

The Charlotte JEWISH news

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Tamuz-Av 5779

August 2019

Highlights of My Recent Israeli Visit – Part 2

By Cantor Elias Roochvarg

Cousin Hillel took me to Sde Boker, the home of David Ben Gurion after he retired from being (Israel's first) Prime Minister. Nearby is a campus of the University of Beersheva, now called Ben Gurion University, at which one of their areas of study is Desert Studies. Makes sense! We are surrounded by Midbar Tzin, the Wilderness of Tzin, where the Children of Israel wandered on their way to the Promised Land. Ben Gurion went in the opposite direction: He lived most of his life in the Promised Land, but retired to the Wilderness - by choice; he was fascinated by the desert and the challenges it posed.

One of the most recognizable things about him was his hair (not unlike Larry of the Three Stooges), so below is a photo of him getting it "trimmed" ... by the same guy (the caption tells us) who shears the sheep.

There is also an iconic photo of him standing on his head at the beach. I did not see that photo, but saw an interesting variation; he is standing on his head at the beach, but with a cell phone in his hand. And his trunks say Speedo. Two great anachronisms.

Each of the four walls of his study is lined, almost floor to ceiling, with books. They used to say of him that some politicians take bribes, other accept expensive gifts of travel, etc. You want to please Ben Gurion? Give him a good book.

A few miles away from his hut



Ben Gurion's famous haircut by the sheep-shearer.

is his and his wife's final resting place, in the middle of a plateau in the desert with a magnificent view all around. Hillel says B-G had excellent taste in choosing that spot, for its natural beauty.

Back to the Army Base

After our first weekend, we had been told to meet in front of the Tel Aviv station at 8:45. We were all there by 8:50, and the bus left promptly ... at 9:40. Welcome to Israel!

On Monday, April 8, at flag raising there were several onlookers whom I had not seen before. Maybe they were just joining us. It was explained to us that there is an Israeli organization which finds people with special needs to volunteer on army bases. It was also explained that the Israeli army has been gradually including adults on the Autism spectrum, not as volunteers, but actu-

ally as soldiers. As the father of a special needs adult that makes me very proud. Our Madricha said that in so many places special needs folks are ignored and excluded, but no longer in Israel. Way to go, Israel!

One day I was given a different task than usual: painting some of the industrial shelving. Not having done this sort of painting since summer camp, I forgot that industrial paint is not water soluble, so when we finished, I walked back to the barracks, and discovered that soap - even when applied vigorously - removes almost none of the paint. Oh well, it's been a learning experience ... and not just about Israel

That night's evening activity, in preparation for a trip we will be making to Remembrance Hall on Mt. Herzl, was a talk about love and loss: the sacrifices so many families here have made



Ben Gurion's office.



An iconic photo "turned on its head."

and continue to make for the state. We were taught about one of the thousands of young Israeli victims, a 23-year old soldier (the same age as two of my own children) on guard duty named Hadas Malka, an instructor in the training program, who was fatally stabbed two years ago while fend-

ing off a terrorist. She was from an observant family and was slain on a Friday afternoon. A knock on her parents' door the next day forever shattered their Sabbath peace. A friend of the victim composed a song in her memory, which our Madricha played a recording of. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.

We were taught about Yom HaZaikaron, the day before Israel Independence Day, when a siren sounds, at which, if you are driving - even on the highway - you get out of your car and remain at silent attention till the siren stops. And of course whatever you are doing, you stop and contemplate the sacrifices this country has made to survive. I already knew about Yom HaZikaron because I have participated in its observance in Charlotte. I think that among the thousands of graves in the military cemetery, the average age is 18 or 19. A whole generation lost! ☆



The resting place of David Ben-Gurion and his wife.



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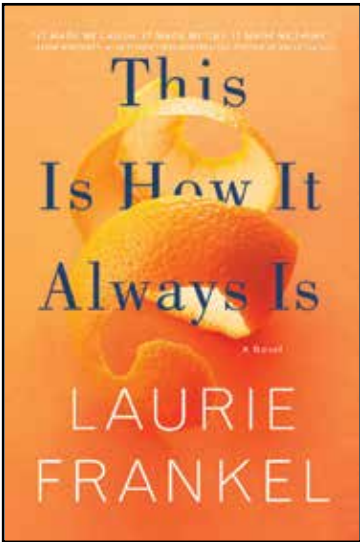
Inspiration.
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Sue's Book Shelf

By Sue Littauer

Many years ago, my family attended a rehearsal dinner and the mother of the groom used the word “perspicacious” during her remarks. Only my dad knew what the word meant (it means “clever”). Subsequently, the word turned up often in my reading. Isn’t this often the case? Two such instances have popped up for me in the past month.

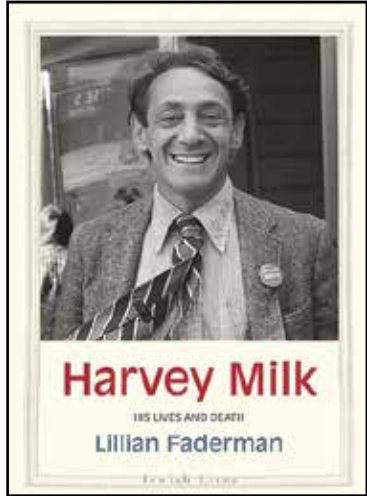
The first is the use of the terms “binary” and “non-binary.” While reading *This Is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel, which according to *Kirkus* is “well-plotted, well-researched, and unflaggingly interesting ... as thought-provoking a domestic novel as we have seen this year,” I learned that “binary” is an adjective used to describe the genders female/male; and “non-binary” refers to a spectrum of gender identities that are not exclusively masculine or feminine. Later that same week, the words popped up in *The Charlotte Observer* in reference to the TV show *Billions*, and a few days later in *Grey’s Anatomy* when Dr. Weber struggled to refer to a



patient in the preferred pronoun “they” rather than “he” or “she.” In another instance, while reading *Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death* by Lillian Faderman, I learned about the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City, which are widely credited as the beginning of the modern LGBT movement. In June, references to Stonewall were all over print and social



media because our country’s Gay Pride parades commemorate the day of this police raid on the gay bar at the Stonewall Inn. In anticipation of Charlotte’s Gay Pride Festival and Parade on August 17, my recommendation would be to read *This Is How It Always Is* and/or *Harvey Milk*. The first would be an excellent selection for a book club. Author Laurie Frankel treats with great sensitivity the complicated issues confronting parents dealing with the gender identity issues of their fifth son. The reader identifies with the family during its strug-



gles and rejoices in the ultimate changes that unite them. The biography of Harvey Milk, a finalist in this year’s Jewish Book Council Biography Category, was our CJE Book Club selection for June. Harvey Milk was



the first openly gay man elected to public office in the United States, and in 2009 was posthumously honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our nation’s highest civilian award. The book follows Milk’s early life, his endeavors to find a satisfactory career, and finally concentrates on his efforts to find his place in San Francisco’s political arena. Now 41 years after his untimely death by assassination, his legacy lives on. How proud Harvey Milk would have been to see Jared Polis become the first openly gay Jewish governor of Colorado, and Pete Buttigieg, the first openly

gay man to seek the presidency of the United States. Also, worth mentioning is a new book of contemporary short stories *We Love Anderson Cooper* by R.L. Maizes. The stories are about “outsiders” due to their sexual orientation, their racial, or religious identity, or because they look different. If you only have time to read one story, read about the young man who publicly outs himself during his bar mitzvah. We can all grow and learn from reading about the experiences of others. I applaud authors everywhere who use their words to inspire change in the world. ☆

Shabbat Candle Lighting for August 2019

- Friday, August 2, 8:07 PM
- Friday, August 9, 8:00 PM
- Friday, August 16, 7:53 PM
- Friday, August 23, 7:44 PM
- Friday, August 30, 7:35 PM



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CJE Calendar August

Fridays: PJ Baby Playdate - 11 AM

August 4: PJ Library and LJCC Fit and Fund Festivities - Fitness For the Whole Family - 4 PM at the LJCC

August 19 – September 13: Raid Our Shelves. Used Book Sale in the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library

August 21: CJE Book Club 10:30 AM

Please Note:
Wednesday afternoon story time will resume after Labor Day

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Youth Visions

Welcome to the New and Innovative Hebrew High Experience for 8th-12th Grade Students

Hebrew High takes pride in educating our students with meaningful Jewish experiences, charismatic and knowledgeable clergy and educators, and relevant special programs. This tradition will continue but in an exciting new format. We will be implementing "tracks" instead of the more traditional core/elective classes. Tracks will offer students more class variety, more social engagement opportunities, more special programming, and more non-traditional class settings. Each track will represent a theme which will be incorporated into the programming for that session.

Information for 8-10th Grade Students Only

For 8-10th Graders the tracks will be:

Track 1 - *Shleimut*: The Care of Me

Track 2 - *HaOlam Sheli*: The World and Me

Track 3 - *Yisrael Sheli*: Finding My Israel (8th- 9th Grades)

Track 3 - Confirmation (10th Grade)

Some highlights of the new tracks include:

- * Coffee house nights
- * Clergy interaction
- * White Water Center Experience for 8th and 9th Graders
- * Time to hang out and make new friends
- * Combined classes with both temples
- * Interactive and innovative learning. You will not just be sitting in a class room.
- * Opportunities to select your favorite electives such as cook-

ing, art, sports, music, and a leadership class ... and so much more.

Tuition for Hebrew High is \$600 for Temple Beth El and Temple Israel members. Tuition is \$700 for unaffiliated students.

Information for 11th-12th Grade Students Only (Post-Confirmation)

Post Confirmation students (11th and 12th Graders) will have two tracks: "Packing Jewishly for College" and "The Tea About College: Big Questions, Casual Conversations." Each track has a six or seven week curriculum and is taught by professionals in their related fields. We recognize that students in 11th and 12th grade have a lot on their plate. We have consolidated the Post Confirmation experience to 12-14 weeks and updated the curriculum to focus on teaching students the skills they need to survive 11th and 12th grade, apply to colleges, and find their Jewish life once they get to college. The objective of the new Post Confirmation experience focuses on quality not quantity.

Topics for the Packing Jewishly for College might include:

- How to choose your roommate
- How to deal with stress during the 11th/12th grade year
- How to have hard conversations about religion
- Learn about Hillel: Jewish Student Life on Campus
- The tolerance level on campus and number of Antisemitic incidents in recent years

The Tea About College: Big Questions, Casual Conversations:

This class gives our students an opportunity to sit around a table, enjoy a nosh or meal, and talk with Rabbi Judy Schindler, Sklut Professor of Jewish Studies and Director of the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University of Charlotte about important things in their lives. Classes will be held at Queens University.

Tuition for Post Confirmation is \$450 for Temple Beth El and Temple Israel members. Tuition is \$500 for unaffiliated students.

Hebrew for Credit (grades 8-12th)

Hebrew High is proud to offer Hebrew for Credit to our students. These classes have been approved by Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) and Union County Schools (UCPS). Students will receive one year of language credit for every two years they participate and pass their Hebrew for Credit class. All Hebrew classes will meet from 5-7 PM on Wednesday nights at Shalom Park beginning September 18 (prior to the start of Hebrew High). The cost is \$200 which includes all materials needed for the class. You must be registered for Hebrew High to enroll in Hebrew for Credit.

Save the Date: The Hebrew High kick-off program will be on Sunday, September 22. Hebrew High will mostly be on Wednesdays from 7-9 PM. We look forward to sharing our exciting new program with you. Registration forms can be found at www.hebrewhigh.org. Thank you and if

you have any questions please let us know.

Contact Megan Harkavy, Director - 704-944-6782 - mharkavy@shalomcharlotte.org - with any questions.☆



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BBYO Kickoff Event August 17

It's August and summer is winding down which means school will be starting soon. Charlotte BBYO teens are ready for an exciting year after attending a variety of summer programs, camps, and more. Chapter leaders and advisors are meeting, training, and planning an awesome year. Charlotte BBYO's Kickoff Event "The Big Splash" will be held Saturday evening, August 17, at the Levine JCC pool. All Jewish high



Olivia Potier and Sam Shulman.

guidance of their chapter advisors, BBYO teens plan and implement all aspects of their programming. Charlotte's first Tuesday night programs are August 27 from 7-8:30 PM at the Levine JCC.

All new and prospective members should mark their calendar for MIT/AIT our new member convention, November 1-3. This convention weekend brings together

(Continued on page 5)



Charlotte BBYO'ers get to hang with teens from all over the Southeast during Spring Cultural.

school students, 9th-12th grade - members, nonmembers, and those teens new to town are invited to join us for dinner, a DJ, swimming, games, and much more. For more information con-

tact Lauren Revenson at lrevenson@bbyo.org.

For 95 years, BBYO has offered so much to Jewish teens - leadership opportunities, friendships, a connection to Judaism, an opportunity to improve the world, travel and a place to just have fun. Charlotte BBYO has over 220 members in four chapters - two for Alephs (boys) and two for BBGs (girls). The chapters meet on Tuesday nights at the Levine JCC from 7-8:30 along with some weekend programming (conventions and sleepovers). With the

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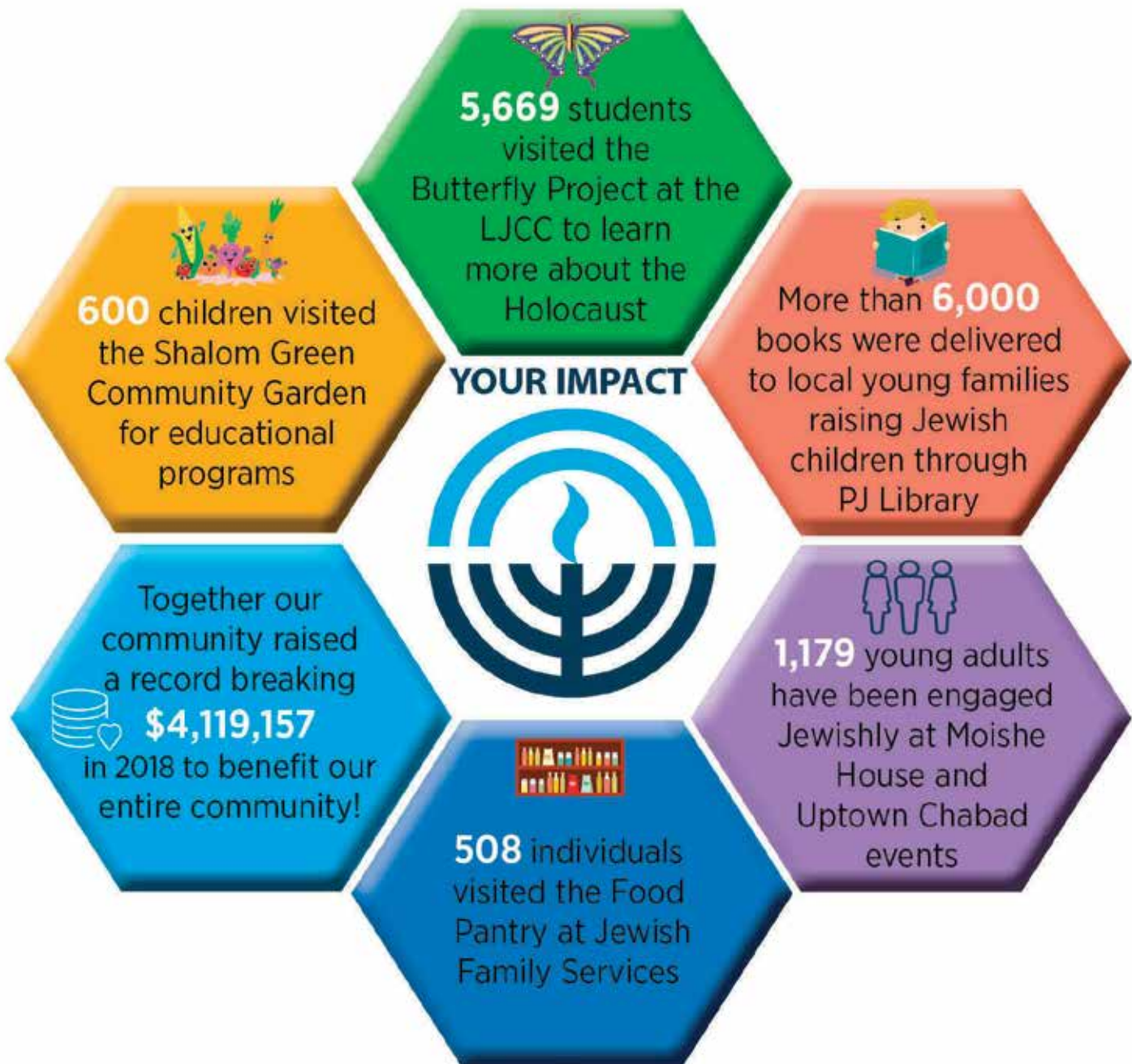
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Any commitment, of whatever size, is greatly appreciated. We hope that we can count on your support again this year. **DONATE TODAY! WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG**

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Pajama Walk Round 3 Set for November 10 at Freedom Park

Casual visitors to Charlotte's Freedom Park will be in for a surprise on the afternoon of Sunday, November 10, when hundreds of pajama-clad people take part in the Third Annual Pajama Walk, an event that helps children and young adults with special needs – and special talents – realize their dreams of living purposeful lives.

The Pajama Walk raises money for two nonprofit organizations – Friendship Circle and ZABS Place – aimed at providing friendship, social opportunities for individuals with special needs. Friendship Circle provides peer mentoring for children and teens while ZABS Place is a thrift bou-

tique offering on-the-job training that can lead to a fulfilling career.

Opening ceremonies begin at 1 PM at the Freedom Park Amphitheater, followed at 1:30 by a walk of just under a mile and a DreamLand Festival from 2-3 PM.

To learn more and sign up visit www.PajamaWalk.com.

Friendship Circle and ZABS Place are both beneficiary agencies of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.★



Alan Sussman kicks off the Pajama Walk in his monster trike.



Going the extra mile to make dreams come true.



Walking the trail sporting those PJs.



BBYO

(Continued from page 3)

our new members from southern Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and southern Georgia. You don't want to miss this great weekend, registration opens soon.

Juniors and seniors mark your calendar for our JR/SR Convention to be held October 18-20. Scott Fried, health educator, motivational speaker and HIV/AIDS advocate, will be our guest speaker for the weekend. To learn more about Scott visit <https://scottfried.com/>.

It's never too late to join BBYO. If you're interested in finding out more information about BBYO or visiting a chapter program on a Tuesday night, please contact Lauren Revenson, Eastern Region Associate Director lrevenson@bbyo.org or call 704-944-6734.

Young professionals - Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Charlotte BBYO is always looking for talented professionals to serve as mentors. If you are

Jewish, over 21 and interested in guiding our teens, please contact Lauren Revenson, lrevenson@bbyo.org. ★



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SCHOOL NEWS

Noah Goldman Is the 2019 Recipient of the Zachary Shporer Award

Charlotte Jewish Day School continues to honor Zachary Shporer's memory, an alumnus of both CJDS and the Barbara and Jerry Levin Middle School, with granting awards to a teen or young adult that has exhibited a remarkable sense of Jewish pride. This decision was made together with his parents, Fred and Lisa, because Zachary had that very reputation of displaying Jewish pride. When he was diagnosed with leukemia and fought the fight until it was his time to return his soul to God, the only request his parents put out to the thousands of people reaching out was to do one more mitzvah in his honor.

This year our nominee was Noah Goldman, who just graduated from Queens University. He too was a graduate from CJDS and the Barbara and Jerry Levin Jewish Middle School. Noah Goldman has always stood proud for Judaism throughout his school years, but during college he was called upon to stand out and to stand up especially because he attended a school where he was truly in the minority. In his first year, he was one of the very few Jewish students in the university. He did not try to hide and he did not try to blend in, rather he stood out, and he reached out to build bridges, to bring understanding and to hold hands with others. Noah was known for his willing-



Noah at his graduation from Queens University.



Zachary Shporer

ness to teach about Judaism and he helped the campus see international and national concerns through a Jewish lens. He took on the role of Hillel President and Rabbi Judy Schindler reported that "Due to Noah's tireless and steadfast efforts, we now have not just individual Jews at Queens,

we have a Jewish community." He demonstrated leadership, and set an example for all of us that even in the times we live, it is that much more important and crucial that we not cower from the threat of Antisemitism. Even after he himself experienced a blatant act of Antisemitism, he was not swayed. He still believed and continued to stand proud and tall with his Judaism, heritage, and birthright. He has been active in many causes, Jewish, and non-Jewish organizations, that we as the Jewish people can truly

be proud. He won many awards, too many to mention here. As Rabbi Schindler wrote about him, "Noah said, 'Hineni – I am ready, I am here to do what needs to be done.'" We were also especially touched when we saw the picture of Noah with his cap and gown on, because on his cap, Noah drew a Magen David, a Jewish Star. In the middle of a crowd of people, at his graduation, where there were not too many Jews, where many of us may have tried to blend in, he walked with his cap and a Magen David proudly

displayed on it. For sure, there goes a future leader in our Jewish community.

Benjamin, Noah's brother, accepted the award on Noah's behalf since Noah was in Israel at the time. Noah will receive \$250 to spend on Jewish books, art, or to support a Jewish experience. ☆

CJDS
Charlotte Jewish
Day School

Everybody Takes Care of Everybody

Alyson Kalik Celebrates 20 Years with CJP

By Liz Naman

If you've visited Charlotte Jewish Preschool over the past twenty years, your first stop has likely been the CJP office, where the first person you encounter is Office Manager, Alyson Kalik. Sitting behind the desk with her signature spiky hair and dark-rimmed glasses, Alyson is there to greet parents, teachers, and guests, and answer pretty much any question anyone may have. Seriously, Alyson seems to have a nearly encyclopedic knowledge of the families' names, the teachers' schedules, and what is need-

ed for each of the forms families complete each school year.

This May, Alyson celebrated her 20th year, and on a recent night in July, newly elected CJP Board President Melanie Resnick and I sat down with Alyson to reflect on her tenure at the school. Situated at a table at Vintner's in the Arboretum, we discussed everything from her worst day at CJP, her upbringing as a Chicago-transplant turned Valley Girl in 1980s L.A., and the ubiquity of the gray Honda Odyssey in the carpool line.

Alyson grew up in Chicago

and moved to Los Angeles' "Valley" for her senior year in high school. There, she experienced the 90210-style culture shock of moving from the Midwest to the West Coast, where her classmates were relatives of celebrities and drove Porsches. After marrying and having two sons, Mitch and Jake, Alyson realized that "LA is not where we wanted to raise our kids." So when Mitch was five and Jake was 18 months old, the family moved to Charlotte.

"You know, at first I hated it. Coming from large Jewish com-

(Continued on page 10)

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JPS Camp Highlights

This summer at JPS has been rocking. We beat the heat with water play and enjoyed many activities including story time, music, art, and gym. A couple of highlights were field trips, challah baking, and special visits from the police and fire departments.

Our oldest group went on a few field trips throughout the summer. Check them out below - they visited an art studio, pottery, Build-A-Bear, and the farm. What a great experience becoming familiar with a school bus and enjoying activities off campus.

During Red, White, and Blue Week, we celebrated our country by wearing lots of red, white, and blue, braiding red, white, and blue challah, and learning about how the policemen and firemen keep us safe.

The firemen brought their fire truck to school and the children got to climb inside. The police men showed us their radio and we sat in the police car as well. Thank you to Charlotte Fire Department and the CMPD for taking the time to visit us.

On Thursdays and Fridays, we got ready for Shabbat and some weeks we got to braid our very own challah.

Sometimes we got to add fun things like chocolate chips and sprinkles – yummy. The building smelled delicious as it baked and each child got to take their own challah home to enjoy on Shabbat.

Summer camp has been fun,

filled with laughter and smiles. Can't wait for what next year will bring.☆



Avery and Izzy show off their 4th of July shirts.



Ellie and Noam are on the bus, off on a field trip.



Checking out the fire truck.



Picnic days are the best days.



Shaping and painting our pottery.



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How You Can Help the Shalom Park Freedom School

The 9th Annual Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS) movie night fundraiser was a tremendous success thanks in large part to the members of the community that have pledged support by purchasing tickets and making donations to support the SPFS. The annual movie night fundraiser is necessary to sustain the SPFS. It costs approximately \$1,500 per child to fund a scholar and more than 50% of the SPFS annual budget comes from individual donations.

This year's movie, "The Homestretch," follows three homeless teens as they fight to stay in school, graduate, and build a future. Each of these smart, ambitious teenagers - Roque, Kasey, and Anthony - will surprise, inspire, and challenge audiences to rethink stereotypes of homelessness as they work to complete their education while facing the trauma of being alone and abandoned at an early age.

This movie was a perfect choice to illuminate our responsibility to support our scholars attending the Shalom Park Freedom School as our scholars come from Huntingtowne Farms and Sterling Elementary, Title I schools where 97% of children that participate in SPFS qualify for free and reduced lunch and many of our scholars face - or will face - similar struggles as the teens in the documentary.

We could still use your help. If you were not able to attend and would still like to support SPFS and our scholars please consider making a tax deductible donation. If you would like to donate by check, make check payable to "Freedom School Partners" and note "Shalom Park Freedom School" in the memo. The donation can be dropped off to the front office of the Levine JCC or mailed to: Shalom Park Freedom School, PO Box 2612, Matthews, NC 28106. Donating online is also an option: <http://freedom-schoolpartners.org/get-involved/make-a-donation/donation-form/>. Please select Shalom Park Freedom School in drop down menu with option to designate the gift to a specific Freedom School site.

Another way to help would be to purchase your Amazon items through Amazon Smile. Here is the link for the Shalom Park Freedom School Amazon Charity List: https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/l/TFDAUTN50-PY2/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl.

It is run through the LJCC amazon smile account. You have to have an Amazon smile account to use it. Purchases will come directly to the LJCC.

The movie night fundraiser event required tremendous support from our community. Please join us in thanking the following people:

Margaret Musa and Annie Lord served as the Movie Event Chairs and did double duty - as they are also the Chairs of the

SPFS board. If you see Annie Lord or Margaret Musa around the community, please thank them for all of their hard work. They did an amazing job coordinating every aspect of this event.

The 2019 row captains included the following people: Andy and Christy Horwitz, Deidre Grub, Rona Karacaova, Lisa Garfinkle, Cheryl Alley, Sarah Fligel, Butch Rosen, Tara and Doug Benson, Judy Seldin-Cohen, Jill Blumenthal, Amy Choffin, and Lynne Sheffer.

Thank you to Kim and Adam Levy for the snacks and drinks; Nancy Bernstein for the centerpieces; Jered Mond and Izzy's Catering.

And a big thank you to our speakers for the night: Mr. Fransa Hill from Huntingtowne Farms Elementary and Ms. Tiffany Williams from Freedom School Partners. ☆



Nancy Zolotorofe and Kim Levy



Cheryl Alley, Ellen Engelhardt, Laura Lewin, Andrea Wise, Sarah Choffin, Burt Greenspon, and Greg Musa.



Event co-chairs Annie Lord and Margaret Musa.



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Alyson Kalik Celebrates Her 20th Anniversary at CJP

(Continued from page 6)

munities in Chicago and Los Angeles, the Charlotte Jewish community was small then. But, I wouldn't do it over. Charlotte is a great place to raise children. Everybody takes care of everybody, everyone watches over everyone. That's missing in bigger cities."

Alyson's experience in moving to Charlotte echoes that of so many young Jewish families who have settled here from larger cities to raise their families, where CJP has been their first stop in connecting with others in the Jewish community. She quickly befriended another mother, Sue Coben (z"l), who gave her the low down on CJP. Alyson says, "Everyone moves here and they're

in the same situation - they don't know anybody, they have little kids. Some of my best friends to this day are the ones I met at CJP. I had their kids in preschool, and now they're graduating college."

Alyson's son, Jake, started out in the mom's morning out program and Alyson started subbing at the school, and then was an assistant in various classrooms. Eventually, a spot opened up in the CJP office, and the rest is history. Back in those days, CJP was situated in the D-wing of Shalom Park and shared a small office with TIRS. CJP only enrolled about 50 or 60 children; Alyson recalls that "when we broke 100, we thought: what are we going

to do? We don't have enough room."

Over the past twenty years, Alyson has seen the school grow nearly 300. She's seen the school move to its current location in Building F. She's seen difficult days, as longtime teachers have passed away, families have moved away, and 9/11, as well as wonderful days such as Pajama Day and Graduation.

As CJP continues to grow and develop, so does Alyson's role at CJP, where she is a crucial part of the office team. Of Brooke Amo, Alyson says that Brooke has created a caring atmosphere at the school and "is creative and sees the big picture and where we can

go in the future." She talks about the importance of the complementary styles of the office staff and credits their different styles as a reason for them meshing so well as a team.

In the end, though, the parts of Alyson's CJP experience she consistently returns to are her interactions with the CJP students. Many children stop in the office every day just to chat at her desk or get a fist bump. "We have about 250 families, so about 500 parents, and that can be intimidating at first," she admits. But still, "you talk to the same people, and you see the same faces, and eventually, you get to know almost everyone every year."

Alyson admits that she originally thought that working at CJP "was just going to be something to do while my kids were at school." However, she says, she ended up staying because of the "warm and welcoming" en-

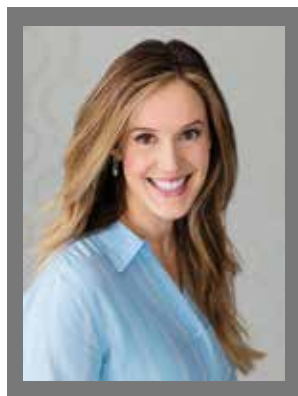
vironment. "You get to know the parents, you get to know the kids. I like getting to see all the kids grow. When they start in the ones and they're short and can barely walk, and they graduate to the fours ... and you remember their first day of CJP. I can't see myself working anywhere else." Neither can I. Congratulations on a wonderful milestone. ☆



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Mitzvah Baskets: In honor of B'nei Mitzvah of Allison Repella and Mikah Amo, in honor of B'nei Mitzvah of Ava Kornfeld and Bob Kornfeld

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JFS Live Laugh Give Comedy Night Hits a New High

The guests settled in, relaxed, and quickly began laughing as headliner, Orny Adams, delivered his one-liners and jokes. The crowd of 275 guests also raised their paddles and opened their hearts during the live auction and call to the heart, contributing to the \$125,000 raised during this Night of Laughter, Lifetime of Healing event.

We are awed, moved, and inspired by the generosity of this community and were especially touched when Eric and Lori Sklut offered to match the funds raised during the call to the heart.

A special thank you to our entertainment underwriters, Adam and Kim Levy, Co-Chairs, Suzy Catenazzo and An-

drea Cronson, our Gilda Radner Sponsor Izzy's Catering and all who donated their time, talent, and gifts. This evening would not have been possible without your support, faith, and belief in what we do. ☆



Co-chair Andrea Cronson, JFS Executive Director Howard Olshansky, and Co-chair Suzy Catenazzo.



Barbara Goodman with comedian Orny Adams.



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New Chabad Center on Sardis Road to Be Celebrated on September 15 with a Grand Opening Ceremony

Excitement is building in the Charlotte community as the new, expanded Chabad Center, on Sardis Road, nears completion. The beautiful new facility will house the multitude of Chabad activities that serves people of all ages and backgrounds in Charlotte.

A spectacular grand opening celebration will take place on Sunday, September 15, that will showcase the many facets of Chabad, which have added vitality and meaning to the Jewish community of Charlotte since its inception in 1980.

This celebration will coincide with Chabad's 40th anniversary here in Charlotte. Chabad of Charlotte incorporates a flourishing synagogue – Ohr HaTorah; a thriving preschool – The Jewish Preschool on Sardis; and high level education symposiums – The Jewish Learning Institute, CKids and CTeens, as well as the very popular Friendship Circle of Charlotte.

The new center will feature a sanctuary which will be used by Ohr HaTorah, as well as an assembly place for many Chabad educational presentations. The ark and the sanctuary furniture were built in Israel at Kibbutz Lavi. There is a multipurpose social hall with advanced multimedia technology and a brightly designed atrium which will serve as a pre-function area. Also in the new center is a junior congregation learning center as well as a full commercial kosher kitchen with a capacity for kosher catering.

We talked with Rabbi Yossi Groner who, together with his wife Mariashi, brought Chabad to Charlotte in July of 1980. The following are a few of the questions/

answers from the interview:
Chabad is the fastest growing Jewish organization globally. What is its secret?

"Building relationships. In today's world of advanced technology and instant communication, one would think that we, as a society, are truly connected. Technology is great, but it's artificial. People are thirsty for genuine relationships. Chabad seeks to build and foster genuine relationships with people on an individual basis."

Is there a unique formula to Chabad's outreach?

"People today just want to be accepted as they are. Chabad is totally non-judgmental of those who participate in Chabad's programs. Chabad looks for the positive in every person and tries to help them rise one notch at a time in their Jewish life. Chabad emphasizes action over talk. One single, positive deed that a person does to add to their Jewish involvement is valued more than a thousand good speeches."

What is the attraction to Chabad?

"The Rebbe would frequently say that a living entity grows. Chabad is synonymous with innovation, growth, and bold new ideas. Chabad's goal is to grow Judaism. Even though it lives by Halachic principles, it concurrently thinks out of the box in presenting Judaism in an exciting, accessible way that allows people to connect with it through any portal they choose."

How does Chabad relate to today's generation?

"People who attend Chabad feel valued as God's gift to the world. No matter the position they occupy or how religious they may be. Chabad relates to peo-

ple where they are in life. There isn't a one size fits all template. That is why we have many varying ways of how one can experience growth. To some, it may be a taste of Shabbat with a Shabbat 101 program. To others, it could be attending an exciting JLI on ethics, law, or philosophy. Our CKids and CTeen programs have revolutionized how young people experience Judaism. We have fused together some of the most innovative teaching and development ideas for our teen and kids programs. Kids who attend our Sunday and midweek programs are excited to be part of this experience. Speaking of youth programs, the Friendship Circle, run by Chabad in Charlotte, has opened doors for a host of Jewish teenagers to get deeply involved in changing the lives of so many in need."

What is the Friendship Circle?

"Friendship Circle brings together local, idealistic teenagers with children of special needs to be friends and build relationships. Friendship Circle has developed a unique approach to supporting children with special needs. Though their peers may enjoy regular play-dates, children with special needs often experience loneliness and isolation because of a lack of appropriate social opportunities. Our innovative programming is designed to fill this void by fostering enduring and meaningful friendships between those with special needs, our 'Special Friends,' and typically-developing teens, our 'Teen Friends,' in the Greater Charlotte Jewish community. Our core program pairs local teens and children with special needs for weekly visits; the basis of our genuine friendships. Through

a broad range of activities and events, Friendship Circle creates an atmosphere of acceptance, recognizing that all people, regardless of the obstacles and challenges they may experience, are sacred, worthy of love, and have something to contribute."☆



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Temple Kol Tikvah Welcomes New Rabbi

Rabbi David Lipper Joins Lake Norman Congregation

Davidson, NC - Temple Kol Tikvah in Davidson welcomes Rabbi David Lipper as the second spiritual leader in the congregation's history. Rabbi Lipper joins the Lake Norman Jewish community from Bellevue, WA where he served for five years as Interim and Senior Rabbi for Temple B'nai Torah. Rabbi Lipper brings extensive experience guiding growing congregations, building community engagement and supporting strategic development.

"We are excited to have Rabbi Lipper join us as we start this new chapter in the journey of our congregation," said Temple Kol Tikvah president Daniel Tobias.

Prior to joining Temple B'nai Torah Rabbi Lipper served as an intentional interim Rabbi for several congregations across the country, assisting with outreach, community building, and strategic planning in addition to providing spiritual guidance and support. Interfaith outreach and collaboration have been a long-



Rabbi David Lipper

term focus of Rabbi Lipper. He has led interfaith trips to Israel and collaborated with faith-based communities, creating partnership and community with other houses of worship.

Temple Kol Tikvah, founded in 2000, is an inclusive and egalitarian Jewish community of more than 180 families associated with the Union of Reform Judaism. Since its inception, Temple Kol Tikvah has drawn families from across the region thanks in large part to its vibrant religious school

and its focus on programming for individuals and families in all stages in life. Rabbi Michael Shields, who served as the congregation's first full-time Rabbi, accepted a position in Tallahassee, FL earlier this year.

"I believe Rabbi Lipper will connect well with our congregation and be a real asset to the community of Lake Norman," said Temple Kol Tikvah founding member and past president Slade Goldstein.

About Temple Kol Tikvah

Temple Kol Tikvah is an inclusive and egalitarian Jewish congregation serving the greater Lake Norman area and Davidson College. More than 130 families from various backgrounds and at all stages of life create the fabric of Temple Kol Tikvah. Committed to diversity, inspiring worship, and life-long learning, Temple Kol Tikvah is a member of the Union of Reform Judaism. More information can be found at www.templekoltikvah.org.☆

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A black and white photograph of an older man, Harry Swimmer, wearing a light-colored polo shirt and khaki pants. He is standing next to a dark horse, holding its lead rope. They are in an outdoor setting with a fence and trees in the background.

A black and white group photograph of approximately 20 people, likely the staff of Swimmer Insurance Today. They are posed in front of a building with large glass windows. The group includes men and women of various ages, dressed in professional attire like suits and dresses. Some are standing in the front row, while others are slightly behind.

Photos [L to R]: Harry Swimmer, founder of Swimmer Insurance and Mitey Riders | Swimmer Insurance Today

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Temple Solel Hosts Ushpizin

Recently after making a request for “a ramped up Oneg” while planning a future event, a woman in our congregation asked, “What does that mean?” I answered, “Think about how you feed us when we come to your house.” It’s the picture of Jewish hospitality with the arrival of *ushpizin* (guests) and even more important when those guests are leaders and people willing to share their wisdom and experiences with the community.

At the end of June, we had local guests attend our annual meeting and luncheon. An overview of the congregation’s accomplishments for the year was presented and the following officers were confirmed for the 2019-2020 term: President - Shelley Pawlyk, Vice President - Ron Weller, Treasurer - Jan Rose, Recording Secretary - Robin Spivock, and Ritual Officer - Russ Cobe.

According to the incoming leadership, social action projects under the direction of Social Action Chair, Carol Hahn, will be a huge focus. A number of events will be held to make it easy for people to form friendships in the congregation, especially if they are new to the area. It also includes expanding education to our members and providing positive views of Judaism being demonstrated in the surrounding South Carolina community. We want to express our gratitude to the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte for naming Temple Solel SC as a new Beneficiary Agency. When you donate to the JFGC you are helping organizations in our region and should feel a part of all we do.

In partnership with the Clergy at Temple Beth El, one of our recent guests this summer was Rabbi Steve Burnstein, who was installed at Kehilat Birkat Shalom congregation in Israel working with Rabbi Miri Gold. She is retiring 12/29/19 after 20 years of service and leading the Kibbutz Gezer Community. We are such dear friends with Rabbi Gold and this was the first time we had an opportunity to meet Rabbi Burnstein. We felt instantly connected through our engaging discussion. It was a privilege to host him for an informal Monday brunch with our leadership, which created a perfect setting to discuss how to infuse Israel in our congregation, show support for pluralism, while also hearing about the struggles



Seated: Wendy Weinberger and Shelley Pawlyk; standing: Jan Rose, Vicki and Ron Weller, Rabbi Steve Burnstein, Robin Spivock, and Al Rogat

still taking place to gain acceptance of Reform and Conservative Judaism. Another visiting friend from Brisbane, Australia, Lynda Turnbull, said, “I could have listened for several more hours. It was wonderful information I can take home with me and share with others in Australia.” Many may not realize, but we can each become an International Member with Birkat Shalom. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us at info@templesolel.org and we’ll get you the information.



Edie Yakutis

Visiting in July was ISJL Director, Rabbi Aaron Rozovsky to help us celebrate our recent move with a Torah service July 26. Rabbi Rozovsky has a special commitment to this nation’s armed forces. He has served as a chaplain in multiple military settings, and was a fellow at the Jewish War Veterans of America (JWV) Cincinnati-Dayton chapter, Cincinnati, OH. He led an informative and lively Torah study Saturday morning on gun control in the Bible (pros and cons). It was an opportunity to hear explanations on this topic we hadn’t heard before.

On August 3 at 10 AM, we have yet another guest, but this

person is really *mishpocha* (family) returning to us. Edie Yakutis was one of our lay leaders before retiring from a corporate career to answer the Rabbinic call. She is currently a second-year student at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, class of 2023 and planning to share about her year in Israel and amazing journey to Lithuania and Jewish communities within former Soviet Union countries.

For more information write us at info@templesolel.org or call 803-619-9707. Temple Solel holds regular Shabbat services at 7 PM on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at Belair UMC Family Life Center, 8095 Shelley Mullis Rd., Fort Mill, SC 29707. ☆



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—Elie Wiesel, Gates of the Forest



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Shema: the Oneness to Which God Calls Us

The Mishnah asks: are we permitted to interrupt our singing the Shema – the watchword of our faith – in order to greet another person? The ancient rabbis offer striking advice: you can interrupt a prayer to God in order to acknowledge the presence of another human being. Judaism's profound idea is that human life and relationship are fundamental to spiritual living. This is much more than a matter of synagogue etiquette; this is a Jewish reminder that in our places of prayer, in our hearts and in our lives, the Divine and human share sacred space. The enduring idea that transcends lifetimes and generations is that the sanctity of God is found in the relationships and communities that we create. That is what we do when we name a baby, or sing and pray at a service led by a bat mitzvah student, visit someone in the hospital, when we rejoice with couples under the chuppah, stand with others as they recite the Mourners' Kaddish for their loved ones, or make sandwiches for the hungry.

These ideas aren't just ancient; they are modern too. Recent sociological studies have found that the relationships created in a religious community pay huge dividends and can contribute to our sense of connection. As we get older and our priorities shift, maintaining relationships and developing new ones often become more difficult. Staying communally engaged is integral to our sense of belonging, becoming, and our personal fulfillment. We cannot forget that humans are, by our very nature, social creatures. From pre-historic camp-fires to

our kitchen tables, it was in our homes and neighborhoods and in our synagogues that we formed relationships that add substance and support and meaning to our lives.

At Temple Beth El, we believe that our lives and faith are more than a passive experience. We are weavers of a social fabric that is shaped by idea that when we are in relationship and well-connected, we can better care for the well-being of one another. And when we support the Jewish spiritual growth and learning of one another, we live better and richer and fuller Jewish lives. This is why Temple Beth El proudly opens our doors to everyone: to people who have grown up Jewish, interfaith families, Jews of color, LGBTQ, young and the young-at-heart, and everyone who is seeking a community of warm welcome and embrace. We invite all stakeholders and community members and leaders to create personal meaning, learn from the received wisdom of our faith, and support one another in a world that increasingly looks scary.

An example of this is in our incredible TriBE small groups initiative. Over 300 members of Temple Beth El are meeting regularly as part of small groups of five to fifteen people in homes, offices, and other places that promote relationship building. They are self-led. Some TriBEs connect around common interests

and affinities. Others are gathering to discuss topics of importance in their lives. All are engaging in meaningful conversation and Jewish learning. TriBEs are our effort to deepen connections with one another, to Temple, to God, and to rhythms of Jewish time and life. The arc of Eternity is illumined by precious human encounters at each step of the way. The ultimate wisdom of the Mishnah is that the human greeting is not an interruption of the Shema at all. It is the fulfillment of the Shema: of the Oneness that is God and the Oneness to which God calls us.



Join Us for Shabbat

Shabbat worship is the highlight of our week, where music lifts our souls, meditative moments bring us closer to our holy selves and relationships deepen. We come together every Friday night at 6 PM and every Saturday morning at 10:30 AM during the Summer. 7:30 PM Services will start in September. We also have a dynamic Torah study on Saturday mornings at 9 AM. For more information visit: www.templebethel.org. ✡

W.O.W. Shtisel Event

A Different Kind of Jew: Dismissal or Shtisel?

By Sara Oppenheim

A phenomenon named *Shtisel* came to Israeli TV a few years ago. It deals with love, commitment, loyalty, family, and many other themes typically common to novels on the big screen. What makes this show unique are its characters and setting. *Shtisel* is about a fictional ultra-Orthodox family living in Geula, a deeply religious, internet-free neighborhood in Jerusalem. The show won seven Israeli TV Academy awards. This year, Netflix made it available to American audiences and the response was overwhelming. When *The New York Times* wrote about it, the article was entitled "Netflix's *Shtisel* Is Binge-Worthy TV on a Strict Form of Judaism." Over the past few months, many people have asked me about various aspects of the show. It wasn't only the religious customs that caught people's attention, it was the sociology of the family and community examined in each episode.

The *Shtisel* family is comprised of Shulem, the family patriarch, a teacher in the local yeshiva with strong opinions – but also a gentle side. Akiva, his youngest son, teaches at Shulem's yeshiva but art is his real passion. Giti, his sister, is in a challeng-

ing marriage; her husband takes off for Argentina for work and she is left with the task of raising five children. Akiva is looking to get married and is set up with a number of eligible young women, but only when he meets Eli-sheva, the twice widowed mother of one of Akiva's students, is he intrigued and even love smitten even though she's ten years older than he is. The humor and pathos emanate from their adherence to having no sex and barely touching. Marty Greenfeld, retired chief financial officer at Warner Records commented that "while it is clothed in the world of the ultra-Orthodox, *Shtisel* is a human story about family, love, and community. You laugh, you cry, and at the conclusion you want more."

As a result of the number of questions I was being asked, we decided to run an event to discuss the fascinating and mysterious world of the *Shtisel* family and the community in which they lived. The response on social media was astounding; it received more attention than any other event we had ever run.

The event was well attended and we served homemade Jerusalem kugel with and Israeli

(Continued on page 18)

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Women's News

Save the Date

Hadassah Casino Night

By Sharon Goretsky, president,
Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah

On behalf of Hadassah Charlotte, I would like you to be among the first to learn about our Casino Night Fundraiser. This exciting event will take place on Saturday evening, November 16 at Temple Beth El. The night will feature fun casino games: blackjack, roulette, Texas Hold-Em, and dice. There will also be a silent auction and a wine pull. It will be an evening of games, food, drink, and fun for everyone, from the novice player to the seasoned gambler.

I invite you to join us, have a great time, and help us reach our goal, which will enable Hadassah Charlotte to sponsor the construction of a Nurses' Station in the newly renovated Dermatology Department at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem in Jerusalem. Around the clock, Hadassah's highly skilled nurses utilize their specialized training to work alongside physicians and other staff in the departments of the Round Building and it is imperative that they are given the proper equipment

and location to deliver the best care available. This state of the art nurses' station will serve as the hub for nursing care and will be equipped with all necessary com-



munication equipment including computers, printers, loudspeaker, and telephones as well as the notification system for patients requesting attention. Hadassah Medical Organization is a world leader in melanoma research and treatment. In addition, The Marie and Aaron Blackman Department

of Dermatology and Venereology has recently established several new clinics, each one specializing in the treatment of specific diseases or populations: pediatric dermatology, contact dermatitis, mole tracking, and a MOHS surgery unit. The department is also a leading center for treating patients suffering from various hair and scalp disorders, such as alopecia areata. This is in addition to their oncodermatology clinic, Center for Genetic Diseases of the Skin and Hair, and their Clinic for Ulcers and Difficult Wound Healing, among many others.

One of our primary goals is supporting Hadassah Medical Organization, which treats over one million patients each year without regard for race, nationality or religion.

I am sure with your participation our Casino Night will be a great success and we will be able to give the hard working nurses at Ein Kerem the facility they deserve, which in turn will benefit all the patients.

Look for more details and ticket information soon. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me at sharon.goretsky@gmail.com. ✱

W.O.W. Shtisel Program

(Continued from page 16)

pickles, the typical *Shtisel* food. One common denominator linked people's comments was the degree to which superficiality and conjecture had informed their view of an entire community; this hadn't occurred to them before watching the show, which is not



like most other depictions of the Haredim that they wish to leave the confines of their society. *Shtisel* is about the ordinary pains and joys of living within it. As one of the show's creators, Yehonatan Indursky, said, "This outlook that Haredim live in a kind of ghetto and are just waiting for the day they can escape — it's an occupation fantasy for secular people." All this despite the fact that not so much as a kiss is exchanged on camera.

Some people submitted questions online before the event, others wrote them on slips of paper, and others publicly commented or asked questions.

There were many questions about dating in the Haredi world and how foreign, but at the same time understandable, it is in the 21st century. How about dogs; are they taboo in the ultra-Orthodox world? There was an endearing scene where Shulem feeds a dog some schnitzel from the refrigerator and cholent. How about head coverings — for men and women? What is this whole yarmulke

thing anyway and are guys obligated to sleep with them? (No, for the record.) Why were their two beds in the bedroom; don't husband and wife sleep together?

An interesting insight shared by all was how independent the women were. These were no passive pushovers who simply did what they were told. They were intelligent, creative, took initiative, and were not content to be mere observers or bystanders in the world of the men in their lives.

People are human; most of us share the same challenges. *Shtisel* has done something the Jewish community at large seeks to do — unite Jews and ignore their background or level of observance. The fact that people from diverse backgrounds chose to attend an event about a family foreign to their culture is an indication that we are one people who still feel connected through culture and religion, and still feel linked to our brothers and sisters, no matter how far removed they appear. ✱

Community News

FCJC Legacy Celebration and Annual Meeting



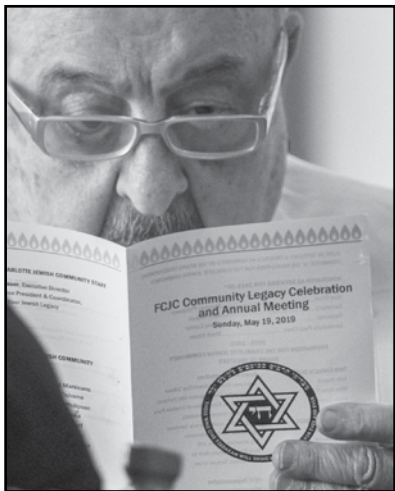
Stephen Philipson, David Levin, Doug Benson



Laura Milgrim, Phil Warshauer, Arlene Davis



Marcy Dumas, Ellen Reich, Rick Glaser, Fred Dumas



Isaac Luski reads the program for the evening.



Shellie and Harvey Barer, Bill Gorelick



Rabbi Yossi Groner, David and Aileen Epstein

Back to School – Getting Ready

By Alexis Strouse, clinical therapist, Jewish Family Services

Whether the summer was jam-packed with camp, play dates, outings, and other fun activities, or filled with complaints about being bored with nothing to do, kids often have a tough time making the back-to-school transition. It can be especially challenging when balancing work and a busy family life.

And while the start of a new school year is exciting for most kids it can also bring with it a spike in anxiety, even for kids who are usually pretty easy going, so it is not uncommon to see a rise in some difficult behaviors from your child including (by age):

- o Toddler and Pre-School Age: increased tantrums, separation anxiety, regression (may seem like they are going backwards in their development but it is usually temporary) with toilet training, change in sleep schedule/bedtime problems, increased crying and power struggles, not following directions.

- o Elementary Age: talking back, disobedience, fighting and aggression, worries, anxiety, nightmares and sleep schedule changes, bed-wetting, irritable mood, lying, fighting with siblings, difficulty with friends at school, and resistance to school routine.

- o Middle/High School: irritable mood, “rude” and disrespectful behavior, power struggles, increased anxiety, shift in focus to peer/friendships, and talking back.

We all want our kids to lead happy and fulfilled lives and at any given time we are doing our best to make that happen. Sometimes tips and guidance from outside sources can help. Actively participating in parenting education, formal or informal can yield strong benefits for both parents and their children. After all, as a parent, who wouldn’t want their child to calmly follow instructions, do well at school, make friends easily and feel good about themselves? A 2016 review of parent education programs from the Wilder Foundation found that children of parents who participate in parenting education often demonstrate higher levels of empathy, sharing, and helping others, and have less destructive behaviors such as aggression, delinquency, and hyperactivity.

According to the Triple P Positive Parenting Program, one of the few parenting programs based on evidence and research, parents who use positive parenting say they feel more confident, less stressed, and have less conflict with their partner over parenting issues.

Triple P’s approach to positive parenting is based on some very simple ideas that have been shown to help make raising children easier. There are hundreds of evaluation papers and randomized controlled trials that show Triple P can work for most families – across different cultures, socio-economic groups and in many different family structures. Some key highlights:

- * Triple P reduces problem behavior in children and improve parents’ wellbeing and parenting skills.

- * In communities where Triple P is widely available, (which it is in NC) children have fewer behavioral and emotional problems.

- * Parents using Triple P say they are less stressed, less depressed, and don’t use harsh discipline.

Here are some Triple P Positive Parenting Strategies that may help with Back to School:

Establishing a Bedtime Routine, including a regular bedtime, a child friendly checklist that the child uses each night to prepare for bed, and preparing the child ahead of time each night before the routine, praising specific behaviors the next morning helps.

To avoid talking back and fighting, Triple P suggests a “Planned ignoring for undesirable behavior.” When your child demonstrates an undesired behavior such as tantrums or talking back, Triple P suggests ignoring the behavior entirely until the tantrum stops. This technique is used in specific situations with the coaching of your Triple P provider.

For teens with anxiety, talk openly about feelings and how to deal with upsetting events, encourage teenagers to develop problem-solving skills (which your Triple P provider can help with one on one individual basis).

For stronger communication with your teens, especially about fear-based situations, engaging

in “Casual Conversation” and listening to their fears may not sound like a “big deal” to you but it feels like a bid deal to them.

Manage your own emotions - The most important lesson in Triple P is to manage your own emotions, stay calm, set a positive example, and give positive attention.

Triple P is a parenting program but it doesn’t tell you how to be

a parent. It’s more like a toolbox of ideas. If you or someone you know is faced with parenting challenges or would like to learn how to encourage good behavior and manage the challenging behaviors, please call 704-364-6594. Jewish Family Services’ clinical therapists are credentialed in Triple P. They may use these and other strategies to help get you through the tough times. ☆

Hebrew Cemetery Annual Memorial Service

By Lorrie Klemons, event chair

All over the world, Jewish communities hold annual memorial services on the Sunday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The Board of Directors of the Charlotte Hebrew Cemetery Association invites you to join us at our very own sacred and magnificent Hebrew Cemetery on Sunday, October 6 at 1801 Statesville Avenue, for our own community’s Annual Memorial Service. The service begins promptly at 10:30 AM, rain or shine. Each year 300+ members of the Charlotte Jewish community attend this meaningful service. Come see what all the fuss is all about. Come spiritually reconnect with memories of loved ones, friends and acquaintances who are no longer amongst us.

Our Annual Memorial Service is a special time to honor, celebrate, and embrace our loved ones, friends, and members of the community who have departed this earth and lie embraced by Mother Earth in our hallowed

cemetery grounds. Led by our beloved and esteemed Charlotte clergy, we are sure you will find it a meaningful and moving experience. Inspired by the spirit of repentance (teshuvah) and renewal during the 5780 High Holiday season, visiting the graves of beloved relatives, friends, or other tzadikim (righteous people) is a mitzvah that helps us live in accordance with our ancestral ideals and values.

As you enter the main gate of the cemetery, be sure to stop and admire the “Silverman Circle,” highlighted by a spectacular bronze sculpture of a modernist interpretation of a “Tree of Life.” The Cemetery Association is extremely proud of this magnificent addition to our cemetery, commissioned by Greensboro artist, Jim Gallucci. We are deeply grateful for the vision and generosity of Mattye and Marc Silverman who made this magnificent sculpture and the Silverman Circle a reality.

(Continued on page 28)

JTENNIS. JSTEPS. JDAD. JMENSCH. JFIT. JTOTS. JSWIM. JSTAGE. JRUN.

August 2019

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Mon-Thu PM4pm-7:30pm

Saturday 12pm-3pm

Sunday8:30am-2pm

Per Hour: M/\$4.50 NM/ \$5.50

Grades K-5th

A great, supervised space for your elementary age child to have fun and hang out with friends, while you workout!

Sundays, 8:30am-1pm

Location: Check with LJCC Customer Service

M/\$2/hour

NM/\$5.50 per hour

Reservations Required! 704-366-5007, or visit LJCC Customer Service.

LJCC Department Directory

Please contact us if you have questions!

Membership

Susan Lerner 704-944-6741
susan.lerner@charlottejcc.org

Early Childhood

Patty Torcellini 704-944-6891
patty.torcellini@charlottejcc.org

K-5th Grade Programs

Mitch Ormand 704-944-6733
mitch.ormand@charlottejcc.org

Adults & Seniors/Oasis

Jill Lipson 704-944-6792
jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org

Wellness & Fitness

Jenny Crow 704-944-6870
jenny.crow@charlottejcc.org

Sports

Stephanie Garner 704-944-6743
stephanie.garner@charlottejcc.org

Aquatics / Swim Team

Joshua Steinberger 704-944-6746
joshua.steinberger@charlottejcc.org

LJCC Tennis / CRUSH

Greg O'Connor 704-944-6748
gregory.oconnor@charlottejcc.org

Visual/Performing Arts

Susan Gundersheim 704-944-6778
susan.gundersheim@charlottejcc.org

J-Childcare

Amie Gray 704-944-6726
amie.gray@charlottejcc.org

Social Action

Julie Rizzo 704-944-6730
julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org

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- August 12-16 (Full day only)

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Adults

Integrative Medicine with Dr. Russ Greenfield

Integrative medicine is an evidence-based treatment that can be combined with traditional therapies to improve health and support healing through treatment and beyond. Come hear about this treatment from Dr. Russell H. Greenfield, MD (Russ), medical director of Novant Health's Integrative Medicine Program.

Friday, August 9

1-2pm

Weinberg Senior Center

Free

704-944-6753 or sharri.benjamin@charlottejcc.org

"Nosh & Know"

about Parkinson's Disease (PD)

Join us monthly for a series of topics. We'll provide refreshments and snacks. August topic: "Never Give Up: Retired State Trooper Shares His Inspirational and Emotional PD Story." Presented by Tommy Dellinger.

Tuesday, August 13

11:30am-12:15pm

Weinberg Senior Center

Free

Upcoming monthly topics:

September 17: "Music and Its Benefits For Parkinson's Disease" – presented by Gretchen Chardos Benner, LMSW, MT-BC Director/Owner, Piedmont Music Therapy, LLC

October 29: "Non-Motor Symptoms of PD, Including Sleep Disturbance, Anxiety, and Depression." Presented by Dr. Craig Chepke, MD, FAPA, Psychiatrist, Excel Psychiatric Associates.

November 19: "Meditation and the Benefits It May Have On PD Management." Presented by Jenny Plaus, Transformational Meditation Certification and Meditation Teacher.

December 17: "Ideas for Making your Life Easier and Safer with Parkinson's Disease." Presented by Staci Mond, OT, Advanced Home Care.

In collaboration with



Must RSVP each month, by the Friday before to 704-944-6792 or jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org

Living Healthy with Chronic Pain A Six-Week Course*

This workshop helps people who are experiencing a wide range of chronic pain conditions such as: Musculoskeletal pain • Whiplash injury Fibromyalgia • Repetitive strain injury Neck pain • Chronic knee pain Post stroke • Neuropathic pain & others

Course topics will cover:

Making an Action Plan • Problem-Solving Fitness/Exercise • Pacing Activity & Rest Using Your Mind to Manage Symptoms Difficult Emotions • Fatigue/Sleep-Communication Healthy Eating • Medications • Depression Making Treatment Decisions Working with Your Health Care Professional Future Plans & more

You will learn from trained volunteer and professional leaders who will help you set goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health and your life.

Tuesdays, August 20 – September 24

10am-12:30pm

FSP Boardroom (First class meets in Room A110

Free (*You must be able to attend all 6 sessions)

Spaces are limited; register by Tuesday, 8/9 to 704-944-6753 or sharri.benjamin@charlottejcc.org

Chronic
Pain

Ladies' Night Out: Italian Cooking Class

Appetizers, wine, and learning! Chef Roberta of "Con Gusto" grew up in Italy. She will share the history of ingredients and recipes that tell about geography and cultural diversity. This is a hands-on experience with homemade recipes using fresh, organic ingredients.

Thursday, August 22

6:30pm

Location TBD

M/\$38 NM/\$48

704-944-6737 or

robin.stier@charlottejcc.org



Read our monthly **OASIS**
SENIOR ENRICHMENT
newsletter at charlottejcc.org

Levine JCC Butterfly Project – Volunteer Training

Join us to learn about volunteering for the LJCC Butterfly Project workshops and/or for a refresher course.

Thursday, September 5 OR Tuesday, September 10

9am – New Volunteers

10am – Returning Volunteers

Family Place

RSVP to Lori Semel at butterflyproject@charlottejcc.org



JMemory Café

Caring for a family member with mild to moderate dementia? Come with them to the JMemory Café. Socialize, meet new friends, engage in activities together and just have fun. A light breakfast will be served.

The purpose of the program:

- social engagement & discussion
- a safe, relaxed and non-judgmental environment
- enjoy music, art, and more

Meets twice every month:

2nd & 4th Thursdays • 10am-12pm

Weinberg Senior Center

704-944-6792 or jill.lipson@charlottejcc.org



Oasis Book Club

August's Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles

Friday, August 30, 1-2pm

FSP Boardroom • Free

Tai Chi/Qigong

Adults 50+

Improve your strength, balance and flexibility through this gentle form of fitness.

Tuesdays, 11:45am-12:45pm (all levels)

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- 12:30-3:30pm – Girls, grades 4-8 (Principal Roles)
- 4:00-6:30pm – Grade 9 to Adults (Principal Roles)

Sunday, August 25th

- 12:30-1:30pm – Boys, grades 4-8 (Principal Roles)
- 1:30-2:00pm – Mandatory Info Meeting/cast & parents
- 2:00-3:00pm – Mandatory Full Cast Auditions
- 3:30-7:00pm – Callbacks

REHEARSALS: Sundays (1-7pm)

TECH WEEK: Dec 2-5, 4:30-9pm

FEE: M/\$180 B/\$108 NM/\$198

(fee applies to u/18; incl. 2 tickets & DVD)

PERFORMANCES:

December 7 & 14 (2pm & 7pm)

December 8 & 15 (2pm & 5:30pm)

Q? susan.gundersheim@charlottejcc.org

Chabad Young Professionals Mega Shabbat



At Chabad Young Professionals, we hosted our third annual mega Shabbat dinner with over 130 young Jewish professionals in attendance. It was held at the Springhill Suites in Uptown Charlotte with a beautiful 16th-floor patio, an open bar, and delicious Shabbat food. We want to thank all those who made this event possible. Platinum Sponsor - Becoming MedSpa; Gold Sponsor - Rick

and Dru Abrams, Table Sponsors - Larry Schwartz 3x, South State Bank 2x, Andy Griesinger, Brian Hill, Biazzo and Panchenko Counsel LLC, Carolina Facial Plastics, Brian Karp, Anonymous, and Jon and Dina Mas-sachi.

For upcoming events, visit theuptownchabad.com or email motti@theuptownchabad.com for more information. ☆



David Braverman, Evan Brown, Alyssa Lepow, Nina Rose, Amy Fine, and David Deutscher



Mara Kosoff, Jamie Liner, Jake Wohl, and Maeve Ginsburg



Lindsay London, Nicole Hamilton, Deena Cronson, Gabi Lewis, and Emily Turk



Local Athletes Participate in 14th Annual Pan American Maccabi Games

Maya Lesack and Olivia Halperin played on the Junior Girls' Soccer Team at the 14th Annual Pan American Maccabi Games, July 5-15, in Mexico City. They were among 400+ US athletes and 2,500 other Jewish athletes, participating in 24 different sports.

The Games are hosted by the Confederacion Latinoamericana Maccabi (CLAM).

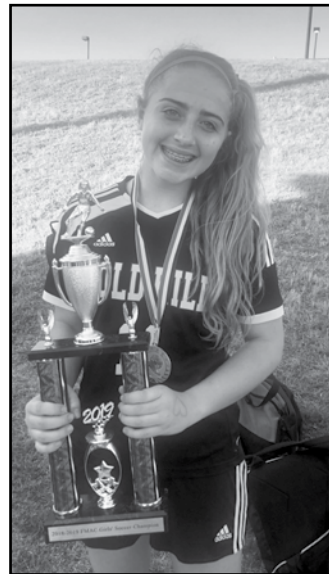
They are conducted in cooperation with Maccabi World Union and are held every four years, two years after the Maccabiah is held. The Pan American Maccabi

Games are a high-level athletic competition for Jewish athletes all over the world aimed at connecting Jews from the Diaspora.

Maccabi USA builds Jewish pride through sports, generating the emotional intensity, high ideals, and powerful camaraderie of competition. They connect athletes, volunteers, and supporters with the global Jewish community. Their athletic, educational, and cultural experiences build Jewish identity, perpetuate Jewish continuity worldwide, and strengthen support for the State of Israel.

Maya Lesack plays for a Club Team, CSA Palmetto King, and is a rising 9th grader at Fort Mill High School. She participated on last year's USA team in Haifa, where her team won a silver medal. She and her family are members of Temple Israel.

Olivia is a rising sophomore at Charlotte Latin School and has been playing soccer since she was five. She and her family are Temple Israel members. Olivia is involved with Friendship Circle and is on the Teen Board of Shalom Park Freedom School. ☆



Maya Lesack



Olivia Halpern

Thank You Jewish Community for Making ZABS Place So Special

ZABS Place is a nonprofit thrift boutique offering a distinctive selection of donated goods at tremendous values, from basic household products to designer clothing. But what makes the store truly special are the specially talented young adults who work there, learning valuable job skills they are parlaying into fulfilling careers.

In 2014, ZABS Place put out a call to the Jewish community asking for gently used "stuff" to help us get started. Ever since then the flow of donated goods never ceased. We'd like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You." Thank you to our community, thank you Jewish Federation and Jewish Family Services for helping us facilitate these donations.

What can you donate to ZABS Place? Gently worn or new clothing, shoes, toys and games, jewelry (even costume jewelry), home decor, kitchenware, and furniture.

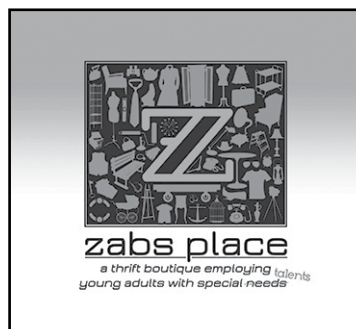
To learn more or to schedule a furniture pickup, visit www.ZABSPlace.org.

ZABS Place is project of the Friendship Circle and a beneficia-

ry agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte. ☆



Deliah decorating the ZABS Toy Zone



Our ZABS Talent



A view from the ZABS floor



APPLE PICKING

Sunday, September 1, 10:00 am
Carrigan Farms, Mooresville, NC

Early bird pricing: \$8/person before Aug 26
After Aug 26: \$11/person

Includes: Hayride, tour, activities, crafts,
cider tasting and half a peck of
apples to take home!

First 60 families to register receive
a Swag Bag full of treats!

Optional \$5 Kosher hot dog lunch available
for purchase during registration.

**SWEET NEW YEAR SERIES:
LET PJ LIBRARY HELP YOU
CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR**

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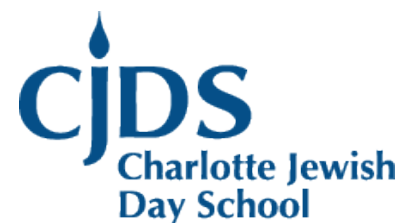
KUGELICIOUS

Sunday, September 15
10:00 - 11:00 am
Charlotte Jewish Day School
Come make yummy noodle kugel,
decorate candle sticks and eat
apples and honey to get ready
for Rosh Hashanah.

FREE, but Space is Limited.
RSVP Required by Sept 10
(Ages 2 and up)



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

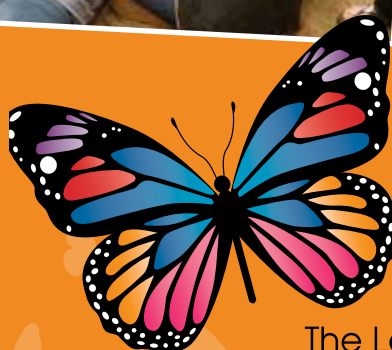
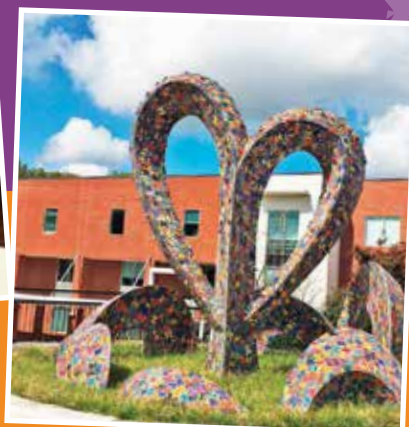


As the LJCC Butterfly Project celebrates its 10-year Anniversary, we are searching for a part-time facilitator to lead workshops approximately two mornings per week during the academic year (mid-September through mid-May).

- Prior classroom teaching experience (grades 5-12) is required.
- Candidates must be available between 8am-1pm.

The complete job description and position requirements can be found at: charlottejcc.org
Questions? Email LJCC Director of Human Resources: virginia.williams@charlottejcc.org

NOW HIRING



The Levine JCC
Butterfly Project
Zikaron v'Tikvah
Remembrance and Hope

The Levine JCC Butterfly Project offers 2 ½-hour workshops as field trips to 5th through 12th grade students. Following its motto, **Zikaron v'Tikvah** – Remembrance and Hope – the workshops use the lessons of the Holocaust as a vehicle to teach what can happen when biased feelings, biased acts, and discrimination are allowed to flourish. The workshops go beyond statistics and lectures, personalizing the education by creating a connection between each participant and one of the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust. Our goal is for participants to remember the past, act responsibly in the present and create a peaceful future.

Help Out. Do Good. Feel Good.
**SOCIAL ACTION
= LJCC CARES**

Funded by
Jewish Federation
of Greater Charlotte
**Levine
JCC**
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Congratulations To Our 200 Participants!

More than
\$130,000
to be donated to
LCH and ASAP!

8th Annual Levine JCC

Kids' Triathlon

June 2, 2019

Presented by

THE
LEON
LEVINE
FOUNDATION



Our event was a **HUGE SUCCESS...** We could not do this without your generous support!

**Top 3
Fund Raisers**

- ★ Makenzie Elkins
- ★ Bailey Christensen
- ★ Ethan & Zayna Bock

5 Former
LCH rehab
patients
participated

**Thank You
to more than
75 volunteers who
helped make this
event possible!**

A Benefit for Pediatric Rehabilitative Services

**Atrium Health
Levine Children's**

asap
adaptive sports & adventures program

**Words of Praise from
"Tri" Parents:**

"Fantastic job! The girls had an amazing time, thank you!!!! We are already looking forward to next year."

"Yesterday was our first Kids Tri, and our family was so impressed by this awesome event! My kids had barely crossed the finish line before asking if we can do it again next year. Thank you for all the hard work that went into planning this. Our family will definitely be participating again."

"What a great event! You did so much work and it showed. I could tell the changes from last year and my friends that did it for the first time were very impressed! Thank you for making so many great memories for my family and me!"

"What an amazing and inspiring day! It was our first Kids Tri and our daughter had a fantastic time. Thank you so much for organizing this wonderful event."

"Congratulations on a superb event. So well organized!!"

Help Out. Do Good. Feel Good.
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What's Water Ice • Your Event Source



**Charlotte Jewish
Preschool**

Together we're building a foundation
to **LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.**
Thank you for your contributions!

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Liz & Jeremy Naman
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In honor of Leila's teachers

Marilyn & Fred Kraus
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Meri Siegel
Mindy McShane
Na'ama & Miro Ben-Shabat
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Becca Weiner's upcoming wedding*
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Samantha Smith
Sandy Speight
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Sheryl Hill & Daniel Mathless
Sigrid Zielinski
Stephanie & Jonathan Simon
Stephanie Zubrinsky
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Create
Your Jewish
Legacy
COMMUNITY PARTNER

Bal Tashchit and Beyond: The Footprint of Food

In Jewish law, it is forbidden to waste a resource if one can find a way to avoid any waste. Even more so, it is forbidden to waste a resource for no reason whatsoever. One of the most important resources that our planet provides is food. Everyone eats, from the smallest to the largest of God's creatures. But as humans we must understand and evaluate the impact that our choice of meals has on the planet.

Each year, 1.3 billion tons, or 33% of food produced globally, goes to waste. Wasted food frequently ends up in a landfill, releasing the greenhouse gas methane, which is up to 25 times more harmful to the environment than carbon dioxide. Global food production uses 25% of all habitable land and is responsible for 70% of freshwater consumption, 80% of deforestation, and 30% of greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, each year, over 145 trillion gallons of water are wasted raising crops and animals that never even reach the consumer.

Food packaging, including billions of plastic bags, utensils, and napkins end up in the landfill as well. It is estimated that as much as 32% of household waste is comprised of food packaging. 100 million plastic bottles are used worldwide each day, and only 3% of those bottles are recycled. Most of these bottles end up in a landfill, where it takes more than 700 years for them to biodegrade.

Here are some tips to reduce the amount of food you waste, and to reduce the amount of food packaging you use and throw away.

- * Purchase only what you and your family will consume. Purchase perishables as needed rather than in bulk.

- * Reconsider single use. Bring your own reusable water bottle, skip the straw, and say no to the plasticware and napkins offered when you pick up your takeout.

- * Compost kitchen scraps at home or participate in a community compost program.

- * Just say no to Styrofoam. Styrofoam takes 50 years to biodegrade in a landfill and is classified as a hazard, like BPA in plastics. Avoid consuming food and beverages served in Styrofoam and tell retailers that you prefer compostable paper options.

- * Pre-plan meals and portion sizes; save and eat leftovers. Consider some sustainable storage choices: ceramic or stainless-steel, Mason jars, glass containers, stainless steel insulated containers.

- * Let retailers know there is a market for food that is less visually appealing. Support manufacturers that are using "ugly produce" in their products.

- * Choose items that have less packaging and are sustainably packaged. Consider what can be recycled in your municipality when making purchasing choices.

- * Reusable bags aren't just for the checkout line, replace plastic bags for fresh fruit and vegetables with reusable produce bags that

are machine washable.

- * Bring your lunch and use containers and utensils that can be reused. Consider stainless steel bento boxes for school or work lunches. Bonus, the bento box is portioned to help you avoid food waste.

We all have the power to make a difference and to address climate change, by doing just a few small things differently in our daily lives. Hopefully we have shared some tips here that you can use every day to reduce your personal environmental footprint. Please share any ideas you may have to reduce environmental impacts, or ideas for future articles, by emailing us at info@shalomgreenCLT.org.

If you are interested in learning more about Shalom Green, visit our website at www.shalomgreenCLT.org

Like us on Facebook. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram. ☆

NoDa Moishe House Heats Up With Summer Programming for Young Adults

Throughout the month of June, the Moishe House community had a great time hanging out in the hot Charlotte summer. Young adults gathered at the Moishe House to celebrate Shavuot by making ice cream and enjoying some delicious cheesecake. Later that week, we partnered with Torah on Tap for a happy hour



at The Suffolk Punch. The drinks were great and the connections made were even better. Also in June, Moishe House continued its Jewish movie series by watching *Denial*, a great film that sparked some deep conversations. Later in the month, we held a cookout and Havdalah at the house. The food was great and the Havdalah service made for a great beginning of the new week. At Moishe

House, we love giving back to our wonderful community, which is exactly what we did when we volunteered at Zab's Place in Matthews. Finally, we hosted a brunch at our house to cap off an amazing month of programs in June. If you're between the ages of 22 and 32-years-old and looking for ways to connect with other young adults in the Jewish

(Continued on page 31)

Thank You 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.

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Sanford and Lois Benjamin
Bobbi and Don Bernstein
Barry and Lisa Blau
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Sera and Marvin Callif
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*Donors who wish to remain anonymous
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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 Nancy Kipnis (704) 973-4554.

704.973.4544 • charlottejewishfoundation.org

The Ruach & Rabbi Rachel Smookler

invite you to

The High Holy Day Experiences

Uplifting. Spiritual. Engaging.

FREE! Everyone Welcome!

Rosh Hashanah

Monday • September 30
10:00 am – 11:30 am

The Fillmore

820 Hamilton Street
Charlotte

Kol Nidre

Tuesday • October 8
7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Myers Park High School
Auditorium

2400 Colony Road
Charlotte

**Don't just observe the High Holy Days...
EXPERIENCE THEM!**

Stan Greenspon Center Takes Experiential Learning to a New Level

At the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice at Queens University of Charlotte, we take experiential learning to a new level. We engage our students, teachers and community members in “field trips” that lead to enhanced understanding, connections, and bridges building across lines of difference.

Student Cemetery Restoration Experience in Poland

In May, a group of University of North Carolina at Charlotte and Queens University of Charlotte students embarked on a journey to Poland. This trip was the culmination of a semester course in which students explored Jewish and Polish history and addressed questions about preservation, memory, and commemoration. In preparation for the hands-on work awaiting them in Poland, this group also conducted a small project at Charlotte’s Hebrew Cemetery.

The trip proved essential in affording students the opportunity to travel to Poland, engage in meaningful dialogue across borders and contribute to the ongoing preservation of Jewish history in Poland.

This program was made possible by a generous grant from the Blumenthal Foundation.

Educator Trip to US Holocaust Memorial Museum in

Washington, DC

In June, 37 North Carolina teachers traveled to Washington DC to immerse themselves in an intense study experience at the USHMM. The teachers explored the permanent exhibit as well as the new “Americans and the Holocaust” exhibit. This powerful exhibit depicts the reality of life in America during World War II. It examines the fears, pressures, and motives that shaped America’s responses to the war. Along

dler, in a send-off to the teachers, charged them to turn the Biblical commandment to “Zachor-Remember” into their personal missions... and they did just that.

One of the trip highlights occurred when Holocaust survivor Henry Weil shared his harrowing story of survival. For the majority of the teachers present, this was their first exposure to the museum and the services that it offers. As part of their extensive preparation for the trip, teachers brought lesson plans to share. In the coming months, they will enhance these lesson plans with new information gleaned from their experience. The community that these devoted individuals created will continue to flourish over the year ahead.

The trip was organized by the NC Council on the Holocaust with support from Stan Greenspon, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, and the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice.

Interfaith Community Trip to Israel Led by Rabbi Schindler and Reverend Ellett-Allison in May 2020

Rabbi Judy Schindler and Reverend Nancy Ellett-Allison invite you to join them on the Greenspon Center Interfaith Trip to Israel from May 12-19, 2020. The group will visit cities such as Tel Aviv, Nazareth, Bethlehem,

and Jerusalem as well as numerous historical and religious sites. Within each city, the group will encounter individuals who reflect the land’s diversity. For examples, upon arriving the group will stop in Jaffa to meet Ms. Doris Hiffawi, an Israeli-Arab-Palestinian-Christian to hear about her family history and life experiences. In Nazareth, highlights include visiting the Basilica of the Annunciation, the Mount of the Beatitudes, and boating on the Sea of Galilee. Other experiences include a visit to the mystical city of Safed and attending a Shabbat service with Rabbi Steve Burnstein at Temple Birkat Shalom.

Stepping away from touring historical and religious sites, the group will enjoy an afternoon of R&R at a private Dead Sea beach and outdoor pool as well as a hike through cascading waterfalls and a trip up to the fortress of Masada.

In Jerusalem, highlights include a tour of the Western Wall Tunnels, the City of David, Yad Vashem, and spending time in Mahane Yehuda, the open-air market of Jerusalem. In Bethlehem, the group will tour Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity.

For more information please visit our website or contact Talia Goldman, goldmant@queens.edu.

Experiential learning is just one of the Greenspon Center’s specialties. We are busy planning a year rounded out with Holocaust and Genocide studies teacher trainings, community speaker programs, a big “Call to Action: Criminal Justice Fall Series” and much more. Please visit us on Facebook, or visit our website (stangreensponcenter.org) to sign up for our monthly newsletter. We look forward to seeing you. ☆



Rabbi Judy Schindler sends 42 teachers to Washington, DC, for an immersive Holocaust study program.

Cemetery Annual Service

(Continued from page 19)

After the dedication we invite you to hang out a while, visiting your loved ones’ graves, touring our grounds for its historical significance, checking out the Memorial Wall inside the Mindy Ellen Levine Chapel, visiting the Gorelick Gathering room and retreat, and experiencing the serenity of the Ellis and Lena Berlin Family room.

As a dues paying member of the Hebrew Cemetery, the Me-

morial Building is available for your use at no charge. Contact Cemetery Director, Sandra Goldman, for information on how you can become a member and for any other membership/burial/grave/funeral/legacy/gift giving questions you might have.

Gemara Chatima Tovah.

May we all be sealed in The Book for a happy, healthy and sweet year. ☆

Wondering what to look for in a Jewish preschool?

1. A Five Star rated program
2. Low teacher to student ratios
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5. Provides meaningful Jewish experiences
6. A place that will become your child's home away from home

JPS is all this and more...
limited space available.
Register today!



call 704-364-8395 or visit jpskids.org

A project of Chabad of Charlotte





TORAH TOTS



SPLASH INTO SHABBAT WITH TORAH TOTS!

Friday, August 16, 4:30 p.m.

During the summer months, all pre-school families are welcome to SPLASH INTO SHABBAT with Torah Tots at the LCCC Pool/Splash Park! There will be open play, songs, and a Shabbat service, capped off with a delicious kid-friendly meal (\$5/person or \$18/family). Pay in advance online at templeisraelinc.org. On day of event, payment with cash or check only.

YOUTH



NC TEEN CAROWINDS TRIP (6TH-12 GRADE TEENS)

Sunday, August 18

It's time to kick off the year with Kadima, Ir Ha-Malka USY, and other Jewish teens from Charlotte and Greensboro for an afternoon of roller coasters, thrills, and adventure at Carowinds. Drop-off and Pick-up at Temple Israel. RSVP REQUIRED. See details at templeisraelinc.org.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

NEWCOMER'S SOCIAL

Thursday, August 29, 7 p.m.

Location: Pour Taproom (1212 Central Ave.)

Are you new to the Charlotte area and looking to meet other young Jewish professionals? Have you been here a while and haven't yet made the connection? Are you active in the community and wanting to make some new friends? This event is for you! Come have a drink and mingle! Appetizers will be provided.

WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL (WoTI)

WOTI SUMMER SOIREE

Thursday, August 22, 7 p.m.

Come sip sangria and share some snacks with the Women of Temple Israel at this special event for current and prospective members. This is a free event, but an RSVP is requested. Address given with RSVP. Visit templeisraelinc.org for details.



SOCIAL CLUB

L'CHAYIM 5780 NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 8, 3 p.m.

Location: Leon and Sandra Levine Social Hall

We will welcome in Rosh Hashanah with a L'CHAYIM 5780 NEW YEAR CELEBRATION STARRING MONTY BENNETT, PIANIST. Wine, Cheese, and Desserts will be served. Cost: members/\$14 and \$18/guests. For additional information, contact Ruth Goldberg at (704) 366-890.

LIFELONG LEARNING

MEET, EAT, DISCOVER:

SEARCHING FOR MEANING IN JUDAISM TODAY

Thursday August 8, 11 a.m.

Power up your lunch hour with an appetizing array of food for thought. Join Rabbi Howard Siegel once a month for an engaging clergy-led discussion on "Searching for Meaning in Judaism Today," followed by a delicious catered lunch. Registration is required. Cost: \$10/TI Members; \$18/Non-Members. To register, visit templeisraelinc.org.



THE ROSE ROOM - WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL GIFT SHOP

GIFT SHOP HOURS

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Friday - 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Special appointments outside of normal business hours are available. Please contact Tess Berger (704) 488-3842 or Cindy Jennes (203) 450-2261.



Proceeds support Temple Israel, Women of Temple Israel, Temple Israel Youth Programs, and Social Action Initiatives.

HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICE SCHEDULE 5780/2019

EREV ROSH HASHANAH - SUNDAY, SEP. 29

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

ROSH HASHANAH DAY 1 - MONDAY, SEP. 30*

Main Service, 9 a.m.

Family Service, 9 a.m.

Evening Service, 6:15 p.m.

ROSH HASHANAH DAY 2 - TUESDAY, OCT. 1

Morning Service, 9 a.m.

Program For Preschool Families, 9:30 a.m.

KOL NIDRE - TUESDAY, OCT. 8*

Kol Nidre Service, 7 p.m.**

**Please Be Seated By 6:45 p.m.

YOM KIPPUR - WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9*

Program For Preschool Families, 9 a.m.

Morning Service, 10 a.m.

Family Service, 10 a.m.

Yizkor Service, 1 p.m. (Approximately)

Mincha/Ne'liah Service, 5 p.m.

Break Fast, 7:45 p.m.

*Parking Pass Required On Shalom Park



WELCOME HOME SHABBAT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 5:30 P.M.



Join your Temple Israel friends and family as we "Welcome Home" Rabbi Howard Siegel to our congregation. The evening will include a pre-oneg, an uplifting Friday night Shabbat service, and a special Shabbat dinner.

PRE-ONEG • UPLIFTING SERVICES SHABBAT DINNER

Temple Israel Congregants: \$15/adult;
\$10/child (ages 5-12); \$8/Little One (ages 1-4).
Temple Israel Guests: \$18/adult; \$13/child; \$10/ Little One.

Please visit templeisraelinc.org to register
and for additional information.

EDUCATING AND INSPIRING FUTURE JEWISH LEADERS K - 7th Grade Classes begin September 8



templeisraelinc.org

For information or to enroll,
please call 704-944-6785.

Unleash the power of **Wp**



WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY

OUR VISION

Inspired and guided by our tradition of tzedakah (righteousness/charity) and tikkun olam (repairing the world), the Jewish Federation's Women's Philanthropy is dedicated to the continuity, connectivity and thriving future of our Charlotte Jewish community, Israel and the Jewish people.

We seek to provide significant opportunities for all women to affirm their Jewish identity and spirituality, to be proactive in evolving issues of concern to contemporary Jewish women, to engage new cadres of participants and leaders in our community and to inspire other Jewish women by example.

SAVE THE DATE

FALL KICKOFF EVENT, Chaired by *Melanie Brown & Lyba Rousso*

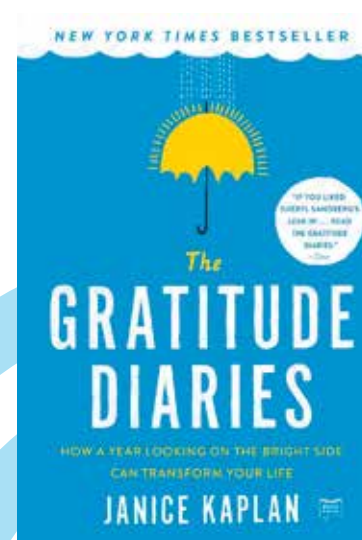
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

7:00 PM, SAM LERNER CENTER FOR CULTURAL ARTS

Advanced tickets \$18 and \$25 at the door

Speaker: Janice Kaplan, Author of *The Gratitude Diaries*

Janice Kaplan's inspiring presentation will be based on her *New York Times* bestseller ***The Gratitude Diaries***. After spending a year living more gratefully, Janice shares her life-changing experiences. Find out how to get a new perspective so you can appreciate the good things that happen—and have a happier, more fulfilling life.



WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY DAY

NOVEMBER 7, 2019, DAYTIME

We will explore several of the beneficiary agencies that Federation supports.

MORE DETAILS TO COME!

For more information about Women's Philanthropy, please contact Ilana Toch,
Development Associate, at ilana.toch@jewishcharlotte.org or 704.944.6784.

WWW.JEWISHCHARLOTTE.ORG

An Interview with Rachel Smookler, Rabbi of the Ruach Community

Rabbi Smookler was born and raised in Minneapolis, graduated from the University of Minnesota, and received her rabbinic training from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. While at summer camp in Wisconsin, when she was 11 years old Rachel met her future husband, Harrison Smookler. After having not seen each other for a few years, they reconnected in college through their involvement with Hillel. Following graduation they were married and moved to Israel where Rachel enrolled in rabbinical school. After a year they moved back to New York City where Rachel finished her rabbinic training at HUC-JIR. Harrison's job with Corning took them to Elmira, NY, where Rachel led Congregation Shomray Hadath. Harrison's job sent them abroad again, this time to Tokyo where Rachel became the Chief Rabbi of Japan. Upon returning to the US, she became the Rabbi at Temple Beth David, a Conservative shul in Rochester, NY. In August, 2017 the family moved to Charlotte. They have twins, Talia and Zach, rising seniors in college, and a younger daughter, Mayim, an 8th grader.

How did you decide to become a Rabbi?

I was majoring in communications, hoping to become a news anchor. However, after taking a cultural pluralism course I became captivated by Jewish history, changed majors, and graduated with a degree in Jewish



Rabbi Rachel Smookler with her daughter, Mayim.

studies. I knew that I had to go to rabbinical school so I could continue to study the texts I loved. **You are the Rabbi for The Ruach Community. How did this happen?**

Soon after moving to Charlotte we joined Temple Israel. Rabbi Ezring asked me to lead the alternative Rosh Hashanah service with The Ruach. I jumped at the opportunity but because of a health issue I was unable to do so. During my lengthy recovery, Peter Levinson, Nancy Good, and I became really good friends. When I was healthy enough, they asked if I would provide a bit of rabbinic content to complement The Ruach Shabbat Experience. As a big believer in "worship without walls," taking the Jewish experience outside the confines of a synagogue, it was a no brainer.

How do you see yourself and The Ruach as part of the Jewish landscape today?

I couldn't be prouder to stand with them as we go out into our community with no brick and mortar space of our own, yet

we still attract a following even though we meet at different and unique spaces each time. This proves that what is truly important in a spiritual and communal service is not a dedicated building but the magic created by all those who join together like we do at The Ruach Experiences.

You quote Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Kotzk a lot. Why?

The Kotzker! I quote him because he just tells it like it is. He pursued Truth above all else and so should we.

Attendance at The Ruach Shabbat Experiences continues to grow. Why?

Because what we do is authentic and, is relevant for people of all ages. The Experiences are a modern take on Jewish services that nearly everyone can understand and connect with. We call it "Relatable Judaism."

Is this why last year's Rosh Hashanah Experience was so successful?

Yes. People are seeking uplifting experiences they can connect with and make them feel connected. We've heard from so many people that last year's Rosh Hashanah Experience was the most meaningful High Holy Day service they had ever attended.

This year you and The Ruach are offering The Kol Nidre Experience in addition to The Rosh Hashanah Experience. Tell us about that.

The emphasis will be on the word "Experience." Most Yom Kippur services end without the

congregation actually taking part in the very aspects of the High Holy Day that demand personal action. Before we can move forward we must forgive others and ask for forgiveness on our own behalf. During The Kol Nidre Experience we will actively do this together in unique ways.

What is the future of Judaism?

Judaism is ever-changing and adapting. That which defies progress is the antithesis of real Jew-

ish tradition. I see the future as every Jew availing themselves of Jewish wisdom, community, and spirituality on their own terms from multiple sources, not just one. Each Jewish organization must recognize they cannot be all things to all people and every one of them must understand their unique contribution to the entire Jewish community. The Ruach Community is part of the future of Judaism.☆

Moishe House NoDa

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community, we hope you'll join us for an upcoming program. Remember to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter and like us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MoHoCharlotteNoDa/), where you'll be notified of all our upcoming events.

Moishe House is what being Jewish in your 20s is all about. We provide a space for over 60,000 young adults around the

world (and 250+ unique young adults in Charlotte) to create meaningful, welcoming Jewish communities for themselves and their peers. Connect with your community and discover why so many call Moishe House home. Visit www.moishouse.org for more information.☆



FALL

PROGRAM

REGISTRATION

Going On Now!

NO JOINING FEE: August 15 – September 30

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WORDStoACTION

Empowering Students and Parents to Address Antisemitism

Join us at this interactive workshop to learn about antisemitism.

Increase your understanding, explore effective resources and learn how to strategically respond.



UNDERSTAND. RESPOND.

This program offers tools to strengthen ones capacity and build confidence to address antisemitism.

Sunday, September 15

12:00 - 3:00 PM

Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts

RSVP @ www.jewishcharlotte.org



Jewish Federation
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Jewish
Community
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CONTACT: Laurel Grauer, *Director of Community Relations & Israel Affairs*, 704.944.6751, laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org

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