A super Super Sunday: $25,000 raised in one afternoon

Ginna Green

More than two dozen volunteers joined Federation staff and lay leadership on Sunday, February 9 for CJF’s annual Super Sunday fundraising phone-a-thon.

Calling on all prior donors from whom the Federation has not received 2014 pledges, volunteers—including representatives from the Young Adult Division, Hillel and AEPi at the University of South Carolina, and our campaign chairs and staff—placed hundreds of calls to give members of our community the opportunity to make a difference locally, and in Israel and around the world through an investment in CJF.

This year, generous donors agreed to match dollar-for-dollar all new pledges, and increases over 2013 pledges up to $30,000, a milestone that campaign has already met. Due to this amazing success, we are now looking for additional donors to make a dollar-for-dollar match! It’s never too late to increase your gift, maximize your impact and make a difference.

We have much planned for the Columbia Jewish community this year, and your investment will do a world of good. And there’s still time to donate if you missed the call on Super Sunday! Give us a call at the Federation to make your pledge today: 803.787.2023.

The young men of AEPi turned out in full force for Super Sunday on February 9. Thank you to the fastest-growing AEPi chapter in the country, and all of our amazing volunteers!

The University of South Carolina and The Katie and Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center Present
an evening of poetry with

Alicia Ostriker

Thursday, March 20th at 7:30 pm
at The Katie & Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center | 306 Flora Drive | Columbia, SC

"I write as an American, a woman, a Jew, a mother, a wife, a lover of beauty and art, a teacher, an idealist, a skeptic. Critics seem often to remark that I am 'intelligent’—but I see myself also as passionate. Actually, I am a combination of mind, body, and feelings, like everyone else, and I try to get them all into play."

Ostriker has received awards and fellowships from the NEA, the Guggenheim and Rockefeller foundations, the Poetry Society of America, and the San Francisco State Poetry Center, among others. Ostriker has taught in the low-residency Poetry MFA program of Drew University and New England College. She lives in Princeton, NJ, is professor emerita of English at Rutgers University.
March/April 2014

COLUMBIA JEWISH NEWS
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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 newspaper.

The deadline for articles, life cycle announcements, photos, and advertising for the March/April issue of Columbia Jewish News is February 10. Email articles to crc@jewishcolumbia.org. Photos should be emailed as high-resolution jpeg files. Announcements should not exceed 100 words.

We welcome all voices from our community. If you would like to contribute to Columbia Jewish News, contact Ginna Green at ginnag@jewishcolumbia.org. The editorial staff has the right to edit all articles submitted for publication. Articles should not exceed 500 words. It is not guaranteed that all submissions will be published.

Go Digital!
In an effort to “go green,” the Columbia Jewish News is now offering a digital subscription. Enjoy the same great news about the Columbia Jewish Community in your inbox. As a digital subscriber, you will receive an email when the newspaper has been posted online for viewing. Sign up at
www.jewishcolumbia.org.

Contact CJF at 803-787-2023
Abels, Barry .................barrya@jewishcolumbia.org, ext. 207
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Green, Ginna .................ginnag@jewishcolumbia.org, ext. 211
Mondino-Kattan, Maria ......cjfoffice@jewishcolumbia.org, ext. 204

What Will Be Your Legacy?
Giving (tzedakah) is at the core of Jewish life. For millennia, Jewish dreamers have passed on that tradition to their children through their words and deeds. They have left their legacy in the organizations and services that have nourished us, strengthened us, guided us, and taught us during our lifetimes.

You learned well from their example. Through your generosity of spirit and resources, you have continued the sacred work of repairing our world. You have fed the hungry, educated the young, uplifted the lonely, protected the persecuted, and cared for the elderly. You have taught for justice and fairness and furthered scientific understanding. Whatever you have done, you have done with passion.

So how will you turn that passion into your legacy?
It’s never too early to share your dreams and your passions with future generations. Call the Columbia Jewish Federation today.

Contact the Columbia Jewish Federation at 787-2023 or cjfoffice@jewishcolumbia.org to start a conversation about how you can join others in the Create a Jewish Legacy effort.

Your dreams...your passion... your legacy.

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2014 • 11 am - 3 pm
Free Admission • Free On Site Parking
Tree of Life Congregation
6719 NORTH TRENHOLM ROAD, COLUMBIA, SC
803.787.2182
bignosh.org

GET YOUR NOSH ON!

MAKE CHALLAH, EAT A LATKE, BITE A KNISH, BLOW A SHOFAR, DANCE THE HORA.

Saturday, March 8th
7PM - Midnight
Taps Arts Center
1644 Main St
in honor of PURIM

DJ
Cash Bar
Snacks
Live Dance & Performance
Coctail Attire
$10 / Advance
$15 / @ Door
WEAR A MASK!!

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2014 • 11 am - 3 pm
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MAKE CHALLAH, EAT A LATKE, BITE A KNISH, BLOW A SHOFAR, DANCE THE HORA.
You Belong Here!

Barry Abels, CJF and JCC Executive Director

Whenever I review our Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC literature, or for that matter don a JCC T-shirt, I see the words, “You Belong Here.” This is something I truly believe. When I hear someone say that the JCC is just a place to work out I do my best to help them understand all that we are and have to offer.

In just the first quarter of this year we hosted a program featuring an Israeli Consular official, celebrated Tu B’Shevat with fruits to eat in our lobby and staff speaking with members about the holiday. Many of our elementary and middle school children have been participating in our youth basketball program and a new crop of Mah Jongg players have joined the ranks of our veteran players during January and February. This group will continue play weekly. Our game day continues on Monday with cards and various board games. This is a place that welcomes anyone, but it is also the place where members of our Jewish community come and see many others that they may only run into at a Bat Mitzvah or some other simcha, simply because they belong to a different congregation.

By the time you read this article, many of you will have attended the Feb. 23rd warm-up to our Columbia Jewish Film Festival: A screening of “The Return of the Violin,” followed by violin and piano performance and discussion of the film. Almost 70 people enjoyed a concert featuring pianist Marina Lamanov at the home of Jocelyn and Bob Burg in January, a partnership between the JCC and the Southeastern Piano Festival.

In March, we will host a family Pre-Purim Bash concert for our younger folks, co-sponsored by the religious schools, the Day School and the Federation CRC committee. That will be followed with a program featuring nationally renowned poet Alicia Ostriker, who comes to us thanks to collaborating with the USC Jewish Studies program. This year’s Jewish Film Festival promises to have something for everyone with a great selection of films. On Friday afternoons we are playing Shabbat and other Jewish music and soon challahs will be available for you to purchase for your Shabbat evening table.

We are working hard to provide you a wide variety of programs, events and Jewish experiences, as well as a top-notch health and wellness program. Plus we are working on bringing more experiences around town as well as on our Gerry Sue and Norman Arnold Jewish Community Campus. So you can come to us and we will also come to you. We are always looking for activities that interest you. We have had a request for painting classes and are looking for students. We already have Lyssa Harvey ready to start working with you if painting is your passion. Let us know soon. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you around town at a program or event sponsored by your Katie and Irwin Kahn JCC.

Regular Challah: $10 or two for $18
Whole Wheat Challah is $12
ORDER Before 12pm Thu., March 6th
PICKUP at 6338 Goldbranch Rd
Friday March 7th
Between 3-5pm ONLY
Take make other arrangements; call 782-5500 or email chavikeps@yahoo.com
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.

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*As of February 17, 2014

** First-Time Donors

*** Increased Pledge from 2013 Campaign
Beginning March 1st, Jewish Family Service will be participating in the Alan Feinstein Foundation’s 17th Annual $1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger. Alan Feinstein has pledged to give a total of one million dollars away to agencies participating in the challenge. He will match dollar for item, dollar for dollar. What exactly does this mean? Donate an item of food to JFS and it will count as $1 to be matched. Donate money to JFS to be used for the food pantry, and it too will be matched, dollar for dollar. Please consider helping the Jewish Food Pantry.

Also beginning March 1st, eligible college students are encouraged to apply for Jewish Educational Loans via Jelf.org. (See their press release in this Jewish News edition for more details.) These are no-interest loans available for students attending college full-time. Call JFS with any questions about this fantastic opportunity.

Makes plans on March 20th to attend the JFit Fair at the JCC. This will be an outstanding opportunity to get lots of information on maintaining healthy living, as well as demonstrations, food, and fun. The JFit Fair will be held from 8-12.

On April 17th, JFS will be partnering with the Jewish Community Center in holding our 1st Annual Senior Seder. This will be a Seder open to all community members, and free of charge. Rabbi Sanford Marcus will be conducting the Seder. A light lunch will also be served. Please call JFS @ 787-2023 ext 220 to RSVP for this wonderful event celebrating the Passover Holiday.

For all of our 9-12 graders (and their parents), watch for information regarding an upcoming program which will tell of how the college admission process is changing. This program is open to all students, but specifically geared for those currently in grades 9-12. We will be hosting Dr. Jim Overton, LMFT of College Consultants of South Carolina for this informative series.

Keep your eyes and ear open for more to come! Looking at more Culture Bus trips, more community-wide programs, and more volunteer opportunities! Please feel free to contact me @ 787-2023 ext 220 for more information!

Laney Cohen, MSW
Building relationships with BBYO
David Greenhouse

Connecting. Columbia BBYO has spent the last few months forming new connections. In October our teens traveled with teens from Charleston and Augusta to Camp Rock Eagle for Southern Regional Convention with the Atlanta Council. Our own Hannah Greenhouse co-planned this convention continuing Columbia’s tradition of leadership for our region. Just before Thanksgiving, our teens had the opportunity to participate in the Eastern Region-Dixie Council Junior Senior convention at Camp Weaver. Over 150 teens from Virginia to South Carolina came together for the weekend. Scott Fried, a Jewish motivational speaker, addressed our teens.

Columbia BBYO hosted several teens from the Midwest during winter break as they escaped the cold. These were connections our local BBG girls made at summer leadership events.

We are now getting ready to attend Southern Region Kallah in Atlanta and then at the end of February Savannah’s dance. Our teens have been busy. Columbia will be the site for Spring Convention in March. We are planning special events to welcome our alumni to this very special event. We will have our dance on Saturday night and installation of officers and life ceremonies on Sunday.

Additionally, we are working with Greenville’s Jewish teens as they look to become involved in BBYO. We look forward to more programming with them.

Four of our teens will be graduating this year. We look forward to their life ceremonies. But we need more teens! If you are 8th to 12th grade and interested in connecting with more Jewish teens, please contact Grant Kilgore, Sarah Brotman or me. For the future, I hope that we can continue to grow, work with the JCC and coordinate events with the teens of CoFTY and Chabad.

My own daughter will be graduating from high school this year. With that event, I have no doubt that many who heard John’s message will follow his lead. I have no doubt that many who heard John’s message will follow his lead. John’s message was for each of us to follow our passion, because his passions drove his success in life. Like previous speakers, John spoke encouragingly about the state of our Jewish community, and he asked that each of us find a way to get involved. I have no doubt that many who heard John’s message will follow his lead.

“Where are they now?” Spotlight on JUSTIN SEIDENBERG
Jerry Emanuel

Justin Seidenberg was the Godol (president) of the Paul Schwartz chapter, AZA #254 in Columbia from 1996-1997. A year later he took over the position of Sgan (vice president) of programming. During his tenure the chapter cleaned out the basement at the old JCC on Trenholm Road; built a flagpole the JCC could use at its annual picnic at Sesquicentennial State Park to fly the Israeli flag; joined other members and their fathers at a local restaurant on Father’s Day to hear radio personality Phil Kornblut talk about sports; led the chapter in picking up trash along Clemson Road as part of the “Keep America Beautiful” anti-litter campaign; joined chapter members canoeing down the Congaree River; helped the chapter beat Charleston to take the basketball championship at Runoffs convention in 1997; joined naturalist Rudy Mancke as he led the chapter through the Congaree National Park and was honored with Life Membership in the chapter.

Today he’s living in Chicago with his beautiful wife Lisa and their three-month old son. He’s been trading scrap metal for almost five years. He also has a music management company where he represents a handful of bands and musicians.

"Some of my best friends to this day are people from BBYO," he said. "It’s also great having an even larger network of friends from BBYO that still remain connected through social media. I have been able to connect with them when travelling and have even networked for business relationships," he said.

Membership in BBYO, the world’s largest non-denominational Jewish youth group, is open to youngsters from 9th grade through 12th. BBYO Connect is available to all Jewish middle school children. For more information contact David Greenhouse (dggreenhouse@sc.rr.com)

Wishing You a Joyous Passover from the Columbia Jewish Federation and the Katie and Irwin Kahn Jewish Community Center

Exploring leadership with John Baker
Max Blachman

Last month, a large group of young people met at John & Marcie Baker’s beautiful home in Northeast Columbia for the most recent installment of our Columbia Jewish Federation’s Young Adult Division (YAD) Leadership Series.

Those of us who attended were grateful for a meal that nourished our bodies and a message that nourished our souls. Anyone growing up in the Columbia Jewish community is likely to meet or hear from John Baker at some point. It would be hard to escape his infectious enthusiasm and zeal for community service. Not only is John one of South Carolina’s most distinguished Jewish leaders, but he has also lived a life of achievement while maintaining his reputation as a kind and generous person. John spoke with great passion about his upbringing as a member of a storied Jewish family with deep South Carolina roots and his and Marcie’s commitments to community involvement here in Columbia and in the state of Israel.

Ultimately, John’s message was for each of us to follow our passion, because his passions drove his success in life. Like previous speakers, John spoke encouragingly about the state of our Jewish community, and he asked that each of us find a way to get involved. I have no doubt that many who heard John’s message will follow his lead.
Wishing you a happy and healthy Passover

For all your Passover essentials visit these neighborhood BI-LO locations

2230 Decker Blvd. in Columbia
120 Forum Drive in Columbia
4711-1 Forest Drive in Columbia
2055 Wedgefield Road in Sumter

bi-lo.com
Save the Date!
Thursday, March 20, 2014
8 am - noon
We will be promoting health & fitness, lifestyle, nutrition, creative crafts, demonstrations, healthy bites, entertainment, and hands on activities.

KATIE & IRWIN KAHN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
306 FLORE DRIVE, COLUMBIA, SC 29224
WWW.JCCCOLUMBIA.ORG

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or player
Contact Melanie Rexroad
melanier@jcccolumbia.org
(803) 787-2023 ext 206

March
Group Swimming Lessons
for Youth

Tuesday & Thursday evenings
March 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27
Member Discount: $80 Community Rate: $110

Beginner to Intermediate
Ages 5-12
Eight (8) 40 minute lessons with up to 6 participants
6:35-7:15pm

Pre-Intermediate
Ages 3-4
Eight (8) 30 minute lessons with up to 4 participants
6:35pm-7:05pm and 7:05pm-7:35pm

Contact Lindsay Agostini, Aquatics Director,
803 787-2023 ext 306 | lindsaya@jcccolumbia.org

12th Annual Golf Classic
SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014
10:30 AM REGISTRATION
12:30 PM SHOTGUN START
MEMBERS CLUB AT WILDEWOOD

Presenting Sponsors:

Contact Melanie Rexroad
melanier@jcccolumbia.org
(803) 787-2023 ext 206
**JAWS Youth Stroke Clinic**

Ages 5-17
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Beginner: 4:30-5:25 pm | Advanced: 4:30-5:15 pm
Member: $30/session | Non-member: $40/session
Each session consists of 8 lessons
Session 1 starts January 7 | Session 2 starts February 4
Session 3 starts March 4 | Session 4 starts April 1

JAWS Youth Stroke Clinics are designed to help those interested in competitive swimming form proper stroke techniques and increase swimmer confidence.

Contact Lindsay Agostini for more information
lindsaya@jcccolumbia.org | 803.787.2023 ext 306

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**Building Bridges through Values and Leadership**

Fun, Nurturing, and Creative Weekly Summer Camp for kids
Ages 3 - rising 9th grade
June 9 - August 15, 2014
Discounted rates for members
Leadership training and career exploration for older campers

Come in today to take a tour and receive a FREE 10 day guest membership!
March 30 - April 3, 2014
At the Nickelodeon Theatre | 1607 Main Street | Columbia, SC

**COLUMBIA JEWISH NEWS**

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**COLUMBIA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

A Jewish Cultural Arts Event

www.columbiajewishfilmfestival.com

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**AFTERMATH**
March 31 at 8:00 pm
107 minutes | Polish with English subtitles
A tense and gripping thriller, Aftermath tells the story of two brothers: Jozef and Franek, who discover a terrible secret and are forced to revise their perception of their father, their entire family, their neighbors, and the history of their nation.

**AKA DOC POMUS**
April 3 at 8:00 pm
99 minutes | English
Doc Pomus was the most unlikely of rock & roll icons. Paralyzed with polio as a child, Brooklyn-born Jerome Felder reinvented himself first as a blues singer, renaming himself Doc Pomus, then as a songwriter, creating some of the greatest hits of the early rock and roll era. He lived life fully, if not always happily or easily. A.K.A. DOC POMUS brings to life Doc’s joyous, heartbreaking, romantic, and extraordinarily eventful journey.

**DORFMAN IN LOVE**
April 3 at 8:00 pm
90 minutes | English
Dorfman In Love tells the story of a young single suburbanite unknowingly trapped in her role as caretaker of her unappreciative family, who desperately needs to get her own life. When she volunteers to cat sit at her unrequited love’s downtown L.A. loft, her world, as she knows it, changes forever. In seven days, she meets another man who appreciates her and she not only transforms the mess of a loft but also transforms the mess of herself.

**FILL THE VOID**
March 30 at 8:00 pm
90 minutes | Hebrew with English subtitles
Eighteen-year-old Shira is the youngest daughter of the family and is about to be married off to a very promising young man of the same age. On Purim, her twenty-eight-year-old sister, Esther, dies during childbirth, leaving her husband to care for the child and postponing Shira’s promised match. When the girls’ mother finds out that Yochay may leave the country with her only grandchild, she proposes a match between Shira and the widower, which leaves Shira to choose between her heart’s wish and her family’s wish to keep the child with them.

**JERUSALEM ON A PLATE**
March 30 at 6:30 pm
Special Feature Movie and Tasting Party at 5:30 pm
60 minutes | English
Internationally renowned chef, Yotam Ottolenghi, returns to his hometown of Jerusalem to discover the hidden treasures of its extraordinarily rich and diverse food culture. From the humble street foods of hummus and falafel, to the cutting edge of Jerusalem cuisine, Yotam uncovers the essence of what makes the food of Jerusalem so great.

**THE OTHER SON**
April 1 at 5:30 pm & April 2 at 8:00 pm
90 minutes | Hebrew with English Subtitles
What would you do if you discovered you had been switched at birth? That’s what happens to two teens, an Israeli and a Palestinian, forcing each of them to question their identities and leaving their families to figure out how to deal with the emotional repercussions.

**THE ZIGZAG KID**
March 30 at 2:00 pm
95 minutes | Dutch, French & English with English Subtitles
Based on a book by the renowned Israeli author David Grossman, The Zigzag Kid is a delight for all ages. Its hero is a smart, sassy, 13-year-old on a secret, Hitchcockian mission to discover what happened to his long-deceased mother. And only days before his bar mitzvah! With a stellar performance by Isabella Rossellini. Recommended for ages 11 and up.

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Individual movie tickets can be purchased for $10.00 at the JCC or online for Nickelodeon prices.

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March/April 2014
Tree Of Life

TOL BEIT MIDRASH FOR LIFELONG
JEWISH LEARNING
Winter 5774 / 2014 Adult Education Classes
Continue in March

Beyond Beginners Hebrew with Risa Strauss
Tuesdays, 6:00 - 6:55 p.m.
Continuing March 4, 11 & 18

Intro to Hebrew with Risa Strauss
Wednesdays, 6:00 - 6:55 p.m.
Continuing March 5, 12 & 19

Introduction to Judaism with Rabbi Sherman
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 7:55 p.m.
Continuing March 5 & 19

How to Get Even More Out of Shabbat Services with Rabbi Sherman
Wednesdays, 8:05 - 9:00 p.m.
Continuing March 5

See www.tolsc.org or call the Temple Office at 787-2182 for information.

Important Dates in March and April at Tree of Life Congregation

3/02: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.; Tree Tumbler Purim, 10:30 a.m.; Light the Way Concert with Meira Warshauer at Tree of Life to Benefit the Columbia Family Shelter, 3:30 p.m.
3/06: Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Sandy Marcus, 12:00 noon- 1:00 p.m.; Mama Doni Concert at JCC, 6:00 p.m. dinner & 6:30 p.m. concert
3/07: Bar Mitzvah of Will Cason, 7:00 p.m. - Mazal Tov to the Cason Family!
3/09: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School for Adults, 9:15 a.m.
3/14: KIDZ Shabbat, 6:45 p.m.; Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. with childcare at 7:15 p.m.
3/15: “Megillah Around the Clock” with Beth Shalom Synagogue at BSS, 6:45 p.m.
3/16: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.; Purim Carnival with Beth Shalom Synagogue at TOL, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
3/20: Sisterhood Program: Sisters Gone Mad at the Mad Platter, time TBA
3/21: Shabbat Potluck Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Kitah Gimel Class Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m.
3/22: Shabbat Morning Service & Torah Study, 10:00 a.m.
3/23: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.
3/30: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.
4/04: Shabbat Potluck Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Kitah Bet Class Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m.
4/06: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.; Tree Tumbler Passover & Religious School Model Passover Seder, 10:30 a.m.
4/11: KIDZ Shabbat, 6:45pm; Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. with childcare at 7:15 p.m.
4/13: No Religious School
4/15: Tree of Life Congregational Passover Seder, 6:00 p.m.
4/17: Women’s Passover Seder, 6:00 p.m.
4/20: No Religious School
4/25-26-27: NFTY Spring Kallah
4/27: Religious School, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School for Adults, 9:15 a.m.; Yom HaShoah Holocaust Memorial Service at BSS, time TBA

Tree of Life Congregational Passover Seder
Second Night of Passover
Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
Reyner Family Social Hall
Celebrate Passover at this family event, led by Rabbi Sherman, for all ages.
The meal consists of all the traditional Seder courses and foods.

Women’s Passover Seder
Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
Reyner Family Social Hall
Enjoy one more Passover Seder - just for women! - led by Risa Strauss and the Tree of Life Sisterhood/Women of Reform Judaism.

Call the Temple Office at 787-2182 for information or to make your reservation.

Mazal Tov to Dana and Chris Cason & Family as their son Will is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Friday, March 7, at 7:00 p.m.
Save the Date! One day only!

A unique and exciting opportunity to explore Torah and Israel!

Renowned master, Sinai David Peter, an Israeli director and writer, is coming to Columbia for two events.

Sunday, March 2nd
Beth Shalom Synagogue

12 p.m. - A 3-hour drama workshop: The Biblical Drama: It Is More Than One Story. Actors and thespians are welcome, but no theatre experience needed. All you need is a curiosity to explore the Torah through drama. An event bound to affect the rest of your life.

6 p.m. - Mr. Peter will present a lecture following the workshop: The Stage is Burning - Looking at the Israeli Theatre in the shadow of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Call to reserve your place at 782-2500 today!
Suggested donation $5

Sinai Peter is a renowned Israeli theater director and lecturer. Presently working at Theater J, Washington DC, will offer a special workshop in theatre studying of the Bible. The evening lecture will delve into Israel`s internal disputes as represented on the Israeli stages through the recent years.

Beth Shalom launches 2-month food drive

Lora Stein

As parents, we try to raise our children to become mensches. As Jewish educators, we try as often as possible to offer opportunities for our students to become mensches.

With this in mind, our Religious School students and staff at Beth Shalom, will take part in a food drive in partnership with Jewish Family Service to benefit the Harvest Hope Food Bank. The below-freezing temperatures in January caused water pipes in Harvest Hope’s building to freeze and burst. Unfortunately, these pipes were in an area of their building where supplies are stored.

Our students will use what they have learned about our different holidays for this food drive. For example: Week one of the drive we will ask students to bring in canned fruits or vegetables, in honor of Tu B’Shevat. The next challenge (canned tuna, chicken, or peanut butter) will be “What would Queen Esther’s favorite protein be?”

This challenge will be from March 3rd - April 11th.

Harvest Hope Food Bank’s wish list of most needed items include canned meats, canned vegetables, dry goods, peanut butter, dried beans, toiletries, diapers, detergents, plastic and paper bags. We are hoping for support from the entire community in this food drive. This event will continue until the last Shabbat before Passover in hopes that any unopened chometz will be donated.

Donation boxes will be located in the Beth Shalom foyer.

Important speaker: Dr. Josef Olmert will speak during Shabbat services at Beth Shalom on Saturday, March 29th at 9:45 a.m.

Topic: The New Frontier: Can Israel Survive America’s New Darling? Iran?

Dr. Josef Olmert’s career spans three decades. A native of Israel, he was formerly a professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Tel Aviv, Hebrew, and Bar-Ilan Universities in his home country. He has previously taught at Cornell University, City College of New York, and York University (Canada). In addition to his teaching work, Dr. Olmert served in senior positions in the Israeli government, such as the Director of Communications under Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Policy Advisor to Defense Minister Moshe Arens. Dr. Olmert served diplomatic missions across the world and was a participant at the Madrid Peace Conference in 1991 and subsequent Israeli/Syrian peace talks.

Beth Shalom Community Passover Seder
Tuesday, April 15, 2014
SECOND SEDER
7 p.m.

A community Passover Seder will be held in the Carol O. Bernstein social hall at Beth Shalom on the second night of Pesach, Tuesday, April 15 at 7 p.m.

Cost: Adults $36.00 (over 12 years old), children $12.50 (4-12 years old), children 3 years old and under are FREE.

Please RSVP by sending your payment to Beth Shalom Synagogue by Friday, April 11th if you would like to attend. Please include the names of everyone attending with your party.

Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please come early and save (reserve) your family’s table.
The last days of WWII through the eyes of S.C. liberator  
T. Moffatt Burris

Continued from the January-February edition of the Jewish News

September 9, 1943: US Fifth Army, consisting of the British X Corps and the US VI Corps, made water assault landings at Salerno, Italy and heavy fighting ensued.

October 1, 1943: Entered Naples, met no resistance, enjoyed a week of rest but then assigned mountain fighting for months in the dead of winter.

January 22, 1944: Beach landing at Anzio, Italy, with plans to advance to Rome. However, US intelligence had failed to detect the presence of significant German troops in the area and the “easy skirmish” became carnage. Although they were working side by side with the British, it was disturbing to see the Brits in disarray and retreating. Under heavy fire and terrible weather, the US paratroopers held their ground and the beachhead was saved, but at a heavy price. Burris’ company was reduced from 8 officers and 119 men to 4 officers and 13 men. For its action in stopping the German breakthrough at Anzio, the 3rd Battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, one of three the 3rd Battalion was to receive during WWII for fighting in many of the heaviest campaigns.

April, 1944: Returning to England for rest from the brutal Anzio battle, Burris is promoted to Captain and promoted to “I” Company commander.

June 6, 1944: The Normandy Invasion, D-Day. However, Burris and the remnants of his company were not able to participate as they were still in England recovering from months of brutal combat in Italy.

September 17, 1944: Operation Market-Garden, in Holland, was to be the largest airborne operation in history. The operation was developed by British Field Marshal Montgomery and detailed by British-born strategist Lt General Frederick M (“Boy”) Browning. Burris and his men were to attack and take the Grave Bridge, the longest bridge in Europe and vital for the movement of allied troops. The first objective of securing the bridge was accomplished by “I” Company in 1 hour. However, the devastation was soon to come.

September 19, 1944: Two additional bridges, the Arnhem Bridge and the Nijimegen Bridge had to be captured for the operation to be successful. Captain Burris was given the task to cross the Waal River and to capture the north end of the Nijimegen Bridge. The Germans held the south end of this bridge. The US plan was to attack both ends simultaneously to dislodge the Germans. Burris and his men had to cross the 300-yard-wide Waal River in daylight in collapsible canvas boats. They were fully exposed to German fire prior to reaching the opposite side. Losing approximately half of his company in the process, Burris and his remaining 17 men secured the north end of the bridge. They were eager to proceed to the Arnhem Bridge. However, when one German shell hit the lead British tank, Captain Peter Carrington of the British Grenadier Guards refused to continue to go toward the Arnhem Bridge. “Without direct orders” from his higher in command, he refused to risk fighting the lone gun, despite pleas and concerns of Burris and his men to help the stranded British and Polish paratroopers. The movie “The Bridge Too Far” depicts this epic battle.

December 17, 1944: Battle of the Bulge - A final all-out German offensive attacking a weak spot in the Allied lines along the Ardennes region of Belgium and northern Luxembourg. Significant casualties were suffered by Americans and Germans, but finally the last formidable German barrier, the Siegfried Line, was breached. This sealed the fate of Nazi Germany.

April 27, 1945: Wobbelin Concentration Camp: Burris and his company smelled the stench before they saw the remains of a concentration camp for Jews and other political prisoners in Wobbelin, Germany. The victims had been transferred from Auschwitz just before Poland was over-run by the Russians. “I had never seen human beings look so tortured and grotesque. They were skeletons, people with absolutely no flesh. Their bodies were no more than skin stretched over knobby bones that threatened to break through with the slightest movement….Many were too weak to walk or talk. One building was stacked 3 deep with unburied bodies and other bodies were found in a 10 foot wide trench.”

The city of Ludwigs lust was a few miles away from this horror, so Burris rounded up the towns people along with German POWs and ordered them to recover all the bodies in the camp including those in huge burial pits. Then they were instructed to bury the dead in individual graves in the town square. This humane action showed the respect that the dead demanded and made the local people fully aware of the German crimes against humanity.

During the course of the war, a US Jewish soldier was assigned to Burris’ company. He had escaped from Austria after the German occupation and made his way to the USA. He enlisted in the Army and joined the paratroopers with the single mission of trying to find his family and rescue them. He had information that his parents, sister and brother had been placed in a concentration camp when he escaped from Austria. Upon his arrival at the Wobbelin camp, he searched and found a Catholic priest and learned, to his horror, that his family and been imprisoned in this camp and only 1 week earlier had been put to death. Burris cried with the devastated Jewish soldier.

May 1, 1945: Even though US troops were ordered to stop 90 miles from Berlin, Burris and 2 men cross the Elbe River while on patrol and head toward Berlin. Unexpectedly, they meet a German Armored Corps and amazingly “demand their surrender.” Over 15,000 German soldiers surrender! Continuing toward Berlin they run into a Russian Division. After a brief celebration, Burris with his 2 paratroopers and a Russian Colonel, finally enter Berlin, the first American soldiers to do so.

September, 1945: Burris returns to the United States of America and is honorably discharged. He returns to civilian life.

Maj. Burris: “I only hope that after we are all gone, future generations will recall that, when darkness had already descended on Europe and much of Asia, young men from cities, towns, and farms, all over America willingly left their families and friends to fight and die on foreign soil in order to keep the world free.”

Study-Tour to Central and Eastern Europe
Sponsored by the S.C. Council on the Holocaust
June 21-28, 2015

Subsidies available for S.C. certified teachers
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CJDS

Nurturing life-long learners

Rabbi Meir Muller, Ph.D.

This past month on a tour with a perspective family I mentioned an experiment that was being done by “our third and fourth grade scientists.” The parent asked why I call the children scientists? I explained that at CJDS we purposefully refer to children as scientists, mathematicians, writers, Torah scholars, etc... because we want the children to know that they are doing valuable and meaningful work that can encourage life-long learning! One of our key goals of CJDS is to have children become life long learners. A study out of Brigham Young University states that lifelong learning, “is now a must to keep up with the changing nature of careers, swings in the economy, and the pace of technological innovations in the workplace.”

I agree with this sentiment but also feel that life-long learning goes beyond gaining a competitive edge in the workplace to making one’s life richer and more meaningful. This idea is put into practice as teachers explore ideas along with children or as teachers prepare for class by researching answers to children’s questions. Another way to measure a school’s commitment to fostering an environment of life-long learning is the professional development of the staff. At this time we have at least three life-long learning initiatives. About ten staff members are spending 180 hours in infant and toddler training, another ten staff are involved in a book study, while another group of teachers headed to Greenville in February to visit an educational exhibit. From students to educators, CJDS is an environment filled with life-long learners!
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