

Columbia Jewish News

Issue 6 | Volume XL | November & December 2015

Thank you NECHAMA
and IsraAID
see pages 4-5

Photo courtesy of NECHAMA.

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HOORAY FOR

IRMO HANUKKAH PARTY

Tuesday, December 8 at XXX pm at the Harbison Rec Center

Back for a second year! Spin the dreidle, eat a latke, and celebrate with friends on the Irmo side of town. We'll have kid's crafts and PJ Library fun. Everyone welcome.



VODKA & LATKES (& Jazz Too!)

Thursday, December 10 at 7:30pm

Enjoy signature drinks and fresh fried latkes as part of the JCC's 10th anniversary celebration with Muscian Amos Hoffman. \$10 members; \$20 guests



LIGHTS, COCOA, & SUFGANYOT

Sunday, December 13 at 5 pm

It's a JCC tradition! Join friends for jelly doughnuts, fresh fried latkes, and hot cocoa as we celebrate Hanukkah together. We'll light the giant JCC menorah at 5:15; bring your smaller menorah and candles if you'd like!



SPREAD THE LIGHT

Sunday, December 13

Join us for a Day of Mitzvot, or make a donation of \$18 to help ongoing community projects. See page 5 for a full schedule.



RSVP at <http://bit.ly/2015Hanukkah>



Celebrate!

Join us Thursday, December 10, 2015
at 7:30 PM
to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the
Katie and Irwin Kahn
Jewish Community Center
on the Gerry Sue and Norman Arnold
Jewish Community Campus
306 Flora Drive



Enjoy a fun evening of great jazz music from Israeli Jazz Artist Amos Hoffman and his band, in conjunction with the release of his newest CD, "Back to the City."

RSVP now to enjoy great music, snacks, beverages, "Vodka & Latkes," drawings for JCC apparel, and a great time with friends.

\$10.00 for JCC members
\$20.00 for the general community

Please RSVP to the JCC Welcome Desk
by calling 803-787-2023,
emailing Debby at debbym@jcccolumbia.org
or by coming to the JCC to purchase your tickets.



Mazal Tov!

*Congratulations to
Robin Rudman,
Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC
Fitness & Sports Director,
for finishing
the New York Marathon!*

The *Columbia Jewish News* is a bi-monthly publication of the Columbia Jewish Federation.



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We welcome all voices from our community. If you would like to contribute an article, life cycle announcement, photos, or advertising, visit www.jewishcolumbia.org for submission guidelines and advertising rates.



"We may not always agree with the politicians of Israel, but we must support the people of Israel."

A Tale of Two Tragedies

Barry Abels,
CJF and JCC Executive Director

My dear friends,

The last several weeks have been a trying time for all of us. The historic flooding impacted everyone in some way. Although we are on the way to recovery, for some it will be a long journey. We are fortunate that the Federation and JCC were able to play helpful roles during this disaster and will continue to be available where we can be of service. One of the positive experiences to come out of this catastrophic event was being introduced to Nechama, a Jewish Disaster Response. We were pleased to be able to house the numerous volunteers who came from around the country to help Columbians, Jewish and non-Jewish, dig out of the mud, and cleanup after the flood. Coupled with young people from AmeriCorps, Nechama, worked on over 60 homes while here. Thank you to everyone who provided food for these wonderful folks. They constantly let us know that the support and accommodations we provided them made them feel very welcome and appreciated. Nechama was in Columbia for almost one month. Additionally, we also benefitted from the services of IsraAid, an Israeli-based relief organization that sends volunteers all over the world. Partnering with Team Rubicon, a group of ex-U.S. military volunteers, IsraAid also spend over 10 days cleaning up, moving ruined furniture, and tearing out damage flooring and sheetrock. They have also worked other disasters in the U.S., including Hurricane Sandy and the recent Houston floods. They go wherever there is a disaster. Let us also note that with all of the recent disasters to hit the United States, the only non-U.S. volunteers came from Israel. Our heartfelt thanks go out to IsraAid and Nechama for reaching out and coming to our aid.



Image courtesy of IsraAID

But as we recover from this disaster, on the other side of the globe, Israeli citizens are again suffering from indiscriminate attacks from knife-wielding Palestinians or from others running into people with vehicles. Many have commented that this may be the beginning of a new Intifada. Regardless, scores of people are being terribly wounded, and some killed, in these attacks. Mostly centering in Jerusalem, they began in September over disputes regarding access to, and activities on, the Temple Mount. I recently viewed a video of an interview on a regional Arabic news program in the West Bank of a mother whose son was killed while attacking people with a knife. How did she demonstrate her grief? By pulling her own large knife from clothing, shaking it in the air, and not only threatening to kill more Israelis, but also yelling how proud she would be if her whole family martyred themselves for the cause. I am sure the news directors saw this as great programming, although the reporter turned to the camera and asked the mom to put away the knife, as her on-camera demonstration was inappropriate. It is both painful and amazing to watch this level of extremism. We know it exists on both sides and somewhere in the middle are caught moderates and anyone seeking peace. Many of the attackers are caught or killed, but this has done nothing to stop the attacks. They continue. During the last few weeks, as another sad twist to this violence, is the observance of the assassination of Yitzchak Rabin by an Israeli zealot. In recent days I have read more than one article in many mainstream media sites about the "what ifs." Could Rabin have carved out a path to peace? Would he and Arafat actually find a solution based on the Oslo Accords? We will never know thanks to the actions of an extremist. I don't have the answer, and it seems given how much time has passed and how much fighting has occurred, neither does anyone else, especially those in a position to do so. I do know one thing. Our support for Israel is needed now as much as any time in the past. You can take action by supporting Federation campaign, talking and writing to friends and family who live in Israel, and if you can, traveling to Israel and being with her people. All are important and help bolster morale. I have been to Israel on past Solidarity Missions, and I have seen firsthand what a difference our support makes. People there know that they are not alone and that the Jews in the Diaspora are with them. We may not always agree with the politicians of Israel, but we must support the people of Israel. Find your way today.

Extraordinary Things

Cheryl Nail,

CJF Community Relations Director

When Jewish residents of Columbia, SC put up their sukkahs this year, no one expected that many of them would be washed away one week later by what meteorologists have referred to as a "thousand year flood." Instead of dancing with the Torah, many families were gathering their most precious possessions, readying themselves to evacuate if and when the National Guard knocked on their door. The photos and stories are chilling. But even more awe-inspiring is what happened next.

Before the rains had even completely stopped, NECHAMA, the Jewish Response to Disaster, was on the ground, surveying how they could help. Volunteers from NECHAMA and AmeriCorps stayed at the Kahn JCC for almost a month, helping over 60 homeowners - Jewish and non-Jewish - with the damage they suffered. Members from our community worked side-by-side with NECHAMA, helping their neighbors. Even the Young Adult Division (YAD) of Charleston drove to Columbia to volunteer with NECHAMA. A few weeks later, Israeli volunteers from IsraAid arrived, joining Team Rubicon, to help our city.

Community members donated their time to sort clothing and toiletries that overran the JCC. They wrote checks to help community members purchase air purifiers and. They spent hours at the grocery store and in their kitchens, making incredible meals for NECHAMA volunteers. BBYO raised money through a bake sale. Our synagogues collected much-needed supplies. Jewish Family Service worked around the clock to connect flood victims with disaster relief assistance, to feed over

100 families, and to make sure clothes and toiletries got to those who needed them.

Our Jewish USC students from Hillel and AEPI showed up in Forest Acres to help homeowners remove waterlogged carpets and furniture. The Jewish Faculty and Staff Council provided comfort to students in the form of chicken soup and created a safe space to have a discussion, facilitated by Rabbi Leah Doberne-Schor.

Educators and therapists both provided safe spaces to help parents talk to their children about the flood. They also provided outlets for children to express themselves through poetry and art.

One morning I received a call from the Community Jewish Day School in New Orleans. "You are our mitzvah project," this stranger told me. "What do people need?" I told her that our PJ Library program was collecting books for children who lost their home libraries and for classrooms that had been flooded. She was happy to collect books for us, but what she said next left me verklempt: "Would it be OK if we also did a mezuzah drive so that when your community members are resettled they can start again with a new mezuzah?"

Days later, two boxes of brand new teddy bears showed up from Temple Israel Ner Tamid in Cleveland, OH. Adorned with hand-written cards from their children, these bears were distributed to our Religious Schools and pediatricians' offices.

In the weeks following the flood, we saw our community at its best. It didn't matter if or where people worship. It didn't matter how parents were raising their children. It didn't matter what people think of Israel. All that mattered was coming together as a community to help one another. Together we do extraordinary things.



"In the days and weeks following the flood, we saw our community at its best. It didn't matter if or where people worship..."

COLUMBIA JEWISH FEDERATION (CJF)



A Day of Mitzvot ~ Sunday, December 13 at the JCC

Spread the Light of Chanukah by helping our community.

Cycle for Good | 9:00am-noon

Be part of JCCs of North America Cycle for Good and raise money to benefit Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation and Jewish Family Service. Visit or call the JCC Welcome Desk to sign up.

Community Garden | 3:00-5:00pm

Help Jewish Family Service build a community garden that will provide fresh foods to families in need. Bring your shovels and work gloves! There are projects for children, like painting garden stakes.

Toiletry Sorting and Packing | 3:00-5:00pm

Sort and pack donated toiletries for Jewish Family Service to distribute to those in need.

Menorah Lighting | 5:00-6:00pm

After a hard day's work, enjoy latkes and jelly donuts at our annual JCC Chanukah celebration. Volunteers from A Day of Mitzvot are invited to light our community menorah at 5:15pm.

Not able to attend? Consider making an \$18 donation to JFS to support these community projects.

Sign up for A Day of Mitzvot at <http://bit.ly/2015Hanukkah>.



"We are calling everyone of all ages to...help us build a sustaining way to give back."

Giving Thanks

Laney Cohen, LMSW, JFS Director

Oh my. What a month we have had. Now that the waters have receded, and people have returned to their previously scheduled performances, what's left? Gratitude. Gratitude that not more damage was done. Gratitude that no more lives were lost. Gratitude that our community came together in a time of need and crisis. The outpouring of support, from phone calls made to neighbors, to others actually opening their homes and arms to welcome those in need. Financial support came from family members, community members, and people even as far as China. We received financial donations from the Men's Club of Congregation Beth Yam in Hilton Head, and the Dallas Jewish Community Foundation. Temple Israel Ner Tamid sent 100 teddy bears. There was an overflow of clothing, toiletries, sheets, and towels collected. We watched communities unite with social media and come together to help. Children volunteered at shelters and in our own food pantry. Our community became one. For a brief moment, there were no questions, there were no differences. There were just people wanting to help people. It was beautiful, and I am full of gratitude to have been able to be a part of it.



Above: Young volunteers sorted toiletries and clothing to be donated to flood victims.

With the holidays coming, Jewish Family Service will be once again be staffing the Ronald McDonald House. Big changes are coming to RMH, and this may include the ability for JFS to take part in the tradition of maintaining the house so that their staff and volunteers may celebrate the holidays with their families. JFS will begin staffing the house at 8am on December 24th, and will go in two hour increments, until 2 pm on the 26th. There will be two over-night shifts available (8pm-8am). Please let me know if you are interested! Spots fill up fast. It's a wonderful and fun mitzvah!

On December 13th, beginning at 1:30, we will host A Day of Mitzvot at the JCC. We are calling everyone of all ages to come and help JFS build our Community Garden! Bring your shovels and work gloves, and help us build a sustaining way to give back, not only to our community, but also to have the ability to give perishables to those in need! See page 5 for details.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Once again, we have the opportunity to serve the Ronald McDonald House over the Christmas holiday. Shifts will be every two hours. Two over night shifts are available this year. Due to the possibility of full-time paid staff next year, this may be the last opportunity that JFS will have to volunteer!

Please help us help their staff and volunteers spend their Christmas holidays with their families by staffing the house from 12/24-12/26. Contact Laney if your are interested! 787-2023- ext 220

Jewish Family Service Welcomes Student Intern

Hi! I'm Sara Roberts, and I'm interning with JFS Director Laney Cohen this year. I'm studying to receive my masters degree in Social Work. I look forward to working in the community through JFS!



Holocaust Resources

Dr. Lilly Filler, CHEC Co-Chair

The memory of the Holocaust remains alive in the wonderful resources that we have here in Columbia, as well as in the state of South Carolina. This is one area that our state is in the forefront of educational opportunities for those interested in learning and visiting pertinent sites of the Holocaust.

In Columbia, we have the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission (CHEC), which functions under the Columbia Jewish Federation. After the June 6, 2001 dedication of the Holocaust Memorial, the money that remained was transferred to the newly formed CHEC, co-chaired by me and Lyssa Harvey. Several activities of the Commission include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. accepting applications for grants from teachers K-12 who plan to teach the Holocaust to their students;
2. maintaining an informed Speaker's Bureau on the Holocaust;
3. annually showing the "Holocaust Remembered" exhibit that CHEC developed to discuss general information on the Holocaust and highlight Columbia Survivors and Liberators;
4. developing an annual written supplement distributed by The State paper, "Holocaust Remembered; and
5. maintaining its website, which includes a virtual "Holocaust Remembered" exhibit:
www.columbiaholocausteducation.org.

The Governor, Lt Governor, and Speaker of the House appoint the SC Council of the Holocaust. It was created in the mid 1980s and has appointees from around the state. The purpose of the Council, working in conjunction with the state Department of Education, is to develop an educational program to prevent future atrocities similar to the Holocaust. Several programs of the Council include (but is not limited to):

1. Mini-grant program to help educators throughout the state offer programming about the Holocaust.
2. Summer Seminar Institute, "Teaching of the Holocaust," which is a one-week resident program offered on the campus of Columbia College each July for three hours of graduate credit.
3. Educational trip to Poland, offered every other "odd" year. The Council offers a \$1000 subsidy to the first ten SC

certified teachers that wish to travel to Eastern Europe to visit historic sites and participate in scholarly discussions.

4. Teacher Advisory Committee (TAC) is a subcommittee of the Council composed of teachers, professors, educators, and retirees who are dedicated to the idea that the Holocaust must be taught and the teachers must be trained to teach it.
5. Digitalization of all SC Holocaust Survivor tapes from ETV.
6. Website: www.scholocaustcouncil.org

Developed about five years ago, the Selden K Smith Foundation for Holocaust Education was formed to help provide private funding to the SC Council of the Holocaust. Named after Dr. Selden Smith an active and well-informed educator in the field of Holocaust studies, this foundation seeks to subsidize or fund programs related to the Holocaust and tolerance education that the SC Council is not able to provide from the appropriated legislative funds. All inquiries need to be sent to the Chairperson, Minda Miller at www.holocausteducationfoundation.org.

The topic of the Holocaust used to be reserved for a few weeks in the spring semester when many of our youngsters studied this history in school. Now, however, with more movies, books, and awareness highlighting the Holocaust, the discussion is held year round. Significant dates, such as Kristalnacht on Nov. 11 and Yom Hashoah in the spring, have given rise to book fairs, film festivals, conferences, etc. The recognition to teach tolerance as it relates not only to the Holocaust but also to "bullying" and to racial bigotry have contributed to appropriate year-round discussions. I am proud that I was asked to be a keynote speaker at Dutch Fork Middle School (DFMS) in September 2015 to talk about the Holocaust experience of my parents, Jadzia and Ben Stern (obm). The assembly of over 500 middle schoolers was the springboard for a program "Hate Won't Win." This mantra, part of a national movement, was coined by one of the granddaughters of the slain Pastor Daniel Simmons from the Mother Emanuel Episcopal Church massacre in June 2015. DFMS is the first school to join the national movement, and after receiving a standing ovation, the entire gym erupted with spontaneous synchronized chanting: "Hate Won't Win! Hate Won't Win!" which brought tears to my eyes. Although over 70 years later, perhaps the lessons of the Holocaust will not be forgotten, and Hate Won't Win!



"[T]he entire gym erupted with spontaneous synchronized chanting, "Hate won't win, Hate won't win!" Although over 70 years later, perhaps the lessons of the Holocaust will not be forgotten, and Hate Won't Win!"



For the First Time in the U.S.!

Colla Voce, Columbia's professional chorus directed by Larry Wyatt, will present a Concert of Sacred Jewish Music Thursday, January 28, at Trinity Cathedral, 100 Sumter St., Columbia. The 7:30 p.m. concert will feature the US premiere (and first performance outside of Israel) of *David and Goliath* by acclaimed Israeli composer Aharon Harlap, and the first performance of a new arrangement of *Shacharit*, Meira Warshauer's interpretation of the Sabbath service, newly scored for organ, harp, and percussion, along with its original vocal forces. The program also includes Warshauer's *Akhat Sha'alti (One thing I ask)*, for chorus and percussion.

Shacharit, originally scored for soloists, chorus and orchestra, received rave reviews in its premiere performances here and at Piccolo Spoleto, and with Albany Records recording, *Streams in the Desert*. The new arrangement offers wider opportunities for performance.

Dr. Larry Wyatt, Director of Choral Studies at USC (pictured above with Meira Warshauer), was introduced to Harlap's music when supervising Israeli doctoral student Tommer Hesse's dissertation. Wyatt and Colla Voce toured internationally with Annelies, James Whitbourne's setting of Anne Frank's diary. This will be their first all-Hebrew concert.

The event is supported in part by a grant from the Columbia Jewish Federation and is hosted by Trinity Cathedral. For more information, visit <http://www.collavoce.info> and <http://meirawarshauer.com>

Tickets are \$20 adults (\$15 in advance) and \$5 students, available from the Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC, 803-787-2023, and USC Choral Office 803-777-5369. Sponsor tickets with VIP seating and listing in the program are \$50.



Beth Shalom Synagogue, 5827 N. Trenholm Road
www.BethShalomColumbia.org

Senior Program—Everyone Welcome
 Come Enjoy the Fun, Food & Friendship

Tuesday, December 1, 2015
11:30 am - 1 pm

**Featuring a Holiday Celebration
 and Creative Arts with Lyssa Harvey**

*There is no charge to attendees
 thanks to the generous donation made by
 Andy & Marilyn Safran
 in honor of their mother, June Safran
 and in memory of Arlene Pearlstine
 and by*

*Cheryl, Allan and Brody Nail & family
 in loving memory of their grandmother Esther Brody.*

This program is funded in part with a generous grant from the BJH Foundation for Senior Services.

The BJH Foundation for Senior Services is a non-profit foundation exclusively committed to enhancing the lives of Jewish elderly residing in North and South Carolina through programs, activities and organizations that share their mission in accordance with Jewish practices and beliefs.

Share Memories of your Bubbie on November 22!

Representatives from the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative will be on hand at the 7th Annual Bubbie's Brisket and Bakery to collect stories and photos of your Bubbie! Staff from Historic Columbia will have photo scanners and audio recorders so that you can share memories, recipes and stories of your grandmother (all materials will be scanned and returned immediately). Images and stories may be included in a multi-discipline project, which will document as well as provide access to and awareness of local Jewish history. *(Photo courtesy of Marcie Stern Baker.)*



To learn more about CJHI or to get involved visit www.historiccolumbia.org/CJHI or like our Facebook Page - Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative. You may also contact Robin Waites, Executive Director, Historic Columbia at 803.252.7742 ext 14 or rwaites@historiccolumbia.org,

From Scrap to Steel: How Jewish Columbians Created an Industry that Built the Midlands

*Fielding Freed, Director of House Museums,
Historic Columbia*

At one time Columbia, South Carolina, produced more fabricated structural steel per capita than anywhere else in the country and Jewish families owned most of those companies. Kline Iron and Metal Company, Chatham Steel, and Columbia Steel & Metal were just a few of the businesses that made the essential materials that fueled the post-World War II building boom in the Southeast. Each started as a scrap metal business founded by people who arrived in America with virtually no material possessions, some of whom fled persecution in their home countries.

Jerry Kline's eyes light up when he tells the story of his grandfather, Philip, and great uncle, Meyer—two inseparable brothers who emigrated from Lithuania and founded their namesake steel company in Columbia.

In 1923, Kline Iron and Metal Company was established on the corner of Gervais and Huger streets and focused on recycling scrap metals. During the 1930s, their work expanded to fabrication of structural steel.

During the Second World War, Jerry's father, Bernard created the South Carolina Steel Fabricating Company, a cooperative of several steel businesses. The consortium fabricated parts for 225 Landing Ship, Tanks (LSTs). During the 1950s Kline Iron and Steel diversified into the broadcast tower business. Jerry estimates that Kline built 90 percent of the broadcast towers in South Carolina.

It was not an easy decision for Jerry to sell the company in 2000 after three generations of family ownership. Although he was in the business a long time, Jerry says "we never stopped being a young company."

For Samuel Tenenbaum, the story of the rise of Columbia's Jewish-owned iron and steel companies in the 20th century is one of a group of entrepreneurs who took "junk and grew that into a sophisticated, high tech, and high-end capital business with good-paying jobs in a place you would never expect."

Sam's grandfather, also named Samuel, left Poland before World War I and in 1915 founded Chatham Steel, which started in scrap but expanded into plumbing and industrial supplies. In the late 1940s the company branched out into steel warehousing. Chatham's first location in Columbia was on Shop Road and they eventually operated five facilities in South Carolina.

Tenenbaum was one of several third-generation descendants working for the company when they decided

to sell to a larger corporation, Reliance Steel & Aluminum in 1998. Chatham still survives as a division within the company.

Fred Seidenberg's Mid-Carolina Steel & Recycling Company is one of the last locally-owned scrap metal businesses in Columbia. Fred started the business in 1983 after leaving Columbia Steel & Metal, which his father Oscar Seidenberg started with Max Dickman and Nathan Addlestone in the late 1940s.

As time went by, Fred noticed a trend: "Steel mills are getting more and more into scrap where 40 years ago they did not diversify." Continuing the family tradition, Fred and his son Justin started a steel and scrap brokerage, American Metal Solutions, in 2008.

When examining the history of Jewish-owned scrap metal and steel companies in Columbia, there are a few recurring themes: entrepreneurship, a network of initial support and continuous business relationships in the community, and eventually a shift away from the family business by later generations who choose to work in other fields.

Speaking about his family's business, Sam Tenenbaum concludes: "We are the great American story." The same could be said of the other Jewish scrap iron and steel businessmen who made "something from nothing" with their brains and their hands.

As part of the Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative, this article was produced from interviews with Columbia residents for the Fall Jewish Historic Society Newsletter.



Several Jewish owned steel companies, including Chatham, Kline and Trojan, are shown on this page from the 1965 Columbia telephone book's Yellow Pages. Courtesy Walker Local and Family History Center, Richland Library.



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כל הכבוד

TODAH RABAH
תודה רבה

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Let's Start the Conversation on Jewish Genetic Screening!

Knowing about Jewish genetic conditions is a first step toward having healthy babies.

What are Jewish genetic conditions?

Some conditions are more common in the Jewish population and several of these cause severe medical problems and disability in infancy or childhood. Jewish genetic conditions are inherited in an autosomal recessive pattern, which means a child can have a condition only if both parents are carriers.

If you and your partner are both carriers for the same genetic condition, there is a 25% chance with each pregnancy of having an affected child, and a 50% chance of having a child who is also a carrier.

Should I or shouldn't I get screened?

If you are Jewish, if you have even one Jewish grandparent, are in an interfaith relationship, between the ages of 18–44 and planning on having children, you should consider being screened. Getting screened before becoming pregnant can give you information important to your reproductive choices.

What does it mean to get screened for Jewish genetic conditions?

Screening for a genetic condition involves a blood test to determine if you carry a genetic trait for the conditions that are more common in the Jewish population. Carriers for these conditions are healthy; they are not at risk to develop the condition. Being a carrier increases the chance to have a child with the genetic condition. We recommend screening before getting pregnant so that couples have the most options to have a healthy baby.

What conditions should I be screened for?

You can choose to screen for only Jewish related conditions or for an expanded set of conditions. Your specific ancestry and insurance coverage may have a bearing on what you choose. An informed health care provider or genetics professional can provide you with more information so that you can make an informed decision about screening.

Why should I be screened for Jewish genetic conditions?

Knowing if you are a carrier for one of the Jewish genetic diseases empowers you with knowledge that can be used to make family planning decisions that are right for you. Since a carrier is healthy, the only way to know that you are a carrier is to have a blood test or have an affected child.

Where can I be screened?

1. Sunday, February 7, 2016, Jewish Genetic Screening at the Katie and Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center (306 Flora Drive), 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.
2. Through your physician or Ob/Gyn.
3. By referral from your physician to USC Genetic Counseling: 803-545-5775 | fax 803-434-7756

Discuss genetic carrier screening with your healthcare provider if you are Jewish—or have even one grandparent who is Jewish—and are thinking about having children in the future.

What does genetic screening entail?

Tests for Jewish genetic conditions are done on a small sample of blood (about a thimble-full). The sample is sent to a lab that tests for certain changes (mutations) in your DNA. You and your physician will receive results typically within a month.

Genetic counseling is available by referral from your physician if you are found to be a carrier of one or more conditions.

How much does it cost to be screened?

The cost of screening varies depending on the panel selected and the laboratory used, but it is generally affordable for most people. Many insurance providers cover preconception screening although coverage can vary by insurance plan.

Check with your insurance provider. Ask your insurance provider whether genetic carrier screening is a covered service or benefit of your plan. Remember to find out what deductible or co-insurance you will be responsible for.

Diagnosis codes indicate why you are having the screening performed. **Ask your insurer if the following ICD-10 codes are covered by your plan:**

Z31.430 (female testing for genetic disease carrier status)
Z31.440 (male testing for genetic disease carrier status)

**Make plans to attend the Jewish Genetic Screening
Sunday, February 7, 2015 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center
306 Flora Drive | Columbia, SC 29223
Call to reserve your time at the screening event:
803-787-2023**

*Brought to you by
USC Genetic Counseling Department of Obstetrics
and Gynecology USC School of Medicine*

The Columbia Jewish Federation

*The Katie and Irwin Kahn
Jewish Community Center*

*Einstein Victor Center
for the Prevention of
Jewish Genetic Diseases, Philadelphia*



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MENORAH WORKSHOP

AT THE HOME DEPOT

7701 TWO NOTCH RD. COLUMBIA

SUNDAY, DEC 6TH
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
NO CHARGE - RSVP REQUIRED BY NOV. 29

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Annual Menorah Parade
 & State House Menorah Lighting
 December 7, 2015



Journey of the Soul

AN EXPLORATION OF LIFE, DEATH, AND WHAT LIES BEYOND

A fascinating new six-session course from the Rabbi Joseph Learning Institute

What is a soul? Where does it go after it departs this world? Do Jews believe in heaven and hell? Can souls communicate with us from the afterlife? How does reincarnation work?

Journey of the Soul explores the mysteries surrounding the spiritual dimension of our existence—our destiny that continues even after we've shed our earth-bound body suit. We examine the transition of the soul into the hereafter, the kinds of legacies that are valued even after we've forsaken this earthly existence, and the accompanying emotional journey and rituals that help the soul and those closest to it prepare for its new reality.

Location	When	Fee	More info	
Chabad of South Carolina 2509 Becker Blvd Columbia, SC 29206	Six Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m. Beginning October 28th	\$85	803.237.7330 www.chabadofsc.com	rji.us.com

POSH 2016

Save the Date

January 30, 2016

Columbia Marriott

Buy your tickets now at
www.chabadofsc.com

Eight Nights of Reflection

Rabbi Meir Muller, Ph.D., CJDS Principal

Chanukah is tricky. Not only can it be spelled in seemingly endless ways but the actual word has multiple translations. One meaning of Chanukah is education as it shares the same root as the Hebrew word chinuch, education. Over the years the staff at the Cutler Jewish Day School has been asked for ideas that can be done at home to make Chanukah more educationally meaningful. Here are a few suggestions:

Young children have amazing abilities – A family can share the major themes of the holiday – lighting candles, being thankful to G-d, miracles, peoplehood, and spreading light – and then empower children to choose a new ritual. Perhaps children will want to sing a particular Chanukah song found on You Tube or adapt a Chanukah custom from another country. The main idea is to allow children to make meaningful and purposeful choices to help them create attachments to the holiday.

Relationship building through inquiry – At CJDS inquiry is the heart of our program, allow children to ask questions (what is more Jewish than asking questions?). Create a list of questions and together the family can Google the answers. I suggest saving the questions to ask again on a future night to see what new questions might be added to the list. Asking questions and researching answers is a great way for families to develop meaningful Chanukah memories.

Meaningful Reflection – Building off the previous example, you can ask each member of your family to reflect on questions such as: "What do you love about lighting the menorah?"; "What part of the story resonates with you?"; or "What else do you enjoy about Chanukah?"

The goal of each of the above is to focus on family connections to the holiday. Children might remember family rituals, the excitement of asking and answering questions and the feeling of emotions around the holiday for years to come. Regardless of whether you spell the holiday Hanukkah, Chanukah Hanukah, Hannukah, Chanuka, Chanukkah., Hanuka, Channukah, Chanukka, Hanukka, Hannuka, Hannukkah, or Channuka, CJDS wishes everyone a great eight nights of celebration and reflection.



"[A]llow children to make meaningful and purposeful choices to help them create attachments to the holiday."

CUTLER JEWISH DAY SCHOOL





"We should all be so proud that we are setting this example for future generations."

Be the change you wish to see in the world

Risa Strauss, Beth Shalom Synagogue Director of Education

In the aftermath of the flooding that hit our state in October, it has been amazing to witness the outpouring of generosity: time, money, energy, and support from all peoples in our community. Giving to those less fortunate, "*Tzedakah*," is an essential Jewish value and is an important part of what we teach our children in Religious School. "*Tzedakah*" is often translated as "charity," but the value of *tzedakah* goes well beyond donating money. *Tzedakah* actually means "righteousness." When we teach our children the mitzvah of *tzedakah*, we are teaching them that as Jews we are commanded to care of each other – Jew and non-Jew alike – and to take a role in making the world a better place. Mahatma Gandhi is quoted as saying, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." We should all be so proud that we are setting this example for future generations.



The Jewish month of *Cheshvan* begins this year on the 14th of October and ends on the 12th of November. What makes this Jewish month worth mentioning? Well, *Cheshvan* is quite atypical on the Jewish calendar, for it is a month without holidays (other than Shabbat). The month also has the dubious distinction of being called *Mar Cheshvan*, or bitter *Cheshvan*, not only because of the lack of celebration but because of the number of unfortunate events that have occurred, or have been

said to have occurred, during this period. Some examples of these tragedies are the flood that covered the Earth during biblical times (the story of Noah), the death of Rachel during the birth of her second son Benjamin, the destruction of the Temples, Kristallnacht (Night of broken glass), the passing of a number of famous and influential Rabbis throughout history, as well as the more recent assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin by an ultra-right wing Jewish extremist in 1995. The sadness of *Cheshvan* will now also be associated with the flooding that overwhelmed our state this year.

Thankfully the good name of *Cheshvan* was redeemed in 2006 when it was given another much more user-friendly and optimistic designation: Jewish Social Action Month or "JSAM." "Social Action," a.k.a. *Tikkun Olam*, literally the "repair of the world," is another basic tenet of Jewish life. Leo Baeck, Holocaust survivor and great Jewish theologian, said, "In Judaism social action is religiousness and religiousness implies social action." This concept and the pursuit of *tzedek*, or justice, is so important in Judaism that words related to it can be found hundreds of times in the Torah. By loving our neighbor and appreciating what we have, we are better able to understand, have empathy, and comprehend the *tikkun olam* needs of the people and the communities closest to us, as well as in the world as a whole.

In Jewish education, acts of *tikkun olam* and *tzedakah* are encouraged early and often. From "gathering together our quarters and our nickels to help someone else – that's *tzedakah*" – to collecting supplies for the homeless, promoting mitzvah project involvement for our B'nai Mitzvah students, organizing canned food drives for the hungry in our community, volunteering at Harvest Hope, and celebrating Jewish holidays with our senior citizens in adult care facilities, our Jewish community has been quite proactive in providing avenues for our youth, families, and congregations to "help make the world a better place."

Important Religious School Dates

11/25, 29: NO SCHOOL
 12/2,9: Hebrew School, 4:30pm
 12/3,10: BSS Adult Education, 6:15pm
 12/5: Shabbat Play & Learn, 11:30am
 12/6, 13: RS, 9:30am; Chanukah Festivities
 12/19: Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Headly
 12/20, 23, 27, 30, 1/3, 6: NO SCHOOL

A Time of Stories and Light

Rabbi Linda Joseph, Tree of Life

Serendipitous that Chanukah marks the rededication of the ancient Temple on the Jewish calendar. For just a few weeks following the increasing of lights in our Chanukah, Tree of Life Congregation will celebrate its role in the Columbia Jewish Community on its 120th Anniversary.

On January 15th Tree of Life Congregation will shine bright having reached the landmark of a "full life" and will be celebrating its past and its future with some amazing events and projects.

October 30th-November 1st we hosted Rabbi Richard Address, the founder of JewishSacredAging.com. Rabbi Address is renown for his work in fostering and promoting sacred and caring communities. In Columbia our multi-generational community benefited from his wisdom in this arena.

Following our Anniversary weekend on January 15th, the congregation will welcome the amazing and talented Dan Nichols (pictured below), whose music is used for worship, camps and religious schools. Dan will be singing and playing with Tree of Life Congregation during the weekend of Shabbat Shira (the Sabbath of Song) – January 22nd-24th.



For more details on both these programs please visit our Temple website at www.tolsc.org or contact our Temple office, (803) 787-2182.

In addition to partaking in these wonderful events and other special events that will be planned as our year continues, Tree of Life Congregation is undertaking a special project in conjunction with StoryCorps. The Tree of Life StoryCorps Project is an opportunity for us to tell our Tree of Life Congregation stories to each other and to the world.

We will be using our smart phones and an app available through StoryCorps.me to record interviews with each other. They will then be uploaded onto the Tree of Life Facebook page and archived in the American Folklife Center of the United States Library of Congress. Select stories will appear on our website.

We would like to invite you as a community to join with us if you have a story or remembrance about Tree of Life Congregation to share. If you are interested, please contact our office to receive more details.

Wishing you all a joyous and bright Chanukah... filled with stories and light.

Latke Kings' (Tree of Life Brotherhood) Latke Sale

You have loved the Tree of Life Brotherhood's Latkes for years. Now you can have Brotherhood Latkes at home for Hanukkah and beyond. The Brotherhood will be selling our plain and jalapeño latkes as a fundraiser. You can buy a Baker's dozen (13) for \$15 or supersize and buy a Jewish dozen (18) for \$20. They freeze great if you want to have some after Hanukkah is over. Complete an order form (available at www.tolsc.org, at Tree of Life, or by calling 787-2182), and send the form and you payment to the Tree of Life Office no later than Wednesday, December 2nd. Pick-up will be at the Tree of Life on Sunday, December 6th from 10:00 – 12:00. Any orders not picked up during this time will be placed in the freezer and may be picked up during normal Temple business hours.



"As we enter a time of Jewish and personal introspection, it is for us to measure our role in the wonderful creation within which we find ourselves as humanity, 5776 spiritual time periods later."

TREE OF LIFE CONGREGATION

Columbia Jewish Federation's
2016 Campaign Kickoff
and the presentation of this year's
Distinguished Service Award
to honor
Dr. Stephen Serbin

With Special Guest
Linda Scherzer
Former Mid-East Correspondent
for CNN & Israel Television

is rescheduled for
Thursday, November 19, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC on the
Gerry Sue & Norman Arnold
Jewish Community Campus

Wine Reception & Cocktail Buffet
Couvert: \$36 per person
\$25 for young leaders under 40

RSVP at debbym@jcccolumbia.org
(803) 787-2023 ext. 204



**Calling all YADDies for an
Open Planning Meeting
on Tuesday, December 2
at the JCC**

Whether you're excited about finding community, exploring your Jewish identity, volunteering for worthy causes or learning more about our Jewish world, Columbia Jewish Federation Young Adult Division (YAD) is here for you. Come join us on Tuesday, December 2, 6:30-8:30 pm, at the JCC to share your ideas and learn about how you can get more involved in planning great events with us! Refreshments will be served.

For more information and/or if you would like to share an idea or host an event email YADCJF@GMAIL.COM or text Robyn at 864-918-7593.

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Steve Turner Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund

For children and young adults, overnight Jewish summer camp experiences are among the strongest influences on Jewish identity; however, the overnight camps can be expensive. To alleviate some of the burden, the Columbia Jewish Federation established the Steve Turner Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund. Thanks to the generosity of donors, the fund provided supplemental funding for seven youths to participate in Jewish overnight camps this summer. Continued from the last issue of the *Jewish News*, scholarship recipients share their camp experiences:

Dear Columbia Jewish Federation:

Thank you very much for helping provide me the opportunity to enjoy a great session at Camp Barney Medintz in Cleveland, Georgia. This year was my third year at camp, and I was in the unit "Alufim" (translated to 'champion'). The Alufim unit is for rising ninth graders and has very unique and special opportunities that no other unit gets to experience. For example, we got to go on a trip called "3-Day" which was an out of camp trip to many places around North Carolina and Georgia. One specific activity that stood out to me on 3-Day was white-water rafting at the Nantahala Outdoor Center in Bryson City, North Carolina. We were randomly placed in groups of 7 and had to use team work to white water raft down a 50 degree cold river. I enjoyed that activity because I met new people and shared a challenging, but unique and fun experience with those people.

This year, my unit led a Saturday morning Shabbat service. Saturday morning services are longer and harder to lead, and that's why they gave it to an older unit like Alufim. During that Shabbat service, I was part of the song and prayer group. It was our job to lead all the prayers and songs during the service. I enjoyed being part of the song and prayer group because it helped me keep my Hebrew sharp and also because I was able to lead prayers in front of the entire camp. Another fun Jewish experience that I liked was Israel day. Israel day is a unique day every year where each cabin does special activities related to Israel. One of my favorites was going to the big soccer field and doing IDF "training." We had to army crawl under a rope, do pushups, and other labor-intensive tasks to get a taste of what the IDF does on a regular basis.



Overall, I had another amazing session at Camp Barney Medintz. The friendships I make are like no others. Being able to meet Jewish kids from all over the world is such a unique opportunity and privilege, and I thank you again for helping provide me that. I look forward to going back next summer and meeting new people and strengthening the amazing bonds that I already have.

Sincerely,
Aaron Stark

Dear Columbia Jewish Federation,

I would like to thank you for providing me with a scholarship to help send me to Camp Ramah Darom. I had a fantastic time. At first I felt a little nervous, but after the first day of camp I felt better. One of the reasons I felt at home at camp was because of my amazing bunkmates and counselors. Some of my bunkmates and counselors were from Florida, Georgia, and even Israel.

It was fun to use my knowledge of Hebrew throughout the day at camp because I have been learning Hebrew at CJDS since kindergarten. For example, in Hebrew learning period I knew most of the words that we were learning. Also we talked about the different names of the buildings in Hebrew at camp. The dining hall was called the Chadar, and my bunk, Bunk 24, is called tzrif esreem v'arbah.

My favorite activity was Tippuz (climbing in Hebrew). In climbing we climbed the climbing tower and the rock wall. They are both fifty feet tall. The ropes course also has a swing. My two favorite meals were Burger Buffet, and Taco Night. My favorite part of Shabbat was Havdallah because there was Rikud (Israeli dancing).

I am looking forward to seeing my friends again next year. Thank you for helping me go to this awesome camp.

Todah Rabah,
Elliot Scher (age 11)

JEW & CATHOLICS COMMEMORATE 50 YEARS OF POSITIVE RELATIONS

Considered the most important document addressing Catholic-Jewish relations, "Nostra Aetate" ("In Our Time") was promulgated 50 years ago on October 28, 1965 by Vatican II. Reversing the long-held belief that Jews killed Jesus, the document shifted the Catholic Church's attitude toward non-Christian faiths, especially Judaism but also Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam.

The Columbia Jewish Federation commemorated this anniversary with a viewing of *Sister Rose's Passion*, an award-winning documentary about a Dominican nun whose work and determination were instrumental in the promulgation of "Nostra Aetate." The movie was followed by an interfaith panel discussion, featuring Rabbi Jonathan Case of Beth Shalom Synagogue, Father Sandy McDonald of St. John Neumann Catholic Church, and Father Richard Wilson of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

A second FREE viewing of *Sister Rose's Passion* will be at the Kahn JCC on Thursday, December 3 at 11:00 AM and again at 7:00 PM. For more information, call 787-2023.



BUBBIE'S BRISKET & BAKERY

Jewish Food Extravaganza

Beth Shalom Synagogue
5827 N. Trenholm Road, Columbia, SC 29206
(803) 782-2500

Sunday, November 22, 2015
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Traditional Jewish Foods and Baked Goods

Brisket
Corned Beef
Sandwiches
Stuffed Cabbage
Matzah Ball Soup
Sweet & Sour
Meatballs

Falafel
Noodle Kugel
Israeli Salad
Potato Knish
Tzimmes
Kasha Varnishkes
Baba Ganoush

Challah
Kid's Meals
Rugalach
Mandel Bread
Blintz Bar
Cakes and more!

All Food Purchases Are À la Carte



Mom's morning out



Provides a safe, nurturing and fun environment for your kids while Mom (or Dad) run errands, do chores, have brunch with friends, or just enjoy some quiet time. Snacks and toys are provided

Where: JCC Babysitting Room

When: 8:30 am - 12 noon
Third Wednesday of every month!
November 18 & December 16

Ages: 0 - 7

Rates: \$20 first child, \$10 additional [members]
\$30 first child, \$10 additional [community]

Registration is required in advance.
Register at the JCC Front Desk

Contact Melanie Pace for more information:
(803) 787-2023 ext. 206 / melanier@jccolumbia.org



winter break at the JCC

You belong here.

Ages: 2-15

7:30 am - 5:30 pm

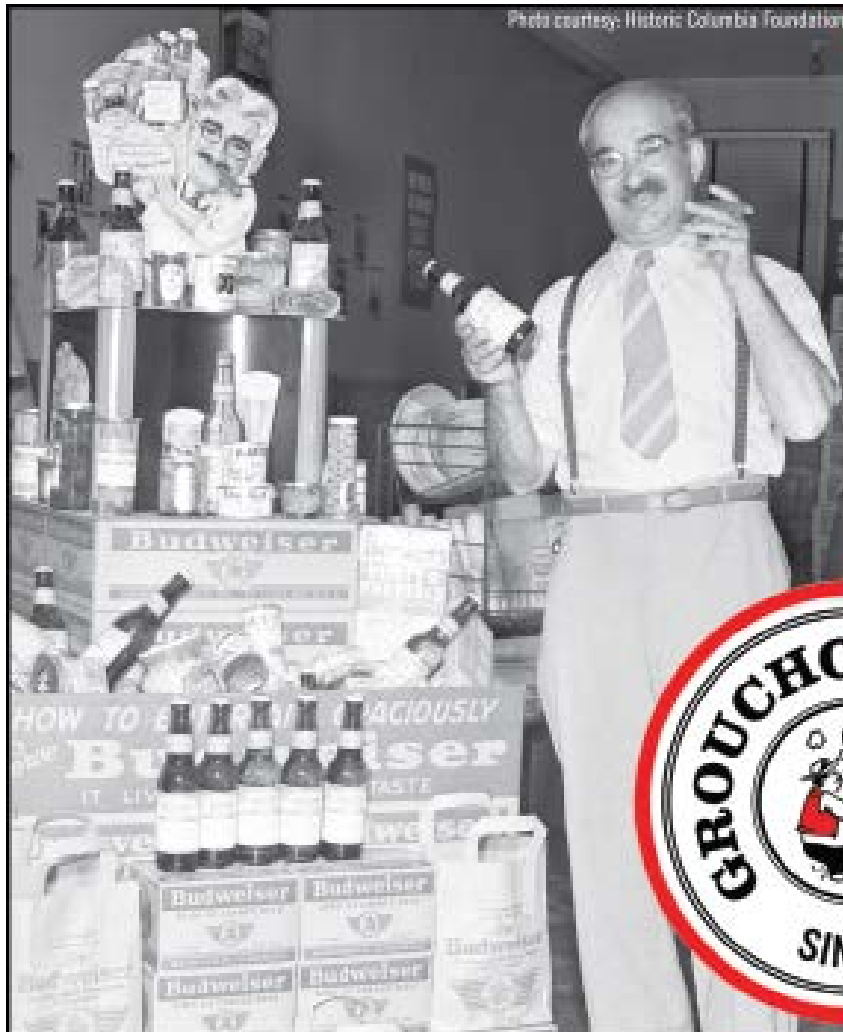
December 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, January 4

Safe, fun, & professional. Swimming, sports, games, arts and crafts, Gaga, and more!

JCC Member: \$30 per day
Community: \$45 per day

Contact Melanie for more information:
melanier@jccolumbia.org | 803.787.2023 ext. 206

Photo courtesy: Historic Columbia Foundation



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COLUMBIA AREA LOCATIONS

611 Maple Street - Columbia

111 Sparkleberry Crossing Road #8 - Columbia

2203 Sunset Blvd. - West Columbia

4717 Forest Drive - Forest Acres

117 1/2 E. Main Street - Lexington

730 University Village Drive - Brytherwood

400 Lake Murray Blvd. - Irmo

120-B Anticks Ferry Road - Chapin





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