hands on their way to the consumer, often without nationwide distribution, so that's what drives up prices. Publix does "sale and ad" pricing on core items such as matzah and matzah ball mix.

Have you eaten Matzah?

No, I haven't. I probably should (*he said with a laugh*).

It's A Funny Thing

By Melinda Stein

True Story:

A friend of mine, let's call her L., was visited twice-yearly in Savannah by former neighbors (not Jewish). Recently, L. and her husband planned to go to dinner again with the old friends, and suggested a restaurant.

"Didn't we go there before?" the friend asked. "Isn't that the restaurant with the *meshuganeh* at the door?"

L. tried to picture which Savannah restaurant has a crazy host out front (actually, could be several – just my personal opinion).

Again, the friend insisted, "You know, the one that has the *meshuganeh* on the door!"

"Oh," L. realized, "you mean the restaurant with the *mezuzah* on the door!"

At their high school reunion Sarah and Esther meet up for the first time in fifty years.

Sarah begins: "My son is a doctor and he's got four kids. My daughter is married to a lawyer and they have three great kids. So tell me Esther, how about your kids?"

Esther replies, "Unfortunately, Morty and I don't have any children and so we have no grandchildren either."

Sarah says, "No children . . . and no grandchildren! So tell me, Esther, what do you do for aggravation?"

When the Israelites were about to cross into the Promised Land, several angels approached G-d and said, "Oh Lord, we can see that the land you are giving to this nation is a good land, flowing with milk and honey, filled with wildflowers. These people have complained endlessly, and even built a Golden Calf to worship, against your strictest commandments. They deserve to be punished, not rewarded!"

And G-d smiled and said, "Just wait until you see the neighbors I'm going to give them!"



Melinda Stein

As is commonly known, there are currently some changes going on in Savannah regarding congregational Rabbis. Here's some advice on the process:

Dear Congregation,

The results of a computerized survey indicate the perfect Rabbi preaches exactly fifteen minutes. He condemns sins but never upsets anyone. He works from 8:00 AM until midnight and is also the janitor. He earns \$50 a week, wears good clothes, buys good books, drives a good car, and gives about \$50 weekly to the poor. He is 28 years old and has preached 30 years. He has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends all of his time with senior citizens. The perfect Rabbi smiles all the time with a straight face because he has a sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his work. He makes 15 calls daily on congregation families, shut-ins and the hospitalized, and is always in his office when needed.

If your Rabbi does not measure up, simply send this letter to six other synagogues that are tired of their Rabbi, too. Then bundle up your Rabbi and send him to the synagogue at the top of the list. In one week, you will receive 1,643 Rabbis and one of them will be perfect. Have faith in this procedure. One congregation broke the chain and got its old Rabbi back in less than three weeks.

Have you tried the new savj.org?
Community calendar, online donations and much, much more!

Do You Need Money for Your Education?

- ...for college or graduate school?
- ...for vocational training?
- ...to update your job skills?
- ...to make a career change?

JELF may be able to help...

The Jewish Educational Loan Fund provides interest-free, last dollar loans, based on financial need, to Jewish students from your area.

To apply, visit www.jelf.org and complete the online application
March 1 – April 15

Questions?
770.396.3080 or info@jelf.org



Passionate About Service... for Over 80 Years.

Home of the Lifetime Warranty

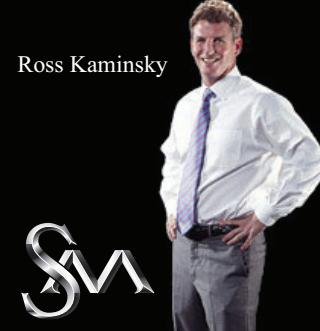
View Our Entire Inventory at... Southern-Motors.com

"I honestly cannot say enough great things about this dealership! They are the absolute nicest, most friendly car dealership out there, and they truly do care about their customers."

-Sharon, local.yahoo.com



Adam Kaminsky



Ross Kaminsky



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"ש"ד



Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob

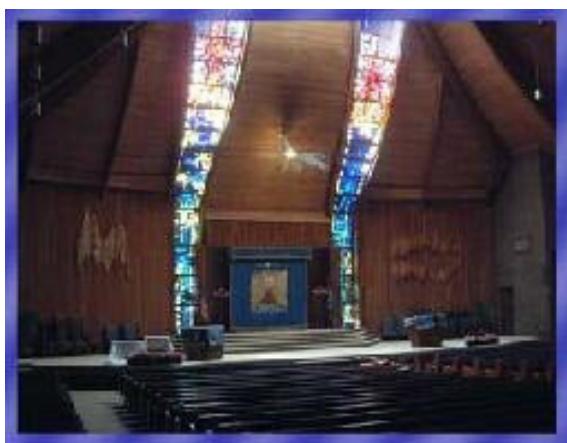
Morning, Afternoon, and Evening Services Daily

365 Days A Year for Over 150 years

For A Complete Schedule of Upcoming Classes and Events

Please Sign Up for Our Newsletter at our Website

www.bbjsynagogue.com



CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

9 Lee Boulevard, Savannah GA 31405 / 912-352-4737

AgudathA@aol.com / Agudath-Achim.com

Congregation Agudath Achim is the conservative congregation of Savannah GA. At Agudath Achim we come "to praise, to labor and to love". Every day is an opportunity for learning, *davening* and *hesed*.

At the AA, we believe that our best fundraising is family raising and that Judaism of the heart can also be Judaism of the mind. We try to intensify our Jewish involvement every day and we accept upon ourselves Jewish Law while living in the 21st century. AA is not only a shul its a *mishpacha*.

JOIN US FOR SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm, Tuesday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:30 am Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon

See you in Shul

Opine & Dine at pre-Pesach Lunch

It is the day before Pesach starts. You and/or the head of the kitchen in your household have been preparing for days. There still is work to be done, but you need a break – a short rest, a good meal, some intellectual stimulation. As always, the JEA is there when you need us.

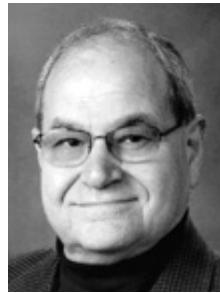
The Opinion Minyan discussion series will be meeting at 12:15pm Thursday, April 5th, featuring Dr. Martin Greenberg. Lunch will be served. Dr. Greenberg will lead a conversation on *Medical Ethics, Jewish Influences and Important Questions* that will be moderated by Dr. Joel Greenberg. Medical ethics is a system of moral principles that apply values and judgments to the practice of medicine. Among the topics to be discussed will be things like how Jewish values influence medical decisions, end of life decisions and more. It promises to be a stirring discussion.

Martin Greenberg is Professor of

Medical Education, Mercer University School of Medicine and Director of Bioethics. He also serves on the Boards of Directors for Hospice Savannah, Memorial Health Foundation and the Pediatric Foundation of Georgia.

So come get off your feet for a little while. Expand your mind. See some friends. Have a nice lunch without getting any more *chometz* in your kitchen. The Pesach preparations will still be there 90 minutes later.

Opinion Minyan programs are free to JEA members; \$8 for all others (including meal and program). For the April 5th program, we ask that you please RSVP to 355-8111 by April 3 if you are planning to attend.



Martin Greenberg



young jewish savannah

Young Jewish Savannah's purpose is to enhance the community through our young professionals via social gatherings, community service, Judaic, and leadership programs.

YJS is also a great resource tool for new residents to Savannah, or for people thinking of moving to the area. We offer a great opportunity to meet new people with similar like interests in a fun and casual environment.

2012 Activity Schedule

Sunday, April 1st - Oatland Island: Family Event!

Sunday, April 22nd - Savannah Sand Gnats vs Hickory Baseball Game Starts at 2:05 pm

Thursday, April 26th - Happy Hour at A.Lure

Sunday, May 6th - Ultimate Frisbee

We also proudly welcome interfaith couples. If you are interested in participating in any YJS activity, please email youngjewishsavannah@gmail.com.



We couldn't do it without them! Help us thank our advertisers — Please support their businesses!



Find us on Facebook

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 28, 2012 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 extension 26 or visit www.mickveisrael.org.



Image by Attic Fire Photography

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Maurice "Smitty" Solomon Smithberg
Who died February 10, 2012

Surviving are his wife, Betty Katz Smithberg; two daughters, Janet (Greg) O'Hara of Savannah and Joan (Robert) Schochet of Atlanta; one son Fred (Alicia) Smithberg of Savannah; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Remembrances: The American Cancer Society or Boys Town Center, Box 6000, Boys Town, NE 68010-6000.

Leonard Harold Prince
Who died February 13, 2012

Surviving are his wife, Marlene Hirstreet Prince; a daughter Kimberly (Bryan) Harder; a son Steven (Ann) Prince of Charlotte, NC; a sister Barbara (Joey) Kafah of Brooklyn, NY and four grandchildren.

Remembrances: The American Cancer Society or Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 1500 Rosecrans Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Debra Mira Giffen-Smith
Who died February 28, 2012

Surviving are her husband, Billy E. Smith, Jr; four children, Elijah J. Leggett, Michel B. Webb, Vivian I. Fowler and Helen K. Giffen; five grandchildren, and her brother, Ira Lee Giffen.

Remembrances: Jewish Educational Alliance or Spanish Oaks Hospice, 8510 Whitfield Ave., Savannah 31406.

Arthur Edward Charmatz
Who died Sunday March 4, 2012

Surviving are his wife, Barbara Witte Charmatz, six children, and twelve grandchildren.

Remembrances: Second Harvest Food Bank, 2501 E. President St., Savannah 31404.

Joan Weiner Schwartz
Who died March 5, 2012

Surviving are two sons, Robert B. Epstein of Savannah and Laurence D. Epstein of Atlanta; one daughter, Dawn E. (Douglas) Berlinsky of Atlanta; and two grandchildren.

Remembrances: Armstrong Atlantic State University, 11935 Abercorn St., Savannah 31419; Temple Mickve Israel; or Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, PO Box 27106, New York, NY 10087-7106.

Martha Schiffer Lichtman
Who died March 9, 2012

Surviving are her husband, Jack Lichtman; two daughters, Debra (Marvin) Feuer of Bethesda, MD, Linda (Robert) Caine of Washington, DC; one son, Michael (Stephanie) Lichtman of Savannah; one sister, Vicky (Benny) Sprecher of Jerusalem, Israel; one brother, Robert (Marlena) Schiffer of California; eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Remembrances: Hospice Savannah.

On the Personal Side

SPORTS: Hannah Boblasky (10), daughter of Joel and Susan Boblasky, won a gold medal with her relay team competing in the 2012 Georgia 14 & Under State Championship at Georgia Tech, February 24th - 26th. Swimming freestyle in the last leg of the 200 Yard Medley Relay, Hannah helped her team bring home the gold with a winning time of 2:14.56. Her coach, Olympic Bronze Medal winner Bill Forrester, said this is the first ever win for the Georgia Coastal Aquatic Team (GCAT) in a relay event at the championship level.

Harvey Rubin Memorial Award 2012

Do you know a high school teen who has shown exceptional athletic ability and leadership in the community?

How about nominating him or her for the Harvey Rubin Memorial Award?

Download the application at
www.savj.org

Completed nominations are due to the JEA
no later than April 15th

Harvey Rubin Memorial Award 2012

*Wishing you and your loved ones
a joyous and healthy Pesach*



*The Boards and Staff
Savannah Jewish Federation
Jewish Educational Alliance*



THE JEA AND THE SAVANNAH JEWISH FEDERATION PRESENTS THE JOAN AND MURRAY GEFEN MEMORIAL
SAVANNAH JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR 8 UNFORGETTABLE NIGHTS OF ENTERTAINMENT!
EAT A MEAL AND WATCH A MOVIE

☆
ADMIT ONE
☆

THU. 4/26	"AN ARTICLE OF HOPE & MY BROTHER'S KEEPER" MEAL AT 6:30 PM / MOVIE AT 7:30 PM
THU. 5/10	"MY SO CALLED ENEMY" MEAL AT 6:30 PM / MOVIE AT 7:30 PM
THU. 5/17	"JEWS AND BASEBALL" MEAL AT 6:30 PM / MOVIE AT 7:30 PM

☆
ADMIT ONE
☆



MEAL AND A MOVIE
JEA MEMBERS: \$18.00
NON-MEMBERS: \$19.00

MOVIE ONLY
JEA MEMBERS: \$8.00
NON-MEMBERS: \$9.00



The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks Our Contributors

SJF/JFNA CAMPAIGN

In memory of Gershon Timna
Sue & John Adler
Merry & Richard Bodziner
In honor of Larry Lasky's speedy recovery
In honor of Norman Estroff's speedy recovery
Lynette & Marvin Perlis

SJF GENERAL DONATIONS

In honor of Murray Galin's speedy recovery
Lynette & Marvin Perlis

TIKVAH FUND

In honor of the birth of Stellan Emanuel Carroll
Sarah Denmark & Adam Solender
In honor of AM Goldkrand's birthday
In honor of Jane Winter's birthday
Jane Kahn
In honor of Arlene & Mike Steinfeldt's special Simchas
In honor of Carol Greenberg being named a Girl Scout Woman of Distinction
Harriet & Paul Kulbersh
In honor of Julian Weitz, Entrepreneur of the Year
Linda & Michael Zoller
In honor of Louise Harkavy
In honor of AM Goldkrand's birthday
In honor of Jane Winter's birthday
In memory of Midge Schildkraut
In memory of Carole Herman
Arlene & Allan Ratner

CAROL & JOEL GREENBERG HEALTH RESOURCE FUND

In Honor of Carol Greenberg
Sharon & Murray Galin

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES FUND

In memory of Dr. Harry Needle
In memory of Herman Barnett
Sara & Sam Jospin
In honor of Jane Winter's birthday
Betty & Larry Lasky

ISRAEL DOMBROW FUND FOR JEWISH CHILDREN

In honor of Arlene & Mike Steinfeldt's 70th birthdays & anniversary
Ava & Isser Gottlieb

RALPH & PAULINE TENENBAUM FUND FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

In memory of Gershon Timna
Zelda Tenenbaum

WILLIAM & MILDRED WEICHELBAUM CAMPAIGN FUND

In honor of Murray Galin's speedy recovery
Peggy & Stanley Harris

IRENE & LEE BRAUN FUND FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

In honor of Dana Braun's birthday
Zelda Tenenbaum

JOHN GOLDKRAND JEWISH HEALTHCARE FUND

In honor of AM Goldkrand's birthday
Betty & Perry Jacobson
Toby Hollenberg
Muriel & Murray Bono
Carollee Getz
Harriet & Paul Kulbersh
Zelda Tenenbaum

Norma & Paul Barash
Betty & Larry Lasky
Sally & Steve Greenberg
Suzanne & Michael Konter
Charlotte & Harold Black
Judy Todtfeld

In honor of Jane Winter's birthday
Judy Todtfeld
Muriel & Murray Bono
Carollee Getz
Sally Greenberg
Suzanne & Michael Konter
Charlotte & Harold Black

A very generous donation was made by
Darla & Richard Lewis
In honor of Lucy Cheskin's Bat Mitzvah
Norma & Paul Barash

JULIUS RUDIKOFF JEA ATHLETIC & HEALTH CLUB FUND

In honor of Lynn & Dick Berkowitz's 40th anniversary
Marilyn Serls & Bob Slagel

JOAN & MURRAY GEFEN JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL FUND

In honor of Murray Galin's speedy recovery
Bubba Horovitz

MEREDITH & RICHARD BODZINER FAMILY PHILANTHROPIC FUND

In honor of Richard Bodziner's birthday
Zelda Tenenbaum

ED & LINDA WEXLER FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

In honor of the recovery of Dr. Steve Iskuwitz
In honor of Larry Wexler's election to the Board of Atlanta Family & Children Services
In honor of Locke Asher Copeland's 1st birthday
In memory of Jayson Conley's mother
Edward Wexler

MATT KLUGMAN B'NAI TZEDEK FUND

In honor of Donna & Jay Epstein's new home
Doris Klugman

Want to know what's happening in the Savannah Jewish Community? Check out www.savj.org & www.savannahjea.org to find out.

A Journey Complete

Stacey and Barry Schlafstein recently traveled to Ethiopia to meet and accompany 80 Ethiopian Jews as they left the land of their birth to make aliyah to their spiritual homeland of Israel. Here are a few of the photos they shared from this modern day exodus.



Older synagogue in former Jewish village of Woloka (near Gondar)



Stacey & Barry with Micha Feldman (Abba Micha) who spearheaded the Ethiopian immigration movement



Falash women at Morning Prayers



Natan Sharansky welcomes us back to Israel

Scenes from the 2012 Girl Scouts Centennial



(left to right) Phoebe Kerness, Dawn Kaley, Madeleine Blank and Frances Wilson were among the guests at the Women of Distinction Award Ceremony honoring Carol Greenberg (second from right)



Savannah's oldest Girl Scouts Henrietta Victor (L) and Marion Mendel (R) meet GS National President Anna Maria Chavez after the Centennial Ceremony at Congregation Mickve Israel



Julie Hirsch tells the story of her Girl Scout years to two Daisy scouts participating in the centennial bridging ceremony

This Passover, create a Jewish Legacy

From the matzah ball in the soup at your Seder to the life-sustaining financial contributions you make to the Jewish community, you demonstrate your commitment to Jewish values every year. Thanks to your generosity, the Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign helps countless people in Israel and in Jewish communities around the world overcome hunger, poverty and despair. And we continue to support programs that sustain Jewish identity and enrich our Jewish future, Hillel, BBYO, Shalom School, Rambam Day School, Savannah Jewish Film Festival, Israel advocacy, Jewish Educational Alliance, and dozens of other programs.

When you create a Jewish legacy, you ensure that we will be able to meet the Jewish community's needs in the future as well. Deliver the gift of hope to Jews who need your help, now and in the years to come.

To find out more about creating a bequest, contact Adam Solender at adam@savj.org or 912.355.8111.



Savannah Jewish Federation

You Can Donate Real Estate to Create a Jewish Legacy

Are you holding onto property that fails to yield annual revenue, when you could be enjoying a generous tax savings? While holding on to depreciating property, at the same time, you may be holding on to a considerable federal tax deduction for you as well as a valuable

asset to a charitable organization.

Many people (or their estates) are burdened with unwanted property simply because they are unaware of their options. In numerous circumstances, selling is not ideal for unproductive property due to the hefty costs involved that overshadow the actual property worth. Because of this, many people hold on to idle real estate for lack of a better alternative, and are frustrated paying excessive costs without seeing any return on their investment.

Property donation has been proven time and again as the best alternative to selling, due to the quick liquidation of assets, numerous tax breaks, and opportunity to benefit charitable foundations.

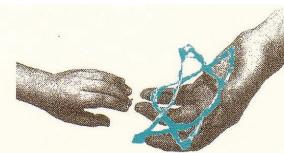
Gifts of real estate may include a house, apartment building, vacation home, commercial buildings or income-producing and non-income-producing land. You can make an outright gift of real property now or as a bequest

through your estate.

Gifts of real estate typically require certain procedural steps, including a site visit to the property, a qualified appraisal, a preliminary title report and an environmental assessment.

A gift of real estate is an excellent way to unlock the full appraised value of a property, allow for significant tax and economic advantages, and donate to worthy causes. The Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah professionals can help you structure a charitable gift of a vacation home, an investment property, land, or commercial or residential real estate.

By donating real estate, you bypass capital gains and may deduct the fair market value of your gift. The proceeds can be distributed to an endowment fund to benefit your favorite Jewish cause or a donor advised fund or family foundation. Property also may be used to fund a charitable remainder trust, which produces lifetime income for the donor.



JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF SAVANNAH

For more information on this or other ways of creating a legacy gift to the Jewish community, please contact Adam Solender at the Jewish Community Foundation of Savannah, adam@savj.org or 355-8111.

This information is intended as an educational tool. The information presented is to provide general information only and should not be construed as legal or accounting advice. Because tax and financial consequences involved with any gifting program depend on personal financial circumstances, individuals should consult with their own financial, legal and accounting advisors to review any charitable estate planning options.

