

# Columbia Jewish News

Issue 5 | Volume XLI | Sept-Oct-Nov 2016

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*photo by Laurie Slack*

## **PJ Library WOW Initiative Renewed**

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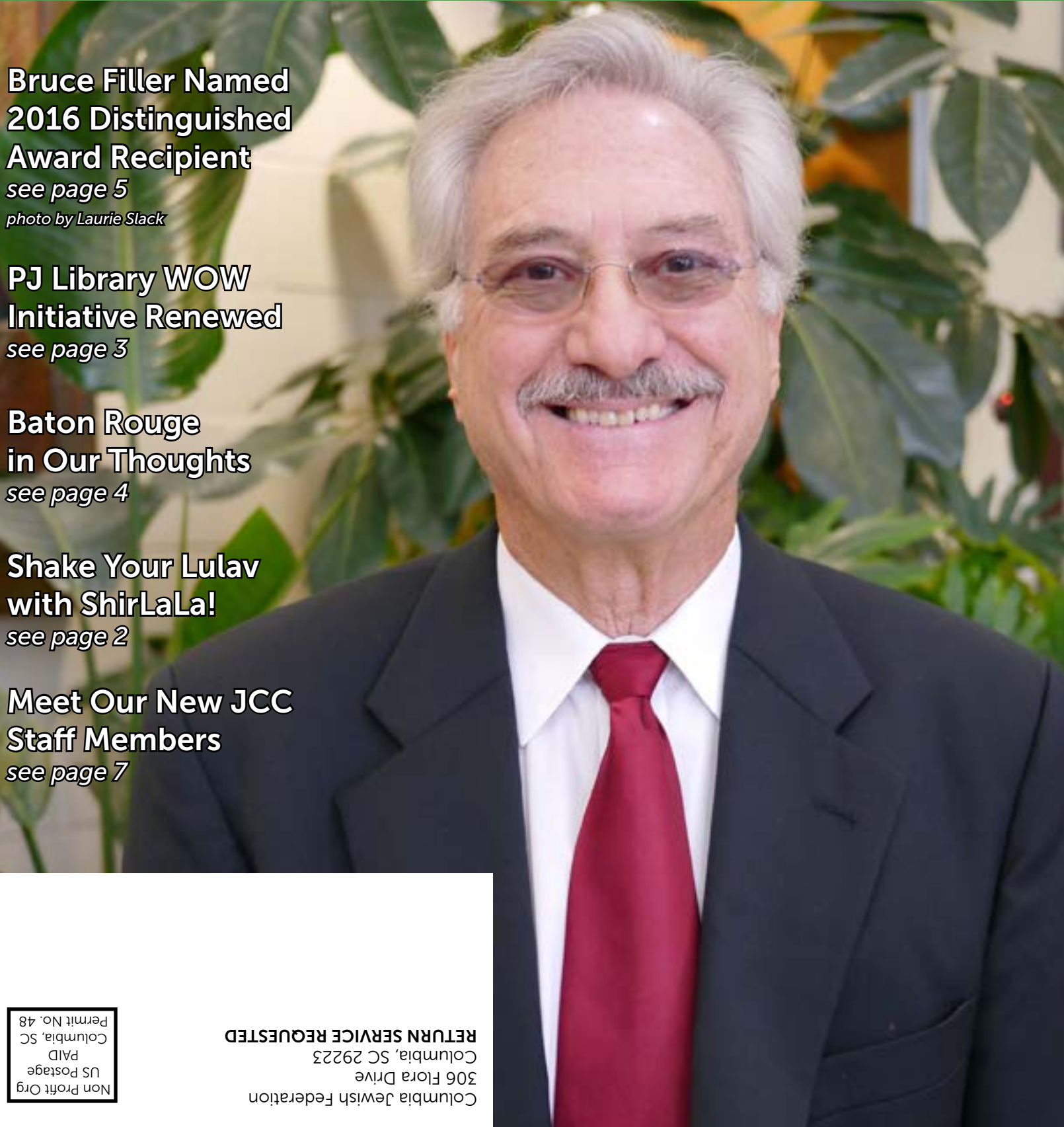
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Join Us!

# LULAV LUAV

with

## ShirLala

October 23 @ 3 PM

Shake your Lulav this Sukkot with Jewish kiddie-rocker, Shira Kline!

For more info & to reserve your FREE tickets visit [www.jewishcolumbia.org](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org)




# Finding G-D in Hawaii

WITH ALLISON JOSEPHS OF JEW IN THE CITY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 AT 7:00 PM  
AT THE KATIE & IRWIN KAHN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Finding G-d in Hawaii is Allison Joseph's signature talk about a triple murder in her childhood which led to an existential crisis, a search for meaning, and the life-changing answers she found in a tropical rain forest.



Allison Josephs has been involved in the field of Jewish Outreach for over fifteen years, working at Partners in Torah, Sinai Retreats, and NCSY, and is the Partner in Torah mentor to actress Mayim Bialik. She was named one of NJOP's Top Ten Jewish Influencers in 2012 and was one of the Jewish Week's 36 under 36 in 2013. She is a sought-after international lecturer also hosts a weekly radio show on the Nachum Segal Network. She received her Bachelor in Arts from Columbia University in Philosophy and lives with her husband and four children minutes from the George Washington Bridge.

FREE admission if you RSVP by September 1.  
\$10 per person after September 1.

RSVP at  
[www.jewishcolumbia.org/jew-in-the-city](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org/jew-in-the-city)

Sponsor this amazing event for \$100 and receive a pair of reserved seats and a personalized thank you before the program!

Brought to you by the Columbia Jewish Federation, The Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC & Chabad of SC

See more of Allison at [jewinthecity.com](http://jewinthecity.com)!



# **PJ Library Without Walls is Renewed for a Second Year**

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) announced Engagement Grant renewals for a second year, and we are thrilled that PJ Library Without Walls (WOW) is one of them!

PJ Library WOW began last year to bring families together for quality Jewish programs in the Irmo/Lexington area.

As part of the renewal process HGF sent out a survey to all the families who participated in the Engagement Grant projects last year. Six hundred participants responded and enabled them to assess how well each community was addressing the goals of "building community and social connections over time among families" and "connecting families to multiple opportunities to engage in Jewish life and learning."

Our local survey results showed that Columbia performed slightly higher than the national average:

100 percent of our families connected socially during the programs  
67 percent of our families followed up with social connections afterward  
100 percent of our families sought out or attended other Jewish programs  
100 percent of our families would recommend the programs to friends



Participants shared the following, which speaks to the impact of this engagement grant:

"Bonding with other Jewish families was invaluable. There are so few in our community. It is vital she [my daughter] know that there are others like us!"

"We often feel isolated on our side of town. Finding other Jewish families was encouraging to my child."

In addition to providing more opportunities for Jewish families in the Irmo/Lexington area to meet and get to know other Jewish families, the grant - which is double the amount as last year's - has provided us the means to have Isabel Drucker join us as the PJ Library Family Engagement Coordinator for the life of the grant. We are thrilled to have Isabel, a valued member of our community and Federation and JCC family, help us continue to have a positive and meaningful impact on Jewish families in Columbia.



Made possible through a generous engagement grant from PJ Library,  
PJ Library WOW brings families together for quality Jewish programs in the Irmo/Lexington area.

Contact Cheryl Nail at [cheryln@jewishcolumbia.org](mailto:cheryln@jewishcolumbia.org) or 787-2023 x. 211 for details.

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



## **Columbia Jewish Federation**

306 Flora Drive

Columbia, SC 29223

t (803) 787-2023 | f (803) 462-1337

[www.jewishcolumbia.org](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org)

### **Columbia Jewish Federation Staff**

Barry Abels, *Executive Director*

[barrya@jewishcolumbia.org](mailto:barrya@jewishcolumbia.org), ext. 207

Elaine Cohen, *Jewish Family Service Director*

[jfs@jewishcolumbia.org](mailto:jfs@jewishcolumbia.org), ext. 220

Cheryl Nail, *Community Relations Director*

[cheryln@jewishcolumbia.org](mailto:cheryln@jewishcolumbia.org), ext. 211

Debby Mullen, *Executive Assistant*

[debbym@jccolumbia.org](mailto:debbym@jccolumbia.org), ext. 202

### **Columbia Jewish Federation Executive Committee**

David Lovit, *President*

Joshua McDuffie, *Vice President*

Fred Seidenberg, *Secretary*

Meridith Goldstein, *Treasurer*

Dr. Naomi Farber, *Immediate Past President*

### **Columbia Jewish News Editorial Staff**

Cheryl Nail, *Managing Editor*

Shelley Kriegshaber, *Editor*

Laurie Slack, *Designer & Photographer*

Production Services by Florida Sun Printing

### **September/October 2016, Volume 41, Issue 5**

#### **Contributing Writers**

Barry Abels, Alice Kasakoff Adams, Katharine Allen,

Laney Cohen, Debbie Cohn, Lilly Filler,

Shelley Kriegshaber, Rabbi Meir Muller, Cheryl Nail,

Ruth Rast, Meira Warshauer

The views and opinions expressed in the *Columbia Jewish News* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the Columbia Jewish Federation or the editorial staff of this publication.

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/cjn](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org/cjn) for submission guidelines and advertising rates.



***"It seems that if wars, terrorism, United Nations actions and thousands of Hamas rockets have not knocked Israel to its knees, the new tactic is 'let's hit them in the pocketbook.'"***

## **What the heck is BDS, and will it ever go away?**

**Barry Abels,**  
**CJF and JCC Executive Director**

For several years we have heard the term BDS. It might appear in a small newspaper article or maybe a mention on some radio programs. If you read any of the Jewish oriented publications or online news feeds, you would see a lot of coverage. Why? Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) is a movement by those who assert that Israel is an oppressor state, a practitioner of apartheid and a country that must be economically punished. It seems that if wars, terrorism, United Nations actions and thousands of Hamas rockets have not knocked Israel to its knees, the new tactic is "let's hit them in the pocketbook." This activity is occurring worldwide.

However, there is much more to the BDS movement than the idea itself. The most disconcerting part of the movement is that organizations support boycotting Israeli businesses and institutions or urge action against any companies that do business with Israel. Caterpillar is one example. Major religious movements, including denominations of the Presbyterian (PCUSA) and Methodist (UMC) churches, bring this up to their legislative bodies during national meetings. Thankfully the various resolutions and calls for action fail to pass, but the attempts continue.

Additionally, academic bodies also work to rally against Israeli academics and universities. These groups have included the Modern Language Association, the American Studies Association and the Association of University Teachers. The last group specifically targeted both Bar-Ilan University and the University of Haifa. These actions call for eliminating visiting professors, moratoriums on cultural and research links and another action called for a boycott against any Israeli professor that did not speak out against the policies of the Israeli government regarding Palestinians.

Fortunately, most of these efforts do not achieve institutional success, but the number of organizations who have segments of their membership proposing BDS actions grows and continues to impact the time and resources of those targeted companies and organizations. In that regard, the BDS movement is achieving a negative impact.

College campuses in this country and elsewhere see activity from professors and student groups calling for BDS actions on a regular basis. We are fortunate that, up to now, this is not occurring in any major way at USC, but it is here. Thankfully there are organizations that work to teach students how to respond to BDS movements when they occur and present a two-sided version regarding the Israel/Palestinian issues and conflicts. These include Hillel International, the ADL and Israel on Campus Coalition. We are currently working with some of our local professors to bring experts in the area for a panel discussion regarding BDS and its impact on academia and Israel. Details on this program will be forthcoming soon. In the meantime some resources for information are as follows:

The ADL - <http://www.adl.org/israel-international/israel-middle-east/content/backgroundersarticles/bds-campaign-background.html>

Honest Reporting - <http://honestreporting.com/hot-topics/boycott-divestment-sanctions-bds/>

Additionally, any of the major Jewish organizations and publications will have stories and information online, such as the American Jewish Committee, the Jerusalem Post and many others.

### **In Our Thoughts**

Many of you may have received our email regarding the Flooding in Baton Rouge and the surrounding region. Jewish Federations across North America are currently accepting donations to support flood relief efforts by the Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge to meet urgent needs. One hundred percent of your online donation will go to the Baton Rouge Flood Relief Fund. That address is <https://secure-fedweb.jewishfederations.org/page/contribute/baton-rouge-flood-relief-fund>. You might also choose to support Nechama, A Jewish Response to Disaster. Crews from Nechama came to Columbia to help us during our flood and recovery and lived at the JCC while here. They are now in Baton Rouge.

I also want to pass on my personal condolences, as well as that of the staff and board members of the Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC and Columbia Jewish Federation, to Gerry Sue Arnold and all of the Arnold family on their loss of Norman Arnold. A loving husband and father, his contributions to our Jewish community, to USC, throughout the state and in Israel were numerous and highly impactful. He and Gerry Sue were involved in so many endeavors together that to quantify the number of lives touched would be impossible. It is an honor to work on a campus that bears their name.

## Bruce Filler to Receive Distinguished Service Award October 20th

*The Columbia Jewish Federation is proud to announce Bruce Filler as the 2016 recipient of the CJF Distinguished Service Award.*



Bruce David Filler was born in Cranston, Rhode Island and is the second of three boys. His parents, Morris and Goldie Filler, had lived in Rhode Island for decades, as did their extended family. He grew up in a kosher and religious home. Bruce was active in sports and showed his leadership skills all

throughout his high school years as president of each class as well as his entire high school, Cranston East. He graduated from the University of Connecticut as a physical therapist. He played on the baseball, basketball and lacrosse teams for the University. He moved to New York City in 1968.

Bruce met his bride Lilly Stern while they worked together in New York City at the Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, and they married January 29, 1972. They moved to Boston where Bruce received his Masters degree in Rehabilitation Medicine from Northeastern University. He became the administrator of Rehabilitation Services at New England Rehabilitation Hospital. The couple had their first child, Rachael, while in Boston.

In 1977, Lilly finally convinced Bruce to move south where they had two more children, Alex and Michael. They established the Columbia Rehabilitation Clinic (CRC), Inc., which now incorporates a total of five clinics. This was the first free-standing physical therapy clinic in the city of Columbia. Bruce continues as the President and CEO of Columbia Rehabilitation Clinic, Inc., and the clinic will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in August 2017.

Bruce immediately became active in the Jewish community, serving on the BOD of Beth Shalom Synagogue for over 35 years and as its Vice President and as its President. He continues to serve Beth Shalom Synagogue as co-chair of the Cemetery committee. He received the coveted Magan David Award at Beth Shalom in 2000. The Fillers are founding members of the Beth Shalom Foundation, and he serves as Secretary of the Foundation Board. Bruce has also served on the boards of the Columbia Jewish Community Center and Columbia Jewish Federation. He has been a consistent donor at the "Prime Minister" or "Jerusalem" levels in the Men's division of Federation and is philanthropic to many Jewish and secular organizations.

Bruce and his wife Lilly have been honored and recognized at the Beth Shalom Synagogue Traditions Dinner for their activities and support. They have also been honored by Israel Bonds for their unwavering support of the State of Israel.

Professionally, Bruce has served as the President of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association, and as a founding member and current board member of the collaborative Rehabilitation Associates Network (RAN), a joint network of physical therapists in South Carolina and North Carolina. He is currently serving as Vice President of the Arcadian II homeowners association in Myrtle Beach, and is on the Spring Valley lake committee.

Bruce is an avid golfer and plays golf whenever possible. He is a supportive friend and mentor to those around him. He is a devoted Red Sox, Patriots, and of course Gamecock fan. But most of all, Bruce is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He loves to play and be with his five grandchildren, and they adore him. He is admired in the entire community and dearly loved by his family.

**Bruce Filler will be honored  
at the Distinguished Service Award  
Reception and 2017 Campaign Kickoff  
on Thursday, October 20th at 6:30 pm  
at the Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC.**

**Please join us as we congratulate Bruce  
on this well-deserved recognition.**

**RSVP to 787-2023 x. 202  
or [debbym@jcccolumbia.org](mailto:debbym@jcccolumbia.org).**



***"I'm very proud to say that we are one of the largest distributors [of Food Share] in the Columbia area!"***

## **A Season of Change**

*Laney Cohen, LMSW, JFS Director*

It's the most wonderful time of the year! No, not Chanukah – fall! The leaves are changing, kids are back in school, and – hopefully – the weather is getting cooler. I love fall because after being in the extreme heat of the summer months, it's time for new beginnings.

First, we celebrate our ability to welcome a New Year, a time to make changes and work towards positivity in our lives. As we bask in the new light of a young year, we look for change that we can make within ourselves to make us a better people. It's also a time to ask for forgiveness for those transgressions that we may have done to others and atone for our sins. After we have been inscribed in the Book of Life, we celebrate my favorite holiday, Sukkot, rejoicing in our people's ability to sustain in times of peril and gathering outside with our friends and families. Then we dance and sing and celebrate the Torah! We sing songs of thanks and gratitude. It's the perfect time to be thankful for the wonderful lives that we live and for who and what we surround ourselves with!

**Like dirt?** JFS is looking for a few good community members to help get the Community Garden ready for the fall harvest. If you are willing to roll up your sleeves and get a little "soiled," please give me a call!

**JFS is currently collecting items to fill backpacks** for EL Wright students to help make sure that they have food over weekends. Please consider donating non-perishables with "easy to open tops." Already packaged pastas, fruits, and oatmeal packets or Pop Tarts are great for easy breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for the kids.

**Food Share** is still going very strong. I'm very proud to say that we are one of the largest distributors in the Columbia area! Every two weeks, boxes filled with produce from local markets and farmers are delivered to the JCC. They are \$20 cash or \$10 on your SNAP card. For more information, or to take advantage, please call me at 787-2023 x. 220.



Protect yourself from the flu at our **Flu Clinic**, offered by Walgreens, at the JCC on October 6 from 11 am - 1 pm. Insurance/Medicare accepted.

Jewish Family Service wants to wish everyone in the Columbia Jewish Community a L'Shanah Tovah, Chag Sameach, and inscription in the Book of Life for the year 5777!



# The JCC is pleased to announce the addition of these new staff members:

**Emily Flemming, Administrative Coordinator**



A Columbia native, Emily Flemming, the JCC's new Administrative Coordinator, received her bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management from the University of South Carolina. Before joining Palmetto Citizens Federal Credit Union as a Credit Specialist, Emily enjoyed internships at

Hyatt Place and Courtyard by Marriott. Emily is thrilled to bring her expertise in both finance and hospitality to help the JCC with member accounts and facility rentals. When not working, Emily is enjoying time with her two boys: RJ (2.5 years) and Caiden (1.5 years).

**Shannon O'Lear, Aquatics Manager**



Shannon Q O'Lear becomes our new Aquatics Manager after teaching aquatic survival lessons here for the last 2.5 years. She is a Columbia native, having graduated Cardinal Newman High School and Winthrop College before a 12-year sprint as an awards-winning investigative newspaper

reporter. After that, she was a successful federal grants writer and administrator for American Indian nonprofits in the state.

Shannon is the mother of Hayes (15 years) and Cort (9 years). When Hayes went through infant aquatic survival lessons at 8 months old, Shannon became obsessed with becoming an instructor and was finally able to certify in 2011 after three months of intense training with Infant Aquatic Survival in Atlanta. She returned to Columbia in 2013 and partnered with the JCC to teach young children aquatic skills.

When not in the water, Shannon golfs or often assists with steeplechase horses when racing season is in full swing. She loves to garden, is a novice healing herbalist and, for a couple of years, lived off grid in a 600-square-foot cabin she helped build on a middle Tennessee farm where her son was born.

She is very happy to have a home with the JCC and to bring the message of Not One More Drowning through lessons at our pool!

**Leah Griffin, Personal Trainer**



Leah is a personal trainer & healthy lifestyle coach by day and competitive athlete by night. She understands how important it is to stay mindful and healthy in all aspects of your life and lifestyle! Her philosophy is that our minds and bodies are priceless and tend to be extremely under-

appreciated within each of our days/ weeks/ months. She focuses on developing the brain and body in order to simultaneously bridge the gaps between age, time, and even injury.

Since 2012, her focus as a personal trainer has been health and recovery after injury and surgery. For the past 4 years she has worked with cancer survivors through the LiveSTRONG program. This program focuses on encouraging and developing long term plans for recovery and remission. Leah also teaches Chair Aerobics, Stretching for Health, and HIIT classes.

National Certifications include: AFFA Certified Personal Trainer; American Red Cross CPT/AED/First Aid; HEALTHWAYS Silver Sneakers; LiveSTRONG FOUNDATION

**Dr. Tony Turkett, Personal Trainer**



Tony has been an athlete all of his life. He played football through high school and into the pros, playing 3 years with the Atlanta Falcons! He currently competes in the Senior Olympic Games and masters track & field events. Tony brings 40+ years of fitness experience in cardiac rehab, health & wellness

education, and had his own personal training studio. In addition to personal training for us, Tony is currently the instructor for Midlands Tech's personal trainer certification course.

Education: Ph.D., The American Institute of Holistic Theology, Youngstown, OH, 1998; M.Ed., Physical Education and Counseling, The Citadel, Charleston, SC, 1986 & 1996; B.S., Physical Education and Health, The Citadel, Charleston, SC, 1979

National Certifications include: ACSM – Health/Fitness Instructor; IFA – Senior Fitness Instructor & Sports Nutrition; American Red Cross CPT/AED/First Aid



***"We were lucky to have Mr. Weisel twice in our city... It is our hope to plan an event to remember the remarkable achievements and impact that he had throughout the world, as the most famous Holocaust survivor."***

## **CHEC Looking Forward to 2017**

*Dr. Lilly Filler, CHEC Co-Chair*

The Columbia Holocaust Education Commission (CHEC) has been working hard to expand its educational reach throughout the midlands, and 2017 looks to be a big year for events and educational opportunities. The McKissick Museum at the University of SC has accepted the permanent "Holocaust Remembered" exhibit to be shown from January 9, 2017 until April 8, 2017. This will put the exhibit in the center of student life at USC as students, parents, alumni and faculty pass through this space throughout the year. In addition, plans are underway to develop a collaborative program of events with the Jewish Studies program, Historic Columbia, and the SC Council of the Holocaust. Watch for forthcoming information about lectures, panels, discussion groups and other events related to Holocaust studies. The commission is proud to announce that the exhibit "Holocaust Remembered" is now also available in a light-weight portable version and can be loaned to any appropriate group. Please refer to the website for loaning information: [columbiaholocausteducation.org](http://columbiaholocausteducation.org).



Additionally, plans are underway to see if a fitting tribute of Elie Weisel (OBM) can be coordinated with members of the University of South Carolina during this period of time. We were lucky to have Mr. Weisel twice in our city – once at Columbia College and once at the University. It is our hope to plan an event to remember the remarkable achievements and impact that he had throughout the world, as the most famous Holocaust survivor.

The annual "Holocaust Remembered" supplement will be distributed in the spring around the time of Yom HaShoah, and the CHEC is proud to announce that Palmetto Health, Children's Hospital will be our corporate sponsor in 2017. The theme will be "Children of the Holocaust," and again it promises to be a bold and eye-opening edition of a little discussed topic, the children.

We continue to offer speakers through our Speakers' Bureau to talk at any event or with any group that would be interested. There are films and books available for loan as well. Grants are available for K-12 teachers for Holocaust education in their classrooms. Please check our website for information on all that is offered through the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission.

In order to continue our work in the community, we are dependent on contributions from the members like you. If you wish to send a donation to promote Holocaust Education here and around the Midlands, please visit our website: [columbiaholocausteducation.org](http://columbiaholocausteducation.org), or send a check to Columbia Jewish Federation at 306 Flora Drive, 29223 to the attention of "Columbia Holocaust Education Commission." This is a tax deduction as we operate under the umbrella of the Federation.





# BUBBIE'S BRISKET & BAKERY

## Jewish Food Extravaganza!

**Beth Shalom Synagogue**  
5827 N. Trenholm Road, Columbia, SC 29206  
(803) 782-2500  
[www.BethShalomColumbia.org](http://www.BethShalomColumbia.org)

**Sunday, November 13, 2016**  
**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  
Israeli Salad  
Tzimmes  
Kasha Varnishkes  
Baba Ganoush  
Meat or Vegetable Blintz  
Challah

Kid's Meals  
Rugalach  
Mandel Bread  
Cakes and more!

**All Food Purchases Are À la Carte**





## Interviews Reveal Details About Columbia's Jewish Heritage

*Katharine Allen, Research Assistant, Historic Columbia*

In this excerpt from John Baker's March 3, 2016 interview with Historic Columbia's Robin Waites, he describes his grandmother's store at 931 Gates (Park) Street, seen here in a recently discovered image, courtesy of Columbia Housing Authority.



*"John Baker said,  
'She and Lee's  
mother were very  
unique in that the  
females, they were  
the breadwinners,  
not the males.'"*

**John Baker:** "Clara Kligerman was her name, Kligerman, and then it changed to Kligman. But Kligerman was her maiden name. She and Lee Baker's mother both ran retail stores in downtown Columbia. She and Lee's mother were very unique in that the females, they were the breadwinners, not the males. She ran—Clara Baker ran a store on Park and Pendleton Street by the name of Clara Baker Grocery.

...I remember going to that store as a youngster. My mother drank Coca-Cola...in the little six and a half ounce bottles. We'd take the empty bottles to Clara to get the deposits. Frank and I, we'd always ride with Mother and Dad to go pick her up and take her home—she lived on Woodrow Street—because she did not drive. She passed away in 1968."

**Robin Waites:** "What else do you remember about the store?"

**John Baker:** "A kerosene—either a dispos—some sort of kerosene thing out front, bars on the windows. I specifically recall that my grandmother had a... a very close personal friend, who was not related by blood, by the name of John Archie Bell. John was of multiple backgrounds. I think he may have had a relative who was white, but he was a very light-skinned African American who looked after my grandmother. If any riff-raff occurred in that store, he took care of her. He looked after her like he was her sister—brothers and sisters—a real close person.

When he came to visit me on occasion, one thing he'd leave with me, he'd say, "John, if you treat people right, they will treat you right as well." I always remember that from John Bell. Occasionally, I'll get a call from either his daughter or grandson asking me how we're doing and try to keep in touch, because it's like family. I feel that way."

Columbia Jewish Heritage Initiative is continuing to add new content to its online tour. Visit <http://www.historiccolumbia.org/cjhi> for more information.



Founder and Music Director Maestra Suzanna Pavlovsky

## *Nature and Passion*

Richard Maltz. *Cummington Overture*

Carl Nielsen. *Little Suite for Strings Op. 1*

Edvard Grieg. *Holberg Suite Op.40*

**October 16, 2016, 2:30 PM**

Katie & Irwin Kahn JCC  
306 Flora Dr, Columbia, SC 29223

**The concert is free, donations are welcomed**

The orchestra is grateful to the administration of the JCC, Jewish Federation, and the Washington Street United Methodist Church for sponsoring this event.



### **Celebrate Peace, Harmony & Respect!**

Ten different religions will each have an activity area for crafts and games, the Commons will feature music and dance – both performing and participative, enjoy the nature trails with a local birder-naturalist, and end the afternoon with a giant spiral dance.

**WHEN**  
**Sunday, October 9**  
**2-4 PM**

**WHERE**  
**Saluda Shoals Park**  
5605 Bush River Rd, Columbia, SC

**FEATURING** • Crafts • Music • Dance • Nature Walks  
Student Art Show & Awards • Entertainment

[www.interfaithpartnersofsc.com](http://www.interfaithpartnersofsc.com)



**FREE • ALL AGES**

### **ART CONTEST**

Use art to tell the world that we can live at peace with each other, even if we are different! Ages 6-18. Cash prizes, 3 in each of 4 categories. Visit web site to enter. Enter by Sep 9. Art display and awards at event on Oct 9.

### **QUESTIONS OR VOLUNTEER**

Contact Peace in the Park at [birlynjcc@gmail.com](mailto:birlynjcc@gmail.com).

### **GET THERE**

From Columbia, take I-26 W toward Spartanburg. Exit Peewee Grove Road and turn left. Proceed 1.5 miles to St. Andrews Road. Turn right, then left at the first traffic light onto Old Bush River. Saluda Shoals Park is 1.5 miles on your left.

### **SUPPORT BY**

Keith Gannery—Video



## *Tuesdays with Friends*

### **Tuesdays with Friends**

Beth Shalom Synagogue  
5827 N. Trenholm Road \* (803) 782-2500  
[www.BethShalomColumbia.org](http://www.BethShalomColumbia.org)

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

**Tuesday, September 9, 2016**  
**11:30 am - 1 pm**

**Featuring Rosh Hashanah Celebration: Join us for a joyous musical & educational program with Rabbi Case & Risa Strauss and enjoy a delicious holiday meal!**

There is no charge to attendees thanks to the generous donation made by Dolores Friedman and family -  
*In loving memory of Sig Friedman.*

**Tuesday, November 1, 2016**  
**11:30 am - 1 pm**

**Featuring ballroom dancing with Durlach & Breedlove**

There is no charge to attendees thanks to the generous donation made by Gloria & Henry Goldberg - *In loving memory of their parents, Harry & Edith From and Felix Goldberg, and in honor of Bluma Goldberg.*

**NO Program in October due to the Jewish Holidays**

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.

### **"JEWISH MUSICAL MONUMENTS"**

October 22, 2016  
8:00 PM

Peace Center for the Performing Arts  
Greenville, SC

Greenville Chorale and Greenville Symphony Orchestra

Avodath Hakodesh (Sacred Service)  
by Ernest Bloch -  
David Parker, cantor  
Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein

Music based on the traditions of the Jewish faith transcends religious boundaries in the worship of G-d. Join us as we celebrate the work of two great Jewish composers setting texts of universal meaning and appeal.





KOL HAKAVOD

כל הכבוד

TO OUR 2016 CAMPAIGN DONORS\*

TODAH RABAH

תודה רבה

THANK YOU FOR INVESTING YOUR RESOURCES IN—AND DEMONSTRATING YOUR COMMITMENT TO—OUR LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE WELL-BEING OF JEWS IN ISRAEL, EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD.

DO GOOD EVERYWHERE - FROM ANYWHERE

### MEN'S DIVISION

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Baker and Baker Foundation/  
John Baker and Steve Anastasion

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Henry Goldberg\*\*\*  
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Gregg & Caryn Helman  
Alan Kantsiper  
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Harvey Belson  
Eric Bland  
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Jeffrey Gross\*\*\*  
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David Jacobs\*\*\*  
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Manuel Lifchez  
Rabbi Sandy Marcus  
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Walker Rast  
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Brian Dumas\*\*  
Eric Elkins  
Bernard Fleischman, Jr.  
Carl Freedman  
Ira Greenberg\*\*\*  
Pierre Jaffe  
Harold Kline  
Richard Kline  
Sol Kline  
Neal Lourie  
Marc Rapport\*\*\*  
Alan Reynier, Jr.\*\*  
Steven Rosansky  
Jeff Selig

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Gerald Breger\*\*\*  
Kenneth Cutler  
Rabbi Hesh Epstein\*\*\*  
Robert Feinstein\*\*\*  
Edward Hertz\*\*\*  
Jeffrey Jacobs  
Joel Lourie\*\*\*  
Marvyn Milman  
Howard Nankin\*\*\*  
Gerald Polinsky

David Reisman  
Joseph Rosen  
David Shure\*\*  
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Bruce Deutschmann\*\*  
Jason Fischbein  
Ronnie Frank\*\*\*  
Stephen Friedland  
Steven Gendil  
Jerry Gibson  
Mark Goldenfield  
Anthony Goldman\*\*  
Joseph Goldson  
Joshua Goldson\*\*  
Allen Gotbeter\*\*  
Ronald Maris\*\*\*  
Joe McGee\*\*  
Frederic Medway  
Jeffrey Miller  
Ben Pearlstine  
Jeffrey Mark Picow\*\*  
Don Portnoy\*\*\*  
Joseph Roberts  
Arnold Schraibman\*\*\*  
Andrew Seidenberg\*\*  
Ned Strauss  
Neal Sutker  
Jeremy Wilson

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Joseph B. Berry\*\*  
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Joe Gorchow\*\*  
Matt Gottlieb\*\*  
Bruce Greenberg, Jr.\*\*  
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Sue Kline\*\*\*

#### SAPPHIRE LION OF JUDAH-\$18,000-24,999

Joni Cutler

#### LION OF JUDAH - \$5,000-\$9,999

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Barbara Blau  
Lilly Filler  
Charlotte Kahn\*\*\*  
Jane Kulbersh  
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Katherine Friedman\*\*\*  
Gloria Goldberg  
Carolyn Kressler Greenberg  
Esther Greenberg  
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Shelley Kriegshaber  
Susan R. Lourie  
Patricia Lovit\*\*\*  
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Sandra Poliakoff  
 Jeannie Rubin  
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 Inez Tenenbaum  
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 Katherine Wu  
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OLIM -  
\$500-\$999

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 Gail Bienstock  
 Penny Blachman  
 Debbie Brett  
 Sue Deutsch  
 Joanne Epley  
 Dolores Friedman  
 Bluma Goldberg  
 Heide Golden  
 Elizabeth Gross\*\*\*  
 Ruby Harris\*\*\*  
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 Ferne Kantsiper  
 Ruth Marcus  
 Nancy Nankin  
 Wendy Sharnoff\*\*\*  
 Wendy Stahl\*\*\*  
 Aileen Sunshine  
 Lois Wandersman  
 Vee Wayburn\*\*\*

HATIKVAH-  
\$250-\$499

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 Melanie Baker  
 Marsha Belson  
 Amy Berger  
 Estelle Bluestein  
 Susan Brill\*\*\*  
 Janet Brownstein\*\*\*  
 Libbie Fechter\*\*\*  
 Belle Fields  
 Sheila Gendil  
 Lois Gibson\*\*\*  
 Gail Kinard  
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 Ina Gottlieb\*\*\*  
 Gerda Kahn  
 Reberta Karesh  
 Beth Maris\*\*\*  
 Minda Miller  
 Shirley Ness\*\*\*  
 Arline Polinsky  
 Helen Rothstein  
 Jennifer Savitz  
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\$100-\$249

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 Thalia Birch\*\*  
 Claire Breger\*\*\*  
 Federica Clementi\*\*  
 Ann Diamond  
 Jessica Elfenbein\*\*\*  
 Blanche Feldman\*\*\*  
 Roberta Friedland  
 Daniela Friedman\*\*  
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\$0-\$99

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 Roselen Rivkin  
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 Victoria & Dmitri Schoeman  
 Candice & Scott Serbin\*\*  
 Erica & Todd Serbin\*\*\*  
 Elysa & Troy Sexton\*\*  
 Arnie & Ceil Sherman\*\*  
 Rabbi Daniel & Morgan Sherman  
 Laurie & Andy Slack\*\*\*  
 Judy & Linwood Small\*\*\*  
 Saskia Coenen & David Snyder  
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 Mindy & Andrew Tucker\*\*\*  
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*\*As of August 8, 2016*

*\*\* First-Time Donors*

*\*\*\* Increased Pledge  
 from 2015 Campaign*



# Columbia Jewish Film Festival

A Jewish Cultural Arts Event  
October 30 - November 15, 2016

## Share the Experience

Ruth Rast, CJFF Co-Chair



The Columbia Jewish Film Festival (CJFF), is part of the ever-growing landscape of Jewish Film Festivals organized in the U.S. and abroad. In its 16th year, the Columbia Festival is dedicated to bringing new, sometimes controversial, always thought-provoking films with Jewish and related themes to a diverse audience. A film festival is like a book club – not everyone is going to like every film to the same degree, but a shared experience has a huge impact. Films for the 2016 Festival were chosen with the assistance of an advance screening committee with the goal to find films that appeal to a wide demographic both within the Jewish community and beyond. On Sunday, October 31 the Festival will open with a Brunch at the Agape Conference Center followed by two highly acclaimed documentary films, *Breakfast at Ina's* and *Sabena Hijacking: My Version*, the riveting reenactment of the Palestinian group, Black September's takeover of SABENA Flight 971. Other films chosen for the Festival include the Dutch romantic comedy, *Moos*, about following ones dreams after a surprise Hanukkah visit from an old friend, and several dramas and docudramas, including *My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes*, narrated by Isabella Rossellini recounting the heroic story of notable Italians and high ranking officials of the Catholic Church's efforts to save Jewish lives during the Holocaust; *Apples from the Desert*, about a rebellious teenager of ultra- Orthodox Jewish parents journey into the secular world; *A Borrowed Identity*, the story of the cultural struggle of a Palestinian-Israeli teenager who wins a scholarship to an elite Jerusalem boarding school; *Once in a Lifetime*, demonstrates the enduring impact of the Holocaust and Holocaust education in transforming future generations; and *Remember*, starring Christopher Plummer and Martin Landau is a contemporary story of a holocaust survivor who discovers that the Nazi guard who murdered his family 70 years ago is living in America under an alias.

Identity, religious or cultural, is prominent theme throughout the 2016 Festival. The committee has chosen to explore this topic further in the 2nd Annual Student Short Film Competition open to all SC high school students. In addition to cash prize awards of \$500, \$300 and \$200 for the three best films, the films will be screened on Sunday, November 6 with the professional short film, *The Making of a Mensch*. For more information on the Festival or the Student Competition, please contact Patty Tucker at [cjfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:cjfilmfestival@gmail.com)





# ANNOUNCING THE FILMS OF THE 2016 COLUMBIA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

## COLUMBIA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE\*

### Sunday, October 30

10:30 am | Opening Brunch  
at Agape Conference Center  
12:00 pm | Breakfast at Ina's  
1:30 pm | Sabena Hijacking:  
My Version

### Tuesday, November 1:

5:00 pm | YAD Happy Hour  
6:00 pm | Moos  
8:00 pm | Remember

### Thursday, November 3:

6:00 | Apples from the Desert

### Sunday, November 6:

*Student Film Festival Competition*  
3:00 pm | The Making of a Mensch,  
What's in a Name, Student Films  
5:00 pm | Once in a Lifetime

### Wednesday, November 9:

6:30 pm | Felix & Meira

### Thursday, November 15:

5:30 pm | My Italian Secret  
8:00 pm | Borrowed Identity

*\*Films and times subject to change*

All films are shown at the  
Nickelodeon Theatre, 1607 Main St, Columbia, SC.

## BREAKFAST AT INA'S

October 30 at 12:00 pm

51 minutes | English

An affectionate homage to a beloved Chicago eatery and its magnetic namesake, Breakfast at Ina's chronicles the final days of a restaurant as uniquely individual as its founder.

## SABENA HIJACKING: MY VERSION

October 30 at 1:30 pm

104 minutes | Hebrew, French & Arabic with English Subtitles

Striking reenactments and harrowing testimonies combine to riveting effect in this true story of a terrorist siege that forever shaped the Jewish State.

## MOOS

November 1 at 6:00 pm

90 Minutes | Dutch with English Subtitles

It is Hanukkah evening and everything is the way it has always been for Moos. Except one thing: her long time childhood friend, Sam, has arrived as a surprise guest from Israel. With Sam back, Moos realizes her life has been on hold and she needs to follow her own dreams.

## REMEMBER

November 1 at 8:00 pm

94 minutes | English

Academy Award-winner Christopher Plummer is a dementia-stricken Holocaust survivor out for revenge in master director Atom Egoyan's supremely suspenseful thriller.

## APPLES FROM THE DESERT

November 3 at 6:00 pm

96 minutes | Hebrew with English Subtitles

Rebecca Abravanel is an only child, living a cloistered existence with her strictly religious Sephardic parents in Jerusalem. Unhappy with the restrictive traditions of home and community, she secretly breaks taboos, attending dance classes where she forms a relationship with secular kibbutznik Dooby. After Rebecca runs away from home, the family conflict culminates in a moment of truth, forcing them to confront their beliefs and one another.

## THE MAKING OF A MENSCH & WHAT'S IN A NAME

November 6 at 3:00 pm

Part of the CJFF Student Film Competition

English

These two short films explore Jewish identity and what it means to be both a mensch and Jewish both in the past and today. Screenings followed by winning student short films.

## ONCE IN A LIFETIME

November 6 at 5:00 pm

105 minutes | French with English Subtitles

A teacher with 20 years of experience, Anne Gueguen is determined to give the best education she can to her underprivileged inner-city pupils. She is initially met with extreme resistance, until a face-to-face encounter with a Holocaust survivor changes the class's attitude dramatically.

## FELIX & MEIRA

November 9 at 6:30 pm

105 minutes | French, Yiddish, German with English Subtitles

Félix and Meira is a story of an unconventional romance between two people living vastly different realities mere blocks away from one another. As Félix opens Meira's eyes to the world outside of her tight-knit Orthodox community, her desire for change becomes harder for her to ignore, ultimately forcing her to choose: remain in the life that she knows or give it all up to be with Félix.

## MY ITALIAN SECRET

November 15 at 5:30 pm

92 minutes | English and Italian with English Subtitles

The untold saga of Italians who rescued Jews and other refugees fleeing the Nazis in World War II. Featuring Gino Bartali, the charismatic Italian cycling hero who risked his life over and over to save innocent lives.

## BORROWED IDENTITY

November 15 at 8:00 pm

104 minutes | Hebrew with English Subtitles

Eyad, a Palestinian-Israeli teenager who wins a scholarship to an elite Jerusalem boarding school, is an outsider struggling to fit in with Jewish-Israeli culture in the late 1980s. Through the school's community service initiative, he befriends Jonathan, who suffers from muscular dystrophy, and is embraced by Jonathan's mother as a member of the family. As war looms, Eyad discovers love and disappointment, and makes a life-changing decision that alters the course of his future.

VISIT [www.columbiajewishfilmfestival.com](http://www.columbiajewishfilmfestival.com) FOR TICKETS, TRAILERS AND MORE INFORMATION

Columbia Jewish News | 15

## Please join the Chevra Kadisha

*Shelley Kriegshaber, with contributions from Minda Miller, Peggy Jacobs, Gloria Goldberg and Beth Maris*

It's regarded as one of the highest mitzvahs in the Jewish faith, yet so many people are reluctant to try it. I hope after you read this article that you will consider joining the Chevra Kadisha, the group that prepares Jews for burial.

Imagine this scenario...a loved one has just died.

The funeral is tomorrow.

The casket is selected and someone will place the deceased person in it. Would you rather it be a stranger who doesn't know or personally care about the deceased, or would you want it to be someone who likely knows your loved one and lovingly takes care of her by preparing her body for burial, performs tahara (the rite of purification) and dresses the deceased in traditional shrouds? If you select the latter choice, you will be cared for by members of the Chevra Kadisha.

Although our Jewish community in Columbia isn't big, we've been very fortunate to have an active Chevra Kadisha for many years for both men and women. Dean Bernstein learned early the rules of the Chevra Kadisha and trained generations of women for many years. But many of these members have aged, are no longer with us or can't help out anymore. We need and want to continue their legacy. When a Jewish woman dies, the committee chair (now Margo Goldberg) will round up four to five women to come to either Dunbar or Shives funeral home (*featured on page 2*) to clean and prepare the body for burial. It usually takes about an hour. For me, the last fifteen minutes are the most meaningful: we sit in the room with the deceased who has been lovingly placed in the casket, and we read prayers and share stories of our fondest memories of her. If no one knows the person, we give her a kind and warm sendoff. I haven't been on the committee as long as most, but every time I've been called in to help, I leave the funeral home with a feeling that I have done something good for someone else.

The men's Chevra Kadisha, under the leadership of Dr. Sam Baker, could also use more volunteers. If you'd like to come and observe before you agree to join, this would be a wonderful first step. Please contact Margo or Sam and volunteer! This is a community-wide group, and we would especially appreciate more participation from Tree of Life members. It makes families in mourning more comforted when they know that the person who prepared their loved one for burial is someone they know. We hope you will consider becoming part this very important and meaningful ancient tradition.

Please read what members of the Chevra Kadisha have shared about what being on the committee has meant to them:

*Not having a medical background, I was at first unsure if I could be a Chevra Kadisha volunteer. However, I decided to go and observe the process of preparing a body for burial. To my surprise, I found the experience very spiritual. The compassion and respect shown for the individual is truly an expression of kindness. I find the mitzvah of preparing the body and assisting its soul on the journey to "heaven" an honor for me personally. Also, this ritual is comforting to the family who has just lost a loved one. Columbia's Jewish community, though small, is a dedicated, supportive and loving community. We are committed to Jewish tradition in life as well as death. Chevra Kadisha is an important Jewish ritual. Please consider joining us. You will be amazed at how rewarding this final farewell act can be.*  
- Minda Miller

*In June of 2000 my mother's best friend passed away and to honor her, Mom wanted to be part of the Chevra Kadisha. I didn't want Mom to do it for several reasons so I told her I would do it. At that time I was very apprehensive about doing it, but to honor Mom I was determined. I joined a group of women who were very happy to have me and they were by my side every step of the way. I saw how lovingly they performed this mitzvah and how they performed their duties with dignity and love. It was not ghoulish in any way! I have been doing Tahara ever since and get such a wonderful feeling knowing that we are sending the wonderful souls on their next journey in such a loving way!*  
- Peggy Jacobs

*Although executed without fanfare, the Chevra Kadisha committee fulfills the utmost mitzvah. It is comforting to have our loved ones cared for by our brethren. It is a beautiful and nice tradition performed with loving respect. Those who participate in this mitzvah feel a sense of humility and well being.*  
- Gloria Goldberg

*At my Momma's funeral, I looked at her for one last time and noticed that her hands still had the French manicure I did for her two days earlier. It was extremely upsetting as I was expecting that this particular NY Jewish Funeral Home would take proper care of her. I also remembered my Father ten years earlier...not in a Kittel, but a dress suit and his Talit. Both my parents, particularly my Father, would have been very upset by this obvious omission of Tahara. I did not know all that I know now about Tahara, and, I do not know why this happened, but I knew I could not let this happen to anyone I cared about again. I had no clue what I could do about this until Barbara Blau asked me about becoming part of Chevra Kaddisha. Prior to this time, I had no idea what happened when a Jew died in SC. I assumed there was a Jewish Funeral home. I assumed they would take care of everything, like I assumed with my parents. I was wrong. When Barbara asked me to come with her for the first time, I knew that being part of Chevra Kaddisha was my answer to my own sadness. It would not rectify what was not done for my parents, but it would be a gift I could do in their memory, as well as a service to the Jewish community. Honestly, I was a little uneasy having no experience or training in Tahara, but I felt that this could be a most spiritual experience and got over my awkwardness and discomfort quickly. The women in our group were very respectful of our lady and luckily Dean Bernstein was there to direct us...I think it's been 20 years, maybe a little more or less. For me, each woman I have helped prepare has been an honor. I remember each of them. I think of their families and hope they know their loved one was treated with love and respect. This experience has made me a better person. I am thankful for having the opportunity to do this and thankful to Barbara for asking me so many years ago. I wish more younger people would be willing to become part of Chevra Kaddisha. There are so many dimensions of our lives that take years to develop. This life experience will deepen your soul beyond what most people can ever know.*

- Beth Alyson Troy Maris



# THE ROHR JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE

2016-2017 COURSE OFFERINGS

## HOW SUCCESS THINKS

*Jewish Secrets for Leading a Productive Life*

*CME and APA accredited (for medical and mental health professionals)*

There is no one magic pill or secret formula that will turn you into an overnight sensation; success is a product of who you are, what you believe, how you behave, and lots of hard work. Nobody can do the work for you, but Jewish wisdom and positive psychology have insights that will help you cultivate signature strengths, deal with weaknesses, and overcome the obstacles to your success.

BEGINS: NOVEMBER 2016



## TALMUD INTERACTIVE

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You're programming the safety features of a self-driving car. Should you favor the life of the driver over that of a pedestrian? You stole and crashed a car, and, in the process, saved the life of the owner's child. Are you liable to pay for damages?

At a party you find a car-winning bottle top. Does the prize belong to you, or to the guy whose party you're attending? In this course, you're in the driver's seat! Discuss and debate original Talmudic texts and formulate convincing arguments to solve these and other fascinating intellectual puzzles.

BEGINS: JANUARY 2017

## SURVIVAL OF A NATION

*Exploring Israel through the Lens of the Six-Day War*

Why must Israel exist? Does a religion need a land? When facing annihilation, how should we respond? And, when, if ever, is collateral damage warranted? Commemorating the fifty-year anniversary of the Six-Day war, this course provides an historic opportunity to discover what Israel means to us today. More than a history, it is a course about connection: understanding our connection to our land, to our people, and to our heritage through the prism of the events and themes of the Six-Day War.

BEGINS: MAY 2017





## CJDS Welcomes the Spalter Family

With the Cutler Jewish Day School's growth to over 170 students and its continuous focus on Jewish education there was a clear need for new elementary school Torah (Judaic) teachers. After a national search Rabbi Hershel and Morah Pesha Spalter were selected to join CJDS.

Rabbi Hershel is from Wisconsin, and Morah Pesha grew up in Toronto. They have most recently served as co-directors of Teen and Young Adult programming in Dayton, Ohio. They also have experience working with children in multiple programs. Morah Pesha has taught in various locations including New York, Ontario, and Finland. Rabbi Hershel has worked with fifth graders in multiple subject areas and has helped in the creating of a curriculum for Jewish schools. Mr. Mike Arnold, CJDS Board President, shared, "The Spalters seem to be perfect for CJDS and our community. They are very warm, have Jewish expertise, and will be great working with our children. I am excited for all they bring to Columbia."

The Spalters will concentrate on enriching the school with Jewish programming both in and out of their classroom. Rabbi Meir, Head of School, explained, "At CJDS Judaism is more than a period of the student's schedule; it is the culture that permeates every part of the day." The Spalters will help facilitate the learning of the ethics, customs, traditions and teachings of Judaism, for both students and families, throughout the school year.

The entire community is welcome to drop into CJDS to meet Rabbi Hershel and Morah Pesha (and Leah, their adorable toddler, pictured below).



## 2016 High Holy Day Service Schedule at Beth Shalom Synagogue

Erev Rosh HaShanah	Sunday, October 2	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
First Day of Rosh HaShanah	Monday, October 3	9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Tashlich Service	Monday, October 3	1:30 p.m.
At the home of Dr. Steven Rosansky - 526 North Trenholm Road		
Second eve of Rosh HaShanah	Monday, October 3	7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Second day of Rosh HaShanah	Tuesday, October 4	9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Kever Avot Services	Sunday, October 9	
	Arcadia Lakes Cemetery	11 a.m.
	Whaley Street Cemetery	12 p.m.
	Hebrew Benevolent Cemetery	1:15 p.m.
Kol Nidre	Tuesday, October 11	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur-Yizkor	Wednesday, October 12	9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
<b>(IMPORTANT: The Yizkor service used to be held at 1:45 p.m. – Will now be held at approx. 11:30 a.m.)</b>		
Minha and Neila		4:30 – 7:45 p.m.

### Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Danny Siegel

September 9-11, 2016  
at Beth Shalom Synagogue

Join us for an inspirational weekend featuring renowned Jewish educator, Danny Siegel. He will share with us his meaningful thoughts on faith, tzedakah, mitzvot and more. This is an all-inclusive weekend with educational opportunities for all ages.

- **Friday, September 9:** Friday eve family service and dinner beginning at 5:45pm.
- **Saturday, September 10:** Bagel breakfast and conversation with teens and teachers at 9:45am, then Shabbat services, followed by text study featuring highly unusual texts. *Schnapps and Schmooze* and havdallah on Saturday eve, September 10 from 6:45pm.
- **Sunday, September 11:** Opening day of Religious School with parents. Bagel breakfast and special thoughts and greetings for our students – from 9:30am.

*This event is sponsored by Beth Shalom Synagogue  
and made possible by the Sidney Krauss Charitable Trust Fund.*

We need your presence at  
Harvest Hope Food Bank

2220 Shop Road

Thursdays:  
September 29, October 27, November 17  
5 p.m.

Come and volunteer with Beth Shalom to help  
distribute food to the needy in Columbia.

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### Bruchim Haba'aim

Welcome back to BSS Religious School!  
We welcome back teachers, parents and students!

9/7: Open House 4:30-6:00

Meet the Teacher, Make Your Own Holiday crafts,  
Have a yummy nosh and more.

9/9: Shabbat with Friends and Family, 5:45 Nosh and  
Service and 6:50 Dinner with Scholar in Residence ,  
Danny Siegal

9/10: Staff Shabbat Charge with Danny Siegal at 9:45

9/11: First Day Back for Religious School!

9:30 Bagel Schmooze with Parents and Danny Siegal,  
Students and Teachers in Class; YACHAD ( assembly ) with  
Danny; and Post YACHAD activities with GlitterHoopZ Lori!

9/15: Adult Ed : MakeYour Own Wire Kippot, 6:30  
with John Morgan - Good Friends, Good Fun, Good Food  
and a New Skill! \$25 for ALL

9/24: Bat Mitzvah of Hallie Matzner,  
Mazal Tov to entire Family!

9/28: Dinner and a Minyan for all Religious School,  
5:30-6:15 and Adult Ed: A walk through the Machzor:  
Crash Course on getting to know YOUR Rosh HaShanah  
and Yom Kippur prayerbook, 6:15-7:15 with Rabbi Case

For more info, please call Risa at BSS at 782-2500.

# Tree of Life Congregation Welcomes New Rabbi-Rabbi Dream Team

Debbie Cohn, Tree of Life Membership Chair



On July 1st a new era began for Tree Of Life Congregation as the new Senior Rabbi and Education Director hit the ground running. Oh, and did we mention that they're married? In a search process that took well over a year, Tree Of Life found a match in the young rabbi team. As

a community with a 120-year history and a track record of being on the cutting edge, the decision to try a new approach came as no surprise to their members.

In rabbinical school, Rabbi Eric and Rabbi Carolan worked side-by-side for two years as interns at the Valley Temple of Cincinnati. They had really enjoyed their partnership but knew that, in all likelihood, their time working in the same congregation would be short-lived. After two years spread among three congregations in the Greater Boston Area, and a new addition to the family, the duo decided that it was time to be together in one community. Reflecting on his interview process, Rabbi Eric said, "We didn't dare to hope that we would be given the exact opportunity we were looking for; at least not for another 25 years or so... but then G-d had other plans."

After a month in Columbia, there is a feeling of optimism and joy at the Tree Of Life Congregation. Just weeks after starting on the job, Rabbi Carolan organized what she called a "cleansing" of the religious school wing, which brought out over 50 members. When the dust had settled, the wing had been purged of all outdated materials, and

a new, cleansed school had emerged. Looking back on that day, Rabbi Carolan said, "I couldn't believe my eyes. It was like polishing old silver or taking the whole religious school wing to the mikvah (a Jewish bath for purification). It will be so nice to welcome our new and returning students into a nice, clean space."

The religious school curriculum will also look different from years past as Rabbi Carolan will be implementing the latest models from the Union for Reform Judaism with a focus on enduring understandings and learning something new each day. Rabbi Carolan added, "Every day we expect that our students will be able to engage their parents in a full conversation about that day's activities. That goes for students of any age... from our young explorers and pre-k students (ages 1-4) to those in high school"

Friday Evening Shabbat services are also seeing a few additions as Rabbi Eric brings his musical talents and classical vocal training to Tree Of Life. Along with Music Director Sharon Witherell, their beautiful harmonies enhance prayer and add a profound richness to services. Monthly Saturday morning Shabbat services are also a special treat as Rabbi Eric crafts a musical service and an engaging Torah study.

It is an exciting time to be a member at Tree Of Life Congregation as the new rabbi-rabbi team has already taken Columbia by storm. Perhaps Rabbi Eric put it best when he said, "We have a big vision for Tree Of Life and the Columbia Jewish community. We are excited by the idea of adding our own twist to the rich history of our new home and stand ready to face a future filled with great opportunities." Perhaps another 120 years isn't such a far-fetched notion after all.

To find out more about Rabbi Eric, Rabbi Carolan, and the Tree Of Life Congregation, visit [www.tolsc.org](http://www.tolsc.org), e-mail [info@tolsc.org](mailto:info@tolsc.org), or call 803-787-2182.

## 2016 High Holy Day Service Schedule at Tree of Life Congregation

Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sunday, October 2	8:00 p.m.
Rosh HaShanah Morning	Monday, October 3	10:00 a.m.
Rosh HaShanah Family Service	Monday, October 3	10:30 a.m.
Tashlich Service	Monday, October 3	4:00 p.m.
Tentatively at the time of print at Sesqui Park		
Shabbat Shuvah	Friday, October 7	8:00 p.m.
Kol Nidre	Tuesday, October 11	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur Morning	Wednesday, October 12	10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur Family Service	Wednesday, October 12	11:00 a.m.
Shiur/Study Session	Wednesday, October 12	12:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur Afternoon Service	Wednesday, October 12	3:00 pm.
Yizkor & Neilah	Wednesday, October 12	4:30 p.m.
Break-the-Fast to follow		



# Jewish USC Welcomes Class of 2020!



Jewish USC - comprised of Hillel, AEPi's Gamma Chi Chapter, the Jewish Studies department, Chabad at USC, and the Jewish Faculty & Staff Council - spent the last three months welcoming over 50 incoming Freshman and their parents, transfer students, and graduate students at multiple summer orientation sessions.

The fall semester kicked off with Welcome Week events, such as a game and pizza night, a frozen yogurt social, a barbecue, and - of course - Shabbat dinner.

As students continue to strengthen the on-campus Jewish community through their programs, philanthropy, and social events, faculty and staff continue to work toward making the University of South Carolina a popular school of choice for Jewish students.

Visit [www.jewishcolumbia.org/usc](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org/usc) to keep up with Jewish life on campus.

*If you are a Jewish alumnus/alumna of USC and are interested in attending a USC Alumni Shabbat Dinner, please contact Cheryl at [cherylh@jewishcolumbia.org](mailto:cherylh@jewishcolumbia.org).*

Are you interested in becoming more involved with YAD?  
If so, come to the YAD Planning Meeting  
Wednesday, September 14 at 6:30 PM  
Public House on Devine Street



Shabbat Chili Cook Off  
Saturday, September 24 at 1:00 PM  
Finlay Park



## Spiritual Preparation for the Days of Awe

*Alice Kasakoff Adams and Meira Warshauer*

"Ayekha--Where are you?" G-d asks Adam after he eats of the Tree of Knowledge. Adam, hiding in the Garden, cannot give a straight answer. Not until generations later, with Abraham's "Hineni--I am here," does a fully present response return to G-d.

So, where are YOU? On the inside? Are you connected to who and where you are, in this moment of your life? And in each successive moment? How can we respond to G-d's question? Do we leaving it hanging, like Adam? Are we ready to reply, like Abraham?

Preparing for the Days of Awe, Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur, is our time to reflect on this question, to find our path to being truly present in each moment. Mindfulness meditation provides tools for this journey, for responding to the inner calls we may push aside or ignore.

Please join Meira Warshauer, Alice Kasakoff Adams, and others for sitting and walking meditation, chanting, stretching, contemplation, and other activities to clear the mind and open our hearts to the Holy Presence dwelling within.

Sunday, September 18, 2-5 p.m. Beth Shalom Synagogue, 5827 N. Trenholm Rd. Columbia, SC 29206. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for walking in the magical woods behind the synagogue. No previous meditation experience or knowledge of Hebrew is needed. Everyone welcome.

For planning purposes, we would appreciate an RSVP to Alice (803-361-1360) or [alice\\_bee@earthlink.net](mailto:alice_bee@earthlink.net). The program is free. Childcare available, upon request, for a modest charge. Advance registration for childcare by September 12, Risa Strauss, 782-2500.

Meira Warshauer has been a student of Jewish mysticism and meditation for many years. She leads mindfulness meditation at Beth Shalom Synagogue on Shabbat mornings. For more information contact BSS at 803-782-2500 or [meira.warshauer@gmail.com](mailto:meira.warshauer@gmail.com). Meira and Alice have attended retreats with Rabbi Jeff Roth and others of the Awakened Heart Project for Contemplative Judaism, [awakenedheartproject.org](http://awakenedheartproject.org).

Sponsored by Beth Shalom Synagogue, in conjunction with Tree of Life Congregation and Columbia Jewish Federation.

There are more events for our community  
than we have space to publish in our magazine.  
What a great problem to have!

Visit the Community Calendar at  
[www.jewishcolumbia.org](http://www.jewishcolumbia.org)  
to find out what's happening  
in Jewish Columbia.

The Boards and staff  
of the Columbia Jewish Federation  
and Kahn JCC  
join in wishing everyone  
a meaningful High Holy Days season.

*L'Shanah Tovah!*



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- 2265 Sunset Blvd - West Columbia
- 4717 Forest Drive - Forest Acres
- 117 1/2 E. Main St - Lexington
- 730 University Village Dr - Blythewood
- 800 Lake Murray Blvd - Irmo
- 138-B Amicks Ferry Rd - Chapin



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The beginning  
of a New Year.  
Blessings of health  
and Prosperity  
The holiday table  
graced with challah,  
honey, sweet apples,  
and even sweeter company.  
Pomegranate seeds  
rolling off the counter  
Another chance  
to begin  
anew.



Have a sweet year. And share what Rosh Hashanah means to you.

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