Mike Leven, CEO of Georgia Aquarium, to Headline SJF Campaign “Main Event”

Michael Leven, Chief Executive Officer of the Georgia Aquarium and Vice Chairman of the Marcus Foundation, will be the keynote speaker at the Savannah Jewish Federation’s Main Event for the 2009 Annual Campaign, to be held on Wednesday, November 5th, at the JEA. Leven has been a trustee and a member of the board of The Marcus Institute since 2003. In his capacity with these organizations, he works hand-in-hand with Bernie Marcus, the co-founder of Home Depot and one of America’s most generous philanthropists.

In announcing that Leven would be speaking in Savannah, Sharon Galin, chair of the 2009 Federation campaign said: “We are truly honored to have Mike Leven coming to Savannah to energize our annual campaign as it gets underway. At vice-chairman of the Marcus Foundation, and as a personal philanthropist, Mike has had a tremendous impact on the social welfare needs of the Atlanta Jewish community as well as many other charitable causes. We look forward to hearing about how his commitment to his community helped shape his experiences in business and life.”

Leven’s personal commitments to philanthropy and public service include having served as vice president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, chair of the marketing and public relations committee for United Jewish Communities (UJC), general chairman of the Atlanta State of Israel Bonds Committee, and as a member of the National Board of Governors of the American Red Cross, its Executive Committee and chairman of its Biomedical Services Board.

When he wasn’t serving his community, Mike Leven found time to become a hotel industry icon and one of the franchising industry’s most innovative leaders. Leven was formerly President and CEO of US Franchise Systems, Inc., the company he founded in 1993 that franchises the Microtel Inns & Suites and Hawthorn Suites hotel brands. Prior to that, he was president and COO of Holiday Inn Worldwide. From 1983 to 1990, he was president of Days Inn of America, where he led initiatives to hire older workers, people with disabilities, and returning veterans.

Have You Tried the New savj.org?

Meeting with the approval of all who were there, the Savannah Jewish Federation unveiled its new website at its 65th Annual Meeting held on September 10th at the JEA. The website, still located at www.savj.org, received a much-needed face-lift (OK, a few other parts had some major work done, too) with the help of Laura Kellogg, our web master, and a United Jewish Communities website building tool commonly known as “FedWeb.”

“Shall you not break bread for the hungry...”
Isaiah 58:7

Start the New Year with the mitzvah of food for those less fortunate. Please donate to our annual Jewish Community Food Drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Drop off non-perishable food donations at the following locations:

- The JEA
- Rambam Day School
- Congregation Agudath Achim
- Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob
- Congregation Mickve Israel
- Operation Isaiah

September 29 – October 24, 2008
Another new year and a renewed hope that goodness will be as abundant as the seeds of the sweet pomegranate which symbolizes another new year.

לְשׁוֹנָה מאָנה
HAPPY ROHSH HASHANAH
The Times They Are a Changin’

I was high when I wrote this—36,000 feet high—being inspired by Israeli material (the movie You Don’t Mess with the Zohan) on a British Airways flight no less (the airline of a country not usually known for its appreciation of things Israeli... or Jewish).

While the movie does perpetuate the image of Israeli Mossad-agents, and by extension the IDF, as superior soldiers (“Rembrandts with a grenade”) and takes that image to farcical extremes, it is not so far removed from the image we grew up with in the 60’s. These were heady times when America was reshaping its own image and young American Jews were inspired by the self-confidence and prowess of a young Israel, proving to the world it was here to stay (and Americans do love winners).

We tend to see ourselves as we were in our early lives and frequently we still see Israel in the same way. But of course we have changed and so has Israel and so must our relationship with Israel. Israel is much more our economic partner than a dependent. No one doubts its ability to see to its own security. Israel’s military concern for the future of Jews in Israel; now, Israel exerts concern for itself to be a meaningful fast, a big show. It does nothing for the soul. It contributes nothing to the world, makes nothing better, and helps no one. That’s not a fast we would choose, either. So how do we make it a meaningful fast?

The Haftarah continues with the words that resound as clearly for us today as they did back then: “Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bonds of oppression, to let the crushed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and to take the outcast poor into your home? To clothe the naked and to hide yourself from your own flesh?” (Isaiah 58:6-7)

Our Savannah Jewish community strives to better the world; we use Tikkun Olam as our clarion cry.

An Easy Fast?

As Yom Kippur is almost upon us I am reminded that most Jewish part company with the simple wish “have an easy fast.” It seems so incongruous to say “have an easy fast” in the context of what we are supposed to be doing. Is anything worthwhile really so easy? No - I wish you many things: success and friendship, health and happiness, love and joy, peace and contentment. I don’t want you to get sick from your fast, because that also defeats the whole purpose. But I don’t wish you to have an easy fast. I wish you to have a meaningful fast.

This is hardly a new idea. In fact, this lesson comes straight out of the Haftarah on Yom Kippur. Isaiah pleads, “Have I chosen such a fast? A day for man to afflict his soul? To how down his head like a bulrush, to sit in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, an acceptable day to God?” (Isaiah 58:5)

Isaiah suggests such a fast would be meaningless fast, a big show. It does nothing for the soul. It contributes nothing to the world. We do that when we help other Jews throughout the world. With a single gift to the Federation's Annual Campaign, we do all of this and more. You may not always see it that way; but that indeed is what we are doing. Our actions transform a mere ritual into a force for good throughout the world.

Our heritage is to be the “rebuilder of broken walls” – an exquisite way to describe the work of the Federation. It is said that our prayers and fasts are given meaning by our actions and it is through our actions that we restore a broken world. I wish you a meaningful fast.

G’mar Tov!

Vital Statistics

BORN
*A son, Andrew Logan, 4 lbs., 14 oz., to Michael and Jodi Rosenberg of Charleston, SC, on September 13, 2008. Grandparents are Stanley and Brenda Rosenberg of Savannah.

The Staff of the Jewish Educational Alliance and Savannah Jewish Federation wishes you a joyous new year filled with peace, happiness and love

Linda Brown
Cathy Cleveland
Sarah Coles
Larry Danke-Kellogg
Elaine Dembe-Fox
Ashley Frankel
Carlos Gutierrez
Barbara Hayes
Laura Hobbs
Johanna Hopkinson
Sharon Hughes
Patrick Humphrey
James Jackson
Bonnie Mandy Kane
Risha Katzman
Laura Kellogg
Maia Koiller
Larry Layne
Lynn Levine
Vicky Luniak
Kathy Marshall
Eddie McKee
Chesler Mitchell
Elaine Palmer
Paulette Polk
Lilie Sanders
Jackie Small
Adam Solender
Mike Strear
Jeanette Swinsinski
Dawn Tannis
Kim Trefb
Relayl Thomas
Eun-Young You

The Times They Are a Changin’

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G’mar Tov!
A New Start; Everything We Wish

Shalom dear friends,

I am glad and excited to say that I am here, in Savannah, Georgia. The long anticipation was worth it! Today when I entered the JEA I noticed a big rug with the word Israel in the middle and I felt warmth in my heart. It is so good to know that even though Israel is located far away, we are still in your hearts. I feel that this tie between Israel and the Jewish communities in the States is so important — and to be here my self in Savannah is very significant to me. This community is warm and loving, and although I am new in town I can feel the family warmth around me. This is a new start for me, a new place, new friends, and a new year.

The Jewish calendar makes a lot of sense; we always begin new things at this time of the year. The possibility to look back and reflect on the year we had, learn from it and begin a new year stronger and wiser. The more I think about it, the more I think it is wonderful when we wish –let it be.

Shalom

Maia Kooler

Letters to the Editor

Dear Joel and Adam,

On behalf of the Charleston Jewish Federation, we would like to thank you for your generous offer of assistance in the event of a catastrophic hit from Tropical Storm Hanna. We were truly fortunate that Charleston was spared direct impact by Hanna.

We do appreciate knowing that we can count on our friends in Savannah; please know that, should the need ever arise, your offer of help will be reciprocated.

Sincerely,

David Odle, President
Ellen Katzman, Executive Director
Charleston Jewish Federation

With Sincere Appreciation,

Abby Levine, Executive Director
Synagogue Emanu-El

To the Editor,

Thanks to the JEA and Federation for another excellent summer camp! As working parents, we have to hand off our kids for at least part of the day, and we deeply appreciate the care and attention our children received from the counselors and staff. Learning Hebrew with the Israeli shlichim, spending time in the wild backwoods of the soccer fields and forging friendships with children from all over the community — some Jewish, some not — strengthened their Jewish identities simply because they were positive experiences in a setting promoting Jewish values. Extra kudos to Ashley Frankel, Johanna Hopkinson and Dawn Tanis for their endless enthusiasm, creativity and patience!

Shalom y’all,

Mark and Jessica Lebos

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Shana Tova from the Campaign Management Team

I am honored to wish the community a Happy New Year on behalf of the 2009 Campaign Management Team.

We have willingly assumed a task this year that has been done in this community for the past sixty-five years — a task we do not take lightly because we know that at its heart is the responsibility of assuring Jewish continuity. This task tops the agenda of every Jewish community throughout the United States: the launching of our annual Federation Campaign.

We are approaching the New Year, 5769. The Jewish calendar has given us the month of Elul to prepare ourselves for Rosh Hashanah. The shofar has been blown everyday to wake us up — to make us think about our actions, so we are ready when we stand before G-d.

As we celebrate our joyous holidays, reflect on the year that was and take stock of our personal situations, please join us in taking a few minutes to also think about the Jewish community we want to live in. The money we raise in campaign 2009 will be the renewal of our commitment and our generosity so that we may maintain the infrastructure, or more importantly, create a new one that meets the needs of the twenty-first century.

We have chosen “People Helping People, Every Gift Matters,” as our campaign theme this year. No gift is too small (or too large!), but every gift will touch thousands of lives. We hope you will help us make this the year that everyone participates in the Federation’s campaign.

So, on behalf of Jerry Konter, Men’s Division Chair, Carole Cohen, Women’s Division Chair, David Byck and Amos Timna, Men’s Division Vice Chairs and Sally Kri ssman and Peggy Yellin, Women’s Division Vice Chairs, I would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, Sweet and Prosperous New Year.

Condo lences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Helene Herman Harris
Who died August 30, 2008
She is survived by her son Stephen H. Harris, daughter Lucille H. (Kay ton Jr.) Smith and her granddaughter Rebecca Lynn Smith, all of Savannah, several nieces and nephews, as well as grand nieces and grand nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Julian B. Harris, and her brother Samuel Herman and his wife Archee.

Remembrances may be made to the charity of choice.

Audrey Galkin Levin
Who died September 4, 2008
She is survived by her daughter Ilene (Michael) Friedman and son Greg (Gayle) Levin both of Atlanta; son Eric (Beth) Levin of Bloom ingdale; granddaughter Mindy of Atlanta; sister Shirley (Arthur) Diamond of Atlanta; brother Joseph (Selena) Galkin of Orlando; companion Arthur “Bub ba” Horovitz; several sisters-in-law; a brother-in-law; many nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Max Levin.

Remembrances may be made to Hospice Savannah or Congregation B’nai Breith Jacob.
Mike Leven

Leven is a native of Boston, is a graduate of Tufts University and has a Master of Science from Boston University. He and his wife, Andrea, reside in Atlanta and have three sons and five grandchildren.


The Savannah Jewish Federation encourages you and your family to participate in the richness and beauty that our synagogues offer.

CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM
Rabbi Kenneth Leitner
9 Lee Boulevard
Savannah
352-4737

CONGREGATION BNAI BRITH JACOB
Rabbi Avigdor Slatos
5444 Abercorn Street
Savannah
354-7721

CONGREGATION MICKVE ISRAEL
Rabbi Arnold Mark Belzer
20 E. Gordon Street
Monterey Square
Savannah
233-1547

Why twice a year is not enough

Remember that feeling?
Renewing your connection with the warmth of community, the richness of familiar tradition, the joy of celebration?

It doesn’t have to be just twice a year.
You can share those feelings, and more, all the rest of the year, too.

Think what you’re missing:
The joy of renewing your spirit and energies in a circle of warm and friendly faces
The comfort of sharing your joys and sorrows in a community of friends
The excitement of learning and growing with like-minded adults
The gratification of helping others in your congregation and community
The satisfaction of passing on your faith and heritage to coming generations
The fulfillment of connecting to our tradition through worship in a congregation of active members

Experiencing all this with people who share your feelings about life and faith.

There’s a congregation near you of people who share your way of living in the world, who look forward to answering your questions about membership, who’d be happy to help you discover why twice a year is not enough

L’SHANAH TOVAH! 5769
Savannah Jewish Federation

Joel Greenberg
President

Adam M. Solender
Executive Director

Lynn Levine
Director
Rosh Hashanah Greetings from Our Rabbinical Leaders

From Rabbi Arnold Mark Belzer
Congregation Mickve Israel

And what kind of year was it? Don’t ask! Some might say: “Oy vey!” Yes, we all watch the news. As every year, there was a lot to complain about. There were monumental problems, two wars (America’s, not to mention violent conflicts of various sizes, across the globe), extreme weather, economic woes, sickness, death, disappointments; the litany of what has gone wrong is very, very long. But I can tell you that for so many, it was a year of growth, of learning, of love, a year of triumphal moments, a year of sublime insights. I have been blessed, as you have been blessed. As we sit in our synagogues with friends (new friends and old friends), and with family, and with children, grandchildren, and just friends—we know we are truly blessed.

Last year I asked members of Congregation Mickve Israel to lift their voices and acknowledge the multitude of God's blessings. With full voices we declared to God in the presence of our fellow Jews and in unison with them, “We are a truly BLESSED generation!” So too, this year we have so much to be thankful for. Some may choose to reflect and complain—but I am convinced that there has been no better time in history to be alive. It is not a perfect world, far from it, but it is a time of incalculable blessings and everyday miracles. As we begin this New Year 5769, in the 257th year of Congregation Mickve Israel and our Savannah Jewish community let us say, “Thank you God! We have been showered with so many blessings!”

This Rosh Hashanah, we begin again, as we come home to our truest selves, to our ancient traditions, may we all find the shelter, the haven, and the understanding we seek.

Welcome home, and Shanah Tovah!

How inspiring it is to see so many on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur! The sense of family and the special bond of Jewishness that connects us all across the globe, the understanding we seek.

From Rabbi Avigdor Slatus
Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob

In Parshas Eikev 10:20 we are presented with the mitzvah to be in awe of and serve Hashem. However, this mitzvah is presented in the singular whereas in Parshas Re’eh 13:3 the identical mitzvah is presented in the plural. The great sage, the Geren Rebbe, states that indeed the mitzvah is for each individual, however, the context of Chapter 13 speaks of the false prophet or dreamer who seeks to cause us to stray from Judaism and the path chosen by G-d. When the effort is made to threaten our faith, to weaken the commitment towards our Torah, then it is a show of unity, a joint expression of the masses to reaffirm our dedication to Hashem, to be imbued with modesty, aware of the majesty of vision. An ideal life is lived not by the mundane needs, our daily responsibilities, which all seem so overwhelming? Work or school, children or parents, where are we to find the strength? It is in the question that the answer is found. The Psalmist is eternally hopeful. In the simple request to experience the sacred, the sacred is open before us.

On these High Holy Days may we be imbued with modesty, aware of the majesty that lies within our grasp, and know that the path of the sacred is always before us. With wishes for a sweet New Year.

From Rabbi Slatus
Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur.

First is the modesty of the request. There is only one thing sought, not a multitude of requests. The Psalmist seeks a place in the presence of the Holy, and in any ideal world, that presence would be life-long. How modest are our requests on these High Holy Days and how permanent do we wish them to be? What interest do they serve and to what end do they bring us? Do they reach beyond the self and bring benefit to others?

In counterpoint to modesty is the majesty of vision. An ideal life is lived in kedusha—in the presence of holiness—but that is the prayer, the desire. How are we to break through our mundane needs, our daily responsibilities, which all seem so overwhelming? Work or school, children or parents, where are we to find the strength? It is in the question that the answer is found. The Psalmist is eternally hopeful. In the simple request to experience the sacred, the sacred is open before us.

Rabbinic experience working in camp out of context, was part of my early Rabbinic experience working in camp and youth group settings. We would sing with great gusto; “Achat shaalti me-et HaShem, oto avakessh; shviti, shviti [hands flung skyward and a great shouted ‘woooooo!’] shviti be vet HaShem, kol yomei chayai, kol yomei chayai yai...yai”. What great fun! And how little did the profundity of the message reach us: “One thing I ask of God, one thing do I request, that I may dwell in God’s house all the days of my life.” As we approach the High Holy Days we should appreciate the uniqueness of these words.

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From Rabbi Kenneth R. Leitner
Congregation Agudath Achim

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How to Build a Lifetime of Jewish Memories

Bizu “Riki” Mullu immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia at the age of twelve. She arrived there alone, ended up in boarding school, and after graduation worked with other young Ethiopians who immigrated to Israel in 1984 as part of Operation Moses. Riki will be speaking at the Savannah Jewish Federation’s Women’s Division Campaign Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, November 11th at 12:15pm at the JEA.

As a child in Ethiopia, Riki spent endless hours watching her father, a blacksmith, shape metals into farm tools and jewelry. Though her father never wanted her to do what he did for a living, she loved watching him and her interest developed into a career in jewelry and Judaica design. Her work reflects both her Ethiopian life and heritage and her life growing up in Israel.

Riki has since moved to New York, but she splits her time between Manhattan and Israel, where her parents and siblings all have been resettled. She also has formed an organization to help Ethiopian Jews who have left Israel to assimilate into the Jewish community in America and keep their connections to Israel. She speaks all over the country about her experiences and the challenges facing Ethiopian Jewry.

The mother-daughter team of Joan Bloom and Stacey Schlafstein are co-chairing the Women’s Luncheon this year and are hard at work on a special event. Babysitting will be available at the JEA during the event so that everyone will be able to attend.

The PJ Library

Sign up today and receive a top rated Jewish book or CD FREE every month. It is the perfect way to share time with your children, share our heritage, and learn the rich values of Judaism.

For children 6 months to seven years of age
For more information and to sign up go to www.savj.org

The PJ Library is a gift from Jane and Leon & Nancy Slotin, The Harold Grinspoon Foundation & the Savannah Jewish Federation

GILEE SHABBAT 2008
Friday, October 31st
Congregation Agudath Achim

Established in 1992, the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange (GILEE) seeks to enhance interagency cooperation between State of GA law enforcement agencies and the police force of the State of Israel; and to offer an educational professional program to senior Israeli law enforcement officials in Georgia

GILEE SHABBAT
CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM
SERVICES: 6PM
DINNER: 7PM
Followed by a lecture and question and answers from some of Israel’s leading law enforcement officers

RSVP to 352-4737
$15 @ person

Ethiopian Émigré to Speak at Women’s Division Luncheon

New savj.org Website

After years of hardly having a web presence, the Federation has made a bold move into the twenty-first century with a website that gives visitors a comprehensive picture of both our vibrant Savannah Jewish community and our active Jewish Federation. The new website includes extensive information about the community for people considering relocating to Savannah, including links to all of our local synagogues and Jewish schools, links to articles about Jewish life in Savannah, as well as links to information about area attractions, festivals, arts and culture and more.

More importantly for Savannahians, the website allows us to find out what’s going on right here at home — what kind of programs the Federation has coming up, what other community programs are on the calendar, what volunteer opportunities are available — as well as what’s going on in the Jewish world at large. The website has a wonderful community calendar, where local organizations can submit events online to be added to the listings. The site has detailed information about Federation programs and initiatives such as The PJ Library, including online registration. Also included on www.savj.org are recent and archived copies of the Savannah Jewish News and a news page updated daily with links to the most important articles of the day about Israel and Jewish life throughout the world.

One of the most significant new features of the website is the addition of e-commerce. Using our totally secure electronic payment processing system, you now can make and pay for pledges to the annual campaign online or make testamentary gifts to Federation funds using the online system. You no longer have to come to the JEA to fill out a form — simply go online to www.savj.org and select “Ways to Give” then “Donate to a Specific Fund” and fill out the form. You don’t even have to get dressed! When you’re all done, we’ll mail the card to the person being honored or the family of the person being memorialized like we always do.

But we’re not done with the site just yet. Watch carefully, because in the next few weeks, the “Under Construction” signs will be coming down and we’ll be unveiling the JEA side of the website.

As with everything we do at the Savannah Jewish Federation, we really would like to know what you think! We’d love your feedback about the website and your suggestions for how we can improve it to make it more useful for our community or for visitors from other places. You can click on “Contact the Webmaster” on the homepage of the website or send an e-mail to lynn@savj.org or adam@savj.org with suggestions or comments.

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2008 Speaker’s Series

Sunday, October 5, 2008
7:30 PM at the JEA

Would You Like to Pass the Unwritten Rules of the Game on to Your Children?
Harvey J. Coleman

President & founder of Coleman Management Consultants in Atlanta, Mr. Coleman possesses a wealth of experience working at America’s leading corporations and military organizations including IBM, Xerox and the U.S. Army Security Agency on issues of multi-culturalism.

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

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

A Movie & Beer!

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

Oct. 2nd - The Policeman (HaShoter Azulai) - Constable Abraham Azulai, of the Jaffa police department, is at the end of his contract and hoping for a renewal and promotion, both of which his superiors are determined not to grant. Azulai’s incompetence is not a result of lack of skill, but rather that of a soft heart and kindness. When he stops a driver for some kind of traffic violation, he writes him up, but it’s not the driver who ends up paying the fine; it’s Azulai himself. Obviously, having such a cop around is very good for the crime business, and once word gets around that they are about to retire Azulai, an emergency meeting of the Jaffa criminals’ “board of directors” is called to “save his job.”

Oct. 16th - Only Dogs Run Free (Rak Klavim Ratzim Hofshai) - A successful lawyer who has traumatic memories from his army service is testifying against his best friend from his unit. His wife, a social worker, is trying to save a poor family named Siton. The couple’s life collapses when the wife gets raped by a gang.

Oct. 30th - The Barbecue People (HaMangalstlim) - A family of Iraqi-Israelis, each with his or her own weaknesses and determinations, gathers for an Independence Day picnic. Their background stories are presented, reaching back as little as a few days or as far back as the War of Independence and the old country before that. The stories interlock in ways that even they never realize.

All movies begin at 7:00 p.m.
FREE to Members
FREE beer, wine, beverages, popcorn & peanuts

Movie & Beer Night sponsored by Nancy and Lawrence Gutstein

Challenging the Myth of the Perfect Child
A Look at Personality and Applications for Parenting

October 28th - 7:00 p.m.
FREE and Open to the Public

There is no one “right way” to productively communicate with our children. Good parents come in many styles, each one bringing strengths to parenting. Keeping in mind that a child’s personality may be different than his or her parents begs the question: how does a parent’s personality interact with their child’s and therefore impact parenting techniques and strategies?

Joan Dane-Kellogg, LCSW and Louisa Laird, LCSW will help guide participants through the basic concepts of the Myers-Briggs Personality Inventory (MMPI) and how to apply them to the parenting process. Discussed will be how each of the 16 personality types has a distinctive way of relating to the world and making decisions. Understanding these can bring insight to ours and our child’s attitudes and behavior. With practical ideas and real-life examples, participants will focus on recognizing traits among the types and how to adapt parenting styles and communication accordingly.

Join us for an educational and enlightening evening as we share ideas about families and parenting.

JEA Donations

JEA BUILDING FUND
In honor of Don Kole’s recovery
Philip & Evelyn Scharf

JEA GENERAL DONATIONS
In memory of Shim Greenzoltz
Emily Voegtlin
In honor of Don Kole’s recovery
Isadore & Edith Karf
Mary Friedman

JACK & MIRIAM LEVY CONCERT FUND
In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy’s anniversary
Joanne & Barney Portman

JEA FITNESS FUND
In memory of Herbert Traub
Philip & Evelyn Scharf
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.

Friday, November 16th
8:30 pm
FREE and Open to the Public

"The Life and Music of Johnny Mercer," program presented by David Oppenheim & Ralph Price—Thursday, Nov. 14th 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

Savannah Arts Academy Silver Winds Ensemble—Tuesday, Nov. 18th at 7:30 p.m. JEA

Folkman/Guitarist Hank Weisman—
Thursday, Nov. 20th at 1:30 p.m. (After the Senior Adult Lunch). JEA

Member Appreciation Day

Sunday, October 19th
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

What better time to reap the benefits that all of you provide us than at Sukkot! We want to thank you for all that you do for the JEA.

Please join us for brunch in the Sukkah and enjoy family swim time and other activities.

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

You are cordially invited . . .

Please join us for Senior Adult Lunch every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 12:30 pm. Good food, great conversation and stimulating programs on Thursdays. Over 55? Make sure you are getting the Senior Adult Newsletter (355-8111).

Reservations: 355-8111.

Meet Chelsea Mitchell!
The Smiling New Face at the Reception Desk

You’ve probably noticed a new face at our reception desk. This bright young woman is Chelsea Mitchell and if you think she looks familiar — she is! Chelsea comes to us from the Fitness Center Desk and brings lots of customer care experience with her.

Chelsea is a native Savannahian. She graduated from Jenkins High School and is currently working on her degree in Business Administration at Savannah Technical College.

In her spare time, Chelsea loves to read, enjoys hip-hop dancing and can’t wait to take the next Ballroom Dancing course! She’s also a big Jacksonville Jaguars fan.

We’re excited to have her. Stop by and say “hello.”

SkyeLITE Jazz Band Performs Free Concert

Thursday, October 30th - 7:30 pm

The Savannah Arts Academy SkyeLITE Jazz Band (SJB) has been delighting audiences around the area for many years. SJB is directed by Mr. Michael Hutchison and has performed with jazz greats Donald Byrd, Ben Tucker, Teddy Adams, Jimmy Heath, Ravi Coltrane, Odean Pope and others. Since its inception, members of SJB have traveled to such places as Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta.

The SJB was nominated by the Honorable Senator Max Cleland to represent Georgia and perform for the “Georgia State Day” in Washington, D.C. The SJB also performed on April 14, 1999 at the John F. Kennedy Center.

Many of SJB students are selected for All-State Jazz Band or Concert Band during their tenure at Savannah Arts Academy. Former members are now attending many prestigious universities and conservatories.

Free and open to the public
**TEEN LATE NIGHT!**

**Saturday, October 25th**
**8-10 PM**

Join all your friends at the JEA for a Teen Late Night!
We’ll have a bonfire, food, games, friends and tons of fun!

Call Ashley for more info, 355-8111

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**Enjoy Mother’s Morning Out**

**Babysitting @ the JEA**
Mon.-Fri.—8 am - Noon
Sundays—9 am - Noon

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**Try These Great New Exercise Classes!**

**BLT: Buns, Legs & Thighs**
Lighten those saddle bags for a lean, leggy look for slim winter pants.

**Tuesday @ 10:15 am in the gym and Thursday @ 6:45 pm in the Dance Studio.**

Karen and Elaine—Instructors.

**SWAP: Step, Weights, Abs & Punch**
A lively circuit-style of aerobics class that moves you from one technique to the next using steps, weights, mats, rings and things.

10:30 am Thursday in the Gym.

Karen is the instructor.

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**Sunday Zumba:** Zumba means to move fast and have fun. Wednesday Zumba fun has doubled!

**Wed. at 7 pm & Sunday at 10 am with Christina as your instructor. Both in the dance studio.**

**THERE IS BABYSITTING FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE. 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

All classes are free to members. Non-members may drop-in for $8/class or $50 per 8 classes.

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**Fitness Schedule**

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**Are You Getting Results?**

By Elaine Fox, Health & Wellness Director

Ok, so you have committed to lifestyle changes that will improve your health, reduce your stress levels, and develop more strength and a leaner figure. You promised yourself that you would eat healthier, exercise and be good to yourself. How are you doing?

There are many indicators of your progress. Some are obvious and some are not. You can readily see that you are wearing a smaller size, have a flatter midriff, or bigger biceps. You may have noticed that you sleep more soundly, are able to let stressful situations roll off your back, and have more energy. You may not be able to detect a drop in your blood pressure, or lower cholesterol or blood sugar levels which are other benefits of increasing your activity and watching what you eat. A visit to your doctor will give that input. These are tangible signs that your fitness has improved.

Sometimes, though, we keep coming to the gym and doing the same things week after week, and don’t see any of the above results. This can be discouraging and you may stop coming into the gym, the very thing you committed to. But, are you keeping track of your workouts? It can be helpful if you do. The JEA Fitness Staff is prepared to help you reach your goals. We have workout records that can help you keep track of your workouts. This is a simple way to track your progress. You’ll see that you can walk further and longer, lift more weight, do more reps, and stretch a little further.

Asking for a fitness assessment is another way to check your progress. By establishing a base line you can see your progress as time goes by. Just ask Elaine and her Staff to give you a Fitness Assessment. It only takes about 30 minutes.

Good Health to You! - Elaine
Art at the JEA

Lilly Harms
October 1-31, 2008

Lilly is a 2005 MFA painting graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design. She attended Armstrong Atlantic State University in 1985 to major in art for two years and completed her BFA in Painting in 2001. In the interim of attending Armstrong University and Savannah College of Art and Design, she received private lessons from Mrs. George F. Dutton of Georgia.

Lilly says, “Being from the south, I respond to large trees and am drawn toward things involving water or flow; toward the organic. What I notice are the negative and positive spaces the figure-ground relationships create, the power of push and pull.”

She works primarily in oil medium on panel and most recently has developed a body of work using a small and large format. A minimal-abstractionist, her paintings are rich in color with a variation of texture and a focus on light and shadow. Color is experimental using many layers and glazes.

“The work I make is a product of my subconscious, where I have been and where I am. It is expressive of who I am. The work evokes the power in embracing the mystery of life. It is a trace of the traceless from a place of the placeless,” says Lilly.

Artist reception Sunday, October 5th 5:30-7:30 pm

October 2008


Sept. 28 Zumba-10 am
Zumba-10 am

Sept. 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah—Close at 4 pm, daycare closes 5 pm Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm Aquastar: 10 am Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am Sr. Fitness: 10:30 am Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm Mah-Jong: 1 pm

Sept. 30 Rosh Hashanah Day 1—Closed

Oct. 1 Rosh Hashanah Day 2—Closed

2 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Pilates: 8:30 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Mah-Jong: 10:30 am
Senior Fitness: 10:30 am
Sr. Lunch/Program: 12:30 pm
Evening Water Aerobics: 6:30 pm
Yoga for a Healthy Back: 7 pm
Movie & Beer Night: 7 pm

3 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Yam Kippur—Closed

4 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Yam Kippur—Closed

5 Zumba: 10 am
Art Gallery Reception:
Lily Harms—5:30 pm
JEA Speaker Series:
Harvey J. Coleman - 7:30 pm

6 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Sr. Fitness: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Mah-Jong: 1 pm
Water Aerobics: 6:30 pm

7 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Pilates: 8:30 am
Kibitzers Club—10 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Mah-Jong: 1 pm

8 Kol Nidre—Close at 4 pm
Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Bridge: 1 pm

9 Yom Kippur—Closed

10 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Yom Kippur—Closed

11 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Yam Kippur—Closed

12 Zumba: 10 am

13 Erev Sukkot— Close at 5 pm
Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Sr. Fitness: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Mah-Jong: 1 pm

14 Sukkot—Closed

15 Sukkot—Closed

16 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Pilates: 8:30 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Evening Water Aerobics: 6:30 pm
Sr. Lunch/Program: 12:30 pm
Movie & Beer Night: 7 pm
Yoga for a Healthy Back: 7 pm
Young Jewish Savannah Sukkah Party-6 pm

17 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
18 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
19 Zumba: 10 am
Member Appreciation Day-11 am

20 Erev Shemini Atzeret—Close at 5 pm
Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Sr. Fitness: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Mah-Jong: 1 pm

21 Shemini Atzeret— Closed

22 Simchat Torah— Closed

23 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Pilates: 8:30 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Mah-Jong: 10:30 am
Senior Fitness: 10:30 am
Evening Water Aerobics: 6:30 pm
Sr. Lunch/Program: 12:30 pm
Yoga for a Healthy Back: 7 pm

24 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
25 Teen Late Night- 8 pm

26 Zumba: 10 am

27 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Aquastar: 10 am
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Sr. Fitness: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Mah-Jong: 1 pm

28 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Pilates: 8:30 am
Kibitzers Club—10 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Yiddish: 3 pm
Pajama Parenting Class- 7 pm

29 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Gentle Yoga: 10:30 am
Senior Lunch: 12:30 pm
Bridge: 1 pm

30 Indoor Pool: 7 am-9 pm
Pilates: 8:30 am
Aquastar: 10 am
Mah-Jong: 10:30 am
Evening Water Aerobics: 6:30 pm
Sr. Lunch/Program: 12:30 pm
Movie & Beer Night: 7 pm
Yoga for a Healthy Back: 7 pm
Sketlife Jazz Band- 7 pm

31 Indoor Pool: 7 am-4 pm
Aquastar: 10 am

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.
Young Jewish Savannah

YJS recently held a happy hour at Bona Bella Marina on August 21st. More than 30 people turned out on a very rainy evening to be with friends, old and new!

Blake Weinberger, Michelle Russo, Matthew Allen, Debbie Sorkin, Robyn Leibowitz

Don’t Miss Our Next Event

Pizza, beer, wine & Fun!
Thursday, October 16
6:30pm in the JEA Sukkah
Sign up online at www.savj.org

On The Personal Side

Rachel Rosenberg, daughter of Brenda and Stanley, sister of Michael, received her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Georgia State University in Atlanta on August 3, 2008.

Shlogn Kapores

Shlogn Kapores is a ceremony for repentance conducted the morning before Kol Nidre between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The following are two extracts from oral histories in our collection describing this tradition as it was performed in Savannah decades ago:

…We were talking before about old customs and I mentioned a word that opened your eyes and I said shlogn kapores which I, between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur there is a custom and it is called shlogn kapores. When I was a child, maybe the advantage being that we had a grocery store, we had a coop full of chickens outside. There were certain prayers to be said and the chicken was swung over your head, yelling and screaming, but, and the children got hysterical for that, the children being us. The troubles, I guess, so all the kapores was supposed to be going in that chicken, were going to the chicken and then that chicken was given away to a non-Jew.

…I can tell you one custom that I think is probably discontinued. If it is not completely discontinued, it’s dwindled, and that is before the high holidays. Mother used to get live chickens and would tie the legs together and say a prayer as she waved the chicken over your head and the prayer was “zeir kuperusi” which means this is a sacrifice for you, and then of course we killed the chicken and ate it… When I say we killed it, we had it killed by a “shochet”. A “shochet” was qualified to kill it and used a special knife and so forth, but I mean we used it, the chicken, for food later but that chicken was supposed to be a sacrifice for you just like in the Old Temple when you brought your sacrifice to the Temple, you brought a sheep or a goat… And the chicken didn’t like it by the way. The wings would flap and the chicken would cluck. And they didn’t like it at all but we went through this - all this was part of a custom that you asked about and people that may listen to this in future years probably will not even know what that is.


The Savannah Jewish News is a publication of the Savannah Jewish Congregation.

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Savannah Jewish News
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Savannah, GA 31402-0398
Ph: (912) 232-1490
Fax: (912) 232-9438
www.savj.org
Wishing Family & Friends
A Happy, Healthy New Year
John, Sue, Ben & Gabriel Adler

Wishing Health and Happiness for All
Murray & June Arkin,
Children & Grandchildren

May the Coming Year be Filled with
Health and Happiness for All
Murray & June Arkin
Children & Grandchildren

Best Wishes for a
Healthy, Prosperous New Year
Barbara & Leon Aronson

Rabbi Arnold Mark, Arlene,
Nathan, Allison, Cecilia & Lillian Belzer
Wish a Healthy & Happy New Year
To the Savannah Jewish Community

A Happy & Healthy New Year to All
Allen, Nicole, Erik, Aviva,
Noah & Ari Cooper

Wishing Friends and Family
A Safe & Prosperous New Year
Howard & Pat Cooper

Happy New Year from Bernice Elman
Patrick L. & Brenda Elman Salter
Marsha, Chuck & Andy Bernstein
Larry, Michelle,
Morgan & Mason Bernstein

A Happy and Healthy New Year
Marilyn and Jim Farley

Wishing All our Friends a
Peaceful New Year Filled with
Sweetness, Health and Happiness
Sandy & Marcia Berens & Family
Ceil Kane

Robert Friedman
Wishes His Family & Friends
Shana Tova

L'Shana Tov
Nancy & Paul Feldman
Jessie & Dan Feldman
Amanda, Eiran & Isaac Gorodeski

Sharon & Murray Galin
Wish All Their Relatives & Friends
A Healthy & Safe New Year

Healthy and Happy New Year to All
Merry, Richard, Lisa Bodzinower,
Erica & Raanon Gal

Best Wishes to All Our Friends
For A Healthy and Happy New Year
Sherri & Neil Brecker

A Happy & Healthy New Year
Drs. Adelle Burnsed-Geffen &
Ted Geffen

A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous
New Year is Wished for Each of You
Reggie & Melvyn Goldstein

A Healthy, Happy, Prosperous
New Year
Sally, Steve, Greg and Matt Greenberg
Wish Their Family and Friends
A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous
New Year

A Happy and Healthy New Year
To All of Our Family and Friends
Joe, Toby, Sara Fay & Josh

Best Wishes for a
Happy & Healthy New Year
Skippy, Sandy, Marc, Karen,
Ashley & Parker Goodman
Ken, Jill & Benjamin Goldstein

Best Wishes to My Family and Friends
For a Joyful and Healthy New Year
Margie Gordon

Happy New Year
To Our Dear Family and Friends
Herbie & Esther Blumenthal

Wishing Our Family All
A Very Happy New Year
Reggie & Melvyn Goldstein

Simone and Leo Center
Wish Friends and Family
A Very Happy New Year

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy and Sweet New Year
Louise and Freddie Harkavy

Happy Holidays
AM Goldkrand
Judith Goldkrand Cheskin, Lucy & Joy
Howard Goldkrand & Beth Coleman

We Wish All our Family and Friends
A Healthy, Happy and
Peaceful New Year
Doris & Arnie Goldstein

Jay, Courtney & Hunter Goldstein
Wish Everyone a
Healthy and Happy New Year
2008 L’SHANA TOVA 5769

Sara Heyman, Harold Heyman, Kevin, Michelle & Avi Heyman Wish Friends & Family a Happy New Year

Wishing All
A Happy & Healthy New Year
Gale & David Hirsh

Wishing all our Friends
A Happy New Year
Joe & Vera Hoffman

Wishing Family & Friends
A Happy New Year
Annette Karp

Happy New Year
From the Klugmans of Wheeler Street

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Buddy and Gloria Kulbersh

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy and Healthy New Year
Elaine and Sam Radetsky

Jeffrey, Stacy, Darryl and Stephen Lasky
Wish All their Relatives and Friends
A Happy New Year

Best Wishes to All
For a Happy & Healthy New Year!
Lynn Levine

Sara Heyman, Harold Heyman, Kevin, Michelle & Avi Heyman Wish Friends & Family a Happy New Year

Dayle and Aaron Levy,
Their Children and Grandchildren
Send Holiday Wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year
David and Lynn Reeves

Lynne & Mark Levine Wish All Their Relatives & Friends
A Happy, Prosperous and Healthy New Year

Our Warmest Best Wishes
For a Healthy & Peaceful Year
Walter & Lillian Lowe

Wishing All a Happy and Healthy New Year
Barbara and Lew Kooden
Wish All their Relatives and Friends
A Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year

Wishing Our Family and Friends
A Happy and Healthy New Year
Shana Tova to All Our Friends
Evelyn & Phil Scharf and Family

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Anne Scheer and Family

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy New Year
Sandy & Marcus Seligman

Wishing All a Happy and Healthy New Year
Marilyn Serls

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rotkow,
Stephanie & Eric
Wish All Their Relatives & Friends
A Happy and Prosperous New Year

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Larry & Phyllis Mintz

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Sam and Barry Plotkin

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Shernoff
Jason & Heather
Wish Their Family & Friends
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

A Very Happy New Year
Ruth and Adele (Aviva) Stein
Brett and Cass Sawyer

A Healthy & Happy New Year To All
Arlene, Allan, Jami, Scott,
Brett, Elizabeth, Skylar, Madelyn

A Happy & Healthy New Year
The Kuhrs

The Kulbersh Family:
Paul, Harriet, Brian, Jennifer,
Dana, Eric, Ross and Alyssa
Wish Everyone A Happy and Healthy New Year

A Very Happy New Year
Ruth and Adele (Aviva) Stein
Brett and Cass Sawyer

A Happy & Happy New Year To All
Arlene, Allan, Jami, Scott,
Brett, Elizabeth, Skylar, Madelyn

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Larry & Phyllis Mintz

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Sam and Barry Plotkin

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Shernoff
Jason & Heather
Wish Their Family & Friends
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

A Very Happy New Year
Ruth and Adele (Aviva) Stein
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A Healthy & Happy New Year
The Kuhrs

The Kulbersh Family:
Paul, Harriet, Brian, Jennifer,
Dana, Eric, Ross and Alyssa
Wish Everyone A Happy and Healthy New Year

A Very Happy New Year
Ruth and Adele (Aviva) Stein
Brett and Cass Sawyer

A Healthy & Happy New Year To All
Arlene, Allan, Jami, Scott,
Brett, Elizabeth, Skylar, Madelyn

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Larry & Phyllis Mintz

Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Sam and Barry Plotkin

Wishing Friends and Family
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Shernoff
Jason & Heather
Wish Their Family & Friends
A Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year

A Very Happy New Year
Ruth and Adele (Aviva) Stein
Brett and Cass Sawyer

A Healthy & Happy New Year
The Kuhrs

The Kulbersh Family:
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Wishing Family and Friends
A Happy New Year
Sam and Barry Plotkin
Wishing Friends A Happy, Healthy & Successful New Year
Ed, Mary, Miriam & Maryah Thompson

Best Wishes to All for a Year of Good Health, Happiness & Peace
Herbert, Teresa & Rachel Victor

Wishing Friends A Happy, Healthy New Year
Jean, Julian, Michael and Lauren Weitz
Wish All Their Friends and Family A Happy and Healthy New Year

Wishing Friends & Family A Happy, Healthy New Year
Jane Winter

Wishing Friends & Family A Happy, Healthy & Sweet New Year
Harold, Peggy, Josh & Steffi Yellin

Wishing Our Friends A Happy and Healthy New Year
Steffi & Sol Zerden

Wishing the entire Savannah Jewish community a New Year filled with love, laughter, and peace.
Sarah Denmark, Adam, David, & Aaron Solender

L’Shana Tova Y’all!
Cookie, Barry and Megan Gale

Wishes of Health, Peace and Prosperity
Doris & Martin Greenberg
Sarah, Seth, Hannah & Alex Kovensky
Laura, Michael, Sam & Ben Greenberg

The Kramer Family Extends a Shana Tova to All!

L’Shanah Tovah to ALL!
Sweetest Blessings from Four Generations of the Family Lebos

We Wish You a Happy, Healthy New Year
Arlene Nash
Mind, David, Lily and Truman Nash
Rebecca, Jamie, Jessica and Ben Sentman

Wishing Everyone a Happy, Healthy, Sweet New Year 5769
May You be Inscribed and Sealed for a Good Year!
Sharon & Moises Paz
Raanon & Erica
Sivan, Yehoshuah, Moshe Tovia & Tehillah, David, Tamar & Aliza
Including our machatunim, Richard & Merry Bodziner

Wishing Friends and Family A Happy and Healthy New Year
Toby Hollenberg
Melissa & Jeff, Ellie & Jessa Neil

The Best Cleaners
DISH CLEANERS & LAUNDRY
WATERS AVENUE AT WALDBURG
MERCE PLAZA ON WILMINGTON ISLAND
4833 WATERS AVE. (MEDICAL ARTS)
LARGO AT ABERCORN
ALTERATIONS BY PA • HUGH MINKOWITZ, OWNER
New Year’s Greeting 5769 from Marcy Konter, President JEA

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the Jewish Educational Alliance, I would like to extend our most heartfelt wishes for a Healthy and Sweet New Year!

Each year we wish, most importantly, for good health for our families and friends. Our good health and the well being of those we love and care about are paramount during our holiday reflections. Maybe this year we can try to keep our minds as well as our bodies in good health. Let’s all strive to exercise our minds differently in the New Year. I believe branching out a little can result in a new outlook and a more positive attitude about our everyday world.

Take a class, join a club, volunteer, or attend an event that you’ve never been to in the past in an effort to “Sweeten Up” you life in the New Year.

You will learn new things, you will meet new and interesting people, and you may just feel a little more fulfilled.

As we wish for continued happiness, health, and success in the coming year, try going about it a little differently, with a new kind of zest. Being a part of the Savannah Jewish community is easy and welcoming! Check out the calendar at each of the synagogues and at the JEA and you will find an abundance of new ways to become involved Jewishly.

I look forward to seeing you at the “J”!

Shana Tova
Marcy Konter

Meet Ben Kweskin

Arriving with the New Year, 5769, is the Savannah Jewish Federation’s new Programming Associate, Benjamin Kweskin. Ben is moving to Savannah from Charlotte, North Carolina, to join the Federation staff, where he will be assisting Director Lynn Levine and Executive Director Adam Solender with all aspects of the Federation’s programming and initiatives, including the annual campaign, the Savannah Jewish News, Trading Places, Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance, Yom HaShoah, the Joan and Murray Gefen Memorial Jewish Film Festival and newer initiatives such as The PJ Library, Young Jewish Savannah and the continuing Jewish education program for teens.

Ben recently received a master’s degree from the University of Denver with a concentration in Comparative Politics, Middle East, and also graduated from Appalachian State University with a degree in political science, where he was instrumental in the formation of a Hillel chapter on campus. While studying in Denver, Ben taught Hebrew at a local religious school.

Despite his relative youth, Ben already has a long history of involvement in Jewish and Zionist causes. He has held internships and temporary positions with organizations such as the Consul General of Israel in Philadelphia, the Movement for Quality Government in Jerusalem and the Zionist Organization of America. Ben also spent ten months in Israel on Project OTZMA, where as a volunteer he taught Ethiopian immigrants computer skills, tutored math to low-income students and trained other immigrants in English conversation. He is fluent in Hebrew and eager to use those skills whenever and wherever possible.

Please join us in welcoming Ben to Savannah and to the Federation staff!

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How does Hadassah connect us to Israel and to each other?

one by one by one

One informed activist
One passionate voice
One act of tzedakah

Make a commitment to make a difference this year.

L’Schanah Tovah 5769

Your actions, multiplied by 300,000 Hadassah members, Associates and supporters around the world, take on new power.

Magnify the effect of your commitment. Add your voice to ours.

L’tzadekor Shelanu!
From The Shalom School

In this, my first article of the new school year, I wish to report that our Shalom School, the supplementary religious school in Savannah jointly sponsored by Congregations Agudath Achim and Mickve Israel, is off to a flying start. Classes began on September 7, 2008 with registration increasing slightly this year to more than eighty students.

This new year will be filled with exciting activities for Jewish learning. I am pleased to report that we co-sponsored with the Savannah Jewish Federation the first program in the Federation’s emerging continuing Jewish education program for teens. Our initial program consisted this month of a two part series on Judaism and the Environment. On September 7, Melinda Stein presented a wonderful class on this timely subject at Congregation Mickve Israel. In attendance were our eighth graders as well as several en participant from other congregations in Savannah. We pondered Jewish teachings on our responsibilities in protecting the environment and discussed our traditions. To follow up on our understanding of Judaism’s link to the environment, the class took the second part of the program, a special kayak tour of the Tybee marshes, led by a trained naturalist, on Sunday morning, September 21. The tour was followed by a beachside picnic at the home of Barbara and Philip Schwartz to conclude a wonderful experience for our new high schoolers. We are excited about this new program and are proud to have helped to get it underway.

Other new initiatives this year will be frequent “Breakfasts with the Board,” to share new programs and gain parent feedback on school activities, including our newly integrated Hebrew program and continuing experiences with the CHAI Curriculum. This curriculum, which stresses the three cornerstones of Judaism: Torah, Talmud, and the need for sensitivity towards all of mankind. Rambam students learn and the importance of respect towards each other as fellow students as well, they are giving attention to the importance of using this time prior to Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. They are learning how these days of opportunity are a blessing as they encourage the Jewish people to look within themselves and grow. Not only is each class concentrating on some of the specific prayers, but as well, they are giving attention to the importance of using this time prior to Rosh Hashana to realize that there is room for change and how they should go about making these changes.

Rambam emphasizes improvement within their Jewish community. As we approach the High Holy Days, our Rambam students are preparing for this significant time as they are learning about the meaning of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. They are learning how these days of opportunity are a blessing as they encourage the Jewish people to look within themselves and grow. Not only is each class concentrating on some of the specific prayers, but as well, they are giving attention to the importance of using this time prior to Rosh Hashana to realize that there is room for change and how they should go about making these changes.

Rambam emphasizes improvement of character, the importance of respect and the need for sensitivity towards all of mankind. Rambam students learn that there are Jews all over Savannah and all over the world. Our students understand that all Jews make up Klal Yisroel and their respect towards each other as fellow students is the same respect they should have towards every Jew.

It is my sincerest hope and prayer that at this crucial time of year, the Rambam students will see all that they learn practiced within Rambam and within their Jewish community. A happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all.

L’Shana Tova from Rambam

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Wishing you a happy, healthy New Year!

From our family to yours... the Board of Directors, Faculty and Staff of Rambam Day School wish you and your family a L’Shana Tova!

May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for the coming year!
Gratefully We Thank Our Contributors

By Arlene Belzer

Mickve Israel’s annual Food Fest, now known as The Shalom Y’All Jewish Food Festival™ (the largest Jewish Food Festival in the world) will take place on October 26, 2008, in Forsyth Park.

Delicious Jewish foods from around the world will be offered once again. We start at 11:00 am, so bring your appetite and

In Memory of Rose Rudikoff
In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Matt Goldkran
In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Don Kole
In Honor of Midge Schildkraut
Arlene & Allman Ratner

THE MAZEL PHILANTHROPIC FUND
In Honor of the Anniversary of Ester & Freiddie
Merry & Richard Bodziner

ED & LINDA WEXLER FAMILY

ARCHIVES FUND
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Harry & Eric Meyerhoff
In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Don Kole
Merry & Richard Bodziner

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In Honor of Jeff & LeeAnn Kole Rosaline & Buddy Portman

ALLAN & ARLENE RATNER FAMILY FUND
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In Memory of Helene Harris – mother of Lucille Smith
In Memory of Madeline Walker – mother of Natalie Deriso
In Memory of Rosalie Cotler – wife of Alan Cotler
In Memory of Buddy Joselove – Husband of Ellen Joselove
In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Murray Galin

In Honor of the Speedy Recovery of Matt Goldkran
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In Honor of the 60th Birthday of Julie Metzger
In Honor of Robin Wexler’s Birthday
In Honor of the 60th Birthday of Julie Metzger
In Memory of Sol Zerden’s Father
In Memory of Joanna Rich’s Brother
Ed Wexler

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CONNECTIONS MADE DAILY.

It happens when your kids go to camp at the JEA.
When a Jewish family attends the community Shabbaton.
When Savannah 20- and 30-somethings Flock to a Young Jewish Savannah Sukkah party.
It’s a Jewish connection. It’s a celebration of Jewish life.
It’s the Savannah Jewish Federation.