

SHALOM



GREENSBORO



Bridging the Gap

Partnerships Broaden Assistance
to Those Outside the Jewish Community  p6

Two Events
Honor Women
Who Give Back
p10 & p12

Connecting with
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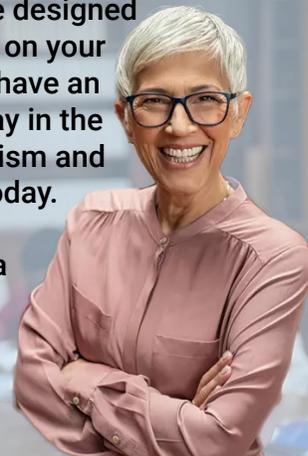
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Working Together, WE CAN DO MORE



John Cohen

This issue of *Shalom Greensboro* is focused on building and supporting relationships in Greater Greensboro. I'm confident you will enjoy the update on our efforts and successes. However, there are a couple of governance issues I want to briefly highlight.

Who's watching the store? For twelve years, I have been actively involved with Federation, both as a donor AND a volunteer. Most recently, I served on the Executive Committee, and now I serve as President. My view of nearly all Federation activities is up-close. I want you to know, the Federation is dead serious about how we put your gifts to work. We challenge our programming and allocations wholeheartedly. We don't "rubber stamp" here at the Federation.

So, how do we do it? It starts with a superior Chief Executive Officer whose clear, organizational vision is supported consistently by her own personal example. Nearly everything we accomplish at the Federation has Marilyn Chandler's fingerprints on it. Her devotion and contributions have been immense and have attracted other smart and generous supporters to our staff and board.

We have some new board members, and they are spectacular people. I encourage you to get to know them as your paths cross. They represent the future of our Federation. Recently, Marilyn and I met individually with each new member and asked for honest feedback, "How can we do better? How can we do more? Where are we off course?"

With affiliate leadership, we asked, "How can we do more together?" It was a terrific way to start the new year; fresh ideas and an abundance of positive energy.

Where does the money go? It shouldn't be news to you that our amazingly generous and productive community consistently raises over \$1.5 million annually. We are do-ers and givers, striving to repair the world. With 1500 Jewish households in our community, 800 of them contribute to our annual campaign. There are over 300 fund-holders who contribute through a donor-advised fund or have established an endowment with the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro.

Combining allocations from the Federation and gifts channeled through the Foundation, we provide \$10 million to both Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. We **do good that goes everywhere.**

Through the Federation's organizational infrastructure, supported by fully committed volunteers, we are all able to exceed our individual potential! As you read and learn more, remember: we cannot succeed without your support and active participation. Thank you for everything you do, large or small, to make our mission a reality. I hope you are as proud of the Federation as I am.

John Cohen, President
Greensboro Jewish Federation
2022 - 2024



WHAT'S INSIDE:

MESSAGE FROM CEO	2	INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY	9
ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL	3	MAKING CONNECTIONS	10-13
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES	4-5	TODAH RABAH	14
JFS DIRECTOR: "MEANT TO BE"	6-7	FROM THE JFNA GENERAL ASSEMBLY	15
JEWISH FOUNDATION OF GREENSBORO	8	COMMUNITY	16-20

ON MY MIND: Missions Continue to Bring About Extraordinary Gifts

By Marilyn Forman Chandler, *Chief Executive Officer, Greensboro Jewish Federation*



Marilyn Forman Chandler

She sat down beside me in the one empty seat at the table at a recent community event. I hadn't looked up to see her face just yet, but something about her presence was immediately familiar. Then our eyes met, and it was magic. Despite being in the room with hundreds of others, we both were catapulted back to 2016 on an interfaith study mission to Israel. Our hands locked in shared memories. I looked into her eyes and she in mine, and we were brought back to the uniqueness of being together with our fellow travelers. It was there that we grew in our understanding of one another's religious roots, of Israel's history as a nation, and of the complexities of present times in the Middle East.

As the day went on, I spotted a beautiful multi-color pin on her dress and remarked how lovely it was. A little while later from across the room, I saw her hand placing something in my bag. When I returned to my seat, I saw that she had placed the pin along with a notecard that read: "Marilyn, please accept this pin in love." The word "imagine" adorns the pin; a figurine painted in different hues with their eyes shielded by their hands and a sun and heart on their clothing. It reminds me of the importance of our Federation's interfaith work in Greensboro, specifically the interfaith missions.

Overseas missions began in 1994, originally sponsored by the Greensboro Jewish Federation along with the National Conference for Community and Justice. Later, with the sponsorship of the Community Foundation of Greensboro, hundreds of current and potential community leaders have been able to experience Israel.

The International Civil Rights Center & Museum and Mt. Zion Baptist Church also became partners of ours in travels together visiting Atlanta, Selma, Montgomery and Birmingham on the Civil Rights Journey in 2020. The trip was followed by Zoom gatherings, led by one of the participants who taught us about the role of the Black Church in the South.



The depth of the experiences of both trips cannot be paralleled by meetings or speakers or programs held in our city. Our friends and neighbors, alongside our Jewish community members, are yearning to experience the history and learn about today's social justice issues through each other's eyes. Let's continue the journey; it is time.



Participants on the Interfaith Study Mission to Israel in 2016



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On The Campaign Trail: Vibrant Energy Fuels Campaign

By Alina Spaulding and Emily Kranz, 2023 Campaign Co-Chairs



Emily Kranz and Alina Spaulding

*“Heaven, I’m in heaven, and my heart
beats so that I can hardly speak.
And I seem to find the happiness I seek.
When we’re out together,
dancing cheek to cheek.”*

These words, written by Irving Berlin, for Fed Astaire and Ginger Rogers, captured an iconic moment in history. We feel that way about our moment, NOW!

We are off to a great start toward a \$2 million goal, with pledges averaging at a 7.6% increase over last year.

Of course, we are not quite “cheek to cheek,” but we are “face to face.” Being in-person at events and visiting donors in their homes have fueled this campaign with vibrant energy. *Storytelling Under the Stars*, our Major Gifts event, allowed givers to tell the stories of our community. In their thoughtful words, we found moments of deep and profound relatedness and shared the common ideals that motivate us to support the Federation.

There is some sort of BIG magic about being together again, and now is a great time for you to get re-involved! Come to an event, volunteer with JFS, listen to some General Assembly sessions online! If you don’t know how you want to get involved, just give us a call, and we will help you find a starting point. Campaign is not just about the dollars raised; it is about the impact we make with those dollars, all over the world. All “over the world”

includes right here in Greensboro. Hearing from our givers at Major Gifts reminded us that we all benefit when we do *tzedakah*. Jewish tradition teaches that donors benefit from *tzedakah* as much as, or more than, recipients and that *tzedakah* encompasses more than just the giving of money. *Tzedakah* includes contributions of time, effort, and insight – so come out and get involved!

“Jewish tradition teaches that donors benefit from *tzedakah* as much as, or more than, recipients”

We are honored to be alongside you in this transformational year, and we hope to see you face-to-face soon. One fabulous opportunity to experience community in person will be at our annual kickoff event: *Passport to Philanthropy*.

At our Major Gifts event, we focused on stories of those who give. At Kickoff, we will hear from community members who are deeply tied to Federation’s support of immigrants through the years. More special friends will share their experiences with us and show how Federation does good that goes everywhere.

Mark your calendars for December 15 – *Passport to Philanthropy* is going to be an event you do not want to miss!

With love, as we dance along the campaign trail,

Alina & Emily

do good
that goes
everywhere



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WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF GREENSBORO



Jewish Family Services (JFS) has a deep history of collaborating with the community of Greater Greensboro. Through Mitzvah Day, when the Jewish community undertakes a range of local volunteer projects, JFS has built many meaningful partnerships. JFS has continued a relationship with many of these organizations in order to fulfill its mission which includes contributing to the well-being of the greater community.

JFS has built a strong and ongoing partnership with BackPack Beginnings (BPB). Talking with Parker White, the founder of BPB, provided insight on how this collaboration makes the Greater Greensboro community stronger.

BackPack Beginnings was founded in 2010 as a way to provide hungry children with food over the weekend. The organization quickly grew to provide other basic needs like clothing, hygiene products, school supplies, and more. Now, they serve over 21,000 children. BPB has also created a family market which serves Guilford County families. The BPB market offers a variety of food, fresh produce, and other household supplies for families in need at no cost.

The partnership between BPB and JFS began in 2014 when Parker was approached by a Jewish community member who wanted to include the organization as a Mitzvah Day activity. Since then, the relationship between BPB and JFS has strengthened by years of volunteer services as well as financial and material donations. When asked about the significance of the partnership, Parker replied, “We believe there is so much work to be done in this community and when we partner together, we get further.” Beneficial collaborations include helping in their food market, referring volunteers to pack weekend food bags, and working in the warehouse to construct comfort backpacks with teddy bears, coloring books, extra clothing, and other helpful items for children.

“We believe there is so much work to be done in this community and when we partner together, we get further.”

“Every partner makes Back Pack Beginnings a better organization,” says Parker.

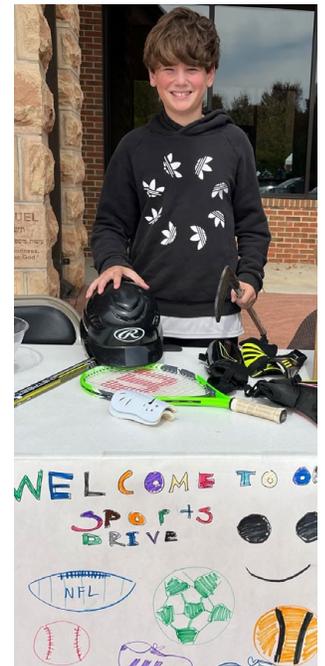
“And, every collaborative effort makes Greensboro a better place,” adds Jamie Shapiro, JFS Volunteer Coordinator.

When Eli Kleiner, a Temple Emanuel religious school student, was preparing for his Bar Mitzvah, he approached Shapiro for a project idea. She recommended exploring opportunities at BPB. Eli was interested in doing something with sports and decided to organize a drive for sports equipment that would be distributed to families who use the market at BPB. He felt that it was important for all children to have access to sports and playing on a team. He wanted to make sure all families were able to support their children’s interests in sports, especially given the positive qualities he had acquired by being part of a team. When asked what it was like for him to plan a project, he said, “fun, but somewhat stressful” but both he and his mother, Rima Kleiner, praised BPB for the wonderful experience. They mentioned how easy it was to get involved and how receptive Parker White was to Eli’s ideas.

“It’s a great organization, especially if you want to do a project that is a bit out of the box,” said Rima. Parker also pointed out that BPB is a great place for families to volunteer together.

JFS loves working with the Greensboro community and continually seeks out new organizations to connect with. The agency knows how much the Jewish community can contribute and wants to do its part to make sure our community is connected to keep Greensboro a thriving and wonderful place to live.

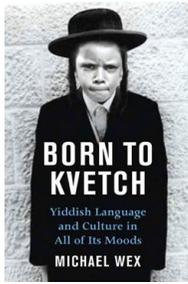
If you would like to donate new or gently used sports equipment, BPB will be accepting donations throughout the year.



Eli Kleiner

check it out

The Greensboro Jewish Library



Born to Kvetch by Michael Wex

A delightful excursion through the Yiddish language, the culture it defines and serves, and the fine art of complaint. Throughout history, Jews around the world have had plenty of reasons to lament. And for a thousand years, they've had the perfect language for it. Rich in color, expressiveness, and complexity, Yiddish has proven incredibly useful and durable. Its wonderful phrases and idioms impeccably reflect the mind-set that

has enabled the Jews of Europe to survive a millennium of unrelenting persecution... and enables them to kvetch about it! Michael Wex, professor, scholar, translator, novelist, and performer, takes a serious yet unceasingly fun and funny look at this remarkable kvetch-full tongue that has both shaped and has been shaped by those who speak it. The book reveals an intriguing appreciation of a unique and enduring language and an equally fascinating culture.

The Greensboro Jewish Library has *Born to Kvetch* available to borrow. Visit JFSGreensboro.org to browse the vast collection built from a combination of those received from the community's membership in the Jewish Book Council, PJ Library, and donations from private collections. For questions, please email library@shalomgreensboro.org, or contact Jamie Shapiro at (336) 852-4829 ext. 227 or jshapiro@shalomgreensboro.org.



Support JFS programs and services with a vehicle donation. JFS has partnered with CARS, an experienced national vehicle donation program, and will receive 80% of the profits from your donation. The process is simple — CARS will pick up your donation, handle all paperwork, and will send you a tax receipt.

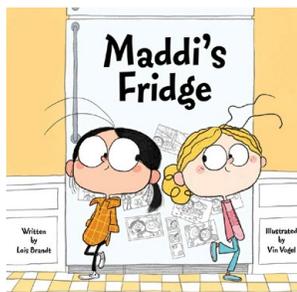
Call JFS (336) 852-4829 and say you want to donate your car, truck, boat or airplane!

Jewish Family Services would like to thank our generous grantors:



Preschoolers at the FOOD PANTRY

Parents, children, teachers, and *madrachim* from the preschool and kindergarten classes at Temple Emanuel joined JFS for a food pantry program where they sorted food for the pantry. A lesson on "why people are hungry" and a story helped the children understand why a food pantry is necessary. To continue to learn about this issue, each child and teacher received a copy of *Maddie's Fridge*, a book about not having enough food.



s i m p l y

Beshert.

At the end of August 2021, when Kabul, Afghanistan had fallen to the Taliban, people all over the world watched as Afghans tried to flee their home country. Many will never forget the image of desperate Afghans clinging to and chasing after the last U.S. military plane lifting off the runway.

The Greensboro Jewish Community responded to this crisis and raised more than \$30,000 for the fleeing Afghans. Jewish Family Services (JFS) staff members and volunteers further deepened their involvement and partnered with Church World Service (CWS Greensboro) in the fall of 2021. Together, the partnership helped welcome those seeking asylum to their new home in Greensboro.

JFS was one of ten local teams that committed to sponsoring an Afghan family for a minimum four-month term. In total, the CWS Greensboro partnerships resettled 116 Afghan refugees here in Greensboro. In addition, the North Carolina African Services Coalition settled more than 300 Afghans in the Triad.

Through the Jewish community's donations, JFS was able to provide one family of eight with furniture, food, funds for rent and utilities, and other necessities of everyday life. Meals provided

by local pantries and mobile markets that included *halal* meat were picked up and delivered to the Afghans by volunteers on a weekly basis. Similar to Kosher meat, meat is considered *halal* by the way it is slaughtered. JFS Director Betsy Gamburg felt it particularly important to respect the customs and be conscious of cultural differences for these new residents. JFS staff members and volunteers spent hours with the

family building rapport, transporting them to appointments, and teaching them American basics, like how to use public transportation and understand the public school system.

After working with the family for around two months, JFS was notified that three more family members had arrived in Greensboro from Florida. Although JFS was officially assigned a family of eight, there were now 11 Afghan refugees all living under one roof.

Gamburg was instrumental in the resettlement. She was able to tap into her extensive social work background

to positively impact the large Afghan family despite the language barrier. None of the family members spoke clear English and only two family members were literate (in their own language of Pashto) so Google Translate was not very helpful. Although it was sometimes a struggle, Gamburg was able to communicate by showing photos on her phone of what she was trying to convey.

“Betsy had a closer relationship with the family because of her personality and skill set. We really tried to make them feel welcome and meet their needs to the extent that we could. I feel positive about the sincere effort made to help them make the transition,” said Lynn Zimmerman, JFS Afghan Coordinator.

Fourteen years prior to taking on this project, Gamburg herself was a new resident of Greensboro. Thinking back to when her husband presented the idea of moving here, she remembers being taken aback by the idea of moving to a place she'd never heard of — and the idea of living in the South — until she saw that JFS was hiring for a new director.

Gamburg knows now that living in the South is much different than the stereotypes she once believed. Similar to the Afghan refugees who didn't necessarily choose Greensboro, her move here was simply *beshert*, a Jewish term meaning 'meant to be.'

“Living in this part of the world has been one of the highlights of my life and being part of this community is something for which I will always be grateful,” she reflected.

While helping the Afghans had nothing to do with the Jewish community, it had everything to do with Jewish values.

“One thing about being Jewish is *Tikkun Olam* which means ‘repair the world.’ JFS is the perfect organization for repairing the world. We're repairing the world, one person at a time,” said Lois Mezer, former JFS Board Chair.

For the last fourteen years, the Jewish community of Greensboro and the Greensboro community at large has felt the strong presence of Jewish Family Services under Gamburg's leadership.

When asked to describe how JFS helps others in an

“I've tried to make sure things were client-centered and done ethically and with integrity.”



Bill Moran, Lee Shapiro, and Rodney Kranz pack a truck delivering furniture donations to the Afghans' new home.

JFS Director was "Meant To Be"

BY JULIA WATKINS

abridged version, Gamburg says: "Our JFS mission talks about being a good citizen of Greensboro. We provide services to older adults, people with special needs, those who need counseling, those who are food-insecure and so many more. If you have a question or problem, we want you to start with us, and we want to get you the right answer."

JFS has a long list of local partners from over the years and is focused on "looking outward." From Creative Arts Network-NC and Out of the Garden Project, to Coda Connections and A Simple Gesture, a goal of the agency is to strengthen relationships and create new ones. JFS wants to find places where it can really make a difference.

And, the agency is adaptable. When there is a need, JFS finds a way to meet it. This is nothing new. Among other projects, many may remember a program that began more than a decade ago to serve Greensboro residents, no matter if they were Jewish or not.

When the 2008 financial crisis sparked what is now known as "The Great Recession," Gamburg held focus groups with community members to see how JFS might be able to help. The need for jobs across the country was high. Donna Cohen, a JFS volunteer, had a staffing business at the time and stepped forward to collaborate. Together, she and Gamburg created the "Employment Initiative" which included a weekly networking group, employment counseling, resume and skill-building workshops, and a jobs listserv.

"One of the best things that came out of the employment program was including the greater community. There were people who came to the Federation building who had never met a Jewish person. You could see people walk in the building not knowing what to expect. It was a great opportunity for our Jewish community and the greater Triad community to make a connection," stated Cohen.

The networking group met weekly and continued for six years. The jobs listserv and employment counseling are still offered today.

This past July, Gamburg announced her retirement. Her contributions to the Jewish community and the Greater Greensboro community are far too many to list.



Betsy Gamburg
Photo courtesy of Andrew Bowen



COMING FULL CIRCLE

A framed newspaper ad from 1959 hangs on the wall behind Gamburg's desk at JFS. The photo on the left of the advertisement features young Betsy. At the time, her father worked as the Assistant Director of Public Relations for the Philadelphia Federation.

"I've tried to make sure things were client-centered and done ethically and with integrity. It's been the best work I've done and has made me the happiest in my career. My mother used to say that one should always answer yes when the opportunity to do a mitzvah is put in front of you. I feel like she was talking about this job," she explained.

Gamburg plans to enjoy her retirement by spending time with family. Her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter live in Indiana and her other daughter lives in Tel Aviv. When not traveling to see them, she looks forward to spending time outdoors with her husband and playing her new piano.

In his book, *Faith of the Future*, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z"l wrote:

"The Jewish sages noted that on only one occasion does the Hebrew Bible command us to love our neighbor, but in thirty-seven places it commands us to love the stranger. Our neighbor is one we love because he is like ourselves. The stranger is one we are taught to love precisely because he is not like ourselves."

Gamburg leaves a legacy of loving both the neighbor and stranger.

YOU ARE INVITED
TO A RECEPTION HONORING

Betsy Gamburg

Sunday, January 8 from 2 - 4 p.m.
Temple Emanuel • 1129 Jefferson Road, Greensboro

Please stop in to celebrate Betsy, and to thank her for all that she has done on behalf of Jewish Family Services and our Greensboro community.

WHILE YOU'RE SCHMOOZING, HAVE A NOSH!

Visit the community calendar at shalomgreensboro.org for registration and more information

The Celebrating Betsy Gamburg Reception is a collaboration of Greensboro Jewish Federation, Jewish Family Services, Temple Emanuel, Painted Plate, Chabad Greensboro, Beth David Synagogue, and Carolina Foundation for Jewish Seniors.

The Afghan family of eleven relocated to Sacramento, California after a neighbor befriended them and purchased all of their flights. One family member and Betsy still keep in touch.

FOUNDATION ENDOWMENTS Support Community Causes

One of the remarkable facts about the American Jewish community is the level of participation in philanthropy. American Jewish philanthropy extends to non-Jewish causes in addition to those that serve Jewish people. Aiding social service providers and social justice advocates aligns with Jewish tradition, and the Jewish values of *tzedakah* and *tikkun olam*.

Support of both Jewish and secular causes are an important part of the philanthropic philosophy of several generous funders of the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro.

The Jewish Foundation of Greensboro holds several significant endowments designed to support community causes within the Triad region, and the state of North Carolina. A representative sample includes:

The Tobee and Leonard Kaplan United Way of Greensboro Endowment Fund provides general support



Leonard and Tobee Kaplan z"l

to the organization. United Way is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty for families in the Greater Greensboro area where one in five families live below the federal poverty line. Greensboro is a community identified as suffering from food insecurity.

The Kaplans also funded an endowment for the Women's Resource Center of Greensboro which helps provide life-changing information, education, advice, and support for women through a variety of initiatives. The Women's Resource Center includes a Women to Work program, as well as workshops on topics related to financial, physical, emotional, and relationship health.

The Jerry Hyman Family Endowment Fund for the Greensboro Children's Museum, established by Dr. Mark and Anita Kaye Hyman, Michael and Nancy Hyman, and Steve and Linda Hyman Strauss honors the memory of their father, Jerry Hyman z"l. He had a vision and was the inspiration and founder of the community's world-class educational and recreational hub for children, with complimentary museum admission on Jerry Hyman Day. The fund also supports innovative programs such as the hands-on organic teaching garden and

kitchen classroom as well as a new technology exhibit featuring STEM-based activities.

For the Hymans, community support is vital. Dr. Hyman observed, "We are proud that our family's fund is held along with other endowment dollars in the Jewish Foundation. Our philanthropy is guided by Jewish values and the Foundation provides us with an opportunity to support both Jewish institutions as well as other vital community organizations."

The Weiner family established an endowment that supports a program that twines Jewish and non-Jewish causes. **The Frank and Shelly Weiner Holocaust Education Teacher Training Endowment of North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching** provides educators from across the state with resources to broaden their knowledge of the historical context of the Holocaust, focusing on best practices, appropriate strategies, and significant resources for instruction. The Weiner's fund also gives high school educators the opportunity to visit and learn at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., providing them with tools to combat antisemitism throughout North Carolina.

Guided by Jewish values of *tzedakah*, *tikkun olam*, and *Klal Yisrael*, the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro assures continuity of financial support to Jewish institutions, as well as community organizations. Focusing on donor education, sound investment policies, and community support, the Foundation works with a number of affiliate organizations as well as family philanthropies to grow endowments for the long-term viability of the Greater Greensboro community.



Come celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Jewish Foundation of Greensboro

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022
6 O'CLOCK PM**

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(The former Bluebell Company Plant)
620B South Elm Street • Greensboro, NC

Entertainment by award winning a cappella vocal band

RSVP online at jewishfoundationnc.org or by contacting Maryann Kingsmill
(336) 294-0846 / mkingsmill@JewishFoundationNC.org.





INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

In January of 2022, for International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the then Prince Charles of Wales unveiled seven portraits he had commissioned by seven leading British artists. As patron of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, King Charles stated the portraits were to serve “as a living memorial to the six million innocent men, women and children who lost their lives in the Holocaust and whose stories will never be told.” These portraits are some of the last survivors of the Holocaust living in the United Kingdom. His daughter-in-law, Kate Middleton, is an avid photographer and had taken and contributed to a photographic portrait exhibition of the same ilk. This coming year, the Trust has a portrait contest open to young artists who want to tell the story of a survivor through the medium of art.

“My abiding hope is that this special collection will act as a further guiding light for our society,” he said, “reminding us not only of history’s darkest days, but of humanity’s interconnectedness as we strive to create a better world for our children, grandchildren and generations as yet unborn; one where hope is victorious over despair and love triumphs over hate.” King Charles then called upon citizens of the United Kingdom, all 68 million of them, to place a

lit candle in a window of their home, on January 27, the day Auschwitz was liberated, to remember the souls lost and honor those that survived.

On November 1, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 60/7 to designate January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The day not only commemorates the souls lost and the survivors but it also rejects Holocaust denial. Since World War II, there have been genocides in Cambodia, Bosnia, and Rwanda just to name a few. Unfortunately, hate has not waned since the horrors of the Jewish Holocaust and there is an accretion in antisemitism. If we as individuals were to light a candle in our home window and give one to a neighbor explaining the “why,” it could create dialogue and an opportunity to educate. Perhaps we could light up our community and be a beacon of resilience and hope.

Take part in the ceremony for International Holocaust Remembrance Day by placing a candle safely in your window on January 27, 2023 — and share with your neighbors.

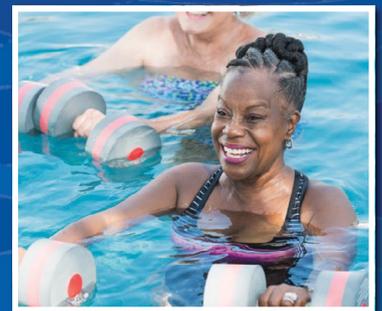
The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust explains that the aim is “to remember all those who were murdered for who they were” and to “stand against prejudice and hatred in the world today”.

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MAKING CONNECTIONS



GenerosiTea

Celebrating Philanthropic Women with High Tea

Greensboro's own Lions of Judah and Lion of Judah Endowment holders are known for their dedication to the Jewish community, and GenerosiTEA was the perfect way to honor them. Women in attendance heard inspiring stories from speakers, Yael Krigman and Carolyn Gitlin.

Yael Krigman, former attorney and owner of Baked by Yael, spoke about finding her passion through baking and opening her brick and mortar bake shop in Washington D.C. During the 2018-2019 government shutdown, Baked by Yael provided free meals to furloughed employees from the Smithsonian National Zoo which is right across the street. Donations from all over the country helped them all weather this storm.

Carolyn Gitlin, Chair of the National Women's Philanthropy Division of Jewish Federations of North America, reflected on how involvement with her local Federation proved to be the most fulfilling source of her Jewish upbringing.

"The event couldn't have been lovelier- the invitation, the company, location, food, décor, speakers, thoughtful notes, the personalized attention, and favors. It was all beautiful. *Yasher Koach* to all those involved," commented Michele Gordon after the event.

Founding Lions were recognized for their contributions to the Greensboro Jewish community and new Lions of Judah were "pinned" with a necklace by Campaign Co-Chairs, Alina Spaulding and Emily Kranz. Founding Lions at the event were: Irene Cohen, Gail LeBauer, Joan LeBauer, and Mimi Levin. New Lions in attendance included: Jen Strasser, Janis Fields, Leslye Tuck, Sharon Kaiser, and Ellen Samet.

Chez Genese, a French inspired cafe that employs adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, provided the venue and food for the event. The decor was "French-country," with silver teapots, mismatched napkins, and flowers. Attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and took home cakepops embellished by a Lion of Judah from Baked by Yael.

Read more about Yael and Carolyn in the News & Stories section of shalomgreensboro.org.



New Lions after their "pinning" with Campaign Co-chairs. From left to right: Jen Strasser, Janis Fields, Emily Kranz, Leslye Tuck, Sharon Kaiser, Alina Spaulding, and Ellen Samet



Mimi Levin and Janis Fields fill out their pledge cards



Phyllis Shavitz, Congresswoman Kathy Manning and Bobbie Mann



Event speakers: Yael Krigman and Carolyn Gitlin



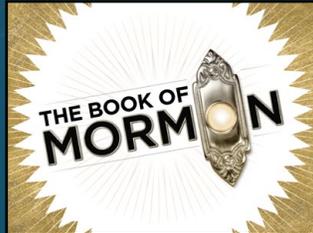


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storytelling UNDER THE stars

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The Proximity Hotel was the perfect place to host this year's Major Gifts Dinner: *Storytelling Under the Stars*. Sixty community members enjoyed a seated dinner and inspirational stories from Rachel Pront, Tom Sloan, Mike Berkelhammer, Jen Strasser, Sylvia and Norman Samet, and Emily Kranz.



Rachel Pront

"Two years ago the Federation helped me fulfill my lifelong dream of sending my children to Jewish sleep away camp. And one year ago, I had the tremendous honor of chairing the Annual Campaign Kick Off. It was a life changing experience for me. It's hard to believe how much has happened since then," recounted Rachel Pront during her story.

A symbolic sukkah was erected in the room where storytellers stood while sharing their experiences. The meal was fall harvest themed with beautiful tablescapes, decorated with fresh produce supplied by Foster Caviness that were donated to the Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Pantry after the event.

"The major donor event took my breath away. It was aesthetically lovely—warm and welcoming from the moment we walked in. The stories were perfectly crafted to shine light on the full breadth of the work of Federation, under a Sukkah that was as beautiful as the stories. The stories were inspirational, multi generational, and awe inspiring," commented Sue Simmons, Federation Past President and Major Gifts attendee.

With the help of event chair, Erica Weissburg, the evening reminded many of the strength and dedication of the Greensboro Jewish community.



Gail LeBauer and Dan Stein

MAKING CONNECTIONS



VOLUNTEERS HONORED at Women's Joint Opening Brunch



Dr. Leah Katz

With 130 in attendance, the Women's Joint Opening Brunch was one to be remembered. Featuring psychologist and author, Dr. Leah Katz, the event encouraged women of all ages to enjoy some "me time." The program focused on mindfulness and connecting with one another using different question prompts. A delicious brunch was

provided and volunteers of the year from different organizations were recognized on this special day chaired by Peggy Bernstein and Cheryl Kersky.

Volunteers recognized were: Jeanette Katz (Hadassah); Sharon Moran (Temple Emanuel); Robin Lecin (Beth David); Susan Feibelman, Bea Mandel, Arlene Henza and Paula Justice (JFS); and Erica Weissburg (Greensboro Jewish Federation).

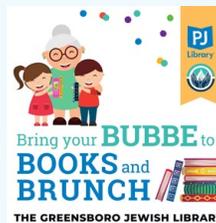
"My favorite part was experiencing the positive and fun energy of being in a room full of Jewish women from our community and knowing that I will always have this in my own life, no matter where I go, as long as I reach into the Jewish community. Jewish women need camaraderie, companionship, connection, community, kinship, laughter, spiritual connections and so much more. Events like this provide those opportunities," commented Julie Katz, a high school senior at New Garden Friends School.

Special thanks to Cheryl Greenberg, Susan Ross, Sara Jacobs, Betsy Gamburg, and Maryann Kingsmill for serving on the planning committee and to Cone Health, Pinnacle Financial Partners, and Carol Cole Levin for sponsoring the event.



Jerry Samet and Marian Stein with their granddaughters, Emma and Mia Bochkis

GREENSBORO JEWISH LIBRARY Welcomes Bubbes and Zaydes



Not even Hurricane Ian could stop grandparents and grandkids from enjoying *Bring your Bubbe to Books and Brunch*. Nineteen families came to the Federation building for the event sponsored by PJ Library and Jewish Family

Services. Due to a power outage from the storm, families used flash lights to select books from the Greensboro Jewish Library. They also enjoyed bagels, games, and a scavenger hunt with prizes.

"It truly was a wonderful day. I got to be with my grandson and we shared Jewish heritage on his level. We made pictures and even though the lights were out, the flashlights became another activity! I look forward to returning to the library again soon," said Arlene Hidalgo, Bubbe to Phillip.

For more information about PJ Library events or how to get Jewish children's books sent to your home, join the Facebook group @PJ Library Greensboro.



Sheryl and Brian Glickman, with their granddaughters, Shiralee and Margalit Pront



Arlene Hidalgo and her grandson, Phillip



Jake Titlebaum, Charlotte Frischman, Beth Mannella, Erica Elson, and Jacob Elson



John Masters, Miriam Kaftal, John Cohen, Sally Cohen, Paul Lieb, and Jill Masters



Jeremy Reiskind and Valen Giraldo



Rabbi Sniderman and Julia Watkins with Bobbi



Sarah Montgomery, Hannah Kaye, Michael Holden, Netzer Wasserberg, Koby Ellick, Aaron Sistare, Samantha Brody, and Sarah Weiss



Matt Marks, Miriam Brown, Aryeh Katz, Taylor Dickerson, and Mo Odum

jews & brews

AT STEEL HANDS BREWING

On October 20, the annual Jews & Brews engagement event was held at Steel Hands Brewery. Fifty community members connected with friends from near and far while tasting appetizers and award-winning beer. Indoor and outdoor seating were available and even a few four-legged friends greeted guests as they arrived. Young adult community members, like the JTriad kickball team and members of multiple G-FLI (Greensboro Federation Leadership Institute) cohorts, turned out to enjoy snacks, live music, and games including Jenga and Yahtzee.

“I was surprised by the wide range of ages that attended the event. The best part was being able to see the interactions between everyone there and meeting new people in a relaxed atmosphere. The support of the Jewish community never ceases to amaze me,” said Emma Wallace, member of the JTriad Kickball team, the Hebrew Nationals.

The crowd continued enjoying the evening long after the event was over, many staying until last-call! Special thanks to Beth Mannella and Lee Shapiro for chairing this year’s event. This was Beth’s fourth consecutive year as Jews & Brews chair. For more information about engagement events, reach out to Maya Gurfinkel at mgurfinkel@shalomgreensboro.org.



Valen Giraldo, Emma Wallace, and a Very Good Boy

TODAH RABAH

We thank the following people for their contributions to Jewish Family Services. All contributions to JFS are used to support JFS programs and services, and those in our community unless otherwise specified by the donor.

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Of: Nancy and Frank Brenner's Grandson
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Of: Ed Green and Barbara Pomer's Grandson
From: Steve Shavitz and Judy Frederick

In Memory:

Of: Sue Zaleon, z"l
From: Steve Shavitz and Judy Frederick

Of: Joy Haskell, z"l
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Elissa Francine Felder
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In Honor:

Of: Marion Gilligan's Birthday
From: David and Rodna Hurewitz

We apologize if we have missed anyone's contribution. Please call Jewish Family Services at (336) 852-4829 x222 if we missed you, and we will include you in the next issue. The minimum donation for each submission is \$10.00. Thank you.

DAVID D. FRAZIER FOOD PANTRY

In Honor:

Of: Gail Haber's Birthday
From: Joan Samet

Of: Eileen Silver
From: Joan Samet

In Memory:

Of: Shirley and Burt Lynch, z"l
From: Sara Hoffman

PHYLLIS K. JEROME FUND FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Alan Jacobson

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

In Honor:

Of: Emily Kranz
From: Joan LeBauer

Of: Alina Spaulding
From: Samuel LeBauer

COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT FUND

In Memory:

Of: James Weissman, z"l
From: Kenneth and Sandra Greene

INTERFAITH MISSION

In Memory:

Of: Patricia McKensie, z"l, mother of Tara Sandercock
From: Joan Samet

GLOBAL EMERGENCY FUND: UKRAINE

In Honor:

Of: Rene and Tom Cone
From: Darius and Faith Toraby

In Memory:

Of: Judy Wisan, z"l
From: Elaine Abrams

The Greensboro Jewish Federation, Temple Emanuel, Beth David Synagogue and Chabad of Greensboro offer a One Happy Camper First Year Incentive Grant for Guilford County residents who are contributing members to the Greensboro Jewish Federation.

HOW TO PAY FOR CAMP:

STEP 1: Visit onehappycamper.org to find an eligible camp

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First time campers, regardless of need, receive \$2,250 to go to an approved nonprofit Jewish overnight camp that is greater than 18 days long. For programs between 12-18 days, campers receive \$875. There are additional scholarships for first time campers attending specific camps.

Greensboro Jewish Federation has additional grant opportunities for first and second year campers. **For more information on grant opportunities to help pay for Jewish overnight camp, contact Maya Gurfinkel (336) 852-5433 x243.**

Jewish Family Services offers needs based scholarships to help get your children to camp. The camp scholarship application can be found at www.jfsgreensboro.org. **Scholarship applications are due the last day of February** and notifications are made by mid-March. **For information on camp scholarships, contact Betsy Gamburg (336) 852-4829 x225.**

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Representing Greensboro: Local Leaders Attend General Assembly



Several Jewish leaders from Greensboro joined over 1,200 Jewish communal leaders in Chicago at Jewish Federations'

three-day General Assembly, where they set the shared Jewish communal agenda for the year ahead and heard from a diverse array of voices on critical issues facing the North American Jewish community. First held 90 years ago, The General Assembly is the most consequential gathering of the leadership of the North American Jewish community, and brings together Jewish leaders of diverse backgrounds in a space that fosters productive dialogue and debate.

"It was my first time at the General Assembly. Jewish leaders get together from across the country to better understand issues and, while not always agreeing on everything, strive to work together on the fundamentals. The assembly provided measured, fact-based conversations relating to current social media issues, global conflicts, and local communities and their needs. A varied menu of topics met my expectations. More than one fellow participant from a large city complimented our small federation. It speaks volumes to the work done over many years by our volunteers, professional staff, and our incredible community of support! I felt proud to represent our federation," reflected Gary Bargebuhr, incoming Campaign Co-Chair.

Topics that were discussed include the urgency of Jewish communal security, Jewish Federations' response to the Ukraine crisis and the uncertainties that lie ahead for Jews in Ukraine and Russia, and new initiatives and partnerships to combat the rise in antisemitism.

Noteworthy names included President of Israel Isaac Herzog, U.S. Ambassador to Germany Amy Gutmann, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Herzog, journalist and news anchor Andrea Mitchell, among many others.



Rene Cone, Susan Gutterman, Michael Aloni, Marilyn Forman Chandler, Shlomo Mashiach, Gary Bargebuhr, and John Cohen. Michael Aloni and Shlomo Mashiach are from the television series *Beauty Queen of Jerusalem*

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In an effort to be both eco- and budget-conscious, the Federation has transitioned the magazine into a quarterly publication, and is streamlining the mailing list.

Donations are vitally important to help offset production and mailing costs. Please consider making a contribution, or if you would like to be removed from the mailing list, email info@shalomgreensboro.org. As always, everyone is welcome to enjoy the digital publication of the magazine which can be found online at shalomgreensboro.org.



Please donate now by scanning the code. For more information and advertising opportunities, visit shalomgreensboro.org.

COMMUNITY



Corporate Company Serves KOSHER MEAL with CHABAD GREENSBORO



Five years can make a big difference. Robin Manley, the Director of Human Resources at Zink, a local inkless printing company, knows. With the company struggling, she wasn't sure where to turn. Then, along came an observant Jewish man from New Jersey who turned the company around. In the process, Manley has learned a lot about Jewish observances and values.

After obtaining knowledge on kosher laws, she made sure to have kosher chocolate and a dedicated microwave on hand whenever the Jewish executive came to town. But, she pined to be able to “break bread with him and honor him.”

At a recent employee appreciation event, she was able to do that. With help from Rabbi Yosef and Hindy Plotkin, she surprised him when the lunch, served for all 120 participants, was *glatt* kosher.

She said a “magical” part of serving kosher was that it also allowed the company’s Muslim employees, who observe *halal*, to partake as well.

“We were exposed to tastes and textures we had never had before here in the South,” said Manley, who frequented kosher-style delis when she lived in Illinois. “The rabbi’s wife catered everything, and it was so fresh and delicious.”

Citing a recent example of Honda Aircraft Company ordering lunch for a Jewish family that was in town to purchase a jet, Rabbi Plotkin says that he has seen an increase of requests from companies seeking kosher meals.

“Beyond survival, eating is essential to our social experience,” explains Plotkin. “Ensuring that there are tasty, fresh, healthy, and kosher options available for locals and visitors is an important building block of Jewish life in the Greensboro area.”



Kosher Lunch Served to Employees at Zink

STRANGERS to NEIGHBORS with TEMPLE EMANUEL



“We have a choice,” taught Rev. David Fraccaro, the former head of Greensboro’s FaithAction International House (FAIH). “We can either treat each other as strangers. Or, we can live as neighbors.”

For years before the COVID-19 shutdowns, Temple Emanuel and Definition Church (formerly Daystar en Español) were part of an FAIH-initiated Stranger-to-Neighbor dialogue. Congregants and clergy from each community met to get to know one another and to build personal connections.

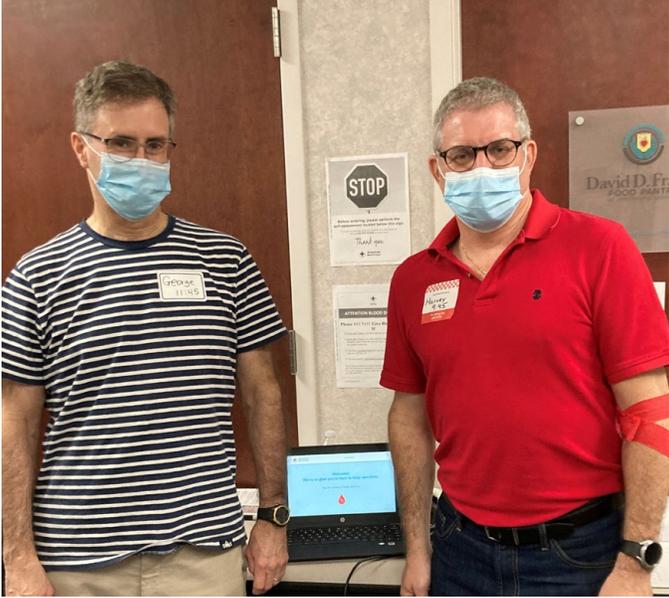
Over the course of many months, meetings took place at each other’s religious centers like a gathering at Temple’s Sukkah or a dialogue over a meal at Definition Church. One of the meetings took place at a local park.

Among the more memorable moments was the dialogue held in the late afternoon of October 27, 2018. Earlier that day, the deadliest antisemitic incident in U.S. history occurred at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Jewish support for immigrants was a motivating factor for that horrific attack. Notably, this meeting occurred in the midst of the heated rhetoric about immigrant caravans approaching the United States in the run-up to the midterm election.

“We supported and comforted one another,” said Paul Ringel, member of Temple Emanuel and participant in the dialogue. “We also dedicated that afternoon to learning about immigration and redoubling our efforts to work together and support those seeking to make their home and life in the U.S.”

The challenges of the pandemic made in-person meetings difficult to convene. And yet, connections have persisted. Just last month, the Stranger-to-Neighbor dialogue between Temple Emanuel and Definition Church resumed. Pastor David Duarte and Rabbi Andy Koren, roommates from the 2019 Interfaith Clergy trip, were joined by new and old friends from both communities. All present look forward to future opportunities to partner together.

“We can either treat each other as strangers. Or, we can live as our neighbors.”



Blood Drive Co-chairs George Rubenstein and Harvey Katz

Not all Heroes Wear Capes

Fifty-four people came through the Federation's doors on Sunday, November 6 to donate blood at the Annual Greensboro Jewish Community Blood Drive In Memory of Morry and Ruth Jacobs.

Harvey Katz and George Rubenstein, co-chairs of this year's event, began attending meetings last year to learn the ropes of planning for this decades-long tradition.



Marissa Lanier donating blood

"We've had a steady flow all day. It's been a wonderful turnout and it's been really impressive to see the community come together. We couldn't do it without the Jacobs family, continuing to sponsor us every year. Three of their family members came today," remarked Rubenstein toward the end of the event.

With the help of the Red Cross, the Jewish community was able to donate 40 units of blood which was thought to be a huge success.

"They do a nice job. You don't even feel it when they put the needle in there because they're so gentle with you," said Lon Tytell when asked about partnering with the Red Cross.

While the location of the drive changes each year from one Jewish place in town to another, the purpose of the drive does not. Each year, the community comes together to save lives, one unit at a time.



Josh Moody leaves the blood drive with a thank you bag and snacks

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COMMUNITY

BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE Members Help Out at Mobile Food Market



One definition of community is, “a feeling of fellowship with others.” This idea of community and helping the Greensboro community in need was the spark that created the Out of the Garden Project in 2008.

And in 2017, that notion of community led Beth David Synagogue to join their efforts.

Each month, Beth David members volunteer and partner with friends from College Park Baptist Church to staff a Mobile Market at Western Guilford Middle School. There, more than 60 families with children up to 18 years of age receive fresh produce, bread, meat, and shelf-stable items.

“I love the feeling of watching a family drive away smiling from one of our Mobile Markets with 50 - 70 pounds of fresh, healthy food for free,” said Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon.

In addition to the Mobile Market, Out of the Garden hosts other volunteer opportunities. They are always looking for help packing bread and sorting goods at the warehouse.

Volunteer Nat Bernstein finds the experience rewarding. “I love volunteering for Out of the Garden because it helps so many people who have the basic need for food...with food. Those we help look just like us.”

He sees that the community needs help and is there to assist. The day Bernstein volunteered, he was able to help more than 75 families.

Rabbi Ben-Gideon sees how the partnership can grow. “Don and Kristy Milholin always have an eye towards alleviating hunger in our community.” Out of the Garden will continue to work towards eliminating food insecurity. Members of Beth David will be there to help.



Nat Bernstein loads boxes of food for Out of the Garden Project.



Cora Slaton and Bobbijeane Spellman

B'NAI SHALOM Teacher and Students Play Around with Hanukkah



Anyone who has been to B'nai Shalom Day School's (BSDS) Hanukkah show over the last eight years knows who Bobbijeane Spellman is, whether they are aware of it or not. Throughout her tenure at BSDS, Bobbijeane has worn many hats,

including preschool teacher, drama teacher and librarian, but her favorite role is writing and directing the annual Hanukkah show.

When asked why she, a non-Jewish teacher, has remained at a Jewish day school for so long, she explained it was because she not only fell in love with the warm school community, but also its commitment to fostering Jewish values among its students. When working with students, Bobbijeane aims to help them learn more about themselves Jewishly and beyond.

One of the best encapsulations of this commitment is her work on BSDS's annual Hanukkah show. After discovering that there were many Hanukkah books, but not many plays, she was inspired to start writing her own for B'nai students to perform each year. “In the beginning, writing the plays was a huge learning curve for me,” Bobbijeane said. “As someone who is not Jewish, I had to write with a Jewish voice for children to use as their own Jewish voice.” For the past eight years, she has successfully collaborated and written shows that speak to both children and the adult audience. Ultimately, she has enriched B'nai Shalom's celebration of the holiday.



This project is very meaningful to Bobbijeane because it allows students to find a part of themselves in a uniquely Jewish play. Eighth-grader Cora Slaton, related to discovering new aspects of her Jewish identity by participating in her first Hanukkah performance. Looking back on her experience playing the Cheshire Cat in *Aleeza in Hanukkah Land* (an adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*) Cora said, “I really enjoyed having an outlet to express myself in a fun, creative way that also connected me with my Jewish roots.”

The world is full of great and accessible plays with wonderful characters. Empowering students at B'nai Shalom to engage in a Jewish play that relates to them personally is what speaks to Bobbijeane's passion.

SHINSHINIOT Ignite Avivim Social Group for Jewish Pre-teens



Noya Shapira and Maskit Galach are Greensboro's ShinShiniot. They are two 18-year-old women from Israel, here in Greensboro for a year of service. As part of this ambassador program, they have been in charge of leading monthly meetings for a new PJ Our Way social group for pre-teens, called Avivim. PJ Our Way is for kids ages 9-12 and is the next chapter of PJ Library.

Maskit thought to name this local PJ Our Way group Avivim, after the Hebrew word *Aviv*, meaning spring. In the spring, one sees growth and beginning, which is the hope for this group.

Beginning with a planning meeting in September at Bur-Mil Park, the group has met several times at B'nai Shalom Day School to connect Jewish pre-teens from across the city with get-to-know-you games and team building. Recently, Avivim has partnered with another Jewish pre-teen group in Calgary, Canada for a Hanukkah gift exchange.

Avivim is made possible through an engagement grant from PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, and is run by B'nai Shalom Day School and the Greensboro Jewish Federation.

If you have a child in grades four through seven who may be interested in joining Avivim, please contact Maya Gurfinkel at mgurfinkel@shalomgreensboro.org.



Avivim Social Group meets in the Fab Lab at B'nai Shalom Day School.



Kids in Avivim play games together at their first meeting at Bur-Mil Park.



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NC HILLEL STUDENTS Celebrate Rosh Hashanah at Apple Gala



UNCG Hillel Student Board Leaders Jake Gordon and Seth Wittenberg prepare decorations.



Maskit Galach, Nitzan Amar, Amit Melchoir, and Noya Shapiro pose in the photobooth at the Gala

Photos courtesy of Shayna Prace Photography

Hillel North Carolina

Apple season is over, and NC Hillel's 1st Annual Apple Gala was the best of the bushell!

Jewish college students from all over North Carolina attended a semiformal dinner and dance in University of North Carolina Greensboro's (UNCG) Cone Ballroom on September 17 to celebrate Rosh Hashanah.

More than 150 students from 15 campuses, including private schools like High Point, Elon, and Wake Forest, came together for the first in-person statewide event since the beginning of the pandemic. Students blessed the new year with *Shehecheyanu*, participated in a student-led *Havdalah* service, and danced the *Hora*.

Student leaders from Hillels at UNCG and University of North Carolina at Charlotte spent their summers planning the event. They met with the NC Hillel Link Director, Ginny Vellani, every two weeks to provide status updates and troubleshoot, but they were the ones who took charge of the entire event.

"When we started planning the Apple Gala I really wanted to connect students in Hillels across the state. I learned how to better time-manage as well as reach out to the school and coordinate multiple things coming together at one time. I feel that we not only accomplished that goal, but we did it in a way we weren't even expecting! It made me proud to see more and more people walking in the doors when I was talking to people. The entire night I was smiling after knowing how much work was put in and seeing the work pay off really meant a lot to me," said Jake Gordon from UNCG, class of 2024.

Hillel received overwhelming positive feedback from students during and after the night. Greensboro's very own ShinShinot, Noya Shapiro and Maskit Galach, also enjoyed the event. "The Apple Gala was amazing! We enjoyed getting to know Americans our age from all over the state. Different young adults, with different hobbies than ours, different opinions and a different outlook on life. It was very interesting to hear what people knew about Israel and the places we came from. We had a special experience and we had a lot of fun!" commented Maskit.

Students met new Jewish friends from other North Carolina colleges and native North Carolinians got to reconnect with childhood pals. For more information about NC Hillel visit nchillel.org.

OUR TEAM IS GROWING! Welcome New Staff Members



Alexa Horowitz

Alexa Horowitz is the new Manager of Events and Corporate Sponsorships at the Federation. Previously, she has held positions at global ad agencies like Saatchi and Saatchi and Wunderman which enabled her to gain a diverse portfolio of knowledge with clients like Levi Strauss, Nestle and Wendy's. She has also worked with start-ups and not-for-profits where her true interest lies and believes the opportunity to work for Federation came at the perfect time. When she is not working she loves volunteering, meeting with friends, reading, and traveling.



Amber Heiser

Amber Heiser recently joined the Greensboro Jewish Federation as a marketing intern. Amber is originally from Lancaster, Pennsylvania and is set to graduate from Randolph Community College in the spring of 2023 with an Associate's degree in Advertising and Graphic Design. When she is not at work or doing her schoolwork, you can find Amber reading a new book, drinking hot tea, and exploring Mount Airy or new places in Greensboro.



PROXIMITY HOTEL



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QW HAPPENINGS & NEWS

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- **LIVE MUSIC Wednesdays is Back!** *AM rOdeO* (Jessica Mashburn & Evan Olson) 7 PM. printworksbistro.com.
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