

# The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

Celebrating Jewish Life

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August 2022

## Shalom Park Building Renovations: Behind the Scenes, on the Roof, Under the Ground

By Terri Beattie, Foundation of Shalom Park Executive Director

All the agencies at Shalom Park rely on Foundation of Shalom Park (FSP) facilities as they strive to fulfill their missions and remain economically sustainable. Often hidden from view are critical mechanical-electrical-plumbing (MEP) systems, major building components, and site infrastructure that make the buildings safe and habitable. MEP regulates temperature and humidity, keeps the rain out of classrooms, drains wastewater, powers elevators, and performs countless other functions. The need for these systems to be reliable cannot be overstated, yet replacing and modernizing these building elements, most of which are 20 to 35 years old, is often difficult, time consuming, and extremely expensive.

Replacement and modernization projects are vital to increasing customer satisfaction, employee productivity, energy efficiency, building safety, and property values. With these objectives in mind, FSP is behind the scenes, on the roof, and even underground, replacing and modernizing Shalom Park facilities each and every year. 2022 is an especially busy year.

In early 2022, FSP completed the installation of new carpet in the FSP common areas and event spaces and replacement of the Gorelick Hall walls. Since then, other projects, unseen, have been completed, including integration of a videoconferencing system in the Shalom Park board room, installation of a 120-gallon water heater in the Gorelick Education Building, repair of drainage and a sink hole on the athletic fields,

and replacement and painting of the parking deck stairs.

As we enter the second half of 2022, many more behind-the-scenes projects are underway:

- Installation of 30-ton AAON energy efficient HVAC unit and BMI system feeding the Levine Jewish Community Center (LJCC) locker rooms
- Upgrades to the LJCC indoor pool dehumidification and HVAC system

- Enhanced video and conferencing capabilities in the Sam Lerner Center

- Upgrade of a site-wide back-flow preventer used to protect drinking water supplies from contamination

- Installation of an enhanced WiFi system for FSP building common spaces and the facilities of Charlotte Jewish Preschool, LJCC (indoor and outdoor), Jewish Family Services,

Center for Jewish Education, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

- Upgrade and installation of security cameras throughout the facilities

In conjunction with LJCC, FSP has been working on two projects:

- A 10-month construction project to renovate the men's and

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FSP replaces 30-ton HVAC unit over the LJCC locker rooms.

## Ellen Goldstein Retires From BBYO After 24 Years

You don't have to look for long at the young leaders in our community's Jewish organizations before you find one who got their inspiration and their start in their "BBYO career," as many BBYO alumni call it, from Ellen Goldstein, BBYO's area director. After having a profound influence on the lives of literally thousands of Jewish teens over the past 24 years, Ellen retired from BBYO in July.

BBYO is the leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement, involving Jewish teens of all backgrounds, denominational affiliation, gender, race, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status in meaningful Jewish experiences. With a network of hundreds of chapters across North America in 60 countries around the world, BBYO reaches nearly 70,000 teens annually



Ellen Goldstein, BBYO area director

and serves as the Jewish community's largest platform for delivering fun, meaningful, and affordable experiences that inspire a lasting connection to the Jewish people.

Ellen started her BBYO career in 1998, while serving as a board member for the Levine Jewish Community Center working

with the teen committee. She began part-time as the Charlotte city director. She next served as the North Carolina Council director, followed by her role as the Eastern Region director, consisting of three councils: Virginia, North Carolina, and Southeast, with more than 800 Jewish teen participants.

Since 2014, Ellen has served as the BBYO area director for Eastern Region (Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southern GA), Northern Region East (DC, Maryland, and Northern Virginia), and Connecticut Valley Region. Over her tenure, Ellen has not only helped teens develop leadership skills that they have used to forge their path in life, but she has guided young professionals to grow and be successful within the organization. Two of these regions are

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# From the Editor

## Shalom Park Freedom School and the Summer Slide



Shira Firestone, Editor CJN

Those of us who prefer physical books over e-books often hinge our preference on the completely subjective, distinct smell we associate with reading. Though the smell is most likely the result of cellulose decay, I prefer the romantic description a team of chemists used as if describing a fine wine: “a combination of grassy notes with a tang of acids and a hint of vanilla over an underlying mustiness.”

When summer comes, another memory comes to my mind — following my mother and brother into our community library, grabbing my little corner of carpet off a stack, and staking

my claim to a small space on the floor for story time. My mother may have in part been looking for refrigerated relief from the hot, sticky, Texas summer afternoons, but more likely, she was doing what she did our entire childhood, providing plenty of opportunities to be surrounded by reading, year round. When it was my turn to be a mother, I read to my children every chance I had, and on the first day of summer we would trudge to the library to pick up our summer reading log and set our summer reading goals.

The “summer slide” is a term used to refer to significant loss of knowledge in reading and math that students experience over summer break — as much as 20% of their school-year gains in reading and 27% of their school-year gains in math, according to research Scholastic, Inc reports. Though all schoolchildren can experience this loss, students from low-income and at-risk families are disproportionately affected.

Reading over the summer can be critical to minimizing those losses. For this reason, summer

literacy programs abound, provided by public libraries, public and private schools, bookstores, community centers, and more. One such program, Shalom Park Freedom School, has the support of our Jewish community through the partnership of several Jewish organizations at Shalom Park.

Since 2011, Shalom Park Freedom School has been a collaborative effort of Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, the Levine JCC, The Charlotte Jewish Day School, Jewish Family Services and The Foundation of Shalom Park, and Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte through an annual allocation and the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library.

Freedom Schools were created by the Children’s Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., and supported by Freedom School Partners in Charlotte. The six-week program provides one-on-one reading support and enrichment opportunities and even sends home free books for its participants.



My brother, Carl, reading “Tip and Mitten” in 1967

In July, I had the pleasure be a guest reader at the opening session, Harambee, where they begin their day with high-energy, positive songs, dance, cheers, and chants. The kids were attentive as I read about an ant begging a little boy to be kind and not squash him, doing my best to mimic what I thought an ant might sound like!

I was inspired. The kids were engaged. I won’t deny that I

actually cried when they broke into an empowering rendition of “Something Inside So Strong.” Clearly this was about more than literacy and summer slide.

This year’s program at Shalom Park ended in July, but it is in tremendous need of fresh faces to serve on the steering committee so that it can continue to thrive here. If you are interested, contact Margaret Musa at [mmusa@carolina.rr.com](mailto:mmusa@carolina.rr.com).

Though Shalom Park Freedom School is over for the year, the summer is not. It’s not too late to help the young people in your life retain the skills they learned during the last school year. Come visit the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library where an exciting collection of books for children of all ages await. The only thing lacking is the musty smell.

(See “Looking Back” on page 35 for a reprint of the 2011 article when Shalom Park Freedom School began.)

*Shira*

## Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

August 5 — 8:04 p.m.

August 12 — 7:57 p.m.

August 19 — 7:48 p.m.

August 26 — 7:40 p.m.

## The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

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## Ellen Goldstein

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currently led by Eastern alumnae that Ellen worked with as teens.

Ellen is proud of the Jewish leaders that BBYO creates. Many alumni become leaders in local temples, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, Levine Jewish Community Center, and Jewish Family Services, among others. “BBYO plants the seed for the importance of giving back to your community,” Ellen says.

Of the work she does, Ellen says that the community that BBYO creates is the most rewarding. “So many teens say BBYO is their home.” She adds, “The beauty of BBYO is that we have teens that come from all Jewish backgrounds. There’s no expectation. You don’t have to belong to a temple. You don’t have to have had a bar/bat mitzvah. We let teens ‘do Jewish’ for themselves. They get to explore what Judaism means for them.” Elaine Denenberg, eastern region administrative assistant for 17 years, who also retired in July adds, “This is especially important as more families remain unaffiliated with a temple or in smaller communities with fewer Jewish teens.”

In addition to her role as area director, Ellen has touched the lives of teens from around the world serving as site director for Chapter Leadership Training Conference (CLTC), BBYO’s premiere summer leadership program, since the summer of 2005. “Working at CLTC so many summers, has given me the opportunity to work with fantas-



Ellen with 4 Eastern Region Alumni that all worked for BBYO

tic colleagues and staff, wonderful teens and their parents, and participate in the best part of a BBYO summer program, experiencing Shabbat at camp.”

Elaine expressed her admiration when describing Ellen’s impact on teens and the community. “A long time ago when I started working for BBYO, the Charlotte Jewish community was honoring Women of Strength. The nominations were due within days of my first day working with Ellen. I cannot remember if that first day followed North Carolina or Virginia’s spring convention, but when Ellen described the amount of work that running a convention required, I thought it sounded absolutely exhausting and wondered how she did it — maybe I should nominate her as one of those Women of Strength.

At the time I was not sure I would have enough information for the application and did not submit a nomination on her behalf. After 17 years of working together, I could fill pages about her strength, her leadership, and her compassion. As she retires from full-time work with BBYO and moves on to special projects, I will miss working with her and I am truly grateful for the years we worked together at BBYO. We are grateful for all Ellen has done to raise the next generation of Jewish leaders. She is truly a ‘Woman of Strength,’ and so much more!”



# Shalom Park Renovations

(Continued from page 1)

women's locker rooms. While the LJCC fitness members will enjoy renovated shower, steam room, and locker room facilities, unseen will be new underground plumbing, interior wall waterproof membranes, drainage system, and stainless-steel sprinkler heads.

- A major drainage system upgrade at the LJCC Tennis Complex

One of the largest projects to date will begin in late summer, the installation of a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) roof system and 27 skylights. This single-ply roof system material is made with a lower percentage of oil and petroleum than all other single-ply roof materials and carries both an Energy Star and Cool Roof Rating. PVC is the most eco-friendly of all roof types because it is highly efficient for heating and cooling, reflects the sun, and mitigates the heat island effect. It is also recyclable even after years of service life.

All of these renovations and modernization are a lot to manage, but behind the scenes, on the roof, and even sometimes underground is Paul Jacobs. Paul, a 35-year employee of FSP, is the facility manager who oversees the maintenance, custodial, and project management functions for all of Shalom Park. Paul's deep knowledge of Shalom Park buildings and systems stems not only from



Paul Jacobs, Foundation of Shalom Park facilities manager

his education and numerous building-related certifications but also from his career choice to support Shalom Park facilities beginning with the original building construction in 1987.

Almost \$3,000,000 will be spent to accomplish these investments in infrastructure, ensuring both social and economic benefits to the Shalom Park commu-

nity. We are grateful for your patience during this process. Next time you are on Shalom Park and you have to dodge a construction dumpster, watch for wet paint, or stop while a crane is lifting building equipment, know that exciting upgrades, renovations, and modernizations are occurring behind the scenes, on the roof, and under the ground.

*The Foundation of Shalom Park is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency that owns and manages the properties and facilities for most of the organizations that are located on the central campus of Shalom Park, which includes: Temple Israel, Temple Beth El, the Levine Jewish Community Center, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, Jewish Family Services, Temple Israel Religious School, Temple Beth El Religious School, Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies, Charlotte Jewish Preschool, Charlotte Jewish Day School, Center for Jewish Education, Hebrew Cemetery Association, B'nai Brith Youth Organization, and the Charlotte Jewish News.*



## PROJECTS ON SHALOM PARK

- » NEW ROOF FOR ALL BUILDINGS
- » PARKING DECK STAIRS
- » UPDATED LOCKER ROOMS (FUNDED BY LJCC)
- » NEW HVAC FOR LOCKER ROOMS
- » NEW HVAC FOR INDOOR POOL
- » VIDEO CONFERENCE UPGRADE
- » ADDITIONAL SECURITY CAMERAS

Thank you for your patience while we make exciting upgrades. We apologize for any inconvenience you may experience.

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Total Donors

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## Sue's Bookshelf

### The Wick and The Flame



By Sue Littauer

From Paris to Prague, from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, "The Wick and The Flame" captures the heart and soul of a nation at its birth, seen through the eyes of those who put their lives and hearts on the line to ensure its future. (Goodreads)

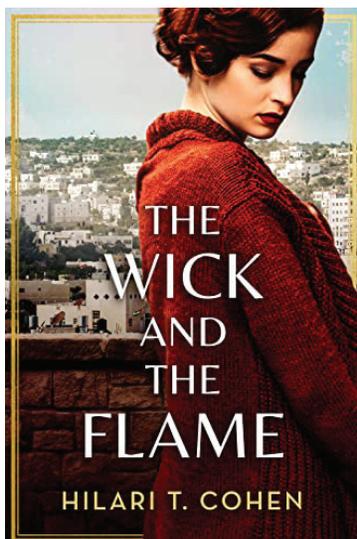
Hilary T. Cohen, a seasoned traveler to Israel, visited The Ayalon Institute for the first time in 2016 and was inspired to write her historical fiction novel "The Wick and The Flame" to share the institute's story. Touched by

the narrative of the young people who risked their lives for the dream of a State of Israel, which reminded the author of the story of the Maccabees, she began her research in earnest to learn more.

From the Council for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in Israel:

The Ayalon Institute brings alive one of the most fascinating chapters in the story of the establishment of the State of Israel. Here, right under the nose of the British, a factory the size of a tennis court and eight meters underground, produced 9mm bullets for the Sten submachine guns used by Palmach fighters. Forty-five youngsters, members of the 'Tzofim A' youth group and others, secretly manufactured more than four million bullets. The highlight of the tour is identifying the secret entrance concealed inside in an innocent-looking laundromat.

"The Wick and The Flame" is skillfully told through the eyes



of four young adults:

Evie, an Englishwoman seeking a more meaningful life than the one planned by her society mother and British diplomat father.

Naomi, an American studying journalism at Tel Aviv University who dreams of sharing her stories with the world.

Judah, devastated when his

first love was killed during a bomb explosion, is part of the inner circle in the fight against the British.

Albert, a French Jew whose family perished in the Holocaust, escaped France and met Judah in Prague, where he was convinced to join the cause.

Although the book is very much a love story, its value to me was to learn about the heroic efforts of the young adults, many of whom were displaced during World War II, all of whom were fighting for a homeland for the Jewish people. To learn more about The Ayalon Institute, visit [www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-ayalon-institute](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-ayalon-institute)

Curious about the author, I took the opportunity to speak with Hilary T. Cohen, an award-winning editor who worked and consulted in the publishing field for more than 25 years and who first began writing her own novels at age 57. When I asked what the impetus was for

her to start writing on her own, she said that her birthday is 5/7, her lucky numbers are 5 and 7, and on her 57th birthday, she decided to sit down by herself to write her first book. Subsequently, she has written eight novels! A voracious reader, Hilary Cohen's favorite authors are Alice Hoffman and Anna Quindlen, and she highly recommends the book "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus. She is currently working on another historical fiction novel about German Jews who carved Torah arks, came to the U.S. in the first wave of immigration, and carved carousel horses in Coney Island!

Our next Center for Jewish Education Book Club meeting is Wednesday, August 10 at 10:30 a.m. in room A110 on Main Street at Shalom Park. We will be discussing "An Observant Wife" by Naomi Ragen. For more information, contact [sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org](mailto:sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org).

## Miss Debby's Best-Loved Children's Books

### Books for Grandparents To Share With Their Grandchildren



By Debby Block

My Grandma Florence always said, "The love between a grandparent and a grandchild is the purest kind of love," and now that I am a grandparent, I agree wholeheartedly! My best-loved books this month feature grandparents!

"Tea With Zayde" by Barney Saltzberg is a truly charming book that depicts the close bond between a grandfather and his granddaughter, who share a virtual tea party every afternoon. Perhaps this is the perfect book

for these times when grandparents are not always able to visit with grandchildren in person. Share this book with your grandchild, and you may decide to create a regular tea party as well! Recommended for children ages 1-3.

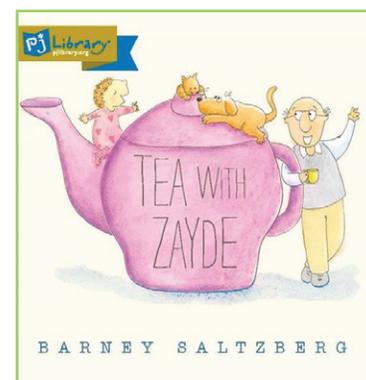
My grandchildren call me Lolly and my husband Pops. No matter what your grandchildren call you, this best-loved book is two books in one! "A Grandma Like Yours" and its flip side, "A Grandpa Like Yours" by Andria Warmflash Rosenbaum feature joyous Jewish celebrations with animal grandparents and their grandchildren. With its simple text and bold, colorful illustrations, I recommend this PJ Library picture book for children ages 1-4.

Grandmothers come in all shapes, sizes, and religions. What happens when grandparents come from different backgrounds and traditions? In "Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup" by Pamela Mayer, Sophie visits her Bubbe and enjoys kreplach, and when she visits her Nai Nai (grandma in Chinese), she enjoys wontons. In the end, the two grandmothers combine their chicken soup recipes to create a special blend, made with the most special ingredient — love! Recommended for children ages 3-6.

The New York Times bestselling "How to Babysit a Grandma"

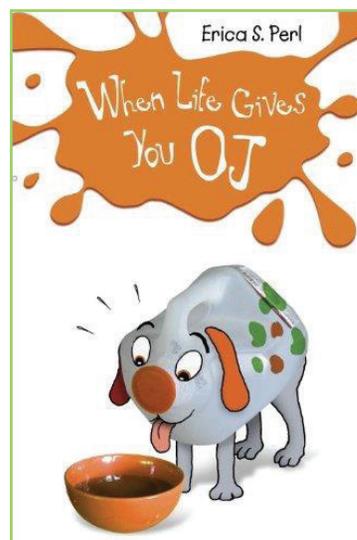
by Jean Reagan celebrates the special bond between grandparent and grandchild. The twist in this book is that the young child is in charge of planning the shared activities. As you can imagine, the babysitting entertainment includes going to the park, dressing up, and spreading sprinkles on everything. This humorous picture book and its sequel, "How to Babysit a Grandpa," will delight children and give every grandparent a chuckle too. Recommended for children ages 3-5.

One of my favorite Jewish chapter books is "When Life Gives You OJ" by Erica S. Perl. Zellie Fried wants a dog more than anything. Her eccentric grandfather, affection-



ately known as "Ace," devises an outlandish plan and presents Zellie with a practice dog made of a plastic orange juice bottle. If Zellie routinely feeds, walks, and takes care of the OJ bottle dog, perhaps she can earn the privilege of getting a real dog. I highly recommend this heartwarming book for its humor and its depiction of the special bond between grandparents and grandchildren. Recommended for children ages 6-11.

Miss Debby's best-loved books are available at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library. Stop by the library or contact us at (704) 944-6783 or [library@jewishcharlotte.org](mailto:library@jewishcharlotte.org) to reserve a copy today!



# Hadassah Announces Anonymous Gift From Charlotte Family for Groundbreaking Israeli Medical Research



Hadassah Medical Organization, Ein Kerem Campus

By Diana Warth Bregman

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. (HWZOA), is pleased to announce new charitable gifts totaling \$550,000 from an anonymous Charlotte family supporting groundbreaking medical research at Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) in Israel.

Founded in 1912, Hadassah began with a mission to provide emergency care to infants and mothers in pre-state Israel. Today, Hadassah has flourished into two world-class medical and research hospitals in Jerusalem, treating more than one million patients a year. Hadassah continues to contribute to the betterment of the world through life-saving medical care, research in service to humanity, and other acts of tikkun olam (repairing the world).

Our generous Charlotte family has pledged support for two areas of research. First, they are champions of the pioneering stem cell work of Dr. Boaz Nachmias, a senior physician-scientist in HMO's Division of Hematology. The focus of Dr. Nachmias's work is acute myeloid leukemia (AML). Second, the family has supported oncology research, establishing an endowment to fund that work.

Twenty years ago, when stem cell therapy was highly regulated in the United States (as late as 2006) and other countries, it was advanced in research and treatments in HMO's labs. Human embryonic stem cells have the potential to become any kind of healthy cell in the body, including brain, heart, lung, retina, bone marrow, and to multiply infinitely. Adult stem cells, which live all over our bodies, repair local damage.

In recent years, researchers at HMO have made tremendous strides in cutting-edge stem cell therapies. Using human embryonic stem cells, HMO scientists have halted the deterioration of

the retina in laboratory models. Using patients' own stem cells, they have inhibited the progression of ALS in human clinical trials. Treatments and cures for diseases like age-related macular degeneration, cancers, ALS, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and diabetes could be a reality in the foreseeable future.

Dr. Boaz Nachmias's research has made Hadassah's medical center a world leader in the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia (AML). Treatment approaches and outcomes have not changed significantly over the past 40 years; among elderly AML patients, only 40% to 50% respond to chemotherapy, and long-term survival rates are less than 10%. Now, Dr. Nachmias is breaking new ground by using stem cells to reduce the relapse rate in AML patients. His studies have revealed that a subset of leukemia stem cells is responsible for the high rate of treatment failure, so he is focused on identifying novel vulnerabilities of leukemia stem cells to more precisely target this cell population.

HMO has made strides in other areas of oncology research. Hadassah's Prof. Michal Lotem, a trailblazer in melanoma research and healing, is treating her patients with a personalized protocol that is offered by only a handful of oncology centers around the globe.

When her patients come to her with stage IV metastatic melanoma, where standard treatments have failed, Professor Lotem uses a cutting-edge immunotherapy protocol called adoptive cell therapy (ACT). The treatment involves extracting immune cells from a patient's tumor and expanding their number into the millions to make them powerful cancer killers. They are then re-injected into the patient, who is now armed to fight the disease with a greatly enhanced immune system.

As she explains, "We have to take into account each person's unique mutation landscape because each person's cancer, though it exhibits common attributes, has its own profile." Consider Esther, for example. A 62-year-old oncology nurse, Esther was diagnosed with melanoma in 2012. Fourteen months later, despite treatment, her cancer metastasized to her chest wall. Prof. Lotem treated Esther with a personalized vaccine, using her own tumor cells that had been enhanced in culture with a drug called Keytruda. In January 2017, she was completely free of

metastatic melanoma.

The work of HMO medical experts is only made possible through the generosity of individuals like the Charlotte family. The family shared, "In 2019, we established an endowment with Hadassah for stem cell research. We have been aware of Hadassah's excellent research capabilities. Most important is the focus in applying theoretical research platforms to cures for specific diseases. This year we have added both an endowment for oncology research and funded a stem cell research lab. These financial gifts are important to our fami-

ly tzedakah and estate planning. Hopefully they will also serve as an example for others to support and expand upon the important work of the Hadassah Medical Organization."

For more information on how you can make an impact with Hadassah, please contact Diana Warth Bregman, Hadassah's director of development for the South & Southwest, at (814) 673-4303 or [dwarth@hadassah.org](mailto:dwarth@hadassah.org).

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**ASHI**

# Talli Dippold To Lead Innovative Holocaust Museum for Hope and Humanity in Orlando, Florida

By Rabbi Judy Schindler

After seven years at Queens University working to establish its Jewish Life Program and six years partnering to create the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center, Talli Dippold has accepted a new position as chief executive officer for the Holocaust Museum for Hope and Humanity in Orlando, Florida.

Founded in 1981 by Holocaust survivor and local philanthropist Tess Wise, the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida opened the museum in 1986 using exhibits and proactive community outreach initiatives to teach the lessons of the Holocaust. Over the course of the next few years, the existing museum will transform from its humble venue into the Holocaust Museum of Hope and Humanity, a new 43,000-square-foot lakefront museum in downtown Orlando and the first-ever built from the ground up in partnership with the USC Shoah Foundation.

Internationally renowned and award-winning architectural firm Beyer Blinder Belle Architects and Planners is overseeing the building design and will collaborate with museum experts Ralph Appelbaum Associates (RAA), Dr. Stephen D. Smith of Memory Workers, and Carolynne Harris Consulting on the interior design and overall guest experience, joining forces to create a



Talli Dippold

first-of-its-kind museum. Crafted predominantly around survivor testimonies, its mission is to use the history and lessons of the Holocaust to build a just and caring community free of antisemitism and all forms of prejudice and bigotry.

Dippold's new chapter builds upon her exceptional work at Queens University. On her first day on the job in January 2015, Dippold established Queens Hillel. As a result of her tireless nurturing of the program, Queens evolved from including one self-identified Jewish student in 2015 to 26 Jewish students engaged with Hillel today.

As a result of the immense generosity of Stan Greenspon, in 2016 Dippold partnered to create the Stan Greenspon Center at Queens University. Through her six years as the center's associate director, hundreds of

teachers have engaged in professional development, thousands of students have participated in Holocaust and human rights educational programs, and an equal number of community members have been educated through social justice initiatives, including teach-ins and community arts, advocacy, and educational events.

Additionally, in the fall of 2022, Dippold was named the

Stan Greenspon director of Holocaust Education Fellowship Program as she developed a new Certificate in Holocaust Pedagogy (CHP) that will kick off in September. The instructional program will lead educators from the classroom and community through the skills of historical examination and interpretation, guiding them to ask questions and think critically about why the Holocaust happened, what

it means for learners today, and how we can engage others in our schools and communities to do the same.

The Stan Greenspon Center has embarked on a national search for Dippold's successor. About her time at the Greenspon Center, Dippold says, "When we dreamt up the concept nine years ago, I could never have imagined the impact that the Greenspon

(Continued on page 7)

## Stan Greenspon Center Shines at Association of Holocaust Organizations Conference in Charlotte

By Rabbi Judy Schindler

In mid-June, Charlotte and the Stan Greenspon Center took center stage as 115 leaders and scholars representing national and international Holocaust centers, university programs, museums, and councils gathered for the 35th annual Association of Holocaust Organizations Conference. The theme was "Re-convening, Recalibrating, and Reimagining Holocaust Education for the 21st Century."

During the conference, attendees collectively examined what the work of Holocaust

education means in the context of current local, national, and global realities. They reevaluated foundational practices and narratives identifying those that are relevant and effective in today's quickly evolving field of education. They addressed and confronted implicit assumptions that require reconsideration and explored the intersectionality of the Holocaust with contemporary issues of justice.

Highlights included presentations by international experts Mark Weitzman, Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Dr. Menhaz Afridi,

and Dr. Tracey Petersen. Local educators Dr. James Grymes, Dr. Willie Griffin, and Rosalia Torres-Weiner shared their knowledge and expertise as well. Attendees were impressed by the diversity of voices and content. Participants took part in the Jacobs-Jaffa Charlotte Jewish Heritage Tour, which offered insights into the Charlotte Jewish community from 1850 through today. Over the past 172 years, Charlotte Jews have been civically, philanthropically, and interfaith minded; religiously

(Continued on page 7)

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back to School

**Sacred Threads:  
The Complex Tapestry of  
Interfaith Relations**

A half-day conference revisiting and reflecting on  
Nostra Aetate, the 1965 declaration on the relation of the  
Church with non-Christian religions

PHOTO CREDIT: MIRIAMFOTOS, PIXABAY.COM

**JOIN US**  
Sunday, September 11, 2022  
1 PM - 7PM

Hosted at the Stan Greenspon Center at Queens University of  
Charlotte & Myers Park Baptist Church

For more information visit [www.stangreensponcenter.org](http://www.stangreensponcenter.org).

Sponsored By:

## Greenspon Center

(Continued from page 6)

and culturally proud; and part of American history with its highs and lows. With the tour's final stop at Shalom Park, participants expressed admiration for what the Charlotte community has built.

With the conference completed, the Greenspon Center is now focused on a newly established partnership with a nationally known Holocaust education institute and on developing significant programs for the coming year:

The New York-based, internationally renowned YIVO Institute for Jewish Research invited the Greenspon Center to create and facilitate a program that will highlight and evaluate YIVO's Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum. Donna Tarney, the Greenspon Center Education and Outreach Specialist, responsible for overseeing the program has already recruited the first cohort of educators from North Carolina, New Jersey, and Florida. The year-long program will involve 40 educators and hundreds of students.

On September 11, the Greenspon Center will host a half-day interfaith conference (in person and/or virtual) titled "Sacred Threads: The Complex Tapestry of Interfaith Relations" at Queens University and Myers Park Baptist Church. Community members are invited to connect with Charlotteans from varied faiths, be inspired by nationally recognized interfaith scholars and talented musicians, and engage in powerful conversations. The event runs from 1 to 7 p.m. and will provide time and space for reflection about the changing nature of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian interfaith work since 1965. The agenda combines prayer, learning, and opportunity for personal reflection. Partners sponsoring the conference include Belmont Abbey College, First United Methodist Church of

Gastonia, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, MeckMIN, Paulist Fathers, Temple Beth El, Temple Emanuel of Gastonia, Temple Israel, Temple Sinai of Atlanta, and Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte.

As the center gears up for its fall programs, plans include a brand new educational workshop titled "Restorative Practices in the Classroom." In cooperation with CMS's Kit Helaku, a half-day seminar will allow teachers to study and rehearse different ways to diffuse conflict and misbehavior with their students. Mr. Helaku brings his experiences in using these practices in the Chicago public schools as well as here in Charlotte to create genuine change.

The Greenspon Center is also accepting registration for its fall Signature Jewish Studies community course taught by Rabbi Judy Schindler: "Wellsprings of Prayer - Finding Resources to Support your Own Spiritual Journey." One need not be left to face the hard moments of life without spiritual resources. This class will explore ancient and creative words that offer strength in the face of life's storms and expand one's sense of gratitude in the midst of one's daily routine. Participants will have the opportunity to enhance their educational experience by crafting their own personal prayer books. This course will be offered in person with a hybrid option and recording for those who are traveling. Guest scholars will be incorporated into the program.

For more information on Greenspon Center Programs, visit [www.stangreensponcenter.org](http://www.stangreensponcenter.org).

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## Talli Dippold

(Continued from page 6)

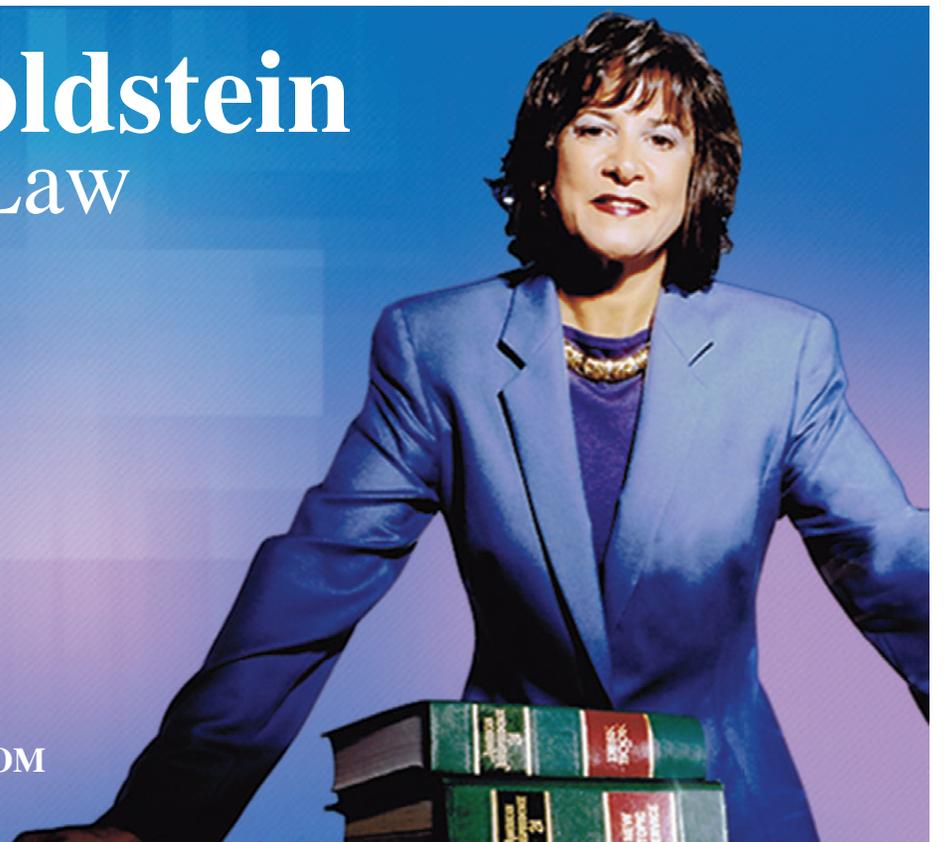
Center would have on the community. Rabbi Judy Schindler and I, scribbling on napkins at a local Panera Bread, envisioned a center that would educate, inspire, and transform lives and our community. Everything we accomplished was made possible by Stan's generosity and vision. I am proud of what we have created and am confident that the Center's next chapter will be transformative. Our critical work is desperately needed, and the seeds we have planted over the past decade with our network of generous supporters and capable community partners will continue to bear impressive fruit."

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# Live, Laugh, Give Comedy Night Raises \$200,000 for Jewish Family Services

By Julie Loftis, JFS Marketing Specialist

On June 12, more than 300 guests “laughed and gave” at Jewish Family Services’ (JFS) Live, Laugh, Give comedy night fundraising event. Kevin Levine and Louis Sinkoe were honored for their many contributions to JFS, the Jewish community, and the greater Charlotte community. The headliner, Elon Gold, did not disappoint with his one-liners and jokes. Howard Olshansky publicly launched the establishment of a Senior Housing Tzedakah Fund to aid seniors struggling to secure affordable housing. According to Howard Olshansky, executive director for JFS, “We are so moved that once again our community opened its hearts, and the event raised \$200,000 to help JFS secure the necessary staffing to meet the growing mental health needs of our community and ensure our community’s seniors have the means to live independently in safe and stable housing.”

For the second year, Andrea Cronson and Adina Loewen-

steiner co-chaired the event with a record number of sponsors, spearheaded by our Entertainment Underwriters, Eric and Lori Sklut and Howard and Julie Levine, and our Headliner Sponsors, Celeste Johnson, Gene and Vickie Johnson, The Alvin E. Levine Family, and Gary and Jodi Michel. A sponsor reception before the main event, underwritten by Generations at Shalom Park, included a meet and greet with Elon Gold and hors d’oeuvres. The main event was followed by a dessert reception.

Next month JFS kicks off its annual Family to Family Campaign, accounting for almost 20% of the total annual budget. Partnering with our community, JFS has been pivotal in responding to the evolving needs of our community. Mental health and crisis assistance needs continue to rise:

- One in six children suffer from mental health issues.
- Almost 10% of children nine and ten years of age in the U.S. have thought about suicide.
- One in five families in the



Honorees Louis Sinkoe and Kevin Levine

U.S. experience domestic violence.

- Only 1% of rentals in Charlotte cost under \$1,000. Applications for Section 8 housing are closed with more than 6,000 on the waitlist, leaving seniors living on fixed incomes with little or no resources for safe and stable housing.

JFS provides more than 4,000 touches to our community every

year. “Many people think of our work as only the food pantry or providing mental health services or supporting seniors. They don’t realize the full extent of the needs that we’re meeting for all ages, including caregiver education and support, Holocaust survivor services, emergency financial assistance, parenting support, and domestic violence services,” said Olshansky.

The money raised from Live, Laugh, Give and the Family to Family Campaign, along with tributes and generous donations throughout the year, helps ensure JFS continues to provide the support our community has come to depend on. Live, Laugh, Give exceeded expectations, a success not possible without the support of our community. The philanthropic support to JFS’ fundraising activities truly represents the community’s commitment to ensure JFS is able to engage, connect, and heal those struggling in our community. For more information on donating funds, contributing to the food pantry, or volunteering your time, please visit our website at JFSCharlotte.org or call (704) 364-6594.



**Jewish Family SERVICES**

Engaging • Connecting • Healing

## Jewish Family Services May/June 2022 Volunteers & Donors

**Volunteers:** Marcia Arnholt, Mike Arnholt, Andrew Bernstein, Suzy Catennazo, Dan Coblenz, Jonathan Collman, Andrea Cronson, Julie Dermack, Joni Deutsch, Terri Fishman, Rachel Friedman, Meredith Gartner, Estee Gelbard, Marty Goldfarb, Richard Goldsmith, Jennifer Golynsky, Gail Halverson, Meredith Haines Rebecca Hockfield, Oren Hubara, Dawn Hubbs, Bob Jacobson, Jodie Joseph, Marcus Kallor, Michael Kaplan, Jennifer Koss, Etti Krause, Elliot and Stephanie Krietman, Marcia Lampert, Kim Levy, Adina Loewensteiner, Jordan Loftis, Matt Luftglass, Gene Marx, Frada Mozenter, Beth Rose Oxman, Wendy Petricoff, Barbara Rein, Nina Rose, Marilyn Schuster, Lynne Sheffer, Janice Shubin, Cindy Siesel, Louis Sinkoe, Lynne Sheffer, Lorin Stiefel, Ken Stern, Steve Teich, David and Beth Thrope, Gail Vogel, Amalia Warshenbrot, Nancy Wielunski, Amanda Zaidman

**Live Laugh Give Volunteers:** Mike and Marcia Arnholt and grandsons, Jessica Austin, Josh Clasky, Ryan Connor, Andrea, George and Scott Cronson, Jenna Dalli, Rob Friedman, Richard Goldsmith, Rebecca Hockfield, Carly Lerner, Adina and Josh Loewensteiner, Jacob Meyer, Steve Meyer, Jodi Michel, Marnie and Scott Moskowitz, Frada Mozenter, Thea Reddin, Will Ryan, Celia Solomon, Sherri Soriano, Jordan Van Glis, Marci Willenzik

**Hadassah Meal Preppies:** Sara Friedman, June Hirschmann, Karen Futersak, Yvette Jacobson, Judy Kaufmann, Jackie Kaplan, Penny Krieger, Harriet Meetz, Andrea McCleary, Helene Schillian, Marcia Stern, Elissa Vining, Kyle Vining

**Shalom Green:** Thank you to your volunteers for harvesting fresh produce for the JFS pantry

**Food Pantry Donations:** Thank you to our generous community for continuing to donate to the food pantry. We continue to collect donations every other Wednesday at the portico entrance to the Blumenthal Center for Jewish Education Building on Shalom Park.

## Jewish Family Services May/June 2022 Tributes

**Happy Anniversary to Sandra and Leon Levine**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

**Happy Anniversary to Paul and Claire Putterman**  
Sandy and Naomi Zeskind

**Happy Anniversary to Anita and Marvin Shapiro**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

**Happy Anniversary to Leonard and Judi Strause**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

**Happy Birthday to Bob Kornfeld**  
Jonathan and Stephanie Simon

**Happy Birthday to Hanna Adler**  
Sandra Weinstein

**Happy Birthday to Leon Levine**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

**Happy Birthday to Leonard Strause**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein

**Happy Birthday to Gary Michel**  
Roya Behnia

**Happy Birthday to Samuel and Nancy Bernstein**  
Ephraim and Janet Cassidy

**Happy Birthday to Stuart and Jodi Cohen**  
Tim and Vani Craven

**Happy Birthday to Danny and Fayne Fischer**  
Bill and Beth Fronzaglia

**Happy Birthday to David and Judy Miller**  
Darren and Staci Mond

**Happy Birthday to David and Karen Ransenberg**  
Alan and Sandy Rosenberg

**Happy Birthday to Sander and Jenni Walker**  
Rick and Marci Willenzik

(Continued on page 9)

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# The Mental Health Implications of the Reversal of Roe v. Wade

By Howard Olshansky, JFS Executive Director

The implications of the Supreme Court decision reversing Roe v. Wade will ripple across our society, with one of the most significant consequences being on mental health not only of pregnant women but also of the many others who are affected. Consider the impact on a couple having to care for a baby that they are not able or ready to care for, or the family of a teen to whom the responsibility of her pregnancy will now fall. With more children and youth in foster care and the juvenile justice system, more families in need of food stamps, public assistance, affordable housing, subsidized health care, we will all feel the effect on our economy and education and health-care systems. When these systems struggle, a direct result is an increase in stress, anxiety, depression — and consequently, the need for mental health care.

The statement below reflects the sentiment of the national organization representing Jewish Family Service organizations throughout the United States, Canada, and Israel. It highlights the future challenges we face as a result of this Supreme Court action.

## NJHSA Statement on SCOTUS Decision to Reverse Roe v. Wade

The Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies finds these days to be intensely challenging ones for the United States of America.

With the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health overturning Roe v. Wade, the Court has determined that the right to an abortion is no longer protected by the U.S. Constitution and with this single ruling, has reversed close to 50 years that have supported the health, mental health, and personal decision making of women and of families. This ruling challenges the core principles of this country, namely the protection of privacy and freedom, including religious freedom, and personal choice, while also compromising the principles that guide Jewish human service agencies, namely the right to self-determination.

The member agencies of our network recognize that this decision will not impact all women equally. Making abortion illegal will not end abortion; it simply will make it less safe. Women and girls living in poverty, people of color, members of the LGBTQIA communities, those living in rural or medically un-

derserved communities and persons with disabilities will bear an even greater and unfair burden in accessing safe abortions and other reproductive healthcare services. Making abortion illegal also will most certainly exacerbate the current mental health crisis, as women who are denied abortions frequently experience higher rates of depression, anxiety and lower self-esteem. As a network of community-based agencies that work each day to uphold the social work value of

the right to self-determination, we are renewing our commitment to ensuring that all will have access to the care they need. We will work together to maintain the Jewish community's commitment to repairing the world as we support women and their families in all communities and from all religious and ethnic backgrounds.

May we all find the strength and courage to hold true to the values that keep communities and families safe and healthy.

Paula Goldstein, Board Chair  
Reuben D. Rotman, President & CEO



## Jewish Family Services May/June 2022 Tributes cont.

(Continued from page 8)

**Happy Birthday to Mike Scharf**  
Ben and Margie Liebstein  
**In appreciation of Louis Sinkoe**  
Erin Goldstein and Amanda Vestal  
**In appreciation of Louis Sinkoe and Kevin Levine**  
John and Maria Collias  
**In appreciation of the Community**  
David Lipsitz  
**In Honor of Howard Olshansky**  
Eric and Susan Lerner  
**In Honor of Jennifer Golynsky**  
Eric and Susan Lerner  
**In Honor of Kevin Levine and Louis Sinkoe**  
Jill Blumenthal  
Ivan and Roz Cooper

Alan Kronovet and Cary Bernstein  
Leon and Sandra Levine  
David and Beth Thrope  
Nora Wolf  
Eric and Susan Lerner  
**In Honor of Michael Goldberg**  
Alan and Ruth Goldberg  
**In Honor of Sue and Kim Worrel**  
Morris and Lynne Sheffer  
**In Honor of Susan Meyer**  
Eric and Susan Lerner  
**In Memory of Barbara Sklut**  
John and Ridgely Phillips  
**In Memory of Esther Scott**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein  
**In Memory of Jack Poznansky**  
Francine Poznansky  
**In Memory of Monroe Kurtz**  
Stuart and Carolyn Hennes  
**In Memory of Robert Isser**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein  
Stanley Greenspon

Margie Levenson  
Mark and Harriet Perlin  
Gary Silverstein  
Michael and Judie Van Glish  
**In Memory of Robert Speizman**  
Paul and Lynn Edelstein  
Stanley Greenspon  
**Mazel Tov to Ed and Jill Newman on their grandson's graduation**  
Leonard and Judi Strause  
**Mazel Tov to Jack and Vera Mendel on their granddaughter's graduation**  
Leonard and Judi Strause  
**Mazel Tov to Ollie Polk on her grandson's graduation**  
Leonard and Judi Strause  
**Mazel Tov on the marriage of Sabrina and Chris Malkemus**  
Leon and Jennifer Golynsky

## Wellness Workshops

Program provided at no cost due to a grant from JFNA.

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September on Wednesdays from 10:00 – 11:30 (9/7, 9/14, 9/21 & 9/28)

### WELLNESS THROUGH MUSIC

Connect with mind, body, and spirit through music-assisted relaxation, singing, song discussions, and live music-making.

October on Thursdays from 12:30-2:00 (10/6, 10/13, 10/20 & 10/27)

### Additional Wellness Programs coming soon!

Workshops will be led by experienced facilitators. No experience necessary.

**Location:** LJCC Teen Meeting Room

For more information or to register, call 704.364.6594.



Center on Aging and Trauma



Jewish Family SERVICES

Engaging • Connecting • Healing

# A Survivor's Legacy: Holocaust Survivor Irving Bienstock Helps Keep Judaism Alive by Planning His Future Philanthropic Impact

*This is an excerpt of a feature that first appeared on Foundation For The Carolinas' storytelling website, FOCUS. For more stories of philanthropy, history, the community and giving, visit [philanthropyFOCUS.org](http://philanthropyFOCUS.org).*

By Ken Garfield

Irving Bienstock survived the Nazis. He took shelter in an orphanage in Amsterdam. He made his way to the United States and reunited with his family. He met the love of his life, Lillian, at a Temple dance in Brooklyn, N.Y. His work led them to Charlotte, where they

found a home, a synagogue and a community that has honored his journey.

This is his life, and this is his mission: To tell the story, challenge hatred and support the causes that keep Judaism and love alive.

Irving Bienstock turned 96 on June 15, 2022. There's no time to waste.

"I'm a very lucky human being," he said. "I'm very fortunate that I survived the Holocaust. Once I die, no one will ever know what the Nazis did to us, what they did to me. You must speak up if you are subject to any kind of discrimination."

## A Legacy Gift

Each school year, approximately 6,000 Charlotte-area middle and high school students participate in the Butterfly Project (more than 53,000 since its inception); its workshops combine storytelling and the arts to teach about human behavior through the lessons of the Ho-

locoust.

There, the students hear from Irving Bienstock and Suly Chenkin, a fellow survivor, who share their personal stories, many learning about the Holocaust for the first time.

Think of the arc of Bienstock's life: This child of the Holocaust has lived long enough to tell his story to the children of 2022 – in person before the pandemic, by Zoom after.

Now comes his latest act of remembrance.

Bienstock is leaving a legacy gift to Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community, designating 16 organizations to benefit from his generosity upon passing. These organizations, Jewish and secular, in the Charlotte area and beyond, work to perpetuate Judaism, fight hate and help the poor.

Established in 1997, Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community (a supporting organization of Foundation For The Carolinas) helps manage



Young Irving and Lillian Bienstock

the endowments of Jewish and secular nonprofit organizations in Charlotte and beyond. They also actively help members of the Jewish community, like Bienstock, create meaningful

*(Continued on page 11)*

# Thank You LEGACY DONORS

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*\*Donors who wish to remain anonymous OBM - Of Blessed Memory*

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# Irving Bienstock

(Continued from page 10)

philanthropic plans and achieve their charitable goals.

“I am very appreciative of the time and expertise provided by FCJC with the development of my legacy plan,” said Bienstock. “They simplified the process and assisted me in focusing on those charities and causes that had the greatest impacts on our lives. It is my hope that these gifts will allow these organizations to impact future generations.”

The Bienstocks’ legacy gift also expresses Irving’s love for his wife, Lillian. They were married 69 years when she passed away in 2019 at age 90. He has designated support for the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, the neuromuscular disease that led to her passing.

## A Life Reborn

Bienstock grew up in Dortmund, Germany. His father, William, was an accountant. His mother, Ida, kept house. Bienstock spent a happy childhood playing soccer and marbles with the neighborhood kids.

All that changed on Nov. 9, 1938. Bienstock was 12 years old when Kristallnacht – the Night of Broken Glass – signaled the start of the Holocaust. Bienstock remembers. “Mobs of people in the street,” he told Charlotte Magazine years ago. “The synagogue burning. The Nazis coming into our home. My mother asked a policeman, ‘You’re supposed to be protecting us.’ He said, ‘You dirty Jew, we told you to get out of Germany.’”

So, he did. On Jan. 15, 1939, he boarded a train and fled alone to Holland (now known as the Netherlands). In 1940, at age 13, after 15 months in an Amsterdam orphanage, he received a visa. With his mother, Ida, and younger sister, Sylvia, he boarded a ship in Rotterdam for New York. The plan was to meet up with Bienstock’s father, William, who had already secured a visa and fled Germany because he was wanted by the Nazis. The plan worked.

A life reborn: His family settled in Brooklyn, N.Y, and, after serving in the Army, Bienstock forged a career in the textile industry. Smitten with Lillian – a beautiful daughter of immigrants who was as serious about her faith as Irving – they married in 1949.

They moved to Charlotte in 1975 when he was assigned to run a knitting machinery plant in Monroe. He joked that if Charlotte hadn’t had a kosher butcher, they might have remained in Flatbush.

## His Mission Continues



Suly Chenkin and Irving Bienstock

Bienstock’s second home is Temple Israel, a sacred place to him that evokes memories of attending Sabbath services with his father in Dortmund. For Cantor Emeritus Elias Roochvarg, Bienstock evokes memories of another time.

“With his courtliness and somewhat formal yet approachable demeanor,” Roochvarg said, “he represents to me one of the last vestiges of the pre-war Jewish community of Europe.”

Irving Bienstock belongs to the brotherhood and sisterhood of Holocaust survivors who are still here to speak for the 6 million Jews and 5 million others murdered by Hitler. As few as

100,000 are alive to tell us about Kristallnacht, Auschwitz and what can happen when evil is allowed to run rampant.

This is what keeps Bienstock moving forward, the opportunity to use his gentle voice to speak up, and his good fortune to spread the message long after he is gone.

*Ken Garfield, former religion editor of The Charlotte Observer, is a freelance writer/editor who helps Foundation For The Carolinas and other nonprofit causes tell their stories.*



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# Refugee Conversation Precedes Performance of Fiddler on the Roof

By Amy Lefkof

When “Fiddler on the Roof” came to Charlotte’s Belk Theater, May 31-June 5, the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center decided to host a Community Cue, conversations inspired by the stage, focused on today’s refugee resettlement process and how Charlotteans can support refugees in our area and abroad.

Arlethia Hailstock, community impact manager for the Blumenthal Performing Arts, invited the Jewish Community Refugee Initiative (JCRI) to the pre-show Community Cue on June 1 along with several other local agencies that resettle refugees or provide post-resettlement services, such as International House, Catholic Charities, Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency (CRRA), and Refugee Support Services (RSS).

The various agencies set up tables at the pre-show event with literature regarding refugees, knitted items for sale made by RSS’s refugee knit together group, and HIAS buttons declaring, “My People Were Refugees Too.” Refugee clients or former refugees resettled by the agen-

cies enjoyed the pre-show conversation and were then treated to a performance of “Fiddler on the Roof” through an Arts for All grant ticket program. A portion of ticket proceeds from “Fiddler



Gita, a young woman of Bhutanese heritage but born in a refugee camp in Nepal, holds a Fiddler on the Roof program while sporting a RSS knitted sunflower pin and HIAS sticker that reads, “Refugees Welcome.”

on the Roof” were donated to Charlotte’s International House to support immigrants who have come to call Charlotte home, including those displaced from Ukraine.

Hailstock also arranged for Gene Kavadlo and his wife, Ali Kavadlo, of Viva Klezmer to perform with their band in the Mezzanine Lobby of the Belk Theater. After those in attendance, numbering more than 50, enjoyed refreshments and klezmer tunes such as “Tzena, Tzena, Tzena” and “Bei Mir Bist Du Schön,” they heard a brief presentation by Laura Jones, acting assistant regional director of refugee services with Catholic Charities, about the refugee resettlement process.

Jones highlighted pre-arrival case management (setting up housing, furnishings, and supply of basic food items), arrival needs (airport pickup and initial medical appointments), and post-arrival (first 90 days) resettlement needs (applying for Social Security, food stamps, Medicaid, financial literacy classes, and employment assistance with

the goal toward self-sufficiency).

Jones also cited a startling statistic: in the first months of 2022, more than 100 million individuals were displaced worldwide as a result of persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations — a record high.

Noting that the Torah mentions the idea of welcoming the stranger no fewer than 36 times and that our people have also been refugees, JCRI encouraged those present to complete Statue of Liberty post-cards, pre-addressed and pre-stamped,

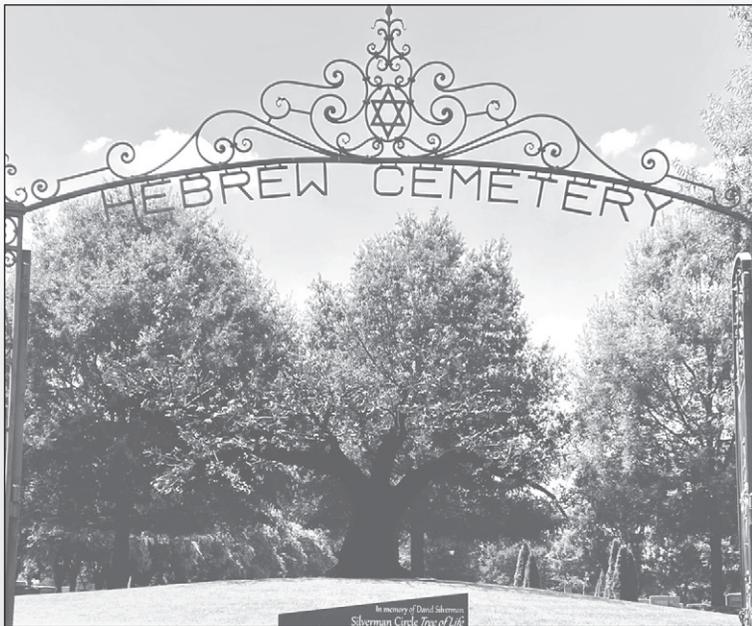
to President Biden and North Carolina’s Senators Thom Tillis and Richard Burr, urging these leaders to support a robust and well-resourced refugee resettlement program.

Annsley Banks, volunteer coordinator at CRRA (which is the only other refugee resettlement agency in Charlotte besides Catholic Charities) and Sarah Stubbs, food and community info coordinator at RSS, explained their organizations’ resettlement and post-resettlement work and volunteer needs, respectively.

*(Continued on page 13)*

The Hebrew Cemetery joins with the community in remembering the names of those who have been buried at the Hebrew Cemetery in the months of June and July.

Joan Glauser	9/3/1943-5/23/2022
Bob Isser	3/25/1940-5/25/2022
Marlene Schachter	8/24/1945-5/26/2022
Bobby Speizman	4/10/1940- 5/30/2022
Esther Scott	6/7/1944-6/5/2022
Donald Avedon	1/30/1935-6/16/2022
Ken Ball	8/11/1932-6/19/2022
Arnold Kosofsky	8/16/1942-6/27/2022
Stephen Kaufmann	12/10/1945-6/26/2022



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# Refugee Initiative

(Continued from page 12)

At the conclusion of “Fiddler on the Roof,” to reinforce an obvious parallel to the war in Ukraine, Danny Arnold, the actor who played Tevye, took off his costume and returned to the present day by wearing a brightly colored winter coat while the silhouetted cast trudged in a large circle as displaced villagers. From the edicts issued and violent acts undertaken in the name of the czar to the expulsion of the Jews from Anatevka at the musical’s end, the audience

understood the comparison to modern-day Ukraine. After receiving a standing ovation, Arnold spoke about the need to show support for the world’s refugees and said that the cast was dedicating the production to those Ukrainians displaced by the war.



**To make a donation to assist displaced persons in Ukraine, consider the following organizations:**

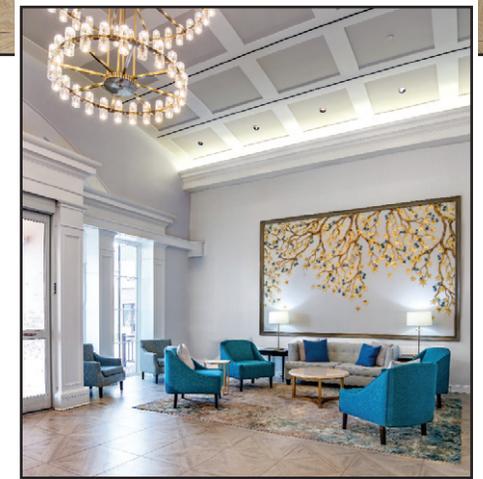
- World Central Kitchen <https://wck.org>
- JDC-American Joint Distribution Committee Inc. <https://www.jdc.org/disasters/ukraine-response/>
- Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte (In response to the crisis in Ukraine, our local Federation is participating in raising money for the Jewish Federations of North America Ukraine relief fund) <https://www.jewishcharlotte.org/>
- The Jewish Agency for Israel (its ‘Aliyah Express’ program is expediting the immigration process resulting in thousands of Ukrainian olim (immigrants) arriving in Israel) <https://www.jewishagency.org/>



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Religious Life

# Welcome Rabbi Lexi Erdheim, Temple Beth El's New Associate Rabbi



By Andy Harkavy

We are excited to welcome Rabbi Lexi Erdheim as our new associate rabbi. As a member of our team, Rabbi Erdheim will have a full range of responsibilities including: leading worship; officiating life-cycle events; teaching, and serving as a member of our leadership, engagement, and clergy team. Rabbi Erdheim's priority will be to bring her tremendous energy, creativity, and vision to our social justice work and to partner with Rabbi Nichols on adult education.

Rabbi Erdheim was born and raised in Livingston, New Jersey. She fell in love with the South after spending two summers as the director of Jewish life at URJ Henry S. Jacobs Camp outside of Jackson, Mississippi. She currently serves as a rabbi at Congregation Gates of Prayer in Metairie, Louisiana, where she oversees young adult engagement and social justice programming. During the summers, she has led the staff training and

leadership development program at Jacobs Camp.

Rabbi Erdheim received her rabbinic ordination and nonprofit management degrees from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles in 2019. While in school, she served as the student rabbi for two years in Amarillo, Texas. She was also the intern at Hillel 818, a communal Hillel for Cal State Northridge, Louisiana Valley College, and Pierce College in Los Angeles's San Fernando Valley.

Rabbi Erdheim is a devoted fan of the New York Yankees and the New Orleans Saints. She loves to go to the movies and try out new breweries. Rabbi Lexi, her fiancé Charlie, and their husky, Henry, are thrilled to be joining our Temple Beth El family.

Please visit [www.templebethel.org](http://www.templebethel.org) for opportunities to meet and interact with Rabbi Erdheim. We look forward to welcoming Rabbi Erdheim and Charlie to Charlotte and the TBE community.



Rabbi Lexi Erdheim

**Name:** Lexi Erdheim  
**Job Title:** Associate Rabbi  
**Birthplace:** Livingston, New Jersey

**Andy Harkavy:** What drew you to working at Temple Beth El (TBE) and what have you found most sustaining?

**Rabbi Erdheim:** I was drawn to Temple Beth El because of the collaborative nature of the con-

gregation and the greater Charlotte Jewish community. I was impressed by how the clergy, staff, and congregants work as a team to create a meaningful Jewish community as well as how Jewish Charlotte works together on and off Shalom Park. I am also excited to deepen my social justice work within this community; it has been amazing to see the dedication of this community to creating a more just and equitable world.

**AH:** Tell us about your journey to Charlotte and Temple Beth El.

**RE:** As a rising second-year rabbinical student, I was assigned to work at URJ Henry S. Jacobs Camp in Utica, Mississippi. As a northerner, I had never been to the Deep South and had never considered working in the Jewish South. But within days, I fell in love with Jacobs Camp and found my rabbinic calling, that is, to serve the Jews of the South. I worked as an intern at Congregation Gates of Prayer in Metairie, Louisiana (a

suburb of New Orleans) as their young adult coordinator for two years and then upon ordination came aboard full time, overseeing young adult engagement and social justice programming and spending my summers at Jacobs Camp. I am thrilled to be staying in the South!

**AH:** What is your favorite part of your job? Why?

**RE:** Helping congregants find themselves within the Jewish tradition and the Jewish people. I love when I can assist a congregant in finding a Jewish book, text, organization, or community that changes their lives for the better.

**AH:** What do you wish congregants knew about your job?

**RE:** That my job is to spend time with all y'all! So often, congregants are apologetic about scheduling time to grab coffee, stop by my office, or give me a call because they "know I am busy" and don't want to take up too much of my time - but the relationships are the best part

*(Continued on page 17)*

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Religious Life

# New Rabbis Join the Temple Kol Tikvah Family, Serving the Jewish Community in the Lake Norman Area

By Billie Spevak

The Greater Charlotte Jewish community is fortunate to have Rabbi Becca Diamond and Rabbi David Jaffe joining Temple Kol Tikvah (TKT) in Davidson, North Carolina. The newly ordained, recently married couple is relocating from Cincinnati, Ohio, where they attended Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Rabbi Becca and Rabbi David grew up in the Reform movement; however, their paths to the pulpit were quite different. Becca's family lived in New Jersey and was highly involved in the synagogue. At age 17, she first voiced her intention of becoming a rabbi. Being a leader in her temple youth group and serving on her NFTY regional board helped Becca realize this was what she was meant to do. She went on to study history and Jewish studies in college.

Rabbi David was always involved in Judaism, but it took some time before he decided



Rabbi Becca Diamond

to pursue the rabbinate. David grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, walking distance from his Reform temple. In his early years, David connected with Judaism through music, as he played his trumpet at services. Following his love of music, he earned a master's degree in music at the University of Louisville. When

David was in his mid-20s, his connection with Judaism deepened with introspection and involvement while teaching religious school. This led to two new loves, which he pursued at HUC-JIR: the Hebrew language and clinical pastoral education.

Before embarking on this rabbi search, Temple Kol Tikvah underwent a year-long exploration to understand its needs and aspirations. "Our community came together to do the hard, introspective work," says Ernie Spevak, TKT president, "and that led to attracting spiritual leaders who share our vision and are eager to inspire, support, and guide us on this journey." Throughout the interview process, Rabbi Becca says, "We got a sense that TKT was different. This community knows itself and wants to keep growing, changing, and strengthening."

Earlier this year, Temple Kol Tikvah was awarded just one of two prestigious 2022 CCAR Heartland Fellowships that help



Rabbi David Jaffe

supplement the rabbi's salary for the next three to six years, making it possible to welcome both Becca and David to serve our community.

Rabbi Becca and Rabbi David will work together to provide religious, spiritual, and educational experiences and compassionate pastoral care. They had

a preview of co-rabbi collaboration when COVID allowed them to combine their pulpits while serving congregations via Zoom. "That extraordinary experience helped us realize how well our strengths complement each other," says David. "We believe, as our mentor Rabbi Jan Katzew taught us about chevruta, that when there's a true partnership, one plus one is more than two, with exponential creativity and capacity."

Please welcome and support Rabbi Becca and Rabbi David as they help TKT create meaningful Jewish experiences in a kind, inspiring Jewish space.



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Religious Life

# Temple Solel Jewish Chaplains

By Shelley Pawlyk

Chaplains can bring order in the midst of chaos and hope in the midst of despair. They offer care and support to every member of the community, regardless of faith or religion. Any Jewish lay leader can be certified as a chaplain. Traditionally Jewish chaplains have been certified through large, Jewish only organizations. The certifications have been primarily focused on prison, hospital, or hospice visits, but chaplaincy training has evolved and some training now includes a focus on crisis and community. Within the past year, five members of Temple Solel completed a program with the U.S. and New York State Chaplain Task Force in "Community Crisis and Disaster Response Chaplaincy."

Russ Cobe, Jan Rose, Robin Spivock, Ted Finklestein, and Shelley Pawlyk completed the rigorous program with more than 60 hours of training and tests to be credentialed. We were also certified with the American Heart Association in CPR and AED (Automated External De-

fibrillators) first aid. This author also has an additional certification called CISM - Critical Incident Stress Management, used by the Red Cross.

Our instructor, Reverend Kim Osorio, was recently featured on the national news during the Bronx apartment fire. She is a chaplain for the New York Transit System and was an honored September 11th responder. She is an amazing example of the quality instructors in the program that supports and trains people in multiple major religions. We follow the First Amendment in the U.S. Constitution by exercising our right to worship according to our own faith, but also develop knowledge of different beliefs and practices. We comply with a code of ethics, learn how to say "inclusive" prayers, and support first responders in crisis situations according to government FEMA frameworks that require us to know about incident commanders and other management structures in place with government, military and civilian agencies.

Jan Rose said of her experience,



"I really enjoyed the chaplain training, not only for the content but also for the diverse group of people I met in our class. All three Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) were represented. The racial diversity added to the experience. I appreciated the non-denominational prayers that were spoken both at the beginning and ending of each class. Everyone made sure to be sensi-

tive to the fact that we all have different names for G-d. Offline, I made friends with one of the women from New York and we have pledged to keep in contact. I love making new friends! All in all, the total experience was excellent and reinforced much of what I've already learned from my years of working in a chaplain-like capacity with residents of retirement facilities and at the Charlotte/Douglas airport.

I would recommend this group and this training to anyone wishing to become a chaplain."

Chaplaincy is sometimes referred to as the "Ministry of Presence." In Hebrew the word "Hineni" means "Here I am" and asks us to be present, to pay attention to the voice calling to us spiritually, and guides us to our Divine purpose. Maybe this path calls to you as it did to us.

Temple Solel holds regular Shabbat services at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month via Zoom. We intend to meet in person when it is safer to do so at Belair UMC Family Life Center, 8095 Shelley Mullis Rd., Fort Mill, SC 29707. For more information about the High Holy Days, or guest speakers, see [templesolelSC.org](http://templesolelSC.org), write us at [info@templesolelSC.org](mailto:info@templesolelSC.org) or call (803) 610-1707.



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Religious Life

# Temple Kol Ami Looks Forward to Religious School Open House and Disney Shabbat

By Shari Baum

As another busy summer draws to an end, Temple Kol Ami of Fort Mill, South Carolina, is about to get even busier. It is time to get back to shul and back to school at TKA!

TKA Religious School will start up again on August 28 with our Annual Ice Cream Social/Open House. Our amazing religious school teachers have been planning the curriculum and are excited to welcome back our students. Last year, we had over 30 students enrolled and celebrated seven B'nei Mitzvah! We can't wait to see our returning kids as well as welcome new faces for another year of wonderful Jewish education and friendships. Is your child ready for Hebrew School? No matter where they are on their path of Jewish learning, we can

accommodate their needs and get them up to speed. Our religious school meets three Sundays per month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Walnut Grove Christian School in Fort Mill, conveniently located to the Greater York County/Ballantyne/South Charlotte area. Please join us on August 28 for the free Ice Cream Social/Open House at Walnut Grove, 1036 Maxwell Mill Road, Fort Mill, South Carolina. Meet the teachers, tour the facility, and find out why, at TKA Religious School, Sundays are fun days! It is not too late to enroll your child for the 2022-2023 school year, which officially starts on September 11. For more information, please contact us at tka.religiousschool@gmail.com or go to the website at www.templekolamisc.org.

The annual Disney Shabbat has become a wonderful tradition to kick off the school year. Please join us in your favorite costume on August 26 at 7 p.m. at Philadelphia United, 1691 SC-160, Fort Mill for the most magical service on Earth! Enjoy a kid-oriented Shabbat service inspired by the wisdom of Disney followed by a delicious oneg! We can't wait to see all of our little princesses, pirates, and Buzz Light-years back in shul!

Looking ahead to the High

Holidays, Temple Kol Ami is pleased to be welcoming back Rabbi Bruce Aft and Sarah Sherman, acting cantor, to lead us in meaningful and uplifting services. After two years of virtual services, we are so happy and excited to be back in person to share the Days of Awe together. Tickets for High Holidays are included in TKA membership and are available for purchase by non-members. Please contact us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com for more information.

If you live in York County or the Ballantyne area, Temple Kol Ami might be the place for you! We are a warm and inclusive Reform congregation comprised of Jews from diverse backgrounds. We hope you will come check us out soon and find your Jewish home in our community.



## Temple Beth El

(Continued from page 14)

of the job, and I love getting to know everyone!

**AH:** What do you enjoy doing when you are with family and friends?

**RE:** Playing board games, going out to restaurants and breweries, and watching baseball and football games.

**AH:** What is your favorite hobby?

**RE:** I recently have become a stand-up comedy enthusiast (although I don't do stand-up myself). I love attending shows, listening to podcasts, and watching comedy specials.

**AH:** What is your most memorable moment?

**RE:** In March 2020, I spoke on the steps of the Supreme Court as arguments were pre-

sented for the June Medical v. Russo case, which, had it been upheld, would have severely limited Louisianans' access to safe abortion providers. What made it particularly memorable was that my parents traveled down to Washington, D.C., to attend. Protesting alongside my parents, who have been fighting for a woman's right to choose for decades, was an incredibly meaningful experience.

**AH:** If you could have dinner with any person living or deceased, who would it be and why?

**RE:** Suzyn Waldman (color commentator for the New York Yankees radio broadcast). I would love to ask her about her experiences as a Jewish woman working in baseball. She is an

incredible sportscaster who has been a pioneer for women in the MLB, a dedicated Jew (she takes off every year on the High Holy Days), and is a talented singer and musical theater actress. I think we would have a lovely time getting to know one another over a pastrami sandwich from Katz's deli.

**AH:** What is something about you that TBE congregants might not know?

**RE:** In grad school, I played in a recreational dodgeball league, and it was an absolute blast!

**AH:** Anything else?

**RE:** I am looking forward to meeting everyone and exploring Charlotte!



TKA princesses at previous Disney Shabbat

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### EREV ROSH HASHANAH

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service, 6 p.m.

### ROSH HASHANAH DAY 1

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26\***

Morning Service, 9 a.m.

Family Service, 9:30 a.m.

Evening Service, 7 p.m.

### ROSH HASHANAH DAY 2

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

Morning Service, 9 a.m.

Torah Tots Program, 9 a.m.

Evening Service, 7 p.m.

### KOL NIDRE

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4\***

Kol Nidre Service, 6:30 p.m.

Please be seated by 6:15 p.m.

### YOM KIPPUR

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5\***

Torah Tots Program, 8:45 a.m.

Morning Service, 9 a.m.

Family Service, 9:30 a.m.

Yizkor Service, 1:30 p.m. (approximately)

Mincha Service, 5 p.m.

Ne'ilah & Shofar Blast, 6 p.m.

Break Fast, 7:50 p.m.

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## Welcome Home Shabbat

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**6:15 p.m. KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICES**

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Religious Life

# The Ruach: Helping Build Community Beyond Charlotte

By Cherie Flitton

A sense of belonging is central to who we are as human beings. Gathering in a space that is welcoming, comfortable, meaningful, and spiritual brings value to our lives. Whether or not you are literate in Hebrew, someone who is looking for a meaningful alternative Shabbat prayer experience, or wish to improve your understanding of Jewish prayers and of Torah, the Shabbat and High Holy Days Experiences should resonate with you. Perhaps you have asked, “Why is this experience meaningful to me? Would I return and become a part of the community that offers experiential services that stimulate eye-opening, mind and heart-opening receptivity to sense the wonder and grandeur that may be derived from Jewish prayers and music?”

The Ruach Community offers a welcoming and joyful opportunity for those not currently attending services, and for those seeking something different from the traditional services, to take another look at what is offered in the Jewish community. It is exactly what my husband, John, and I were looking for a few years ago when we were seeking a different spiritual community. With the knowledge and the motivation to step outside the box, The Ruach Community is a place to come as you are and enjoy uplifting and truly meaningful services filled with new Jewish music. Building on Jewish tradition, services are created in a modern way that allows attendees to understand the prayers and realize how the music brings the prayers to life.

In early June, John and I traveled from Charlotte to Wilmington, North Carolina, where The Ruach was leading Friday night services. B’nai Israel Congregation was celebrating the installation of Rabbi Chaya Bender as rabbi of B’nai Israel Congregation and the rededication of the congregation’s newly renovated sanctuary, which had been destroyed by Hurricane Florence. We knew it would be an incredible experience, and we did not want to miss it.

On Thursday night, a festive evening with a gala featuring The Ruach brought the Wilmington Jewish community together. Joining The Ruach was special guest and friend of The Ruach, Mitch Gordon, adjunct faculty of spirituality and sacred drumming at Hebrew College. We agreed with the sentiments shared by Amy B. DeLoach, president of B’nai Israel Congregation, “The Ruach brought new Jewish mu-



The Ruach at the re-dedication of B’nai Israel Congregation in Wilmington and installation of their new rabbi, Chaya Bender

sic that everyone enjoyed. The music truly created the perfect atmosphere for this important event for the synagogue.”

On Friday night, the Shabbat service was designed to celebrate a new beginning. After many years of rebuilding their congregation, physically and spiritually, Rabbi Chaya Bender declared, “It was wonderful to have The Ruach fill our sanctuary with song and lift our souls to new heights.” “The musical connection to prayers made for both a spiritual and meaningful service that was felt by everyone,” Amy added.

The Ruach Community welcomes all who want to be a part of the Jewish community, including folks who are culturally Jewish, spiritually Jewish, Jew-curious, leaving Judaism, returning to Judaism, freethinkers, and those just trying to find meaning in each day. There is no financial obligation to belong. The Ruach Community is supported by donations from attendees like us who find incredible value in the services and the impact we are making in the community.

With no physical building, The Ruach Community gathers in many different settings in Charlotte. The Ruach Community congregates anywhere — from a park to a parking deck — a true community, a true Jewish involvement, setting the stage for success and friendships. Services include powerful, thought-provoking messages by Rabbi Rachel Smookler. Her messages encourage us to approach the world with intellect, kindness, and compassion. It’s more than just singing songs and saying prayers; we experience connections and friendships. We encourage you to be a part of this wonderful Jewish community.

The Ruach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to build community and spread the joy of Judaism through modern worship expe-

riences that are filled with new uplifting, spiritual and joyous meaningful music. Experiences are supported solely through voluntary contributions together with a small grant from The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. Follow on Facebook and Instagram. Email the.ruach.band@gmail.com to receive updates.



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# Around the Table

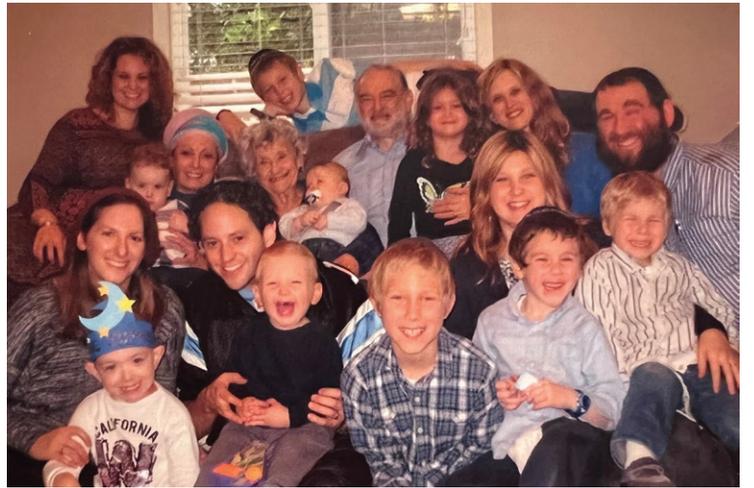
## Celia Spangenthal: 101 Years From South Africa to North Carolina

By Charlotte Rouchouze

Celia Spangenthal, who recently celebrated her 101st birthday, grew up in rural South Africa, the daughter of an English-born mother and Russian-born father who had immigrated to South Africa during the ostrich feather boom of the early 1900s. In 1921, she was the very first baby to be named in the new shul of Calvinia, a small town in North West Cape where her parents lived before moving to the more rustic Nieuwoudtville. Despite its small size, Calvinia (like many cities in South Africa at the time) had a growing Jewish community, composed mostly of Jews from Eastern Europe who began leaving in large numbers toward the end of the 19th century. Her father then made the decision to buy a general goods store in Nieuwoudtville, and the family moved to a three-bedroom house without electricity or indoor plumbing. They struggled financially throughout the years but never wanted for food or happiness.

By age 20, Celia decided to move to the much larger Cape Town, where she landed a job selling clothes at Woolworth's. In 1947, she married Harry Spangenthal and had two boys, Selwyn and Ian. She describes her life in Cape Town as embedded in the tightly knit and very traditional Jewish community, which always provided a support structure and a framework for her life. She gave back by working for B'nai Zion, a charitable women's organization.

In 1980, Selwyn, who is now a pulmonologist, moved to Char-



Celia Spangenthal (center) with her family

lotte with his wife, Cheryl, much to the chagrin of Celia. Selwyn and Cheryl went on to have four children, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and David, in North Carolina. For many years, Celia divided her time between Cape Town and Charlotte, arriving in each city just in time for their (opposite) summer months. "I never did winter, only summer," she told me. For years she enjoyed this back and forth, which kept her busy and ensured that she always had strong relationships with her grandchildren and her sisters.

In 2008, however, after the untimely deaths of both her son Ian and her husband, Harry, the decision was made to bring her to Charlotte full time, and her possessions were packed up. Sadly, all of these belongings were lost in a fire that occurred during the trip over, leaving her with absolutely nothing. At this point in our chat, she paused, overcome by the still-raw emotion of this loss of all family objects, photos,

and heirlooms. But she quickly gathered herself and told me that this must have been meant to be.

After the move, she continued to make regular trips back to South Africa, with the last one in 2019, just before the pandemic, at 98 years old! Selwyn told me that one last trip home is still on Celia's bucket list, and I got the impression that, had I handed her tickets right then and there, she would have happily boarded another plane for Cape Town.

When I asked Celia about the foods of her childhood, she told me that her parents had kept a kosher home and that much of the food her mother would make was Yiddish-style chopped liver, chopped herring, tzimmes and teiglach along with jams (konfyt) made from fruit that farmers would sell door to door. She recalls her mother kashering her own meat with salt on a wooden board and baking challah rolls every Friday for Shabbat. For Pesach, separate dishes and silverware were brought out, with each child getting her own tiny, enamel mug for drinking during the holiday. In addition to Yiddish foods, they also enjoyed kosher versions of many South African favorites such as curries with yellow rice, bobotie (a layered meat casserole), fruits of all kinds, biltong (a kind of beef jerky), and pumpkin fritters.

I can tell that Celia (or Ouma, as she is known by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren) has made it through her 101 years on more than good luck alone. When she turned 100, her family made a book in her honor, documenting her memories and scores of messages addressed to her by family and friends. Celia herself filled nearly six of the pages with her own hard-won wisdom, and looking through it, I can see the recipes for a balanced and kind life: "Be truly grateful."

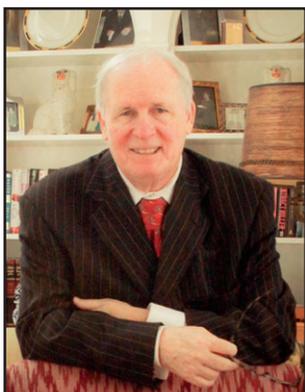
(Continued on page 21)



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# Around the Table

(Continued from page 20)

“Have respect for others.” “You do not have to be perfect . . . but you do need to be the best person you can be.” “Always try to resolve conflicts,” but “avoid people who do not want you to reach your full potential.”

In addition to those universal pearls of wisdom, I see something else in her life lessons. She tells us to “delight in the Shabbat,” “remember our roots,” and to “regard other Jews and your Jewish community as your extended family. The community will be there for you in your time of need, and you should be there for them.” In Celia, I also see a woman of great faith who has nurtured a family that truly loves Judaism, cherishes the Jewish people, and keeps its faith in G-d through the trials that life has thrown its way. These past few years have brought sadness to the Spangenthal family, with the tragic passing of Celia’s great-granddaughter Sophie along with her beloved grandson-in-law Yudi. But her children and grandchildren continue to find great strength in a traditional Jewish way of life, and listening to Celia talk about her family, I could hear her joy that the Yid-

dishkeit of her childhood was not lost on her grandchildren. “Whenever I smell the fragrance of my granddaughter’s or great granddaughter’s challah being baked, I am transported back in time to a different time and era,” she writes in her memoirs. What a joy to have this unity among generations.

True to her wise words, at the end of our conversation, Celia emphasized how grateful she is. Grateful to her son Selwyn and daughter-in-law Cheryl for giving her a home, grateful to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren for always rejuvenating her, and grateful to the Jewish community of Charlotte — in particular Oasis — where these days I hear she can be found winning round after round of Rummikub, and her shul Ohr HaTorah, where she always feels at home.

Because of the loss of her family papers and photos, she had no handwritten recipes to show me. But she told me that South African Jews love teiglach, a sticky, crunchy ring of dough that is cooked in honey syrup. It is a bit like a farfel or mandlen dough that has been coated in syrup. By chance, a friend had just brought a box back from

South Africa, and I got to taste the real thing. Here is a recipe inspired by her teiglach.

*Charlotte Rouchouze, PhD is a local French teacher, food blogger, and beaded jewelry designer. Her blog about food traditions from around the world can be found at [www.thechildrenstable.com](http://www.thechildrenstable.com). Contact her at [charlotte.rouchouze@yahoo.com](mailto:charlotte.rouchouze@yahoo.com)*



## Teiglach

Teiglach can have a variety of textures and shapes, depending on how the dough is shaped and cooked (baked, fried, or cooked directly in the syrup) and what is added at the end (nuts, dried fruit). For a softer bite, bake until just set, about 10 minutes. For more crunch, bake an extra 10-15 minutes or until golden brown before adding to syrup. I have made rings here because that is the traditional shape in South Africa. Note: adding a tablespoon of brandy or whisky to the syrup will cause no harm whatsoever.

### For the dough:

- 3 eggs
- 3 tablespoons neutral oil
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp lemon zest
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ginger

### For the syrup:

- ¼ cup honey
- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon ginger
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 3 tbsps margarine or butter

### DIRECTIONS

Combine the eggs, oil, water, and vanilla and beat with a fork or whisk until light and combined.

In a medium bowl, combine the flour, salt, ginger, and baking powder.

Add the liquid ingredients to the bowl with the dry ingredients and stir with a fork until well combined. Knead with your hands for a few minutes until the dough is smooth and shiny. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest for 10 minutes.

Roll out small chunks of dough into 3-inch-long and ½-inch-wide snakes. Loop into a ring and place on a cookie sheet sprayed with nonstick spray. Bake for about 10 minutes (until just baked but not golden) for a softer end product and about 20 (until golden brown) for crunchier taiglach.

Meanwhile, combine the honey, sugar, ginger, vanilla and butter in a heavy 3-quart saucepan and bring slowly to a boil. Add the teiglach to the honey mixture and stir with a wooden spoon to coat well. Cover and simmer for 5 minutes. You want the syrup bubbling but not cooking too fast. Turn the rings and cook uncovered for an additional 3-5 minutes. Syrup should be turning darker by this point, but be careful not to burn. When the syrup has reached a nice golden brown, remove the rings to wax paper to cool, separating each ring to avoid having them stick together. Spread any extra syrup on the rings. Cool completely and store in the refrigerator. The teiglach can be frozen.

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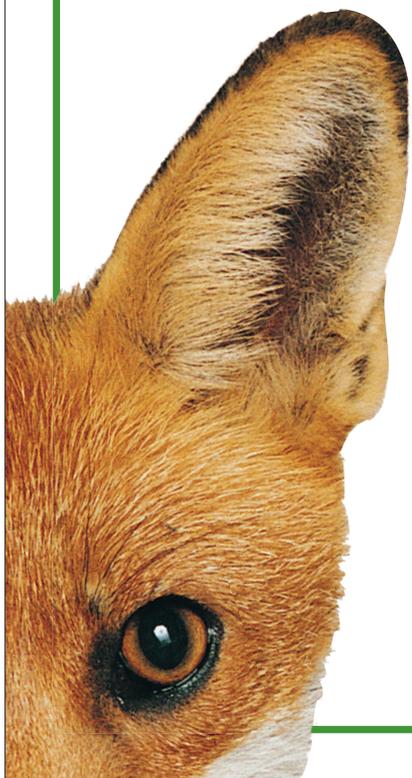
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Women's News

# Hadassah: Pro-Women, Pro-Choice, and Pro-Israel

By Aileen Greenberg-Kriner

**Hadassah's Stand on Choice**  
Hadassah unequivocally stands for women's reproductive rights and for empowering women with the knowledge to make critical health decisions. We have always been and will always be proudly pro-choice, pro-women, and pro-Israel. Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, reaffirms its

unwavering support for full and complete access to reproductive health services. We all deserve agency over our own bodies and the autonomy to make reproductive health decisions that are based on medical guidance, our own values, and what we feel is best for our health, our families, and our future. Please check out Hadassah for Choice at [www.hadassah.org](http://www.hadassah.org).

**Mammovan**

Ladies, take charge of your health! The Mammovan (aka Novant Health Breast Center mobile unit) will be onsite at the JCC on November 30, 2022. Call Novant to make an appointment. (704) 384-7226.

**Hadassah Directory Updates**

Did you move this summer? Don't forget to update your address in the Hadassah Charlotte Metro Jewish Community Online Directory. It's free! Go to the Hadassah website, Hadassah Directory tab, and follow the instructions in one of the green boxes to either sign up or update your listing in the online directory.

**Honey Sale**

Wish your friends and family a sweet new year by sending them honey for Rosh Hashanah. Each 8 oz. jar of kosher honey is \$14, including shipping if you order by August 1. Order by September 1 for guaranteed delivery by Rosh Hashanah. The personalized card tells recipients that a donation has been made in their honor to the Hadassah Charlotte Metro Chapter. Order at [www.orthoney.com/HCM](http://www.orthoney.com/HCM).

**Let's Get Together**

August brings an opportunity to gather with new, current, and prospective members. Come to Optimist Hall on Sunday, August 21 at noon for an end-of-summer

get-together. Grab your lunch at one of the restaurants in the food hall and meet us. Look for the Hadassah banner.

Join us on August 2, September 6, and the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. for "Wine & Schmooze" at Vintner Wine Market in the Arboretum Shopping Center. Whether you are a longtime, new, or potential member, stop by for a casual evening. It's a nice way to start your week with wine and good conversation.

**Summer Reading**

Hadassah BookTalk is on summer vacation in August and off for the High Holidays in September. See you on October 25 at 7 p.m. for our fall kickoff.

Beverly's Book Nook will meet on Friday, August 12 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. The August book selection is "It Could Happen Here" by Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League. Jonathan Greenblatt has made it his personal mission to demonstrate how antisemitism, racism, and other insidious forms of intolerance can destroy a society, taking root as quiet prejudices but mutating over time into horrific acts of brutality. In this urgent book, Greenblatt sounds an alarm, warning that this age-old trend is gathering momentum in the United States and that violence on an even larger, more catastrophic scale could be just around the corner. But it doesn't have to be this way. Just because it could happen here, he shows, does not mean that the unthinkable is inevitable.

The Short Story Discussion Group will meet on Friday, August 19 via Zoom. To get the August stories or more information, check the Hadassah Charlotte Metro website. The group meets monthly on the third Friday at

11:45 a.m.

On September 16, author and former University of Toronto Professor Sharon Hart-Green will be the speaker (via Zoom). She holds a PhD in Jewish studies from Brandeis University, where her dissertation was a study on the Israeli Nobel prize winner S. Y. Agnon. She will make a hard-to-translate beautiful story easy to understand and appreciate.

Beginning October 21, our monthly discussions will be on stories from the Israeli author Amos Oz's collection "Scenes from a Village Life."

**Fall Events**

Stay tuned for a Temple Israel gift shop event and a Jewish Heritage Tour this fall.

**Get To Know Hadassah**

Interested in joining Hadassah or learning more? Contact Anik Harrison at the phone number or email below or come to one of our events.

The next Hadassah Charlotte Metro Board is on Monday, August 15 at 7 p.m. Check our website for location.

Our website, [www.hadassah-cltvents.org](http://www.hadassah-cltvents.org), has details about our events. If you have questions or need a Zoom link, email [HadassahCLT@gmail.com](mailto:HadassahCLT@gmail.com) or call our general phone number, (980) 553-1880. Your message will be forwarded to the correct person.

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HADASSAH Charlotte Metro Area Chapter

Women's News

# W.O.W: Remembering Tisha B'Av

By Andrea Gamlin

The three weeks between the 17th of the Hebrew month of Tammuz and Tisha B'Av (the 9th of the month of Av) are weeks of tragedies for us, the Jewish people. The Talmud tells us that Moses broke the original tablets upon which were written the Ten Commandments on the 17th of Tammuz. Later, the Romans forbade Israelites to worship at the Holy Temple starting with the time during the three weeks. Both the first and second Holy Temples were destroyed in this three-week period, and other calamities occurred then as well over the course of centuries. It's a time we mark by avoiding celebrating happy occasions, like weddings, b'nei mitzvah, and other public festivities. Some people don't shave or get haircuts during this time and refrain from listening to music and attending concerts. The Jewish people are in mourning during this time, referred to as Bein ha-Metzarim or Between the Borders.

Within the three weeks is a

time known as the Nine Days, which are the last nine days of the three-week period and begin with the first of the month of Av. It's a more intense and personal mourning time during which some people refrain from eating foods usually associated with joyous occasions, like wine and meat (except on Shabbat). Buying or wearing new clothes is not done at this time. The Nine Days ends with Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning, praying, fasting, and reading the Book of Lamentations (called "Eicha" in Hebrew).

Even though this is a very sad time in Jewish history, we should remember that better times are coming. Despite that a number of tragedies occurred during these weeks throughout our history, I believe that we should always keep an eye on the future and the goodness to come. Soon that goodness will come with the renewal we get starting with Rosh Hashanah!

Speaking of which ... which way do you like your challah? Do you prefer to bake or buy your



challah? Either way, W.O.W. has you covered!

Bake it! Whether you are a seasoned baker or a challah novice, join us in preparing dough to take home and bake and fill your home with the delicious aroma of challah! Over the past 15 years, Sara Oppenheim has led a powerful and fun group of women in Charlotte to bake challah before Rosh Hashanah. The Rosh Hashanah challah bake, run by W.O.W., Momentum's local chapter, will be held this year on Tuesday, September 20 at 7p.m. This will be a hybrid event with

an in-person option for vaccinated attendees and a Zoom option for all. Please go to W.O.W.'s website at [www.charlottewomenofwisdom.com](http://www.charlottewomenofwisdom.com) for more information on the challah bake, the ingredient list and Zoom link for those joining from home, and the location for those joining in person.

Buy it! Some of you may be baking averse or might need many loaves for the upcoming fall holidays - no worries; we've got you covered. Just order challah from our challah sale! If you've ever tasted Sara's challah,

you know you'll want to order many to have around! Watch for updates at W.O.W.'s website at [www.charlottewomenofwisdom.com](http://www.charlottewomenofwisdom.com).

Stay tuned for the upcoming calendar for the 2022-23 year filled with programs for you to enjoy, created with your comments and feedback in mind — and that we greatly appreciate. We are a nondenominational group for Jewish women to engage, learn, and connect. No synagogue affiliation is necessary, just an interest to learn more about our beautiful heritage!



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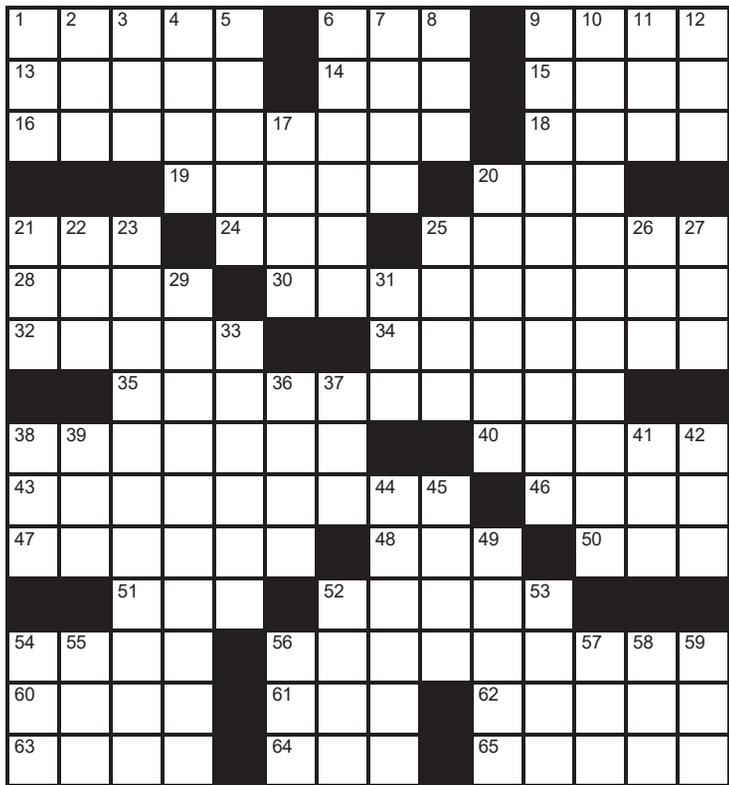
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**August Crossword**  
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 Thank you Meg!



(Solution on page 34)

- Across**
- 1 Across
  1. \*Like one who has had too much Elite coffee
  6. Make like a baby
  9. \*Methusaleh had the longest one
  13. Branch for Sukkot
  14. Color shade
  15. Problems
  16. \*Joseph when he was sold into slavery, e.g.
  18. +
  19. Did some quilting, say
  20. It flew at Mach 2
  21. Kind of Mitzvah
  24. Dina, to Levi (for short)
  25. Prepares challah dough
  28. Surgeon's subj.
  30. \*Many an American Jew
  32. Strictly forbidden
  34. 1983 Randy Newman song with the lyric "Looks like another perfect day"
  35. \*\*B'tayavon" alternative
  38. Really irk
  40. Itinerary: Abbr.
  43. \*Jewish relatives
  46. Make
  47. Fireplace receptacle
  48. \_\_\_ Chaim
  50. Airport scanners, briefly
  51. Egy. and Syr., once
  52. Destroyer of the Second Temple
  54. Cronies
  56. What the starred clues in this puzzle all are
  60. Israeli truth
  61. Bro
  62. "Victory was not mine"
  63. \*Chatzos, Tzais, etc.... e.g.
  64. One might be dipped in a mikvah
  65. \*Shekels, e.g.

- Down**
1. "...and the bush \_\_\_ not consumed" (Ex. 3:2)
  2. Rage
  3. Title for a chassidic leader
  4. Nights before
  5. Natives of Copenhagen
  6. It's a no-no with meat, for kosher keepers
  7. Regretted
  8. Japan's capital?
  9. Empty promise
  10. "\_\_\_ as a no"
  11. Seasonal sickness
  12. Start or end of seasonal sickness?
  17. Esau, for one
  20. Haughty sorts
  21. Counterpart of 21-Across
  22. Kind of Santa winds
  23. Father of Akiva Shtisel
  25. "American Sniper" subject Chris \_\_\_
  26. \_\_\_ Boca Vista
  27. Madrid matron: Abbr.
  29. Colgate, for one
  31. Reddi-\_\_\_ (brand of dessert topping)
  33. Equal to, with "with"
  36. What some work on at the beach
  37. Chest muscle, for short
  38. Grp. with a staff in its symbol
  39. U.S. troops
  41. Destinations for EMTs
  42. Test for genes
  44. Og's was significant
  45. "Boy!" or "girl!" lead-in
  49. Currency in "Chad Gadya"
  52. Shell food
  53. Grain locale
  54. Many kids ask their parents for (at least) one
  55. End of many a riddle
  56. Israel's has changed several times since 1948
  57. Frenchman's denial
  58. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem dir.
  59. Oink joint

# Hold Onto Your Hummus: Global Chickpea Supply Could Drop 20% This Year

(JTA) – Lovers of hummus and falafel beware: data shows that global supplies of chickpeas, the main ingredient for both dishes, may dip up to 20% this year.

A combination of Russia's war in Ukraine, poor weather and transportation issues is leading to the shortage, which is predicted to increase prices and make cheap hummus harder to come by, Reuters reported on Thursday.

Farmers in the United States, the fourth-largest chickpea exporter in the world, planted less of the protein-packed legume this year due to less than ideal weather conditions in the spring.

Russia is also a top chickpea producer. Global sanctions have interrupted the country's global chickpea exports, while the ongoing war has decreased the amount of chickpeas normally grown in Ukraine by about 50 tons, the head of a global chickpea trader and brokerage firm told Reuters.

Many communities around the world have depended on chickpeas, which are a staple of many Israeli dishes, as cheap sources of protein and fiber. Demand for hummus has skyrocketed in the United States over the past two decades.

According to NielsenIQ data, chickpea prices are already 17% higher than they were before the pandemic began.



Chickpeas are protein-packed staples in diets around the world. (Patrick Pleul/picture alliance via Getty Images)

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# The Footsteps of the Abraham Accords' Delegation: Exploring the True Meaning of Peace



By Dani Naveh, President and CEO Israel Bonds

When Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion convened the Israel Bonds founding conference in September 1950 to discuss his visionary concept of investing in the Jewish state through the purchase of Israel bonds, Israel was a very different country than the dynamic nation of today.

The site of the conference, Jerusalem's King David Hotel, was within easy walking distance of the Old City. Yet, doing so meant risking death, as hostile Jordanian soldiers patrolled its walls. In addition to a divided Jerusalem, Israel was surrounded by enemy nations intent on its destruction; the Jewish state, was flooded with Holocaust survivors and refugees from Arab countries, and its economy was in dire straits.

Over 70 years later, much has changed. Jerusalem is a vibrant, united capital; Israel's economy, supported by more than \$47 billion in worldwide Israel bond



Bonds President & CEO Dani Naveh with New Leadership delegates at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi (Shareef Ali)

sales, is strong and resilient; the IDF is the most powerful and sophisticated army in the Middle East, and cutting-edge technology has placed Israel at the forefront of global innovation.

Most especially, although un-

imaginable seven decades ago, Israel is now at peace with multiple Arab nations.

The first Arab country to make peace with Israel was, of course, Egypt. Upon receiving the Nobel Prize for negotiating the Camp David Accords leading to peace, the legendary Menachem Begin declared, "Reborn Israel always strove for peace, yearned for it, and made endless endeavors to achieve it."

After Begin spoke those words, it would be another 16 years before Israel signed its second peace treaty, this time with Jordan. Nearly three more decades would pass before Israel signed the Abraham Accords.

As a former government negotiator tasked with reaching agreement with the Palestinians, it sometimes seemed as though real, tangible peace was an elusive dream. Yet, years later, just five months into my term as president and CEO, I was leading, together with Bonds National and International chairman of the board, Howard L. Goldstein, a delegation to the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

May's Footsteps of the Abraham Accords delegation, 80 members strong, was a 10-day

exploration of the true meaning of peace. The warmth with which we were greeted in the UAE and Bahrain was emotionally overwhelming. The sight of guest speakers standing behind an Israel Bonds podium, and taking selfies with delegates, were highlights we will always cherish.

Especially gratifying was the impressive new leadership representation on the trip. Witnessing the delegation through the eyes of a young generation was among my most memorable moments thus far as president and CEO.

At each meeting, I underscored the legacy of Israel Bonds, emphasizing the fact that the organization has been at the forefront of strengthening ties between the Jewish state and the Jewish people everywhere. Our guests were deeply impressed to learn worldwide Israel bond sales have surpassed \$47 billion for Israel's economic development.

So, in addition to strengthening Israel's economy, the delegation demonstrated to our hosts that Israel Bonds can also help strengthen the bonds of peace.

Appropriately, the delegation ended in Jerusalem, the biblical City of Peace. When meeting with President Herzog, Finance Minister Lieberman and Defense Minister Gantz, together with Israelis from across the spectrum, we felt a profound connection with the nation and people of Israel. Every delegate has returned home proud, inspired, and honored to be brand ambassadors for Israel Bonds. As we look to the future, we take pride in positioning the Bonds enterprise as a foundation on which to build for the limitless possibilities of peace.

For additional information on Israel Bonds and opportunities to participate in Bonds delegations, conferences and regional activities, contact Jackie.Miron@israelbonds.com, 404.333.2615, or visit israelbonds.com

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Education and Youth

# Around the World: Summer at Jewish Preschool on Sardis

What a wonderful summer we had at Jewish Preschool on Sardis (JPS)! Our theme this year was "A Trip around the World." Each week we have "traveled to and explored" a different country! We are learning so much through play and hands-on experiences. Here are a few of the highlights:

In France, the children took part in a "Tour de France," baked French pastries, learned to count to 10 in French with some of

our parents who are French, and made Eiffel Tower artwork.

In Italy, we baked pizza, dyed pasta, went on "gondola rides," created Venitian masks, and built the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Even our weekly challah was sprinkled with Italian seasoning!

In England, we had tea parties and baked scones. Our art projects consisted of double-decker buses and crowns. We built the London Bridge and sat on thrones! Our weekly challah was glazed with honey.

In preparation for July 4th, we made a quick stop back in the United States. We made fireworks-in-a-jar, apple pie, apple pie-scented play dough, and red, white, and blue tie-dyed shirts. Our weekly challah was topped with red, white, and blue sprinkles.

We are preparing for fall and excited to welcome many new families to the JPS community. We wish everyone a healthy end of summer and beginning of fall!



Naomi is selling pizza & pasta in her Italian café.



Denis Rouhouze, originally from France, was a guest visitor to our classroom.



Victor is focused on his Eiffel Tower project.



Rafi, Seth, and Jude enjoying a tea party.



The toddlers are off on the Tour de France!

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Education and Youth

# Charlotte Jewish Day School Earns a World Class Net Promoter Score of 92

By Gale Osborne, CJDS Advancement Director

Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS) is in the midst of an extensive re-accreditation process. This occurs every five years and is an opportunity for the school to take a deep dive into our practices and procedures, methodology and pedagogy, and philosophy and school culture. It is also a chance to craft a new strategic plan. It is a combination of self-reflection followed by a three-day peer review by a group of select educators from other independent schools across the region.

In April, CJDS embarked on an extensive parent survey. Assessing the school culture and the satisfaction of our families is critical to understanding our school's differentiators, strengths, and areas for strategic focus. Importantly, the survey allowed us to calculate our Net Promoter Score (NPS), a tool that measures customer satisfaction

and that organizations across industries, including private schools, use. Independent School Management (ISM), a premier management support firm for private schools in the United States, believes it is a critical metric to be consistently monitored. It is derived from the answers to a singular question: "On a scale of 0-10, with 0 being 'not at all likely' and 10 being 'extremely likely,' how likely are you to recommend the school to a friend or family member for his or her child(ren)?" The standard benchmarks for the NPS are: 0-50 (good), 50-70 (excellent), and 70-100 (world class). Charlotte Jewish Day School was given an NPS of 92, a rarely achieved score that implies parents would recommend the school to friends and family without reservation and that they are confident in the educational experience and its delivery.

This most recent NPS reinforces the results from the previous two years. In 2020 and 2021, our parents gave us scores of 91 and 89, but it is particularly notable because our enrollment significantly increased during the pandemic, and many families answering this year's survey are new to our school. The NPS of 92 tells us just how happy and satisfied our families and students are with their entire educational experience at CJDS.



that teachers use differentiated learning in the classroom, allowing students who are ready to learn at an accelerated pace to do so while others get sufficient support, ensuring that all students reach their maximum potential. Year after year, CJDS students' ERB test scores either equal or surpass those of other private schools across the nation. An emphasis on character development; being a contributing, caring member of society; and the beauty of living a Jewish life complement the school's academic rigor.

Want to learn more about CJDS? Call (704) 366-4558 to set up a tour.



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PROMOTER  
SCORE OF

**92**

3 STRAIGHT  
YEARS OF  
INCREASED  
PARENT  
SATISFACTION

## WHAT IS THE NET PROMOTER SCORE?

The **Net Promoter Score** is a tool used to measure overall customer satisfaction. It is an index ranging from -100 to 100 that measures the willingness of customers to recommend a company's products or services to others.

Our score was calculated using a recent survey that asked the question: *On a scale of 1-10, how likely are you to recommend the CJDS to someone else?*

Apple has an NPS of 72

Nike has an NPS of 32

Honda has an NPS of 82

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Education and Youth

# Hebrew High Prepares for 2022-2023 School Year

By Megan Harkavy

After an incredible 2021-2022 school year, Hebrew High is gearing up and looking forward to the year ahead. We met our previous goals and want to continue to add more social time for our students, be more accessible for all families, create community, deepen relationships with clergy, and continue to create positive Jewish moments.

Hebrew High will continue to meet on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. beginning with dinner. This 30-minute block of time was a highlight for teens. It allowed them to have dinner and socialize with their friends. Classes will take place from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and each trimester is seven weeks long. We will have six special programs throughout the year. Temple Beth El and Temple Israel clergy will join our amazing educators to teach three classes each trimester. Some classes that are being offered are:

### Ma La'asot, What Should I do?

Your friend is drowning in the lake. Do you go save him? What

if it might be dangerous for you?

In this course, we will role play ethical dilemmas and look at the Jewish response to these difficult situations. No acting skills required, just a desire to engage in discussions rooted in Jewish values and ethics.

### Traditional Jewish Cooking and Baking

Come learn and make traditional Jewish recipes that have been passed on l'dor v'dor (from generation to generation) from our Jewish ancestors. We will learn the basics of keeping kosher while learning how to make traditional Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jewish foods such as challah, babka, blintzes and bourekas, shakshuka, and more. We will also explore the history behind the food we make and learn essential culinary skills, tips, and tricks. Come with an open mind and empty stomach!

### God 101

We've all heard that Judaism was the first faith to teach that there is only one God, but what does that really mean? Who is

God? What is God? Should we write G-D? These are questions we will tackle as we develop our own sense of Jewish theology and belief.

Registration is NOW LIVE – you have the opportunity to be part of this amazing community for one, two, or all three trimesters.

In addition to our staple Wednesday night program, we offer two other opportunities: Hebrew for High School Credit and Rosh Chodesh/Shevet – a gender-specific Sunday evening monthly program.

Hebrew for Credit provides our teens a unique and special opportunity to strengthen Jewish identity through language, culture, land, and peoplehood. Students learn Hebrew not only to satisfy their high school language requirement but also to further develop their Jewish identities. Our Hebrew for Credit program has been approved by the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) and Union County Public Schools (UCPS) in which students will receive one year of a foreign language credit

for every two years of Hebrew for Credit class. We have several non-CMS or UCPS students who just want to learn Hebrew. Our classes, which meet every Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m., are led by passionate Hebrew education professionals who integrate project-based learning with the Ivrit Esrai curriculum, which was published by the Jewish Agency of Jerusalem specifically for teens living outside of Israel.

Our gender-specific Sunday evening monthly program was extremely successful this past year. The teens who participated felt very connected to each other and loved the intimate nature of this program. We used the Moving Traditions' curriculum to facilitate their Rosh Chodesh (girls) and Shevet (boys) program. Rosh Chodesh uses Jewish teachings and practices to give girls a place to feel safe, articulate their deepest concerns, consider the impact of gender on their daily lives, have fun, and be "real" with their peers. Through discussion, arts and crafts, creative ritual, games, and drama, the girls and their leaders draw

on Jewish values to explore issues the girls care about most, such as body image, friendship, relationships, family, competition, and stress. In Shevet, the boys have various competitive and collaborative games, talk about pop culture, study great Jewish texts, eat, and share stories. They will also be able to discuss, in a confidential setting, critical issues in their lives as teens and young men.

Hebrew High is a joint venture between Temple Beth El and Temple Israel and powered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. It is open to all Jewish teens in grades 8-12 in the Greater Charlotte area. To learn more or to register, please visit [www.hebrewhigh.org](http://www.hebrewhigh.org) or contact Megan Harkavy at [mharkavy@hebrewhigh.org](mailto:mharkavy@hebrewhigh.org).



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Education and Youth

# Friendship Circle: A Win-Win for Jenna and Jamaly

By Jenna Levin

I started working with Friendship Circle in sixth grade as part of my mitzvah project for my Bat Mitzvah, and I fell in love with the joy that I felt when working with children and teens with special needs. In my sophomore year of high school, I found Friendship Circle again and joined through the Friends on Call Program. It means a great deal to me to share my time and have fun with someone with experiences different from mine. Friendship Circle has allowed me to form a long-term bond with Jamaly, my friend of about two years, whom I met through this program.

Jamaly and I meet weekly through Zoom, where we connect, talk about our lives and things we have in common, and play games. Meeting with Jamaly reminds me that being friends with people different from me is important and beneficial to everyone involved. The first time I met Jamaly, I could tell we were going to be friends, and over the past years, we have developed



Jenna and Jamaly celebrating a year of friendship

a special bond. We have found that we like the same games, TV shows, movies, and colors. Jamaly is extremely thoughtful, and we even send each other gifts for birthdays and other occasions, which brings me so much happiness. Jamaly makes me laugh and smile every time I see her, and I hope I do the same for her. The coronavirus pandemic made it difficult for us when we became closer and both wanted to meet in person, but eventually we made it work and since then have been able to meet in person several times.

Friendship Circle has had

such an influence on my life and allowed me to form a friendship with an amazing person, which I might not have been able to do otherwise. Even though I leave for college in a few short months, Jamaly and I have made plans to keep in contact and, I hope, meet on Zoom while I am away. Through Friendship Circle, I have made a friend in Jamaly and believe we will be lifelong friends even as we grow and change.

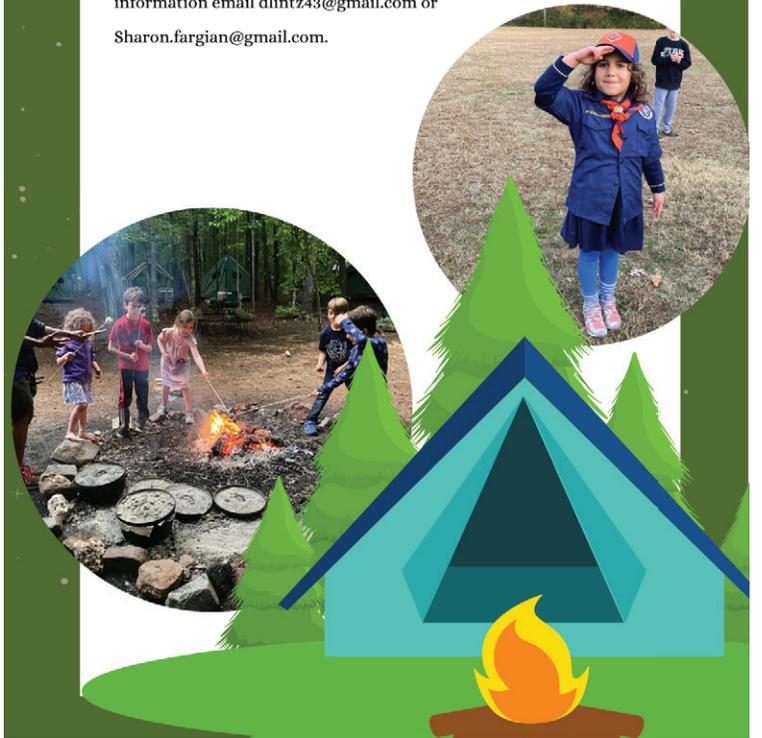


Jenna receiving the Philip Sperling Friendship Award



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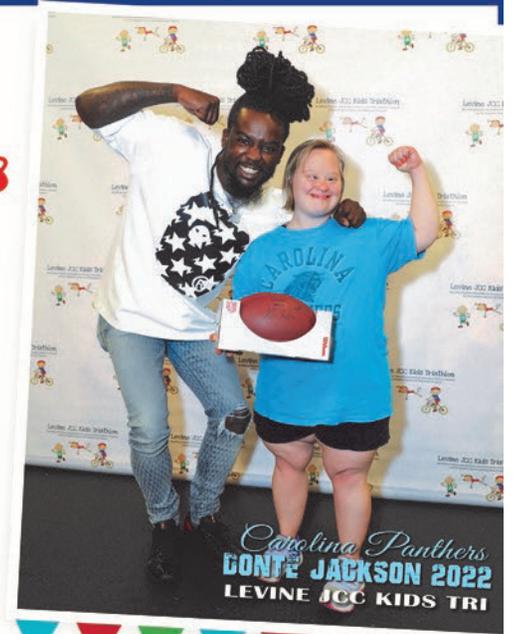
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- Emma & Ryan Brown
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# Bal Tashchit and Beyond

## Eco-Conscious Consumerism

By Summer Minchew

The effects of the global pandemic, compounded by changing attitudes toward ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) and the current inflationary crisis, have forced us all to contemplate our everyday actions and choices when it comes to purchasing.

According to PricewaterhouseCoopers' (PWC) 2021 Global Consumer Insights Pulse Survey, consumers are increasingly looking for products from manufacturers that support local communities, take responsibility for employee well-being, and have strong values and commitment to doing the right thing. People want products that help them make healthier lifestyle choices, have traceable and transparent origin, and have reduced environmental impact.

According to the same PWC survey, half of all global consumers surveyed say they've become more conscious of environmental factors when making purchases within the last year. This makes sense when we consider how over-consumption affects the planet. Natural resources are finite and are being destroyed by our current consumption pat-



terns, and consumer habits are driving climate change.

To reduce the environmental impacts of our consumer decisions, we should carefully consider first, what we purchase, second, how often we purchase, and finally, what we do with our purchases at the end of their useful life cycle.

In considering what to purchase, buy products with a sustainable story to tell. Look for products from manufacturers with B corp certification, a designation for businesses meeting high standards of verified performance, accountability, and transparency. Seventh Generation, a

certified B corp, tops Forbes annual "Best for the Environment" list. Large corporations are also making an environmental shift with more than 90% of today's CEOs stating that sustainability is essential to success. Purchase products from manufacturers recognized for sustainable operations, which may include transparent and ethical sourcing, environmentally conscious manufacturing, waste-conscious packaging, carbon neutral shipping options, and landfill waste reduction efforts.

In being eco-conscious consumers, we also must consider how often we purchase. Overconsumption, using more stuff than the planet can feasibly make, has increased dramatically since the 1960s as industry grew and the world became more interconnected. Our consumer addiction to stuff is taking a real toll on the planet. Not surprisingly, wealthy countries have the most per capita impact. According to the resource accounting group, Global Footprint Network, if every person on Earth lived like the average American, we would need five total Earths just to keep up everyone's lifestyle. Instead

of buying many products, knowing you will tire of them or they will wear out, consider spending a little more for a quality products that won't require frequent replacement.

Less is also more when it comes to waste. When solid waste decomposes in landfills, it creates landfill gas, which is primarily composed of CO2 and CH4 (methane). There are several well-established methods to reduce greenhouse gases from consumer waste, including recycling programs, waste reduction programs, and landfill methane capture programs. However, consumers must change their disposal habits to make a difference. Sure, recycling beats throwing something right in the trash, but tons of our recyclables still end up in landfills or oceans. A recent study suggests that only 9% of the world's plastic is even recycled. Overconsumption and our endless plastic pollution problem have landfills running out of space. When it comes to waste, source reduction is an important strategy. Understand how products and product packaging will be disposed before you purchase them. Be knowledge-

able about what can be recycled curbside, what can be recycled at specialized drop-off locations in your area, and what can be reused or donated at the end of its useful life. If it can't be disposed of properly, don't purchase it or find a more environmentally friendly alternative.

Shalom Green Tips for Eco-Conscious Consumerism

Buy products that have long life spans – avoid disposable items. "We do simple things to reduce our use of paper products in the kitchen. Use cloth dish towels. Use cloth napkins for meals. Put a cloth napkin in the lunch box instead of a paper one." Liz, Shalom Green board member – community garden

Buy products that have minimal packaging. "We buy in bulk as much as possible to avoid single serve packaging. Additionally, we try to avoid plastic bags by using reusable containers to portion out snacks for on-the-go." Marisa, Shalom Green board member - outreach

Buy products in their concentrated form or make your own. "We use homemade cleaning

(Continued on page 33)

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# Shalom Green

(Continued from page 32)

solution in a reusable glass spray bottle. This reduces both the number of plastic bottles we purchase and the amount of chemicals we bring into the house. It is inexpensive, and I feel comfortable using it around my kids and pets.” Rochelle, Shalom Green board member – social media

Buy only what you need. Consuming less, you dispose of less waste. “We aspire, as much as possible, to live an eco-friendly, carbon-neutral lifestyle each and every day across our spectrum of daily activities.” David, Shalom Green board member - treasurer

Buy second-hand or imperfect items that would otherwise go to the landfill. “When shopping for clothes and accessories, it’s easy to reduce the environmental impact of your wardrobe by buying from second-hand, consignment, or rental stores and websites. There are many options to find gently used or never worn items at a fraction of the price of buying new, while treading more lightly on the planet! Online shoppers will love thredUP, and those who like to browse in person will be impressed by local stores GW, JT Posh, and Savvy Seconds. Alternatively, if you’re looking to

rent/borrow rather than to buy, you should try the websites Rent the Runway, StyleLend, and Le Tote.” Lisa, Shalom Green board member - education

Add value with your values. “Our membership to a weekly delivery service featuring local produce, meat, poultry, and specialty artisan products supports North Carolina farm partners and reduces the carbon footprint of our food.” Summer, Shalom Green board chair

We can all take steps, small and large, toward leaving a lighter shopping footprint. Source sustainable, buy less, and reduce waste. Jewish tradition teaches the importance of caring for the environment, for we must act as partners in preserving creation. If you are interested in donating your time or dollars to Shalom Green, please visit our website at <https://shalomgreenclt.org/> and email us at [info@shalomgreenCLT.org](mailto:info@shalomgreenCLT.org). Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram. Visit our YouTube channel.





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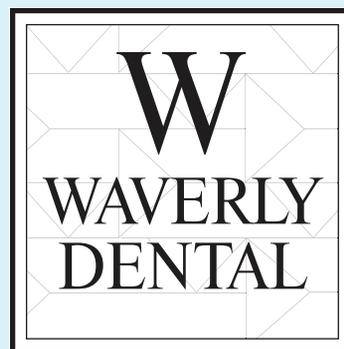
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## Israeli Heirs to the "Top Gun" Story Sue Paramount Pictures for Copyright Infringement



Tom Cruise at a "Top Gun: Maverick" premier at Leicester Square in London, May 19, 2022. (Neil Mockford/FilmMagic via Getty Images)

By Madeline Fixler, June 7, 2022 (JTA)

The widow and son of the Israeli author whose 1983 magazine article inspired the original "Top Gun" film are suing Paramount Pictures for copyright infringement over the newly released sequel, "Top Gun: Maverick."

A complaint filed in a Los Angeles federal court on June 6 and shared by Variety argues that Paramount failed to reacquire the rights to Ehud Yonay's California magazine piece after the rights reverted to his heirs Shosh and Yuval Yonay in 2020.

The Yonays, who currently reside in Israel, claim that Paramount was notified of the copyright termination in 2018 and 2022. Paramount argues that the sequel was "sufficiently completed" by Jan. 24, 2020, the date the copyright reversal went into effect.

"These claims are without merit, and we will defend ourselves vigorously," Paramount said in a statement.

"Top Gun: Maverick" has become one of the summer's top blockbusters, grossing over \$550 million globally since its U.S. debut on May 27. The Yonays are seeking unspecified damages, including profits from the film, as well as an injunction preventing its further distribution.

Ehud Yonay, who died last year, also wrote a book titled "No Margin For Error: The Making of the Israeli Air Force."

**August Crossword**  
Sponsored by Meg. D. Goldstein,  
Attorney at Law, [www.goldlaw.com](http://www.goldlaw.com)  
Thank you Meg!

(Puzzle on page 25)

1	W	2	I	3	R	4	E	5	D	6	C	7	R	8	Y	9	L	10	11	12	E
13	A	R	A	V	A	14	H	U	E	15	I	L	L	S							
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38	A	39	G	I	T	A	T	E			40	S	C	H	41	E	42	D			
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54	P	55	A	L	S			56	M	A	G	A	Z	57	I	N	58	E	59	S	
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63	T	I	M	E				64	P	O	T		65	M	O	N	E	Y			

Newspaper archives are a treasure trove of collective memories, providing a snapshot of our history. The following articles were printed in *The Charlotte Jewish News* in August, 2009 and June/July, 2011. To read the whole issue or other issues of CJN, visit the archives at <https://www.digitalnc.org/newspapers/charlotte-jewish-news-charlotte-nc/>.

## Looking Back: August, 2009

### New Parking Garage Dedicated



The new Barbara L. Levine Parking Pavilion

Are you finding parking at Shalom Park a little easier these days? More spaces, closer in, everything you like in a parking situation.

Thanks goes to the Levine family and the new Barbara L.

Levine Parking Deck, opened and dedicated on June 7.

The ceremony took place under a full, hot sun, which didn't dampen the spirits of the participants. Eric Sklut opened the ceremony to give the history of the

decision to build the parking deck. Howard Levine spoke with gratitude to his parents for their generosity and the lessons he has garnered from them.

Lori Sklut read a moving speech about her mother, Barbara Levine, who passed away when Lori was just five. In attendance was Barbara's dear friend, Geri Gertzman, whom Lori spoke of with fondness.

"A few days ago, I received a beautiful letter from Geri Gertzman who was a dear friend of mom's during our Lansdowne years. I thought it would be nice to reflect on Geri's comments and share some of them with you now."

"Dear Lori and Howard: Sometimes it seems like a hundred years ago, and sometimes it seems like yesterday, when I wrote your Grandmother Faye a note promising always to remember her beautiful daughter, your mother and my dear friend. In the note, I wrote, 'Every spring, when I



Amy Levine, Alfred Dawson, Blair Sklut, Haley Sklut, Mason Sklut, Lori Sklut, Eric Sklut, Julie Levine, Howard Levine, Leon Levine, Sandra Levin; front row: Sophie Levine, Evan Levine

see the daffodils, I'll think of Barbara. Barbara always, from the moment we first met, reminded me of both spring and daffodils. Like a spring day, she was sunny, bright, and refreshing. Like a daffodil, she was sweet, pretty, and unassuming. Then and now, when I see the

daffodils in spring, I think of my lovely friend and my heart smiles. When I learned of the Barbara Leven Levine Parking Pavilion, I hoped to be a small part in honoring her memory, without being intrusive."

## Looking Back: June/July, 2011

### Shalom Park to Sponsor Freedom School Summer 2011

Shalom Park will be the host of the 20th Freedom School in Mecklenberg County beginning this June. Freedom schools are a program created by the Children's Defense Fund in Washington and supported by Freedom School Partners in Charlotte. The mission of the Shalom Park Freedom school is to build Jewish identity, pride, and community by engaging all segments of the Charlotte Jewish community in a collaborative effort to provide a high-quality, summer educational program for at risk children. The Shalom Park Freedom School will consist of a six week summer program for 50 students from Huntingtowne Farms Elementary School and Sterling Elementary School, two schools with existing partnerships with Temple Israel and Temple Beth El respectively. Deidre Grubb and Shirley Rosen are co-chairing a three year commitment to establish and build the Shalom Park Freedom School as it

will expand the current partnerships with these two CMS schools and create year round learning support to enrich the lives of these scholars. Deidre Grubb believes "This is the perfect vehicle to demonstrate the commitment and strength of the organizations of Shalom Park to the needs of the Charlotte community. This sets a great example for all members of our community as well as for other Jewish communities around the country." The Shalom Park Freedom School is the first Freedom School in the country to be sponsored solely by Jewish organizations. "I think this says a great deal about the importance of social action within the Charlotte Jewish community and our responsibility to the greater community," added Shirley Rosen.

The school session will begin June 20 and run through July 29. Classes will be held in the Temple Israel classrooms. Breakfast will be served daily

at the Day School and morning reading sessions will be held in Gorelick Hall with the theater and the Levine Sklut Library creating the opportunity for interactive storytelling. All of the supporting organizations will be involved.

Shalom Park Freedom school is a collaborative effort of Temple Beth El, Temple Israel, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, the Levine JCC, Charlotte Jewish Day School, the Levine Sklut Judaic Library and Resource Center, Jewish Family Services, and the Foundation of Shalom Park. All are excited



Freedom School teen volunteers meet with Jackie Fishman.



Jackie Fishman are working with the teen volunteers on this innovative project.

Volunteers from the community are invited in various capacities such as readers, field trip chaperones, and shoppers. Collection boxes will be available around the Shalom Park campus for collection of school supplies and other materials. Donation boxes can be found in the Federation office, the Temple Israel/Charlotte Jewish Day School lobby, and Temple Beth El. For more information on the Shalom Park Freedom School and how you can get involved, go to [www.SPFreedomSchool@yahoo.com](http://www.SPFreedomSchool@yahoo.com).

Contact Gale Osborne for additional information at [g Osborne@cjschool.org](mailto:g Osborne@cjschool.org) or 704-366-4558.

ed about the opportunity to join such a stellar program as Freedom Schools Partners and make a commitment to the importance of social action and change in the greater Charlotte community. A new component unique to the Shalom Park Freedom School is the addition of a Teen Board which will involve teen volunteers in the daily school activities during the six week program. Teens from across the community will be able to volunteer to partners with some of the scholars and then explore the values of social justice, develop leadership skills, and gain an understanding of the dynamics of poverty and education in our community. Ian Kutner and

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LEVINE JCC

# #ReadySetGOals



## **Fall Programs Not to Miss:**

- Family Day at the Movies
- Family Line Dancing & Spaghetti Night
- Family Baking Challenge: *"Nailed It"*
- Thanksgiving JTROT
- Feed the Hungry
- Adopt-a-City-Street Cleanup
- Camp Mindy Fantasy Football League
- Preschoolers Build & Tinker
- Teen Beginner Tennis Class
- Teen Life Skills Course
- Year-round Swim Team

# FALL PROGRAMS\*

## REGISTRATION BEGINS:

MEMBERS: **August 1<sup>st</sup>**  
COMMUNITY: **August 8<sup>th</sup>**



FOUNDED BY  
Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

\*View our complete Fall Course Catalog at: [charlottejcc.org](http://charlottejcc.org)