

Campaign Issue

Our 2009 Campaign Events

The Main Event

Wednesday, November 5th
7pm at the JEA



With Michael Leven
CEO of the Georgia
Aquarium and Vice Chmn.
of the Marcus Foundation

Join us for a family-style fried chicken dinner as we recognize past presidents of the Federation and hear from a director of one of the country's leading philanthropies.

Women's Division Luncheon

Tuesday, November 11th
12:15pm at the JEA



With Bizu Riki Mullu
Ethiopian Émigré
and Jewelry and
Judaica Designer

Hear Riki's inspiring story of her journey to Israel, her efforts to reunite her family, and her work to help Ethiopian Jews assimilate in Israel and the United States.

Call the Federation at 355-8111
for more information or to
RSVP for either event.

One Community, One Gift

One gift provides food and housing for needy Jews in Savannah through Jewish Family Services. *One gift* keeps the doors open to the community center that is truly a home to all of Jewish Savannah for physical and cultural enrichment. *One gift* helps make possible a Jewish education for every child in Savannah whose parents seek it for them. *One gift* keeps the Jewish community of Savannah linked to Jews in Israel and throughout the world, demonstrating our commitment to their needs. *One gift* means that that the Savannah Jewish News, the Federation E-News and web site can continue to be used to communicate with our community. *One gift* means that important new initiatives like The PJ Library, Young Jewish Savannah, continuing Jewish education for teenagers and so much more can continue to be offered as the opportunities arise. *One gift* funds the annual community Yom HaShoah observance, Trading Places and our participation in the Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance. *One gift* ensures that our teenagers can participate fully in BBYO's identity-building and leadership development programs.

Yes, each and every one of these things (and more) is dependent on your one gift to the Savannah Jewish Federation annual campaign. The Federation relies on the participation of the entire Jewish community to make possible all of these programs and services and this year's campaign management team has chosen "People

Helping People; Every Gift Matters" as the theme for this year's campaign. As has been said before, no gift is too small or too large, but now, perhaps more than any time in recent history, it is vitally important that everyone participate.

One gift makes possible this paper you are reading, Jewish Family Services, the JEA, Jewish education in Savannah, assistance for Jews in Israel and throughout the world, Trading Places, The PJ Library and so very much more.

The Savannah Jewish Federation began its annual campaign with solicitations to community leadership over the last few weeks. Federation and campaign leaders have been meeting with board members of the Federation itself, the JEA, local synagogues, Jewish schools and other Jewish organizations to ask for their commitments to the 2009 campaign, recognizing that the campaign is getting

underway during a time of economic uncertainty.

"Despite the admittedly joyous interruption of the Jewish holidays that have made it a little difficult to complete solicitations of the community leadership, I am pleased to report that the 2009 campaign currently stands at \$190,336, representing a slight card-for-card increase of 1.44%," said Sharon Galin, General Chair of the 2009 Campaign. "But I cannot stress enough how important it is that we all do our best to maintain our giving. The Federation does not receive funds from any other agencies and we are dependent upon ourselves to take care of the growing needs within our community."

While the dollar amounts they raise are not comparable for Savannah, the recent experience of the UJA-Federation of New York, where the fallout from the current economic problems will be tremendous, is notable. The Federation there holds an annual kick-off dinner for its top donors in the home of Alan Greenberg, former chairman of Bear Stearns (the first bank to fail), that was held this year on September 25th. According to reports, Federation leaders in New

Continued on Page 9

Message from Sharon Galin

General Chair, 2009 Savannah Jewish Federation Annual Campaign



Sharon Galin

These are not ordinary times and this is not an ordinary campaign. I wish that it would be possible during the campaign to speak with each member of the community personally, but as that will not be possible I would like to take this opportunity to ask each of you to please open your hearts when you are called upon to make a gift to the 2009 Savannah Jewish Federation Campaign. I know that we are all unsure about our current economy, but we live in a strong, vibrant country that has always rebounded. I am asking you to do whatever you can – think what one dollar a day could do for the many right here in our community who are in need, as well as for our fellow Jews throughout the world – and if we all do the very best we can when we are called upon then not only will we get through these difficult times, we will have a stronger, more cohesive community going forward.

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me?
If I am not for others, what am I?
And if not now, when?"
Rabbi Hillel



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2009 Federation Campaign Achievement Update

\$190,836

Live Generously - Your Gift is Our Future

Very often a man would say: “But from the other side.....” Here is the other side.

Yehuda Amichai

It was the first time for me to spend the Holidays far away from home. It was the first time for me to spend the holidays outside of Israel. I cannot even begin to describe how warm and welcoming people were, inviting me to their homes, and sharing with me the joy of the holidays. This month was fascinating for me; I met a lot of people: SCAD Hillel students, Young Jewish adults, teens, children in schools, families, grandparents, grandchildren. I met different organizations, people with different Jewish backgrounds and some who were not Jewish and then I found my self looking at Israel using different glasses, a type of lenses I never used before.

A good example for that is an activity I planned about guests for Sukkoth. I was asking a class if they had any stories about hospitality they remembered. We shared stories and I suddenly realized I am leading this activity as a guest. I have many stories to tell now of course, seeing how wel-



Maia Koiller

coming the community is, but my story to the class was about a house visit I made to a pupil in Israel. His family came to Israel from Ethiopia and his parents hardly knew Hebrew. He had five brothers and sisters, and I remembered how suddenly the language wasn't a barrier. I sat in their house and the mother brought this huge dish with a typical Ethiopian food called Ingera, which is a wide type of bread with all kinds of casseroles on it. Everybody eats together from the same plate with their hands. You can show someone your love by offering to let someone eat from your side of the dish. You always pay attention you are not eating too much because the plate is a family plate for everyone. The evening I spent in their house was wonderful and it gave me another look about our Israeli society.

Israel is a home for people with different backgrounds, people who come from different places, families with different nationalities. Like my parents who came to Israel when they

were close to my age and built their lives over there. Everything gets a new meaning when you are far away from home, sharing your holidays as a guest with wonderful people. Now I appreciate even more the effort people make to be updated and involved with different subjects about Israel. I truly believe it's like a marriage; we have to work on our relationship in order to maintain this wonderful love that we share. And when I see an Israeli film, meet a student, sit in a senior lunch, speak at an event and most important, meet people and plan with them, together, I feel not only closer to Savannah but also closer to Israel.

*I wish you all a good week,
Maia Koiller*

On November 23, 7:00 pm, you are all invited to come to the JEA and celebrate together the Sigd Holiday. Join us for an evening of sounds, sights, and culture of Ethiopian Jewry!

Identification Statement

Savannah Jewish News
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“The flowers of today are the fruits of tomorrow.” -- Amharic proverb

SAVANNAH CELEBRATES ‘SIGD’ ETHIOPIAN JEWISH HOLIDAY

*Come learn about their fascinating and distinct history,
religious traditions, culture, and current situation through a wide range of multimedia!
Listen to Ethiopian music, learn folklore, and view an exciting picture slide show !*



November 23, @ 7:00 pm

Small Auditorium, JEA

5111 Abercorn St.

For more information contact: Ben Kweskin at 912.355.8111 * Maia Koiller at 912.355.8111



Confessions of a Fan

Now that the fall holidays are behind us and the distraction of the presidential election has come to an end, we can all focus on those things which are truly important to us—like football season. I recognize that some people have trouble understanding my quasi-fanatical obsession with my hometown team and why my study has been transformed into an aqua and orange shrine. Hope springs eternal every fall, unconstrained by the reality of my team's personnel or their record. When you have faith in your cause, a miracle is possible on any given Sunday.

Belief in the righteousness of your cause and faith in the strength of your team are powerful weapons. Each November I bring them to bear on at least one other endeavor arguably even more important than the gridiron. Along with many other believers, November is the time of the year I rekindle my dedication to our Savannah Jewish Federation's annual campaign. Like any devoted fan, I have an abiding faith in our team and our ability to have a successful season whatever the odds.

There is no shortage of pundits around to remind me that the economy is flat, the stock market has tanked, my taxes will be going up and my savings going down. There are plenty of people who are always ready to tell me about why the campaign is no longer relevant, why Israel doesn't really need our money, or why their hard-earned money needs to go elsewhere.

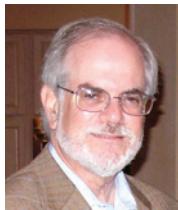
But I am a "fan" of our Federation and am not easily discouraged. I believe that the annual campaign is the best way to support what is important in our Jewish community: our local schools and organizations, our community center and its programs, our Center for Jewish Life, our family service programs, as well as the national and international programs helping Jews in need throughout the world. I know in my heart that without our campaign there would be no Israeli Shlichah (or guide) and would have been no Israel at 60 celebration. The JEA would not be able to offer programming and Jewish education would be far removed from the thriving schools we have here. Who knows which recipients of food packages in the Former Soviet Union or re-settled Jewish Israel would be left wanting without our contribution to the North American UJC campaign? What Shabbat or holiday programs at SCAD or Georgia Southern would have to be eliminated if our campaign failed to support them? Which

BBYO program would just have to be skipped without Federation's support?

I have faith in our "team": both our campaign management team and our community as a whole. Savannah is recognized nationally as a small community with tremendous participation and support for the UJC campaign year in and year out. Visitors and newcomers never cease to be amazed at the level and quality of Jewish services we have available here. Our annual campaign funds our Shalom Savannah program and many of the programs and services which make this community so vibrant. Our community has shown commitment to the annual campaign in good economic times and bad and I have faith that this year will be no exception.

I admit that it is probably not a surprise to find that the president of Federation is committed to the success of the annual campaign. I don't really expect you to be converted to fanaticism. But this is an important time in the life of our Jewish community. There are big decisions to be made for our future. There are new needs to be met, new programs to offer, and new challenges to Jewish life to be confronted. What I hope is that this year, when you are asked to make a pledge to the annual campaign, that you think first of all the good works your Federation dollars do, of all the needs your gift fulfills and all the hope your pledge provides to the whole Jewish community. I hope that despite the news and fears of the moment, you will see your way clear to have faith in our community's future and support it with a generous gift.

It is easy to think of reasons not to give: to conclude that this is a time for everyone to tighten their belts and just make do. And maybe that will turn out to be the case. But I am a fanatic and I think I am not alone. I believe in our community's capacity to give generously and hope that you do too. I have seen a 1-13 team with a recycled quarterback beat the world champions in their own stadium: that was a miracle! We don't need a miracle to have a successful campaign. We need your faith in what Federation does and your commitment to our future. This year, please, live generously.



Dr. Joel Greenberg
President,
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Especially This Year

I just returned from the wonderful Mickve Israel Shalom Y'all Jewish Food Festival. It was a beautiful day, well organized, and the food was just great. One year ago the Festival was my introduction to the Savannah Jewish community. I distinctly remember feeling so outside the community as throngs of people were hugging, eating, and laughing. I thought I understood the draw. It was a beautiful day (like this week) and the food was great. But that wasn't it. It was a desire, no, make that a need to be together. It's what made our Israel at 60 Festival so successful.

We know that each and every member of the community understands the importance of the campaign, especially this year.

As Jews, we need to be together. It is one of the things that has kept us alive and vibrant for so many generations. It takes all of us working together to sustain the values that our faith and tradition teach us. It was with that knowledge and commitment to communal responsibility that the Savannah Jewish Federation was established sixty-five years ago, to take care of each other and at the same time contribute to the overall betterment of the community at large.

We all feel threatened by declining home values and the current financial crisis. We are concerned with the frac-

tured government of Israel as it tries to find peace with its Arab neighbors. We worry about Iran's menacing nuclear strength and issues of global terrorism. But we must not let these worries threaten the important funding that our Annual Campaign provides.

We have tried something different this year by going to the Jewish community leadership first and asking them to step up for this year's campaign. When we asked, most met the call; others are "stepping up to the plate" every day. As communal leaders they intimately understand the importance of the Annual Federation Campaign. They understand that the Campaign provides urgent funds for Israel and other Jewish communities throughout the world. They understand the very important role Jewish Family Services (quietly) plays in our community. They understand that the Federation Campaign is the lifeblood of dozens of programs that we are so proud of. They understand that if we do not take care of each other, no one will.

We know that each and every member of the community understands the importance of the campaign, especially this year. We hope that you will each take the opportunity to come to the Main Event or Woman's Event the following week (or both) and make your expression of support for the campaign. Each of these events has the potential to inspire and bring us together. Let's come together as a community at our upcoming Campaign events and find more ways to stay together to improve our world.



Adam Solender



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What a Long, Strange Trip it's Been

By Chaplain (CPT) Shlomo Shulman

Excerpted from an article posted by Chaplain Shulman on Aish.com just before he returned to Savannah

My 15-month deployment to Iraq as a chaplain in the U.S. Army is coming to an end, and in a strange way, I'm a bit sad to go.

I'll miss the people I've met, the friends I've made, my job here, and of course, the action and adventure.

I signed up at the beginning of 2007 and reported to the U.S. Army Chaplain School at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina. Upon graduation, I was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division in Savannah, Georgia, just as President Bush's "surge" of troops was getting under way. By May 2007, I was on a plane to Iraq, where I've been serving ever since as battalion chaplain with a Blackhawk helicopter unit at Camp Striker, a small base next to Baghdad International Airport.

What a long, strange trip it's been.

I wore a yarmulke everywhere I went, a bit of a strange sight in a place like Iraq. I've eaten strictly kosher food the entire time I was here: lots of salad, cup 'o soups, dried salami, dehydrated camping meals, and more tuna than most people eat in a lifetime. I put on tefillin and prayed three times a day. I fasted on all the fast days and

celebrated every holiday in the Jewish calendar — some of them twice.

I was featured on CNN News, in the Boston Globe, the Jerusalem Post, various websites and other media. I lit the menorah on Chanukah with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in California on a live TV simulcast. I met Condoleezza Rice and shook hands with General Petraeus, ran frantically for cover during rocket attacks, inserted an IV needle into someone's vein, and sat on Saddam Hussein's throne.

I looked after the spiritual and religious needs of 400 soldiers in my battalion, safeguarding their Constitutional right to freedom of religion. I performed Jewish services at Camp Striker. And once a month, I'd take a ride in a Blackhawk to visit Jewish soldiers at other bases around the country, giving them a taste of Yiddishkeit, if only for a day or two. For the first six months that I was here, I was the only Jewish chaplain in all of Iraq.

I managed to get a mezuzah hung on one of the last Jewish homes in Baghdad. And when Rosh Hashana came along, I taught myself how to blow a shofar. I talked a platoon of Arkansas National Guard engineers into building a sukkah, and for roofing material, I hacked off palm fronds from the date trees that grow on the base.

I answered hundreds of emails from schoolchildren, reporters, long-retired veterans, American diplomats concerned about the status of the synagogues left in Baghdad, and countless Jewish mothers asking me to look after their sons. One sent a photo of her daughter who was on the way to Iraq, and asked if I knew any nice Jewish boys... in Fallujah. I even wrote love letters to unhappy women whose husbands wanted to win back their hearts... but didn't know how to say it.

I served close to 650 kosher meals for Shabbat and holidays — with Army-supplied wine for Kiddush; challah that Debbie Lowsky sent each week from Columbia, SC; canned gefilte fish, matzah ball soup, olives, pickles, hummus, dried salami and usually a main course of chicken or beef MREs ("Meals, Ready to Eat") all using an electric burner bought at Walmart before I left — without a kitchen, sink, or even running water.

I spent Shabbat at a U.S. airbase next to the towering ziggurat of ancient Ur, a giant pyramid-like platform that is the oldest man-made structure in the world, built 4,100 years ago as part of a huge pagan temple complex. According to Jewish tradition, this is where Abraham came to the realization that there was only one God.

Coffin with a Flag

Unfortunately, it wasn't all fun. In a place like Iraq, it was only a matter of time before death paid a visit.

The week before Passover, a 107 mm shell went right through the roof of a makeshift gym in a coalition compound in the Green Zone. It hit someone I considered a friend — a Jewish Army reservist, days shy of his 37th birthday — who had left his wife and three little girls back home and arrived in Iraq about three months earlier. He was killed in the attack, along with an Army colonel about to retire after a lengthy military career that spanned three decades.

Two days later, I received word of yet another Jewish casualty, also an Army officer — a married father of two young boys, one just a baby. He'd been hit by an IED — an improvised explosive device — and rushed, mortally wounded, to the combat support hospital in the Green Zone. By the time I got the news, his remains had



Shlomo Shulman with his wife, Lori, and daughters, back home in Savannah

already been flown by helicopter to the mortuary affairs center at an airbase down the road from me, to await the long journey home.

I dropped what I was doing and got a ride to the airbase. Once at the morgue, I asked one of the young soldiers who worked there if I could sit for awhile with the body, in accordance with ancient Jewish tradition.

The soldier showed me to my Jewish casualty — the body bag hadn't been zipped up yet. I sat in a chair next to him and recited Psalms while they filled plastic bags of ice, and steam-cleaned the creases out of the American flag that would drape over the transfer case for the plane ride.

I looked at the body bags and thought about the women back home, who'd probably just received news right about then that they were now young widows, single mothers of fatherless children. The three little girls in Idaho and the two little boys in Colorado who'd have to stop crossing off dates on the calendar, waiting for Daddy to come home.

I thought of the parents who were soon to get the phone call letting them know the baby they'd carried home from the hospital, taught to ride a bike, watched graduate from high school, get married and start a family of his own, was coming home on an Air Force plane in a metal box, packed in ice, paperwork fitted neatly in a large manila envelope, his last name written across it with a black, felt-tipped marker, taped to the inside of the lid to avoid any chance of mistaken identity.

At that moment, sitting in the

Continued on Page 5



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makeshift mortuary, so noticeably quiet, I realized that it's time to go home.

I want to drink coffee in the morning and wash the mug out in the sink. I want to take my daughters to the park and push them on the swings until they giggle, then we'll go home and play a board game with new rules we'll make up on the spot.

But the first thing I'll do is give my beautiful wife Lori a big hug for looking after everything at home while I was here, paying the bills and taking care of the house and going shopping and mailing me care packages. I'm going to sit on the couch with her and hold her hand, and buy her a new dress or something special.

Maybe I'll write her a love letter.

I've gotten pretty good at it.

Chaplain Shulman is back at his post at Hunter Army Airfield, happily reunited with his wife Lori, and their two daughters, Zohar (age 8) and Tema (6).



General David Petraeus with Chaplain Shulman in Iraq

Fiddler on the Roof, Nov. 6-9

Fiddler on the Roof will be performed at the Savannah Arts Academy from November 6th through 9th. The production features Brett Levine and Rachael Westmoreland in the leading roles of Tevye and Golda and also includes Amy Kole in the role of their second youngest daughter, Shprintze, and John Gale, as Mordcha, the inn keeper. Brett is a senior and the son of Lynne and Mark Levine; Rachael is a senior and the daughter of Leslie Westmoreland; Amy is a sophomore and the daughter of LeeAnn and Jeff Kole; John is a senior and the son of Jeri Rosenzweig-Gale and Lamar and Vicky Gale. They have been rehearsing for six weeks for their roles.

The Savannah Arts Academy is a dedicated performing and visual arts high school. This production of *Fiddler on the Roof* is the full-length, theatrical version of the musical and includes a cast of thirty-five



students, a live orchestra of almost thirty students and was put together with a behind-the-scenes technical staff of almost forty students. Faculty member Andrea Verdis is the Artistic Director.

Performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* are daily, November 6th through 8th at 7:30pm and at 2:30pm on November 9th. Tickets are \$10 each general admission; \$6 each for seniors and students and may be purchased prior to each performance at the school. The school is located at 500 Washington Ave., Savannah, and performances are in the school auditorium.



(l-r) Amy Kole (Shprintze); Rachael Westmoreland (Golda); Brett Levine (Tevye); John Gale (Mordcha)

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Sign up today at www.savj.org



Young Jewish Savannah

YJS held its **Pizza in the Hut** event in the JEA kitchen and sukkah on Thursday, October 16th. More than 40 people attended, many arriving early to help make the pizzas from start to finish!



Lorens Goksel shows off the start of his creation



David Eichholz learns how to prepare a pizza crust from a former master pizza chef



Miriam Hodesh tries her hand at tossing pizza dough — not bad!



Debbie Sorkin puts the finishing touches on a pizza under the watchful eye of her husband, Motti

Don't Miss Our Next Event

The Third Annual

Sweet Potato Schmooze

**Catch up with friends, old & new
From Savannah & afar!
Wednesday, November 26th
8:30pm, Kasey's Gourmet Grille
Watch your email for the e-vite!**

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“From Klezmer to Broadway” To Be Performed At AA Synagogue Nov. 8

Congregation Agudath Achim Sisterhood will present a performance of “From Klezmer to Broadway” on November 8 at the synagogue. The show will feature international song stylist and recording artist Naomi Miller who will take everyone present on a musical journey from the shtetls of Eastern Europe to the glitter of Broadway. A wine and cheese reception for Ms. Miller will follow the 8 p.m. performance.

Tickets are \$18 each or two for \$30. Make a reservation by sending a check payable to the A.A. Sisterhood to 9 Lee Blvd., Savannah, GA 31405.

For more information call Linda Tillinger at 355-1020 or Midge Schildkraut at 355-1839.

Members of the community are invited to attend.



Naomi Miller





2008

Speaker's Series



Sunday, November 2, 2008
7:30 PM at the JEA

The Pine Woods Project and Independent Living Jane Adams Nangle

Retired healthcare attorney and mental health advocate, Jane Nangle has spearheaded the Pine Woods Project in Savannah to provide independent living opportunities for those in our community with severe mental challenges.

Tickets: \$10 at the Door, \$5 for Students,
FREE for Military.

The 2008 Speakers Series is made possible with generous support from the JEA Phillip Hoffman Memorial Fund of the Savannah Jewish Community Foundation, The Savannah Jewish Federation and members of the community.

Armstrong Atlantic State University

Student

Jazz Ensemble

Tuesday, November 11th - 7:30 pm

FREE and Open to the Public



This fun event features the AASU eighteen piece student jazz ensemble. The program will be a mix of historic and contemporary music for big band. Renowned saxophonist Joe Eckert will be the featured soloist with the band. Mr. Eckert was lead alto saxophonist with the USAF Airmen of Note from 1984 to 2004 and was Musical Director of the group from 1998-2004.

The band will perform big band arrangements of standards and tunes from the small group of jazz tradition.

A MOVIE & BEER!

Adults — Join us at the JEA for a movie & a beer!

Nov. 13th - *What A Wonderful Place (Eize Makom Nifla)* - Israel's Oscar submission for Best Foreign Film of 2006, this masterful ensemble work invites comparisons both to the films of Robert Altman and to Paul Haggis' *Crash*. The paths of a Ukrainian woman ensnared in a prostitution ring, a Thai agricultural worker, and a Philippine caretaker eventually converge in this uniquely Israeli take on the hot-button international issue of immigration.

Winner of 9 Israel Film Academy Awards.

All movies begin at 7:00 pm
FREE to Members

FREE beer, wine, beverages, popcorn & peanuts

Movie & Beer Night sponsored by Nancy and Lawrence Gutstein

USAF Reserve Jazz Combo: Rhythm in Blue Honoring Our Soldiers: Past and Present

Thursday, November 13th-1:30 pm

Following Senior Adult Lunch

\$5 for lunch. Please RSVP.

Concert is FREE and Open to the Public. Sponsored by The Jewish Educational Alliance, The Coastal Jazz Association and MorningStar Cultural Arts.

Silver Winds Ensemble—In concert November 18th - 7pm.

The mission of SSA is to ignite a passion for learning and teaching at high levels. Savannah Arts Academy is the recipient of the 2006 National Blue Ribbon School award from the United States Department of Education. They have also been the recipient of the 2005, 2006 and 2007 Platinum Award from the Georgia State Department of Education, and the 2005-2006 Georgia's Governor's Cup Award for High Achievement.

Savannah Arts Academy's Silver Winds Ensemble (SWE) has earned consecutive Superior Ratings at the Georgia Music Educators Association Performance Evaluation Festival since the opening of Savannah Arts in 1998, as well as the Shamrock Music Festival in Dublin, Georgia. SWE has many graduates who are now attending or have attended universities and conservatories such as Oberlin Conservatory and New England Conservatory. Each year, SWE members audition and are selected to attend the Governor's Honors Program, Various University Honor Bands, Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) District One Honor Band, and others. The Georgia House of Representatives and State Senate have commended Silver Winds on several occasions in the area of performance. SWE traveled to Australia in June of 2008 and performed in the Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia on July 6, 2008.

The concert is free and open to the public



JEA Donations (as of 10/7/08)

JEA BUILDING FUND

In honor of Don Kole's recovery
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In honor of Jane Kahn's birthday
Marjorie Gordon

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS

In honor of Betty Lasky's speedy recovery
Brad & Jill Strauss

ETHEL COHEN MEDDIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Buddy Joselove
Chuck Palefsky
Sherry & Johnny Macchia
Louis & Michelle Meddin

RAYMOND & MORRIS ROSEN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Harriet Rosen's birthday
Esther & Aaron Buchsbaum

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of Betty Melaver's birthday
Madeline Rubin
Victor & Elise Shernoff

JEA FITNESS FUND

In honor of Bert & Nancy Tenenbaum's son's upcoming marriage
Jay & Courtney Goldstein

BERTHA & HYMAN KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Audrey Levine
Sally & Steve Greenberg

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Leo Center's 90th birthday
In honor of Harvey Goldberg's 60th birthday
Miriam K. Center

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

CELEBRATE



Kick Off a Year-Long Savannah Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Johnny Mercer's Birth

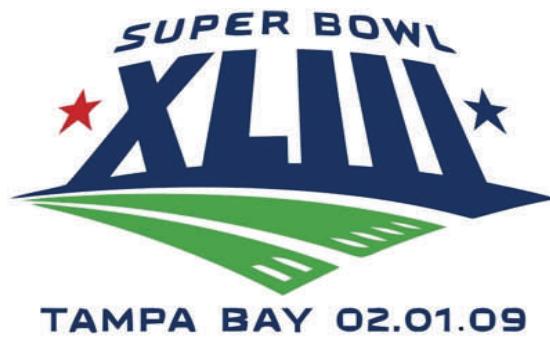
Thursday, Nov. 6th—1:30 PM

Lyricist, composer & singer Johnny Mercer was born in Savannah in 1909 and wrote or co-wrote over 1500 songs. Join us to learn more about the life & music of Johnny Mercer!

Presentation by David Oppenheim & Ralph Price

Join us for Senior Lunch at 12:30 pm—\$5

RSVP required for lunch, 355-8111



The JEA, as a fundraiser, has obtained from the NFL, **two (2) tickets to Super Bowl XLIII on February 1, 2009.**

This year's game is close to home—Tampa, Florida.

We are asking a minimum of \$3000 per ticket—tickets must be sold together.

This is an unbelievable price for a once-in-a-lifetime event! We have researched all ticket outlets to compare prices.

Give Kim Thebo a call at the JEA (355-8111) if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested in these tickets. Once the tickets are sold, we will provide information for the Tampa Super Bowl Host Committee to see what other events they are holding and where.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Want a break?

Bring your kids to the JEA for these fun theme nights!

Saturday, November 22nd 7:30-9:30pm
Israel Night

Enjoy an unforgettable night. Experience Israel while learning its' culture. We will learn new Israeli games — you'll also get to practice your culinary skills while making Israeli food.

Saturday, December 20th 7:30-10pm
Chanukah Party

Make presents for your parents, sing songs, and enjoy traditional holiday food!

Saturday, January 24th 8-10pm
Sports and a Scavenger Hunt

Play sports with Coach Dawn and go on the hunt to win prizes!

Saturday, February 28th 8-10pm
Swimming and a Movie

Beat the winter blues by splashing around in the pool with your friends, then relax with a movie and popcorn!

All kids ages 4 yrs - 5th grade welcome!

Teens are welcome to come and help out

By Reservation Only--No Drop Ins

\$5.00 a kid, \$15.00 a family

Enjoy Mother's Morning Out



Babysitting @ the JEA

Mon.-Fri.—8 am - Noon

Sundays—9 am - Noon

COACHES!

Are you interested in becoming involved in Youth Sports at the JEA?

We are currently looking for volunteer basketball coaches for kids ages 5 – 12 for the winter season (Dec – Mar).

Please contact Coach Dawn for more information at 355-8111 or by email dawn@savj.org.



Youth Basketball League 2008-2009

Jr. Jammers

Kids ages 5 and 6 will be introduced to the game of basketball. They use smaller balls, lower goals and the focus is on fundamental skill development and learning the beginnings of game structure and strategy.

6 & under—\$50-Members/\$75-Non-Members

Jr. NBA

Kids ages 7-12 where the focus is not only on fundamental skills, but also development of game strategy and teamwork. Increasingly more competitive in the older age groups.

8 & under—\$65-Members/\$90-Non-Members
10 & under—\$65-Members/\$90-Non-Members
12 & under—\$75-Members/\$100-Non-Members

Must register by November 21, 2008

Please contact Coach Dawn for more information at 355-8111 or by email dawn@savj.org.

FOOTBALL FANS!

Join your friends from the JEA for an NFL game!



Jacksonville Jaguars

vs.



Tennessee Titans

Sunday, November 16, 2008

1:00 pm

\$75 per person

Limited tickets available so get yours today at the JEA front desk!

HEALTH TALK SERIES

Tuesday, November 25th 7:00 PM

Join our discussion and learn about Diabetes—it's causes, prevention and treatment.

Upcoming November Concerts

All are FREE and Open to the Public

- ◆ "The Life and Music of Johnny Mercer," program presented by David Oppenheim & Ralph Price—Thursday, Nov. 6th at 1:30 p.m. (After the Senior Adult Lunch). JEA
- ◆ The Atlantic Armstrong State University Student Jazz Ensemble—Tuesday, Nov. 11th at 7:30 p.m. JEA
- ◆ USAF Reserve Jazz Combo: Rhythm in Blue—Thursday, Nov. 13th at 1:30 pm. (After the Senior Adult Lunch). JEA
- ◆ Savannah Arts Academy Silver Winds Ensemble—Tuesday, Nov. 18th at 7:00 p.m. JEA
- ◆ Folkman/Guitarist Hank Weisman—Thursday, Nov. 20th at 1:30 p.m. (After the Senior Adult Lunch). JEA



Fitness Schedule

| Activity | Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Adult | | | | | | |
| Indoor Pool | 9 AM-5 PM | 7 AM-9 PM | 7 AM-9PM | 7 AM-9 PM | 7 AM-9 PM | 7 AM-4 PM |
| Spin Class | | | 8:30 AM | | 8:30 AM | |
| Firm It Up | | 8:30 AM | | 8:30 AM | | 8:30 AM |
| Zumba | 10 AM | | | 7 PM | | |
| Pilates | | 7 PM | 8:30 AM | | 8:30 AM | |
| Open Basketball | | 12-2 PM | | 12-2 PM | | 12-2 PM |
| Aquasize | | 10 AM | 10 AM | | 10 AM | 10 AM |
| Gentle Yoga | | 10:30 AM | | 10:30 AM | | |
| Yoga for a Healthy Back | | | | | 7 PM | |
| Sr. Aerobics | | 10:30 AM | | | 10:30 AM | |
| Fencing | | | 6 PM | | 6 PM | |
| Eve. Water Aerobics | | 6:30 PM | | 6:30 PM | 6:30 PM | |
| Women's Self Defense | | | 6 PM | | 6 PM | |
| Karate | | 5:30 PM | | 5:30 PM | | |
| Wallyball | | | 6:30 PM | 7:30 PM Men Only | 6:30 PM | |
| Open Court Racquetball | | 4-6 PM | 4-6 PM | 4-6 PM | 4-6 PM | 4-5 PM |
| Kids | | | | | | |
| Coach Wayne Gymnastics | | | | 2:30 PM | | |
| Jr. Swim League | | 4:15 PM | | 4:15 PM | | |
| Basketball Clinic | 2:30-4 PM | | 4-5 PM | | | |

SUNDAY BABYSITTING
 Need care for your little one while doing your Sunday workout?
 Babysitting Room now open Sundays 9:00-12:00pm
 Ages 3 months to 2 years

Let the little one play while you sweat!
 Contact Ashley Frankel 912.355.8111 ext# 255 for more information

JEA TEEN LATE NIGHT
 Take a break from school
 Come to the JEA Teen Bonfire!

5th through 8th grade welcome!
 Saturday November 15th
 8:00 to 10:00pm
 Contact Ashley Frankel at 912.355.8111 ext #255 more information and to sign up
 Please RSVP by Thursday October 16th
FOOD, FRIENDS AND FUN!

MOMMY AND ME
 Want to start working out again but don't know what to do with baby?
 Bring baby with you to the new Mommy and Me Fitness Program!

A fun and healthy new way for mom's to be with other moms and have fun with baby!
 Join us for fun exercises that incorporate baby including stroller aerobics, swimming, etc...
 Join us every Monday in November starting on the 3rd from 10:00-11:00am
 Ages 3 months to 2 years
 Contact Ashley Frankel 912.355.8111 ext #255 for more information and sign up
See both of you soon!

Winter Swim League 2008-2009
 With Coach Connie Buckley

Mondays & Wednesdays
 4:15-5:15pm
 JEA Members—\$50 per month
 Non-members—\$75 per month
Begins November 3rd

Program Objectives:

- Stroke & Turn Development
- Technique Improvement
- Muscle memory
- Endurance

Ages 5 & Up
 (Children required to swim length of pool)

For more information, contact Coach Dawn,
 355-8111 or dawn@savj.org



Need after school activities?

Join us at the JEA Afterschool Program!!



We have: art, cooking, gymnastics (w/ Coach Wayne), juggling, music, sports, swimming, yoga, and much, much, more.....



Kids Klub: 4 yrs - 1st Grade

Club U: 2nd - 5th grades

- Transportation may be available from your area schools

- Ends at 6:00 pm
- Qualified & certified workers



For more information contact:
Ashley Frankel, 355-8111 ext. 225.

Art at the JEA

Susan Weiss
November 2-30, 2008



Susan has worked in the visual arts in various capacities. After graduating from the University of Michigan, she moved to San Francisco and received an MA degree from Mills College in choreography and production. She performed, choreographed, and produced dance concerts in the Bay Area for many years. She then began studies in drawing and painting at the San Francisco Art Institute. She received an MFA degree in painting in May of 2003.

Susan's work explores the issues of personal identity and the psycho-social landscape of contemporary culture. She often collaborates with others to create art pieces. Her early paintings were contemporary dog portraits, which were metaphors for the exploration into human social dynamics. In 1997, she won third place in painting at the Wichita Dog Show, the major juried competition for art about dogs. Her work has also been shown in solo and group exhibitions, and she has had numerous commissions.



A work titled, *I HAVE AN OVAL SHAPED FACE*, was accepted into the Texas Fine Arts Show "Transcending Limits" in 1999, and toured the state for two years. This piece was a collaborative drawing project with police sketch artists to create Susan's portrait based on her written description.

In 2000, Susan was commissioned by the Jewish Museum of San Francisco to create their holiday card. She created a series of 7 images including drawings, photographs and text which transform traditional Jewish symbols and myths into contemporary imagery.

The current project, "Parking Lot People," is an on-going series of candid portraits taken in Wal-Mart and Target parking lots throughout the country. When looking at the photographs you are aware of geographical differences, the people that live in these communities and what makes them unique.

Artist reception Sun., Nov. 2nd - 4-6 pm

| | Sun. | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| November 2008 | Oct. 26 Zumba-10 am Shalom Y'All Jewish Food Festival—Forsyth Park— 11 am | Oct. 27 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Aguasize- 10 am Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Sr. Fitness- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Mah-Jongg- 1 pm | Oct. 28 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates-8:30 am Kibitzers Club- 10 am JFS Parenting Class— 7 pm | Oct. 29 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Bridge- 1 pm Yiddish— 3 pm | Oct. 30 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates- 8:30 am Aguasize- 10 am Mah-Jongg- 10:30 am Senior Fitness- 10:30 am Sr. Lunch/Program— 12:30 pm Evening Water Aerobics- 6:30 pm Movie & Beer Night - 7 pm Skyelite Jazz Band— 7:30 pm | Oct. 31 Indoor Pool- 7 am-4 pm Aguasize- 10 am | 1 |
| | 2 Teen Elections & Judaism— 10:30 am B'ball Clinic— 2:30 pm Art Gallery Reception- Susan Weiss- 4:00 pm JEA Speaker Series - Jane Adams Nangle- 7:30 pm | 3 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Aguasize- 10 am Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Sr. Fitness- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Mah-Jongg- 1 pm Water Aerobics- 6:30 pm | 4 Election Day Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates-8:30 am Kibitzers Club- 10 am B'ball Clinic—4 pm | 5 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Bridge- 1 pm Yiddish— 3 pm Federation Campaign Main Event— 7:30 pm | 6 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates- 8:30 am Aguasize- 10 am Mah-Jongg- 10:30 am Senior Fitness- 10:30 am Sr. Lunch/Program— 12:30 pm Evening Water Aerobics- 6:30 pm Grief Support Group— 7 pm | 7 Indoor Pool- 7 am-4 pm Aguasize- 10 am | 8 |
| | 9 B'ball Clinic— 2:30 pm | 10 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Aguasize- 10 am Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Sr. Fitness- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Mah-Jongg- 1 pm | 11 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates-8:30 am Kibitzers Club- 10 am B'ball Clinic—4 pm AASU Student Jazz Ensemble— 7:30 pm | 12 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Bridge- 1 pm | 13 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates- 8:30 am Aguasize- 10 am Evening Water Aerobics- 6:30 pm Sr. Lunch/Program— 12:30 pm Movie & Beer Night - 7 pm Grief Support Group— 7 pm | 14 Indoor Pool - 7 am-4 pm Aguasize- 10 am | 15 Teen Late Night - 8 pm |
| | 16 B'ball Clinic— 2:30 pm | 17 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Aguasize- 10 am Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Sr. Fitness- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Mah-Jongg- 1 pm | 18 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates-8:30 am Kibitzers Club- 10 am B'ball Clinic—4 pm Silver Winds Ensemble— 7 pm | 19 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Bridge- 1 pm Yiddish— 3 pm | 20 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates- 8:30 am Aguasize- 10 am Mah-Jongg- 10:30 am Senior Fitness- 10:30 am Evening Water Aerobics- 6:30 pm Sr. Lunch/Program— 12:30 pm JFS Parenting Class— 7 pm | 21 Indoor Pool- 7 am-4 pm Aguasize- 10 am | 22 Parents Night Out - 7:30 pm |
| | 23 B'ball Clinic— 2:30 pm | 24 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Aguasize- 10 am Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Sr. Fitness- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Mah-Jongg- 1 pm | 25 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Pilates-8:30 am Kibitzers Club- 10 am Yiddish- 3 pm JFS Health Talk— 7 pm | 26 Indoor Pool- 7 am-9 pm Gentle Yoga- 10:30 am Senior Lunch- 12:30 pm Bridge- 1 pm | 27 Thanksgiving—Fitness Center Open 10 am - 5 pm. Offices Closed | 28 Indoor Pool- 7 am-4 pm Aguasize- 10 am | 29 |
| | 30 | Dec. 1 | Dec. 2 | Dec. 3 | Dec. 4 | Dec. 5 | Dec. 6 |



Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES

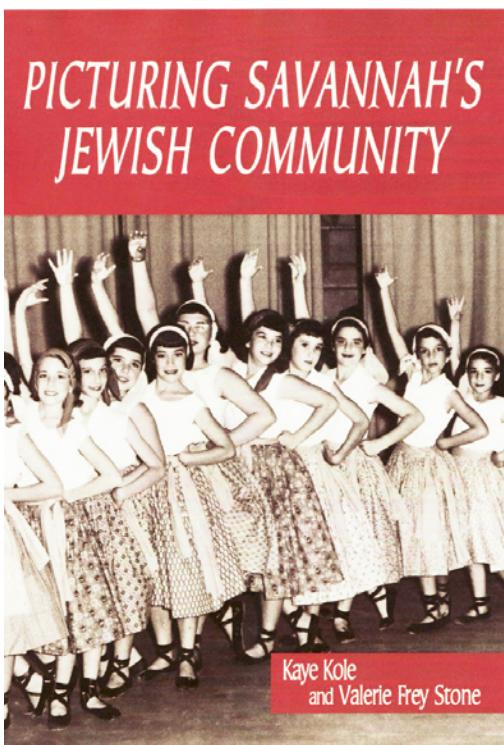
Archives Publishes New Book

The Savannah Jewish Archives is delighted to announce the arrival of our new book, *Picturing Savannah's Jewish Community!* This new offering is a supplement to *The Jewish Community of Savannah and Voices of Savannah* and focuses on the Archives' extensive photograph collection from 1960 until the present. We hope that you will enjoy seeing some of the previously unseen photographs of yourself, your family, and your friends.

You may purchase the book at the Jewish Educational on Sunday, November 9, from 10:00 to 4:00 for \$20 plus tax. All proceeds from the book will go to support the Savannah Jewish Archives.

The mission of the Savannah Jewish Archives is to acquire and preserve materials with permanent historical value to Savannah and the greater Chatham County Jewish community. Established by the Savannah Jewish Federation in 1995 and funded by memberships, the Archives includes historically significant personal and family papers, business and organizational records, books and pamphlets,

photographs, audiovisual materials, newspapers, letters, manuscripts, memorabilia, maps, oral histories, and artifacts dating from the 1750s to the present. Donations of materials are made from synagogues and individuals as well as public and private organizations. We strongly encourage further donations.



Agudath Achim announces Adult Courses

Congregation Agudath Achim has scheduled two new courses as part of their Fall Adult Education series.

The first, *Judaism for Skeptics*, will probe the many ideas, experiences, and cultural phenomena that are a challenge to belief. Under this general heading, the course will explore such topics as: The relationship of Judaism to Science and issues, such as Evolution and Religion, that are part and parcel of our modern world; the question of belief after the Holocaust, and all the implications of living with inexplicable loss; the role of Democracy and individual decision making in a religious setting. The course will meet on Monday evenings, November 3, 10, 17 and 24, at 7:15 pm.

The Second course will be an *Introduction to Judaism for Adults*.

Most Jews acquire the vast bulk of their Jewish knowledge in the years prior to Bar or Bat Mitzvah. This seven month course will explore Judaism broadly on the adult level, and will include an in depth survey of Jewish Practice and Belief. This introductory course is also a prerequisite for non-Jews considering conversion within the Conservative movement. The first class meeting will be on Thursday evening, November 6, at 7:15 pm, with monthly calendars distributed as the class progresses.

Non-member tuition for the *Introduction to Judaism* course is \$180 and \$54 for the November mini-course. Please call Agudath Achim to pre-register at (912) 352-4737, or register by e-mail at AgudathA@aol.com.

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JCC MACCABI GAMES

Are you ready for the chance of a lifetime?

Are you a Jewish teen between 13—16?

Do you like to participate in sports?

Are you interested in competing in a national sporting event?

Would you like to visit one of the country's most beautiful cities?

If you would like to represent the Savannah Jewish Community at the Maccabi Games held in San Francisco August 2-7, 2009

contact Dawn Tanis at dawn@savj.org



Your Campaign Dollars At Work

Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind

Editor's Note: As part of the 2008 allocations process, the Savannah Jewish Federation included some overseas allocations targeted directly to organizations that reflected the passions and interests of the Savannah Jewish Community. Over the next few months we will highlight some of these organizations in the Savannah Jewish News. This month we are featuring the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind.

The Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind began operations on January 1, 1991 with just one objective — to help blind people in Israel achieve independence and mobility through the use of guide dogs. From 1953 to 1970, Prof. Dr. Rudolphina Menzel, a psychologist and dog trainer, had prepared guide dogs to assist blind Israelis but at the time of her death in 1970 there was no one to continue this work and Israel was left with no guide dog training center, but with

many blind Israelis, both civilians and war veterans. Sending blind Israelis to training centers in the United States solved the problem.

But this was a partial solution. Only blind Israelis who could understand and communicate in English were sent to guide dog schools in the United States for instruction. Others simply never received a guide dog. Even the lucky ones who received a guide dog from overseas found that if a problem with the guide dog arose later on, there was no one to provide the follow up so vital to a successful "Partnership" (blind person and dog). The Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind was established to fill this need.

Advantages of guide dog training in Israel

The dogs are trained to respond to Hebrew commands and the applicants are instructed in Hebrew.

The dogs are trained to guide in Israel's physical environment and ma-



Last week, the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind held its annual Guide Dog March for the Blind in Tel Aviv. Talia Greenblatt, a former Shlichah in New Hampshire, sent us this picture of some of the guide dogs in training taking a break on the march. Talia and her dog, Sherry, are second from the left.

neuver around typically Israeli obstacles such as bus-stand posts or streetlights in the middle of sidewalks; concrete barriers at street corners or cars parked half on the sidewalk and half on the road.

The applicants find the instruction much less stressful, because during the instruction at the Center's Beit Oved campus, they may receive visits from family and friends.

The instruction includes time spent helping each applicant acquaint his new guide dog with home and work place environments.

Aftercare assistance is just a phone call away. Any questions the guide dog user may have about his dog's perfor-

mance can easily be answered, as the instructor is readily available.

Visits are made every six months or more often when requested.

Training costs for a guide dog, from the moment of birth until it leaves the Center with a blind Israeli, are approximately \$25,000. The blind person receives the guide dog, instruction and regular home visits during the working life of the dog at no charge.

Israel has over 20,000 registered blind people, although unofficial estimates place this figure much higher. Of these, about 200 are guide dog assisted, but this number is growing steadily as the number of graduates from the Center increases annually.

Announcing The 2009 Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial Jewish Film Festival

February 28—March 7, 2009



Are you interested in cutting edge, hip, historical, family style, or educational, Israeli and international films? There will be movies for everyone, from the very young to the very young at heart! We will also be showing movies at diverse venues as diverse as the movies screened! Look for more information soon on the Federation website, www.savj.org.

For more information now on volunteer or sponsorship opportunities, contact Festival co-chairs:

Miriam Hodesh: 912.704.8446

Beth Vantosh: 912.663.3392

See you at the movies!

Vital Statistics

ENGAGED

Dr. Neil and Beth (Newman) Shernoff, formerly of Savannah, Georgia, announce the engagement of their

daughter, Amanda Erin to Michael David Klein, son of Steven and Lizzy Klein of Old Bridge, New Jersey. Amanda is the granddaughter of Zelda Newman and the late Sol Newman and the late Rosalie and Raymond Shernoff, all of Savannah.

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Eugene Leonard Levinson

Who died September 18, 2008

He is survived by his wife, Eunice; daughters, Sharyn Lazarnik and Kay Levinson of Atlanta and sons, Robert Levinson of Atlanta and Mark Levinson of Paris, France, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Remembrances may be made to Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob.

Harry Elliot Yellin

Who died October 1, 2008

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Arlene (Cookie), one son, Harvey B. Yellin and a daughter Ester Y.

(Fred) Rabhan, both of Savannah, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Remembrances may be made to the Harry E. Yellin Computer Media Fund at Rambam Day School and Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob.

Elizabeth Eisenman
"Honeybee" Bernstein

Who died October 15, 2008

She is survived by two sons, Stephen L. (Eunice) Bernstein of Savannah, Rick (Peggy) Bernstein, of Marietta, one daughter, Beverley B. (Ken) Levin, of Kennesaw, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and many loving nieces and nephews.

Remembrances may be given to Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob or the Jewish Educational Alliance.





An Evening of Comedy with Richard Lewis

Saturday, January 3rd, 2009
Jewish Educational Alliance
8:00 pm
*Watch your mail for invitations
and ticket availability*

Generously Sponsored by



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Campaign

York began meeting with top donors prior to the dinner and stressing their concerns about what they were sure would be a shortfall from bankers losing jobs and bonuses. The donors stepped up and pledged \$43 million at the dinner, \$2 million (almost 5%) more than last year.

Even in Savannah, already we are seeing the effects of the weakening economy. Requests to our local Jewish Family Services for assistance are on the rise, as are the costs of maintaining programs and services at our religious schools, the JEA and the Federation itself. But our annual campaign presents us with an opportunity to show our strength as one community, united and committed to seeing that we hold on to the truly special Jewish community of Savannah we have worked so long and hard to create. The campaign programs – the Main Event on November 5th and the Women’s Division Luncheon on November 11th – are both great occasions to come together as one and be inspired by the exceptional speakers coming to Savannah this year. If you have not already done so, please call us the Federation at 355-8111 to reserve a place at either event. Let this be the

..... cont. from page 1
year that as one community, we all make the one gift that will touch so many lives.



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Principal, GMHSG

Rabbi Dr. Gil Perl
Dean

Rabbi Josh Spodek
Principal, CYHSB



Thoughts from Rambam

When this article reaches its readers, the holiday of succos would have come and gone. However, if our observance of this holiday was sincere and we really put our hearts and souls into its meaning, then not only would we have shared some special time with family and friends but we would have reflected on the significance of this Jewish celebration. Simply, it is a reminder that G-d is responsible for all that we have. What greater meaning could a holiday impart? No matter how modern a succah we build; a succah with all the latest trimmings, even a succah with an air condition or a succah fully decorated, we will never replace the comforts of our homes. In this attempt to remove us from the materialistic world entangling us, we are given the opportunity to delve into an area not given as much attention as it should receive, the recognition that G-d provides, that G-d is in control and that G-d is always present. This too is the essence of a Jewish education. A Jewish education is an opportunity to delve into aspects of our Judaism that otherwise may never be discovered by some individuals. A Jewish education is the realization that G-d plays a role in our lives and we can inculcate His presence into our daily lives by understanding our heritage and the importance it plays everyday, every moment.

Maia Koiller has brought the land of Israel to life for our Rambam students. With the help of Maia, our students have learned the spiritual aspect of Israel and Israel as a coun-

try today. Maia has thrilled the Rambam students with her many creative ideas of how to portray Israel. In addition to the children learning about their history through our various holy sefarim (books), our very own Israeli friend, tells them stories and gives them information as a Jew with a direct line to Israel. Once again, if our students will internalize all that Rambam has to offer, and all that our shaliach has to offer, then our students will be opening their minds to roads seldom traveled by all of the Jewish people.

If we value the opportunities afforded us as a people to be inspired and to become more knowledgeable, then we will unite as a people even more. Each of the four species taken together on the holiday of succos is to symbolize that all types of Jews make up our people and yet, G-d expects us to all come together, as a people. Every symbolism in Judaism is a means to assist us in our greater understanding and commitment to our heritage. But, just as a stop sign is only a sign, yet it could save a life; so too our heritage is filled with symbolisms that could change a life.

May the students of Rambam be true reflections of what it means to have an opportunity to learn, internalize what you learn, and reflect what you learn.



Ester Y. Rabhan,
Rambam Day
School Principal

From The Shalom School

Shalom School Joining "Backpack Buddies" Program

As you know, Shalom School's curriculum is dedicated to the three cornerstones of Judaism: Torah, Avodah and G'milit Chasadim, or acts of loving-kindness. All of our children and their families are now participating in a new mitzvah project that will put our learning into action. We have joined with the Social Action Committee of Congregation Mickve Israel to implement a "Backpack Buddies" program. Our program provides food for needy public school children who otherwise would have little or no food to eat over the weekend.

There are, unfortunately, many young public school students in Savannah who do not have enough to eat. These children are fed breakfast and lunch at school, and some get a 4 PM meal under a Kids' Café program, a member organization of Second Harvest. Some of these children have little to nothing to eat at home. They have been found saving some of the food that they receive at school on Fridays to take home for the weekends. Sadly, this is a common problem throughout our country today.

The Backpack Buddies program is designed to help feed as many of such students as is possible. Our "adopted" school is East Broad Elementary School. To date, over 100 members of Congregation Mickve Israel have agreed to donate food, money and time for this effort. Food is collected from donations and supplemented by

purchases from cash donations and being sorted and stored on new shelves in the congregation's small basement area. It will then be put by Shalom School students, their parents, and other temple members into individual bags for delivery to the school which, in turn, distributes them to needy students each Friday. The Social Action Committee has been able to purchase small backpacks for that purpose; the children receiving them will return them to the school each week for the next week's use.

As our part in this wonderful effort, Shalom School students are bringing food donations each and every week to Sunday school. After school each week a different class, assisted by their parents, packs the individual bags of food. They will, from time to time, add their own short notes of greeting in each bag.

This program not only fills a real need in our community, but is also a very meaningful experience for our children.

If anyone is interested in participating in or getting additional information about this program, they may contact Norman Hirsch at 598-7668.



Jules Kerness,
Shalom School
Principal

B'Shalom,
Jules Kerness
Principal



Golden Opportunity

It's a NEW YEAR!

The JEA proudly announces a new partnership with all three synagogues.

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In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Aaron Solender
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US Air Force Reserve Jazz Combo: Rhythm In Blue

**Thursday, November 13th
1:30pm at the JEA**

The US Air Force Reserve Jazz Combo, Rhythm In Blue, will present a free concert at the JEA as part of a community celebration of the U.S. Armed Forces and to honor our veterans. Don't miss it.

The celebration will take place after the JFS Senior Adult Lunch. You do not have to attend the lunch to attend the concert, but we'd love to have you join us. Please RSVP for lunch no later than Monday, Nov. 10, by calling 355-8111. Lunch is \$5 per person.

*The afternoon of jazz is free and open to the public.
Sponsored by the JEA, the Coastal Jazz Association of Savannah
and MorningStar Cultural Arts*

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RSVP to Peggy Harris, 354-4801 or Tricia Guggenheim, 355-3346



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THEIR CHILDREN WILL GO TO MEDICAL SCHOOL.
OTHERS HOPE THEIR KIDS
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More than 350,000 Jewish households in the U.S. live below the poverty line. In Savannah, Jewish Family Services, part of the Savannah Jewish Federation, is here to help them with food, housing assistance, job counseling, financial support and more. Maybe medical school's not for everyone. But every parent deserves to have dreams for their kids.



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