

The Charlotte JEWISH news

Vol. 41, No. 1

Tevet-Shevat 5779

January 2019

THE 2019 MAIN EVENT

After Pittsburgh: Pride Peoplehood and Power Featuring Bari Weiss, New York Times Editor and Writer

Co-chairs Emily and Sam Zimmern and Angie and Bill Zimmern invite you to join them at the Federation's 2019 Main Event on Thursday February 7 at 7:30 PM at Temple Israel featuring *New York Times* editor, Bari Weiss. The Main Event is the Jewish Federation's most widely attended event of the campaign season.

Bari Weiss is an acclaimed journalist who currently serves as editor and writer for *The New York Times* opinion section. Before joining the *Times*, she was an op-ed editor at *The Wall Street Journal* and an associate book review editor there. For two years, she was a senior editor at *Tablet*, the online magazine of Jewish news, politics, and culture, where she edited the site's political and news coverage. Bari regularly appears on shows like *Morning Joe* and *Bill Maher*. Bari is also the winner of the Reason Foundation's 2018 Bastiat Prize, which annually honors writing that "best demonstrates the importance of freedom with originality, wit, and eloquence." She is a graduate of



Bari Weiss

Columbia University and a proud Pittsburgh native.

Main Event tickets are \$36 each and are available online at www.jewishcharlotte.org or by phone at 704-944-6757.

Everyday, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, together with you, our donors and partners, enriches lives, builds community and fosters a thriving Jewish future locally, in Israel and around the world. Our impact is extraordinary. Friends, family, and neighbors are connected to one another and to Jewish life. Lives are touched, changed, and

saved in Israel, around the world and right here in our own backyard. Children and teens are inspired to discover their Jewish identities, and individuals of all abilities and backgrounds in our community are welcomed and included. Please join us at the Main Event and learn more about how you can make an impact as well as an opportunity to make your pledge to the 2019 Annual Campaign. It all starts with you. You make everything we do possible.

For more information about the Main Event, please contact the Federation office at 704-944-6757 or info@jewishcharlotte.org. ☆

The mission of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte is to raise and distribute funds to support and enrich the lives of Jews locally, nationally, in Israel and worldwide. Through education, planning and community building, the Federation's mission ensures that Jewish values, goals, traditions and connections are preserved for current and future generations.

Main Event Co-Chairs, Sam, Emily, Bill and Angie Zimmern Share Their Passion for Federation and This Year's Main Event Speaker

Q: Why did you agree to serve as Main Event Co-Chairs?

Sam and Emily: We welcomed the unique opportunity to work with Bill and Angie, our son and daughter-in-law, in support of an organization that we care about passionately and that has been an important part of our lives since moving to Charlotte in 1982. Taking responsibility for Jewish well-being, love of Israel, and tzedakah are values we want to pass along to our children and grandchildren.

Bill and Angie: We were honored that our family was asked to co-chair the Federation Main Event this year. I am fortunate to be part of a family dedicated to philanthropy and public service and this is a unique opportunity for all of us to combine our individual passion, energy, and commitment together in one important event.

Q: Why is Federation important to you and our community?

Sam and Emily: Support for vibrant Jewish life in Charlotte, for Israel, and for Jews in need

around the world is important to us. Federation is the most effective organization in generating broad-based support, in building community among Jews and Jewish organizations in Charlotte, and in developing relationships between Israelis and Jews in the Diaspora. Through our involvement with Federation, we have come to understand the meaning and power of Jewish peoplehood in new ways. By contributing financially, by serving on the board and committees, and by participating in Federation-sponsored programming and travel, we along with so many others have helped to sustain our Jewish community and to strengthen our own Jewish identity.

Bill and Angie: The work that the Federation undertakes meets critical needs in our community and all over the world. Having had the opportunity to witness firsthand the impact and success of their work here in Charlotte and abroad, I have a deep appreciation for all that it does to em-

(Continued on page 4)



Interested in learning more about how the Jewish Federation impacts YOU and our community? See Page 10

See You at the Movies!

The Charlotte Jewish Film Festival, a program of The Cultural Arts Department at The Levine Jewish Community Center, is pleased to announce the lineup for its exciting 15th season that will take place February 9–March 3.

A big thank you to Screening Co-Chairs Judy Laxer and Jeff Turk and Screening Committee members Stephanie Bensinger, Charlie Gale, Bob Ecker, Linda Hindel, Judy Kaller, Andrew Kapustin, Dana Kapustin, Eric Laxer, Ross Levin, Michael Lieberman, Gale Osborne, Marcia Stern, and Gail Vogel for putting together a diverse and interesting 13 film slate.

The All Festival Pass will be available for \$110 (\$183 value) through January 15 and \$140 starting on January 16. All Festival Passes, as well as tickets to

individual films, can now all be purchased at the LJCC Customer Service Desk, by calling 704-366-5007, or by visiting charlottejewishfilm.com.

Here are a few highlights of our exciting 15th season. For more info, please see the enclosed quad fold:

Opening Night Celebration – Saturday, February 9 – 7:15 PM at Temple Israel (\$25)

Our Opening Night film, *The Last Suit*, follows a Polish born Holocaust survivor who decides to travel from Buenos Aires to Lodz to find the man who saved him from certain death and fulfill a promise he made nearly 70 years earlier, and will be followed by a celebratory reception, with tasty treats by Serafina Catering.

Sunday, February 10 – 7:15 PM at Temple Israel (\$11)

A stirring story of sports, pa-



triotism, and personal growth, *Heading Home* charts the underdog journey of Israel's national baseball team competing for the first time in the World Baseball Classic. We are very excited to bring Writer/Director Daniel A.

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JEWISH FEDERATION NEWS

JCRC Speaker Lecture Series Presents: “Defining Antisemitism and Why It Matters”

Please join the Jewish Federation’s Community Relations Council on Thursday, January 17, when the JCRC Speaker Lecture Series presents: “Defining Antisemitism and Why It Matters,” a conversation with Mark Weitzman of the Simon Wiesenthal Foundation at 7:30 PM in the Sam Lerner Center for the Cultural Arts at Shalom Park.

In wake of the deadly attack on Pittsburgh’s Tree of Life Synagogue, and the sharp increase in reports of Antisemitism in Charlotte (which was reported on by Spectrum News) we have invited the world’s leading expert on the history and modern manifestations of Antisemitism and Holocaust denial. Join us as Weitzman shares how he and his colleagues worked for years to create a globally recognized definition of An-

tisemitism as a means to combat hate worldwide.

Author of several books and essay on Antisemitism and Holocaust denial, Mark Weitzman is the Director of Government Affairs for the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Chief Representative of the Center to the United Nations in New York. He is a member of the official US delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Authority (IHRA) where he chaired the Committee on Antisemitism and

Holocaust Denial. He spearheaded IHRA’s recent adoption of the Working Definition of Antisemitism, which is the first definition of Antisemitism with any formal status, and he was lead author on IHRA’s Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion.

Admission is free and open to the public. Make your ticket(s) reservations today at www.jewishcharlotte.org.

For more information, please contact Laurel Grauer, Director of Community Relations & Israel



Mark Weitzman

Affairs, laurel.grauer@jewish-charlotte.org or 704-944-6751.

Have you or someone you know experienced an incident of Antisemitism within the Greater Charlotte area? See the article below to learn about local resources and reporting procedures. ☆

Todah Rabah to the Our Donors

As of December 17, 2018

The Charlotte Jewish News thanks our most recent donors for their generosity in helping us fulfill our mission to continue publishing the latest information about our community.

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Jewish
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What to Do When Antisemitism Hits Close to Home

By Laurel Grauer, Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Over the last two months, the Federation’s Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) has received several reports regarding hate speech and hate based graffiti. Last year, there were only two reported incidents involving Antisemitic hate speech. Since the start of this academic year, I have already received seven.

This is an unprecedented trend that has caught our community off guard. Many students, parents and professionals are unclear of how to discuss the topic of Antisemitism or who to notify. While I am actively working with partner agencies to provide additional educational tools and advocacy trainings for our community, here is a list of reporting procedures and resources:

What is Considered Antisemitic

Activity?

Antisemitic activity includes overt acts or expressions of anti-Jewish bigotry and hostility. Many incidents are not crimes. Activity is generally categorized as:

* **EXPRESSION** - Written or verbal communication by groups or individuals, including public, elected, or religious figures. Includes publicly or privately directed letters, phone conversations, articles, speeches, e-mail, or other Internet communication.

* **VANDALISM** - Desecration, vandalism, or other criminal activity against property.

* **HARASSMENT, Threats, and Assaults** – Directed at individuals or institutions.

* **DISCRIMINATION** - Employment, education, housing, or organizational membership.

* **HATE GROUP ACTIVITY** - Rallies, recruitment, or other activities organized or sponsored

by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan or other white supremacist groups.

These are not exhaustive or exclusive. We encourage you to report all incidents.

Reporting Incidents of Hate:

Absolutely no one should be treated unfairly because of religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or disability. Even if you feel your particular case requires no further action, having a written record helps to with statistical tracking of such incidents by local and national law enforcement and advocacy agencies.

1) Notify the school or business where the incident took place – try to give as much detail as possible regarding the incident. Provide any documentation you may have regarding the incident and photographs if there is graffiti

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Shabbat Candle Lighting for January 2019

Friday, January 4, 5:06 PM
Friday, January 11, 5:12 PM
Friday, January 18, 5:19 PM
Friday, January 25, 5:26 PM



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Ben-Gurion Society Mission to Argentina

This past November a group of 21 Ben-Gurion Society members participated in a Federation mission to Argentina. The mission was led by Co-Chairs David and Julie Sheffer & Bill and Angie Zimmern.*

By Julie Sheffer

Connection. We all yearn for it. We want to feel genuinely connected to each other, our Charlotte Jewish community, and to Jews around the world. Recently we had the incredible privilege of participating in a five-day immersive experience in Buenos Aires, which resulted in a deep, lasting, and authentic sense of connectedness.

While our group of twenty-one Charlotteans toured numerous national landmarks, embraced the local culture, and acquainted ourselves with Argentinean Jewry, we gained a comprehensive understanding of the Argentinean way of life. Group activities such as a wine tasting, tango lesson and tango show, and an Argentinean-cooking lesson added to the well-rounded itinerary. Many of these excursions pushed us out of our comfort zones in the best way possible. Imagine learning a new dance then immediately performing it in front of twenty friends. Or, picture yourself participating in a crepe flipping contest to the cheers, jeers and chants of twen-

ty close friends. These thrilling experiences and the sidesplitting laughter they evoked will last us a lifetime.

Interspersed with the sightseeing was a thought-provoking education on Jewish life in Argentina. Our trip began just five days after the horrific shooting at the Tree of Life congregation in Pittsburgh. So visiting the two sites in Buenos Aires were Antisemitic attacks occurred in the 90s struck a very raw and emotional chord: We saw both the memorial to the 1992 bombing of the Israeli embassy and the 1994 bombing of AMIA (a Jewish organization that serves as a sort of mix between a Jewish Federation and a Jewish Community Center). As a result of these bombings, we came to recognize that you can easily spot a building that houses Jewish agencies by the barricades blocking the driving lane in front of the building entrance.

We did not simply observe the Jewish community as outsiders, but rather, we had the opportunity to interact with individuals on a personal level. We prayed alongside fellow Jews for Kabbalat Shabbat and toured a Jewish day school with an impactful program that integrates students with special needs. We hung out and shared a cup of *mate* (a traditional, caffeine-rich Argentinean drink) with residents of Bue-

nos Aires's Moishe House. We spent time with folks at a senior center who shared their personal histories and struggles. Like us, the individuals we met had all benefitted from the generosity of Federation donors. These organizations would not exist if it were not for seed money or sustaining support from Federation and their Jewish brothers and sisters abroad.

All of these experiences brought members of our group closer to one another and closer to the international Jewish community. We cannot adequately express our gratitude to Sue Worrell, Tair Giudice, and the entire Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte for enabling us to create memories, relationships, and a true sense of connection.

Federation aims to provide donors with Mission experiences in an effort to educate, expose, and connect Charlotteans to Jewish communities all over the world. As you've just read and have most likely heard by now, Federation missions are a once in a lifetime opportunity to connect not only with worldwide Jewry, but also connect or reconnect with your own personal Jewish identity.☆

**The Ben-Gurion Society recognizes young philanthropists (ages 21-45), who contribute \$1,000 or more to Federation's Annual Campaign.*



Jewish Argentina

Argentina is home to just over 240,000 Jews, making it the largest Jewish community in Latin America and the seventh largest in the world. In many ways, Argentina's Jewish community closely resembles that of North America – both were built largely by European immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, developed strong pluralist institutions, and both gradually gained wealth and social and political influence. This community, however, has also been rocked by anti-Semitism, terrorism, and economic and political instability of a degree mostly unknown to North American Jews.

In the 1990s, the Jews of Argentina were targets of two major terrorist attacks: the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, which killed 29 civilians and injured 242 others, and the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires that killed 100 people and wounded over 200. Controversy and scandal surrounding investigations into the bombing, including the 2015 murder of prosecutor Alberto Nissan, continue to this day.

21st Century Economic Crisis: From 1998 to 2002, Argentina suffered a major economic depression, leading to massive unemployment, a default on the country's foreign debt, and the fall of the government. Approximately 4,400 Argentinian Jews made Aliyah as a result.

The economic crisis essentially wiped out the Argentinian middle class and greatly impacted the financial stability of the Jewish community. While Argentina saw rapid economic growth in 2003, it once again faltered in the global financial crisis of 2008. Yet, despite the challenges, Argentina's Jewish institutions have since then largely recovered and Argentinian Jews remain well integrated in Argentinian life.

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In Search of Jewish Identity: Jewish Identity and Assimilation

Join the Center for Jewish Education (CJE) and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at UNC Charlotte for a salon-style series exploring some of the major themes and trends of Jewish Identity and assimilation in history and modern days.

For thousands of years, Jews have been embattled. Surrounded by enemies seeking to convert us, remove us, even exterminate us, we have developed collective defense mechanisms highly adaptive to combating persecution by anti-Semites. But in the contemporary world, American Jews – as individuals – have never been

more secure, more accepted, more affluent, and less victimized by discrimination. Though Jewish Americans emigrated from many nations, once they were in the United States, there was a concerted effort to fit it – to think like Americans, and to be American. Not only was the pressure on the newcomers to assimilate very strong, but immigrants also regarded assimilation as the only path to integration – many went to English classes at night, adopting American dress and customs. It was seen as a very good thing to lose most of the traits you brought with you from your former home.

The term assimilation then was originally coined to describe the success of Diaspora Jews overcoming centuries of persecution and discrimination, and being allowed into respectable society. It was only later that the term assumed the additional, and more negative, meaning for cultural or religious “suicide.”

Today, there is greater freedom to choose one’s identity or identities than was possible in the past. So what do we mean when we talk about assimilation and Jewish identity? Professor Alan Rauch will lead us through five lectures exploring the Jewish im-

migrant’s journey as an example of choice. We will explore topics such as: Who is a Jew? How do Jewish authors, playwrights, artists, movie directors, and others depict a complicated combined identity (Jewish and American)? And what happens when one makes the decision to pass as someone other than oneself? We will use film, literature, and history as case studies to explore some of these provocative topics.

Alan Rauch is a dedicated and award-winning English professor at UNC Charlotte. Born in Montréal, Québec, Rauch received his B.Sc. in biology from McGill

University. After completing his MA in Zoology, he studied English Literature at Rutgers University, where he obtained both the M.A. and the Ph.D. As a child he attended Shaare Zion Academy and subsequently afternoon Hebrew High School, receiving an award from the Keren Haturbut Association of Canada. While in Graduate School in the Midwest, he even had a very brief stint as a stand-in chazzan for High Holy Days.

Rauch, who was on the faculty at Georgia Tech for over a decade before coming to UNC Charlotte, typically explores the intersections among science, technology, and culture particularly in the Romantic and Victorian eras. His published work includes *Useful Knowledge* (Duke, 2001), *One Culture, The Mummy! A Tale of the Twenty-Second Century*, and *England in 1815*. His most recent book, *Dolphin* – which includes photos and illustrations by Rauch – is a scientific, social, and cultural view of all dolphin species.

Rauch has served as President of the Society for Literature, Science, and Art and is currently completing his term as President of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals. In Fall 2019, he’ll be teaching – with both fear and excitement – a course called “The Bible as Literature.”

All lectures are from 5:30-7 PM at the Levine Sklut Judaic Library.

Please RSVP at www.jewish-charlotte.org/cje; for more information contact Tair Giudice, Director of Education and Engagement, tair.giudice@jewish-charlotte.org. ☆

IN SEARCH OF JEWISH IDENTITY: Jewish Identity & Assimilation

A salon-style series exploring some of the major themes and trends of Jewish Identity in history and modern days

Five lectures by noted scholar Alan Rauch, professor of English at UNCC will explore the various interpretations and expressions of Jewish Identity in America.

January 16: *New Countries for Old Jews: Emigrating, Adapting, and Assimilating*

January 23: *Can I say Schm-ck on Television?*

January 30: *Der Jude and a Pound of Flesh: Marked and Rejected*

February 6: *Include me Out: Did Spartacus speak Yiddish?*

February 13: *Jew Yesterday, Jew Tomorrow, but Never Jew Today: Who are We Now?*

All lectures are from 5:30 - 7:00 pm and held at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library at the Center for Jewish Education.

This Salon series is free and open to the public, however registration is required. RSVP at www.jewishcharlotte.org/cje.

For more information contact Tair.Giudice@jewishcharlotte.org.



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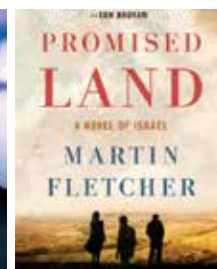
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Interview with Main Event Co-Chairs

(Continued from page 1)

power communities and to help those less fortunate.

Q: What does Bari bring to this year’s Main Event?

Sam and Emily: After watching recent interviews and reading her columns in the *New York Times*, we wanted to bring her to Charlotte. Bari Weiss is an independent thinker and a compelling speaker. Her columns and talks don’t fit into neat categories. She’s provoked those on the political left and on the political right. She draws on Jewish values and history to analyze current events and to explain their relevance for Jews and Jewish life in the 21st century. Her message is sure to give us much to think and talk about in the coming months.

Bill and Angie: The idea originated from Sam and Emily but we were equally excited to hear her message of Jewish relevance in the 21st century. ☆

For more information, contact, Debby Block, CJE Program Coordinator 704.944.6780/debby.block@jewishcharlotte.org

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"We are excited to expand our collection with the addition of eBooks and audiobooks," says Tair Giudice, Director of Education and Engagement at the CJE. "We live in a busy society and it's not always easy for folks to get into the library," she says, adding that many patrons have requested eBooks and audiobooks. One of the benefits of the new service is that eBooks make it easier for people traveling. Additionally, audiobooks allow those who are

sight-impaired to enjoy books.

With plenty of popular titles to choose from, this new collection is guaranteed to have something for everyone. And the library will continue to build its eBook collection, so keep checking back for more titles.

This new service is free to all library patrons with their library card. To get started enjoying eBooks or audiobooks, visit www.levine-sklutjudaiclibrary.org. Don't have a library card? Stop by the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and get yours today. Detailed instructions on this service are available on the library's website or may be picked up at the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library. ☆

Check out what's happening this month at the CJE?

CJE CALENDAR: JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Center for Jewish Education (CJE) enhances community engagement, promotes lifelong Jewish learning, and creates pathways to Jewish identity. LIBRARY HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; & Sunday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm				ALL PROGRAMS ARE HELD IN THE LEVINE-SKLUT JUDAIC LIBRARY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.	
		1 Library Closed Today!	2	3	4 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM
6	7	8	9 Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM UNCC Salon 5:30 - 7:30 pm Jewish Identity & Assimilation	10	11 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM
13 PJ Library Toot the Horn with Billy Jonas 10:30 AM Gorelick Hall	14	15	16 CJE Book Club 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM UNCC Salon 5:30 - 7:30 pm Jewish Identity & Assimilation	17	18 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM
20	21	22	23 Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM UNCC Salon 5:30 - 7:30 pm Jewish Identity & Assimilation	24	25 PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM
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Together we can make it happen!

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Sue's Book Shelf

By Sue Littauer



I'm in the process of finalizing my CJE Book Club selections for the calendar year 2019, and thought I'd give my faithful readers a heads up on the books currently under consideration.

Sadness Is a White Bird by Moriel Rothman-Zecher

A richly empathic story of Israel and Palestine, history and memory, explored through the intimate bonds between young Jewish and Muslim Israelis. *Sadness Is a White Bird* offers all that one could wish for in a coming-of-age story.

Gateway to the Moon by Mary Morris

A terrible history of suffering and oppression, traced from the Spanish Inquisition to modern-day New Mexico, is exposed through the generations of a single family.

A River Could Be a Tree by Angela Himsel

How does a woman who grew up in rural Indiana as a funda-



mental Christian end up a practicing Jew in New York? *A River Could Be a Tree* is a journey of faith, family, and friendship.

Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death by Lillian Faberman

Harvey Milk, an eloquent, charismatic smart-aleck, was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977, but he had not even served a full year

(Continued on page 30)

בס"ד



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Youth Visions

Hebrew High Celebrates Chanukah

Of all the Jewish holidays, celebrating Chanukah is probably the most fun for teens. And our Hebrew High teens had a blast. On Wednesday, December 5, we gathered together as one big group to celebrate the 4th night of Chanukah. Teens formed smaller groups and rotated among four Chanukah stations planned by our amazing student council. Each station represented something special about Chanukah – our symbolic menorah and dreidel, the mitzvah of doing for others, enjoying doughnuts, and the faith in working together to escape to freedom.

The night concluded with everyone coming together to light the menorah. It was amazing to have everyone singing the blessings together. ☆



Chanukah Escape Room



DIY menorah made out of tins, hex nuts, and mini-birthday candles



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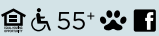
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Catch Up with BBYO

Welcome back to BBYO. We hope everyone had a restful holiday season with their friends and families. BBYO has had a great first semester full of interactive programming, one of a kind experiences and new faces. In November, we took more than 50 teens, including 30 8th and 9th graders, for a behind the scenes experience with the Charlotte Hornets. The teens heard from BBYO

alum and Michael Jordan's business manager, they watched a pregame warm up, and participated in a high-five tunnel. It was a fantastic night as the Hornets defeated the Celtics.

Teens and families also participated in our annual Global Shabbat in December. It was a great service led by Eddie Horwitz, Jacob Russak, Jacob Baumstein, Molly Simon, Sydney Zoloto-

rofe, Olivia Potier, and Sophie Levy. After the service we heard from teens and young adults from Time Out Youth, a safe space for LGBTQ youth in Charlotte.

Since November, Charlotte BBYO has welcomed over 20 new 8th graders to our program. It has been exciting to see so many new faces.

Charlotte BBYO has some great events coming up in the next couple of months, so save the date. On Sunday, January 6, new and prospective members are invited to join some current members for an afternoon of fun and roller skating at Kate's Skate. Meet us at the Indian Trail Location from 2-4 PM and you can sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/skatingsunday>. Also, save the date for Sweetheart Beau Dance on February 2 at the Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts in Shalom Park from 8:30-11:30 PM – more information to follow. If you have any questions about BBYO please email lrevenson@bbyo.org.



Charlotte BBYO teens at Fall Fest watching the Hornets warmup.



Teens at Fall Fest hearing from Estee Portnoy, BBYO alum and Michael Jordan's business manager.



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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES



A Holiday Season of Giving and Receiving for JFS Clients and Families in the Community

The holiday season is a busy time for JFS. It is a time of year when we do our best to ensure that individuals and families who would typically be unable to put a holiday meal on their table or participate in the traditional gift-giving of Chanukah are able to do so. With your generosity, donations, and exceptional shopping skills, we were able to brighten the holidays for so many this year while bringing a sense of gratitude and pride to those we serve.

Thanksgiving - Requests for emergency groceries from our Food Pantry saw a 300% increase during the month of November, which allowed us to provide 70 people, including adults and children with much needed groceries. In addition to the rise in emergency groceries requested, JFS identified clients who needed assistance so they too could enjoy a plentiful Thanksgiving dinner for themselves and their families. We were fortunate to receive a lovely donation of gift cards for Thanksgiving dinners. That, coupled with other items donated, including turkeys allowed many families to enjoy a traditional holiday meal that most of us have come to expect.

One young mother of two small boys could barely contain her excitement as she came to pick up her donation. She told us she had been scouring the internet for recipes, commenting that she and her boys loved Thanksgiving and now she would be able to prepare, cook, and freeze several meals for the coming weeks ahead.

Chanukah - For almost 10 years, JFS' Dreidel Drive/Chanukah Toy Drive has been bringing holiday happiness to many children and families as well as older adults who cannot afford to purchase gifts for their loved ones during the winter holiday season.

Not only does JFS collect gifts from you, our generous community, but one of the best parts of the program is that we give our clients, children, parents, and seniors alike, the ability to ask for exactly what they would like to receive. So from toys, and gift cards to clothing and food, we do our best to make the holiday season as personal as possible for our clients. We have found that this brings great joy and smiles to so many.

This year, 93 individuals received Chanukah gifts, ranging from gift cards for food, gas, haircuts, shoes, movies, toys, and more, to actual gifts of clothing, toys, and arts and crafts. One of our 74-year-old senior adults teared up as she shared how impressed she was that someone actually got her the Paint-by-Number set that she requested. She said, "They really listened to me." Another couple who benefit-

ted from gifts collected during the drive was thrilled that JFS would think of them and remember them at this time.

Even our youth from Hebrew High got involved by contributing to the tape, ribbon, wrapping paper, menorahs, and candles that were collected.

We even received a very large, wooden kitchen set that was not requested but was so very much appreciated by its recipient.

Seniors - One of the highlights of the Chanukah season is the way in which we engage our seniors in the holiday traditions. This year, one special highlight in addition to the Senior Adult Chanukah Celebration was when one Maggie Fogel, one of our Board Members took a small group of children over to Sunrise Assisted Living to celebrate Chanukah with the seniors. This inter-generational activity was loved by all. So much so that the children are asking if they can go back again. They gathered together to light the menorah, sing songs and play a little bingo. (See pictures on page 11.)

Families in need come to JFS year-round, for counseling services, domestic violence assistance, supplemental food, caregiver support and issues that arise from aging. ☆



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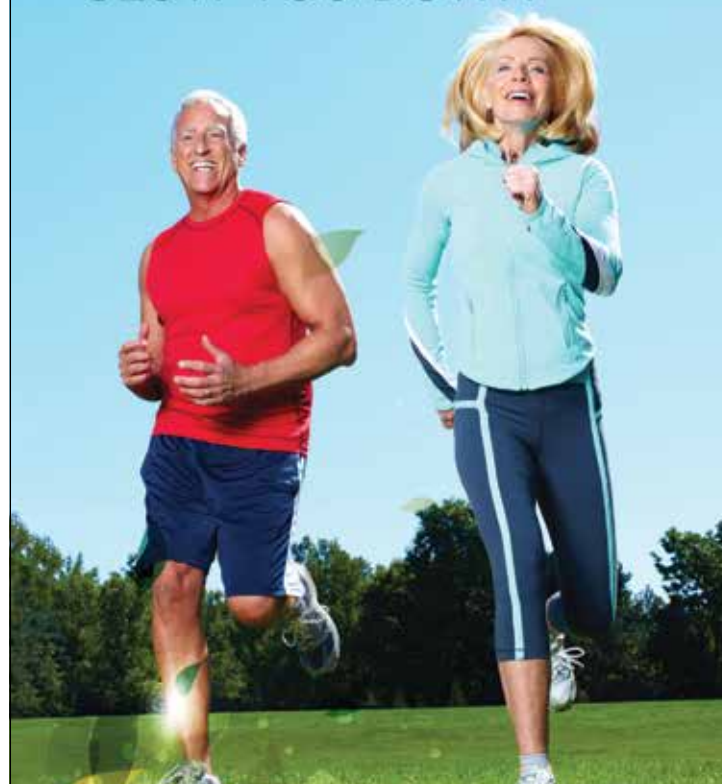
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EVER WONDER HOW FAR YOUR GIFT TO THE JEWISH FEDERATION GOES?

The answer is right here in this comprehensive overview of the many programs and agencies Federation donors support each year.

Everyday, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, together with you, our donors and partners, enriches lives, builds community and fosters a thriving Jewish future locally, in Israel and around the world. **THE IMPACT IS EXTRAORDINARY.** Friends, family and neighbors are connected to one another and to Jewish life. Lives are touched, changed and saved in Israel, around the world and right here in our own backyard. Children and teens are inspired to discover their Jewish identities, and individuals of all abilities and backgrounds in our community are welcomed and included. **IT ALL STARTS WITH YOU! You make everything we do possible.** *total amount net of campaign shrinkage and reserves

2019 LOCAL BENEFICIARY AGENCIES	\$3,070,819
Anti-Defamation League <i>Our nation's premier civil rights/human relations organization</i>	\$1,100
BBYO <i>Youth-led, worldwide organization, promoting Jewish identity and personal growth among Jewish teens</i>	\$15,500
Ballantyne Jewish Center <i>Provides one week of Jewish winter camp and three weeks of Jewish summer camp to children in the greater Ballantyne area</i>	\$13,000
Birthright Israel <i>Young adults traveling to Israel</i>	\$10,500
Butterfly Project <i>Educates the community on the lessons of the Holocaust</i>	\$10,000
Center for Jewish Education <i>Promotes the advancement of lifelong Jewish education, learning and literacy</i>	\$172,802
Charlotte Community Agencies <i>Crisis Assistance Ministries, Mecklenburg Ministries, Loaves and Fishes, Hospice Charlotte, Safe Alliance, Urban Ministries, and CBI</i>	\$10,300
Charlotte Jewish Day School <i>Quality Jewish day school serving students from Kindergarten through 5th grade</i>	\$175,000
Charlotte Jewish Film Festival <i>Illuminates global Jewish experiences through film</i>	\$10,000
Charlotte Jewish Preschool <i>Quality Jewish preschool educational program and full day childcare facility</i>	\$44,000
Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies <i>An enriched Judaic program for Charlotte-area teens</i>	\$29,000
Foundation of Shalom Park <i>Provides rent and security subsidies for Jewish agencies in Shalom Park, helping to keep operational expenses to a minimum</i>	\$377,863
Friendship Circle <i>Creates lasting friendships between Jewish teens and children with special needs</i>	\$12,500
Hebrew Cemetery <i>Provides a dignified final resting place for the Charlotte Jewish community</i>	\$21,000
Hebrew Cemetery Funeral Assistance Fund <i>Provides dignified burials for Jewish families in need</i>	\$10,000
Jewish Council for Public Affairs <i>Serves as representative voice of the American Jewish community</i>	\$1,500
Jewish Council of Lake Norman <i>Community programming to enrich and strengthen Jewish life in the Lake Norman area</i>	\$19,000
Jewish Educational Loan Fund <i>Provides interest-free loans to college students in the Southeast</i>	\$3,600
Jewish Experience Fund <i>Subsidies for summer camps and other Jewish youth experience opportunities</i>	\$7,500
Jewish Family Services <i>Professional counseling, family education programs, and social services</i>	\$289,000
Jewish Family Services Tzedakah Fund <i>Emergency financial assistance and loans to assist local Jewish families in need</i>	\$12,000
Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte <i>Supports and enriches the lives of Jews in Charlotte, Israel and worldwide through education and community building</i>	\$1,014,175
Jewish Preschool on Sardis <i>Quality Jewish preschool educational program</i>	\$23,500
Moishe House <i>Provides meaningful Jewish experiences for young adults in their 20's as they create a vibrant home-based Jewish community</i>	\$21,500
North Carolina Council on the Holocaust <i>Holocaust educational workshops and displays for public and private school teachers</i>	\$12,000
North Carolina Hillel <i>Promotes Jewish life on college campuses across North Carolina</i>	\$56,000
PJ Library <i>Strengthen the identities of Jewish families and their relationships to the Jewish community by offering free, high quality Jewish books and music to families raising Jewish children ages six months through eight years</i>	\$20,000
Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center <i>Enriches Jewish lives through cultural, educational and athletic programming</i>	\$295,000
Shalom Green <i>Shalom Park Environmental Initiative promoting Jewish values through sustainable living, a community garden, and educational programming</i>	\$9,419
Shalom Park Freedom School <i>Embraces Jewish values and builds Jewish Identity by providing a summer enrichment program for children of poverty in CMS schools</i>	\$15,000

Supplemental Gifts and Special Distributions <i>Provides customized giving opportunities over and above Annual Campaign gifts, enabling donors to maximize their giving potential and fulfill their philanthropic goals. Includes Bernstein Leadership, Birthright Israel, Blumenthal Educator Resource Center, CJE Campaign, Campaign and Women's Philanthropy Event Sponsorships, Community Building Initiative, Community Leadership Program, Greater Charlotte Community Building, Gorelick Teens to Israel, Jewish Community Refugee Initiative, JCRC Speaker Series, PJ Library, and Mission Subsidies</i>	\$321,234
Tikvah Charlotte <i>Jewish education for children with special needs</i>	\$7,500
Uptown Chabad <i>Provides networking and Jewish connections for Jewish young adults</i>	\$13,500
ZAB'S Place <i>Provides workplace training and experience for Jewish young adults with special needs</i>	\$15,000

IMPACT & INNOVATION FUND GRANTEES	\$113,000
The Jewish Federation's Impact & Innovation Fund grants are intended to inspire individuals, organizations, synagogues, and agencies to provide innovative and impactful engagement opportunities for the greater Charlotte Jewish community.	
Ballantyne Jewish Center - Mega Challah Bake: Large-scale challah baking events for women and children	\$5,000
Chabad Lake Norman: Outreach and engagement to the Lake Norman Jewish community	\$5,000
Charlotte Torah Center: Women of Wisdom social and educational programming	\$5,000
Foundation of Shalom Park: Development of a long-term strategic plan for the future of Shalom Park	\$20,000
Friendship Circle - U.Matter: A peer-to-peer program aimed at mitigating teenage mental health and negative self-image among local teens	\$11,000
Jewish Community Refugee Initiative: Welcoming the Stranger to the Table dessert event, with local refugee families and local Jewish families, in an effort to educate and engage the Jewish community around issues facing the local refugee population	\$2,000
JPro - Charlotte Chapter: A networking organization for Jewish non-profit professionals promoting professional development & career growth	\$5,000
NC Holocaust Foundation: Three-day retreat for NC public school teachers to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC to deepen their understanding of the Holocaust	\$15,000
Stan Greenspon Center for Peace & Social Justice: Full or half-day Holocaust Education programs designed for middle and high school students, intended to supplement the English or Social Studies curriculum	\$9,000
Temple Beth El: Build Jewish identity and engagement opportunities for the baby boomer and empty-nester populations	\$11,000
Temple Kol Ami: A four-part program embracing Jewish heritage, culture, religion, education and Israel in York County	\$7,000
Temple Kol Tikvah: Update the learning environments for the children and adults in Lake Norman	\$6,000
Temple Solel: Sustain future generations of the South Carolina Jewish community by expanding child and adult educational and cultural programming	\$7,000
The Ruach: Free alternative musical Shabbat experiences in non-traditional settings	\$5,000

ISRAEL AND OUR GLOBAL FAMILY	\$879,368
Israel and Overseas <i>Meets the needs of Jews in Israel and world-wide</i>	
✧ Aharai-Givat Olga	✧ Jewish Agency: MASA
✧ Chabad Chesed Center	✧ JDC: FSU Welfare
✧ Education for Excellence	✧ JDC: Supported Housing Hadera
✧ Ethiopian National Project	✧ Krembo Wings
✧ Gidon Association/Maksam	✧ Moishe House International
✧ Hadera Young Adult Center	✧ Partnership2Gether - Hadera Eiron
✧ Hand in Hand: Jewish-Arab Education	✧ Talpiot: Community For Its Children
✧ HIAS	✧ Technoda
✧ Jewish Federations of North America	✧ Ulpanit Mevaseret Baruch
✧ Jewish Agency: Ulpanim in Ukraine	✧ Yerucham Association

Donations Made to Jewish Family Services in November 2018

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Elliott to Lina Newman and

family from Sandra Weinstein

Terri Patinkin to Floyd Patten from Leonard and Judi Strause
Abe and Rose Luski to Berta Straz from Harriet Meetz

HAPPY CHANUKAH TO

Philip Goodman from Brett Goodman
Mark and Teri Moffett from Brett Goodman

MAZEL TOV ON

Your daughter's marriage, to Stuart and Carolyn Hennes from Michael and Judie Van Glish
Your engagement to Becca Weiner from Elliot and Peggy Gartner

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Sheila Peltzer from Marvin Barman and Sharon Taubman
Larry Polsky from David and

Janet Lefkowitz, Elliot and Peggy Gartner

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Jon and Chris Schuller from Sarah R. Grossman

WISHING A FULL AND SPEEDY RECOVER TO

Patti Weisman from Paul and Lynn Edelstein

IN HONOR OF

David and Beth Thrope, just for being yourselves, from Marvin Barman and Sharon Taubman ☆

JFS Monthly Volunteers and Donors

November 2018

Volunteers: Rick Abrams, Ana Bonheim, Bill Brightman, James Bryan, Suzy Catenazzo, Dan Coblenz, Joelle Cohn, Andrea Cronson, Sheryl Effern, Maggie Fogel, Mel Frank, Rob Friedman, Marc Gentile Neil Golub, Jennifer Golynsky, Gail Halverson, Liat Hubara, Oren Hubara, Tara Hubara, Bob Jacobson, Brooks Jaffa, Eric Lerner, Gary Lerner, Kim Levy, Matt Luftglass, Harriet Meetz, Frada Mozenter, Mayaan Peleg, Barbara Rein, Stefanie Rose, Jenny Rosenthal, Harry Rubenstein, Linda Safir, Fred Shporer, Louis Sinkoe, Mason Sklut, Harry

Sparks, Amy Udoff, Liz Wahls, Amalia Warshenbrot, Jan Weiner, Dori Whitman, Nancy Wielunski

Meal Prep by Circle of Generous Hearts: Ilene Cantor, Caren Carr, Sharon Cavanaugh, Gladys Cherny, Denise and Bob Cooper, Rony DeRamio, Sara Friedman, June Hirschmann, Fran and Roy Kaplan, Judy Kaufman, Penny Krieger, Harriet Meetz, Roz Snyder, Joyce Stoll

Meal Prep by Residents of Sun City: Ellie Bantit, Bernna Berkowitz, Wendy Bloom, Bobbi Cooper, Patti Diamond, Ami Felner, Ellie Fitzig, Sandy Greenblatt, Lexie Greene, Linda Keitel, Madelyn Kososky, Fran Levin,

Bev Moseman, Evelyn Nemeroff, Margo Pomerantz, Debbie Rosenberger, Carolyn Schecht, Robin Sherman, Janet Sinderbrand, Helaine Stone, Norma Urmansky, Roberta Wilner, Phoebe Witte, Ronnie Zevon

Food Pantry Donations: Stacy Brink, Jason Clark MD, Dan Coblenz, Robbie McGinley, Digie Pesakoff, Temple Beth El and Temple Israel Congregants, Hebrew High, Charlotte Jewish Day School, Charlotte Jewish Preschool, Charlotte Jewish Preschool Mini Moos and The Ones class

Food Drives: Abby Adams and Enclave Neighborhood ☆

JFS Volunteers Visited Sunrise Residents to Celebrate Chanukah



JFS Monthly inter-generational bingo every second Sunday of the month at 2:30 PM.



For seven nights we received presents. On the 8th night of Hanukkah we gave our "presence" and played bingo with residents at Sunrise on Providence.

What To Do When Antisemitism Hits Close to Home

(Continued from page 2)

or vandalism.

2) File a police report - This can be done by you, your child's school, or the business establishment where the incident occurred.

3) Send an online report to the Anti-Defamation League - Go to <https://www.adl.org/take-action/report-an-incident> to file your report.

Local Advocates and Assistance:

When hate strikes, it is easy to feel isolated. In addition to the ADL, please know that the Greater Charlotte Jewish community is prepared to support and assist you.

1) The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte - The Federation's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is equipped to advocate on your behalf and provide additional resources as needed for schools

and businesses. Please contact the Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs, Laurel Grauer at 704-944-6751 or laurel.grauer@jewishcharlotte.org.

2) Jewish Professionals - From our passionate educators and youth leaders, to our licensed counselors and dynamic clergy, Charlotte's Jewish professionals are here to support you and your family. Let them know what happened and what you need.

Educational Resources:

While the Federation's JCRC should be your first point of contact, the following is a list of local and national resources available to parents, teachers and students:

A. The Anti-Defamation League in addition to advocacy and reporting, the ADL also offers trainings, lesson plans and family discussion guides. www.adl.org

and click on the "Education" tab.

B. The North Carolina Holocaust Council is a state commission that offers teacher trainings and materials on the Holocaust. Find out more at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/holocaust-council/> or contact Charlotte Area Council Representative Talli Dippold at tdippold@gmail.com.

C. The Butterfly Project offers workshops at Shalom Park that address the Holocaust and modern manifestations of hate. Find out more from LJCC Butterfly Project Supervisor Lori Semel at butterflyproject@charlottejcc.org or 704-944-6833

D. The Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice offers tailored curriculum on Holocaust and human rights education, and diversity inclusion programs. Find out more at <http://www.stangreensponcenter.org/> or contact Education Coordinator Donna Tarney at tarneyd@queens.edu. ☆



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Community News

Fighting Antisemitism Locally and Globally

Across the globe, economies and societies are in the midst of change. Along with this change comes unrest, uncertainty, and frustration. Unfortunately, this has resulted in a rise in Antisemitism. According to the Anti-Defamation League's most recent report, acts of Antisemitism increased 60% in 2017 as compared to the numbers for 2016.¹ Several countries are combatting this surge in Antisemitism by stepping up their enforcement of existing hate crime laws.² Others are meeting hate with new legislation or declarations of the government's intent to stop Antisemitism.³ In the US, the FBI and state police agencies have released new reports on the rise of Antisemitism in our country. Local communities are highlighting the issue, and some are actively seeking ways to build safer spaces for their Jewish brothers and sisters. In Charlotte, The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, The

Butterfly Project at The Levine Jewish Community Center, The NC Council on the Holocaust, and the Stan Greenspon Center for Peace and Social Justice are the front line of first responders to acts of Antisemitism.

The Greenspon Center offers a variety of resources to schools in Charlotte-Mecklenburg area and surrounding counties. The Center provides the most current professional development for teachers who address lessons of the Holocaust and human rights in their classes. They are excited to bring, for the first time in the US, the Yahad In Unum Teachers Seminar. This two-day training explores the legacy of the Holocaust by Bullets today.

The Greenspon Center also assists with school wide programs that help students appreciate the benefits resulting from recognizing and respecting diversity. New this year are in-school programs that challenge students to have

intentional conversations around the topics of bias and prejudice. With the support of the Jewish Federation Impact Fund, these programs give students the opportunity to evaluate their own biases and the tools to combat prejudice in their school communities. The Center also partners with individual teachers who need help integrating lessons from the Holocaust into their classes.

The Greenspon Center staff works diligently to lay a strong educational foundation knowing that there is more to be done. Knowledge of injustice must lead to acting for justice in our communities. During the past two years, the Greenspon Center has done exactly that. The Affordable Housing Committee, for example, contributed to the successful passage of the housing bond referendum and hosted an interfaith workshop to help Charlotte congregations understand the many ways that they can engage with

expanding affordable housing in our city. From affordable housing to immigrant justice to criminal justice, we support students and community members in organizing to respond to critical issues our city, state and country are facing.

The staff would like to thank everyone who attended our Second Anniversary event. We had over 400 people in attendance. Moving forward we hope to become an even more powerful force for justice in the Charlotte area and beyond. In order to do this, we rely on you. Please visit our website to find out how you can become part of the solution in Charlotte and register for our upcoming events in 2019:

The Key to Kabbalah: Discovering Jewish Mysticism; Art of Ethical Speech; Agenda 2019: Setting the Greenspon Social Justice Agenda; Same Stories, Different Texts: The Hebrew Bible and the Koran; Aliaga-Buchenau Witness in Residence Program 2019 - Transgendered Journeys; Preyer Lecture: The Two Souths of '68: Remembering Revolution in these Hard Times. ☆

¹www.adl.org/news/press-releases/anti-semitic-incidents-surged-nearly-60-in-2017-according-to-new-adl-report

²www.dw.com/en/german-government-adopts-international-anti-semitism-definition/a-40608166

³www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-46355210

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Stan Greenspon Center
for Peace and Social Justice

Jewish Leadership Program Launches Southeast Cohort

The Leadership Commons of The William Davidson School of JTS has announced the inaugural southeast cohort – 19 fellows and five mentors – of its Jewish Experiential Leadership Institute (JELI). The purpose of this initiative is to train Jewish professionals and communal leaders according to the JELI model, which focuses on leadership principles, Jewish learning, building community, and personal growth.

JELI-Southeast is an outgrowth of the initial JELI program which was conducted in partnership with JCC Association to train middle and senior managers in JCCs throughout North America to lead through an educational Jewish lens. The success of the first two JELI cohorts led the Leadership Commons to explore ways to reach even more Jewish professionals and communal leaders. As a result of this exploration, two new programs were created. The first, launched last year, is the JCC Leadership

Training Institute (JCCLTI), continuing our partnership with the JCC Association, which trains middle managers to reach executive levels in JCCs in the next five years (you can learn more about JCCLTI here).

The second new program is the inaugural JELI-Southeast cohort, which expands the JELI experience beyond JCCs and helps it reach communities which have opportunities and challenges in common. Ideally this JELI cohort will strengthen Jewish life throughout an entire geographic region.

The inaugural cohort will convened for its first intensive four-day retreat in Charlotte in November. Under the program direction of Debbie Joseph, the cohort will continue learning through monthly online sessions, two additional four-day retreats, one-on-one mentoring, and project work over the next 18 months.

JELI-Southeast cohort fellows come from 12 different commu-

nities and seven states across the southeast region, and represent 11 different types of Jewish organizations, including Federations, JCCs, Hillels, Jewish family services, BBYO, JNF, day schools, synagogues, Moishe House, and more. In addition to building on the original JELI curriculum, this cohort will study and experience the history and culture of the southeast in order to more effectively lead their communities and collaborate to strengthen Jewish life in this region as a whole.

JELI-Southeast is generously supported by the Jim Joseph Foundation, The Leon Levine Foundation, the William Davidson Foundation, the Amy Mandel /Katina Rodis Fund, and Birmingham Jewish Foundation.

Local inaugural fellows are Kara Culp, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte; Megan Harkavy, Consolidated High School of Jewish Studies; Jamie Krusch, North Carolina Hillel; Casey Topol, Temple Israel. ☆



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Jeremy.Ordan@AllenTate.com Matti.Ordan@AllenTate.com

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“At one time in Lithuania - perhaps not so much today - Torah was held in higher esteem than money. A boor, no matter how rich, was nothing more than a boor. Never would he be voluntarily accorded a place of honor or listened to open-mouthed. Oh, no! To be worthy of that, one had to be learned, good, pious, and come of a good family. Prestige depended not on the money bags but on the mind and the heart.”

- Mendele Mocher Sforim. *How We Lived*,
ed. Irving Howe and Kenneth Libo

Bal Taschit and Beyond – Resolving to be a Greener Shalom Park

Shalom Green recently had the opportunity to sit down with Terri Beattie, the executive director of The Foundation of Shalom Park. The Foundation of Shalom Park is the land owner and the landlord for all of the facilities and infrastructure on Shalom Park with the exception of Temple Beth El and Temple Israel. The Foundation of Shalom Park also provides services to Park agencies including security, maintenance, janitorial, event space, and landscaping. We learned about current and future initiatives that are making Shalom Park a greener place to learn, work, play, and worship.

Shalom Green: What steps have been taken to date to move

toward a more environmentally-friendly Shalom Park campus?

Foundation of Shalom Park: In 2017 and 2018, The Foundation of Shalom Park focused on LED lighting retrofits. We changed all surface parking lot and parking deck light fixtures to LED bulbs. We changed all pole lighting fixtures to LED bulbs at Camp Mindy. We also changed interior light fixtures to LED bulbs within most Foundation buildings and in both gym areas at the LJCC. By replacing the existing bulbs with energy efficient LED technology, we are saving over \$900 per month in utility costs.

SG: What changes are on your wish list for the future?

FSP: We are currently completing a well project that will take Shalom Park off of city water for outdoor irrigation. Between the well project and the lighting retrofits, we expect to lower our utility cost by 10% from 2018 to 2019. Through the use of smart irrigation controls, we hope to further reduce the amount of water used for outdoor irrigation.

SG: The Foundation of Shalom Park is leading the charge to reduce the carbon footprint of Shalom Park. What will you focus on in 2019?

FSP: In 2019 The Foundation of Shalom Park will increase our effort to influence personal habits that can drastically impact

building energy, water, and waste performance. While everyone is interested in being more environmentally friendly, we find it beneficial to educate Park agencies with specific tips that can help building occupants make changes to their personal habits.

How can you help make Shalom Park more environmentally friendly in the New Year? Resolve to 1) turn off the lights when you leave a space, 2) recycle properly using the blue bins located around the Park, 3) make smart consumer choices, get involved, and be an agent for change.

If you have an idea for an article, please email info@shalomgreenCLT.org



SHALOM GREEN
Jewish Values, Sustainable Living
Shalom Park Environmental Initiative

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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 @ShalomGreen_CLT.✧

Simple Ways to Break The Post-Holiday Blues

It's January. The holidays and New Year's celebrations have come to a screeching halt. The days and weeks of socializing, over-eating and over-indulging are a thing of the past. New Year's resolutions are made and some unrealistic goals may have even been broken or changed already. The non-stop flurry of activity left little time for your usual self-care routine of eating healthy, exercising, and getting a good night's sleep. With any busy

time of year or planning of a special event, it is not unusual to be left feeling depressed, tired and anxious once it's all behind you.

Here are some easy tools to help break through the post-holiday season blues:

* Smile - Yes, it sounds cheesy but it works. If you smile at others it can immediately change your mood. Your posture will change and you will feel better. And you will help put the person you smiled at in a better mood as well.

* Tell yourself an affirmation - If you wake up in the morning and think of just one positive thing, it can keep you positive throughout the day. If something irritates you during the day or you just feel down, remember that one positive you thought of in the morning.

* Wear a favorite piece of clothing - It can be a sweater, pair of shoes, even a pair of socks. Wearing something that you like helps you feel good about yourself.

* Reach out to a friend, relative or colleague you haven't heard from in a while - Make a call or send a text or email just touching base. You will feel good about yourself for making the simple effort to reach out.

* Do one fun thing you enjoy that you have been putting off - it may be going to a movie, bowling, or just playing cards. Don't make a big fuss about it, just do it. You'll find it takes your mind off of other things and you'll feel

good about doing something you enjoy.

These are just some easy things you can do that take little effort but can have a big impact.

If the suggestions above don't have any impact on you mood and you are depressed and believe it is more than just post-holiday blues, reach out to a professional Mental Health professional, call Jewish Family Services at 704-364-6594. ✧

The Past and the Future of the Hebrew Cemetery

By Barry Blau

Like many of my fellow board members, my family has a long history of being a part of Jewish organizations in the Charlotte region, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte, CJP, CJDS, and the LJCC. Although I am a relative newcomer to the Hebrew Cemetery's board, as the current Treasurer and now as the presumptive incoming President, I hope to be involved with the cemetery for many years to come.

When I first joined the Hebrew Cemetery Association Board, I was not very familiar with the cemetery, especially its long history and tradition. However, as I became more involved and my role on the board grew, my passion for the cemetery has grown immensely.

Continuing with current practices, the board of directors feels it's our duty to provide a respectful and final resting place for all Jews in our community, regardless of means and affiliation. One thing that sets our cemetery apart from many others is that it's a community cemetery and is not governed by or affiliated with any one synagogue. In keeping with the spirit of inclusiveness, the cemetery established sections for each of the religious streams, including a section for interfaith families. To that extent, Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox rab-

bis not only preside over burials, they also supervise the cemetery's religious policies.

As many of you have seen, vast improvements have been made to the cemetery's grounds in the past decade, and it's something of which the entire Jewish community should be proud. The memorial building, Silverman circle sculpture, and other beautification and improvement projects have had a profoundly positive impact. It's the board's vision that the coming years will see a continuation of those already begun and new ones commenced. If you have either never been to the cemetery or it's been a while, I strongly encourage you to walk our hallowed grounds and see what many consider to be one of the most special final resting places in the Charlotte region.

Consistent with long-standing objectives, we want, above all, to provide a setting that properly honors the memory of loved ones, including members, non-members, and those in need. I can assure you, the board is not going to rest on our laurels of more recent accomplishments, and it is our full intention and fundamental duty to continue maintaining the grounds at a level the entire community will be proud of. In doing this, the board aspires for the Hebrew Cemetery of Greater Charlotte to become the cemetery of



Barry Blau

choice for the Jewish community.

As I mentioned previously, I was not fully acquainted with the cemetery. One of my initial learnings was that, according to Jewish tradition, establishing a cemetery is one of the first priorities for a new Jewish community. In keeping with that tradition, the Hebrew Cemetery was the first Jewish organization in Charlotte, dating back to 1867. Last year, was a milestone year for the cemetery, as we celebrated 150 years since its establishment.

In order for the cemetery to sustain itself for the next generation and beyond, there are many ways the community can help. Through annual (\$72) and lifetime (\$1800) membership op-

tions, including the cemetery in your estate planning (Create your Jewish Legacy initiative) and other forms of giving, you can help

ensure the cemetery's important role in Jewish customs and values is continued throughout and even beyond our lifetimes. ✧



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The Ruach Spins into Temple Solel for The Chanukah Experience then Tops Off the Year with The Ruach Shabbat Experience at The Rabbit Hole

"Haya Nes" is usually thought of as a kid's Chanukah song ... but not the way The Ruach plays it. On the seventh night of the celebration of the Festival of Lights, The Ruach, playing at The Chanukah Experience hosted by Temple Solel, kicked off the evening with its own version of "Haya Nes" which they had originally written and performed for the 2016 Tosco Holiday Party at Spirit Square. Rick Lipson, The Ruach's drummer, got things going by laying down the beat. Then lead singer Nancy Good welcomed everyone in the full fellowship hall of the Belair United Methodist Church with a 60 second version of the story of Chanukah. Since the miracle of Chanukah can be summed up in eight words, "Eight day burning of the one-day oil," the band incorporated these words into the song. During the song Nancy involved the crowd by having them join the band in singing that line eight times because,

well ... it was Chanukah. They joined in with incredible enthusiasm setting the tone for a Chanukah concert that was full of joy.

The band played a one hour set that included some songs from The Ruach Shabbat Experience and some that they usually play only for The Rosh Hashanah Experience. In addition to "Haya Nes," they played other Chanukah favorites, as well, including a rock version of Peter, Paul, and Mary's, "Light One Candle." And, of course, no Chanukah concert today would be complete without Adam Sandler's now classic "Chanukah Song," which the band played making one slight change to the words: "The owner of the Carolina Panthers-kah celebrates Chanukah." This was met with roars of approval from everyone there.

Said Temple Solel president, Shelly Pawlyk, "We've hosted The Ruach before for Shabbat and love them. We knew that we had



Laurabree Monday, Michaela Fox, and Tanya Trachtenberg enjoy the Ruach performance with Temple Solel.

to have them play for our Chanukah event. They are really fantastic musicians and truly dedicated to playing worship-FULL music. Their energy is contagious."

The Ruach played its last Shabbat Experience of 2018 at The Rabbit Hole in Plaza-Midwood on December 21. The Ruach Shabbat Experiences are always joyous, spiritual, and uplifting; this one was no different with everyone clapping and singing along with the band. And, Rabbi Rachel Smookler, as she always does, delivered words of inspiration and hope.

One of the things the band does during its Experiences is incorporate a popular song or two that have themes of peace, love, and understanding. Members of The Ruach Community are familiar with the band's fusion of "If Everyone Cared" by Nickelback and Craig Taubman's "L'chu N'ran'nah." For the last song of 2018 The Ruach pulled out all the stops and totally rocked the house with Elvis Costello's version of Nick Lowe's Classic, "What's So Funny 'Bout Peace, Love, and Understanding?"

If you'd like to get on Ruach's distribution list and stay informed about upcoming Experience, email the.ruach.band@gmail.com. Also, to learn more about The Ruach like the band on Facebook, and follow them on Instagram @the.ruach.new.jewish.music and Twitter @TheRuachSpirit.

The Ruach is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to spread the joy of Judaism through new Jewish musical experiences that are meant to create and maintain personal connections and, inspire and engage people to embrace the religion and all that it has to offer. The Ruach band members are Nancy Good, lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Peter Levinson, lead guitar and band manager; Dan Ruda, bass guitar and backing vocals; Franklin Kaunitz, violin and backing vocals; Howard Swartz, percussion; Rick Lipson, drums. ☆

Judy Goldman's New Memoir Chronicles the Effects of Medical Challenges on Relationships

By Amy Krakovitz

Sometimes the life you live today is far different from the one you lived long ago. Changes seem to happen gradually, like a growing flower. You remember that at one time, you didn't like to eat Grape-Nuts, but here you are today, someone who eats Grape-Nuts for breakfast every day.

But sometimes those changes come suddenly, giving you and the people around you, a solid, almost visible line of demarcation. One minute you were the passive voice of your marriage, before you know it, you are the active voice, the aggressive one, the one making demands.

Such was Judy Goldman's experience when her husband, Henry,

had a medical mishap befall him. For most of their lives, Henry was the strong partner in their relationship, his personality manifested in his sturdy appearance; Judy was the quieter of the two, a docile temperament that had been distilled in her since her youth when her parents and siblings looked upon her as the "baby of the family," and therefore the sweetest.

Her current book, *Together: Memoir of a Marriage and a Medical Mishap*, chronicles the time that her husband Henry was left paralyzed by a mysterious accident during a medical procedure. Judy delves into her own past throughout, analyzing the trajectory of her life, attempting

to determine what specific events or decisions led her to where she eventually landed.

Though the changes in both Judy and Henry appear gradual, as he accommodates help and accepts that there are some things he can't do alone, and as she becomes the more vocal and demanding partner that is needed, both can look back to the failed medical procedure as the defining moment in the transformation in their personalities and their marriage.

In spite of constant challenges to the strength of their relationship, they maintain their devotion to one another, always insisting to each other, "I am the lucky one!"

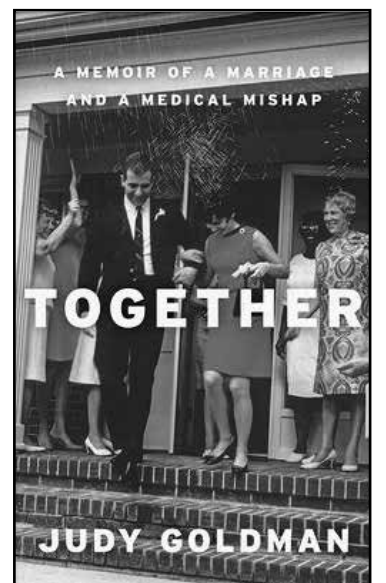
Judy is one of Charlotte's local treasures, a published poet and author, whose voice is often heard on the radio. She has published two novels, another memoir, and two collections of poetry.

Her first novel, *The Slow Way Back*, and her poetry collection, *Wanting to the Know the End*, have both won several awards, as has Judy herself for her contributions and generosity to other writers and the larger community.

Together is another jewel in her writing collection, a story that will reinforce your own view of how strong people can make a strong marriage. When you are read *Together*, you will be the one who says, "I am the lucky one."

Together will be released on February 12. The book can be preordered here: www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/573379/together-by-judy-goldman/9780385543941/ and at amazon.com.

Park Road Books (Park Road Shopping Center) will host Judy doing a reading of her memoir on February 12 at 7 PM, and there will also be a reading on March



3 at 2 PM at the Mint Museum of Art on Randolph Road.

Learn more about Judy Goldman and her work at judygoldman.com/. ☆

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"We have 613 commandments. The last one is probably the most important because it includes all the others: *Kitvu lakhem et nashirah hazot*. 'You must write this poetry.' To be Jewish means to be a poet. There is poetry in the Jewish existence, and we are commanded to see its poetic dimension. We are to write it down in order to share it with as many people as possible; every Jew is commanded to read the Torah, to write it, and thus to transmit it."

- Elie Wiesel, *Against Silence*

SYNAGOGUES & CONGREGATIONS

Shabbat Shira and Tu BiShevat Shabbaton Friday, January 18

Ohr HaTorah will host a winter family Shabbaton on Friday, January 18, to celebrate Shabbat Shira, when we commemorate the song of the crossing of the sea and Tu BiShevat, the New Year of the Trees, which falls on the following Monday. This will be a historic event, as we celebrate our first Shabbaton in the new Friendship Circle Building. To combine this triple celebration, the Family Shabbaton will feature a gourmet meal along with a wine bar for the adults featuring an array of Israeli wines. The Shabbaton will include fun activities for children,

as well as adults and in honor of Tu BiShevat, will feature the special fruits of Israel which are mentioned in the Torah. The event will be held on Friday, January 18 and will begin at 5:15 PM with services and candle lighting, followed by Shabbat dinner at 6:30 PM. The cost for the Shabbaton is \$27/person or \$69/family. To reserve, visit the payment page at www.chabadnc.org or mail a check to: 6619 Sardis Road, Charlotte, NC 28270. For more information, please call 704-366-3984 or email: info@chabadnc.org. ☆



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Meet TKA President Andrew Lyons

For the president of Temple Kol Ami, Andrew Lyons, Jewish community involvement has been a lifelong pursuit. Growing up in Charlotte, he became a bar mitzvah at Temple Beth El, participated in BBYO/AZA as a teenager, and was the kosher kitchen supervisor for the Hillel at UNC-Chapel Hill. Jewish communal involvement is a tradition handed down from his father and grandfather. Jeffrey Lyons served as president of Temple Beth El in the past, and grandpa Bennett Lyons held many board positions at the synagogue he attended in Johnstown, PA. So it was only natural for Andrew to take the baton and run with it at Temple Kol Ami.

Andrew came to Temple Kol Ami four years ago in search of a small, welcoming Jewish community where he could make an impact and where his three sons could receive a dynamic Jewish education. He definitely found both at Temple Kol Ami. He immediately jumped in, joining the board initially as a marketing/outreach lead and soon taking on the role of treasurer. Andrew assumed the presidency in June of this year and relishes the opportunity to help grow the Jewish community of South Charlotte/York County, SC. His long-term

vision includes having a building and full-time rabbi. "I have seen it happen in Charlotte during my lifetime, so I believe we can make it happen in York County," he says. "But I understand it takes baby steps, and right now our immediate goals are to continue to enhance our already thriving religious school and add more adult programming." Temple Kol Ami will certainly benefit from Andrew's skills developed over a 19-year business consulting career.

Andrew's passion for volunteerism extends to the civic community as well. He is a speaker/facilitator for Habitat for Humanity, giving financial guidance to new homeowners. Additionally, he coaches youth soccer, basketball and baseball for his sons. We are certainly grateful that this busy dad has made time for Temple Kol Ami. How does he manage to do it all? "I am a lucky man to have Courtney as my wife and partner on this fun journey," he smiles.

The Lyons Family certainly reflects one of the strongest tenets of Judaism, *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation. Temple Kol Ami is strongly focused on passing on Jewish traditions, religious practice, and culture to our youth. "I feel so fortunate to have

found Temple Kol Ami," muses Andrew. "It is the perfect Jewish home for my family with a great blend of younger and older congregants, interfaith families, and meaningful Shabbat services. I can't tell you the joy I get in seeing my 100 year-old grandfather watch his great-grandkids lead Friday night service."

Temple Kol Ami is fortunate to have Andrew Lyons to lead us for the next two years. His talents, positive attitude, and dedication are sure to help continue the growth and stability of the York County Jewish community. However, he can't do it alone. You are invited to join Andrew and Temple Kol Ami on our journey to the revival of Judaism in York County and the surrounding areas. Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat services the first and third Fridays of each month at Philadelphia United Methodist Church, 1691 SC-160 in Fort Mill. Check our website www.templekolamisc.org for more details. ☆



TKA President Andrew Lyons with his family.

Charlotte Jewish Film Festival 2018

(Continued from page 1)

Miller and baseball player Josh Zied to Charlotte for a Q & A discussion after the film.

Wednesday, February 13 - 7:15 PM at Temple Israel (\$11)

In the adorable 14 minute short *Wendy's Shabbat*, a lively group of Jewish senior citizens observe Shabbat at the local Wendy's fast food restaurant, with Hebrew blessings, along with burgers and fries. *Restoring Tomorrow* shows how in these divided times, religious institutions are losing young members and even closing their doors at an alarming rate. Wilshire Boulevard Temple, a Los Angeles treasure near demise, needs to raise millions to restore its majesty and vibrancy. Writer, director, and star Aaron Wolf will be with us to tell his story in person.

Sunday, February 24 - 2 PM at Regal Ballantyne (\$11)

Shoelaces tells the story of a complicated relationship between an aging father and his son with special needs. Their relationship full of love, rejection, and co-dependency, sheds light on the importance of human connection and if life is even possible without it. Jewish Family Services will be with us for a panel discussion after the film.

Wednesday, February 27 - 7:15 PM at Regal Ballantyne (\$11)

The Twinning Reaction examines the profound result of a tragically failed research experiment



Scene from *Golda's Balcony*.

in the 1960s, which involved the separation of identical twins and triplets during infancy in a misguided attempt to understand. We are thrilled to welcome Producer/Director Lori Shinseki as our special guest.

Closing Celebration - Sunday, March 3 - 7:15 PM at Regal Ballantyne (\$15)

A film of the stage production of the acclaimed Broadway show *Golda's Balcony*, starring Tovah Feldshuh, this amazing story follows the life of Golda Meir, from Russian immigrant to American schoolteacher, to a leader of international politics as the fourth Prime Minister of Israel. David Fishelson, who produced the Broadway show and the film, is scheduled to appear, and there will be a special dessert reception after the film.

We are very excited about our 15th CJFF season; a special thank you goes out to our Community Partners, our Corporate Partners, our Patrons, our hard working volunteers and our loyal audience members for making the CJFF a

wonderful community event that is not to be missed. Please think of some new friends or family that you can invite to the film festival this year. See you at the movies. ☆



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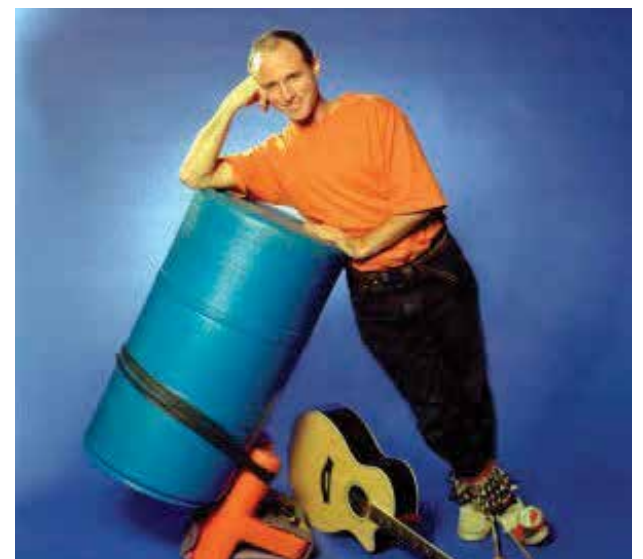
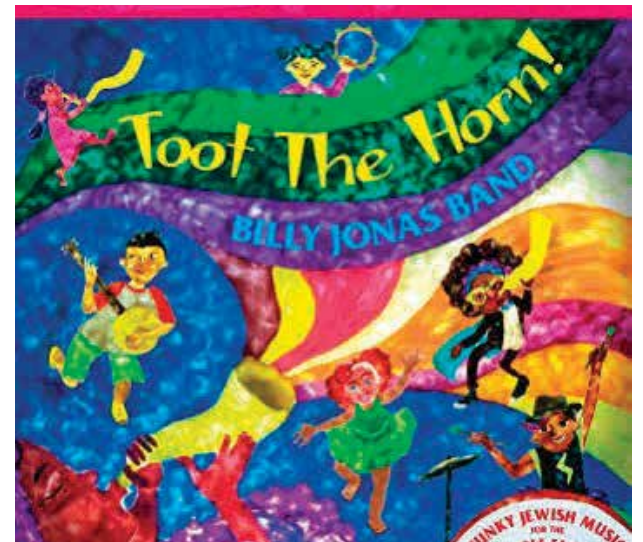
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New JLI Course to Examine Crime and Consequence

New Course Asks: Is Our Criminal Justice System Fair?

This February, the Jewish Learning Institute of Charlotte in will offer Crime and Consequence, a new six-session course by the acclaimed JLI. It will explore 3000 years of Jewish perspective on conviction, sentencing, and criminal rehabilitation.

Beginning Tuesday, February 5, at 7:30 PM, for the evening class and Wednesday February 6, 11 AM for the morning class, participants in the course will challenge their thinking, ponder the implications of ancient Talmudic wisdom for complex modern cases, and get to the heart of the most pressing injustices facing our criminal justice system today.

"DNA testing is proving that we've been convicting innocent people. When we incarcerate first-time offenders, we're turning them into hardened criminals. Known murderers are able to walk free on a technicality. How can we stand by and remain silent to these serious flaws in our crim-

inal justice system?" asked Rabbi Yossi Groner, the evening JLI Instructor. "I believe the first step is for us, as a community, to acknowledge the issues and explore possible solutions. And can you think of a better place to look for guidance than Judaism's wisdom of the ages?"

Participants in the course will ponder foundational questions: What is the goal of criminal punishment — to gain retribution for the victim, to keep criminals off the streets and safeguard from future crime, to set an example and instill the fear of law, or to rehabilitate the criminal and reintroduce him to society? Should we consider testimonies given in exchange for a reduced sentence as reliable evidence?

The course also seeks to address some of society's most serious sentencing questions: Is life-without-parole a justifiable penalty? May we sentence a person to death? When would these

options be warranted? Is there a better way?

"Crime and Consequence is for people who care deeply about humanity, who are troubled when they see injustice, and who are fascinated by real-life catch-22 scenarios," remarked Rabbi Zalman Abraham of JLI's marketing office in New York. "Participants in the course will uncover the humanity within all people — including criminals — question judicial practices that seem unethical and unfair, and explore effective crime deterrents."

"It is a profound irony that the United States is a true beacon of democracy, freedom, and the rule of law while it imprisons more of its own citizenry than any other country," wrote Professor Alan Dershowitz, Professor Emeritus at Harvard Law School, in his endorsement of the course. "Crime and Consequence ... brings rigorous legal analysis, statistical data on incarceration and reha-

bilitation, and case studies into a uniquely profound dialogue with the values undergirding our entire political tradition."

Scott Turow, attorney and author of *Presumed Innocent* and thirteen other best-selling novels on criminal law, commented that this course "... shows that this is a subject that involves our oldest and most treasured ideas of right and wrong."

Crime and Consequence is accredited in North Carolina and South Carolina for attorneys and other law professionals to earn continuing education credits. Like all JLI programs, this course is designed for people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

Interested students may call



our office at 704-366-3984 or visit www.myJLI.com for registration and for other course-related information. JLI courses are presented in Charlotte as a project of Chabad of Charlotte. All classes are held at Chabad of Charlotte, 6619 Sardis Road, Charlotte. Fees for the 6 week course are \$99 per person and \$180 per couple. Text books are included in the fee.

JLI, the adult education branch of Chabad-Lubavitch, offers programs in more than 960 locations in the U.S. and in numerous foreign countries. ☆

Havurat Tikvah Kicks New Year with Services and Festival Observance

Havurat Tikvah will hold a community Shabbat service on January 5, 10 AM, at Avondale Presbyterian Church, Vanguard Classroom, 2821 Park Rd. Following services kiddush, along with challah and blessings, will be held.

The congregation will observe Tu B'Shevat this year in a unique way by making a trip to the University of North Carolina Botanical Garden on January 20 from 1-3 PM. Participants will be able to enjoy the afternoon touring the garden, and then afterward gather for coffee at a nearby coffee shop. To join in the excursion, email admin@havurattikvah.org.

Monthly minyan services continue on the third Wednesday of the month. Information on times and locations are on the congregational website's calendar, as well as other upcoming service dates and events.

Havurat Tikvah is a warm, supportive and nurturing Jewish Reconstructionist congregation with Shabbat services and a full spectrum of holiday observances, as well as religious educational options for both adults and children. We are a diverse group of

families, singles, and Jewish and interfaith couples who participate in projects that promote social justice.

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

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism.

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



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"Be open-eyed to the great wonders of nature, familiar though they be. But men are more wont to be astonished at the sun's eclipse than its unfailing rise."

- Hayyim Luzzatto, *Orhot Tzadikim*

CGI Ballantyne Summer 2019

Camp Gan Israel Ballantyne began the Summer of 2014. Just 25 campers per week but lots of energy and excitement. We have now grown to over 130 campers from ages 3-11.

Get ready for our sixth Summer of awesome CGI Fun. Our camp is part of the fastest growing network of Jewish day camps in the world. Camp Gan Israel enjoys a well-earned reputation as a trend setter in Jewish camping with innovative ideas and creative programs being introduced continuously. Your child will wait all year to come back to camp. Campers enjoy a wide range of exciting activities and field trips in a warm, caring environment, cultivating pride and love for their Jewish heritage.

The mission of CGI is to instill Jewish values in children of all Jewish backgrounds and all levels of observance. Our camp program and activities are imbued with Jewish ambiance and culture. Challah baking, stories, Israeli dance, drama, Jewish and Hebrew songs, group discussions, and beautiful Jewish crafts combine to create an atmosphere of joy, fun, and spirit in each child that attends. This is all part of the unique Gan Israel experience. We have brought it all here. Allow your child to experience the magic. This summer, enroll your child in Camp Gan Israel.

Four weeks of non-stop fun: June 24-July 19

Sign up for single weeks or all four and save.

Our campers are divided into

three main groups:

Mini CGI: (Preschool) Ages 3-5

Junior CGI: Rising K - Rising 3rd Grade

Senior CGI: Rising 4th - Rising 6th Grade

Visit www.CGIBallantyne.com for more details and information. ☆



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

January 2019

Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center
5007 Providence Road | Charlotte, NC 28226
704-366-5007 | charlottejcc.org | facebook.com/levinejcc



JCHILDCARE*

7 weeks – 7 years old

Children will enjoy a nurturing environment to explore and have fun with crafts and activities, while parents workout.

Mon-Fri AM..... 8am-1pm

Mon-Thu PM..... 4pm-7:30pm

Saturday 12pm-3pm

Sunday 8:30am-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

JFIT*

ADULTS

20 Classes in 30 Days!

20 in 30

JAN 1 → JAN 31

You MUST take at least 4 Different Types of Classes:

- Group Exercises Classes (Aerobic/Strength, Cycle, Mind/Body)
- J-Force Fitness Sessions
- Pilates Studio Classes
- Tennis or Swimming Lessons
- Personal Training (Private or group)

Q? jenny.crow@charlottejcc.org

OPTION FOR ALL AGES TO STAY FIT IN 2019!

ADULTS

SORE
TODAY
JFIT
STRONG
TOMORROW

JAN 7 → FEB 28

4 or 8 weeks of goal oriented workouts and challenges to help build muscle and burn fat!

► Kickoff event:

Mon, January 7 • 6:15pm

► Weekly workouts:

M/W • 6:15pm OR Tu/Th 9:15am

► Weekly nutritional sessions:

Tue, 6:15pm OR Wed, 9:15am

Q? jenny.crow@charlottejcc.org

GIRLS 3rd-5th Grades



Spring 2019

Feb 25 – May 9 (twice per week/10 weeks)

Girls will have fun, make friends, increase their physical activity levels and learn important life skills. The season ends with a noncompetitive 5K event.

Tue/Thu 3:30-4:45pm

Q? jenny.crow@charlottejcc.org

LJCC
8th Annual

KIDS TRI Ages 5-14



Sunday, June 2, 2019

Want to train early for this event?

Join Coach Jenny's Tri Training program
Saturdays, April 8 – June 2

Over \$136,000 donated in 2018 to Levine Children's Hospital's Adaptive Sports & Adventures Program.

Registration opens February 1st at ljcckidstri.org

Q? julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org

For Fitness Challenges + Girls On The Run
Register at LJCC Customer Service • 704-366-5007
For pricing and more info go to charlottejcc.org

JSOCCER.JPILATES.JCLAY.JHOOPS. JTEAM.JBABY.JMOM.JMASSAGE.

Teens

Levine JCC Aquatics Employment Opportunities:

School Year Group and Private Swim Instructors
School Year Lifeguards
Summer 2019 Swim Instructors
Summer 2019 Lifeguards
704-944-6746 or joshua.steinberger@charlottejcc.org

Adults

Four Pillars of Wellness

Start off the new year with David Bonilla of Two Trees Acupuncture, who will talk about nutrition, sleep, movement/exercise, and meditation/mindfulness.

Tuesday, January 15 • 7pm

Sam Lerner Center • Free

704-944-6730 or julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org

Ladies' Night Out

Dinner and Broadway

Thursday, February 21

Dinner 5:30pm at Fresh Chef

Show 7:30pm at CPCC

M \$28 NM \$36- plus cost of Dinner

704-944-6737 or robin.stier@charlottejcc.org



A Matter of Balance

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict activities. An award-winning program designed to strategically and practically manage falls and increase activity levels. Space is limited; register early.

Thursdays, 10am-12pm

February 7, 14, 21, 28 and March 7, 14, 21, 28

Free

704-944-6753 or sharri.benjamin@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 environment that is relaxed and non-judgmental
- 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



The Power of Aging

Discover and uncover the basic physical, emotional, cultural, and social needs which the aging experience challenges you with on a daily basis. Life can be exciting, purposeful and meaningful! Meets once per month on Tuesdays. A collaborative program between LJCC's Senior & Adult Department and First Hand Success' Lorrie Klemons, RN, MSN.

Tuesday, January 15 – Sweet defeat: control your cravings for sweets before they control you!

9:15-10:15am

FSP Board Room • Free

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

Tai Chi/Qigong

Adults 50+

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

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

Swimmer Family Aerobics Studio

Oasis/M/\$30 B/\$20 NM/\$42 per month

Drop-in fee: M/B/\$12 p/class NM/\$14 p/class

SHIIP

Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program

Free Medicare Counseling Available year round! Please call Senior & Adult Director Jill Lipson at 704-944-6792 for information



TEAM CAROLINA IS GOING TO DETROIT!

August 4-9, 2019

Team Carolina Delegation Contact: Stephanie Garner
704-944-6743 or stephanie.garner@charlottejcc.org
www.charlottejcc.org/teamcarolina

Each year, over 3,000 teens from around the world come together in North America to compete in this Olympic-style sporting event and arts competition.

JCC MACCABI GAMES

OASIS

The Senior Enrichment (OASIS) Program's mission is to enrich the quality of life for all seniors, regardless of religious affiliation. We welcome all adults age 50 and up from the greater Charlotte area.

HOURS
Monday-Friday • 9am-5pm
Weinberg Senior Adult Center

Please read our monthly newsletter online or pick up a hard copy in Weinberg Senior Center.

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

Learn to MEDITATE

4-week meditation series with Mary Powers, E-RYT 500

Thursdays, February 7-28 • 2-3pm

Upstairs Dance Studio • M/\$65 NM/\$80 B/\$55

Develop joy and patience and cultivate an ability to live mindfully with curiosity and acceptance. Join us.

Register with LJCC Customer Service 704-366-5007
Questions? jenny.crow@charlottejcc.org

REGISTER FOR WINTER & SPRING CLASSES FOR ALL AGES!

charlottejcc.org

Temple Solel Celebrates Two B'nai Mitzvah

What wonderful celebrations and friendships we have experienced recently. Nate Rodriquez dedicated himself to study in preparation for his recent Bar Mitzvah. It was a heartfelt and a meaningful life-event. Nate read from the Torah surrounded by his parents, Oscar and Lizzie Rodriquez, visiting family members, friends, and the community. Lizzie's father Michael said, "What a beautiful Torah. Where did it come from?" It still means so much to us to tell the story of how the Temple Hadar Israel congregational members in Pennsylvania gifted the Torah to our congregation through the URJ, which is our affiliation even though our members come from diverse backgrounds and represent multiple sects of Judaism. It was with much pleasure we continue to email pictures and remind them how the legacy of their generosity to Temple Solel lives on in our future generations.

The following week, William Coughenour, son of Tanya Trachtenberg, read his portions from the Torah with family members taking turns doing Aliyah blessings. In his D'var Torah, William recounted his rich family history as the descendant of Holocaust survivors. He proudly explained he wouldn't be a Bar Mitzvah had his grandfather not strived to live every day so the



Nate Rodriquez, Past President James Fox, Oscar Rodriquez, and Russ Cobe

legacy of the Trachtenberg family could continue. There were over 150 in attendance on a sunshine-filled day at the Tega Cay Country Club in South Carolina. There were plenty of copies of *Mishkan T'filah* for all who attended, because of the generosity of Temple Beth El who allowed us to borrow extras. Many guests from William's school who were there and their families were encouraged to come up and see the Torah at the bima. Many were seeing the Hebrew words for the first time; so skillfully written by hand on the specially prepared parchment sheep skins. Several parents were moved to tears by the powerful emotions the experience invoked and expressed their appreciation for feeling so included in the

service.

Tanya recently shared the miracle story of Chanukah in nine third-grade classes at Tega Cay Elementary School. As a result, the teachers ordered more dreidels so the classes could play our traditional game. What an example, how both of these dynamic Jewish families and young men are already course-correcting recent impacts on our community through their actions and lives. They are setting an example for all of us that change comes through acts of kindness, words of wisdom, and educational opportunities we demonstrate on daily basis.

Despite the cold and rainy night December 8, The Ruach band drew in a handsome Chanukah crowd with visitors from as far away as Mississippi, Lumberton, and Shelby. Lead singer, Nancy Good, along with Dan Ruda, Peter Levinson, Franklin



The Ruach Band Hanukkah Event



William Coughenour holding the Torah gifted by Temple Hadar Israel

Kaunitz, Rick Lipson, and Howard Swartz backing her up with instruments and vocals, did a fantastic job leading us in a short service to light our chanukiah as a community, sing Havdalah prayers, and then carried us in a wave of music the rest of the evening. We live-streamed the event on Facebook reaching people via social media. Friends from The Orchards, Sun City, and many others from the local community were there celebrating with us. The weather was still cold outside when the evening came to a close, but we left with our hearts warmed with joy and stomachs

full of jelly doughnuts and latkes. This inter-faith community Chanukah event at the Family Life Center was a success and collected non-perishable food items for the UMC Belair Church Food Pantry overseen by Pastor Mallory Forte in Indian Land, SC. We are very appreciative of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte for the Impact and Innovation Grant, which made this event possible. Our board members will be participating on Super Sunday in January 2019 and we hope when you receive our telephone calls you will respond and donate during the Annual Campaign that benefits so many worthy organizations and causes. For more information, check the JFGC website at <https://jewish-charlotte.org/donate>.

On December 25, a select group of volunteers from Temple Solel served food to forty teens and teachers at The Rock Hill Attention Home. It is an opportunity where we can show support and love, share a meal together, and this year were entertained by magician and the illusion talents of our congregant, Murray Simon.

Temple Solel holds Shabbat services at 7 PM on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. We hope to see you soon in the Community Room at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, 292 Munn Road, Fort Mill. For details, call 803-619-9707 or visit www.templesolelsc.org or Temple Solel SC on Facebook.✡

Congregants Create Bonds at Temple Beth El



Andy Harkavy

By Andy Harkavy, Director of Congregational Engagement

Engagement is a big buzz word in the Jewish world right now. Many Jewish institutions talk about engagement while some simultaneously struggle to truly engage their constituents. We create a warm welcome that makes people feel good when they walk in the door – that's only if they make a choice to walk in the door. What's next? At Temple Beth El, engagement is about creating relationships and deep connections that inspire personal growth and cultivate meaning. Engagement is about developing stakeholders, where members own their own Jewish lives and feel intimately connected to other Jews. Engagement is about building a vibrant, inclusive community, where we feel strongly connected to our congregation because we are actually connected to each other.

In *Field of Dreams*, one of my favorite movies, there is a famous line that I love: "If you build it, they will come." In defining engagement, I would say, "If you

build it with them, they are already there." I love hearing our congregants' accounts of how they have created bonds that keep them involved. I encourage you to think of your story and definition of engagement, connect with our community, make new friends, and put yourself in the driver seat so you can create and define your Jewish journey. If you would like to learn more about how we are making connections at TBE, contact me to discuss our endless opportunities for engagement.

Two congregants share their stories of how they have become involved at Temple Beth El:



Jason Schechter

Jason Schechter (Porch Leadership Committee)

Engagement at TBE has been more than just brief introductions and handshakes. The congregants have taken a real interest in learning about who we are and what brought us to this community. They have gone out of their way to put us in touch with lay leaders and clergy so our needs are met. Individuals from this community asked me how I wanted to become involved at TBE and connected me with groups like the

Porch, with which I now serve as a committee member.

It has felt easy to become a part of TBE. This community has been so open and welcoming to both my wife and me, and we are very fortunate to be a part of a congregation that sincerely wants to engage with its members, whether they are new to the region or have been here for decades. The personal connections we have made are a big part of that story.



Beth Lewis

Beth Lewis (Co-Chair of Youth Engagement Committee)

My family's engagement at TBE has grown exponentially over the years. As the mother of four sons, married to a Catholic man, Jewish engagement was never really on our radar. I always thought we would put our boys through Religious School, have a few B'nei Mitzvah, and call it a day. Reality has been quite the opposite. Shortly after finishing Religious School at TBE, our oldest son was encouraged to go to a NFTY-SAR Regional Youth Kallah. I was raised in a very small conservative temple in New York and had no idea what a Kallah was, but in our house

we always had the "try it once" rule. If you try it once and hate it, you never have to do it again - but you always have to try. So, off our son went to Atlanta for our family's first entrée into the world of Jewish youth activities. Needless to say, he attended more than one Kallah, attended Hebrew High, and participated in Confirmation.

We thought we had it all figured out, but then our second son became even more involved. As the parent of a very active teen/LIBERTY Board Member, I was asked to join the Youth Engagement Committee. Being the queen of never saying "No," four years later I am the co-chair of that committee and I also serve on the Hebrew High Advisory Board. Our two younger boys have recently become B'nei Mitzvah and we watch with excitement as each takes his own path of Jewish engagement. Our rule about trying it once has never had such a huge impact as it has in terms of our sons' involvement at TBE. Pushing our kids to try something new, something a little out of their comfort zone, something we didn't necessarily always have the time or money for, turned into a connection which we embrace whole heartedly and it really enriches our lives.✡



"Judaism is less about believing and more about belonging. It is less about what we owe God and more about what we owe each other, because we believe God cares more about how we treat each other than He does about our theology."

- Harold Kushner, *To Life!*

WOW Chanukah Event

By Dr. Melissa Karp

Here are the opening lyrics to a song familiar to many of us:

Chanukah, Oh, Chanukah

Let's light the menorah

Let's have a party

We'll all dance the hora

Gather 'round the table,

we'll give you a treat

A dreidel to play with and
latkes to eat

That's a pretty good summary of the W.O.W's (Women of Wisdom) annual Chanukah event. (WOW is a Jewish women's organization comprised of women mostly from the Charlotte metro area, who are either affiliated or not with a synagogue or other Jewish agency. Although we offer highly subsidized trips to Israel and have done projects for Israel's special needs children and wounded soldiers, Israel is not our cause. The raison d'être of WOW is to be empower, connect, and inspire Jewish women through engaging social and educational activities.)

Fortunately, the Jewish community of Charlotte is large enough to offer various options for Chanukah events and ours can now be added to that list. With a lit menorah in the background and the aroma of latkes in the air, we had our annual Chanukah event. Thanks to Janice Zacks, we had a smorgasbord table of latkes including pota-



to, zucchini/carrot, cheese, tuna, sweet and savory, as well as a gluten free option. But it wasn't just the food (or the blue Chanukah-inspired martinis), it was the camaraderie. It was a beautiful sight to see women from different backgrounds and denominations join together to celebrate Chanukah. We don't all have to worship the same way but we can celebrate our Jewish identity and femininity together. Some women light Chanukah candles for eight nights; for others, this night was the only night of Chanukah they would celebrate. The main thing was the feeling of unity and belonging.

After much noshing and socializing, Sara Oppenheim opened the evening by sharing an idea about the unique relationship women have with Chanukah. Many of us heard about the Maccabees, but few were aware that the heroine of the Chanukah story was a woman named Yehudit. In addition, there were a number of other significant instances in which women benefited from

the victory over the Greeks more than men. In recognition of this, an interesting custom exclusive to women that evolved is that we don't work for the first half hour after the candles are lit. Due to the various ideas and customs revolving around women, we all sensed that it seemed appropriate that a group of women came together to celebrate Chanukah.

The event was co-chaired by Jaymie Kreitman and Ellen Swardlow. As always, Jaymie lead an engaging, clever interactive activity. Afterwards we had a White Elephant Gift Exchange, which turned into one of the funniest and most enjoyable parts of the evening.

We have events each month. Our next event is on January 8; it is a movie night featuring the film *When the Smoke Clears: A Story of Brotherhood, Resilience, and Hope*. It tells the true stories of young Israeli soldiers whose injuries leave them fighting for the strength to live. When all seems lost, a revolutionary idea gives them the hope, courage, tools, and community to survive, and to embrace their identities as heroes both on and off the battlefield and demonstrates that massive growth and healing can come through giving to others.

In honor of Tu B'Shevat, we will be hosting a wine and paint event on January 22.

If you would like to know more about this or others events, or get involved, please be in touch with Sara or friend us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/3511491882-92686/). ☆



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Photo courtesy of ArtShots Photography



For more information, contact:
Erin.Dennis@hilton.com

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Always a warm welcome.

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WORSHIP

Celebrating Shabbat

First Friday in January

- 5:15 pm Preneg
- 5:30 pm SongFest
- 6:00 pm Family Shabbat Evening Service
- 8:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service

All other Fridays

- 6:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service

Saturdays

- 11:00 am Shabbat Morning Service

Please check www.templebethel.org for weekly service times and details.

COMMUNITY



Southern Fried Chanukah



Sisterhood Chanukah Brunch



Brotherhood Chanukah

LEARNING

Elements of Judaism

Seven sessions starting Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 7:30 pm

Elements of Judaism is designed for anyone who wants to reinforce or establish a foundation in understanding Judaism. (Registration required)

22nd ANNUAL COMPARATIVE RELIGION SERIES



SPIRITUALITY: How Do You Connect with Your Higher Power?

6 Tuesday Evenings • 7pm
Starts January 29

Open to the Public
FREE!

— MADE POSSIBLE BY THE TED AND M.E. HESSBERG ENDOWMENT —

JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS IN JANUARY:

Justice Shabbat Evening Service with Mayor Vi Lyles Friday, Jan. 18 at 6:30 pm, Temple Beth El

Join us as we welcome Mayor Vi Lyles, a nationally recognized leader with over 40 years of public service in Charlotte. Mayor Lyles has worked to help make our city a better place to live, work, and raise a family. Rabbi Knight will have a conversation with the mayor exploring some of the key issues facing Charlotte and how all citizens can work together to create a more equitable city.

Martin Luther King Interfaith Prayer Service and Parade Saturday, Jan. 19 at 9:30 am, Uptown Charlotte

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed in celebrating and promoting the worth of every human being. Join Temple Beth El for this community commemoration.



Shop well, do good! Did you know proceeds from Discovered Traditions support Temple Beth El Religious School? Your purchases help build our future.

Discovered Traditions is open 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Wednesday and Friday, before and after Friday night services, and on Religious School Sundays.

Stay up to date with everything at Temple Beth El – follow us on Facebook and visit our website.



5101 Providence Road | Charlotte, NC 28226 | 704.366.1948 | templebethel.org



**UNION for
REFORM
JUDAISM**

A Proud Member of the URJ

Women's News

Hadassah Charlotte Presents our 2019 Executive Board and 2019-20 Charlotte Jewish Community Directory

Welcome to the new members of our Hadassah Charlotte Executive Board. Our meetings are usually every 3rd Monday at 7 PM in Room A111 at Shalom Park, and are open to everyone. Our first meeting of 2019 is January 14 at 7 PM. We are grateful for those of you who are new to Hadassah Charlotte, and who have expressed an interest in joining the "Women Who Do." As you can see, we have a fabulous group of women serving on our board. If you are interested in helping out, we are seeking a Communications VP, i.e. someone to help us with social media and communications. For more information please email sharon.goretsky@gmail.com if you are interested.

We are also proud to share that in a couple of weeks we will be ready to begin the information collecting phase of the 2019-20 Jewish Community Directory put together with love by Hadassah Charlotte. I'd like to thank Jena Coen Gartner for all of her help for the past six months. Jena is a lifetime member of Hadassah, and a native Charlottean. She has volunteered to help us streamline and digitalize the information collecting process of the Direc-

tory even more than it was in the past. Please be patient with us as when anything is new, there might be a few glitches along the way. However, by January 15, you should be able to go to hadassah.org/Charlotte and input your household information so that we can list you in the Jewish Community Directory. As always, there are advertising opportunities, as this directory is a great way to share your business with the community. If you would like to help with marketing or advertising for this directory, please email dkapu3@gmail.com

Please do not assume that we have your correct information. The best way to ensure that you are listed in the directory is to submit your information on our website. Thank you and we look forward to a wonderful new year in Hadassah Charlotte.

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. (HWZOA), is the largest Jewish women's organization in the United States. With 300,000 members, associates, and supporters Hadassah brings Jewish women together to effect change and advocate on critical issues such as medical care, research and women's empowerment -

meeting with elected officials on Capitol Hill and locally through its Day in the District Program. Through the Hadassah Medical Organization's two hospitals, the world-renowned trauma center

and the leading research facility in Jerusalem, Hadassah supports the delivery of exemplary patient care to over a million people every year. HMO serves without regard to race, religion,

or nationality and earned a Nobel Peace Prize Nomination in 2005 for building "bridges to peace" through equality in medical treatment. For more information, visit www.hadassah.org. ☆



Incoming Hadassah Executive Board

President
Treasurers
Records Administrator
Corresponding Secretary
Education/Programming/Public Policy VP
Recording Secretary
Fund-Raising VP
Communications VP
Young Judea Chair
Membership/Outreach VP
Past President

Sharon Goretsky
Marci Willenzik and Marci Goldberg
Judy Kaufmann
Nancy Kerstein
Lynda White, Roz Cooper, Janice Bernstein
Karen Futersak
Linda Reece
TDB
Gabrielle Lieb Gorelick
Amy Deloach and Tonya Meltsner
Dana Kapustin

SCHOOL NEWS

Save the Date

Shalom Park Freedom School's Spring Movie Fundraiser

Thursday, May 9, 7-9 PM, Sam Lerner Center for Cultural Arts
Join us for a movie and refreshments.

Please come support the Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS). Each year there is a

movie night which serves as the largest fundraiser to support the SPFS.

The Shalom Park Freedom School (SPFS) has helped address issues impacting educational differences for the past eight

summers, and will continue to do so in the summer of 2019. Supported by our Shalom Park community, the SPFS location is one of 16 in the Charlotte Metro area, and is the first Jewish-run Free-

(Continued on page 27)



charlottejcc.org

REGISTER NOW
FOR WINTER & SPRING CLASSES
FOR ALL AGES!

No Joining Fee
Dec 15 – Jan 31



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JCC
Charlotte

Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



TORAH TOTS



SHABBAT SERVICE & ONEG
Friday, January 11 (5:45 p.m.)

PAJAMA-DALLAH
Saturday, February 2 (5 p.m.)
Wear your pajamas and bring your pillow for a fun family program including music, Havdalah, and arts & crafts. Visit templeisraelinc.org for details.

YOUTH



MAHAR - GET READY TO CATCH SOME "BIG AIR"!
Sunday, January 13 (12:30-3:30 p.m.)
(ALL 3rd & 5th Graders)
Join Mahar for a fun afternoon of jumping, dodgeball, climbing, and more!
\$15/TI-Y members; \$20/non-members. Drop-off and Pick-Up @ TIRS Building. RSVP by Wednesday, January 9 @ templeisraelinc.org.

TEMPLE ISRAEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



TIRS ALL-SCHOOL SHABBAT SERVICE
Friday, January 25 (6:15 p.m.)
Please join us as Kitah Dalet (4th grade) helps lead services in the Morris & Sylvia Speizman Sanctuary.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



TU B'SHVAT @ GOOD ROAD CIDERWORKS
Thursday, January 10 (7:30 p.m.)
Join us for drinks at Good Road Ciderworks in celebration of Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of the Trees! This is a free event and registration is not required. Light appetizers will be provided. Location: Good Road CiderWorks (117 Southside Dr., Charlotte 28217)

EMPTY NESTERS



SHABBAT SERVICES & DINNER
Friday, January 11
Empty Nesters: Let's get together for Shabbat services (6:15 p.m.) followed by a special Shabbat dinner, catered by Fran's Filling Station. For details and/or to register (by January 3), visit templeisraelinc.org.

SOCIAL CLUB

ANNUAL PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
Sunday, January 27 (12:30 p.m.)

Join us for a delicious lunch and an enjoyable afternoon spent socializing with friends. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Tom Hanchett, an expert on Charlotte's History. Cost: Free for 2019 paid up members and \$20 for guests. For more info, contact co-presidents: Ruth Goldberg (704) 366-8903 or Irving Bienstock (704) 542-0094.

LIFELONG LEARNING: TWO NEW CLASSES!

PIRKEI AVOT, ETHICS OF THE FATHERS: WITH RABBI KORNSGOLD
Tuesdays (Noon-1 p.m.)

Join Rabbi Kornsgold for this weekly class as we explore Pirkei Avot, Ethics of The Fathers. This section of the Mishna (which was authored in the third century C.E.) is one of the most fundamental works of the Jewish Oral Law.

EXPLORING AND DEEPENING JEWISH PRAYER: WITH CANTOR LISSEK
Thursdays (Noon-1 p.m.)

In this class, we'll unpack and study the structure and meaning of Jewish liturgy. We'll explore both communal, liturgical engagement as well as individual prayer expression including honest discussions about the rewards and challenges of each, in order to deepen and enrich our prayer experiences.



SAVE THE DATE



WORLD WIDE WRAP XIX
Sunday, February 3

Join Men's Clubs and congregations around the world for WORLD WIDE WRAP (which originated at Temple Israel!) as we teach the mitzvah of wrapping tefillin.

"We're in it for the Tie!"



THE ROSE ROOM - WOMEN OF TEMPLE ISRAEL GIFT SHOP

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Special appointments outside normal business hours are available. Please contact Tess Berger (704) 488-3842, Shellie Barer (516) 375-4708 or Cindy Jennes (704) 443-7643.



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SCHOOL NEWS

Shabbat Comes Alive at JPS Thanks to a Grant from the Lenora Stein Fund

At the Jewish Preschool on Sardis, our goal is for each child to love and take pride in being Jewish. We bring Judaism to life and create warm memories and experiences that children will carry with them forever. Shabbat, which is celebrated every week, is a cherished time in Jewish homes. Everyone at JPS looks forward to Fridays, when we prepare for Shabbat in all kinds of ways, by eating challah, singing Shabbat songs, with make-believe Kid-dush and candle lighting.

As always, we look for ways to bridge the gap between a child's experiences here at school to their homes.

We are thrilled to announce that we were awarded a \$1200 grant from the Lenora Stein Fund for Community Creative Learning which allowed us to put together a beautiful "Shabbat Bag" which our 3s and 4s will take home on Fridays. In addition to the Shabbat staples (candles, grape juice, challah, etc.) this year's bags will include a book featuring our own students getting ready for Shabbat. Professionally bound, the book follows the same model as *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* and is titled *If You Give a Jewish Family a Challah*. We can't wait for the children to see themselves in the book and we know their families will treasure it for years to come. To find out more about JPS call 704-364-8395 or email info@jpskids.org | website www.jpskids.org.



Our book, titled "If you Give a Jewish Family a Challah"



Above and to the right, children pose for our book, as if lighting Shabbat candles and receiving a challah.



Levine Jewish Community Center Cultural Arts Department presents

15TH ANNUAL CHARLOTTE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

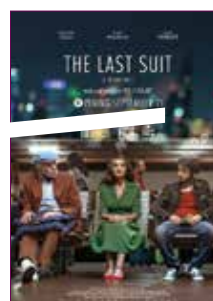
FEB 9 through MAR 3



Spring Movie Fundraiser

(Continued from page 25)

dom School site in the country. The Shalom Park site welcomes 80 scholars each summer. Our students come from Huntingtowne Farms and Sterling Elementary Schools, Title I Schools where 97% of children that participate in SPFS qualify for free and reduced lunch. It is estimated that 75% of students from low income homes lose two to three months of learning over the summer. Current research supports that the Freedom School model is making a difference in helping 90% of scholars gain or maintain their reading ability by participating in this program. ☆



Feb. 9 • 7:15pm
Temple Israel



Feb. 10 • 7:15pm
Temple Israel



Feb. 13 • 7:15pm
Temple Israel



Feb. 16 • 7:15pm
Regal Ballantyne



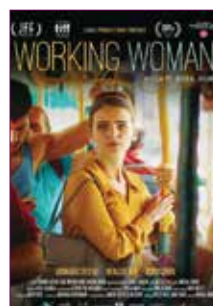
Feb. 17 • 2:00pm
Regal Ballantyne



Feb. 17 • 7:15pm
Regal Ballantyne



Feb. 20 • 7:15pm
Regal Ballantyne



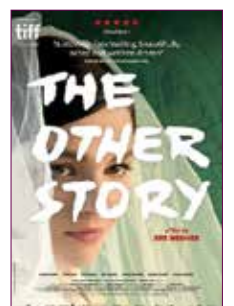
Feb. 23 • 7:15pm
Regal Ballantyne



Feb. 24 • 2:00pm
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Feb. 27 • 7:15pm
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Mar. 2 • 7:15pm
Regal Ballantyne



Mar. 3 • 2:00pm
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Chanukah Was a Multi-Day Celebration at CJDS

Chanukah week at CJDS was a whirlwind of fun. From the moment the students walked in the door on the first day of Chanukah, they saw the blow-up menorah, decorations, and smelled the latkes and sufganiot frying and baking. Assemblies were held each day to light the menorah built by our fifth graders from oversized Everblock Legos, sing the brachot and Maoz Tzur and take part in an exciting Chanukah activity. On Monday, the students created word clouds made up of words that describe Chanukah, each group choosing their own shapes, fonts, and colors. Working cooperatively, the groups created descriptive and creative works of art that are now hanging in our stairwell. Cantor Mary visited us that day, told us a Chanukah story, and honored us by leading our Menorah lighting. On Tuesday, the school was split up into seven groups. Each group was assigned a different part of the Chanukah story and asked to create improv skits. The students' interpretation of the Chanukah story was thoughtful and energetic. Menorah lighting on Tuesday was led by Annie Herson, our student council vice president. On Wednesday, we were honored by a visit from former CJDS graduate, Yoni Raffler, who is now a lone soldier in the IDF. We were so proud to have him visit, lead us in the menorah

lighting and answer some of our questions about being a soldier in Israel. We were also honored to have Cantor Shira lead us together with her children, Maayan and Reuben, in Chanukah singing. Because no Chanukah celebration is complete without latkes, Wednesday's treat was a sumptuous latke bar. Several types of latke batter including sweet potato, cottage cheese, and zucchini were prepared in advance by our third, fourth, and fifth grade students and fried on site by our devoted volunteer parents. Lerner Hall smelled wonderful. On Thursday, the students were treated to a Treasure Hunt of 12 rhyming clues that had them running all over the school collecting twelve puzzle pieces. When all the puzzle pieces were collected, it was a picture of a place in the school where they finally found the treasure, a plate of homemade sufganiot. Niyana Sorell, our student council president led us in the menorah lighting that afternoon. Finally, on Friday, the CJDS staff put on a Reader's Theatre, telling a dramatic Chanukah story that took place during the time of Chanukah. And last, but not least, Cornelius Zielinski led us in our last menorah lighting. Oh, and how can I forget the Chanukah treats that were handed out? Emoji dreidels, chocolate gelt, Chanukah cookies lovingly baked in the CJDS kitchen, sufganiot, and real

Chanukah gelt (a fifty cent piece) in a mitzvah purse. I imagine that the children wanted Chanukah to go on and on. ☆



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My Journey While Exploring the Environment as the Third Teacher

By Stephanie Zubrinsky

Step into my classroom as I share with you my journey as an educator over the past two years. At Charlotte Jewish Preschool, teachers are provided opportunities to grow and learn as professionals through articles shared by our administration, staff development conferences, seminars, and classes. It is up to us as teachers to take this information, learn, and apply it in the classroom and our practice. As I took advantage of these opportunities and continued to read more articles and books, it became very clear that children will use higher level thinking skills and be more engaged if they have the right materials and environment available for them. I slowly started integrating open-ended materials into my room to see how the children would respond. Open-ended materials are activities that emphasize the process versus the product, activities that do not have a "right" answer and activities that can sustain attention for longer periods. It was invigorating to see the children using an item such as a cork in different ways. They would count by putting some in baskets, cups, and containers and then dump them out to see what happened. They would use their creativity and pretend they were people, make patterns, and stack them like blocks. This was one of the many "ah ha" moments that I had. I decided to take 80% of traditional toys, blocks, and containers out of my class and replace with materials that are more open-ended. Everyone's thought process is different and if you don't have the patience, attentiveness, or persistence to complete this task, you will eventually get frustrated and give up. This is exactly what happens to a child who is told there is only one way to play or to solve a puzzle. Another child might solve the puzzle immediately and become bored. Each child has different abilities to learn, different interests, different levels of frustration, and different ways of displaying this frustration. This can lead other children to show frustration, get distracted, and eventually cause the teacher to become frustrated. This can quickly turn a calm environment into a chaotic environment. We need to give the children opportunities to create their own learning, try new things, and experiment with materials.

After realizing the impact



Stephanie Zubrinsky

open-ended materials had on children, I wanted to go further and create a calm, cozy, and inviting classroom like a home away from home. I continued to get rid of traditional items and integrated more natural items. By doing this, the children got along better and shared with greater ease. With traditional toys such as plastic farms or cars, they were territorial and it would always cause frustration among the children. I turned off the overhead fluorescent lighting and incorporated softer light throughout the room. This was another "ah ha" moment. I continued to read more articles and read the book *Working in the Reggio Way: A Beginner's Guide for American Teachers* by Julianne P. Wurm. This book gave me inspiration on how to create an inviting home away from home classroom. Having a wonderful space to start with was only the beginning. The open feel of the new natural floors was my starting point. The book, along with articles provided previously by my administration, taught me that in order for the environment to be the third teacher, things should be at the child's eye level, materials should be open-ended and developmentally appropriate, and the room needs to have different spaces to meet the needs of each child. Having several spaces is more inviting and opens up teaching moments throughout the day. The classroom is for the child, not

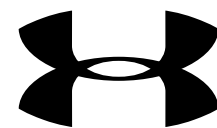
the teacher or parents. I use daily routine as teaching moments. An example of this is as simple as changing a diaper. Each child is recognized by a natural wood sphere, decorated with a color and their picture hanging over the changing table. So how does this teach? The child is curious

and will point or ask what is that? We let the child start the teaching moment and we answer the question. Having materials out for the children to see is also a constant teaching moment. They have curious minds and want to learn about things so this gives them the opportunity to grow in their

language skills and ask "What's that?" My journey has only just begun as I continue to learn what it is that makes the environment the third teacher. I am so thankful for having the opportunity to express my love for learning and teaching at the same time here at Charlotte Jewish Preschool. ☆

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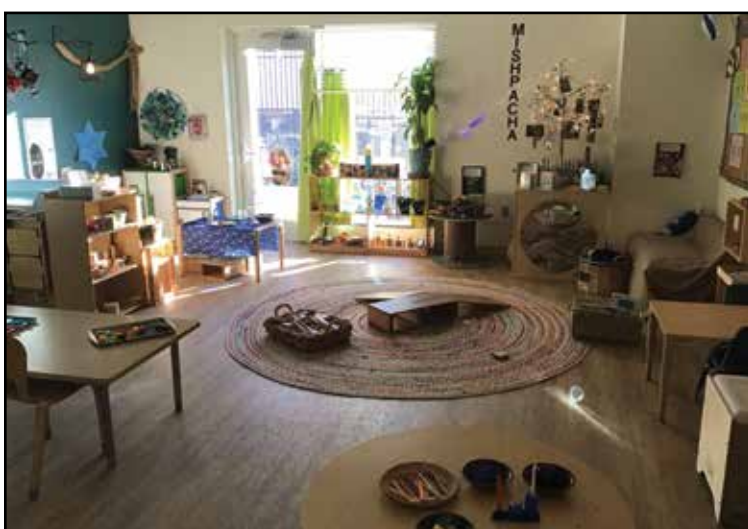
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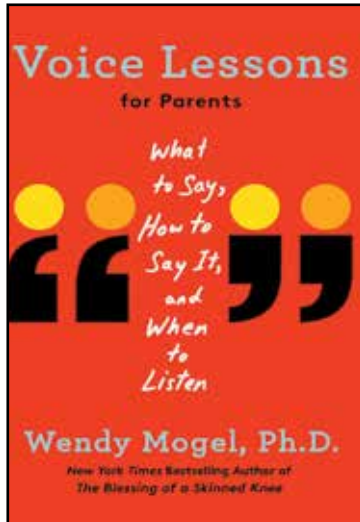


The Power of Communications in Raising Healthy and Engaged Kids Featuring Dr. Wendy Mogel

New York Times Bestselling author Dr. Wendy Mogel will deliver the keynote address to kick off JIE 2019. Mogel's deft approach to parenting is both practical and precise, applicable to parents of children of all ages. Mogel will speak about her new book *Voice Lessons for Parents - What to Say, How to Say It, and When to Keep Quiet*. She begins with the tone and cadence with toddlers to negotiating with preschoolers and setting boundaries with older children. Dr. Mogel last appearance in Charlotte was to a sold-out audience at Knight Theater and a second sold out talk at Temple Israel.



Dr. Wendy Mogel



The conference will continue the following day with a second keynote from NPR National Education Reporter, Anya Kamenetz, who will speak on Surviving Social Media and Technology with Your Family and Real Life. Following the keynote, there will be additional interactive workshops for parents and technology as well as a dynamic track of educa-

tors featuring Dr. Mogel, and Better Lessons, a workshop to help educators implement more individualized curriculums in their classrooms. This is an incredible gather of nationally recognized parenting experts in Charlotte, January 30 and 31. Tickets are available at www.joinineducation.org/tickets.

tion.org/tickets. Group discounts available at info@joinineducation.org. ☆



"This is my covenant with you ... the words which I have put into your mouth shall not depart from you ... nor from your children, nor from your children's children henceforth and forever."

—Isaiah 59:21

Sue's Bookshelf

(Continued from page 5)

in office when he was shot by a homophobic fellow supervisor. Milk's assassination at the age of forty-eight made him the most famous gay man in modern history; twenty years later Time magazine included him on its list of the hundred most influential individuals of the twentieth century.

Promised Land by Martin Fletcher

Set in the fledgling state of Israel, *Promised Land* is the story of two German Jewish brothers who lost their family in the Holocaust only to be driven apart by their love of the same woman.

Together by Judy Goldman

A routine procedure left the husband of Charlotte novelist, memoirist, and poet Judy Goldman paralyzed. *Together* is a nuanced portrait of a marriage tested and the couple's struggle to regain their "normal" life.

Good Neighbors by Joanne Serling

A searing portrait of suburbia, friendship, and family strained by a devotion to false appearances.

House of Gold by Natasha Solomon

An in-depth portrait of World War I, this sweeping family saga is rich in both historical atmosphere and heartbreakingly human characters.

Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom by Ariel Burger

A devoted protégé and friend of one of the world's great thinkers takes us into the sacred space

of the classroom, showing Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Elie Wiesel not only as an extraordinary human being, but as a master teacher.

The Wartime Sisters by Linda Cohen Loigman

Two estranged sisters, raised in Brooklyn and each burdened with her own shocking secret, are reunited at the Springfield Armory in the early days of WWII.

Night of Miracles by Elizabeth Berg

A delightful novel of surprising friendships, community, and the way small acts of kindness can change a life.

The Center for Jewish Education Book Club meets the third Wednesday of the month from 10:30 AM–12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

For more information contact sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org. ☆



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Homemade Granola Bars for Tu BiShevat

By Shannon Sarna

(The Nosh via JTA) - I had not even heard of Tu BiShevat until college, when I attended a Seder celebrating the holiday. And while it may sound a bit crunchy to celebrate a holiday for the trees, nuts, and fruit, it comes at a time in our lives as modern Jews when appreciating our natural resources and the environment is more important than ever.

You can host a full-on Seder, or also just take a moment to appreciate and acknowledge our relationship to the land. You can even make a batch of fruit-filled sangria, though my daughter and I decided to try our hand this year at chewy granola bars packed with dried fruit and almonds in honor of Tu BiShevat. We chose to use a combination of dried cherries, blueberries, and raisins, though you could use any combo of dried fruit that you like. Enjoy.

Ingredients:

2 c. oats
1/2 c. raw sunflower seeds
1/4 c. packed brown sugar
2 T. butter
1/2 c. honey
1 t. vanilla extract
1/4 c. ground flax seed
2 t. cinnamon
1/2 t. salt
1 c. sliced almonds
1 c. mixed dried fruit such as apricots, raisins, cranberries, cherries, blueberries

Preparation:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease an 8" x 8" square pan. Spread the oats and sunflower seeds out on a baking sheet. Bake for 15 min., stirring 1-2 times. Meanwhile, heat butter, brown sugar, honey, and vanilla in a small saucepan over medium heat till brown sugar has completely melted. Once the oats and sunflower seeds are done toasting, remove from oven and reduce heat to 300 degrees. Place oats, sunflower seeds, flax seed, cinnamon, salt, almonds and dried fruit into a lg. bowl. Add melted butter-sugar mixture and combine till completely coated.

Pour mixture into the prepared pan and spread out evenly using an offset spatula. This step is important to ensuring even granola bars. Bake for 25 min. Remove from oven and allow to cool completely. Cut into bars and store in an airtight container. ☆

The Nosh food blog offers a dazzling array of new and classic Jewish recipes and food news, from Europe to Yemen, from challah to shakshuka, and beyond. Check it out at www.TheNosh.com.

Where to Find a Tu BiShevat Haggadah Resources for Hosting a Tu BiShevat Seder

By My Jewish Learning

Interested in hosting a Tu BiShevat Seder (a structured meal inspired by the Passover Seder)? My Jewish Learning has one sample ceremony here. However, a number of Tu BiShevat Haggadahs (Haggadot is the Hebrew plural) are available for free online, most as downloadable PDFs.

RitualWell

A variety of full Tu BiShevat Seder texts, along with individual Tu BiShevat readings and suggested activities. Hosted by the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, RitualWell is a clearinghouse for creative Jewish rituals and liturgy.

Hazon Family Seder for Tu BiShevat

Hazon is a Jewish environmental organization.

Hazon Tu BiShevat Seder Leaders Guide

Hazon Tu BiShevat Haggadah: Seder and Sourcebook

Long Island CSA Fair Trade Tu BiShevat Seder

CSA stands for community-supported agriculture, programs in which members pay a farm at the beginning of the season to receive regular (usually weekly) shares of produce from that farm.

Jewish National Fund Tu BiShevat Haggadah

The Jewish National Fund plants trees in Israel and invests in various infrastructure and environmental projects there.

COEJL Simple Tu BiShevat Haggadah

COEJL (the Coalition on the Environment in Jewish Life) is a Jewish environmental organization.

PJ Library Child-Friendly Tu BiShevat Haggadah

PJ Library is an organization that distributes free Jewish children's books.

Velveteen Rabbi Tu BiShevat Haggadah for Adults

Velveteen Rabbi is Rachel Barenblat, a Renewal rabbi.

Pri Etz Hadar, the Original Tu BiShevat Haggadah

Hebrew text and English translation of the first-ever Tu BiShevat Haggadah, first published in 1728. The text is available through the Open Siddur Project. ☆



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