

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

Celebrating Jewish Life

Vol. 45, No.8

Elul-Tishri, 5783-57844

September 2023

Renovations to Levine-Sklut Judaic Library Begin

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is thrilled to announce that after a successful capital campaign, construction is set to commence on the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library this month. Through the renovations, the Levine-Sklut Library will better reflect today's advanced Charlotte Jewish community by re-envisioning the library's key functions to create a user-centric and modern environment that better supports 21st century learning needs and modalities.

Construction was made possible through the generosity of 33 donors, including major gifts from The Leon Levine Foundation, Howard Levine, Lori and Eric Sklut, The David and Nicole Tepper Foundation, Bill Gorelick, The Blumenthal Foundation, and an anonymous donor.

The library modernization project is one of four additional giving opportunities Federation identified as top priorities for the Charlotte Jewish community during the 2023 Annual Campaign.

"The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is deeply grateful for our donors' support to enhance Jewish education and engagement through this project," said Tair Giudice, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's chief impact officer. "The Levine-Sklut Library has served as an epicenter for lifelong Jewish learning, and we know that these renovations will ensure that the library better meets the community's needs and continues to be an accessible and welcoming space for all."

Construction on the library is expected to be completed in January 2024. The renovated library will include new workstations, new computers, an improved self-checkout and locating system, a redesigned children's room, and a much-needed community gathering space at Shalom Park.

In preparation for the renovation, the library closed in early August. During construction, library programs will continue at alternate locations to be announced. A lending library program will be available in the teen room directly across from the li-



Rendering for new library design- front entry

brary on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m.–2 p.m., and on Sundays from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. E-books, online resources,

and book drop locations will be accessible throughout the renovation.

For more information on the

Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, please visit: <https://www.jewishcharlotte.org/what-we-do/center-for-jewish-education>.

Federation To Commemorate 50th Anniversary of Yom Kippur War With "Valley of Tears" Co-Creator, Amit Cohen

By Noah Goldman, JFGC Israel & Global Jewry Associate

"Valley of Tears" Co-Creator Comes to Charlotte to Commemorate 50 Years Since the Yom Kippur War

The Yom Kippur War of 1973 stands as one of the greatest traumas in modern Israel's history, leaving a lasting impact even to this day. At that time, Israel did not anticipate another war, having achieved a decisive victory in the Six-Day War six years earlier, leading them to believe that no country would dare to attack them. However, on the holiest day of the Jewish calendar, Yom Kippur, Egyptian and

Syrian forces, backed by the Soviet Union, launched unexpected attacks, quickly advancing over Israel's borders. Although Israel eventually repelled the invaders and reached a ceasefire, both sides suffered heavy casualties. The illusion of military invincibility and the sense of security among Israelis were shattered.

The Valley of Tears is the name that was given to an area in the Golan Heights that was the site of a major battle in the conflict. The hit TV series by the same name, provides dramatic recreations of tank battles in



Amit Cohen

(Continued on page 5)



Rendering for new library design- Children's Room

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CHARLOTTE NC
PERMIT # 1208
CHARLOTTE, NC

5007 Providence Road, Suite #112
Charlotte, NC 28226
Change Service Requested

Look inside for our special insert,
Celebrating High Holidays in Charlotte
with a community calendar of services and From the Bimah:
High Holiday Messages from Charlotte's Senior Rabbis.

From the Editor

Embracing Uncertainty in the New Year



Shira Firestone, Editor CJN

As I write this, the air seems far from turning crisp, and the days do not feel any shorter. Yet the month of Elul is just beginning, and with it a familiar anticipation for our Jewish community. It is that time of year again when we prepare to welcome the High Holidays - a period of reflection, renewal, and connection. This year, as I sift through old editions of the CJN and trace the winding path of the pandemic's impact on our community, I can't help but be struck by the profound journey we've been on.

Looking back over past issues, I'm reminded of the challenges we faced over the past three years. Uncertainty became our companion. The High Holidays, known for their tradition and con-

tinuity, found themselves in an unexpected dance with change. We couldn't gather in our synagogues as before; instead, we connected through screens. We couldn't commit plans to ink, as they were constantly changing. We did the best we could with circumstances we could not predict. Those of us who are uncomfortable with not knowing what to expect found ourselves with no other choice.

So, though I'm reminded of the challenges, I also recall the flexibility and creativity that was awakened within us, individually and as a community. It's hard to believe that just a few years ago, terms like "virtual gatherings" and "Zoom fatigue" were foreign concepts. (As a writer, I vow to never use the words "pivot" or "new normal" again as long as I live!) The first issue I was responsible for as the new editor of the Charlotte Jewish News was in August 2020 - right before the High Holidays. It was fitting that I didn't yet know what I was doing, because none of us knew what we were doing!

Here we are today with the dust seemingly settled and many are enthusiastically anticipating gathering together in person for

this year's many High Holiday celebrations and observances. Though some communities are still offering the innovative hybrid options, others have returned to in-person only.

Yet, as I sit down to write this, I can't ignore the irony of the situation: After navigating the uncharted waters of the pandemic for three long years, here I am, recovering from COVID, myself. The virus, which I had avoided until now, is a stark reminder that life is unpredictable, and much of it is out of my control.

But even if my head feels like a messy mix of molasses and cotton balls and I feel as though I'm looking at the page from behind frosty glass, I am still moving steadily along with the energies that the month of preparation brings and the Holy Days it ushers in.

So here we are, welcoming another year. As always, we project our hopes for the future onto the rituals that come with

So here we are, welcoming another year. As always, we project our hopes for the future onto these rituals. We take the opportunity to set our intentions and visualize our course for the future. But even as we do, we're reminded that we can influence, but not control, what this year will bring. We can anticipate, but what we really need to be prepared for is the unexpected.

it. We take the opportunity to set our intentions and visualize our course for the future. Even as we do, we're reminded that we can influence, but not control, what this year will bring. We can anticipate, but what we really need to be prepared for is the unexpected.

Facing this recent uptick in COVID cases and hearing growing chatter of another upcoming election (and its inevitable drama), many of us are feeling the familiar anxiety of our past collective trauma. However, at the time, when all this began, our anxiety wasn't matched by the awareness that would emerge - that our resilience and creativity are more than enough for challenges we face.

In the approaching year, we will encounter the unexpected. Some of it we will celebrate, while some will challenge our resolve. In response, our task is to welcome it all. Our navigational tool is not foresight or clairvoyance, but rather the confidence in our ability to meet what comes. If we've learned anything, it is that we are ready.

I look forward to spending another year with you.

Shanah Tovah Umetukah

Shira

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

September 1 — 7:32 p.m.
September 8 — 7:22 p.m.
September 15 — 7:12 p.m.
September 22 — 7:02 p.m.
September 29 — 6:52 p.m.



The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

Shira Firestone, Editor
Julie Dalli, Proofreader

5007 Providence Road,
Suite 112
Charlotte, NC 28226
(704) 944-6765

www.charlottejewishnews.org
charlottejewishnews@shalomcharlotte.org

The CJN does not assume responsibility for the quality of kasruth of any product or service advertised. Publishing of a paid political advertisement does not constitute an endorsement of any candidate, political party or position by this newspaper, the Federation, or any of its employees.

Published monthly except July

An affiliate of Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte



Federation Welcomes New Director of Donor Engagement

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte (JFGC) is pleased to announce that Elina Mazo has been named director of donor engagement.

In this role, Elina will be a central member of our development team focusing on engaging donors through Women's Philanthropy, Federation's Community Campaign, and other affinity campaign activities. Elina brings a wealth of experience working in our Jewish community. She has previously worked for Federation as the Jewish and Israel education coordinator for the Center for Jewish Education. Most recently, Elina was the senior camp program specialist at Moishe House.

Elina commented, "I am very excited and honored to be back working at the Federation in this new role. I hope to bring my ex-

pertise from my previous experience working at international Jewish organizations, and from being a community member and volunteer. I have always believed that being actively engaged in your local Jewish community, and supporting the Jewish work will benefit future generations by building a strong sense of community, Jewish identity, and belonging. The JFGC is an impeccable example of an organization that covers the needs of the Jewish Charlotte population by supporting, protecting, and educating other Jewish organizations. I couldn't be more excited to be a part of this amazing team."

Elina will report to Sam Bernstein, chief development and marketing officer.



Elina Mazo, JFGC Director of Donor Engagement

Local Leaders Visit Israel as Part of Federation Partnership

By Noah Goldman, JFGC Israel & Global Jewry Associate

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte (JFGC) is committed to maintaining and strengthening bonds between the Charlotte Jewish community and Israel. Our Federation is proud to be part of Partnership2Gether, a network of communities connecting Jews in the Diaspora with Jews in Israel, highlighting our dedication to this important relationship. Many Jewish Federations across the country are affiliated with a Partnership2Gether region in Israel. Our Federation is connected with the Hadera-Eiron Partnership, alongside the Jewish communities of Nashville, Chattanooga, Northeast Florida, the Gulf Coast, Richmond, Charleston, Greensboro, and Prague, Czech Republic.

The Leadership2Gether (L2G) program is a part of the Partnership2Gether network, connecting Jewish communities in the Diaspora with those in Israel. This partnership aims to enhance and strengthen the sense of shared identity and community across geographical distances, fostering genuine and vibrant connections. In late April, two community leaders, Amy Fine and Laura Hausman, traveled to Israel to participate in the Leadership 2Gether (L2G) retreat in Hadera. They wanted to learn about Charlotte's partnership



Amy Fine and Laura Hausman

and experience the Hadera region firsthand.

During their L2G trip, Amy and Laura experienced an authentic Israeli experience by staying with Israeli families instead of hotels. This homestay allowed them to truly immerse themselves in Israeli culture and daily life. They also had the opportunity to visit various projects and initiatives in the region, such as Youth Futures, a positive-intervention program for at-risk youth. They went on an "agritour" at Kibbutz Magal to see Israeli innovation and entrepreneurship in action in the

agricultural sector. They visited the Haviva Reik Mechina (pre-military training program) to meet young Israelis about to join the Israeli military. And they enjoyed Kabbalat Shabbat with the musical duo, Yonina.

Among the many projects they visited, one organization that left a strong impression on both Amy and Laura was the Ethiopian National Project (ENP), an organization supported by Federation through overseas allocations. The ENP works towards integrating Ethiopian Jews into Israeli society through workshops, educational programs, and specialized training.

Apart from the planned activities, Amy and Laura also took some free time to visit Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. During her visit, Amy even experienced one of the many protests taking place in Israel, both for and against the judicial overhaul that has left Israelis deeply divided. She remarked that what most amazed her was the pride that those she spoke with had for their country. From her perspective, the protesters were not merely against something, but truly for something.

Tourism is a great way to support Israel, but it is through genuine interactions with Israelis in their everyday lives that a true and lasting relationship with

(Continued on page 8)

McEwen Funeral Service Pineville Chapel



704-544-1412
10500 Park Road, Charlotte, NC 28210
mcewenpinevillechapel.com

COMPASS

Buying, Selling or Relocating?

Andrew is an award-winning agent ready to assist in your real estate journey. Named in the Top 1% of All Real Estate Agents in 2021 by Real Trends. In addition, Andrew is an involved member and leader in our Charlotte Jewish community.



Andrew Rosen
andrew.rosen@compass.com
M: 704.604.4756 | O: 704.234.7880

Andrew Rosen team of real estate agents affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker under the name "Compass South Carolina, LLC" in South Carolina and under the name "Compass" in North Carolina and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.



Jewish
Federation
of Greater Charlotte

Annual Campaign Closes Sept 15th

Now We Go Forward Less than \$100,000 to our goal*

3 Ways
to Give



Text "PLEDGE" to
704-327-0354



Visit
jewishcharlotte.org



Call
704-944-6757

*as of 8/16/2023



Windermere
Insurance \ Risk Management

Since 1974, we have assisted families and businesses in the Community with:

- Group Benefits
- Life, Disability & Long-Term Care Insurance
- Business Planning & Executive Benefits
- Medicare Plans & Annuities

Now, as part of Windermere Insurance Group, Greenspon & Associates can also help with:

- Homeowner's, Auto & Umbrella Coverage
- Commercial Business Insurance & Builder's Risk
- Professional Liability



Keith Greenspon — Advisor

Wishing You a
Happy New Year



704.247.3033

kgreenspon@windinsgroup.com



Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning
FOR THOSE SEEKING A MORE MEANINGFUL JEWISH LIFE.

Fall Semester



Rabbi Asher Knight will be teaching "Love, Loss and Wisdom"

Wednesday nights 7-8:30 PM

Classes will take place at Shalom Park

October 11, 18, 25

November 1, 8, 15

Discover, during this six-week course, the Jewish responses and rituals that take us through mourning and arrive at a place of healing. When death inevitably enters our lives, Jewish wisdom and ritual can help us cope with heartbreak and loss, the anguish of why suffering exists. We will also seek to understand the big questions of what Judaism says about life after death and its understanding of messianic times. With a wider lens, we gain a context with which to better understand our moments of anguish as individuals and as a community.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and Temple Beth El are pleased to offer this class for \$70, a 40% discount off the regular \$179 tuition. To claim your discount, enter the coupon code JFGC when you register.

Register today at www.meltontschool.org/charlotte



האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



www.meltontschool.org/charlotte

Sue's Bookshelf



By Sue Littauer

I don't know if your kids roll their eyes like mine do when I'm telling family stories, but I know these stories are what bind families together. One of the stories in my family was that we were related to Bess Myerson, or Bessie, as she was known to her friends and family. For those of you who don't know, Bess Myerson was the first and only Jewish Miss America and was crowned in 1945. Wikipedia calls her the most famous pretty girl since Queen Esther!

I recently read an advanced reader's copy of the book "Bessie" by Linda Kass about the late Bess Myerson. Intrigued and remembering family stories, I reached out to my brother, my dad's first cousins, and my first cousins. What's the story about us being related to Bess Myerson? Everyone had heard about the connection and the consensus was that our grandparents and her parents were neighbors and close friends. Apparently, my dad babysat her sister Sylvia, my uncle dated her younger sister Helen, and Bessie had offered

to get my aunt on her long-running TV game show "The Big Payoff." Although not related, I have to admit I've always been fascinated by the novel "Bessie," which is to be published on Sept. 12, is historical fiction and describes her early life growing up in the Bronx, taking piano and flute lessons, attending Hunter College, and being crowned Miss New York City. She entered the Miss America contest hoping to win a \$5,000 cash prize, which she could use to attend graduate school, further her love of music, and help her family financially. She never actually dreamed that the Miss America Pageant would crown a Jewish girl. Antisemitic undertones and slights, both real and perceived, surrounded her during the pre-pageant activities. Once crowned Miss America, she expected her appearances to be first-class engagements, but in actuality were second-rate and seedy. At this point, Bess reached out to the ADL and spoke out against bigotry and hatred. Her

"Bessie brings to vivid life the coming of age of Bess Myerson, Miss America of 1945. In Kass's hands she becomes every woman and the amazing story of her time becomes the story of our time, too." — Lisa Scottoline, New York Times best-selling author of *Eternal*.

speeches were themed "You Can't Be Beautiful and Hate."

From the author: "Just days after the close of World War II, the insecure, scholarly, and musically gifted daughter of Russian Jewish immigrants from the Bronx rises to a place where she represents an ideal against all odds. She grows up in an antisemitic American country filled with all kinds of bigotry, all too similar to our country today." The author hopes this novel will inspire us as readers to become the best we can be — to stand up to antisemitism and bigotry as we struggle to make a difference in the world.



Amit Cohen

(Continued from front page)

their original Golan Heights locations and present the war from various perspectives, offering a vivid depiction of Israel's social climate in 1973. But beyond its importance from a historical perspective, the series has been a hit, in part, because of the personal stories it tells. In a Golden Globe interview, co-creator, Amit Cohen says, "Once we were comfortable with reality, then we set out to define the drama. This is not a documentary. It is not even a docu-drama. It is a TV show and we must follow all the dramatic rules which means we want to focus on the characters and their emotional and psychological journeys. We want to tell the story of friendships, being both created and destroyed."

This October marks the 50th anniversary of the war. In commemoration of this milestone, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is hosting a conversation with Amit Cohen on Thursday, Oct. 19. During the

program, Cohen will discuss the behind-the-scenes process of creating "Valley of Tears" and share his personal reflections and connection to the Yom Kippur War.



This intense 10-part series, a decade in the making and the most expensive in Israel's TV history, was released in Oct. 2020 to Israeli audiences and is now available on HBO Max worldwide. The series was titled "Sha'at Neilah" in Hebrew, referring to the final prayer of the Yom Kippur fast, when Jewish tradition believes that people's fates for the coming year are sealed as the gates of heaven close.

The program is open to all and free of charge. Join us at the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts at Shalom Park on Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. to reflect on the war and its legacy, and honor the brave individuals who sacrificed for the defense of Israel. Register at www.jewishcharlotte.org.

LIBRARY UNDER CONSTRUCTION

During the renovation period, library programs will continue. See jewishcharlotte.org/cje for more information. A lending library program will be available in the teen room, directly across from the library on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10am – 2pm, and on Sundays from 10am – 12pm. E-books, online resources, and book drop locations will be accessible throughout the renovation.

For inquiries email library@jewishcharlotte.org



Malak Jewelers

— SINCE 1980 —

At The Arboretum | 704-341-1188 | malakjewelers.com

Wishing you a Chag Sameach!

We Buy, Sell, Repair, & Appraise
Diamonds, Bridal, Custom Design, Fine & Estate Jewelry,
Diamonds Imported from Israel



Miss Debby's Best-Loved Children's Books

Jewish Folktales to Love



By Debby Block

I absolutely love folktales! Folktales are appropriate and beloved by children and adults around the world. Jewish folktales have certainly nurtured my love of Judaism. I clearly remember when my mother brought home "Zlateh the Goat and Other Stories" by Isaac Bashevis Singer. I loved cuddling next to her and hearing those folktales that embraced Jewish sensibility and customs. Folktales have long been shared to entertain and educate. Knowledge and wisdom are found in the Jewish folk stories

of our people that keep us connected to our traditions and help shape our culture. Folktales truly provide a fun and ageless way to stay connected to Judaism! One of my favorite Jewish folktales is about a small, crowded house that is filled with noisy children and a kvetching wife. In every version, the main character visits a wise person, usually the rabbi, who advises him to bring chickens, cows, and other farm animals to live in the house. There have been many versions of this tale. Selected as a 1978 Caldecott Honor Book "It Could Always Be Worse" by Margot Zemach is the quintessential version and is fun for the whole family. However, my favorite version of the story is "The Little, Little House" by Jessica Souhami, which appeals to preschoolers with its bold illustrations and happily features a woman as the wise advisor. Recommended for ages 2-5. Another version of the same folktale is "Oy Vey! Life in a Shoe" by Bonnie Grubman. Grubman's version features rhyming text



Marc Lumer

and a modern-day rabbi. Recommended for children ages 4-8. No matter which excellent version of this folktale you choose, the positive Jewish message is always the same; "Who is rich? One who is satisfied with his lot." (Pirkei Avot) I recently read "The Wooden Sword: A Jewish Folktale from Afghanistan" by Ann Redisch Stampler to a group of third graders. At the end of the story, the students, to my surprise, gave me a standing ovation! The reaction of the students was because the story was so interesting and pos-

itive, while not preachy. In this retelling of the traditional tale, the good-hearted Shah of Kabul tests a poor Jewish man's faith by creating many challenges and obstacles. The impoverished yet optimistic Jewish shoemaker is confident that God is with him and that things will turn out as they should. And, indeed they do! Recommended for children ages 5-9. One of the most significant Jewish folklore stories is the legend of the Golem, a colossal clay monster created to safeguard the Jewish people. A modern adaptation of this tale for children is "American Golem: The New World Mud Monster" by Marc Lumer. In this version, a young boy arrives in America, feeling overwhelmed and fearful, so he constructs his own golem for protection. However, as it turns out, the boy doesn't actually need it, and he discovers new purposes for the golem, from selling ice cream to rescuing balloons. Will the golem find its rightful place in America? This

lighthearted rendition of the classic story will delight children ages 4 -8, especially those who enjoy graphic novels. Older children might enjoy "B.U.G. (Big Ugly Guy)" by the prolific children's author Jane Yolen with Adam Stemple. This PJ Our Way selection follows Sammy, who faces bullying until he creates his golem named Gully. Gully becomes an incredible drummer for Sammy's jazz-klezmer band, but the question remains: can the powerful golem be controlled? This tale presents a compelling coming-of-age narrative. Recommended for children ages 9-12. Here are a few folktales that are perfect for the Jewish High Holidays: "Feathers" by Heather Forest is a Jewish folktale that illustrates the destructive nature of gossip (lashon hara). As in all versions of this folktale, a yenta (busybody) runs around the village spreading rumors and gossiping about others. The rabbi tells her to first take a feather

(Continued on page 7)



Together Against Antisemitism

Parent Advocacy Series:

Empowering Parents to Combat Antisemitism in Schools



Join us for a five-part workshop series, where we will educate parents about how to recognize and respond to antisemitism in K-12 schools and the digital world. Each individual workshop will offer two sessions to accommodate parents, one in the morning at 9am and one in the evening at 7pm.

Antisemitism 101: Manifestations, Evolutions & Resources
Date: Wednesday, September 6th (2 sessions- choose 1) - AM 9:00-10:30 or PM 7:00-8:30
Location: AM - Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts, PM Gorelick Hall

Navigating Antisemitism in the Digital World
Date: Wednesday, October 11th (2 sessions - choose 1) - AM 9:00-10:30 or PM 7:00-8:30
Location: AM - Levine Social Hall at Temple Beth El, PM The Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

Knowing your Rights: A Conversation with Civil Rights Experts
Date: Wednesday, November 15th (2 sessions - choose 1) - AM 9:00-10:30 or PM 7:00-8:30
Location: AM Levine Social Hall at Temple Beth El, PM The Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

Conversations with CMS Department of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Date: Wednesday, December 6th - 7:00-8:30 PM
Location: Gorelick Hall

Conversation with UCPS Office of the Superintendent
Date: Wednesday, January 10th, 2024 - 7:00-8:30 PM
Location: The Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

All locations are at Shalom Park
5007 Providence Rd, Charlotte NC 28226

Register at jewishcharlotte.org

For questions contact Douglas Greene ,
Government Relations & Public Affairs Associate at
704.944.6858 or
douglas.greene@jewishcharlotte.org



Jewish
Federation
of Greater Charlotte

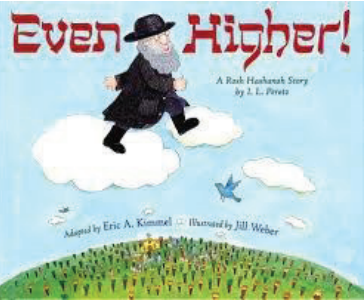
Jewish
Community
Relations
Council

Miss Debby

(Continued from page 6)

pillow and empty the feathers around the village. Then, the rabbi instructs the yenta to collect all the feathers and put them back in the bag. Of course, this task proves to be impossible, similar to the ability to take back hurtful words. This best-loved book is recommended for children ages 5-8.

“Even Higher! A Rosh Hashanah Story” by I.L Peretz (and retold by Eric Kimmel) is based on a Hasidic folktale. Every year right before Rosh Hashanah the rabbi disappears. The people in the small town are convinced that the rabbi goes to heaven to beg forgiveness for them. One skepti-



cal man, however, is determined to find out where the rabbi really goes, so he hides under the rabbi's bed. It turns out that the rabbi has disguised himself as a woodcutter and goes to help a sick old lady by bringing her firewood. The skeptic realizes that the rabbi may have gone even higher than heaven by doing such a mitzvah! Recommended for children ages 4-8.

The Levine-Sklut Judaic Library is currently undergoing renovations. During construction, library programs will continue at alternate locations to be announced shortly. A lending library program will be available in the teen room directly across from the library on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 10am – 2pm, and on Sundays from 10am – 12pm. E-books, online resources, and book drop locations will be accessible throughout the renovation.

For more information on the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library, please visit: <https://www.jewishcharlotte.org/what-we-do/center-for-jewish-education>.

ACTIONPLUS IDEAS

Your Brand Is Our Purpose

Eric Lerner, CEO & Founder - eric@actionplusideas.com - 704.536.8337 - actionplusideas.com

Why choose Action Plus Ideas?

- 30+ Years' Experience
- On-Time Delivery
- Top Brands
- Creative Ideas
- Consistent and Reliable
- 10% of Our Profits Go to Local Charities
- On-site Fulfillment & Warehousing
- Custom Online Stores
- Both USA & Overseas Sourcing

CELEBRATING

30 YEARS

1992-2022

A conversation with writer & co-creator of

VALLEY OF TEARS,

Amit Cohen

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War, join Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte as we reflect on this watershed moment in history that reshaped the Middle East.

Inspired by true events, Valley of Tears is the first TV series to depict the Yom Kippur War and its lingering trauma on Israeli society.

October 19th
7:00 PM
Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts
at Shalom Park

jewishcharlotte.org

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

“People Love Dead Jews”: The Conversation Continues

By Erin Mackie, JFGC Intern

What comes to mind when you hear the phrase “People Love Dead Jews?” Chances are, your initial reaction mirrors that of many others when reading the provocative title of Dara Horn’s book by the same name. However, as you delve into its pages, you gradually grasp the profound essence of the book — shedding light on how society has normalized the act of learning about ‘dead Jews’ rather than celebrating their lives. This compelling theme emerged during my attendance at Wine and Wisdom, a collaborative dis-

cussion on July 13, presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte (JFGC) as part of its Outshine Hate initiative and the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center, where members of the Charlotte Jewish community, educators, and professionals convened to explore the impact of this thought-provoking book.

The conversation began last spring when Dara Horn’s book was featured at the JFGC’s Center for Jewish Education Jewish Book Festival earlier this year. It was evident then that this was an ongoing conversation the

community wished to explore. Everyone participating at Wine and Wisdom had a good understanding of Horn’s message, which became evident during the engaging dialogue. The discussion left me with two powerful insights.

First and foremost, Judaism bestows a radiant light upon the world — a guiding force of wisdom and compassion. Jackie Fishman, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, stressed that Judaism should not be seen solely through the lens of victimhood. Instead, it should be seen through the lens of a deeper appreciation for its enduring contributions to the world. Secondly, the heart of the issue concerning the normalized comfort around the topic of deceased Jews lies within our education system.

Horn’s book touched many educators, as well. Douglas Greene, currently the JFGC government relations and public affairs associate, has 11 years of experience in Holocaust education in the public schools. He says, “This book really challenged everything that I had based almost two decades of my pedagogical experiences on and forced my mindset to evolve into realizing that to address antisemitism we need to evolve the practices in which curriculum is informed and taught so that we can help stem the ripple effect of antisemitism.” Regrettably, most schools like ones Greene used to teach at allocate little time to Jewish education, and when they do, it revolves around the negative episodes of Jewish history rather



Community members engage in thoughtful discussion led by Rabbi Judy Schindler at Wine and Wisdom.

er than emphasizing the diverse and rich aspects. To transform the public perception of Judaism, a vital shift in the curriculum is imperative. It is evident that the prevailing societal attitudes can be reshaped by enlightening our educational approach. Instead of perpetuating a skewed focus on tragedies and hardships, we must embrace the opportunity to illuminate the richness of Jewish culture, heritage, and contributions to humanity. By dedicating more time and resources to comprehensive Jewish education, we allow future generations to appreciate the beauty and essence

of this tradition, fostering a more inclusive and empathetic society. The power of knowledge and understanding can dissolve misconceptions and biases.

Let us embark on a journey to redefine the narrative surrounding Judaism and bring forth a more profound appreciation for its enduring light in the world. Together, through a renewed commitment to education, we can pave the way for a brighter, more enlightened future, where respect and admiration for diverse cultures and histories prevail.

Federation Partnership

(Continued from page 3)

the country is formed. Amy remarked she was in tears as she was leaving Israel at the end of her trip. She was in tears, she

said, not because she was leaving a foreign country but because she was leaving a country with which she had developed a new and stronger relationship, one with which she felt so much more connected to as a Jew in her ancestral homeland.

Partnership2Gether is just one way that JFGC supports and strengthens the bonds of our local community with Israel. Through the Gorelick Teens to Israel and the Harry and Gloria Lerner Family Funds, teens and young adults from the greater Charlotte area receive scholarships to travel to Israel on Federation-approved programs. Additionally, Federation backs the IsraelNow program by providing highly subsidized trips to Israel for 8th graders. In addition, this year Federation is organizing an adult mission trip to Israel in November. Registration for this year’s mission is still open, but spaces are limited. For information, visit www.jewishcharlotte.org.

Call us: 704-313-0023
www.tiptopgaragedoors.com

TipTop
GARAGE DOORS

Shapara Tova

Call Julie
Find Your Place

CRS – Certified Residential Specialist (3% of all Realtors)
SRES – Senior Real Estate Specialist
Five Star Professional Winner (7% of agents in Charlotte)
ABR, e-PRO, SPS, QSC

THE REALTOR WITH EXPERIENCE & KNOWLEDGE TRUSTED BY

HGTV
PROPERTY Virgins

Homes With Cachet

- BUYERS
- SELLERS
- RELOCATION

HomesWithCachet.com

Julie Taché
704.236.7536
Julie@JulieTache.com

DOWNLOAD OUR APP AT THE APP STORE

f t in

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Shana tova.

Celebrate the High Holidays with recipes you'll love at publix.com/highholidays.



Shalom Park DEI Committee Works To Create a Roadmap of Belonging

By Howard Olshansky, JFS Executive Director

The killing of George Floyd in 2020 marked a significant turning point in our country's response to the history of institutional racism and bias in society. As a result, corporate America initiated DEI activities, leading to the emergence of diversity officers in companies, and racially motivated crimes received increased media attention.

At Shalom Park, the Foundation of Shalom Park took ac-

tion by establishing a DEI Task Force under its auspices. This task force, led by Adam Bernstein and Terri Beattie, worked to create protocols that fostered a welcoming environment for everyone at Shalom Park. They developed a value statement now displayed on the wall next to the café, implemented a DEI policy that has been widely adapted or adopted by most agencies on the campus, and provided training for leadership and staff working at Shalom Park. Thanks to the

task force's efforts, the foundation has been laid for a culture of belonging for all at Shalom Park.

As the task force's work was coming to an end, they acknowledged that DEI efforts are continuous, and while the foundation had been established, it was crucial to involve our Jewish community in comprehending and recognizing the intricacies and significance of our community's contribution to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment, not just at Shalom Park but also

in the broader community.

To advance this initiative, Jewish Family Services took on the responsibility of convening the Shalom Park DEI Committee, which includes representatives from various Shalom Park organizations. This committee will be working together toward the next phase of progress in fostering Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Unfortunately, the promising indicators of 2020 have not materialized as expected in our country. According to a "Forbes Magazine" article, the surge of DEI activity seen last year appears to have been largely performative, yielding little tangible progress. While this lack of substantial change may not come as a surprise, considering how often major events lose momentum, it is still disheartening. We cannot afford to be apathetic if we genuinely aspire to live in a world that fosters civility and inclusivity to the fullest extent.

With this awareness in mind, the Shalom Park DEI Committee has diligently worked over the past year to create pathways for increased awareness and concrete opportunities to foster a sense of belonging within our community. Importantly, the committee recognizes that DEI work extends beyond just race; it encompasses all marginalized populations and individuals who have not been fully included in our practices. This includes groups such as the disability community, LGBTQ+, various genders, and diverse religious backgrounds. The committee finds inspiration in the Jewish value of b'tselem Elohim, which emphasizes that each individual possesses inherent and infinite value.

The DEI Committee is fully aware of the vast scope of their work, and they understand that

given their limited time and resources, their achievements may initially feel like small steps. However, their commitment is unwavering, and they recognize that this pathway toward diversity, equity, and inclusion is infinite and will require ongoing efforts. The progress they make will ultimately depend on the active participation and engagement of the community.

To kickstart their initiatives, the committee has organized several events between now and the beginning of next year. The first event, scheduled for September 21, is a Lunch and Learn session that offers a virtual option as well. The session is titled "Creating an Accessible Workplace From a Jewish Lens: Putting Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Into Action," and it will be presented by Shelly Christensen, MA, FAAIDD. Ms. Christensen brings valuable expertise to the table, as she is the senior director of faith inclusion and belonging at RespectAbility, a national non-profit disability-led organization, and has been a leader in multi-faith community disability inclusion. With 13 years of experience directing the disability inclusion program in the Minneapolis Jewish community, she co-founded Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). Her contributions to the multi-faith inclusion community were recognized in 2021 when she received the prestigious Reimagining Spirituality Leadership Award from the Religion and Spirituality Network of AAIDD. Ms. Christensen is also the author of "From Longing to Belonging — A Practical Guide to Including People with Disabilities and Mental Health Conditions in Your Faith Community."

This event promises to be a valuable opportunity for the community to gain insights and take meaningful action toward creating a more accessible and inclusive workplace.

For more information on this event, contact howard.olshansky@jfscharlotte.org or to register go to www.jfscharlotte.org

Look for additional events from the Shalom Park DEI Committee:

Community Building Initiative Bus Tour: See Charlotte's history from a cultural lens (Fall 2023)

Time Out Youth training-What does being LGBTQ+ inclusive really look like?

Confronting Fat Bias with Rabbi Minna Bromberg (January 2024)

Now more than ever, personalized advice matters



The L/A Wealth Management Group

Peter A. Levinson, CRPS™, CPFA®

Senior Vice President
Senior Financial Advisor
980.282.1770
peter_levinson@ml.com

Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

6000 Fairview Road
Suite 600
Charlotte, NC 28210
704.705.3332



Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (also referred to as "MLPF&S" or "Merrill") makes available certain investment products sponsored, managed, distributed or provided by companies that are affiliates of Bank of America Corporation ("BofA Corp."). MLPF&S is a registered broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, Member SIPC and a wholly owned subsidiary of BofA Corp.

Investment products: **Are Not FDIC Insured** **Are Not Bank Guaranteed** **May Lose Value**

The Bull Symbol and Merrill are registered trademarks of Bank of America Corporation.

The College for Financial Planning Institutes Corp. owns the service marks Chartered Retirement Plans Specialist™, CRPS®, and the CRPS® logo, and the certification marks Chartered Retirement Plans Specialist™, CRPS™, and the CRPS™ logo.

© 2023 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved.

MAP5272720 | AD-07-23-0807 | 470944PM-0123 | 07/2023



Jewish Family SERVICES
Engaging • Connecting • Healing

Religious Life

Temple Kol Ami Welcomes New Year With Returning Clergy Rabbi Bruce Aft and Cantorial Soloist Sara Sharman

By Bonnie Shaw

As Temple Kol Ami says goodbye to 5783 we prepare to welcome 5784. The beauty of the High Holidays is upon us and Temple Kol Ami is excited to welcome back our congregants and welcome new family to join us. We are honored to welcome back Rabbi Bruce Aft and Cantorial soloist Sara Sherman.

Rabbi Aft is a wonderfully engaging clergy who has spent many Shabbaton with Temple Kol Ami in the past. He is retired from Congregation Adat Reyim of Springfield, Va after 29 years of service. Rabbi Aft is currently a visiting scholar at George Mason University in the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution. He is also the president of the community board for Operation Understanding DC. A huge baseball fan (and former college player), he and his wife Sue volunteer for the Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy.



Rabbi Bruce Aft

Sara is a professional musician from New York City who has lent her beautiful voice to our High Holidays for numerous years. Her rendition of Kol Nidre is especially heartfelt as she welcomes the congregation to come closer to the bima and feel the intensity of the Kol Nidre as well as hear the music. Together they bring to the congregation a

very meaningful and spiritually uplifting High Holidays to our congregation. Please contact us at yorksynagogue@gmail.com or (803)701-0149 for more information, or check our website www.templekolamisc.org.

Schedule for High Holiday services is as follows:

Friday, September 15

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service, 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 16

Rosh Hashanah Service, 9 a.m.

Junior Congregation, 10 a.m.

Sunday, September 24

Kol Nidre, 7 p.m.

Monday, September 25

Yom Kippur Service, 9 a.m.

Junior Congregation, 10 a.m.

Neilah, 4 p.m.

Further information about Junior Congregation services, Tashlich, Yizkor and break fast can be found on our website. Tickets are included in TKA membership but non-members



Sara Sharman

are welcome to purchase tickets and join us as well. Military and college students are invited to worship with us for free. Rosh Hashanah services will be taking place at Unity Presbyterian Church 303 Tom Hall St. Fort Mill, SC. Yom Kippur services will be taking place at Philadelphia United Methodist Church

1691 SC-160, Fort Mill, SC,

Additionally, it is not too late to enroll your child at Temple Kol Ami Religious School! The TKA Religious School teachers and administrators have been hard at work all summer getting ready to provide a meaningful Jewish education. For more information, please contact us at tka.religiousschool@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you all join us for a wonderful year at Temple Kol Ami!

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.



Join us this High Holy Days season as we come together to experience the sweetness of life, the strength of hope, and the transformative power of love.

For tickets & more information, visit

WWW.TEMPLEBETHEL.ORG/HIGHHOLYDAYS

JEWISH TV CHANNEL NOW ON SPECTRUM

WATCH



JEWISH BROADCASTING SERVICE

**Spectrum 219
DirecTV CH 388
Apple TV, Fire TV, ROKU
the JBS Website - jbstv.org
and download the JBS App**

**Daily News from Israel & the JBS News Desk
Interviews & Analyses on Jewish Issues
Jewish Studies: Talmud & Hebrew Lessons
Jewish Movies, Music, Books & Cooking
Shabbat & Holiday Services**

Religious Life

templeisraelnc.org

Our House. **Your Home.**

temple israel

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE 2023/5784**EREV ROSH HASHANAH
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service, 6:15 p.m.

**ROSH HASHANAH DAY 1
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

Family Service, 9 a.m.

Traditional Shacharit Service, 9 a.m.

Main Service, beginning/w Torah Service*, 10 a.m.

Evening Service, 7 p.m.

**ROSH HASHANAH DAY 2
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

Young Families Pre-School Program, 9 a.m.

Morning Service, 9 a.m.

TI Religious School Program, 10:30 a.m.

Tashlich (Following Services), 1 p.m.

Evening Service, 7 p.m.

**KOL NIDRE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**Kol Nidre Service, 7 p.m.*
Please be seated by 6:45 p.m.**YOM KIPPUR
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25***

Family Service, 9 a.m.

Traditional Shacharit Service, 9 a.m.

Main Service, beginning/w Torah Service*, 10 a.m.

Young Families Pre-School Program*, 10:45 a.m.

Yizkor*, 11:30 a.m.

Yom Kippur Yoga, 2 p.m.

Study Session with Rabbi Wolk, 4 p.m.

Mincha Service, 5 p.m.

Ne'ilah & Shofar Blast, 6:30 p.m.

Break Fast, 8 p.m.

*Parking Pass required at Shalom Park

For additional details and ticket information, call 704-362-2796.



SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 7

5:00 pm - YOUNG FAMILIES SIMCHAT TORAH PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM (siblings welcome)**5:30 pm** - EVENING MINYAN**5:45 pm** - FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL***6:30 pm** - EMPTY NESTERS GET-TOGETHER**7:00 pm** - DANCING WITH THE TORAHSJoin us on Erev Simchat Torah for dinner, music, dancing,
and celebrations with the Torah!**For dinner registration information, visit the
Upcoming Programs page on templeisraelnc.org.***Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte
for a special grant that is subsidizing the cost of this meal.**REGISTER ON THE UPCOMING PROGRAMS PAGE AT TEMPLEISRAELNC.ORG**

There's luxury.
And then there's *The Village* luxury.

THE VILLAGE

on Morehead
Luxury Retirement Living



At The Village on Morehead, every detail of your curated lifestyle has been thoughtfully designed for you. Embrace your retirement years as you indulge in exquisite dining, socialize with like-minded individuals, pursue new hobbies, and engage in a wide range of programs in a place where you are inspired every day.

START A CONVERSATION

Learn how you can become a member of Charlotte's newest rental retirement community.

(704) 831-8000 or info@villageonmorehead.com

The Village on Morehead

727 E. Morehead, Charlotte, NC 282022

Information Center

801 E. Morehead, Charlotte, NC 282022

Religious Life

Temple Solel Manna Bags Provide Relief and Hope

By Pauline Childs

You're cruising along, singing your heart out, and feeling delighted that traffic is light. Suddenly, the traffic light turns red, and as you stop, you notice someone right next to your car, asking for help! What would you do?

Your heart might urge you to help, but your head might wonder how you can assist. Perhaps you think, "I might have a few dollars somewhere." But with only around 30 seconds before the light changes, time is running out.

Then, it hits you — you remember the manna bag within easy reach! You roll down your window and hand the bag to the person standing there. The light changes, and you hope you've made a positive difference in someone's day.

A manna bag is a zip-lock bag filled with items that can meet basic needs on the go. The bags currently contain water, Vienna sausages, peanut butter crackers, granola bars, a list of area resources, fruit cups, a spoon, and a napkin. Dale Rivers, Temple Solel vice president and social action chair, shared that they've added a toothbrush and toothpaste this time, and they plan to include socks and possibly gloves in the winter.

Both Temple Solel and Grace Presbyterian congregants are encouraged to give these bags to those in need, demonstrating that no one deserves to feel invisible. This small act of generosity helps individuals in need feel seen and loved while inspiring us to recognize and support those around us. Temple Solel Member, Emma Snipes, said, "This



Manna bags provide food, necessities, and resources to those in need.

is such a simple thing to help others."

Originally a project of their interfaith partner, Grace Presbyterian, Temple Solel has now taken up the mantle of creating manna bags as a social action project. Congregants donated the items during one of the twice-monthly services, and a few days later, the youth group held a back-to-

school pizza party to assemble the bags.

The bags are located in the main hallway at Grace, where both Grace Presbyterian and Temple Solel congregants take them to keep in their cars for whenever they encounter someone in need. Many people come back to get new bags each week because they've already handed them out. Several congregants have noticed that they become more aware of people in need once they have a manna bag in their car.

This wonderful project extends beyond Fort Mill, with many people taking manna bags when they commute to Charlotte or go on trips.

This is an ongoing project, and if you want to help, please contact info@templesolelsc.org.

At Temple Solel, we offer the opportunity to Pray Together, Learn Together, and Do Together. We warmly welcome the presence, enthusiasm, talents, and involvement of all members and guests. As a Reform Jewish congregation, we've eliminated the barrier of annual membership dues, focusing more on active participation. We meet at 7 PM on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at the Grace Presbyterian Church at 2955 W. Highway 160 in Fort Mill. For more information about our services and other events, please visit <https://templesolelsc.org> or call (803) 610-1707.



Havurat Tikvah Re-Opens Its Lay-Led High Holiday Services to the Community

By Lainey Millen

After an extended period of time in a members-only mode due to the COVID pandemic, Havurat Tikvah once again extends an open invitation to the Charlotte Jewish community to attend its in-person High Holidays Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at Avondale Presbyterian Church, MacLean Fellowship Hall, 2821 Park Rd., Charlotte, NC 28209. For those who are unable to attend due to illness or other issues, there will be Zoom options throughout the service schedule. Links can be obtained prior to services by request to admin@havurattikvah.org.

On Sept. 16, Rosh Hashanah services will begin at 10 a.m., followed by Kiddush, hamotzi, and a potluck kosher/veggie/dairy/parve potluck luncheon. There will be no day two services.

On Sept. 17, congregants and guests will gather for Tashlich at 3:30 p.m. at a location to be announced at a later date. Visit the website for more details as the day nears.

Kol Nidre services will be held on Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. sharp. Attendees must be seated by 6:45 p.m.

On Sept. 25, Yom Kippur services will continue at 10 a.m., with Yizkor services at approximately 1 p.m. Services will continue at 6 p.m. for the healing service after an afternoon break. Services conclude with Ne'ilah beginning at 6:50 p.m. followed by a break-the-fast kosher/veggie/dairy/parve potluck supper

at 7:54 p.m.

Members and guests are encouraged to bring a tallit and kippah because there is a limited quantity of both on hand should one wish to wear them. Attendees can bring their own shofar to participate in the concluding service on Yom Kippur.

Masks may be used for those who wish to wear them. Vaccinations are required. COVID testing is appreciated but not required.

There is no childcare offered this year.

As in past years, first-time

attendees, including students and active military members, are welcome at no cost to attend services and participate in Tashlich, as well as stay for the luncheon after Rosh Hashanah services and for break-fast after Yom Kippur worship. All others are asked to pay a nominal fee (\$54 for individuals, \$90 for families). Mail checks to Havurat Tikvah, P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220. Email admin@havurattikvah.org for more details.

Havurat Tikvah is a warm, supportive, and nurturing Jewish

Reconstructionist congregation with Shabbat services and a full spectrum of holiday observances, as well as religious educational options for both families and single adults. We are a diverse group of families, singles, Jewish, and interfaith couples who participate in projects that promote social justice.

We value and depend upon member participation and leadership for our religious services, spiritual growth, and governance.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism.

For more information on upcoming services, programs, membership or other queries, call (980) 225-5330, write to Havurat Tikvah, P.O. Box 12684, Charlotte, NC 28220, email membership@havurattikvah.org or visit havurattikvah.org. Havurat Tikvah is also on Facebook at facebook.com/groups/havurattikvah/.



JOIN US!



TEMPLE SOLEL
Fort Mill SC

templesolelsc.org

@TempleSolelSC

NO ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES.
We depend on the generosity of our members

Helping the less fortunate is a major part of who we are. If you are looking for a way to get involved, **COME JOIN US!**



Services: 2nd & 4th Fridays | 7 PM

2955 Highway 160 W, Fort Mill, SC 29716
(803)619-1707 | info@templesolelsc.org

Religious Life

Unveiling the Deeper Significance of High Holiday Traditions at Chabad of Charlotte

By Rabbi Levi Cohen

The High Holidays, also known as "The Days of Awe," mark a momentous and deeply spiritual time on the Jewish calendar. At Ohr HaTorah, we celebrate these extraordinary days with warmth, inclusivity, and a profound sense of community, offering a welcoming home for

all to embark on a soulful so-journ together. We begin with a community dinner on Rosh Hashanah Eve, celebrating a new year as one and committing to strengthen one another for the upcoming year. From Rosh Hashanah, a day when we accept G-d's sovereignty, to Yom Kippur, a day of atonement, Ohr

HaTorah provides a place where everyone can participate, regardless of their prior knowledge or experience.

One of the most powerful moments during the Rosh Hashanah service is the blowing of the shofar. The symbol brings us back to the Akeida, the binding of Isaac, and calls back through all the generations of our people, reminding us of the giants in our roots. It's also a trumpet call to our renewed coronation of G-d as the ruler of the universe. The sound of the ancient ram's horn resonates through the sanctuary, evoking a deep connection to our heritage and spirituality. It's a time of introspection, reminding us of our spiritual journey and urging us to strive for growth in our Judaism for the year ahead. The shofar's cry becomes a wake-up call, inviting us to turn inward and reconnect with our true selves. At Ohr HaTorah, the shofar service is a moment of unity and reflection. Young and old, newcomers and regular attendees, all stand together, united in this transformative experience.

Beyond the rituals, at Ohr HaTorah the magic of the High Holidays is felt through meaningful stories and lessons. Rabbi Yossi Groner's eloquence and insights

enrich our understanding of the sacred occasion. As Rabbi Binyomin Weiss prepares to begin the cantorial melody of "U'Netane Tokef," "We shall ascribe holiness to this day," we learn the story of its martyred composer, Rabbi Amnon of Mainz, who sacrificed his life for our sacred Torah.

Another consistent theme of these days of awe is that of teshuva, often mistranslated as repentance. Teshuva actually means return, to reawaken our soul's natural connection with G-d, which can be concealed, but never broken. In fact, Chassidic thought teaches that when a Jew sins, or misses out on a mitzvah, they conceal the connection with G-d created by its observance. Only through teshuva do we connect to our creator on a plane so high that G-d forgives our mistakes, and our powerful intrinsic relationship shines through. This is felt throughout the holidays, but particularly on Yom Kippur, with each of the five prayers corresponding to a deeper layer of the soul.

No matter your age or level of familiarity with the traditions, Chabad of Charlotte invites you to participate. We have services and programs from infants to teens and even an adult begin-

ner's service, since everyone deserves to feel that they belong. Our aim is to create an environment where everyone feels embraced and accepted, and leaves the holidays behind with more knowledge than when they began.

Join us at Ohr HaTorah this year and experience the power of the shofar's call, igniting a journey of introspection and transformation. Celebrate the High Holidays with us, harmonizing our hearts and souls, finding meaning and purpose in this sacred time. Discover the magic and depth of the Days of Awe, and make Ohr HaTorah your spiritual home during this soul-enriching season.

For more information or to become a part of this unforgettable High Holiday experience, visit our website at www.chabadnc.org or call our office at (704) 366-3984. Remember, everyone is welcome, and no one will be turned away. Embrace the soulful journey with Ohr HaTorah, and let this year's High Holidays be truly memorable for you and your loved ones.




ADVERTISE WITH THE CJN
Special rates on 1/8 page ads through 2023*
With digital hyperlinks to your website

For more information:
www.charlottejewishnews.org/advertise
charlottejewishnews@shalomcharlotte.org
(704) 944-6765
**for new advertisers*



CHABAD OF CHARLOTTE

HIGH

Holidays

CELEBRATE | INSPIRE | INTERACT

ROSH HASHANA
SEPTEMBER 15-17

YOM KIPPUR
SEPTEMBER 24-25

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR:
CHILDREN * TEENS * BEGINNERS

AT CHABAD:
No Affiliation or Tickets Necessary
Traditional and Meaningful Services
Warm and Friendly Atmosphere

For more information visit: www.ChabadNC.ORG/DAYSOFAWE or call (704) 366-3984 Address: 6619 Sardis Rd. Charlotte NC 28270

Fourth Annual Drive-Through Sukkah for Refugees

Volunteers and donors are needed to help with this year's Sharing Our Harvest With Refugees, Sukkot 2023, better known as JCRI's Drive-Through Sukkah for Refugees.

The Jewish Community Refugee Initiative (JCRI) is once again partnering with Refugee Support Services (RSS) for this event. JCRI will help 75 refugee families during this most recent surge of both Covid and grocery food prices by delivering bags of food and kitchen supplies to RSS.

To prepare, volunteers will be boxing food and kitchen items at Shalom Park under the Poliakoff Athletic Pavilion on Tuesday Oct. 3rd from noon -1:30 p.m. It will be outside, assembly-line fashion, and we will be spaced apart, but some of us will no doubt be wearing masks.

Delivery of the 75 totes will be early the following morning, Wednesday October 4th at RSS's location on the grounds

of Aldersgate, 3925 Willard Farrow Drive.

We need volunteers to work the assembly line putting items in the totes, to serve as buyers, and to help with delivery of the filled totes to RSS.

A final request is for funds for this project. We need to raise ~\$700 to purchase the food and kitchen supplies. If you are interested in making a monetary donation, please send a check payable to Temple Beth El(our fiduciary agent) with JCRI in the memo line.

Thank you in advance for putting this event on your calendar. To register as a volunteer please contact Amy Lefkof at lefkofamy@gmail.com

JCRI Jewish Community Refugee Initiative
CHARLOTTE



RIFKIN
RETIREMENT CONSULTANT



IT'S TIME FOR A WELLBEING CHECKUP ON YOUR FINANCIAL PLANNING

Mitch@RifkinRetirement.com

Health Care:

Avoid the cost of an unfunded extended care expense.

Life Insurance:

As a tax deferred & a tax-free investment.

Disability Insurance:

Insure your income.

Fixed Indexed Annuity:

Create your own personal pension with guaranteed growth & no market risk.

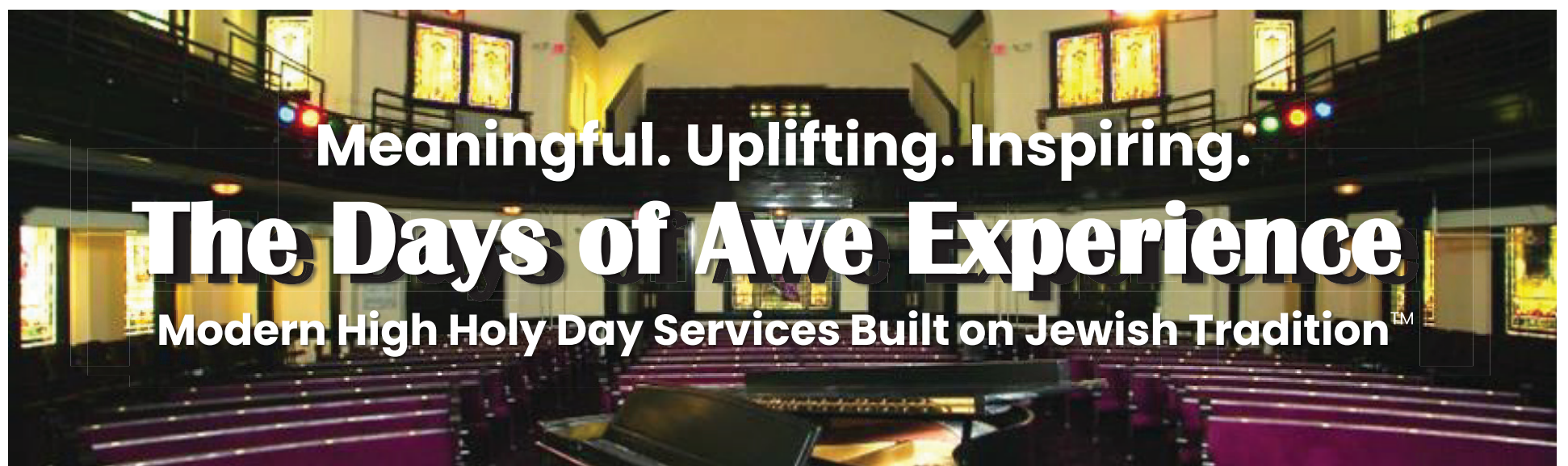
Medicare Supplements:

When to enroll & finding a plan that work for you.



RIFKINRETIREMENT.COM • 704.607.3936

4231 Quail Hunt Lane Charlotte, NC 28226



Meaningful. Uplifting. Inspiring.

The Days of Awe Experience

Modern High Holy Day Services Built on Jewish Tradition™

Rosh Hashanah

Saturday • September 16 • 10:00 am
Historic Great Aunt Stella Center
926 Elizabeth Avenue • Charlotte

Kol Nidre

Sunday • September 24 • 7:00 pm
New Theater – Parr Center at CPCC
1201 Elizabeth Avenue • Charlotte

Everyone Welcome!

No membership dues • No tickets to purchase
No financial commitment

For more information:

Scan the QR code

Email the.ruach.band@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook/[theruachband](https://www.facebook.com/theruachband)



The mission of The Ruach Community is to spread the joy of Judaism through modern services filled with meaningful messages and new, uplifting music.



Levine JCC Kids Triathlon: Empowering Children, Transforming Lives

By Julie Rizzo

In 2011, a tragic car accident in Texas forever changed the lives of three young children, whose parents lost their lives when another car veered into oncoming traffic. The children were immediately taken to a hospital for emergency care and later airlifted over 500 miles away for rehabilitative therapy.

This Jewish family had connections to the Charlotte Jewish community, and in response to the tragedy, a bake sale was organized at the Levine JCC to raise funds for the children. This incident prompted the staff at Levine JCC to explore the services available to children in the Charlotte region during such difficult times. They met with the staff from Levine Children's Hospital and discovered that children in Charlotte with a severe illness or injury can receive both traumatic care and rehabilitation in one place, followed by participation in adaptive sports locally.

This realization marked the beginning of a meaningful partnership between the Levine JCC and Atrium Health Foundation,

leading to the creation of the Levine JCC Kids Triathlon. The purpose of this event was to raise awareness and funds for pediatric rehabilitative services at Levine Children's Hospital (LCH) and the Adaptive Sports and Adventures Program (ASAP) through Carolinas Rehabilitation.

Historically, the funds raised were evenly divided between LCH and ASAP, supporting various needs such as new equipment for inpatient rehabilitation, field trips to help children transition back to home and school, and adaptive sports equipment. However, this year, a portion of the proceeds will be allocated to support the development of new special needs and adaptive programming at Shalom Park, ensuring a positive impact even closer to home.

This unique event is open to children ages five through 14, regardless of their backgrounds or athletic abilities. It is heartwarming to witness children using adaptive equipment participating alongside those who do not require it, creating a supportive and inclusive atmosphere



Two time-triathlete Christopher Lindler (middle) with mom and brother

that echoes with cheers from the crowd, even reaching Southpark Mall!

Meet some of those who participated this year:

Christopher Lindler, a 7-year-old with a history of prematurity and cerebral palsy, underwent surgery in 2021. A few days later, he was admitted to the pediatric

rehab unit at LCH, where he spent 2 ½ weeks. Christopher has since made significant prog-

(Continued on page 19)

May 21,
2023

We Did It!

JTRI

LJCC KIDS TRIATHLON

Benefitting Pediatric Rehabilitative Services,
Special Needs Programming and
Adaptive Programming at:

TOTAL AMOUNT RAISED:
\$79,700

www.ljcckidstri.org

Congratulations to Our
2023 Kids Tri Participants

Thank you to Carolina Panther Donte Jackson,
for attending and taking photos with participants
who raised \$500 or more! >>>

Congrats to our Top 3 Fundraisers!

- Julian & Dylan Kulbersh
- Caroline, Emma & Ryan Brown
- Miles Veronda

AND THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

PRESENTING

MARATHONER

SPRINTER

WARRIOR

FRIEND

People Are Talking...

"Congrats on a GREAT event!!! My son loved it and we loved what it taught him. This was Carson's 1st year. He's only 7 but a competitive swimmer, (and loves biking and running so we had specifically been seeking out a youth tri)."

"Our son signed up for the tri for the sport and fun of it, but what will keep him coming back is how it made him feel. Not only did he feel a sense of great accomplishment, he learned how to use his resources and energy to help others."

"This event was so fun and so well done. Everyone was so kind. My eight year old was a bit anxious as she didn't know what to expect but the volunteer that took her back was such a gem. She set Margaret up for success, was so kind and talkative with Margaret and just put her at ease. We truly enjoyed our time and hope to be back next year. Thank you!"

Kids Triathlon

(Continued from page 18)

ress and now enjoys outdoor activities with his twin brother, like fishing, kayaking, and waterskiing. He has participated in the Kids Triathlon twice.

Shane West-Ringler, an active 6-year-old, was admitted to Duke University Hospital in 2021 after the discovery of a golf ball-sized brain tumor. After surgery and a 4-week stay at LCH for inpatient rehab, Shane made great progress. He can now perform most of his daily activities with minimal assistance, walking and running with the help of a brace on his left leg and making strides in restoring movement in his left arm. He is thrilled to have graduated from a therapy bike to his own bike with adaptive wheels.

Two-time Kids Triathlete, Jabron Battle, an independent 11-year-old, was admitted to Levine Children's Hospital in 2021 with brain lesions. After a stay of almost two months, he was discharged from the pediatric rehab unit, needing only limited supervision. Jabron's resilience shone through as he continued to work hard and engage in activities like playing football with friends and riding his bike.

Brody St. Clair, a healthy and active 13-year-old, sustained a

traumatic brain injury from a mountain bike crash in 2022, despite wearing his helmet. He spent four days in the acute care hospital and six days in the pediatric rehab unit at Levine Children's. After just 10 days from the date of his accident, Brody was discharged and later picked up a new hobby – playing the guitar – while waiting for the green light to resume mountain biking.

The 11th Annual Levine JCC Kids Triathlon, held last May was a resounding success, thanks to corporate sponsorships and individual fundraising by 140 participants. Since the inception of the event in 2012, the net total raised reaches almost \$950,000. Stay tuned next year for the 12th Annual LJCC Kids Tri on May 19, 2024 to help us reach the \$1 million mark!



LEVINE JCC
Charlotte

There's a story behind every smile...



...we'd like to be a part of yours.

Smile
CHARLOTTE

DRS. MENAKER, RODNEY, AND BERMAN
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

WWW.SMILECHARLOTTE.COM 704-377-2503



PROVIDENCE DAY
SCHOOL

The place for big IDEAS



IDEAS@PD is a reimagining of the computer science department that offers students the chance to explore and expand their passions around innovation, design, entrepreneurship, analytics, and sustainability. Using resources such as computer programming with Alice, EV3 robotics, and broadcast media (to name a few), students have the opportunity to identify challenges they care about and want to pursue while also working across disciplinary boundaries.



We exist to inspire!

Providence Day School will conduct Open Houses this fall for all rising grades. Visit www.ProvidenceDay.org/Admissions for more information or to schedule a tour.

Are you 12-26 years old?
Are you a parent or guardian of a 12-26 year old?
Do you care about the mental health needs
of youth and young adults?

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Through a grant from the Jewish Federations of North America, JFS is conducting a study to best meet the mental health needs of youth and young adults ages 12-26.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT. Please scan the QR code or click on the link to complete the youth/young adult survey or parent survey.

This **anonymous** survey is your opportunity to help ensure our community has the needed resources to respond to mental health needs for our community's youth and young adults.

PARENT SURVEY

Scan QR Code



surveymonkey.com/r/Q7G9NXN

YOUTH AGES 12-26 SURVEY

Scan QR Code



surveymonkey.com/r/Z35GV5Q



Call or email questions to:
info@jfscharlotte.org (704) 364-6594



Jewish Family
SERVICES
Engaging • Connecting • Healing

BeWELL



Powered By
Jewish
Federation
of Greater Charlotte

Hello Gorgeous! Hello Charlotte! Funny Girl Is Coming to Charlotte

“Funny Girl,” the sensational musical comedy revival, is coming to Blumenthal Performing Arts for a limited one-week engagement from October 17–22, 2023. Tickets and more information are available at blumenthalarts.org.

Welcome to musical comedy heaven! The “vivacious and delightfully glitzy” (Vogue) Broadway revival features iconic songs, including “Don’t Rain On My Parade,” “I’m the Greatest Star,” and “People.” Breaking box office records week after week and receiving unanimous raves on Broadway, this bittersweet comedy is the story of the indomitable Fanny Brice. As a girl from the Lower East Side who dreamed of a life on the stage, everyone told her she’d never be a star, but then something funny happened—she became one of the most beloved performers in history, shining brighter than the brightest lights of Broadway. The Observer describes the revival as “sparkling and explosively entertaining!”

“Funny Girl” is directed by Tony Award-winner Michael Mayer (“Thoroughly Modern Millie”) and features the classic score by Tony, Grammy, and Academy Award winner Jule Styne and lyrics by Tony Award nominee and Grammy Award winner Bob Merrill, (comprising additional songs from Styne & Merrill).



The original book by Isobel Lennart, from an original story by Miss Lennart, is revised by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein (Kinky Boots, Newsies). “Funny Girl” features choreography by Ellenore Scott (Falsettos); tap choreography by Ayodele Casel; scenic design by Tony Award winner David Zinn (SpongeBob SquarePants: The Musical); costume design by Tony Award winner Susan Hilferty (Wicked); lighting design by Tony Award winner Kevin Adams (Hedwig and the Angry Inch); sound design by Tony Award winner Brian Ronan (Beautiful: The Carole King Musical) and Cody Spencer; hair and wig design by Camp-

bell Young Associates; music supervision by Emmy Award winner Michael Rafter; casting by Jim Carnahan, CSA, and Jason Thinger, CSA; orchestrations by Chris Walker; dance, vocal, and incidental music arrangements by Alan Williams, and additional arrangements by David Dabbon and Carmel Dean. The associate director is Johanna McKeon; the associate choreographer is Jeffrey Gugliotti; the assistant director is Torya Beard; the assistant tap choreographer is Dre Torres. The “Funny Girl” tour stage management team is led by production stage manager Jovon Shuck and is supported by Stage Manager Stacey Taylor and as-

sistant stage manager Mariah Young. The company management team is led by company manager Justin Sweeney with assistant company manager Ryan Mayfield. The tour music director/conductor is Elaine Davidson. The “Funny Girl” tour is produced by NETworks Presentations in special arrangement with Sonia Friedman Productions, Scott Landis and David Babani. The Broadway production of “Funny Girl” began performances at the August Wilson Theatre on March 22, 2022, with the official opening on April 24, 2022, where it will continue its record-breaking run through September 3, 2023. Sonia Friedman,

Scott Landis, and David Babani together with Gemini Theatrical, Accidental Jacket, and Sony Masterworks Broadway released “Funny Girl – New Broadway Cast Recording,” which is now available wherever you stream music. Produced by David Cadick and David Lai and featuring the classic score by Jule Styne (music) and Bob Merrill (lyrics), the album is co-produced by Sonia Friedman, Scott Landis, David Babani, Michael Mayer, Brian Gillet, Huck Walton, Sean Keller, and Marc Levine. The album is executively produced by Evan McGill and the associate producers are Joanna Drowos, Abby Green, and PickleStar Theatricals.

For more information, visit <https://www.funnygirlonbroadway.com/tour/> Blumenthal Performing Arts serves the Carolinas as a leading cultural, entertainment and education provider. For more information, call (704) 372-1000 or visit BlumenthalArts.org. Blumenthal Performing Arts receives support from the Infusion Fund and the North Carolina Arts Council. Generous support is also provided by PNC Bank, sponsor of the PNC Broadway Lights series, and Equitable, sponsor of the Equitable Bravo Series.



Piedmont Plastic Surgery
& Dermatology
www.ppsd.com

Plastic Surgery | Dermatology | Skin Cancer Care

Located all around the NC Region



YALE HAYMOND LAW PLLC

Personal Injury Law Firm

Free Consultation

704-800-HELP

"WHEN IT REALLY COUNTS"



YALEHAYMONDLAW.COM

LICENSED IN NC & SC

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month: #BeThe1To

By: Howard Olshansky, JFS Executive Director

This month's mental health article focuses on a serious and crucial topic: Suicide Prevention Awareness Month (SPAM). Suicide is a matter of grave concern that demands our attention. Regrettably, it has emerged as a significant health crisis confronting our nation, with the suicide rate witnessing a staggering 30% increase between 2000 and 2020. Here are some leading facts about suicide:

- It is the second leading cause of death for 10-14-year-olds and the third for 15-24 year olds.
 - 79% of all people who die by suicide are male.
 - Although more women than men attempt suicide, men are four times more likely to die by suicide.
 - Suicide is the 12th leading cause of death overall in the U.S.
 - 46% of people who die by suicide had a diagnosed mental health condition, but research shows that 90% may have experienced symptoms of a mental health condition.
- Here are some conclusions we can draw from the data:
- Our youth and young adults are struggling! The historical pressures of being a teen are now compounded by the influence of social media. Teens and young adults are under a 24-hour microscope, and every aspect of their lives is being judged.
 - The stigma of having a mental health issue is alive and well in our male population.
 - Access to treatment is often a barrier.
 - Suicide is preventable!
- The research and data have proven that receiving mental health treatment significantly reduces the likelihood of someone dying by suicide. Additionally, it's important to recognize that a simple act of reaching

out, whether by a friend, family member, or colleague, can wield a significant influence in deterring someone from taking their own life.

This year's theme for suicide prevention month is #BeThe1To:

Ask and Listen

Asking the question "Are you thinking about suicide?" communicates that you're open to speaking about suicide in a non-judgmental and supportive way. Asking in this direct, unbiased manner can open the door for effective dialogue about their emotional pain and can allow everyone involved to see what next steps need to be taken. Other questions you can ask include, "How do you hurt?" and "How can I help?" Do not ever promise to keep their thoughts of suicide a secret. The flip side of the "Ask" step is to "Listen." Make sure you take their answers seriously and do not ignore them, especially if they indicate they are experiencing thoughts of suicide. Attentively hearing out their explanations for their emotional distress, along with being attuned to any factors that provide them with a sense of purpose to keep living, holds immense significance during the moments when they're sharing their experiences with you.

Be There

This might involve being physically available for someone, engaging in phone conversations whenever feasible, or employing any other method that demonstrates your solidarity with the individual in jeopardy. A crucial component of this phase is ensuring that you fulfill the commitments you make regarding the kind of support you can provide. It's imperative not to commit to actions that you're unwilling or unable to carry out. Should you find yourself unable to be physically present

for someone struggling with suicidal thoughts, engage in a dialogue with them to brainstorm alternative options involving others who could potentially offer assistance. Once again, active listening plays a pivotal role during this phase. Ascertain their insights into what sources of help and which individuals they consider to be most effective.

Keep Them Safe

A number of studies have indicated that when lethal means are made less available or less deadly, suicide rates by that method decline and frequently suicide rates overall decline. This is particularly relevant as it relates to youth and access to guns.

Help Them Stay Connected

Research suggests that aiding an individual at risk in establishing a network of resources and supportive individuals can play a pivotal role in motivating positive steps and diminishing feelings of despair.

Follow Up

Once you've initiated the initial contact with an individual struggling with suicidal thoughts and have connected them to the immediate support systems required, it's important to maintain follow-up communication to inquire about their well-being. Drop a message, send a text, or give them a call. The follow-up phase provides an opportunity to revisit their situation and determine if there are additional ways you can be of assistance, or if there are any pending commitments you've made that require fulfillment on their behalf.

If you or anyone you know are having a mental health crisis or at risk of suicide, call 988, the Suicide and Crisis Helpline. If you are in need of mental health counseling, call Jewish Family Services at (704) 364-6594.

Jewish Family Services Volunteers & Donors July 2023

Volunteers: Jessica Alfandary, Marcia Arnholt, Mike Arnholt, Daniel Benjamin, Andrew Bernstein, Suzy Catenazzo, Harvey Chesler, Dan Coblenz, Jonathan Collman, Andrea Cronson, Julie Dermack, Joni Deutsch, Sheryl Effren, Terri Fishman, Rachel Friedman, Robert Friedman, Meredith Gartner, Richard Goldsmith, Jennifer Golynsky, Gail Halverson, Rebecca Hockfield, Oren Hubara, Tara Hubara, Dawn Hubbs, Bob Jacobson, Mike Kaplan, Rikki Kinitsky, Alison Kushner, Jennifer Koss, Elliot and Stephanie Kreitman, Marcia Lampert, Eric Lerner, Adina Loewensteiner, Matt Luftglass, Gene Marx, Frada Mozenter, Beth Rose Oxman, Wendy Petricoff, Barbara Rein, Nina Rose, Marilyn Schuster, Janice Shubin,

Louis Sinkoe, Harry Sparks, Lorin Steifel, Steve Teich, David and Beth Thrope, NancyWielunski, Amanda Zaidman

Shalom Green: Thank to all Shalom Green volunteers for providing fresh produce to our pantry clients

Hadassah Meal Preppies: June Hirschmann, Judy Kaufmann, Penny Krieger, Jered Mond, Andrea Schewitz, Helene Schilian, Elissa Vining

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 at Shalom Park.

Jewish Family Services Tributes May/June 2023

For a speedy recovery of Shirley Prystowsky
Shel and Ellen Goldstein

Happy Birthday Emma Shar
Matthew and Chloe Putterman
Ron Weiner
Michael and Denise Abadi
Elliot and Peggy Gartner
David and Beth Thrope

In Honor of Eric Lerner
Jonathan and Tess Berger
Eric and Susan Lerner
Harold and Patricia Shapiro

In Honor of the engagement of Alan Platock
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
Sarah Platock
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
William Prystowsky
Shel and Ellen Goldstein

In Memory of Gladys Cannizzaro
Andrew and Julie Dermack
Reisha Erdheim
Milton and Karen Silver
Ron Karmon
Samuel and Linda Levy
Michael Knaebel
Andrew and Julie Dermack
Leon Levine
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
Harvey Levitt
Leonard and Karen Fox
Sabina Markel
Andrew and Julie Dermack
Beulah (Billie) Merkelson
Amy Altieri /JCC Tennis Team
Kathy Blake
Janet Chernick
Richard and Dorothy Fox and Family
Julia Greenfield
Neil and Sharyn Handelsman
Stanley and Judy King
Nancy Kornhauser
Eric and Susan Lerner
The Levi Family
Donna Revman
Rick and Tina Rogovin
The Spindells
Tennis Team /Cecile Lipack
The Trapani Family
Ed Pizer
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
Wendy Rose
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
Shelly Schrager
Andrew and Julie Dermack
Ed Schutzman
Jack and Mimi Halpern
Maxine Silverstein
Shel and Ellen Goldstein
Joe Steiner
Shel and Ellen Goldstein



Brokerage Residential & Commercial



Richard Roskind
Realtor®/Broker

LICENSED IN NC & SC

704.905.6175
rcrokind@aol.com

www.roskindhomes.com

Lease Evaluations, Inc.



Premier Concierge Property Management

Hunter Roskind
Realtor®/Broker

If you or anyone you know have a property in need of a property manager, please call me at:

980.288.5616
hroskind@gmail.com



Jewish Family
SERVICES
Engaging • Connecting • Healing

Back to School - Not Just for Kids!

By Mary Eshet

Rabbi Hillel says, "Do not say, 'When I am free I will study,' for perhaps you will not become free."

In this season of buying school supplies and preparing children for the first day of school, the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center at Queens University is excited about offerings for adults in our community as well. There are classes to take, one-time events to attend, and trips to join.

Rabbi Judy Schindler, director of the Greenspon Center, has been offering Jewish Studies classes to the community since 2017. This Fall, she and Judy La Pietra, assistant director, who is currently working on her doctoral dissertation in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, will teach an eight-session class on "Histories in Conversation: Nazi Germany and Jim Crow America." Nazism emerged in Germany during the Jim Crow era in the U.S., and the class will explore parallels and intersections between the two. "Our examination of these distinct histories will provide an opportunity to discuss relevant lessons for today," said La Pietra. The class runs from September 27 through November 15, from

12:30 – 2 p.m., and will be held in person on the Queens University campus. A Zoom link will also be available for those who need to join remotely.

If you'd like to plan even further ahead, the spring class will be "The Dynamics of Interfaith Dialogue" and will run from Jan. 24 through March 27. This course will explore the meaning, history, and elements that make for effective dialogue with others. Queens Chaplain Dr. Adrian Bird, who has a Ph.D. from The University of Edinburgh in Global Christianity and formerly served as affiliate professor of Christian history at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, will join Rabbi Judy Schindler to teach the course. Schindler is currently writing her doctoral dissertation on "Pioneering Documents of Dialogue: Christian, Jewish and Muslim Milestones in Reaching Out to the Religious Other" to complete her doctorate in Hebrew Letters program at the Hebrew Union College.

Participants in previous Jewish Studies courses found them informative and enjoyable. "Judy Schindler has endless knowledge and boundless passion. I thoroughly enjoyed the class," said Mike Scharf, a longtime

member of Charlotte's Jewish community. Risa Miller, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, has taken classes for years. "For me it's a journey of continuing education; I'm a huge fan of always learning," she said. "Rabbi Judy keeps the class interesting with video, songs, different media and wonderful outside speakers. The mix of people in the class, Jewish and not Jewish, makes it interesting too." Malka Mezhav, who was the principal of an award-winning day school in Roslyn, N.Y. for 25 years, is also a longtime participant in the classes. "Judy is an outstanding and dedicated scholar and teacher," she said. "She transmits to her students that education begins with learning our own traditions and culture – and from our own heritage, we move outward. Her enthusiasm is contagious; she leaves students with the desire to learn more and more."

If you like to learn through traveling, consider joining Rabbi Judy Schindler and Judy La Pietra on a community journey to Poland planned for June 10–19, 2024. Travelers will explore the distinctive Jewish heritage prior to the Holocaust and visit sites of remembrance, including the

former Jewish ghettos in Warsaw and Krakow, and the Nazi death camps of Majdanek, Treblinka, and Auschwitz. "We will bear witness to the resilience of the Jewish community today in Poland and understand the present-day landscape of Jewish life," said Schindler. To learn more, join Judy and Judy for an information session on September 12 at 4 p.m. at the Queens University Chapel McInnes Rotunda.

The Greenspon Center also offers various learning opportunities throughout the year. For example, leading up to Isabel Wilkerson's visit to Charlotte as part of The Learning Society of Queens University, the Center will host a two-session book discussion group. Pulitzer Prize winner and National Humanities Medal recipient Wilkerson is the author of "The New York Times" bestseller "Caste" and National Book Critics Circle Award winner "The Warmth of Other Suns."

In January 2024, the Center will host the internationally ac-

claimed photographic exhibit "Seeing Auschwitz" at the Visual and Performing Arts Center in Charlotte. This exhibit, comprising 100 photographs of this universal symbol of the Holocaust with an audio guide including testimonies from survivors, will offer a powerful learning opportunity.

Looking for something more customized? The Greenspon team can also present interactive talks on many topics related to the Holocaust, Human Rights, and the Jewish Experience. Examples of topics include Judaism 101, Antisemitism Then & Now, America and the Holocaust, and Jewish Ideas that Changed the World. If you're interested in these or other topics for your organization or house of worship, contact Judy Schindler (schindlerj@queens.edu) or Judy La Pietra (lapietraj@queens.edu).

For more information on all the Greenspon Center has to offer, visit the website at stan-greensponcenter.org and see the 2023-2024 program guide.

QUEENS
UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

Stan Greenspon
Holocaust and Social Justice
Education Center

J

LEVINE JCC

FALL COURSES AT THE J!



Find
YOUR
Center



AQUATICS. FITNESS. TENNIS. CULTURE. WELLNESS. SPORTS. ARTS. CAMPS. SOCIALS.

CULTURE. WELLNESS. SPORTS. ARTS. CAMPS. AQUATICS. TENNIS. FITNESS. SOCIALS.

REGISTRATION BEGINS:

MEMBERS | July 31

COMMUNITY | August 7

Course Catalog at: charlottejcc.org

Mitch Rifkin First Learned About the Holocaust During College — Now He Chairs the NC Holocaust Foundation

By Amy Lefkof

From all outward appearances, Mitch Rifkin's family looked like any other family in Aiken, South Carolina, in the 1940s and '50s. His father, Marvin, owned an Esso gas station on U.S. Highway 1 North. And Marvin's Dining Room, specializing in fried shrimp, was a favorite hangout of Aiken's teens, where a "curb hop" went to customers' cars to get orders.

But the Rifkin family was different from most of their Aiken neighbors: they were Jewish. Rifkin's mother, Mollie Efron Rifkin, traced both sides of her family back to Belarus. Largely because of religious persecution, the Efrons and Suraskys left Russia in the late 1800s. In America, their Yiddish names morphed into American-sounding names. His great-grandmother Ida Surasky Efron came to Aiken in 1920 when her husband died, to be with her five brothers, the Suraskys. Her seven children soon followed.

Rifkin grew up with a mezuzah affixed to the doorway of his childhood home and an occasional Friday night Shabbat dinner. Before each Passover, his mother would travel to Augusta, Georgia, about 17 miles away, to bring back kosher chickens and beef. The bathtub became



Mitch Rifkin with his wife Tonda pointing to his grandparents' last name on a historical plaque commemorating Aiken, South Carolina's Jewish merchants.

unusable for Rifkin and his sisters for two days as his mother used it to kosherize dishes before Passover. And his mother made sure that one night of Chanukah always "fell" on Christmas so that her children would not feel left out.

While his family mainly attended synagogue during religious holidays, Rifkin was prepared for his bar mitzvah by a wonderful layperson in the congregation, and that's the moment

his Jewish identity really took hold and became a part of him.

Rifkin estimates that at least twenty-five of Aiken's downtown businesses were Jewish owned. When his maternal grandfather, Jake Efron, passed away, the Aiken Standard and Review published his obituary. It touted not only his operation of one of Aiken's first supermarkets, Efron's Red & White Supermarket, but also his civic work, noting that he "was ac-

tive in his church, the Adath Yeshurun Synagogue."

For the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, Rifkin's second cousin Stephen Surasky wrote about Aiken's Jewish families. The essay begins with the 1903 gruesome murder of Jewish peddler Abraham Surasky, one of Rifkin's great uncles and a widower with two young children.

Despite this targeted hate crime, Rifkin says he personally experienced no antisemitism growing up. What he does recall, however, was a defining moment from his youth when the core commandment of Judaism, "Love your neighbor as yourself" came up against the segregation laws of the South. Rifkin was hanging out at his dad's Esso station when an African-American man, just traveling through, greeted him and his father and asked if there was a bathroom he could use. Rifkin's father said, "I'm sorry, there isn't." But young Rifkin pointed to a nearby door and said, "What do you mean, Dad? There's a bathroom right over there." The elder Rifkin repeated his apology to the traveler who understood that segregation laws prevented him from using the Esso station's one bathroom. However, the very next morning, Marvin Rifkin built a separate toilet for African-Americans.

It was not until his sophomore year at the University of South Carolina in 1964, during a World History course, that Rifkin truly comprehended what happened during the Holocaust and the role that antisemitism had played. Over the years, Rifkin

has taken on the mantle of being "a corrector" to counter antisemitic comments. For instance, he educates people how the term "Jew down" stereotypes Jews as being fixated on money. He can be blunt. "How would it sound if I said 'Well, I guess I'm gonna have to Christian you up?'" And if people remark to Rifkin, "You don't look Jewish," he is likely to shoot them back a look (with his blue eyes) and ask, "What does a Jew look like?"

Since 2017, Rifkin has served as chairman of the NC Holocaust Foundation, the funding arm of the NC Holocaust Council. Rifkin notes that the Holocaust Council, a state agency organized under the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, "is the first responder to hate crimes and antisemitic incidents throughout the State," tasked with educating public school teachers and students about the Holocaust and combating misconceptions and ignorance about the Holocaust, Jews, and Judaism.

Conveying Jewish values, like the ones embodied by his Aiken childhood Adath Yeshurun Synagogue, which recently celebrated its 101st anniversary, is how Rifkin believes "we will outshine hate and reduce antisemitism."

As Mitch would say "Shalom Y'All".



The North Carolina Council on the Holocaust
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Daniel A. Lewis

Family Law Attorney

DRC - Certified Family Financial Mediator

Collaborative Divorce Professional

Assisting families in resolving family law disputes since 2005

- Divorce
- Child Custody & Support
- Alimony
- Distribution of Assets & Debts
- Pre-marital Agreements

Named to *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Family Law
(2019 – 2023)

Proud Member of the
Charlotte Jewish Community Since 2010

Tin Fulton Walker & Owen, PLLC

Tel (704) 338-1220 | dlewis@tinfulton.com | www.tinfulton.com

Get the Care You Deserve from

Your Trusted Local Lender



Paul Mattos

Mortgage Banker
NMLS #2339069, Licensed in NC, SC



980-221-4959

PaulMattos@AtlanticBay.com
www.CarolinaHomeFinancing.com
PaulMattos.com



Atlantic Bay
Mortgage Group

NMLS #72043 (nmlsconsumeraccess.org)



Legacy Spotlight: Laurie and Harry Sparks

By Harry Sparks

I grew up and was raised in Olivette, MO, a suburb of St. Louis. My dad's family were members of the reform temple, where I became a bar mitzvah, before we moved to the reform synagogue of my mom's family. I fondly remember traditional holiday dinners at my grandmother's house, a tradition that was later inherited by my mom. After graduating from Brown University, I returned home to St. Louis in 1976 to work for McDonnell-Douglass. In 1978, I moved to Chicago still with McDonnell-Douglass.

Laurie grew up in Queens, NY. Her family was active in their conservative synagogue, where she became a bat mitzvah. Her family observed holidays at home and lit candles on Friday nights. When she attended the University of Rochester, Hillel became a major part of her life and significantly impacted her commitment to Judaism.

We met each other in Chicago in 1980 while Laurie was attending graduate school at Northwestern. We were married in October of 1983 and a year later moved back to St. Louis where



Laurie and Harry Sparks

our daughters, Jackie and Emily, were born. We were active members of the reform congregation with Laurie serving on the temple board. Both of our girls became b'nai mitzvah and attended the Jewish Community Center's sleep away camps and day camps.

In 2004 we moved to Charlotte and immediately joined Temple Beth El (TBE). Through the temple we were able to develop a social network that assisted us to adapt to our new hometown.

We have remained connected to the temple and many of those original friends. We both participated in the Farber Leadership program. Since 2004, Laurie has sung in the TBE choir and has also served on the membership and youth committees, as well as the Sisterhood board. I recently became a Brotherhood board member. Jewish Family Services (JFS) is also very important to us. I served on its board for 10 years and am a past president. In 2008 I witnessed firsthand how JFS assists community members when I utilized the job placement services that they offered at that time.

We believe that a Jewish community is as strong as its local Jewish agencies. A legacy gift provides a link to sustaining these institutions for future generations. For that reason, we've established legacy gifts to support both TBE and JFS. We cannot imagine a strong Charlotte Jewish community without them.



Shanah Tovah U'metukah
From All Of Us At
Plumides, Romano & Johnson, PC



Alan R. Krusch



Amy R. Howard



David M. Krusch

We take the time to get to know you
and understand your problems and desired outcomes
so that you can get back to a normal life.

Plumides, Romano & Johnson, PC

PRJlaw.com

DIVORCE • SEPARATION • ALIMONY • CHILD SUPPORT
CHILD CUSTODY • EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION • PRE/POST-NUPS

2115 Rexford Road, Suite 320, Charlotte NC 28211 P. 704.333.9900 F. 704.358.0536

Thank You



Hebrew Cemetery
of Greater Charlotte
Honor • Celebrate • Embrace

Create Your Jewish Legacy
COMMUNITY PARTNER
A FCJC program

LEGACY DONORS

The following individuals/families are in the Book of Life Society and have granted us permission to share with you that **Hebrew Cemetery Association** has been included as a beneficiary of their legacy gift.

Anonymous* (4)
Sanford and Lois Benjamin
Bobbi and Don Bernstein
Lillian (OBM) and Irving Bienstock
Barry and Lisa Blau
Jill Blumenthal
David and Bonnie Bornstein
Sera and Marvin Callif
Paul and Lynn Edelstein
David and Aleen Epstein
Jacob M. and
Hunter K. Fuerstman
Sandra Goldman
Mark and Linda Goldsmith
Meg D. Goldstein and
Matthew Luftglass
Bill and Patty (OBM) Gorelick

Keith E. Greenspon
Roslyn Greenspon
Steven and Sharon Hockfield
Susan and Donald Jacobs
Jake Jacobson
Robert and Nancy Kipnis
Lorrie and Barry Klemons
and Family
Barry Bobrow and Karen Knoble
Elise and Jaime Kosofsky
Harry and Gloria Lerner
Eric and Susan Lerner
Howard Levine and
Julie Lerner Levine
David and Brenda Levin
and Family
Barbara and Jerry Levin

Louis A. Sinkoe and
H. Kevin Levine
Leon (OBM) and Sandra Levine /
The Leon Levine Foundation
Lisa Strause Levinson
Eric Levinson
Michael and Sue Littauer
Annie and Harrison Lord
Abe (OBM) and Rose (OBM) Luski
Isaac (OBM) and Sonia (OBM) Luski
Peggy McManus
Fred and Joy Miller
Paula Sigal Musler (OBM)
Marcelle and Allan Oxman
Albert Rogat
Estelle and Murray (OBM) Rosen
Fern T. Sanderson

Marty and Elaine Schefflin
Morey and Lynne Sheffer
Marc and Mattye Silverman
Gary and Maxine (OBM) Silverstein
Marcia and Paul Simon
Lori and Eric Sklut
Philip and Lauren Stark
Stephanie and Steven Starr
Norman Steinberger (OBM)
Jeffrey and Karen Turk
Robert and Ellie Valenstein
Amy and Mark Vitner
Nora Wolf
Brian Yesowitch Family
Herman and Barbara Ziegler

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



Inspiring Philanthropy.
Building Community.

A supporting organization of Foundation For The Carolinas

To learn how you can create your own Jewish legacy, contact
Phil Warshauer (704) 973-4544 or Abby Kleber (704) 973-4554.

704.973.4544 • charlottejewishfoundation.org

Understanding Water Footprint to Conserve a Precious Resource

By David H. Rosenthal

In April 2023, Shalom Park welcomed Dr. Jeffrey Sosland, an assistant professor of global and Immersive studies at American University, as the featured guest in a program titled "Israel-Charlotte Water Connections: Lessons Learned and Beyond." Collaboratively hosted by Temple Beth El and Shalom Green, this scholar-in-residence initiative delved into Sosland's expertise. He specializes in international business, global water scarcity, and experiential learning through internships. Sosland's recent book, "Cooperating Rivals: The Riparian Politics of the Jordan River Basin," centers on water politics and the Arab-Israeli conflict. During the event, Sosland shared enduring

concepts from the Israeli water experience, including the notions of virtual water and water as a fundamental human right. Moreover, he drew parallels between these concepts and the water-related challenges and scarcity faced by the Charlotte community. This discourse resonated with the local context, particularly concerning Lake Norman (1963) and Lake Wylie (1904), two reservoirs crafted by Duke Energy for the purpose of regulating water flow to facilitate hydroelectric power generation. In the previous month's Shalom Green column, we introduced the concept of the "water footprint" along with a helpful calculator that allows you to evaluate your own water footprint. You can access the

calculator here: <https://www.waterfootprint.org/resources/interactive-tools/personal-water-footprint-calculator/>. It's important to recognize that everything we use, wear, purchase, trade, and consume involves the use of water in its production. Water constitutes around 60% of the human body, 75% of the brain, and 79% of the heart. The concept of the water footprint quantifies the volume of water needed for the creation of various goods and services. This measurement can be applied to diverse scenarios, ranging from a single process like rice cultivation (requiring 360-600 gallons per pound), the production of an item like a pair of jeans (using 2,600 gallons), the fuel we put into our vehicles (3 to 6 gallons

per gallon), or even the operations of an entire multinational corporation. Moreover, the water footprint offers insights into water consumption on different scales: it can shed light on the water usage of specific countries, within a global context, or within a specific river basin or aquifer. By employing the concept of the water footprint, we gain valuable knowledge about humanity's utilization of fresh water in terms of both consumption and pollution. This measurement serves as a tangible representation of our impact on water resources. The water footprint allows us to answer a broad range of questions for companies, governments and individuals. For example:

- Where is the water dependence in my company's operations or supply chain?
 - How well are regulations protecting our water resources?
 - How secure are our food or energy supplies?
 - Can I do something to reduce my own water footprint and help manage water for both people and nature?
- Depending on the context, the water footprint can be measured in cubic meters per ton of production, per hectare of cropland, per unit of currency and in other functional units. The water footprint helps us understand for what purposes our limited freshwater resources are being consumed and polluted. The impact depends on where the water is taken from and when. If it comes from a place where water is already scarce, the consequences can be significant and require action.

Measurement of the water footprint has three components: green, blue and grey. Together, these components provide a comprehensive picture of water use by delineating the source of water consumed, either as rainfall/soil moisture or surface/groundwater, and the volume of fresh water required for assimilation of pollutants. The water footprint looks at both direct and indirect water use of a process, product, company or sector, and includes water consumption and pollution throughout the full production cycle from the supply chain to the end-user.

It is also possible to use the water footprint to measure the amount of water required to produce all the goods and services consumed by the individual or community, a nation, or all of humanity. This also includes the direct water footprint, the water used directly by the individual(s) and the indirect water footprint, the summation of the water footprints of all the products consumed.

The three water footprint options:

Green water footprint: Water from precipitation stored in the root zone of the soil and evaporated, transpired or incorporated by plants. It is particularly relevant for agricultural, horticultural and forestry products.

Blue water footprint: Water sourced from surface or groundwater resources and either evaporated, incorporated into a product, or taken from one body of water and returned to another, or returned at a different time. Irrigated agriculture, industry and domestic water use can each have a blue water footprint.

Grey water footprint: The amount of fresh water required to assimilate pollutants to meet

(Continued on page 29)



webb goldsmith
ORTHODONTICS

SouthPark Arboretum

Braces and Invisalign
For Ages 6-92!



Proud supporters of the
Charlotte Jewish Community!





Scan now
to book your
FREE Consultation!



Helping families with allergies live their best lives.

Caring for patients in the greater Charlotte area for more than 70 years.

Carolina Asthma & Allergy Center is the area's largest asthma and allergy practice made up entirely of board-certified physicians. Our specialists treat patients of all ages for a range of conditions including seasonal and environmental allergies (pollen, animal dander, dust and mold), food allergies, eczema, and asthma.

Call our Appointment Line at
704.372.7900
to make an appointment today!



Carolina Asthma & Allergy Center

breathe » live » thrive | www.carolinaasthma.com

Around the Table: A Short History of Honey in the Jewish Tradition



By Charlotte Rouchouze

In this column, one of the things I try to do is bring you a deeper understanding of the foods that embody the essence of the holiday experience, both in meaning and taste. Indeed, Judaism loves symbolic foods. We have hat-shaped cookies at Purim, the bread of affliction at Pesach, and fried foods at Chanukah to symbolize the miracle of the oil. One of my favorites is the pomegranate, which is said to have 613 seeds, one for each of the mitzvot that should be contained within us. All of our holiday foods are laced with meaning, bringing an additional

dimension to the deliciousness. When we think about the Yamim Nora'im, the Days of Awe, and in particular Rosh Hashanah, one of the main foods we think of is honey. We are told that honey symbolizes our prayer for a sweet year to come, but as always, I wanted to know more. Let's dive in and learn a bit more about honey and the role it plays in Jewish tradition.

Bee-keeping, or apiculture, is an ancient practice that probably originated in Ancient Egypt, but it was not especially common until Medieval Europeans developed more advanced techniques for cultivating honey. In Biblical days, the term honey, or d'vash (דבש) in Hebrew, didn't necessarily distinguish between bee honey and other types of sweet syrup such as date (these days called silan) or grape. D'vash is mentioned many times in the Torah, often as part of descriptions of the Promised Land, which is famously described as the land where milk and honey flow. It is possible that this phrase referred to bees' honey, a natural resource, versus the date syrup that would have been produced

in the Egyptian desert, thus creating a distinction between the world of exile and that of the Land of Israel. Even outside of their geographic associations, date honey and bees' honey are symbolically different in that date trees are known to be very slow growing, requiring many years of investment before reaping the sweet reward whereas bees' honey was considered to be a serendipitous finding. This may have been a Biblical way of expressing the abundantly blessed nature of the Land of Israel, versus the labor required in the desert.

In addition to its depiction of the Promised Land, the Torah also describes manna from heaven, the miraculous substance sent to sustain the Israelites during the exodus, as having the flavor of honey, although this may have referred to other types of honey. In later Talmudic literature, honey is in turn described as being 1/60th of manna. I will quote this passage in full because it is a stunning one.

"The Gemara says: There are five matters in our world which are one-sixtieth of their most



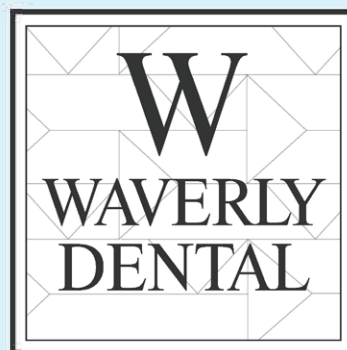
extreme manifestations. They are: Fire, honey, Shabbat, sleep, and a dream. The Gemara elaborates: Our fire is one-sixtieth of the fire of Gehenna; honey is one-sixtieth of manna; Shabbat is one-sixtieth of the World-to-Come; sleep is one-sixtieth of death; and a dream is one-sixtieth of prophecy."

In comparing it to the purest sustenance sent from God, honey becomes reminiscent of the ultimate blessing of both nourishment and earthly pleasure. The Torah also evokes honey when

describing the act of "consuming" the sacred writings. The passage in the book of Ezekiel, "And He said to me, 'Feed your stomach and fill your bowels with this scroll, which I give you'; so I ate, and in my mouth it was as sweet as honey," gave rise to an old Ashkenazi tradition of having young boys lick honey off of their alef beis letters as they enter cheder (Jewish schools). Children would learn how sweet the words are by tasting honey as they learn.

It makes sense that all sweet syrups represent abundance, nourishment and sweetness, but there are aspects to honey in particular that make it unique and a more complicated symbol than mere sweetness. For one, bee's honey is unique in that it is a rare example of an unkosher animal whose secretions are considered kosher. Some rabbis have argued that this is because bees do not in fact produce honey, they merely transform nectar into a different form, although my more cynical side tends to think this has the ring of a retroactive rational-

(Continued on page 28)



Dr. Ron Cohen, DDS

Dr. Ryan Matthews, DMD
Prosthodontist/General Dentistry

Dr. George Soung, DDS, FAAOMS, FACOMS
Board Certified Oral Surgery

Dr. Dr. Alex Edelman
DDS Board Certified Orthodontist

Offering General Dentistry, Orthodontics, and Oral Surgery



11840 Southmore Drive Suite 150 Charlotte, NC 28277

The dental office is located inside the Novant Health Building at Waverly

www.waverlydentalgroup.com

704 • 246 • 7677

Around the Table

(Continued from page 27)

ization. It seems more likely to me that forbidding honey would have been a very unpopular ruling. Nonetheless, the proximity to an unkosher animal remains a unique aspect of honey. According to Maimonides, honey was in fact forbidden in the Temple, although not because it was unkosher, but rather because of its association with pagan sacrifices.

We should also remember that bees are known for their sting and not only their sweetness. This adds a certain depth to honey as a symbol in that it derives from a creature that can also bring pain. As in life, the sweet and the sting come from the same source. Naomi Shemer, famous Israeli folk musician and songwriter who also wrote the beloved 'Jerusalem of Gold,' also penned the song Al Kol Eleh/לֹא לֵב לֵב (For all of these things) which has made its way

into Reform and Reconstructionist Siddurs and has become associated with observances of Yom Ha'Atzmaut. According Rob Scheinberg, Shemer is playing on a midrash that warns against pleasures that might bite by depicting a person shooing away a bee and saying "I don't want your honey or your sting!" She likens the Israeli experience to embracing the bee and the sting. *Over all these things, over all these things, please guard for me my good God*

Over the honey and the sting, Over the bitter and over the sweet.

Do not uproot that which has been planted.

Do not forget the great hope (ha-tikvah).

Bring me back and I shall return To the good Land.

There is no doubt that Jewish thought and literature embrace the double-edged nature of life,

and Jewish law can be looked at as representing best practices for negotiating between the good and the bad here on Earth. Honey contains both the sweetness and the sting, and a promise that all of this is worth it.

In spite of its richness as a symbol, bees' honey as a common part of holiday observance probably did not actually develop until Ashkenazi culture flourished in Medieval Europe. The first mention of honey in relation to Rosh Hashana comes from the Shulchan Aruch Chapter 583 which discusses the many foods that are traditional on the new year such as beans, leeks, dates and pumpkins, with RAMA (Rabbi Moshe Isserles) adding, "Some have a custom of eating a sweet apple in honey and saying: May a sweet year be renewed on us! This is what we do." Over the years, the availability of honey made it an obvious choice for

Rosh Hashana foods. Honey cakes that were common in various parts of Europe meshed with traditional Jewish recipes to create the honey cakes that we know today. In Sephardi communities, both honey and date-based recipes are common on the Rosh Hashana table.

The oldest and most traditional of these cakes is Lekach, of German Jewish origin. This version of Lekach comes from a 1951 Temple Sisterhood cookbook from Atlanta, GA. It was submitted by a Mrs. Lang, who my mother thinks she knew back in Atlanta. I have made the adjustment of using apricot jam instead of strawberry and adding a glaze, since the cake is on the drier side, but the apricot flavor is not overwhelming. According to Mrs. Lang, it is better the next day and "lasts indefinitely"! We all enjoyed this classic version of a honey cake.

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.thechildrentable.com. Contact her at charlotte.rouchouze@yahoo.com.

Mrs. Lang's Lekach with Honey Glaze

Mix ingredients in order as follows:

- 4 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup honey
- ½ cup strong coffee
- ½ cup oil
- 1 12 oz jar of apricot jam

In a separate bowl (or not, in my case), sift:

- 3 ½ cups All Purpose Flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp allspice
- Dash of cinnamon

Honey Glaze:

- 1 ½ cups powdered sugar
- 2 tbsp cream or water
- 2 tbsp honey

Preheat oven to 325. Add dry ingredients to the wet mixture and stir thoroughly. Grease two square 9 by 9 pans and line with wax paper. Pour the batter no more than halfway up the pan. Bake until a toothpick comes out clean, about 1 hour. Pour over the honey glaze. Allow to cool uncovered. Then wrap until ready to serve.

L'Shana Tova!



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

Sabina Markel	10/10/1928 - 6/30/2023
Ellen Lipson	1/25/1958 - 7/18/2023
Emily Hoffman	10/6/1949 - 7/24/2023
Paula Musler	4/21/1933 - 7/24/2023
Elena Rein	5/4/1966 - 7/28/2023

Tradition
and
dignity.
Give your
legacy
the perfect
setting.



www.hebrewcemetery.org



For over 150 years, we've provided and maintained a dignified final resting place. Our Cemetery continues to provide serenity and peace for families, friends and visitors. You can provide peace of mind to your loved ones by planning today. Contact us to learn about burial opportunities at the Hebrew Cemetery at 704-576-1859 or director@hebrewcemetery.org.



Shalom Green

(Continued from page 26)

specific water quality standards. The grey water footprint considers point-source pollution discharged to a freshwater resource directly through a pipe or indirectly through runoff or leaching from the soil, impervious surfaces, or other diffuse sources.

"The interest in the water footprint is rooted in the recognition that human impacts on freshwater systems can ultimately be linked to human consumption, and that issues like water shortages and pollution can be better understood and addressed by considering production and supply chains as a whole," says Professor Arjen Y. Hoekstra, creator of the water footprint concept.

He continues, "Water problems are often closely tied to the structure of the global economy. Many countries have significantly externalized their water footprint, importing water-intensive goods from elsewhere. This puts pressure on the water resources in the exporting regions, where too often mechanisms for wise water governance and conserva-

tion are lacking. Not only governments, but also consumers, businesses and civil society communities can play a role in achieving a better management of water resources."

Jewish tradition teaches and commands responsibility, the importance of caring for the environment, for we must act as partners in preserving creation. If you are interested in supporting Shalom Green, by volunteering your time or financially, please visit our website at www.shalomgreen-CLT.org or email us at info@shalomgreenCLT.org. Connect with us on Facebook at Shalom Green: Shalom Park Environmental Initiative and on Instagram and Twitter @shalomgreen_CLT.



TRUST YOU NEED. CHOICE YOU DESERVE.

Whether it is protecting your business, home or your family, Main Street/Swimmer Insurance Group makes it a priority to earn the trust of our customers.



SWIMMER

1523 ELIZABETH AVENUE, SUITE 300
CHARLOTTE, NC 28204
704.333.6694 | MAINSTREETINS.COM

Serving families and businesses in the Charlotte Jewish Community since 1953.



Hebrew Cemetery
of Greater Charlotte

Honor • Celebrate • Embrace

Annual Memorial Service

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023, 10:30 AM

A COMMUNITY TRADITION
FOR OVER 150 YEARS

Join us as we gather together with the Greater Charlotte area clergy for our historic Annual Memorial Service which will be held in-person at the Cemetery.

This is an outdoor event, rain or shine.

To Livestream:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86856935777>

www.hebrewcemetery.org • 1801 Statesville Ave, Charlotte, NC 28206



Women's News

Hadassah Raises Funds To Make a Difference

By Aileen Greenberg-Kriner

The board members of the Hadassah Charlotte Metro chapter wish everyone in our community a happy, sweet, and healthy New Year 5784! May you have a good year, and may you be inscribed and sealed for blessing in the Book of Life. We hope you have a meaningful fast on Yom Kippur and a joyful Sukkot.

As we reflect on the past Jewish year, 5783, our Hadassah Metro chapter is proud of the impact we've made through our fundraising endeavors. Through our many activities and generous donors, we exceeded our \$70,000 fundraising goal.

That money is allocated to support the Hadassah Medical Organization and its two world-class research hospitals in Jerusalem, and the 360° of Healing program to modernize and expand the iconic Round Building at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem. In addition, funds are directed toward Hadassah's Youth Aliyah Villages, which provide a haven for young immigrants and at-risk children, and toward scholarships for summer camps and Israel programs that try to ensure Jewish continuity for future generations. Some funds are earmarked for the Greatest Need account, where they are allocated to other Hadassah causes and special projects.

Hadassah doesn't just stop at providing tangible aid. Our fundraising activities allow us to engage in advocacy efforts at local, national, and international levels aimed at championing a strong US-Israel relationship, fighting antisemitism, promoting women's health equity, and fighting for reproductive rights.

Hadassah Charlotte Metro raised funds at our Game Day and silent auction, mahjongg card and High Holiday honey sales, and Tu B'Shevat seder. We hosted monthly Wine & Schmooze evenings at Vintner Wine Market

(which donates a portion of sales to Hadassah), and shopping parties before Hanukkah and Passover at Discovered Traditions Gift Shop at Temple Beth El. We held our November Turkey Trot for women's hearth health, and, just last month, Painting Days, a part of our major "Celebrate the Tatas" Fundraiser for Breast Cancer. We also increased the number of members who made the commitment to join Hadassah's Chai Society (\$180 annual donation) and Keepers of the Gate (\$1,000+ annual donation).

We held other events to help our community, educate our members, and celebrate Judaism. We learned about Charlotte Jewish history on a Jewish Heritage Tour and sponsored the Novant Mammovan at the JCC. We held a Passover Tasting Lunch & Recipe Swap, and support the Hadassah Prepies, a group of Hadassah women who provide 120-160 meals each month for JFS clients.

We invite women in our community to get involved with Hadassah and be part of our amazing sisterhood. Whether you have a little time or a lot, your involvement is essential and greatly appreciated. To learn more, contact Lori Trapani or Merrill Schenkel at the Hadassah Metro phone number or email below, or come to one of our events. We would love to meet you!

A great way to support Hadassah is to attend our main Celebrate the TaTas fundraising event, The Reveal, on Thursday, October 26, with lunch at Maggiano's, keynote address by Rabbi Judy Schindler, a live auction, wine pull, and more. Sign up to attend, make a donation in honor of Rabbi Schindler, or place an ad in the program at hadassahcltvents.org. Call Cindy at (980) 553-1880 or email celebratethetatas.hadassah@gmail.com to volunteer or get additional information.

Mail beautiful Hadassah Rosh Hashanah cards (\$3 each), with

a variety of holiday art and messages, to your loved ones. Contact Laurie at the Hadassah email or phone number below.

Monthly Happenings

Join us for our monthly Hadassah Wine & Schmooze at 7 p.m. on Sept. 5 at Vintner Wine Market in Arboretum.

Short Story Discussion Group meets at 11:45 a.m. on Sept. 8. We will discuss the story In Vegas That Year by Adrienne Sharp, in the book "Frankly Feminist: Short Stories by Jewish Women," edited by Susan Weidman-Schneider and Yona Zeldis McDonough. Call or email to see if the meeting is in

person or Zoom.

Beverly's Book Nook will meet via Zoom on Friday, Sept. 15 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg's book, "On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World." Perfect reading before the High Holidays.

Hadassah BookTalk is reading "The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem" by Sarit Yishai-Levi. Our meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Helpful Hadassah Info

Our website, www.hadassah-cltvents.org, has details and registration links for our events. If you have questions, suggestions,

or need a zoom link, email HadassahCLT@gmail.com or call our general phone number, (980) 553-1880.

The next Hadassah Charlotte Metro Board meeting is Monday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Follow us on Facebook (Hadassah CLT Metro) and Instagram (Hadassah Charlotte Metro).

HADASSAH



A New Year at W.O.W.

By Sara Oppenheim

The Hebrew month of Elul leading up to Rosh Hashanah marks the start of a special period of forty days, known as a time of G-d's closeness to us. During these days, G-d draws close to us, seeking to help us reassess our vision. This period lasts from the beginning of Elul to Yom Kippur, and even until Simchat Torah, providing us with an opportunity to deeply evaluate our past actions and whether they align with our life's game plan. The forty days of Elul and the ten days of teshuva hold great potential — a chance for us to realign and refocus on our life's purpose, our essence, and our journey, in accordance with G-d's desires for us. What do we wish to create?

According to Rav Schwarb (1908-1985), the Hebrew word "Elul" is not actually derived from Hebrew, but rather from the root of an Aramaic word meaning "to search," "to look," and "to hunt." Therefore, during these days, it is our job to search within ourselves, scrutinize our deeds of the past year, and contemplate: Who am I? What do I stand for? Whom do I aspire to become?

Rosh Hashanah serves as a day to regroup, to gather ourselves, and to say to G-d Almighty, "I have taken a good look at myself, and I acknowledge my shortcomings, but I am eager to be on Your team! Grant me another year of life, health, and opportunities to serve You to the best of my ability!"

In this vein, W.O.W. takes time during the summer to engage in reflection as we plan our upcoming year. We ponder questions like, "What is W.O.W. all about?" and "What are our core values and principles?" We review what aspects have been successful and identify areas that require improvement. We ask what types of opportunities we aim to offer Jewish women in the greater Charlotte community for the upcoming year.

At W.O.W., we are thrilled to present a comprehensive schedule of activities and connections for you throughout the year. Our lineup includes engaging events such as cooking, baking, crafting, schmoozing, noshing, book clubs, and holiday parties, among other exciting opportunities. Many of these events will be led by our own W.O.W. friends and members, fos-

tering a sense of community and camaraderie.

One of the wonderful ways we start our year is with our annual kickoff event on Aug. 29, and we are excited to announce that Dr. Ann Smolin will once again lead us in meditation for the new Jewish year. Dr. Smolin's past sessions have received fantastic feedback, and due to popular demand, she will be returning to guide us through meditative journeys on various topics, including the power of forgiveness, both for ourselves and others, as well as the significance of return.

In addition to these enlightening meditations, we have prepared some delightful surprise activities that will help us embrace the potential of the new year at W.O.W. It promises to be an evening filled with potential.

For more details and to secure your spot, please visit our website at <https://charlottewomenofwisdom.com/events/annual-kickoff-event-mind-body-soul-spa-evening/>. We look forward to sharing this special experience with you!

Join us for our much-anticipated 16th annual Round Rosh Hashanah Challah Bake, on Tuesday, Sept. 5 led by the talented master baker, Fran Dordick, who breathes creativity. This year, we are adding a twist to the famous Sara O. challah recipe while delving into the significance of Rosh Hashanah's uniqueness. Borrowing from the Passover playbook (Haggadah), we pose the question, "Why is this night of Rosh Hashanah different from all the other nights?" Indeed, there are distinct differences — on Rosh Hashanah, we dip challah in honey instead of salt, and we shape it into a round form instead of the traditional braided loaf.

Gather your friends, sisters, and daughters, and join us in baking these traditional round challahs for Rosh Hashanah. In the process, you'll have the chance to connect with both new and familiar faces, and you will leave with the most delicious challah you've ever tasted. Your home will be filled with the heavenly aroma of freshly baked bread as you proudly display your newfound challah-baking skills. (Continued on page 31)

Meg D. Goldstein Attorney-At-Law

Estate Planning
Estate and Trust Administration
Pre-Marital Agreements
Charitable Planning and Entities
General Corporate and Tax Law
Business Succession Planning

5401 Lancelot Drive
Charlotte, NC 28270

704.846.3607 office
704.756.3626 cell
MGOLDSTEIN@MGOLDLAW.COM
WWW.MGOLDLAW.COM



Women's News

W.O.W.

(Continued from page 30)

Braiding challah into round challah or loaves is our way of braiding together our dough, but also truly a way of braiding together our friends and family. For further details, please visit <https://charlottewomenofwisdom.com/events/w-o-w-16th-annual-rosh-hashana-challah-bake/>. We look forward to sharing this wonderful experience with you!

In addition to the Round Rosh Hashanah Challah Bake, we are excited to announce our annual fundraiser aimed at raising funds for our programs. We will be offering our winning recipe of W.O.W. round challah with a variety of delicious toppings, perfect for celebrating Rosh Hashanah.

If you are unable to attend the Challah Bake or simply wish to have more of these delectable challahs for yourself, or your family, or to send as a thoughtful gift to your child in college or someone else, be sure to place your order before noon on Sept. 4th.

To place your order and for further details, please visit <https://charlottewomenofwisdom.com/events/w-o-w-rosh-hashanah-round-challah-sale-2/>. We appreciate your support and look forward to providing you with these delightful round challahs for your Rosh Hashanah celebrations.

On to Sukkot...when was the last time you sat under the stars

in a sukkah enjoying some pizza? If you want a "sukkah in the hut" experience, make sure to join us on Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.

Because we love to celebrate, live, and experience our Judaism, 'People Love Dead Jews' will be the first of our quarterly book clubs and we look forward to discussing it.

We listened and heard from our W.O.W. friends and members and in response we have monthly Coffee & Connect dates at Panera that have created wonderful bonding, new friendships and networking throughout the city as we get to know each other just a little better and bring up topics for discussion that are on your mind.

The above is just a little taste of the wonderful things W.O.W. has in store for you for the '23-'24 year as we hope to continue to grow, inspire, connect, and empower Jewish women throughout the Charlotte Metro area.

For more information about W.O.W., to register for our programs, share an idea, get more involved, or donate to our programs please visit [Charlottewomenofwisdom.com](https://charlottewomenofwisdom.com)





Celebrate the TaTas

The Reveal

Unveiling of the TaTas Photo Collage

Thursday, October 26th
11:30 a.m.
Maggiano's SouthPark

Special Guest Speaker:
Rabbi Judith Schindler

Enjoy a fabulous luncheon with Hadassah members and friends as we raise funds for cancer research. Bid in our live auction, buy a wine cork, and hear Rabbi Judy's inspiring story of breast cancer survival and empowerment.

Join us and be part of the cure.



www.hadassahcleveland.org/tatas
celebratethetatas.Hadassah@gmail.com

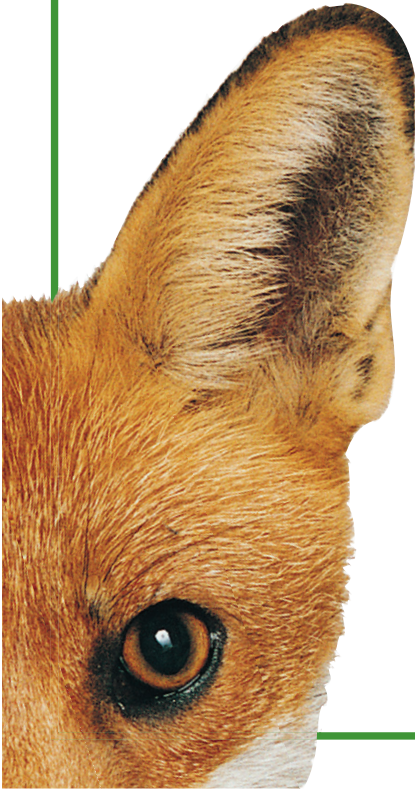
For Reveal Tickets, Ads & Tributes

YOU WANT A LAW FIRM WITH NATIONAL RESOURCES AND A LOCAL PRESENCE.

WE HEAR YOU.

With 29 offices coast to coast – including four locations in the Carolinas – Fox Rothschild offers mid-market businesses the best of both worlds.

Clients get the robust services of a national law firm with more than 70 practice areas, delivered by accessible attorneys who know the local courts and understand their market.



101 N. Tryon Street, Suite 1300
Charlotte, NC 28246
CHARLOTTE | GREENSBORO | RALEIGH | GREENVILLE, SC



Brian C. Bernhardt
704.384.2607
bbernhardt@foxrothschild.com



Alexandra J. Hirsch
704.384.2641
ahirsch@foxrothschild.com

Education and Youth

Another Year of Hebrew High is About to Begin

By Megan Harkavy

Even though the academic year is already in full-swing, the first night of Hebrew High is not until Wednesday, Sept. 27 and there is still plenty of time left to register. Do you know any 8th – 12th graders who are looking to hang out with their friends in an exciting, safe, and educational environment? Hebrew High is the place to be! We once again have classes such as our popular cooking class, but there are new classes being offered as well. Check it out:

First Trimester

Surviving the Torah

Ever wonder how you would have held up in ancient times? Come explore the challenges our ancestors faced, such as famine, inhospitable deserts, fierce armies, and plagues. Learn hands-on survival tactics and discover how modern Jewish communities have adapted and put ancient knowledge to use. Get ready to get your hands dirty as we learn about the mixture of guerrilla tactics, spy craft, technology, and chutzpah that have allowed our people to survive for thousands of years.

Photography Through a Jewish Lens

Learn some of the basics of photography as we explore different Jewish values through photos. Each week we will explore different photo techniques, Jewish values, and our Judaism. Students will need a cell phone with a working camera or a digital camera for the course.

Jews and Judaism On-Screen

For decades Jews and Jewish practices have appeared in TV and movies. Together we will explore what we can learn from some classic pieces of Jewish films, such as “Fiddler on the Roof,” try to understand antisemitism through the comedy of Amy Schumer, and look at contemporary shows like “Jewish Matchmaking.” You can even learn from Rabbi Wolk, who had a small role in “Are You There God, It’s Me Margaret!”

Second Trimester

For the Sake of Argument

As Jews, we have a long and beautiful history of arguing. From Hillel and Shammai, to our views on modern Judaism, the

arguments have made us stronger as a people. In this class, we will learn how to argue respectfully, take on different divisive scenarios ranging from simple disagreements, to levels of observance, Israel and the diaspora, and learn more about ourselves.

Chai Intimacy: Unleashing Jewish Wisdom on Sex and Relationships

Being a teen in 2023 poses many challenges, some of which are unique to this moment in time, while others are as old as the Jewish tradition itself! Join us as we explore the ways in which our Jewish values can inform our decision-making around sex, relationships, and intimacy in the modern era. (*This course is open to 8th and 9th graders and we will confirm parental approval before the trimester begins.)

Spotify Israel

Music is often a reflection of the sensibilities and values of a society. Join Rabbi Erdheim in this course as we explore modern Israeli music to examine the history of the Jewish homeland. We will listen to a wide variety of music, analyze its cultural

and political influences, and utilize the diversity of songs as a means to better understand the Israeli people.

Third Trimester

Broadway’s Jewish Composers’ Journeys

Step into the magical world of Broadway and musical theater as we explore the influence of Jewish composers! In this class, we’ll dive deep into the vibrant tapestry of musical theater and discover the remarkable contributions made by Jewish composers. From timeless classics to the latest showstoppers, their music has captured the hearts and minds of audiences for generations. Get ready to groove to the rhythm of legendary tunes like “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” “Don’t Rain on My Parade,” and “Defying Gravity.” Uncover the secrets behind the captivating melodies that have the power to transport us to other worlds and evoke a whirlwind of emotions. Through lively discussions, interactive activities, and even some impromptu singing, we’ll delve into the fascinating stories behind these talented composers. Together, we’ll celebrate the rich

cultural heritage and remarkable influence of Jewish composers, and revel in the joy of the Broadway stage!

Moving Toward Wholeness

Get out of your head and into your body! Rooted in Embodied Jewish Learning, this experiential course will help you connect your mind, body, and soul through moving meditation, ecstatic dance, grounding practices, singing, deep breathing, and more.

Hebrew High is a joint venture between Temple Beth El and Temple Israel and is 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 or contact Megan Harkavy at mharkavy@hebrewhigh.org.



BH

The Jewish Preschool on Sardis wishes you a

Shana Tova!



call 704-364-8395 or visit jpskids.org



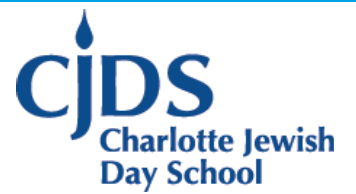
A project of Chabad of Charlotte

Funded by
Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



Education and Youth

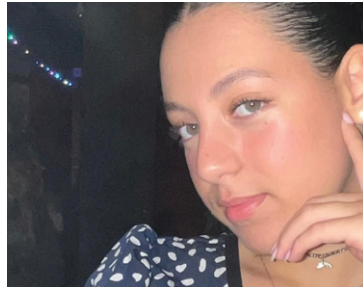
Charlotte Jewish Day School Enhances the Dual Language Curriculum



This is a great year for Charlotte Jewish Day School (CJDS) for all things Israel. We are thrilled to welcome Nitzan Arad to the Charlotte Jewish Community this year. Nitzan, her husband Alon, and her three children have just arrived to make Charlotte their home. Nitzan will be teaching Ivrit (Hebrew) to our students in grades 2-7. She comes to us with twelve years of teaching experience in Israel, the Philippines, and Sofia, Bulgaria. Her experience, enthusiasm, and passion will certainly elevate the delivery of the Hebrew language at CJDS. We are looking forward to having a teacher solely committed to strengthening the Hebrew language and culture for our students, especially in the older grades.



Nitzan and family



Talia Gwedj

In addition, we have two student teachers from Israel who will be joining our school for this year. They will be supporting Hebrew reading and writing, and will provide multiple opportunities to infuse Hebrew during lunch, recess, and general programming. We look forward to hearing the sounds of Hebrew being spoken in the hallways of our school. We are very excited to welcome Talia Gwedj and Galia Levy. Both girls are from Rechovot.

There are many additional benefits to a dual language curriculum. Educational studies suggest the following benefits of early foreign language education:

- Improves overall school performance and produces superior problem-solving skills.
- Students develop greater cognitive flexibility, demonstrating increased attention control, better memory, and enhanced listening skills.
- Helps students statistically outperform their peers in standardized verbal testing.

Our goals for our students are to connect with, learn, and experience everything Israel, so that when they are grown, they will be ready to engage, participate, contribute, and become an integral part of the Jewish discussion. It is so important for our



Galia Levy

youth to feel a deep connection to Israel and a responsibility to stand for Israel. The only way to

do that is to educate and empower our kids with knowledge of the facts and conversation.



DREAM HOME TODAY YOUR HOME TOMORROW

- Free Market Analysis
- Fire Me Guarantee
- #1 Social Media Realtor in Charlotte

Why Hire a Salesman When You Can Hire a Sales Mensch?

www.AndyRE.com
andy@andyre.com
[@AndyG_Realtor](https://www.instagram.com/AndyG_Realtor)
 443.299.8946





MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS

Check Us Out!

Visit us and learn about our new design and innovation lab, small class sizes and challenging, student-centered curriculum.

Now enrolling TK-8!

WE HAVE IT ALL!

- ✓ Strong Academics
- ✓ STEAM Lab
- ✓ Electives
- ✓ Sports

CALL TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!

CJDS Charlotte Jewish Day School

704.366.4558 | CJDSchool.org

B"H

Funded by Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte



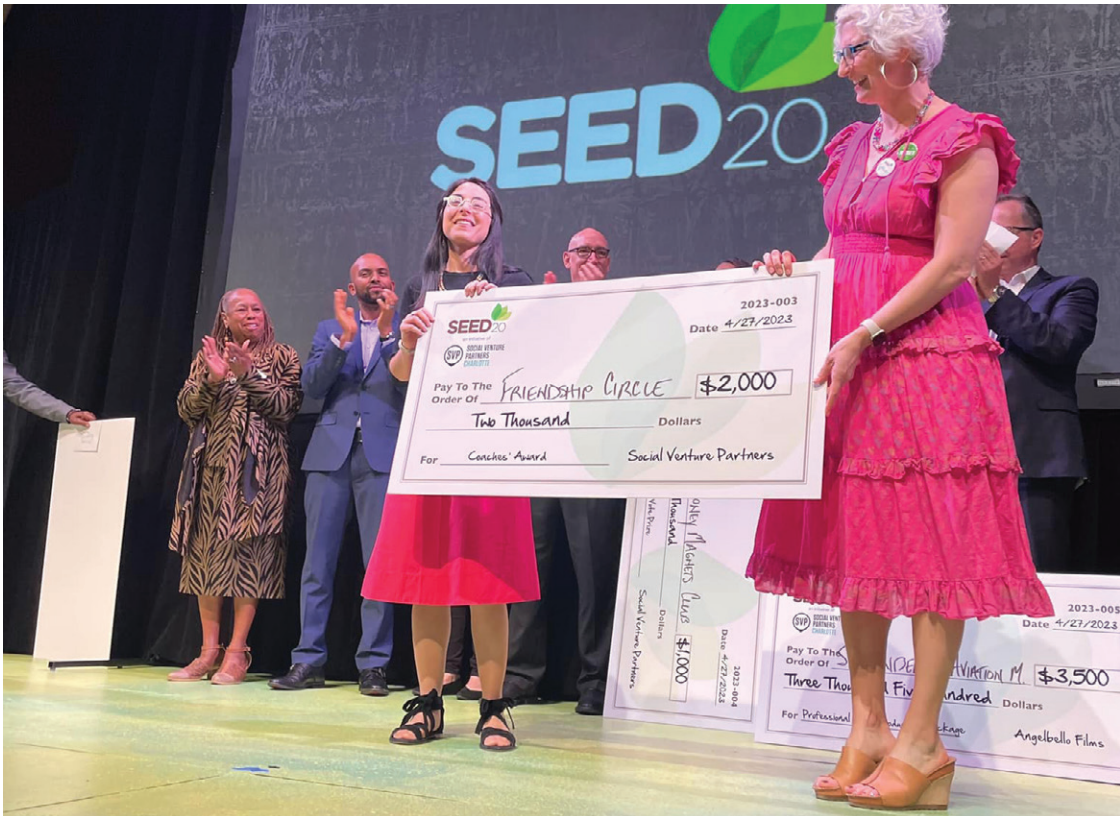
Education and Youth

SAVE
THE DATE
11.12.23



PAJAMAWALK.COM

Rochel Groner’s Friendship Circle Pitch at Seed20 Wins Coveted Coaches’ Award



Rachel Groner receives \$2,000 prize for Friendship Circle

By Bentzion Groner

Rochel Groner wears many hats in the Charlotte Jewish community, including her roles at ZABS Place, and Chabad of Charlotte, but it is her role as director of Friendship Circle that earned her a coveted spot in SEED20, a communications training and pitch competition program created by Social Ven-

ture Partners (SVP) Charlotte. SEED stands for Social Entrepreneurs Empowered. This is a high-energy event where ten members of the class compete to win cash awards by making three-minute pitches to a panel of judges and a community audience. The audience is treated to a pre and post reception and also votes to select the

\$20,000 grand prize winner. SEED20 shines a spotlight on nonprofit entrepreneurs and connects concepts from the business world to the nonprofit world in order to address social challenges in our community. Rochel’s pitch was full of passion for creating social opportunities for children, teens, and young adults with special needs through genuine one-on-one friendships and inclusive group activities at Friendship Circle’s Inclusive Fun Zone, ultimately winning her the highly coveted Coaches’ Award, accompanied by a \$2,000 prize! Her pitch highlighted the way Friendship Circle’s team has bridged the gap between neurotypical high school teens and those with special needs is a shining example of how friendship and acceptance can transform lives. You can watch the pitch at FriendshipCircleNC.org/Seed20 Friendship Circle is an affiliate of Chabad of Charlotte and a proud beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.



DENTAL WELLNESS
of Charlotte

A BOUTIQUE, FAMILY DENTAL OFFICE
State-of-the-Art, Technology Advanced & Minimally Invasive Dentistry

Join Our **Dental Wellness Club**
NO DENTAL INSURANCE? NO PROBLEM!

- ✓ No annual maximum
- ✓ No pre-authorization
- ✓ No deductible
- ✓ No waiting periods
- ✓ No wondering what insurance will pay towards your treatment

All Wellness
Plans include:

- ✓ Emergency Exam (1/year)
- ✓ Fluoride Treatment (1/year)
- ✓ Panoramic X-Ray (1/5 years)
- ✓ Bitewing X-Rays (4/year)
- ✓ Periapical X-Rays (as many as needed per year)
- ✓ 15% off other procedures completed at our practice*



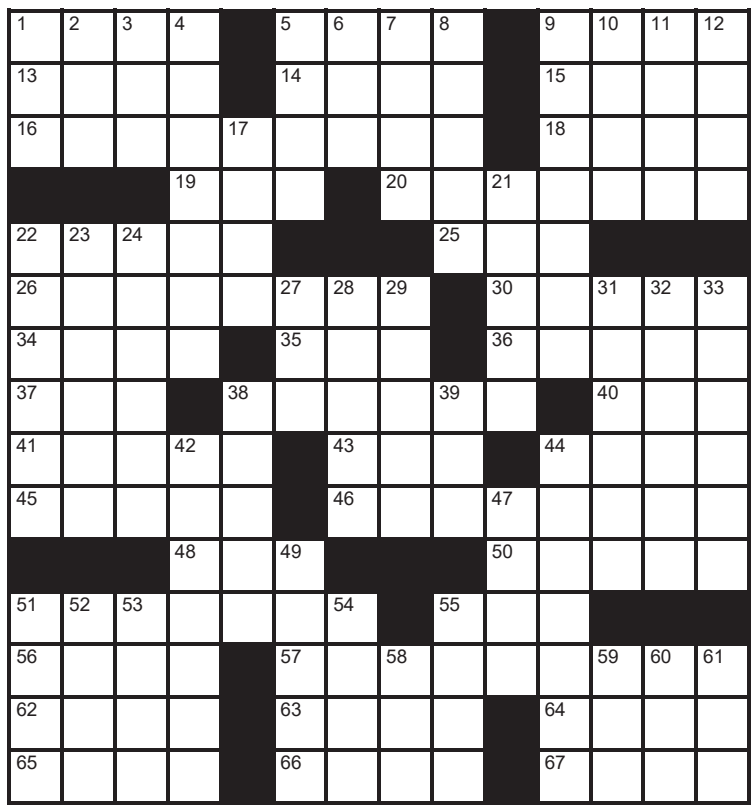
Where Wellness Begins ...
Experience the Difference!

“My vision is a dental practice built from the ground up on high morals, ethics, and values. Principles that aren’t shaped by insurance companies dictating the course of treatment. Where every detail that goes behind the scenes of making that “filling” matter to my clients even if they often can’t see it.”
- Dr. Shirman

*Call our Team for more information: 704-317-7337 | dentalwellnessofclt.com



Count Your Blessings



Across

- 1. Inspiration for some
- 5. Like the ark in a synagogue, most of the time
- 9. Former All-Star teammate of James
- 13. Opposed one
- 14. Big name in hockey equipment
- 15. Give kudos
- 16. "Be thankful"...or a hint to this puzzle's theme, with 57-Across
- 18. Israeli packaged food company
- 19. "Free ____" (2021 film)
- 20. Challah
- 22. Bills quarterback Josh
- 25. Neato
- 26. Pickles
- 30. Tech folk, stereotypically
- 34. Ding's partner in Jewish music
- 35. George's musical brother
- 36. Gelt, perhaps
- 37. Most common resource in crosswords

Down

- 1. Big ____: treif fast-food staple
- 2. It's next to nada
- 3. Man's nickname that's an alphabetic run
- 4. Where you might spot an ibex in Israel
- 5. Vodka option
- 6. "Boo" follower
- 7. "Nah"
- 8. Source for saying Grace After Meals
- 9. Kind of reel
- 10. Beer brewer's buy
- 11. Notable canal
- 12. Kind of cord
- 17. Steak choice
- 21. Actor Christopher ____-Plasse
- 22. Anakin (Skywalker's) Padawan
- 23. Bush and Linney
- 24. NBA bubble champs
- 27. POW, maybe
- 28. Geometry findings
- 29. "Mi ____ hechafetz chaim..."
- 31. Censure
- 32. The Wright brothers' Ohio home
- 33. Remington of '80s TV
- 38. Descendant of Agag
- 39. Sentence starter, often
- 42. Learned extensively
- 44. Capital of Wales
- 47. They produce runs
- 49. Actress Smulders of "The Avengers"
- 51. Like a film within a film
- 52. Parsha with laws pertaining to kohanim
- 53. Pasta option
- 54. "I just skimmed it, tbh"
- 55. "Gotcha"
- 58. A prophet and a kohen
- 59. A good team has it?
- 60. Schwarzenegger, formerly: Abbr.
- 61. ____ Rose du Lac, Manitoba

Down

- 1. Big ____: treif fast-food staple
- 2. It's next to nada
- 3. Man's nickname that's an alphabetic run
- 4. Where you might spot an ibex in Israel
- 5. Vodka option
- 6. "Boo" follower
- 7. "Nah"
- 8. Source for saying Grace After Meals
- 9. Kind of reel
- 10. Beer brewer's buy
- 11. Notable canal
- 12. Kind of cord
- 17. Steak choice
- 21. Actor Christopher ____-Plasse
- 22. Anakin (Skywalker's) Padawan
- 23. Bush and Linney
- 24. NBA bubble champs
- 27. POW, maybe
- 28. Geometry findings
- 29. "Mi ____ hechafetz chaim..."
- 31. Censure
- 32. The Wright brothers' Ohio home
- 33. Remington of '80s TV
- 38. Descendant of Agag
- 39. Sentence starter, often
- 42. Learned extensively
- 44. Capital of Wales
- 47. They produce runs
- 49. Actress Smulders of "The Avengers"
- 51. Like a film within a film
- 52. Parsha with laws pertaining to kohanim
- 53. Pasta option
- 54. "I just skimmed it, tbh"
- 55. "Gotcha"
- 58. A prophet and a kohen
- 59. A good team has it?
- 60. Schwarzenegger, formerly: Abbr.
- 61. ____ Rose du Lac, Manitoba

(Answers on page 38)



Quality Chinese Cuisine

- Upstairs Banquet Room
- Private Dining
- Full Bar & Wine
- Proudly Serving the Jewish Community SINCE 1989

704-541-1688

10719 Kettering Dr. • Charlotte, NC 28226

www.mywanfu.com



Specializing in:
Homemade Soups • Gyros • Salads

Mike Sadri
Arboretum Shopping Center
fax: (704) 541-5989

\$2 OFF

Any Purchase of \$10 or more with this ad

Only 1 coupon per transaction.
Expires 9/30/2023

Take Out or Delivery with Doordash

704-541-5099



BUSINESS SALES
MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

wishes you a Happy New Year!

Selling a Business?

VR has sold more businesses in the world than anyone.*



Adam Petricoff
VR Charlotte

9301 Monroe Road, Suite L
Charlotte, NC 28270
704-360-8898 office
704-905-8658 cell

apetricoff@vrcharlotte.com

www.vrcharlotte.com




CHARLOTTE
LATIN
SCHOOL



Reach Higher. Shine Brighter.

Inquire today at
CharlotteLatin.org/admissions
704.846.7207

WORK WITH THE LEADERS IN CHARLOTTE REAL ESTATE



SARAH ROSE

SarahRose@remax.net
704 619-0422



STEVE LEPOW

SteveLepow@remax.net
704 975-8500

RE/MAX Executive

Cash it in!

Perry's will pay you same day for your:



Jewelry



Diamonds



Antique & Vintage



Watches & Pocket Watches



Coins



Designer Handbags

Same great location, new street name.
6525 Morrison Blvd. is now
6525 Carnegie Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28211

 **PERRY'S**
DIAMONDS & ESTATE JEWELRY
PerrysJewelry.com

No appointment necessary or
book your private appointment at
PerrysBuyingOffice.com
704.364.1391

 PerrysSouthPark  PerrysJewelry

Jewish Social Singles of the Carolinas: Growing Strong

by Laura Zagoria
Picture this: You're single in Charlotte. You might have recently moved here from New York, New Jersey, Chicago, Seattle, LA, Ukraine, or Israel, or perhaps you've been living in North or South Carolina for quite some time. You've lived a little and maybe even had a long-term marriage. Whether you've never married or are a veteran of marriage, one thing's for sure — you're Jewish, and you enjoy spending time with other Jewish people, and engaging in fun activities. Well, guess what? Jewish Social Singles of the Carolinas (JSSOC) is here for you!
Roy Weinberger and Robin Spivock, the organizers of JS-SOC, plan enjoyable outings for the group three or four times a month, promoting them in the private JSSOC group on the Meetup app. The activities range from laid-back Sunday brunches at Amelie's to attending theater shows by Theatre Charlotte or Davidson Community Players, from

kayaking adventures on the Catawba River to shag dancing or attending "Bark in the Park" events with your furry friend. You'll enjoy diverse dining experiences at Vietnamese, Thai, Indian, Italian, and German restaurants, explore museums like the Mint Museum (which recently featured the Picasso exhibit), celebrate Purim and Hanukkah together, and join lively services with The Ruach. The JSSOC atmosphere is relaxed and inviting, with plenty of options to cater to your preferences.
Created last year, JSSOC is a diverse group, now boasting more than 125 members. Some are regular attendees, while others join events occasionally due to work commitments or retirement. There are individuals who grew up in traditional Jewish households and others who converted after marriage. Some members are "Jewish-adjacent," having been married to a Jewish spouse and raised their chil-

(Continued on page 37)

L'SHANANAH TOVA!

Wishing you a Happy & Healthy New Year



www.charlottejewishpreschool.org





JSSOC members enjoying one of the fun group activities
(Continued from page 36)

dren in the Jewish faith. The essence of the group is captured in its name: Jewish, Social, Single, and Carolinas. So, don't hesitate – come on in, the water's fine!

For Roy Weinberger, the greatest reward comes from witnessing members interact, smile, and have a blast doing fun activities in each other's company. For Robin Spivock, the joy lies in observing how friendships have evolved within the group. People who were once strangers have become close friends, helping each other, shopping together, and arranging one-on-one meet-ups. The common thread among all members is their Jewish background, and seeing everyone enjoying events and forming connections brings immense satisfaction to both Roy and Robin.

Upcoming plans for JSSOC include a day trip to Lake Lure, a barbecue event at Freedom Park, and a gathering to attend a performance by Pentatonix at PNC Music Pavilion. What's holding you back? Take a step outside

your comfort zone and forge new friendships. Join Jewish Social Singles of the Carolinas for enjoyable experiences, cultural enrichment, and heartwarming camaraderie. You'll be glad you did!

Our events are announced via the Meetup.com service. There is no cost to join Meetup or Jewish Social Singles. Meetup.com is an app that allows individuals, groups, or organizations to set up affinity groups and interact with individuals sharing similar interests. To join JSS, go to Meetup.com on your desktop or laptop or install the Meetup.com app on your phone. Search for Jewish Social Singles of the Carolinas, fill out a short, friendly questionnaire to determine eligibility (it's easy), and request to join the group. Your request will be quickly accepted, and you will be on your way to new adventures with new friends. If by chance you do experience difficulties, you can contact rspivock@gmail.com or royweinberger@comporium.net.



SouthPark at Phillips Place

Where Families Come Together

- ◆ Featuring 124 beautifully decorated guest rooms and suites conveniently located in Phillips Place
- ◆ Complimentary amenities include:
Hot breakfast, internet access, transportation to Shalom Park
- ◆ Hospitality Suite
- ◆ Great Room: Special rates available for Friday night dinner



For more information, contact: Pamela.Haythe@hilton.com

Hampton Inn & Suites SouthPark at Phillips Place,
Charlotte, NC 28210 704-319-5700
www.hamptonssouthpark.com



Summer is Sweeter at Waltonwood!

SCHEDULE A TOUR AND LEARN MORE

Two
locations
in
Charlotte

We cater to seniors who desire social opportunities and a carefree lifestyle. With two great locations and warm, caring staff, you'll feel right at home as soon as you step inside.

- Fresh, fun, and interactive dining experiences with desserts created by our Pastry Chef
- Forever Fit wellness programs encouraging resident independence Life Enrichment programs allowing for opportunities of continued learning and special interests
- Housekeeping and maintenance teams providing a truly worry-free lifestyle



Assisted Living & Memory Care
5215 Randolph Road
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-496-9310



Independent Living, Assisted Living & Memory Care
11945 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-246-8670



TOURS DAILY |

WWW.WALTONWOOD.COM |

WWW.SINGHCAREERS.COM





WELCOME
new experiences
and
peace of mind



Get the daily assistance you need, while living as fully and independently as possible. You'll enjoy comforting peace of mind, enriching social and recreational opportunities, and the pleasant company of neighbors who quickly become friends. Find out more at [BarclayAtSouthpark.com](https://www.BarclayAtSouthpark.com) or schedule a visit at 980.223.3600.

ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY SUPPORT
REHABILITATION | SKILLED NURSING



BRIARCREEK
HEALTH CENTER
AT THE BARCLAY

5 Star Quality Rated

6041 Piedmont Row Drive South
Charlotte, NC 28210



A Life Plan Community offered by Liberty Senior Living

ADVERTISE IN THE
Charlotte Jewish News

The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS
Celebrating Jewish Life

www.charlottejewishnews.org/advertise
704.944.6765
charlottejewishnews@shalomcharlotte.org

~Handpainted Needlepoint Canvases ~ Huge Selection of Yarns ~ Expert Finishing
Complimentary Lessons ~ Unique Gift Ideas
All proceeds go to local charities

Yours Truly
Needlepoint and Knitting

Knit ~ Crochet ~ Needlepoint

THANKS TO THE WORK OF VOLUNTEERS

16,500 blankets have been donated to the Levine Children's Hospital, Hemby Children's Hospital and the Shriners Hospital (Greenville, SC) and 10,000 chemo hats have been donated to facilities for cancer patients around Charlotte.

Join Us!

Wednesdays 8-11 AM at the Levine Jewish Community Center
Thursday 9 AM-5 PM in the home of Lynn Edelstein, 3802 Columbine Dr.
(704) 366-6765

(Puzzle on page 35)

1	M	2	U	3	S	4	E		5	S	6	H	7	U	8	T		9	B	10	O	11	S	12	H
13	A	N	T	I				14	K	O	H	O						15	L	A	U	D			
16	C	O	U	N	17	T	Y	O	U	R								18	O	S	E	M			
					19	G	U	Y			20	H	A	21	M	O	T	Z	I						
22	A	23	L	L	E	N								25	H	I	P								
26	H	A	A	D	A	27	M	A	29	H				30	N	E	R	32	D	33	S				
34	S	U	K	I				35	I	R	A				36	T	R	E	A	T					
37	O	R	E			38	H	A	E	I	T	39	Z			40	B	Y	E						
41	K	A	R	42	M	A				43	A	S	H			44	C	U	T	E					
45	A	S	S	A	M					46	S	H	E	47	H	A	K	O	L						
						48	J	A	49	C						50	I	R	E	N	E				
51	M	52	E	53	Z	O	N	O	54	T				55	I	T	D								
56	E	M	I	R					57	B	L	E	S	S	I	N	G	61	S						
62	T	O	T	E					63	I	D	L	E			64	F	O	O	T					
65	A	R	I	D					66	E	R	I	E			67	F	I	V	E					

Newspaper archives are a treasure trove of collective memories, providing a snapshot of our history. The following article is from The Charlotte Jewish News, May, 1987. To read other issues of The CJN, visit the archives at <https://www.digitalnc.org/newspapers/charlotte-jewish-news-charlotte-nc/>.

Looking Back: Year 1987

“Reaffirmation With Israel” Campaign to Secure Reinvestment of Bonds Bought During Yom Kippur War

More Than One Million Jews Purchased Record \$515 Million in 1973

A major “Reaffirmation With Israel” campaign is being launched to secure reinvestment of Israel Bonds purchased in the Yom Kippur War Year of 1973 when more than one million friends of Israel joined in purchasing a record \$515 million, it has been announced by Stuart Segal, local chairman of the new Bond effort.

Mr. Segal reported that holders of both 1973 and 1972 Bonds would receive the maturity value of their

Bonds up to 20 months in advance by reinvesting these Israel Bonds now.

The Yom Kippur War saw an unprecedented outpouring of Bond support for Israel by its friends throughout the United States and Canada that helped make possible Israel’s postwar reconstruction.

“More than \$400 million dollars are available for reinvestment. Israel is responding to that remarkable 1973 demon-

stration of support,” he said, “by offering interest in advance of maturity provided the bondholder adds additional funds to reinvest in another Israel Bond of a higher denomination.” The offer is being extended to all holders of Bonds purchased in 1973 and 1972.

“Just as one million friends joined to help Israel in its hour of critical need,” Segal said, “let us now reaffirm and renew that historic response by

reinvesting our Bonds and helping Israel move forward to overcome its current economic challenges.”

To assist holders of maturing Bonds, “Reinvestment Sunday” is planned for Israel Independence Day, May 3. This event will take place at Shalom Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Representatives of the Bond Organization will be available to explain the simple reinvestment procedure.

“Check your safe deposit box and your files,” Segal said. “If you are holding Bonds purchased in 1973 or 1972, bring them, with your checkbook on May 3. Or, you may call the Israel Bond Office 205-871-6161 for information about reinvestment.”

Mr. Segal reminds purchasers that Israel Bonds that have matured benefit neither Israel or the Bond holder.

DISCOVER

new talents
&
new friends



On any given day, you’ll find a range of options to fuel your passions, meet new friends and enjoy a lifestyle rich with interesting and exciting educational and engaging programs. Learn more about senior living at TheBarclayatSouthPark.com or schedule a visit at 980.825.4211.

INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY SUPPORT
SKILLED NURSING | REHABILITATION

A Life Plan Community offered by Liberty Senior Living


THE BARCLAY
AT SOUTHPARK
BRIAR CREEK HEALTH CENTER
AT THE BARCLAY

4801 Barclay Downs Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210



THE HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL

FUNNY GIRL

FEATURING
MELISSA MANCHESTER
AS MRS. BRICE

AND INTRODUCING
KATERINA MCCRIMMON
AS FANNY BRICE

 PNC Broadway Lights
SERIES

OCT. 17-22 • BELK THEATER

AT BLUMENTHAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



BlumenthalArts.org • 704.372.1000

Group Sales: 704.348.5752

Infusion Fund
A Partnership for Arts + Culture