



Newest PJ Library Chapter for 9-11 Yrs Old



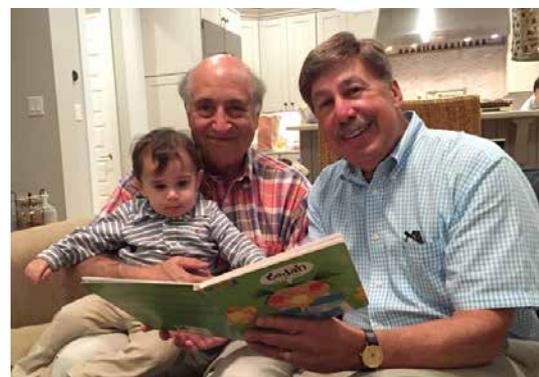
The Savannah Jewish Federation is pleased to announce that Savannah has been chosen as a pilot community for PJ Our Way, the newest chapter of the PJ Library program started by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Jewish children ages 9-11 will be able to continue their participation in the PJ Library, but now they will have the fun of choosing books for themselves!

For more than seven years, Savannah families with children ages 6 months to 8 years old have enjoyed the gift of the PJ Library — free, age-appropriate Jewish books or music each month — made possible with the generous support of the Savannah Jewish Federation, Jane Slotin, Nancy and Leon Slotin, and the Ceceile Richman JEA Fund. Everyone looks forward to that special time each month when the book or CD arrives: the time for reading, dancing and singing together when the children are in their pajamas ('PJs').

PJ Our Way is the latest expansion of the program, continuing the gift of FREE exceptional books with Jewish themes to kids ages 9-11. Reflecting their growing maturity and independence, the older children will use a safe PJ Our Way website to choose their monthly free book, write reviews, upload their own video trailers, and share ideas with others around the country. For busy parents, the PJ Our Way parent blog is a place to read about each book and find suggestions for starting family conversations.

Whether it's with the traditional PJ Library program for younger children, or the new PJ Our Way, PJ books are a great way to add Jewish stories and conversations into the home, and start new family traditions with night time stories and snuggles.

PJ Library Savannah is an initiative of the Savannah Jewish Federation to engage young families and children in the Jewish community. Monthly events and programs held in collaboration with other community orga-



Bill Sand (l) and Jerry Konter enjoy a PJ Library book with their grandson

nizations provide opportunities for Jewish children to meet one another and become involved in the wider Savannah Jewish community.

Kids ages 9 to 11 are invited to use PJ Our Way to build a Jewish library of their own. Sign up at www.pjourway.org. If your child aged 6 months – 8 years old is not yet enrolled in the PJ Library, please sign up at www.savj.org.

For questions regarding PJ Library or any of its associated programs, contact Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator, at pjlibrary@savj.org or 912-355-8111.

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, March 4	6:07pm
Friday, March 11	6:12pm
Friday, March 18	7:17pm
Friday, March 25	7:22pm

In this Issue

- Letters to the Editor, p2
- Federation President's message, p3
- Executive Director's message, p3
- I on Israel, p8
- JEA Centerpiece
- Condolences, p11
- It's a Funny Thing, p13

Also Featured

Jewish War Veterans

celebrating 120th anniversary. Local Jewish veterans and active military invited to celebratory dinner with local Post 320; p4.

Inaugural Savannah Teen

Weekend offered up quality Jewish experiential programming with lots of fun included, too; p6

ADL expanding profile in

Europe in response to increased anti-Semitism and anti-Israel activities there; p14

Annual Purim Carnival Fun March 20th



"I like to think it will be unlike any other Purim Carnival we've done before," said DJ Horton, talking with excitement about the upcoming 2016 Purim celebration being planned by the children's programming arms of the JEA and Savannah Jewish Federation – JEA Preschool Savannah,

The PJ Library, and the JEA Camps and After School programs.

The Purim Carnival will be held at the JEA on Sunday, March 20th, from 2-5pm. An afternoon of fun is planned including face painting, inflat-

ables and 'dream stations' where you can make your own masks, decorate cookies and do lots of other crafts.

Horton, the JEA's Children & Camp Director, explained that in conjunction with The PJ Library, the theme for the carnival this year is a pajama party. Children are invited

to come dressed in their pajamas to hear the reading of the Purim story and also are asked to bring with them new or gently-used pajamas to donate to Safe Shelter, in keeping with the tradition of caring for the needy on Purim.

Of course there will be delicious snacks, too. A special cookie and milk bar will be a highlight.

The admission fee of \$15 per family includes all activities and snacks. The annual Purim Carnival is a program of the Jewish Educational Alliance and the Savannah Jewish Federation.



Smiling faces at the 2015 Community Purim Carnival

100 Days of ImpACT

2016 ANNUAL COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

Savannah Jewish Federation

2016 SJF Community Campaign Update

\$1,028,547

As of February 16th from 625 donors

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JACKSONVILLE, FL
PERMIT NO. 2840

A Publication of Savannah Jewish Federation
5111 Abercorn Street
Savannah, Georgia 31405
www.savj.org
Address Service Requested



Book Review

It's Good for the Jews

by Vernon Mosheim

Eminently readable, even a page turner, **ISRAEL: Is It Good for the Jews?** by Richard Cohen, a nationally syndicated columnist for the *Washington Post*, is an absorbing and engrossing report on the justification for the establishment of the State of Israel. As you travel with the author through the ages, you sense his commitment, his involvement, his prescience. The book often seems as timely as tomorrow's unwritten headlines. While many books of this caliber quickly lose their relevance, this book is perhaps even more pertinent today than when it was originally published 18 months ago.

Exclusion. Excuses. Execution. Expulsion. Exile. Extermination. Extinction. Redemption. Rebirth. In brief, that has been the story of Jewry since Biblical times, as Cohen takes us on a spellbinding journey through history. As a result of anti-Semitism through the ages, above all at the time of the Holocaust and its aftermaths, Cohen defends the creation of Israel with in-depth insight and understanding.

Across its pages wander figures both familiar to the reader and little known. Churchill. Harry S. Truman. Ben Gurion. Nasser. Jabotinsky. Theodore Herzl. Golda Meir. Ahmadijenad. Stalin. Arlosoroff. Adolf Hitler. Menachem Begin.

A frequent traveler to Israel, I have often wondered as I strolled along Jabotinsky and Arlosoroff Boulevards in Tel Aviv — to point out only two — just who these men were and what role, if any, they played in the creation of the State of Israel. I

always assumed that both were pioneers, whose contributions were instrumental in leading to the creation of the State of Israel, but never bothered to delve further. In Richard Cohen's book, they and others like them come alive and justify over and over again why they are posthumously venerated and held in high esteem by the Israelis.

En route to Israel, we also meet such historical figures as Sabbatai Zevi, the false messiah, Leon Trotsky (nee Lev Davidovich Bronstein), Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, the last shah of Iran, Charles Lindbergh of aviation fame and Emma Lazarus, the poet, whose touching and moving words engraved on the Statue of Liberty, must have an ironic ring in today's immigration crisis. There are also frequent stops at such outposts of inhumanity as Auschwitz, Maidanek and Treblinka, where the more than six million Jews lost their lives. Inevitably, this road could lead nowhere else but to Israel.

As Cohen points out, however, the founder of modern Israel would not have liked modern Israel. Theodore

Herzl, who championed the creation of a Jewish state and is hailed as the father of modern Israel, never envisioned a country of hard-working pioneers reclaiming the land, making the desert bloom, building modern cities, introducing a new spoken language (Hebrew). Instead, he foresaw a German-speaking, Middle Eastern Vienna, replete with cafes, museums, an opera house. Yes, German would become the *lingua franca* of this *Judenstaat*. Even English or French would be acceptable. Hebrew, he felt, belonged in the synagogue.

Cohen focuses a good portion of his thesis on the war and postwar years and the main figures who strode

across the world stages at that time. FDR. Chaim Weizmann. George C. Marshall. Clement Attlee. Not to overlook the aforementioned Churchill, Stalin, Ben Gurion or Golda Meir. Prominent statesmen all, whom we have always respected and regarded highly, only to learn that, among them, were men with feet of clay.

Most surprisingly, the late General Patton. To cite just one example of his outspoken, anti-Semitic rants, in a letter to his wife he wrote that the newly liberated Jewish DPs were "lower than animals... who have lost their sense of decency during their period of internment by the Ger-



Letters to the Editor

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation,

Thank you for your generous grant to JELF's 2015 Annual Campaign.

JELF's Mission: Increases to the cost of education continue to outpace inflation, driving demand for JELF interest-free loans. In 2015, JELF awarded \$800,000 in interest-free, 'last-dollar' educational loans to help 218 Jewish students fulfill their potential with undergraduate, vocational or graduate degrees. Your gift helps bridge the gap that remains between other resources available to them and the cost of post-secondary education.

99% Repayment Rate: JELF graduates are dependable, as demonstrated by our 99% repayment rate. As they repay their loans, that money

is used to fund other students, creating an extraordinary circle of giving. Many former loan recipients go on to become JELF financial supporters and volunteers.

Again, thank you for your support. We are confident that the young people who benefit from this act of *tzedakah* will, by their achievements in the years to come, create a lasting tribute to your generosity.

Sincerely,

Rob Rickles, President
Jenna Leopold Shulman, CEO
Jewish Educational Loan Fund

Dear Savannah Jewish Federation,

On behalf of Friends of AKIM USA

and AKIM Israel we gratefully acknowledge your generous contribution.

Your donation will help to ensure that AKIM can continue to carry out its mission of providing support to 34,500 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Israel and 135,000 of their family members.

Thanks to generous donors like you, these children and adults will have the opportunity to receive the best possible care, to benefit from dozens of specialized programs, to be able to embrace life with dignity and self-worth, and become valuable members of society.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Boord, Treasurer
Friends of AKIM USA

mans." On the other hand, one is overcome by a feeling of pride when you learn about then-President Truman's decision to be the first to recognize the newly-created State of Israel, despite the protestations of the 'striped pants' set in his State Department, a situation of covert anti-Semitism that has been on a rollercoaster ride through past presidencies since and still exists.

While you may not always agree with the author and some of his reasoning, you definitely will not be bored. It is at once enlightening, offensive, informative, fractious, entertaining, and shocking. Once started, you will find it hard to put this book down.

ISRAEL: Is It Good for the Jews?
Simon & Schuster | 288pp | \$26.00

Savannah Jewish News

Published by the
Savannah Jewish Federation
5111 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31405
(912) 355-8111
www.savj.org

SJF President: **Sherry Dolgoff**
SJF President-elect: **Allan Ratner**
SJF Vice President: **Harvey Lebos**
SJF Secretary/Treasurer: **Matthew Allan**
SJF Executive Director: **Adam Solender**
SJN Editor: **Lynn Levine**

The objectives of the *Savannah Jewish News* are to foster a sense of community among the Jewish people of Savannah by sharing ideas, information, experiences and opinions, and to promote the agencies, projects and mission of the Savannah Jewish Federation.

The *Savannah Jewish News* is published monthly ten times per year, with a deadline for submissions of the 3rd of the month before publication. There are no February or August issues. All articles for the Winter and Summer issues should be submitted by December 8th or June 8th, respectively.

All submissions must be in MS Word format (articles) or pdf format with fonts embedded (advertisements). All color must be in the CMYK color format; all type in true black; photos in .jpg format.

Please send all SJN materials to:
sjnews@savj.org

Please send eNews submissions to:
adam@savj.org

Neither the publisher nor the editor can assume any responsibility for the kashrut of the services or merchandise advertised in this paper. If you have questions regarding kashrut, please consult your rabbi.

All materials published in the *Savannah Jewish News* are Copyright © 2016 Savannah Jewish Federation, all rights reserved, unless noted otherwise.

Savannah Jewish Federation
Mission Statement

Charged with raising, collecting and distributing funds, the SJF seeks to "advance the welfare of the total Jewish community." The Federation strongly supports Israel and world Jewry. Additionally, the organization strives to "preserve the civil, political, economic and religious rights of all Jews" to develop an articulate, intelligent and constructive Jewish community and to promote mutual understanding with the community at-large.



Sherry Dolgoff
President of the
Savannah Jewish
Federation

Mr. Holland's Opus

The first thing I did when I began teaching was write the day and date on the chalk board at the front of the room. It was early September, 1964. For the almost 40 years that I taught I always knew exactly what day it was because I wrote it on the board every day. It cemented the time and place in my mind. These days, time seems to be on fast forward, flying by like the first scene in the movie Mr. Holland's Opus. The movie told the story of a man's life as a teacher, year by year, how he inspired his students and was even more inspired by them.

I have thought about that movie many times. For me, being a teacher wasn't only what I did; it became a large part of who I was. Except for becoming a mother, teaching was the most wonderful and rewarding thing I ever did. Although I am very happy to be retired, I miss being with children very much. Yesterday I had the pleasure of seeing two children of children I had taught. That lovely experience served as another example of time rushing forward. Where does the time go?

When I was young I couldn't wait to grow up. My father would laugh and tell me it would happen soon

enough, but I certainly didn't believe that. Of course, just like he was right about everything else, he was right about that. Those years flew by, and while I very much enjoyed growing up, life became more complicated, as it always does. With privileges come responsibilities. Of course, I was willing to take responsibility. That was part of growing up. I soon realized that taking responsibility put me on a collision course with friends who just wanted to have fun. I wanted to have fun, too, but it isn't so easy to do both at the same time.

Recently Norman and I joined friends and family in Virginia for our granddaughter Sarah Isabel's Bat Mitzvah. It was thrilling and quite emotional seeing her leading part of the service and reading from the Torah. We were so proud watching her on this special day. Hearing Sarah and her brother, Matthew, chanting the song "Anim Z'mirot" together was so moving as well. Wasn't it just yesterday that our son-in-law, Mark, called us to say he and Karen were on their way to the hospital for the ar-

rival of their first baby? I was on the first plane I could catch to Washington and arrived to see him holding her tightly wrapped up "like a burrito," as he said. It had been eleven years since our granddaughter, Taylor, was born and we were thrilled to add another special person to our family.

The recent Bat Mitzvah weekend was another chance to see many people we don't have the opportunity to see often enough. The weekend was filled with both family and friends sharing the joy of the occasion and the opportunity to visit and catch up with each other. I like to think that our beloved parents and grandparents, and aunts and uncles, were watching and sharing our joy that day. What they taught us about the importance of family has not been forgotten. They have not been forgotten. Those ties that bind us make us stronger; together is better.

Last week I learned that a dear friend who had been ill for several years had passed away. Over the last few years I tried to coordinate my visits to Houston with her treatment schedule. It was always wonderful to see her. We had been pledge sisters at the University of Texas and she literally taught me how to study and made certain I did.

When we had the same courses she quizzed me until she was sure I knew the material. For two people who were so different it seemed we became more alike as the years passed. We both worked in our communities, Karen as a professional and I as a volunteer. The last time I saw her I was in Dallas for a Bat Mitzvah and it was just like old times. We sat for hours talking and laughing, listening and encouraging each other with our various issues. We just loved being together. Time passes and eventually so do we.

All of us are so busy, running here and there, doing everything on our 'list of things that must be done today.' But please take time to appreciate all the wonderful things in your lives, good health, the people who are dear to you. My parents used to say that we needed to "take time to smell the roses" and they were right again. Take time each day to tell the people you love, the people who are important to you, that you care. Don't count on tomorrow.

"Methinks I see the wanton hours flee. And as they pass, turn back and laugh at me."

George Villiers



Adam Solender
Executive Director of
JEA/SJF

Just One Post

Three weeks ago I received an email from the JCC of Greater Baltimore's graphic designer that said, "If anyone wants a funny post for FB in regards to the Chinese New Year." It had an attached graphic that stated, "The Jewish year is 5776, The Chinese year now 4714. That means that Jews had to exist 1,062 years without Chinese food, a time known as the Dark Ages."

I posted the graphic to Facebook at 5pm. By 7:30 I mused to my wife, "Can you believe this? That Chinese food post has reached almost 20,000 people." By 10pm it had reached 80,000 and was increasing at a furious pace as it was shared, shared, and shared again.

In less than 48 hours the post had reached almost 13,000,000 people, had 50,000+ likes, had been shared over 110,000 times and had over 2,600 comments. To be honest, I couldn't help going back to look at the numbers rising... it was mesmerizing.

I reflected on the absolutely unbridled power of the internet. While we mostly use the internet to disseminate announcements of community events and news about community members, this time we used it to share a light, self-deprecating, humorous post. The millions of impressions we had in 48 hours showed the power of the internet.

That same power is used skillfully by others to disseminate hate and misinformation. Groups that at one time hid in rural towns now spew their hatred worldwide behind a veil of anonymity. Once those groups could distribute maybe 1,000 flyers in a day, now they can get their message to millions in mere seconds. While once these groups could be reined in, online speech seems well protected under the First Amendment. Internet hate websites are popping up faster than laws can be written. The internet is rife with anti-Semites, Holocaust deniers, homophobes, radical Islamists, racists and extremists.

While you and I may go to YouTube to see the latest music group, a cooking demonstration, or to watch

a 'How to fix ___ video,' racists and other extremist groups have found it to be a 'perfect venue' to promote propaganda and other hateful messages. Often, through the use of misleading tags and titles, you 'accidentally' find yourself watching a video filled with misinformation and hate speech. Chat rooms, instant messaging and emails are used indiscriminately to lure impressionable children to these intolerant sites.

And of course, there are thousands of sites that are specifically designed to misinform and restate history. Some use bold cartoon graphics, again designed to entice unsuspecting children.

Finally, there are terrorist groups like ISIS who have deployed a sophisticated social media campaign that is defining and redefining propaganda

as we never could imagine. Twitter feeds provide live updates on military advances and military strength accompanied by graphic images. Many of these 'tweets' emanate from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Syria, and other Gulf countries. Glorifying suicide missions and assassinations, the feeds seek to create fear among its enemies and win the admira-

tion and support of other radical groups. ISIS is more strategic online, demonstrates greater sophistication, and operates in cyberspace on a larger scale and with greater intensity than previous terrorist groups. At least Twitter recently announced plans to shut down several thousand accounts they believe are operated by ISIS, though it is probably only a matter of time before they spring up again in another version.

One of the leading responses to internet hate speech is to foster online speech against extremism and rely on the "marketplace of ideas" to influence the public. Yet, radicalization continues to grow and overwhelm the "voices of truths."

The internet is the greatest forum for the exchange of ideas the world has ever seen. It has no nation, no borders and it is both technologically and legally impossible to regulate. Just one post on Facebook reminds us of what a dangerous place it can be.



The Facebook 'numbers' reflect the power of the internet.

JWV Celebrating Anniversary

In honor of the 120th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV), Savannah Post 320 is holding a banquet at the JEA on March 15, 2016, in honor of all of Savannah's Jewish veterans. Colonel Jeffrey A. Becker, Commander 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, U.S. Army, will provide remarks.

Jewish War Veterans is the oldest veterans' organization in the United States. It was founded on March 15, 1896, as the Hebrew Union Veterans Association (HUVA) to counter the persistent rumors that Jews did not serve in the Civil War. In fact, not only did approximately 7,000 Jews serve in the Union Army and 3,000 in the Confederate Army, but seven brave Jewish-Americans received the Medal of Honor for their heroism in the Union Army. From the founding of the Republic to the current day,

hundreds of thousands of Jews have served in the U.S. military, including half a million in World War II. Today, approximately 10,000 Jews are on active duty. The HUVA was renamed in 1924 after World War I as Jewish War Veterans.

The mission of the JWV is to "foster and perpetuate true Americanism; to combat whatever tends to impair the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions; to uphold the fair name of the Jew and fight his or her battles wherever unjustly assailed; to encourage the doctrine of universal liberty, equal rights, and full justice to all men and women; to combat the powers of bigotry and darkness wherever originating and whatever their target; to preserve the spirit of comradeship by mutual helpfulness to comrades and their

families; and to preserve the memories and records of patriotic service performed by the men and women of our faith; to honor their memory and shield from neglect the graves of our heroic dead."

Savannah's JWV Post 320 was founded in memory of local serviceman Martin E. Kirschbaum, who died in combat in World War II. The post has operated continuously over six decades, providing service to the Savannah community by promoting patriotism, honoring our deceased Jewish veterans, and performing various services to the community. Recently, we honored our veterans by placing over 160 flags on their graves in Bonaventure Cemetery on Veteran's Day; with the Sa-



JWV Post 320 marching in the 2015 Savannah Veterans Day Parade

vannah Jewish Federation's Trading Places, marched in the annual Veteran's Day parade; and manned a water stand at the American Legion for the Chanukah Torch Relay.

If you are a veteran of any branch of service, regardless of when you served, we hope you will join our Post by either going to www.savj.org and filling out the application form or contacting Post Commander Frank Katz at fhkatz@comcast.net.



*The Savannah Jewish Federation,
The Jewish Educational Alliance &
The Jewish War Veterans Post 320*

*cordially invite Jewish Veterans & Active Military,
and their guest, to a special celebration to honor those
who have served our country
on the occasion of the*

120th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jewish War Veterans

*Tuesday, March 15, 2016
7:00 p.m.*

*Jewish Educational Alliance
5111 Abercorn Street*

*Remarks by
Colonel Jeffrey A. Becker
Commander, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade*

*A Complimentary Dinner will be Served in Your Honor
Please RSVP at savj.org or call 912-355-8111
by Monday, March 8.*

Dress Uniform or Coat & Tie

*All meals served at the JEA are Kosher, not under supervision.
Certified sealed Kosher meals available upon request.*



Looking for something to do?

Check the Community Calendar to find out what's going on!

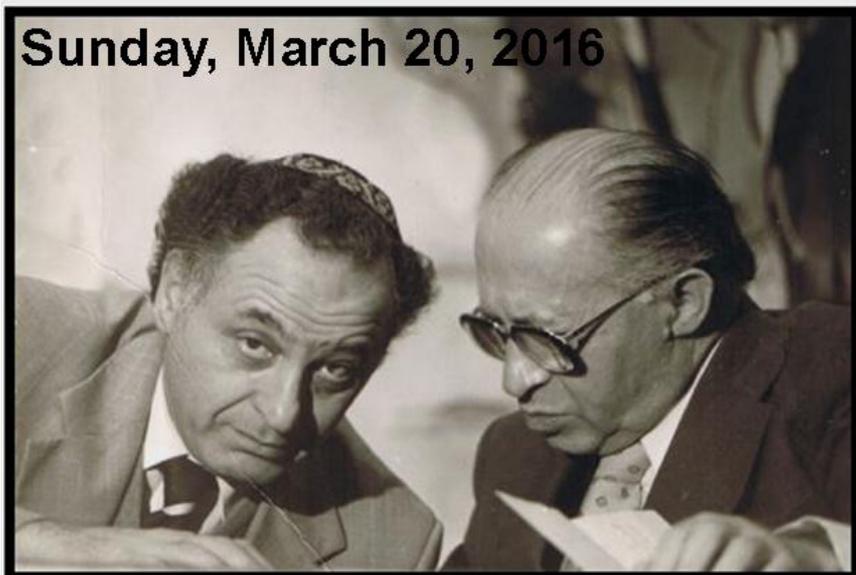
www.savj.org

Hadassah Presents:

A new film by award winner Aaron Trask:

The Prime Ministers: Soldiers & Peacemakers

Sunday, March 20, 2016



Yehuda Avner counsels Menachem Begin in compelling documentary about Mideast peace process

Carmike Theater at 3:30 PM

Corporate Sponsorships Available

Tickets Free with a \$50 donation

Jean Weitz
jweitz@hadassah.org
912-354-2409





Harvey Rubin Memorial Award

Do you know a high school teen who has shown exceptional athletic ability and leadership in the community?

Any member of the Jewish community is eligible to be nominated.

Applications are due by April 1st, 2016, download at www.savj.org.



Melanie Ourhaan receives the 2015 Harvey Rubin Award from his sister, Elise Shernoff

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

Jewish Awakening Krakow

As part of the 2015 Campaign and Allocations process, the Savannah Jewish Federation reappraised the Overseas Investment Grant program whereby community members recommend overseas agencies to receive \$500 mini-grants, with up to 20 being approved. Eighteen submissions were made this year and this continues our introduction to you of the grant recipients.



At a recent Krakow Jewish Culture Festival

After the Holocaust and fifty years of Communist rule extinguished virtually all traces of Jewish existence in Krakow, Poland, the city is experiencing a rebirth of Jewish life. Located just 60 miles from Auschwitz, Krakow is seeing an exciting resurgence of Jewish religious and cultural institutions.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), through its Poland's Jewish Awakening Krakow project, is working with local partners to facilitate this revival. During the years of the Communist regime, what remained of Jewish life in Krakow was forced underground. But now the JDC helps support a vibrant Jewish Community Center, a Jewish museum, winter and summer camps run through a well-developed young families program and a Limud Poland program.

Seven synagogues in Krakow's Jewish Quarter, Kazimierz, survived World War II intact, and several of them are functioning today. There is a full-time Jewish Studies program at a local university and a number of Jewish festivals for music and culture that are well attended not only by Jewish patrons but also by the non-Jewish community. The JCC has become the hub of Jewish life in Krakow, providing programming for all age groups, including Hebrew classes and weekly Shabbat dinners that often are attended by 100 or more people.

The Jewish community in Krakow is proud that Jewish life for them no longer is just about the Holocaust and Auschwitz but about the rich history and traditions of Jewish life in Poland.



What does PJ stand for?
Pajamas! We know those special times of reading, dancing and singing together happen when your children are wearing their pajamas.

Who is eligible to register?
A family must have children from 6 months to 8 years old with one Jewish parent in the household and must currently reside in the Savannah area.

What's the cost?
The PJ Library® is free when your child is enrolled in the program due to our generous local donors. One book per child.

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming PJ Events:

March 20 @ 2:00 p.m.
PJ Purim Party

April 17 @ 11:15 a.m.
Tot Program with Mickve Israel

May 29 @ 10:00 a.m.
Lag B'omer Pool Party



PJ Library showing their Grass Pets at the PJ Tu B'Shevat Event

Celebrating a Simcha?

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, engagements, weddings, births

We want to know!
Share your good news with the *Savannah Jewish News*

Send the vital statistics to sjnews@savj.org



Check out PJ Our Way, the Newest Chapter of PJ Library -

PJ Our Way offers the gift of exceptional books with Jewish themes to kids ages 9-11 - books that they choose themselves!
Find out more

For more information about PJ Library, please contact Devra Silverman, Community Engagement Coordinator at pjlibrary@savj.org or 912-355-8111.

The Savannah PJ Library is made possible through generous support by the Savannah Jewish Federation, Jane Slotin, Nancy & Leon Slotin, and the Cecele Richman JEA Fund.



Your Campaign Dollars at Work

DROP YOUR PANTS HERE

www.DavidsDryCleaners.com

david's DRY CLEANERS

DOWNTOWN: (912) 232-8181
640 E. President St.

MIDTOWN: (912) 352-1155
4519 Habersham St.

POOLER: (912) 748-6808
471 Pooler Pkwy at Publix

HOTEL & VALET SERVICE:
(912) 631-8839

TRY OUR NEW ROUTE SERVICE
FREE Pickup and Delivery
(912) 925-7301

Your Campaign Dollars at Work

Teen Weekend, Much More than a Dance

As part of its expanded community engagement efforts, the Savannah Jewish Federation launched a new teen initiative in January, the Savannah Teen Weekend. Originally the Savannah Dance, a 75-year old tradition, for which a dance would be the only activity for the weekend, this new event would welcome Jewish teens in grades 8-12 and be inclusive to all backgrounds. The goal was to provide quality experiential Jewish programming that not only allowed teens to think deeply, but also to have meaningful Jewish experiences with one another.

Two teen coordinators, Nathan Luskey and Evelyn Darling, were chosen to plan the Savannah Teen Weekend with the guidance of the Federation's Community Engagement Coordinator, Devra Silverman. The teen coordinators decided to include other Savannah and out-of-town teens help plan and run programs based on a 1920s theme.

The Savannah Teen Weekend began on Friday, January 15, in conjunction with the 100th Day of Campaign's Community Shabbaton. Savannah helped lead Friday night services with Rabbi Moshe Silberschein, celebrating the Savannah Jewish community. After dinner, the attendees who hailed from Augusta, Brunswick, Charleston, Greenville

and Columbia participated in ice-breakers and mixers that helped the teens get to know one another.

Isaac Lichtman, a 9th grader in Savannah BBYO said: "I went in knowing only Savannah kids and came out with new friends from other states. The activities were a blast and the environment was extremely friendly and fun. I had an amazing time and can't wait for the next one!"

Saturday began with morning services learning about the relationship between Judaism and meditation, and then experiencing a guided meditation. After a short kiddush, the teens participated in a Poverty Sim-



The Weekend participants with their Art Deco mural.

ulation led by Step Up Savannah, an organization that focuses on economic mobility and financial stability. From discussions and research the teens were able to experience what it is like to live in poverty and how to deal with the hardships others face. Reese Javetz, an 8th grader new to Savannah BBYO said: "I had a lot of fun at the Savannah Teen Weekend! I

got to make a lot of new friends and hopefully more! I loved learning about women who help others get out of dangerous situations during the Poverty Simulation. I absolutely can't wait for the next Savannah Teen Weekend!"

Saturday night it was time to put on their flapper outfits and swing dance at the Savannah Dance! After celebrating the end of Shabbat with Havdalah and songs, the teens watched the crowning of Beau and Sweetheart, Allison Samuels was crowned David Finn AZA's Sweetheart and Philip Boblasky was crowned Wexler Clark BBG's Beau. The rest of the night was spent dancing, singing, and laughing among the teens!

Other weekend programs specifically based on the 1920s era included Jews in the Rise of Hollywood and The Art Deco Period. In the Hollywood program, teens learned about history of the Jewish presence in film and TV. They put on skits for one another, acting out themes and stories from Jewish history, silent film, and Yiddish theatre. In the Art Deco program, teens painted a mural about one of their favorite Jewish traditions, Havdalah. They discussed the meaning behind Havdalah and some of their favorite memories. Dorian Weiss, a SCAD student, designed the mural and helped throughout the program showing the teens where to paint and which colors to use. The mural will hang in the JEA for all to see!

In the final program on Sunday, teens took part in a community service project that would benefit some



Savannah Teen Weekend Coordinators Evelyn Darling and Nathan Luskey on Saturday night

of the people they learned about during the weekend. They made toiletry bags to pass out to the homeless. Using donated items, the teens filled 100+ bags with soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpastes and handwritten notes of encouragement. The bags were donated to the Union Mission.

The 2016 Savannah Teen Weekend was more than just a dance, it was an opportunity for teens to come together and experience Judaism in a new light. The weekend illuminated a passion in the Savannah teens to better their organizations and give back to the ones that have helped them along the way. Sophie Guggenheim, a 12th grader, put it best by saying "The Savannah Teen Weekend was a great event! We learned so many important things while having an amazing time with some of my best friends!" It was a memorable weekend that the Savannah Jewish community will not forget!

Service Award Presented

by Carol M. Towbin Greenberg

The quote "G-d is our refuge and strength," taken from Psalm 46, graces the medallion that was presented to Nili Gingold, wife of Rabbi Captain David Gingold, last month at Fort Stewart. What appropriate words for this young journalist, photographer and artist by trade, a mother of two, who takes so much pleasure in teaching and living Torah in all aspects of her life, especially as it applies to *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world).

The medallion for service was not only for acting as a hostess and resource for soldiers during her recently retired husband's three years as Army Chaplain, but also for her support of soldiers in moments of difficulty. "I have followed my husband, who goes to bases in often re-

mote and isolated areas, to entertain soldiers [and provide a welcoming home-away-from home] for Jewish holidays," Nili replied when asked about the award.

Many at the base were impressed by her energetic pursuit of military and community sponsorship for a support network for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, *Beschut Neshim* (Women Equality). Once established, this international charity would help victims fight against the stigma of reporting abuse, speaking openly about the trauma to qualified counselors, and help them find resources for mental illness associated with such incidents.

Nili Gingold has been very busy since moving to the Savannah area a year ago from Kobe, Japan. She

has written articles about life in the military and in Savannah, created note cards for sale of photographed scenes of Savannah and local Jewish subjects, performed her one-woman show *East meets West* of "nostalgic Jewish music from Yemen to Eastern Europe... accompanied by Hasidic stories and folktales," and mounted an exhibit at a downtown Savannah art gallery of her photo montages of psychological portraits.

Despite her accomplishments, Nili is shy and humble and remarked that although it "felt good that people appreciate what I do, the award was unnecessary. I guess it empowered me to continue... for the point of good deeds is not to get a medallion... it is to change the world and make it better. *Baruch Hashem!*"

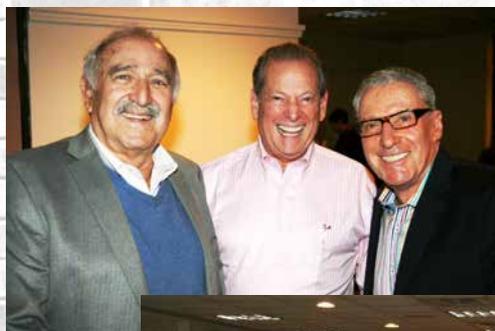


Nili and Rabbi David Gingold

Scenes from the 2016 Konter-Weiland Comedy Night



Funny guys Jeff Caldwell (l), Lenny Marcus and Jon Fisch (far right) with Marcy and Jerry Konter



Friends and family of all ages enjoyed the laughs, the drinks and the delicious dessert buffet!



The room was packed!



Sponsored by the Lawrence Konter and Bertram Weiland Jewish Cultural Arts Fund

Why do we Dress Up on Purim?

1. In contrast to the overt miracles of the holidays of Passover, Chanukah and other Jewish holidays, the miracle of the holiday of Purim was disguised in natural events. Here is a sampling of the story: The king (Achashverosh) wanted his wife to come to a party; she did not want to, and she was killed. Then an evil man (Haman) wanted the Jews dead and plotted to accomplish this with the approval of the king. The king remarried, and his new queen (Esther) happened to be Jewish, and arranged for the annulment of the decree. Only after the fact, when one looks at the entire story, does one realize the great miracle that transpired. *The custom of wearing costumes on Purim is an allusion to the nature of the Purim miracle, where the details of the story are really miracles hidden within natural events.*

2. The Talmud writes that just as the Jews at the time pretended to be serving other gods, G-d pretended that He was going to destroy the Jewish nation, and in the end He did not. Rabbi Tzvi Elimelech Shapiro (1783-1841), known as the Bnei Yissaschar, writes that this is the reason we pretend to be someone else on Purim, since both the Jews' and G-d's actions were masked by other intentions.

3. We dress differently on Purim to minimize the embarrassment of the poor who go around collecting charity on this day—a day when we give charity to everyone who outstretches their hand.

4. To commemorate the dressing up of Mordechai in King Achashverosh's royal garments in the story of Purim.

Source: chabad.org



Refinance **NOW** while rates are at historic lows

Fixed Rates Up To 30 Years
Free Good Faith Estimate
1/2 point origination
No intangible tax

Contact Chris or Jessica
(912) 356-9225
Or Apply Online at
workmenscirclecu.com

527 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 2
Savannah, Georgia 31405

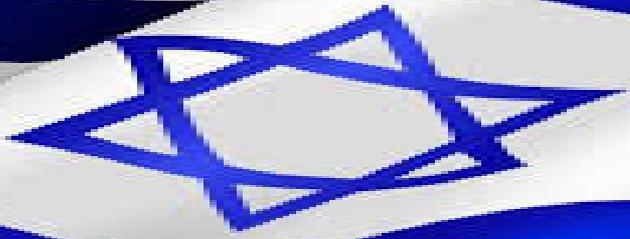
Discover the Credit Union difference...



Proudly Serving
Savannah Since 1991.

www.KoleMC.com

912.232.3555 | 1719 Abercorn Street | Savannah, GA 31401



I on Israel

ALS Advances at HMO/Jerusalem



Dr. Dimitrios
Karussis

A new ALS treatment utilizing a stem cell infusion protocol performed at Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) and developed by the US/Israeli biotech company BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics has significantly slowed the progression of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease), announced Ellen Hershkin, National President of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. in January.

JAMA Neurology published the findings of the Phase 1/2 and Phase 2a ALS Clinical Trials conducted by Dr. Dimitrios Karussis, MD, PhD, Sr. Neurologist, HMO Neurology, in their January 11th issue. These clinical trials, which began in 2011, utilized an innovative adult stem cell self-transplantation treatment involving the harvesting of stem cells from the patient's bone marrow, their culture and enhancement using BrainStorm's patented protocol NurOwn® and their injection into

the patient's cerebrospinal fluid by a technique that was developed and proposed by the Hadassah investigators. Twenty-six ALS patients participated in the trials at HMO / Jerusalem.

HMO Principal Investigator Dr. Karussis explained the *JAMA Neurology* study findings: "The results are very encouraging. Close to 90% of patients who were injected intrathecally through the spinal cord fluid were regarded as responders to the treatment either in terms of their respiratory function or their motor disability. Almost all of the patients injected in this way showed less progression and some even improved in their respiratory functions or their motor functions..."

"I am optimistic that within the foreseeable future, we may provide a treatment to ALS patients that can slow down or stop the progression. I believe we are in the early stages of something new and revolutionary with this harvested stem cell infusion therapy. While this is absolutely by no means a cure, it is the first step in a long process in that direction. I see this treatment as being potentially one of the major future tools

to treat degenerative diseases of the brain and spinal cord, in general."

Hadassah President Hershkin stated, "For over 75 years, Hadassah's hospitals have been in the vanguard of innovative medical discoveries, research and treatments. Under Dr. Karussis' direction, HMO is eager to continue its groundbreaking work to combat ALS and similar neurodegenerative or neuroinflammatory diseases, such as multiple sclerosis and many others. ALS is estimated to affect 30,000 people in the US and 450,000 worldwide."

Chaim Lebovits, President of BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics, said, "BrainStorm Cell Therapeutics, a leading developer of stem cell technologies for neurodegenerative diseases, is proud to be a pioneer in the testing and development of stem cell transplantation treatments for ALS. Following the spectacular results of our 2nd Phase trials, BrainStorm looks forward to the results of the US double blind trial as well as the start of a multiple dose trial at HMO in Israel to help us prove the efficacy of this innovative new treatment."

Online Purim Exhibit

In honor of Purim, the Israel Antiquities Authority has made available an online exhibition of *Masks and Rattles from the National Treasures Collection*. Though the holiday's custom of 'dressing up' is generally accepted to date to the 13th century, the items in the exhibit are much older.

Many of the antiquities that make up the online exhibit are believed to have been used for ceremonies and rituals. Masks were associated with ritual purposes such as rainmaking, curing disease and exorcising spirits and demons. Such masks often were made in the image of deities or demons.



(l) A rattle from the exhibit. (r) A stone mask from the Neolithic B period.

At Purim, while reading the Book of Esther, it is customary to shake a rattle whenever the name of the villainous Haman is read. Most of the exhibit's ancient rattles were found in tombs or in some context related to cults, but given the number of rattles found in excavations throughout Israel, some historians believe they also were an important religious musical instrument during the time of the First Temple.

To view the exhibit, go to http://www.antiquities.org.il/purim_eng/html_eng.html.

Wasted Food Studied

Leket Israel (LI), also known as Israel's national food bank, is the leading non-profit, food rescue organization in the country. According to a study released in January by LI and consulting group BDO Ziv Haft, more than 2.5 billion tons of edible food valued at 8 billion shekels (approximately U.S. \$2 billion) is wasted annually in Israel.

The report, which evaluated food loss throughout the value chain – from agriculture to packaging, industry, distribution and to the consumer – highlighted the economic, social and environmental benefits of rescuing unused food for the more than two million Israelis currently living below the poverty line. The report suggests that the rescue of NIS3 billion worth of food annually is what is needed to turn people who

are currently "food insecure" to being "food secure." This would constitute about 25% of the actual food wasted.

Gidi Kroch, CEO of Leket Israel, urged the Israeli Parliament and leadership of other countries to acknowledge the advantages of food rescue and cutting waste. "The cost of such food rescue is 75% lower than the alternative of providing support, subsidies or allowances to the needy, and additionally offers significant environmental benefits," he said. With its network of partner organizations, volunteers and donors, LI collects and distributes more than 30 million pounds of produce and manufactured perishable goods annually.

Kroch concludes that the report proves it is possible and necessary to increase substantially the volume of food rescue in Israel. Leket Israel



A Leket Israel volunteer takes delivery of excess food from a corporate cafeteria in Israel

aims to increase the volume of food rescue at least 300% by 2020. To do so will require support from policymakers in Israel and a number of cost-free measures. Necessary legislation will include:

- Setting a national target for food rescue, which will determine a reduction of 50% in food loss by 2030, according to the principles formulated by the United Nations and adopted by the U.S. government and European countries in September 2015.
- Completion of the legislation encour-
- Imposing a food rescue requirement on government agencies and funded bodies. Requiring organizations funded by the state to enter into contractual agreements with recognized food rescue organizations (including security agencies, army, government corporations, etc.).

aging a food saving surplus similar to the Good Samaritan Law in the United States.



The Jewish Educational Alliance presents a monthly program guide:



CENTERPIECE

Jewish Educational Alliance

March 2016



Children's Programming

Saturday Night Out

March 5th - Polar Pool Party - 7:15-10:00 pm

- Compete for Prizes in a Variety of Pool Games
- Enjoy Delicious Strawberry Shortcake
- Watch a Movie on Our Big Screen



March 12 - Ultimate Hide-and-Seek - 7:15-10:00 pm

- Join Us for a Camp Savannah Favorite as We Play Ultimate Hide-and-Seek
- Cool off from all the Fun with Our Delicious Sno Cones
- Watch a Movie on Our Big Screen



Who: 4y-6th grade

Cost: \$25/child or \$50/family

JEA Member Value Price: \$20/child or \$40/family

Where: JEA

RSVP and advance payment must be made by Thursday, March 3rd for Polar Pool Party and by Thursday, March 10th for Ultimate Hide-and-Seek. Limited to the first 40 children

Check www.SavannahJEA.org for more details

SPRING DAYS @ THE JEA

Swimming	Daily Snacks	Field Trips
Movies	Sports & Rec	Arts + Crafts
Cooking		GaGa
March 14th Field Day 2.0		March 28th "Extreme"
March 15th "Irish It Were Summer"		March 29th Field Day 2.0
March 16th "All About the 90's"		March 30th "Irish It Were Summer"
March 17th "Rock of Ages"		March 31st "Zootopia"
March 18th "All Things Delicious"		April 1st "All Things Delicious"

Sign up today, space is limited. Ages 4 yrs - 8th grade
For more information call DJ at 912-355-8111 or email camp@savj.org
Teen Volunteers Welcome! A great way to fulfill your public service requirement and have fun at the same time!

Daily Rate:
Member \$35
Non-Member \$45



New JEA Members

The JEA would like to thank our members. Without your membership and support, we would not be able to offer all the services that we do. Our members are our most important asset!
(New Members as of 12/19/15-2/5/16)

Johnathon Barrett
Justin & Kate Bashor
Penny Breslow
Melody Brooker
Adam Chase & Kathryn White
Cynthia Cooke & Nan Spach
Adrienne Cronberger
Corinne Cunningham
Meir & Alice Elfassy
Stanley & Fumiko Feingold
Todd Gentry & Leah Hill
Gregory Goeken
Justin Goldberg & Megan Benson
Tom Greenhouse
George Hardison
Harold & Alexandra Hoecherl
Vassilios & Mary Ionas
Sonchia Jilek
Douglas Kaufman
Chastity Lasley
Megan Lombardo
Elizabeth Lynn
John & Jessica Mnieckowski
Constance Morgan
Peter Pollak
Peter Roaman & Ilyce Brinn
Robert Rollings
Gregory Skinner & Carmen Evans
Noel Szychowski
Bradley Tatom & Holly Brinson-Tatom
Andrew Thompson & Holly Arena
Melanie Wilcox



Adult Programming



Bridge - Wednesdays 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Scrabble - Wednesdays 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Mah Jongg - Mondays 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
 Tuesdays 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
 Thursdays 10:30 am to 12:30 pm



Community Garden

Love to garden, but don't have the space? Be part of the JEA Garden Club and help work one of the 18 garden boxes at the Midtown Miracle Community Garden, three blocks north of the JEA. Excess produce and herbs will be donated to Second Harvest to aid them in their mission to feed up to 6000 children daily. For more details, "like" **Midtown Miracle Community Garden** on Facebook or email Carol Greenberg MStarArts@gmail.com.



Don't forget to call and make your reservation at the JEA Front Desk or call 912-355-8111.

Join us on each Thursday at 12:30 p.m. for **Food For Thought!** Visit with old friends and meet new ones, enjoy a delicious lunch for only \$5, followed by an educational speaker or performer.

- March 3** *People in the Paint* with Alan Stecker, JEA Artist of the Month
- March 10** *"Johnny and Me,"* a Live Performance in collaboration with the JEA Arts & Culture Center
- March 17** Trivia with Bob and Mike
- March 24** *Two Voices,* A Live Performance from the Savannah Voice Festival
- March 31** *Yo Yenta Breaking Jewish Mothers* with Jessica Lebos, Community Editor at Connect Savannah
- April 7** *Sharing the Earth* with Eleanor Stecker, JEA Artist of the Month

Young Jewish Savannah

Are you young (22-40), Jewish and living in the Savannah area? We hope you'll participate in one of Young Jewish Savannah's Judaic, social or community service programs. **Contact Jamie Cahn, (912) 355-8111 or yjs@savj.org for more information.**

Young Jewish Savannah is about creating relationships and getting to know the community.

We want to get to know you!

New to Savannah and want to get connected? Want to help plan events? Have ideas you want to share? Just want to hang out?

Join Jamie for coffee! yjs@savj.org.



JEA Donations

(December 19, 2015-February 5, 2016)

JEA GENERAL DONATION

In memory of Naomi Strear
Gail Robinson
In honor of Aaron Levy
Harriet Simmons
Claire & Dick Savitt
In memory of Marcia Lebos
Jane Fishman
In honor of Sally Krissman
Jean & Julian Weitz
A donation by the Phillip Geffen Bnai Tzedek Fund
A donation by Barnett Rukin/The Brook Fund

JEA PRESCHOOL SAVANNAH FUND

In memory of Larry Lasky
Robin Feldman
In honor of Aaron Levy
Lana & Richard Krebs
In honor of Eva Odrezin
Betty Lasky

JACK M. & MIRIAM S. LEVY CONCERT FUND

In honor of Aaron Levy
Esther Buchsbaum
Merry & Richard Bodziner
Harriet & Eric Meyerhoff
Marilyn Cranman
Beth Childress

In honor of Dayle & Aaron Levy
Stephen & Sandra Rich

BERTHA & HYMIE KANTER YOUNG AT HEART FUND

In memory of Naomi Strear
In memory of Clair Smolen
In honor of Eva Odrezin
In memory of Burton Udinsky
Sally & Steve Greenberg
In memory of Burton Udinsky
Harriet Konter

JEA FITNESS FUND

In honor of Adam Solender
Jay Goldstein

HARVEY RUBIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Harvey Rubin
Elise & Victor Shernoff
In memory of Zelda Newman
In memory of Burton Udinsky
In honor of Marsha Bernstein
Brenda & Patrick Salter
Bernice Elman

HENRY W. CENTER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Jean Rosner
Vicki & Harry Center



Health & Wellness

Prepare for Summer Swimming this Spring



Kirby Southerland
Aquatics Director

Long, hot days are headed our way, which means fun-filled days at the pool and beach are coming soon. Make sure your little ones are ready to safely jump in with these simple steps:

1. Practice simple water safety - Introduce your children to lifeguards at the pool and make sure they are aware of basic rules at any pool facility: no running, no diving in shallow water, and always swim with a buddy! Early understanding of these rules can lead to a safer swimming experience.
2. Practice going under water - For younger kids, practice going under the water and holding their breath, even in the bathtub at home. Helping children become more comfortable going under water will help

tremendously to reduce panic in the event of an accident around the water.

3. Look into swimming lessons - At the JEA we offer private, semi-private and group swimming lessons that cater to each individual child to ensure that they will have the tools they need to be safe and confident in any water. Children as young as 6 months are able to start swimming lessons!

For more information on swimming lessons, please contact Aquatics Director, Kirby Southerland, at 912-355-8111 or by email at aquatics@savj.org.



Fitness Classes

Sunday

- 9:15 am - Power Pilates
- 10:30 am - Total Body Blast

Monday

- 8:45 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Aquasize
- 10:00 am - Vinyasa Yoga
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
- 6:00 pm - AquaDance
- 6:00 pm - Total Body Blast

Tuesday

- 9:15 am - Power Pilates
- 10:00 am - SilverSneakers Splash
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
- 5:45 pm - Zumba Glow
- 6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
- 7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Wednesday

- 8:45 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Sun Flow Yoga
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Classic
- 6:00 pm - Total Body Blast

Thursday

- 9:30 am - Barre Blend
- 10:00 am - Aquasize
- 10:30 am - SilverSneakers Circuit
- 6:00 pm - Savannah Kenpo
- 7:00 pm - Savannah Fencing Club

Friday

- 8:45 am - Firm It Up
- 10:00 am - Yoga
- 10:00 am - Aquasize

T-ball Registration begins March 14th!

T-ball - 4-6 years old
Coach Pitch - 6-8 years old

JEA Youth Sports Focus:

- Character Development
- Team Development
- Making Play Enjoyable

Registration Monday, March 14-Monday, April 4.

Cost: JEA Members: \$35, Non-Members: \$45

Practices will be announced in April and games will begin the last week of April. All games will be played at the JEA in partnership with Hunter Army Air Field through May.



THE PURIM CARNIVAL

- Face Painting •
- Come Dressed in PJ's •
- Reading of the Purim Story •
- Dream Stations •
- Inflatables •
- Cookie and Milk Bar •
- Collecting gently used and new PJ's •

PAJAMA PARTY!

WHEN: SUNDAY MARCH 20TH: 2:00-5:00PM

WHERE: JEWISH EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE



**JEA Preschool
Savannah News**

Enroll Now

- Openings 12 months & walking-4-years old
- 2, 3 and 5-day options for the toddlers and two-year-olds
- For full details, visit our website at www.SavannahJEA.org

Contact Jodi Sadler, Director, at Jodi@savj.org or 912-355-8111

Art Bash
March 10, 2016 - 7 pm

Pablo Picasso said, "Every child is an artist" and at the JEA Preschool Savannah we celebrate our children and their talent. Last year our first annual Preschool Art Bash Fundraiser was a great success!

Each child created their own canvas art which was then for sale in the gallery – of course, first right of purchase was given to the parents. Teachers helped the students create art with many mediums including sand with watercolor, acrylic, eggshells, wood and more. Larger class projects were created that sold in a bidding war of up to \$300.

This art show is not just for the parents! We invite the community to come view what the children of the JEA Preschool have created and also to bid on Silent Auction items donated from local artists, businesses and services. Last year's auction had more than 70 items including pieces of art from local artists, a private aerial tour of Savannah, gift certificates to businesses and more.

Proceeds will be used for technology and electronics in the preschool that will enrich the children's learning experience. Join us for the JEA Preschool Savannah Art Bash March 10, 2016, in the Small Auditorium. Drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served.



Providing for the social, emotional and cognitive growth of young children in a Judaic setting.



JEA Art Gallery

**March 2016 Artist
Alan Stecker**

Alan's childhood experiences with family, Jewish culture, and the surrounding religious and ethnic diversity of West Philadelphia continue to play a major role in shaping his imagery and message. Memories of life on 60th Street provide inspiration and content for both his painting and digital art. His career in television news and documentary production provided many significant life experiences that enhanced his perceptual development and his understanding of the human condition.

He received a B.A. in Fine Art & Painting from FSU and an M.F.A. degree in Painting from Rhode Island School of Design.

Alan worked seventeen years as a photojournalist for NBC News. He covered the spectrum of human drama, which included politics, civil rights demonstrations, natural disasters, people stories, conflict and combat. His stories, which aired on the *Today Show* and *Nightly News*, received Emmys, the Edward R. Morrow Award, and the University of Georgia's prestigious Peabody Award of excellence.

He has exhibited paintings, digital works, and drawings in one-person and group exhibitions throughout the United States. His work is included in many private and public collections including the Museum of Contemporary Art GA, Mead Packaging Atlanta, the Atlanta Arts Alliance, and the High Museum of Art.

His creative process is abstract: "I believe that it is very important to approach a blank canvas with no plan, preconceived idea, or attachment to imagery or outcome. I begin each work by laying on the paint and creating color harmonies. At some point an image makes its way through the confusion of colors, textures, lines and shapes. If the image fascinates me, I go with it. My creative process takes me every day on a journey that cannot be reached by intellect alone. It is very important that I learn a little something from each painting."



Beauty and the Beast



Lady by the Sea

**Artwork Available for viewing March 1-31, 2016
Join us for the Art Gallery Reception March 3rd, 5-7 pm**

Meet Kathy Ackerman - Our New Health & Wellness Director



Kathy has been in the fitness industry for over 25 years. She began her career as a physical education teacher and soon realized her true passion was training and recreational programming. Over the years she has created and taught a wide range of programs, all reflective of her own commitment to good physical health and spiritual well-being. These programs have included aquatics, sports, fitness training, sports safety, Yoga and Pilates. Kathy has choreographed and produced a successful Yoga Pilates exercise DVD. She is a Master Trainer in both Pilates and Yoga and has conducted several training seminars.

Kathy holds certifications with many organizations including Balanced Body, AFAA, IFTA, American Red Cross, American Arthritic Assoc., YogaFit, Shanti Yoga, IM=X Pilates and is registered with Yoga Alliance. In her personal life, she enjoys participated in Marathon's and Adventure Racing.

Kathy uses positive motivation and encouragement to help to inspire others. She is eager to share, totally involved and completely supportive. Kathy's vision has always been to combine her experience and knowledge into her programming to help heal and strengthen others. Welcome her to the JEA!



Maccabi Seeking Athletes, Coaches

Maccabi USA is seeking Jewish athletes to represent the United States at the 20th World Maccabiah Games in Israel, July 5-17, 2017. The World Maccabiah Games, with more than 42 sports represented, are the third largest international sporting competition in the world and are the world's largest international Jewish event. More than 7,500 athletes from more than 70 countries are expected to participate.

"We are really excited about the chance to bring over 1,200 athletes to Israel," said Jeff Bukantz, General Chairman of the USA 20th Maccabiah Organizing Committee. The U.S. delegation, which would include athletes in individual and team sports in the Juniors, Youth, Open, Masters and Paralympics divisions, will be the largest traveling delegation from the USA to participate in any international sporting event.

The Maccabiah Games also celebrate Jewish culture, unity and



pride. ISRAEL CONNECT, Maccabi USA's cultural and educational program, takes place for six days before the start of the Games. All Juniors, Youth and Open athletes tour historical and religious sites, take part in cultural identity seminars and train with their respective teams while bonding with one another.

Maccabi USA is seeking athletes and team support members such as coaches, doctors, managers and athletic trainers. For more information or to apply go to http://support.maccabiusa.com/site/TR?fr_id=1090&pg=entry.

How can we make your tail wag today?



We couldn't do it without them!

Help us thank our advertisers. Please support their businesses.



**LASKY
COOPER
LAW**

TRIAL LAWYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

5767 Highway 21 South
Rincon, GA 31326
912-826-2882

120 W. Liberty Street
Savannah, GA 31401
912-232-6423

Long after the toys are gone, the music remains...

Give the gift of Music

**Piano Lessons with
Sherah Rosen**

Contact for Pricing & References
912-358-7007
sherahrosen@gmail.com



The Hipster Hound offers a full line of products and services including:

*Daycare and Boarding
(new facility opening Spring 2016)*

*Shuttle Service Available
to Downtown & Ardsley Park*

Hipster Hound @home Pet Sitting

All-Natural Dog Bites

Bark at us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
and hipsterhound@comcast.net

WWW.HIPSTERHOUND.NET

912-658-1789

115 ECHOLS AVENUE

(behind Portman's Music and Mall Blvd. Kroger)

Woof!



Savannah Jewish ARCHIVES

Benefactors

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs.* Herman Friedman
Mr. Martin Karp
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kole
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Kole
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Levy
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Levy
Ms. Shirley Mirkis
Mr. John M. Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tisch

Sustainers

Ms. Muriel Bono
Ms. Ellen Byck
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Davis
Mr. and Mrs. Julius Edel
Ms. Toby Hollenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Kronowitz
Mr. and Mrs. Leon Slotin

Friends

Dr. and Mrs. Harold Black
Drs. David and Peggy Byck
Ms. Judy Byck
Ms. Simone Center
Mr. and Mrs. Jerald Cohen
Ms. Davida Deutsch
Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Fagin
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Feiler, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Feldman
Dr. C. Robert Friedman
Mr. and Mrs. Melvyn Galin
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Galin
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Garfunkel
Mr. and Mrs. David Garfunkel
Ms. Anne Gold
Ms. AM Goldkrand
Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Goodman
Drs. Martin and Doris Greenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Greenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Gutstein
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Harris, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Hirsch
Mr. Louis Hohenstein
Mr. Jonathan Joselove
Ms. Jane Kahn
Mr. and Mrs. Myron Kaminsky
Mr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Kantziper
Ms. Faye Kirschner
Mr. and Mrs. John Kohn
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Konter
Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Levy, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Lowe
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Lynch
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Minis
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Minis
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Montag
Judge William Raffel
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Raskin
Mr. and Mrs. Allan Ratner
Ms. Sydney S. Ratnow
Mr. and Mrs. Moses Robbins

**We thank all of our members for their support of the
Archives throughout 2015.**

*** of blessed memory**

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robinson
Mr. and Mrs. Ira Ruby
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Schneider
Mr. Alex M. Siegel
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sirlin
Ms. Jane Slotin
Mr. Adam Solender, Ms. Sarah Denmark
Dr. and Mrs. Harold Solomon
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Solomons, Jr.
Ms. Nancy Sonenshine
Ms. Sylvia Steinberg
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Tenenbaum
Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Wagner
Col. Edward I. Wexler
Dr. and Mrs. Solomon Zerden
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Zoller

Members

Dr. and Mrs. Murray Arkin
Dr. and Mrs. Leon Aronson
Mr. Geoffrey Bellah
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Berkowitz
Ms. Jean Birnbaum
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Bloom
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Blum
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Blumberg
Ms. Esther Blumenthal
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Bodziner
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Brecker
Ms. Esther Buchsbaum
Ms. Lauren Buchsbaum
Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Caplan
Ms. Ellen G. Caudill
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Center
Mr. Tony Center
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clark
Dr. Rodney Cohen
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Cohen
Dr. Scott Cohen
Ms. Marilyn Cranman
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dobbs
Mr. Norman Estroff
Mr. and Mrs. James Farley
Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Finger
Mr. Julian Friedman
Ms. Linda C. Friedman
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Friedman
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Furchgott, Jr.
Ms. Jane Furchgott
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Gale
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Garfunkel
Dr. and Mrs. Morris Geffen
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Glaser
Mr. Jack Golden*
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Goldstein
Mr. and Mrs. Marc Goodman
Ms. Marjorie Gordon
Mr. Harvey S. Gray
Ms. Fran Kooden Harrell
Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Haysman
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hirsch
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Hochman
Dr. and Mrs. Frank Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. Jules Homans

Mr. Arthur Horovitz
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Itzkovitz
Ms. Betty Jacobson
Ms. Sherry Jacobson
Ms. Arlene Jaffie
Ms. Judy Javetz
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Javetz
Ms. Rochelle Javetz
Ms. Sara Jospin
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Kaminsky
Ms. Annette Karp*
Judge Michael Karpf
Mr. and Mrs. Andre Kessler
Ms. Diane Kuhr
Mr.* and Mrs. Larry Lasky
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lebos
Ms. Rene Lehrberger
Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Levy
Ms. Susan Lieber-Lozada
Ms. Elizabeth Lieberman
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lowe
Mr. and Mrs. James Marks
Ms. Marion Mendel
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Meyerhoff
Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Montana
Ms. Eva Odrezin
Dr. and Mrs. Jules Paderewski
Ms. Riette Pollack
Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Portman
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Rabb
Dr. and Mrs. Fred Rabhan
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Reed
Ms. Gail Robinson
Ms. Lori S. Robinson
Mr. David Roos, Jr.
Ms. Jane Rosenblum
Ms. Gail Rosenzweig
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Rotkow
Dr. Linda and Mr. Stephen Sacks
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schwarz
Ms. Marilyn Seeman
Dr. Lee Shapiro
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Shernoff
Mr. Cary Shoob
Ms. Marilyn Slagel
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Slotin
Mr. and Mrs. David Smiley
Mr. and Mrs. Kayton Smith, Jr.
Ms. Lena Solomon
Ms. Sue Reid Solomon
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stemer
Mr. Philip Sunshine
Dr. Arnold Tillinger
Ms. Harriet Ullman
Ms. Henrietta Victor
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Victor
Ms. Tania Weisz
Mr. and Mrs. Julian Weitz
Ms. Deanne Whitlock
Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Wilker
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Wolchok
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Yellin
Ms. Sylvia Yellin
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Zahn

**If you are not a member you may join by sending a check in one of the following amounts to:
Savannah Jewish Archives, c/o Savannah Jewish Federation, 5111 Abercorn St., Savannah, GA 31405**

Benefactor - \$500; Sustainer - \$250; Friend - \$100; Member - \$50.

The Savannah Jewish Federation Gratefully Thanks Our Contributors

SJF ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

In memory of Marcia Lebos

Bernice Luskey
Susan Timna

SJF GENERAL DONATIONS

In memory of Larry Lasky

Cathy & Philip Solomons, Jr.

In memory of Marcia Lebos

Memorial University Medical Center

Harriet Isaacson
Michael Guld

In memory of Julie Metzger

Toby Hollenberg

Charles Snyder

Biff & Jerry Montana

Beth Sheridan

Muriel Bono

In honor of Yetta Tureck

Judith Rubin

In honor of Sherry & Norman Dolgoff

Arlene & Allan Ratner

A donation was made by

Harriette Bernstein

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES FUND

In honor of Eleanor Greenberg & Leo Greenberg

Linda & Michael Zoller

In memory of Marcia Lebos

Sally & Steve Greenberg

In memory of Bertha & Aaron Pollock

In memory of Frances & Lewis Ratner

In memory of Anne & Harry Richman

In memory of Eva & Zelig Richman

Arlene & Allan Ratner

In memory of Naomi Strear

Henrietta Victor

Teresa & Herbert Victor

In memory of Burt Udinsky

Suzanne & Leonard Kantziper

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES FRIENDS CAMPAIGN

Donations were made by

Carole & George Staimer

Barbara Kooden

TIKVAH FUND

In honor of Michael Konter

Susan Timna

In honor of Aaron Levy

Gail Wexler

Jan Wexler

Lynn Alexander

Biff & Jerry Montana

Joanne & Dick Hochman

Sharon & Murray Galin

Ellen Byck

Jerry Rogers

In honor of Dylan Joseph Levy

Ellen Byck

In memory of Jean Rosner

In memory of Zelda Newman

Arlene & Allan Ratner

In honor of Louise Harkavy

Harriet & Paul Kulbersh

In memory of Burton Udinsky

Ellen Byck

Arlene & Allan Ratner

Jennifer & Jason Rich

Harriet & Paul Kulbersh

In memory of Zena Kaplan

Arlene & Allan Ratner

In memory of Julie Metzger

Doris & Arnie Goldstein

Charlotte & Harold Black

Arlene & Allan Ratner

In honor of Stephanie Rotkow

Harriet & Paul Kulbersh

In honor of Jay Goldstein

Jennifer & Jason Rich

In memory of Betsy Lehner's mother

Arlene & Allan Ratner

DAYLE & AARON LEVY FUND

In honor of Aaron Levy

Bekah & David Handshu

Doris & Arnie Goldstein

Peggy & Stanley Harris

Charlotte & Harold Black

Harriet & Paul Kulbersh

Jane Winter

Jean & Julian Weitz

Sherry & Norman Dolgoff

Sally & Steve Greenberg

Arlene & Allan Ratner

Gail Robinson

Linda & Michael Zoller

Zelda & Sheldon Tenenbaum

Carol & Joel Greenberg

Linda & David Cohen

Jane Slotin

Jess Joseph

In honor of Dylan Joseph Levy

Jerry Rogers

DENA YASCHIK & LAWRENCE S. BODZINER FOUNDATION

In honor of Merry & Richard Bodziner

Sally & Steve Greenberg

ABE & ETHEL KAMINE SENIOR MEALS FUND

In memory of Frances Goldberg

Bernice Luskey

RALPH & PAULINE TENENBAUM FUND FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

In honor of Bette & Randy Hughes

In honor of Linda & Michael Zoller

In honor of Merry & Richard Bodziner

In honor of Daryl & Sandy Nemo

In honor of Jessica Tenenbaum & Richard Davis

In honor of Inez & Sam Tenenbaum

Zelda & Sheldon Tenenbaum

LAWRENCE KONTER & BERTRAM WEILAND CULTURAL ARTS FUND

In honor of Marcy & Jerry Konter

Harriet Konter

WILLIAM & MILDRED WEICHSEL-BAUM CAMPAIGN FUND

In memory of Julie Metzger

Peggy & Stanley Harris

ISADORE SCHEER JEA CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Anne Scheer

Eva Odrezin

Anita Karnibad

Condolences

We express our sympathy to the families of:

Julie Monsky Metzger

Who died January 19, 2016

She is survived by her husband, Burton Metzger; her sons, Tag (Megan) Garson of Scarsdale, NY, and Michael Garson of Washington, DC; two granddaughters; her sister, Merry (Richard) Bodziner of Savannah; and her brother, Leroy G. Monsky of Rockville, MD.

Remembrances: Congregation Agudath Achim, 9 Lee Blvd., Savannah 31405; Savannah Jewish Federation, 5111 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405; or Birmingham Jewish Federation, 3966 Montclair Rd., Birmingham, AL 35213.

Zena Levin Kaplan

Who died January 10, 2016

She is survived by her daughters Ina Kaplan and Carolyn Kaplan; a son, Steven (Shelley) Kaplan; a grandson; her sisters Joan Vitner and Iris (Boo) Hornstein; and many beloved nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, and a great great niece. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Kaplan, and her brothers Max (Audrey) and Irving (Phyllis) Levin; a brother-in-law Dr.

Saul Vitner, and her nephew, Dr. Barry Levin.

Remembrances: The Irving Levin Fund of Congregation Bnai Brith Jacob, 5444 Abercorn St., Savannah 31405; or Rambam Day School, 111 Atlas St., Savannah 31405-5461.

Burton "Burt" Meyer Udinsky

Who died January 5, 2015

He is survived by his three sons, Gary Udinsky (Linda Myers), Joel Udinsky, and David (Gay) Udinsky (Gay Udinsky); three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sylvia, and his brother, Ramon Udinsky.

Remembrances: Congregation Agudath Achim, 9 Lee Blvd., Savannah 31405.



Mazel Tov to all High School & College Graduates and Your Families!

You are invited to submit your pictures and records of achievement for publication in our special graduation section of the June issue of the Savannah Jewish News.

To be included, please download the submission form from www.savj.org or pick one up at the JEA.

All submissions must be received by the absolute deadline of May 6th, 2016.
Listings will be published only in the June issue.

Return forms & pictures to: sjnews@savj.org or Savannah Jewish News
 5111 Abercorn St. | Savannah, GA 31405

The Savannah Jewish Federation proudly provides space for a half-page ad to each local congregation in each issue of the Savannah Jewish News.

Jews & Jazz IN AMERICA

**Sunday, March 6th at 3pm
at Congregation Mickve Israel**

Featuring works from George & Ira Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Sammy Cahn, Richard Rodgers, and modern jazz pioneer performers such as Stan Getz, Benny Goodman, Herbie Mann, Mel Tormé, Lee Konitz, Artie Shaw, Paul Desmond, and many others.

Performers:

Steven Bryan (Keyboard), Linus Enoksson (Bass), Jody Espina (Saxophone & Clarinet), Ira Miller (Drums), Jackson Evans (Guitar)

Tickets: \$15 in advance \ \$20 on concert day
Tickets available from any board member or via the Temple office at 912-233-1547.



CONGREGATION
MICKVE ISRAEL

For a complete schedule of services and events, visit our website at www.mickveisrael.org

Everyone is welcome to join us for our services and events!
Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter by contacting kayla@mickveisrael.org, or by texting CMI to 42828.

For more information or to RSVP to an event: call 912.233.1547 or visit mickveisrael.org

**SUNDAY,
MARCH 20
AT 11:30AM**

PURIM WORLD

AN ARCADE-THEMED PURIM SPIEL



Featuring some of the most exciting retro and timeless video game characters from the Atari, Nintendo, and Sega universes, this year's production will put the pixels in Purim!

Admission is free and guests are welcome.

CONGREGATION AGUDATH ACHIM

9 Lee Boulevard, Savannah GA 31405 912-352-4737
Agudatha@aol.com / Agudath-Achim.com

*Join us this Purim
Wednesday, March 23rd
Megillah Reading at 6 p.m.
Purim Party to follow*



Bring your costume and a good mood!

Join our Synagogue,

Join our mishpacha!!!

- Tefila/Service*
- Parashat Hashavua Classes*
- Backpack Buddies*
- Shalom School*
- Hebrew Classes*
- Midrash Study Groups*
- Friday Night Young Family Shabbat*

SHABBAT SERVICES:

Friday 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat
Saturday 9:30 am Shabbat Service & Kiddush Luncheon
Saturday Evenings Mincha/Maariv & Havdalah

DAILY SERVICES:

Sunday 9:00 am & 6:00 pm
Monday 7:00 am & 6:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday 7:30 am & 6:00 pm
Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:00 pm
Friday Shacharit 7:00 am & Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm



Melinda Stein

It's a Funny Thing

by Melinda Stein

Well-known Rabbi Marvin Hier tells that once, when he was a pulpit rabbi in Canada, an enormous and potentially life-threatening blizzard was approaching. The police came to his synagogue and asked him, "In case of emergency, how many could you sleep here if necessary?"

He said, "Well, I sleep three hundred and fifty here every Saturday morning."

An El Al flight was on the runway at Ben Gurion airport. After a while it became clear that there was going to be a delay.

Suddenly, the Captain picked up the microphone and announced:

"We're sorry for the delay. The machine that normally rips the handles off your luggage is broken, so we have to do it by hand. We should be finished and on our way shortly."

Sam and his wife Sylvia walked into Dr. Stein's dental office.

Sam said to Dr. Stein, "Doc, I'm in a terrible hurry. I have two friends waiting outside to go play golf. Forget about the anesthesia, I don't have time for the gums to get numb. I just want you to pull the tooth and be done with it! We have a 10am tee time, and its 9:30 already."

Dr. Stein thought to himself, "Gosh, brave guy, wanting his tooth pulled without anything to kill the pain."

Then the dentist asked him, "Okay, which tooth is it, Sam?"

Sam turned to Sylvia and said, "Open your mouth, honey, and show him."

Danny and Jason went up to the attic to help their mother with some pre-Passover cleaning. The boys uncovered an old manual typewriter and asked, "Hey, mom, what's this?"

"Oh, that's an old typewriter," she answered.

"Well, what does it do?" they queried.

"I'll show you," the mother said. She rolled a piece of paper into the typewriter and began striking the keys

"Wow!" the boys exclaimed, "That's really cool — but how does it work?"

Where do you plug it in?"

"It doesn't need a plug," she answered.

"Then where do you put the batteries?" they persisted.

"It doesn't need batteries either," she continued.

"Awesome!" the brothers exclaimed. "Someone should have invented this a long time ago!"

On his way to work one morning, Nathan arrives at Penn Station a bit early. While he's waiting for his train, he notices a new machine on the platform — the sign on it says it's a state-of-the-art talking weight machine.

So Nathan stands on it, puts in a \$1 bill and the machine says, "You weigh 160 pounds and you are Jewish."

Nathan can't believe it. He gets on it again and inserts another \$1 bill. "You weigh 160 pounds, you are Jewish and you're waiting for the 7:35am train to take you to your job at the bank."

He's totally shocked, but he's determined to beat the machine. He goes into the men's room, ruffles up his hair, puts on a pair of dark sunglasses, removes his tie, takes off his jacket, and puts a bandage on his chin. He then goes back outside, steps on the machine and puts in another \$1.

The machine instantly says, "You're still Jewish and weigh 160 pounds. You're also a schlemiel; you just missed your train."



Downtown 912.233.1163 • Oglethorpe Mall 912.238.2120
St. Johns Town Center, Jacksonville 904.527.2643
levyjewelers.com



Congregation B'nai B'rith Jacob

Morning, Afternoon and Evening Services Daily
365 days a year for over 150 years.

5444 Abercorn Street, Savannah GA 31405
Visit us on the web www.bbjsynagogue.com
912-354-7721 bbjacoffice@gmail.com



BBJ'S FABULOUS SOUP & SALAD BAR

TUESDAYS IN THE SOCIAL HALL

Contact the Shul office for menu and times

BBJ FOOD SERVICES IS NOW ONLINE !!!

WWW.KOSHERFOODSAVANNAH.COM



Get Ready For PURIM!!!

BBJ Sisterhood Judaica Shoppe!

Be sure to visit for all your holiday and Judaica needs,

We are minutes away... Give us a call!

Beth: (H) 912-344-4834 (C)301-466-0380 Bracha Jo: (H) 912-352-9578 (C) 912-658-5824

Changes in Jewish Education

Supplementary Jewish education, otherwise called Hebrew School, has been through a lot in the last decade.

with has been replaced; in reality children are not hanging out after school with their friends anymore and often they are the only Jewish children in their class. To counter that, parents are now relying on Hebrew school for their children to meet and socialize with other Jewish kids.

The outcome is that today at Shalom School, like at most Hebrew schools, our goal has changed: building a setting that promotes a positive Jewish identity for our students. Shalom School is looking at developing enthusiasm for their Jewish roots with tools such as:

- Relying more on informal settings and moving away as much as possible from the classroom format by using curricula such as our Hebrew Wizards program.
- Focusing on how to teach concepts creatively with hands-on activities, like teaching the Prophets using art as a medium.
- Including technology and online tools in the classroom and at home to engage students in ways they respond best.
- Valuing students through positive reinforcement with a reward system such as our own Golden Shekel system.
- Encouraging critical thinking and allowing difficult faith based questions to be answered in a caring and warm environment.

Our goals have moved a long way through the years: we are not as Bar/Bat Mitzvah focused any more. We are not able to cover as much material as we would like, but we will put all of our energy into creating the spark. The very spark that will make our children proud and enthusiastic about being Jewish, the very spark that will push them to stay involved as college students and young adults. Shalom School is more alive than ever before and we are excited to take an active role in this renewal process.

Entire generations recall their years of Hebrew School as a tortuous but obliged rite of passage.

The concept started with the wave of immigrants at the beginning of the 20th century. Small schools called "Talmud Torah" would sprout in Jewish neighborhoods with the complex idea to help students integrate into American culture while keeping the core of Jewish education brought from their European shtetels. As families moved to the suburbs in the 50s, the Talmud Torah schools transitioned to Congregational schools. The creation of the State of Israel coincided with the height of the congregational school format but so many years later, the reluctance of those schools to innovate, their lack of focus and their struggle to engage students in a positive way started to draw criticism.

Hebrew schools have more recently attracted attention for other significant reasons: We enrolled the majority of children receiving Jewish Education. Also, as family participation in synagogues and temples has decreased, Hebrew schools are often the only bridge to connect with those families.

All these factors have led Jewish educators to rethink the whole concept and look with a new spirit at ways to revise and energize Hebrew School. As we do so, new parameters are coming into play:

- Today's students are overscheduled; even the most dedicated parents have hard time balancing their children's various activities. As a result, most Hebrew schools have been pressed to reduce their sessions from five days a week to three, and even two days a week.
- The Jewish neighborhood format that a lot of us grew up



Ester Rabhan,
Principal of
Rambam Day School

Rambam Happenings

How anyone, no matter their level of observance, can't appreciate Jewish education in our community is a very difficult concept to digest.

Every Jewish child has a birthright to know about their heritage and their people. Rambam Day School makes every effort to foster a comfortable feeling for all parents and all students. Nothing is perfect, yet the dedication to sensitivity, respect and tolerance is a priority for Rambam. Just give us a chance; come visit and see what really goes on inside the walls of our school. Talk to parents and ask them if they are made to feel comfortable. New beginnings and meeting new people are an adjustment. And when some of those are from walks of Judaism unfamiliar to you, it could be uncomfortable. However, you'll come to learn, they

too are warm, caring, giving individuals. Rambam Day School consists of Jewish children from all walks of Judaism.

Tu B'shevat, the Jewish birthday of the trees was celebrated January 25th. It begs the question why Hashem would place this celebration of life during the dead of winter when most trees are not looking their very best. Our sages teach us that while the trees may look bleak; what is really taking place is the sap beneath the earth is beginning to run up the trees' branches, which is the beginning process of the trees renewing their leaves.

And a beautiful lesson is learned. While it may seem dark, in reality birth is taking place – there is always hope and always the dawning of a new day.

What a beautiful concept and to know this is an example of the concepts taught in Rambam Day School!

May each of you feel the dawning of a new day, every day.

ADL Partners with Europeans



The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) announced in January that it was partnering with the European Jewish Congress (EJC) to cooperate on advocacy work within European Union institutions. The partnership is designed to allow ADL to have a "greater impact on E.U. policies and programs through the relationships and standing of the EJC as the representative body of European Jews" and also to "heighten ADL's relations with European Jewish communities at a time when rising anti-Semitism and security are of paramount concern..."

ADL and EJC have signed a memorandum of understanding conferring "privileged partner" status on each other for specific core areas of activity, including advocacy work within institutions such as the European Parliament and the European Commission. The partnership's focus will be on issues of security for Jewish communities in Europe, combating anti-Semitism, protecting religious freedom, Israel and the Middle East and anti-racism internet policies.

"We recognize the tremendous strain on Jewish communities in Europe today, the increasing pressure on Israel from the E.U., and the fact that these issues are increasingly be-

ing addressed within the E.U. institutions," said Jonathan Greenblatt, ADL CEO and National Director.

EJC President Dr. Moshe Kantor said, "I am delighted that we are partnering with such an august institution as ADL, which has a long-standing record of fighting for greater tolerance and against the scourge of hatred, racism and anti-Semitism. The EJC... is committed to finding workable and durable solutions to many of the challenges facing European Jewry and we look forward to working with the ADL to this end."

Ten days after the announcement, in his blog that originally appeared in *The Times of Israel*, Greenblatt took to task the French for a new initiative announced by their Foreign Minister, Laurent Fabius. The initiative urged the convening of an international conference on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and was accompanied by a statement from Fabius that if such a conference fails to lead to progress toward peace, France will recognize a Palestinian State.

Greenblatt does not hold Israel blameless, but criticizes this approach asking, "What incentive remains for the Palestinians to be forthcoming?" He expounds on why "the French position reflects the fundamental fallacy of much of the international community in addressing the conflict." To read his blog, go to <http://blog.adl.org/greenblatt/the-french-initiative>.

Don't forget...

The Savannah Jewish News is online at

www.savj.org

Tell your out-of-town family & friends!

Back issues through January 2008

Every page is in color



Jodi Sadler,
JEA Director of
Early Childhood
Education

Arts and the Young Child

As we were preparing for JEA Preschool Savannah's 2nd annual Art Bash fundraiser on Thursday, March 10, 2016, I began to do some research on the benefits of

the arts in the early childhood setting. The National Endowment for the Arts recently published an analysis of the social and emotional benefits of arts participation.

Linda Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Inter-Departmental Liaison for Early Childhood Development Administration for Children & Families from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services reports:

"Ample research has found that a strong social-emotional base in early childhood is associated with academic success and long-term outcomes like higher likelihood of employment, and lower likelihood of involvement with the criminal justice system. This report highlights that the arts are an important contribution to children's social-emotional development. Art activities like singing, dancing, and visual arts are associated with an array of positive outcomes, including pro-social skills, cooperation, independence,

emotional regulation, and reductions in both externalizing and internalizing behavior."

In summary, the report finds that arts participation in early childhood is strongly linked to:

Social skills development: helping, sharing, caring, empathy, and the capacity for other kinds of healthy interpersonal behavior; and

Emotion regulation ability: mood control and positive changes in affect and expression.

As you walk through the hall of JEA Preschool Savannah, you will hear the sounds of children singing and dancing and will see them engaged in painting, coloring, and drawing. Developing a strong sense of self is a priority in their day-to-day activities. Preparations are under way for the children to begin creating their own works of art as a part of the Art Bash event. They will be participating in a classroom/group project which will be available for purchase, as well.

I hope you will consider attending the JEA Preschool Art Bash event and seeing all of the wonderful works of art from our children. You will also have the opportunity to financially support the programs at JEA Preschool Savannah through silent auction and class project items which will be for sale.



PREHAB

Predict and Prevent

REHAB

Focused Therapy

PERFORM

Insight That Empowers

Fuel your health, wellness and performance with the clarity that only evidenced based analysis can provide. Decisive detection helps pinpoint the focus of your treatment giving you unparalleled insight and understanding into how your unique body works.

When it comes to a whole body approach, **our** myoMETRICS lab is an absolute game changer. Rest assured you are provided the very best foundation for a healthy outcome.

Coming soon FIFE Therapy to the JEA- please check our website, fifetherapy.com for updates on insurance plans accepted.

You can also check our Facebook page [FifeTherapy](#)

Or call 912- 239-6140

We would love to meet you



young jewish
savannah

Meet Steve Weinman

Young Jewish Savannah's New Board Chair

Steve, a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT), moved to Savannah in April, 2015. Born and raised in South Windsor, Connecticut, he spent his undergraduate years at Florida State University and became committed to a life in the South, though he went back North for a quick stint in grad school at the University of Rhode Island.

Soon after that, Steve was ready to put down roots in Savannah, where he opened Family First Therapy, LLC, his private practice. When he's not busy at work or with Young Jewish Savannah, Steve plays rugby with the Savannah Shamrocks Men's Rugby Club and loves hanging out with his 'best dude' Peanut Butter, a Mini-Schnauzer.



Steve Weinman and Peanut Butter

THIS TIME IT'S NOT A RESCUE MISSION.

Yesterday we saved millions of Jews by bringing them to Israel. Today we're taking a new generation to inspire them. It's a mission of identity that transforms their lives forever.

At home, in Israel and around the world, Federation is not only seeking innovative approaches to building Jewish life—we're nurturing and rescuing our people wherever they're in need.

Your Federation gift enables us to accomplish all this and more. Give to the Annual Campaign today. Visit us at savj.org or call (912) 355-8111.



Savannah Jewish Federation

